Welcome Back!

I hope that you have had a restful and productive winter break, and that your Spring 2018 semester is off to a superb start! It’s wonderful to have our students back; our campus certainly comes alive when they are here. I want to thank all of you who assisted in reaching out to students over the break to ensure that they were successfully registered for their classes. I also want to thank you for all the support that you continue to provide that enables our students to be successful both in and out of the classroom. Your efforts in retention and academic excellence do not go unnoticed. Thank you!

New Faces/New Positions

I am very pleased to welcome Jack McGuire (Associate Professor, Politics) as the Interim Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Jack replaces Nancy Dodge-Reyome, who has returned to the faculty in Psychology after several very successful years as our RSPO Director.

I want to thank Nancy for her incredible service, and welcome Jack in his new role!

Campus Updates

One Stop Shop. As part of our administrative transitions, the Office of Student Accounts has joined Financial Aid in reporting directly to JillPearon, Associate Provost. Within this new structure, the Offices of the Registrar, Financial Aid, and Student Accounts are working together with the Student Success Center to explore options for a Student Administrative Services “One Stop Shop.” The group is researching best practices at other institutions and will be considering all virtual and physical possibilities, as well as how these different
configurations could best serve the needs of our students. Once the possibilities have been identified, faculty/staff input will be solicited and student focus groups will be utilized to garner input on the most appealing configurations. The planning group hopes to present its recommendations for “One Stop Shop” configuration(s) and the timelines for implementation to President’s Council before the end of spring semester.

**Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Search.** While we were unsuccessful in finalizing the CFO search this fall, the search for the campus’ new VP for Business Affairs/CFO is ongoing. The Search Committee has reconvened, in anticipation of reposting this critical leadership position with the target of identifying a finalist by the end of the spring semester. More information will be forthcoming regarding campus visits and venues for input.

**Departmental Name Change.** As reported in a previous edition of this Newsletter, the President’s Council has approved changing the name of the Department of Community Health to **Public Health and Human Performance.** This name change was in effect on January 1, 2018, and not in June as previously reported.

**Textbook Access.** Though the semester has only begun, we’ve already been contacted by several students to let us know that they can’t afford their textbooks. National data indicates that up to 65% of college students choose not to purchase textbooks because they are too expensive, even though almost all recognize that they will suffer academically with this decision. It is suspected that the data on our students at SUNY Potsdam mirrors what has been found nationally. We also know how critical it is for students to have (and read!) their textbooks, as this access directly relates to their retention and success in their courses. Unfortunately, however, the campus’ emergency funds can’t cover all of these requests. I am therefore asking for your assistance in the following ways:

- If you haven’t done so already, please place copies of your texts on reserve in the Library. Tammy Mason (masontf@potsdam.edu) can assist in processing your request. The Library is currently working on revising policies to allow funds to be used to purchase texts; more information and updates will be forthcoming.
- As appropriate, consider moving to Open Educational Resources (OER). Interested in learning more?? Please feel free to contact Esta Toostiadi (toystiem@potsdam.edu) or Jim Hubbard (hubbarjl@potsdam.edu).

I have also been contacted by faculty with the following additional ideas:
• When possible, allow for multiple editions of textbooks to be used; include corresponding page numbers from older editions in your syllabi. (Students may be able to purchase older editions at a greatly reduced price, or borrow them from former students.)
• Have extra copies available for students to sign out/loan.
• Encourage students to speak privately with their faculty members regarding issues related to textbook access; often, faculty have solutions—but need to know which specific students are impacted.

If you have additional ideas, please pass them along! I will be sure to include them in the next edition of this Newsletter.

**Director of the Office for Student Research and Creativity (OSRC).** Applications are now open for the Director of OSRC for the 2018/2019 academic year. The OSRC houses the programs for Presidential Scholars, Honors, Kilmer / Student Research, the Institute for Ethical Research, and Student Fellowships. The OSRC serves a key role in advancing the College’s strategic plan by providing opportunities for transformational experiences in research and creativity. We are especially seeking candidates who have worked with, done research with, or taught under-represented groups. Candidates must be full-time SUNY Potsdam instructional faculty members. The Director will receive a three-quarter release time for the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 semesters and an additional stipend of $5,000 (including the summer).

If you are interested in applying, please submit a cover letter of interest and resume/CV with contact information for three professional references through SPOLR (http://employment.potsdam.edu/postings/3765). In your cover letter, please also indicate that you have contacted your department chair or unit director and that she/he/they supports your application for the position. Application review will begin on **February 21, 2018.**

**General Education.** The General Education Steering Committee (GESC) and multiple faculty/staff sub-committees have had an extraordinarily busy fall semester working on initial concept drafts for the new framework. For information on the timeline, working group membership, and General Education resources, please visit the **General Education Restructuring** website.

Plans for the Spring 2018 semester include the following:

1. In February and March, the GESC will seek input on the work done by the Ways of Beginning (WoB), Ways of Thinking (WoT), and Ways of Connecting (WoC) designator working groups. In early February, a link will be sent to all faculty where they can review and comment on the proposed descriptions, criteria, and
designators drafted by the working groups. