

# Provost's Corner

Bette S. Bergeron, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

February 28, 2018

## *Greetings from Academic Affairs!*

Our recent warm weather reminds us that spring is (probably) just around the corner. I hope that you and your students have been able to enjoy the temporary respite from the cold, and that you are energized for the remaining 10 weeks of the semester!

As evidenced by recent events both regionally and nationally, this past month has also brought new challenges particularly as they are related to issues of bias and student safety. However, these challenges have also brought new energy and passion around incredibly difficult—and incredibly important—topics and issues. As noted by President Esterberg in her recent letter to the campus, “we must never stop working to better ourselves and our community. We must listen to and look out for each other. We must learn to understand each other, and to embrace each other’s unique qualities, backgrounds and experiences. We must focus on the change we can foster here—no matter how difficult that can be, and no matter how long it may take—and in that way create an example for the region and our nation.” I hope that you can join the campus community in our *Days of Reflection*, scheduled from **February 27<sup>th</sup>** through **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, as we learn, share, and reflect together on a wide range of issues central to our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Related to these reflections will be our “Coffee and Conversation” topic for **Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, focused on “Student Care.” I hope you can join me at 4:00pm in the Raymond 8<sup>th</sup> floor Dining Room to share your thoughts, concerns, and ideas related to ways in which we can continue to support our students both in and out of the classroom. Also to be shared at this Coffee are emerging Student Care initiatives that are being formed by a team of faculty and staff across various disciplines and divisions on campus; more information on these initiatives is included in this Newsletter. I am very proud of our students’ resiliency, and for your advocacy, as we continue to work together to create a campus community that is respectful of the amazing diversity in all our students, faculty, and staff.



## *New Faces/New Positions*

**Melissa Proulx** has been named the Director of Human Resources, effective February 22, 2018. Melissa is replacing *Mary Dolan*, who will be retiring in May. Mary will remain an active leader on campus through May, assisting Melissa with her transition to Director.

Best wishes and congratulations to both Melissa and Mary!

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## *Campus Updates*

**Days of Reflection.** The [schedule](#) and [detailed session descriptions](#) are now available for the *Days of Reflection: Education for Racial Equity and Justice*, to be held **February 27<sup>th</sup>** through **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Eight sessions will be presented by 12 members of the faculty and staff, as well as a special guest scholar. As noted on the schedule, each session is labeled to indicate its level of challenge: (1) first steps, (2) deepening our understanding, and (3) challenging ourselves. Each session is also identified as a presentation, workshop, or film screening.

The campus is pleased to welcome a guest scholar, [Dr. Stephanie Rivera Berruz](#), a philosopher and 2018 Woodrow Wilson Fellow, to our Days of Reflection schedule. In two sessions, she will speak with participants about Puerto Rico, its political status and history, and the resilience of its people within their struggles. The Days of Reflection and Dr. Berruz's visit are sponsored by the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

More details can be found at <https://www.potsdam.edu/daysofreflection>.

**Preferred Names.** Many faculty and staff have made us aware of the challenges faced by students who are transitioning or who identify as transgender, particularly in regards to preferred names. As a campus, we are seeking ways to ensure that students' preferred names are used in all forms of campus communication. Unfortunately, our current Banner system (and therefore Moodle) does not allow for flexibility at the current time. It is anticipated that an option for preferred names will become available once Banner is upgraded, a process that is scheduled to occur next year.

As an interim solution for those using Moodle forums, faculty can work with the CCI to create a "new" student account for a particular course, which would therefore allow a student to participate using their preferred name. It is important to note that this will only apply to a

specific Moodle course site for which the “new user” has been created. If you have questions, please contact Michael Phillips (x3220).

Once our campus’ Banner upgrade is completed, we hope to be able to address the issue of preferred names within Moodle as part of our campus’ ongoing commitment to diversity. If you have other concerns or ideas for supporting our students, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

**Vice President for Business Affairs/Chief Financial Officer.** The search committee for our campus’ VP Business Affairs/Chief Financial Officer has been meeting this spring semester and is in the process of reviewing applications. For more information about this position, please feel free to view the posted [ad](#) and [position profile](#). It is hoped that finalists will be identified soon for upcoming on-campus interviews.

**Academic Affairs Visioning Task Force.** Recent retirements, interim positions, and shifts in responsibilities at our College have resulted in an unprecedented opportunity to examine the structure through which we in Academic Affairs support our mission. Through the newly formed Academic Affairs Visioning Task Force, I am seeking the assistance of faculty to examine our current structure in Academic Affairs and explore alternate models that would increase opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and synergy across departments and Schools, advance intellectual energy, support innovative ways to further engage with students, and provide enhanced collegial support and mentoring of new faculty. In addition, this Task Force is asked to consider models that would increase efficiency, reduce the overall administrative footprint, and increase faculty members’ ability to focus on teaching and scholarly/creative activities.

Members of the Task Force were recommended by the Faculty Senate, Council of Chairs/Directors, and the Deans and include: *Tony Betrus* (Business Administration), *Kim Bouchard* (Theatre & Dance), *Kathryn Jeror* (Education), *Victoria Klawitter* (Mathematics/Task Force Convener), *Hadley Kruczek-Aaron* (Anthropology), *Kathleen O’Rourke* (Public Health & Human Performance), *Michael Schaff* (Crane), *Kirk Severtson* (Crane), *Tim Sullivan* (Crane), and *Lisa Wilson* (English & Communication). Michael Sitton (Crane) is serving as the dean liaison, who will support the work of the Task Force as requested by the members.

## 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/>

**LoCAL/CCI Task Force.** A committee of faculty and staff has recently been tasked with identifying possible administrative structures for the Lougheed Center for Applied Learning (LoCAL) and Center for Creative Instruction (CCI). The recent generous endowment from Donald and Kathy Lougheed to establish the Lougheed Learning Commons, home to the Lougheed Center for Applied Learning, in addition to the Dorf Endowment for Applied Learning, secure SUNY Potsdam's leadership in the SUNY system for excellence in applied learning. As our campus' applied learning initiatives continue to expand, it has become evident that campus-wide discussions need to be held regarding the establishment of a full-time Director.

Furthermore, the College's strategic plan includes a "We will" statement with many action items that will require significant leadership in supporting faculty and staff professional development. Additionally, the campus has strategic priorities relating to online program development and Distance Education, initiatives currently housed within the CCI. With the recent failure of two previous searches for the Director of the CCI, it has become apparent that campus-wide discussions about the Center's leadership are needed. In considering the challenges and opportunities related to both the LoCAL and CCI, the purpose of the Task Force is to review the leadership needs of both of these areas and recommend possible administrative and reporting structures to best serve our campus community.

Members of the LoCAL/CCI Task force include: *Kelly Bonnar* (Community Health), *David Bugg* (Sociology & Criminal Justice), *Alex Gomez* (CCI), *Jason Ladouceur* (College Advancement), *Krista LaVack* (International Education), *Peter McCoy* (Crane), and *Michael Rygel* (Geology). Resource support for the Task Force includes: *Tom Baker* (History/Student Research & Creativity), *Jill Pearson* (Office of the Provost), *Michael Phillips* (CCI/Distance Learning), and *Jenica Rogers* (Lougheed Learning Commons).

**Lougheed Endowment.** This spring, faculty and staff have been invited to apply for the newly created Lougheed Applied Learning Grants, supported through the very generous gift from Donald and Kathy Lougheed. The focus of these grants is to support the professional development of faculty and staff to improve their ability to facilitate students' engagement with high impact practices and applied learning activities. Over 35 applications were received for the first round of grants. Congratulations to the following awardees:

- *James Fryer* (Psychology)- SPSP 2018
- *Shiho Imai* (History)- Japanese History for Gamers
- *Jennifer Mitchell & Jessica Heffner* (English & Communication)- NEWCA Conference
- *Michael Rygel* (Geology) & *Jessica Rogers* (Environmental Studies)- GIS Equipment
- *Jason Schreer & Sarah Sirsat* (Biology)- Physiological Monitoring Systems

- *Mark Simon* (Wilderness Education)- Rock Climbing Instructor Certification Course
- *Tyler St. Clair* (Secondary Education)- Problem-Based Learning Course Materials
- *Adam Wheeler* (Wilderness Education)- NAI/Adventure Program Certification
- *Tina Wilson Bush* (Sheard Literacy Center)- Best Practice Approaches to Teaching & Learning

Applications will be accepted for the second round of grants from **March 1-15, 2018**. Proposals can be submitted by an individual faculty/staff member, a department, or other group of faculty/staff and will be accepted in any of the following categories:

- **Individual Faculty Development or Course Grants** (maximum \$2,000) are for activities designed either (a) to promote applied learning integration in their teaching, research, and/or creative works or (b) to fund development or revision of individual courses to meet applied learning requirements.
- **Team or Curriculum Grants** (maximum \$5,000) are for activities designed either (a) to promote applied learning integration in the cohort's teaching, research, and/or creative works or (b) to integrate applied learning activities across a curriculum.
- **Equipment Grants** (maximum dependent on scope of proposal) are used to fund academic equipment purchases that will allow applied learning to be a part of the work in the department and/or course(s).
- **Event, Workshop, or Training Grants** (maximum dependent on scope of proposal) are for an on-campus event designed to promote high impact and/or applied learning strategies for a group of faculty/staff.
- **Other Grants** (maximum dependent on scope of proposal) are for an experience other than those listed above that will impact faculty development and/or the student experience relating to applied learning, including travel with students.

For all categories, these funds can also be used for professional development to enhance existing applied learning opportunities. Information regarding the Loughheed Applied Learning Grants can be found [online](#) or on [Moodle](#), where applications are to be submitted.

**Open Educational Resources (OER) and Textbook Affordability.** I want to thank those of you who were able to attend this spring semester's first "Coffee and Conversation," and for the lively and informative dialogue around topics of textbook affordability, Open Educational Resources (OER), and students' growing financial challenges. If you haven't done so already, please be sure to contact the Library if you would like to put a textbook on reserve or if you have questions about this process. In addition, as a follow-up I will be having a conversation with our campus bookstore regarding possible future options for textbook purchases, loans,

and/or rentals. If you have questions about rental textbooks and other options available to our students through the Bookstore, don't hesitate to contact *Jan Robbins* ([robbinjl@potsdam.edu](mailto:robbinjl@potsdam.edu)).

Some additional ideas generated during the "Conversation" and subsequent emails include:

- Let the Bookstore know what texts you plan to use *early in the process*—the earlier they have your order, the more flexible they can be with affordable options for students.
- Ensure that students are aware of the various options that already exist for procuring textbooks—e.g., loans, used book sales, etc.
- Use the same text over multiple semesters, and across multiple sections of the same course—this increases options for students to find/rent texts at reduced pricing.
- Transition General Education course materials to OER formats.
- Consider uniform adoption of the campus' existing style guide: <http://www.potsdam.edu/toolbox/standards/styleguide>. This would greatly reduce students' costs associated with purchasing multiple guides across various courses or disciplines.

In addition, check out the following OER resources:

- Open NYS (OER for SUNY and CUNY): <http://open-nys.org/>
- SUNY OER Services (includes OER textbooks available to all faculty): <https://textbooks.opensuny.org/suny-oer-services-request/>
- Open Stax: <https://openstax.org/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (various guides, research): <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- National Institutes of Health (various guides, research): <https://www.nih.gov/>
- National Archives (lots of educational and primary source materials): <https://www.archives.gov/>
- Library of Congress (lots of educational and primary source materials): <https://www.loc.gov/>
- Podcasts (e.g., YouTube, Ted Talks)

Interested in learning more about OER? Please contact *Esta Tovstiadi* ([tovstiem@potsdam.edu](mailto:tovstiem@potsdam.edu)), and be sure to check out the information on an upcoming OER workshop at SUNY Oneonta described in the "Around SUNY" section of this Newsletter!

**SSC-Campus Updates.** In order to get the most out of the **Progress Report** (formerly Early Alert) process, students have been granted access to the *SSC-Campus* platform this spring. Logging in allows them to view their full progress reports as well as utilize a limited number of other functions, including:

1. **Class Information:** View current schedule and email instructors
2. **Reports:** View Progress Reports
3. **Calendar:** View class schedule and appointments made through SSC-Campus
4. **Send a Message:** Use this to email professors and advisors

Faculty are encouraged to announce the change in your classes, especially if you plan to submit Progress Reports. Please note that, at this time, students do not have access to *Notes* or *Advising Reports* and cannot use the platform to request appointments with professors or advisors. Students can be granted access to these functions, but we have decided not to include them in the initial rollout. We will be seeking campus input with regards to wider student access in the future.

If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of SSC-Campus, please contact *Sean Partridge* (x2520), *Tim Morse* (x3447), or *Alan Hersker* (x2138).

### Coffee and Conversation

Monthly “Coffee and Conversations” with the Provost provide a means to connect directly across disciplines to dialogue on issues and initiatives impacting Academic Affairs.

The spring semester’s schedule includes the following dates; all Coffees are held on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Raymond (please note the change to include Tuesday afternoons!):

- **Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, 4-5:00pm- *Student Care Initiatives*
- **Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, 8:30-9:30am- TBD
  - **NOTE: This is a new date!**
- **Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**, 4-5:00pm- *Mentoring Students*



If you have ideas or suggestions regarding the scheduling of Coffees, as well as ideas on 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@potdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potdam.edu).

**Quick Reminders from the Registrar.** Don’t forget... on **Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** the schedule of classes will be available on BearPAWS and advising begins!

**Online Course Updates.** Because it is a best practice in online education to allow students access courses prior to the 'first day' of classes – all online courses are now made available to students two weeks prior to the start of the term. Therefore, if you are planning to teach online, make sure your course is prepped and ready to go at least two weeks before the start of the semester. Please note: no course work can be required of students prior to the start of any term. As a reminder, Faculty Senate supported a new [Online Course Approval Process](#) last year using the Open SUNY Course Quality Review (OSCQR) process. A [video overview of this process](#), [OSQCR](#), and [Policies and Procedures for Online Course Development](#) are available on the [CCI website](#). Please contact the CCI should you have any questions.

**Student Care Initiatives.** A new “Student Care” initiative is emerging on campus, led by faculty and staff from across multiple disciplines, including Counseling and Student Health, who are deeply concerned about connecting our students with services needed outside of the classroom. This initiative also aligns with our campus’ identified area of focus on Wellness.

While still early in development, these Student Care initiatives include plans for an Advisory Group to the provost, an expanded website presence, enhanced professional development for the faculty, and identified “faculty liaisons.” The charge of the *Advisory Council* will be to share information and ideas, and to coordinate efforts to improve services, information, and support. It is anticipated that the Council will meet twice a semester, and will consist of faculty and staff from across various sectors of campus. *Faculty Liaisons*, who will represent academic departments, will be brought together once a semester with individuals from various campus and community resources (e.g., Counseling, Residence Life, Student Health, St. Lawrence County Health, Renewal House, etc.) to learn more about the various programs available to students and how we as an academic community can most appropriately support our students. The role of the faculty liaisons is to share that information with the department.

If you are interested in learning more about this emerging initiative, or would be interested in serving as a Faculty Liaison, please don't hesitate to contact me ([bergerbs@potssdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potssdam.edu)).

**Faculty Assistance Needed: Last Date of Attendance Verification.** Throughout the semester, students seek to withdraw or take a leave of absence from the College. In order to process these requests and the resulting billing and aid adjustments, the College is required to determine the last date that the student was active in their courses (e.g. the last day they attended, logged in to Moodle, submitted an assignment, etc.).

When instructors receive an email request from the Student Success Center to verify last date of attendance, *please respond as soon as possible* to ensure that the process can be completed in a timely fashion. Thank you!

**Updates from the Lougheed Learning Commons.** The MakerSpace located in the first floor of the Lougheed Learning Commons is seeing a rise in use from students on campus as well as interest from several faculty members and groups in the sciences. Hours of use have been expanded, and are posted on the website and on the new signs on the door of the MakerSpace. The Form 1 printer which was donated by an alumni of the College is now up and running, and student assistants are currently working on testing the printer's capabilities.

**SUNY Potsdam Hosts Clinical Practice Working Group.** On February 26<sup>th</sup> SUNY Potsdam hosted a regional meeting for the New York State Education Department (NYSED). The purpose of the meeting was to examine the current and recommended regulations related to clinical experiences for educator preparation programs. Based on feedback gathered from these meetings, recommendations related to clinical practices will be made to the Board of Trustees later in the spring.

A link to the draft recommendations, survey, regional meeting schedule, and meeting registration form for upcoming regional meetings can be accessed at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/clinical-practice-work-group>.

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## *Around the State/System*

**Open Educational Resources.** SUNY Oneonta will be hosting an *Open Educational Resources* workshop on **March 23, 2018** for all faculty, librarians, administrators, and campus stakeholders to explore the possibilities of OER more deeply. The event will be held from 8:00am- 4:00pm at SUNY Oneonta's Morris Hall. Topics include understanding the differences between traditional and Creative Commons copyright, OER materials appropriate to a variety of subject areas, and using OER to meet specific course outcomes. The workshop will feature a keynote address from Michael Caufield, the Director of Blended and Networked Learning at Washington State University.

Registration for the workshop is open now at:

<HTTPS://SUNYCPD.EVENTSAIR.COM/OERONEONTA/REG>.

**Micro-credentialing.** During the January 2018 SUNY Board of Trustees meeting, the SUNY Trustees unanimously voted to endorse the definitions and taxonomy of terms, guiding principles, and recommendations of the Micro-credentialing Task Force. The wide array of possibilities available through micro-credentials can afford students with an opportunity to differentiate their learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. The webcast of the SUNY Trustees' Academic Affairs meeting can be accessed at:  
<https://livestream.com/hvccstreaming/BOTJan2018>.

More information on this initiative can be found on the System's newly created webpage for micro-credentialing: <http://system.suny.edu/academic-affairs/microcredentials>.

More information will become available soon regarding sessions and webinars that will discuss the Task Force report and highlight micro-credentials in practice. Also to be shared will be the charge/membership of four implementation working groups that will focus on the following areas: Review of Related SUNY Policies/Financial Aid Practices; Readiness and Assessment Tools; Data Reporting Framework; and Transcripts and Portability.

Please contact *Cynthia Proctor*, SUNY's Director of Communications and Academic Policy Development, with any questions about the Task Force Report or next steps at:  
[cynthia.proctor@suny.edu](mailto:cynthia.proctor@suny.edu).

**Alma.** The College Libraries and all of SUNY are gearing up for a 2019 launch of a new library software system, Alma. This will be a comprehensive upgrade that will affect the catalog, circulation, search and discovery service, ILL, and much more. SUNY Potsdam librarians have volunteered to be a SUNY Vanguard Campus. As a Vanguard, we will be testing the new software in Spring 2018, helping the SUNY teams work out the kinks before the product goes live for all SUNY campuses in Summer 2019. While we expect this testing to be an entirely internal process, the Library faculty may call on the campus community to test out new features during this Vanguard phase. Look for more information about the formal launch in the Fall!

**Surviving Middle States and Shared Governance.** Registration is now available for the SUNY Voices workshop on *Surviving Middle States with Shared Governance*. This event is scheduled for **Friday, March 2nd from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM** at SUNY Plaza in Albany, NY. Presidents, CAOs, administrators, faculty, and interested students are all encouraged to attend.

Please see this link for more information with another internal link to register for the event: <https://www.suny.edu/about/shared-governance/sunyvoices/conference/>.

**Intellectual Property.** It has come to SUNY's attention that private companies may be getting access to faculty course and educational materials (course syllabi, tests, papers) and selling them to students. If you think that there are any such intrusions on faculty intellectual property on our campus, please contact *Liesl K. Zwicklbauer*, SUNY's Associate Vice Chancellor for Employee Relations, at 518.320.1680.



### **Mark Your Calendars!**

**Inclusive Classrooms Workshop.** On behalf of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Office of the Provost, I am excited to announce a two-day workshop on "*Inclusive Curriculum Design and Inclusive/Engaging Classrooms*," which will be facilitated by A. T. Miller, the Associate Provost for Academic Diversity at Cornell University. Two sessions are being offered: **April 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**, and then repeated on **April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**. The workshop will be held on the SUNY Potsdam campus.

The training is scheduled each day from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The venues for the first two-day session will be the Union MPR (April 4<sup>th</sup>) and the Union Fireside Lounge (April 5<sup>th</sup>). The second workshop (April 13/14) will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Raymond Hall.

Registration is available [online](#).

**Center for Creative Instruction (CCI).** The CCI is offering the following workshops:

#### **Anytime You Like**

- *Watch the Video of "Teaching First-Year Students: What Works and What Doesn't."*

For access to the video, [Scroll Down on CCI Events Page](#).

#### **03/01/18**

- *Teaching Math-Linked Material to non-Math Students*

*Discussion Leader:* Victoria Klawitter

Do your students struggle to follow lectures or do exercises that call for basic mathematical literacy? Join the Discussion.

- **Date/Time:** Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:00-3:00pm
- **Location:** CCI (Lougheed Learning Commons 106).
- No registration required.

03/01/18 – 03/06/18

- ***Progress Reports***

*Presenters:* Tim Morse; Sean Partridge.

Let us show you how to quickly and easily complete your Progress Reports (the new Early Alerts), see exactly what students receive as a result, and learn about the additional support efforts that are initiated by you providing that feedback.

- ***Dates/Times:*** Thursday, March 1, 9-10am; Tuesday, March 6, 11am-12pm
- ***Location:*** CCI (Lougheed Learning Commons -106).
- No registration required.

3/6/2018 - 3/27/2018

- ***Mini Writing Retreats***

*Convener:* Phil Neisser.

Having trouble finding time for your own writing? Come to the CCI to sit and write with colleagues beside you doing the same thing. Bring a laptop or sign up for one when you register.

- ***Dates/Times:*** Tuesday, March 6, 12:30-1:30pm; Tuesday, March 20, 5:00-6:00pm; Tuesday, March 27, 5:00-6:00pm
- ***Location:*** CCI (Lougheed Learning Commons -106)
- Registration required; You can **Register Online** until March 5 for the March 6 Circle

**Appointment Campaigns:** Advising time is upon us! Come learn how to utilize the SSC Campus software to efficiently reach out to advisees and schedule appointments. Once you try this, you'll never go back to a sign-up sheet on your office door. The SSC-Campus tool can be used to schedule all kinds of appointments with students throughout the year. Join the Student Success Center staff in the CCI for any or all of these open sessions, tailored to the audience:

- **March 10**, 10-11am
- **March 16**, 12-1pm
- **March 19**, 9-10am
- **March 22**, 9-10am
- **March 28**, 3-4pm

For event information and access to event videos, visit the CCI website at:

[www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/](http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/). Need support? Have ideas? Contact [cci@potsdam.edu](mailto:cci@potsdam.edu) to set an appointment or share your ideas.

**LoKo Arts Festival 2018.** The LoKo Arts Festival takes place this spring, **April 27<sup>th</sup> – May 6<sup>th</sup>**. Celebrate the arts at more than 40 free events during the Festival. Enjoy performances in the Proscenium Theatre, get hands-on in workshops, be awed by art in the gallery. The full schedule and biographies of visiting artists can be found online [www.potsdam.edu/loko](http://www.potsdam.edu/loko).

Faculty, staff, and students are welcome to apply for funding for 2019. The deadline to submit proposals is **April 5, 2018**. Information on the funding parameters and application can be found [online](#).

## FACT<sup>2</sup> Corner



**SUNY COIL Conference 2018:** The State University of New York (SUNY) invites everyone interested in innovation in higher education to attend the **2018 COIL Conference** (Collaborative Online International Learning), which promotes 21st Century skills by connecting classes in different countries through online interactions and applied learning experiences, fostering international competencies and cross-cultural communication into the classroom. The COIL Conference is the premier event in the growing field of virtual exchange. The hotel block, conference registration, and other information can be found at <https://suny.edu/coilconference18>. Send inquiries to the SUNY COIL Center at [coilconference@suny.edu](mailto:coilconference@suny.edu).

**Serious Games Conference July 16-19, 2018 at the University at Buffalo.** UB will host a conference on game-based learning **July 16-19, 2018** at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Global thought leaders will share their experience creating and implementing serious games in healthcare, K-12 and Higher Education, Nonprofits and Museums as well as for workforce or management training in corporations. Attendees can choose from more than 75 sessions. Early Bird pricing is in effect until **March 1, 2018**. Register [here](#). For more information on the conference program, click [here](#).

Announcements about other SUNY events and workshops can be seen on [Facebook Workplace](#). Login with your SUNY Potsdam credentials--you do not need a Facebook account to use Facebook Workplace.

**SOEPS Seminar Series.** The *Disciplined Inquiry in Education Seminar* is sponsored by SUNY Potsdam's School of Education and Professional Studies (SOEPS). Since its inception in 2007, the School has hosted more than 100 presenters through the series.

The seminar was designed as a support system for faculty members in advancing their professional development, and has become an especially effective venue for junior faculty to present their research to colleagues and receive feedback before submitting a paper for presentation and/or an article for publication to peer-reviewed outlets. At the same time, the seminar attracts senior faculty members who want to be part of this support system and share their research work and teaching experiences with colleagues across campus.

Another goal of the seminar is to foster collaboration in the field of education by inviting speakers from other universities. The latest invited speaker was Prof. Winkel from USMA at West Point (fall 2017).

Upcoming Seminars include the following:

- **03/14/18:** *Ronald Bretsch* (Department of Secondary Education)  
Topic: [Perspectives of Estonia and Finland](#)
- **03/28/18:** *Shalu Wunnava* (Department of Business Administration)  
Topic: [Mobile Commerce Usage: Application of Theory of Reasoned Action \(TRA\) and Technology Acceptance Model \(TAM\)](#)
- **4/18/18:** *Eudora A. Watson* (School of Education and Professional Studies)  
Topic: [Growing Writers/Shaping Millennial Professionals](#)

The Seminar Series is coordinated by *Sergei Abramovich* (Elementary Education/Mathematics). More information can be found on the [Faculty Seminar website](#).

**Learning and Research Fair.** The *2018 SUNY Potsdam Learning and Research Fair* will be held **Wednesday, April 25, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the Barrington Student Union. Since its inception over two decades ago, the Learning and Research Fair has been a wonderful opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to share their research, teaching/learning innovations, creative efforts, and scholarly achievements.

Student presenters at the Fair are eligible to compete for awards administered by the Loughheed Center for Applied Learning. Further information about these awards will be forthcoming early

in the spring semester. Please direct questions about the awards to *Bonnie Lawrence* at ext. 2900 or [lawrenbs@potsgdam.edu](mailto:lawrenbs@potsgdam.edu).

The Learning and Research Fair 2018 Registration Form is posted under “Learning and Research Fair” on the home page of the [Office for Student Research and Creativity](#).

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### *Coming Due...*

**PACES Student Award 2018.** The PACES Student Award Committee is accepting nominations for the annual PACES Student Awards. These awards recognize graduating seniors who have excelled academically while providing exceptional service in college and student life activities. Nominees must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher and demonstrated noteworthy, productive participation in college and student life activities.

Nomination packets must include a letter of nomination, two additional letters of support, and the resume of the nominee. Please send complete nomination packets to: PACES Student Award Committee, PACES Executive Office, 129 Merritt Hall. As adequate time is needed to evaluate and interview final candidates, no nominations will be accepted after **March 30, 2018**.

**Innovative Instruction Technology Grants (IITG).** The *Innovative Instruction Technology Grants (IITG)* program provides peer-reviewed awards of up to \$60,000 for projects that demonstrate, communicate, and replicate innovations developed at campuses across SUNY. The 2018 RFP has been posted to the IITG [website](#) along with application details and a listing of currently funded projects and posted outcomes.

The IITG program seeks to promote research and foster understanding of how new technologies serve pedagogy. In addition to serving the SUNY Excels goals of access, completion, success, inquiry, and engagement, a new emphasis is being introduced to support inclusive excellence and post-traditional learners. This includes leveraging Open SUNY for competency-based and experiential learning, prior learning assessment, and modular course building to have “Transformational Impact” on SUNY’s overall completion agenda.

The response deadline for the RFP is **March 4, 2018**. Applicants will need to create an account in a [SUNY online grant management website](#). Multiple proposals from a campus are welcome—each requiring a brief project and budget narrative as well as an assessment plan. Proposals

featuring multi-campus collaborations are strongly encouraged. Funds may be used as a planning grant, following the guidelines.

### *Did You Know...*

An FAQ about our campus' LifeCycle program is available at:

<http://www.potsdam.edu/cts/services/softhardware/lifecycle>



**Research and Creative Endeavors.** The next deadline for the Research and Creative Endeavors program is **Wednesday April 11, 2018**. 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. As in the past, in making awards, 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 online application can be found on the [Research and Sponsored Programs website](#).

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

**Conversations within the Disciplines.** Request for proposals are now open for SUNY's *Conversations in the Disciplines* program (SUNY CID) for conversations to be held in 2018-19. This competitive grant program is designed to support campus efforts to bring together faculty within and outside of SUNY for the purposes of scholarly discourse—examining new trends, addressing changes and challenges, reviewing promising research findings, and more. These *Conversations*, which take advantage of the breadth and depth of SUNY's faculty, faculty-at-large, and the opportunities that emerge when faculty come together, are important to advancing our shared goals.

The program guidelines have been posted on: [www.suny.edu/provost/cid/](http://www.suny.edu/provost/cid/). Proposals are due **March 28, 2018**. As in prior years, the University Faculty Senate's Committee on Programs and Awards will review and recommend proposals for consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact *Assistant Provost Kristina Bendikas* at: [CID@suny.edu](mailto:CID@suny.edu) or by phone at: (518) 320-1429 with questions.

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## *Kudos*

**Days of Reflection Facilitators.** Kudos to all faculty and staff who are leading sessions for our spring 2018 *Days of Reflection*:

- *Libbie Freed* (History)
- *Matt LaVine* (Philosophy/Interdisciplinary)
- *Sheila MacIntyre* (History)
- *Michael Popovic* (Politics)
- *Rivka Rocchio* (Theatre & Dance)
- *Sheryl Scales* (Teacher Education)
- *Leandra Smollin* (Sociology)
- *Nimo Sugulle* (Center for Diversity)
- *Chris Torres* (Public Health & Human Performance)
- *Josh Vink* (Theatre & Dance)

Thank you for sharing your insights, perspectives, and expertise with the campus community!

**The Bob.** Congratulations to the following for receiving funding through The Bob:

- *Shiho Imai* (History): \$4000 in support of Practicing Public History: The Chilean Arpillera Exhibit.
- *Sergio Lopez* (Modern Languages): \$4100 in support of INTD 491: Internship in Conference Organization and Translation.
- *Mark Simon* (Wilderness Education): \$7000 in support of WILD 345: Wilderness Leadership II Expedition 2018.

The Bob is a competitive faculty award endowed by Robert J. Hill '77 to financially support faculty in developing and implementing applied learning experiences with a group of students. The experiences are faculty-sponsored, rooted within the structure of an academic course, and designed to position student participants for gainful employment and career success.

**Honors.** Kudos and thank you to the following faculty and staff members who are facilitating Honors courses during the Spring 2018 semester:

- *Nancy Alzo* (Library)
- *Tom Baker* (History)
- *Nancy Berbrich* (English & Communication)
- *Kim Bouchard* (Theatre & Dance)
- *Ray Bowdish* (Biology)
- *Stephanie Deghett* (English & Communication)
- *James Donahue* (English & Communication)
- *James Fryer* (Psychology)
- *Savita Hanspal* (Business)
- *Richard Henry* (English & Communication)
- *Robert Hinckley* (Politics)
- *Shiho Imai* (History)
- *Glenn Johnson* (Biology)
- *Lora Lunt* (Modern Languages)
- *Nasser Malit* (Anthropology)
- *Sheila McIntyre* (History)
- *Laura Person* (Mathematics)
- *Philip Salathe* (Music Theory)
- *Sheryl Scales* (Education)
- *David Smith* (Psychology)
- *Anna Sorensen* (Sociology)
- *Alan Steinberg* (English & Communication)
- *Jan Trybula* (Biology)
- *Toby White* (Experiential Education)

*Do you have ideas or news to include in the next Provost's Corner? Be sure to let me know! Just email me at [bergerhs@potdam.edu](mailto:bergerhs@potdam.edu).*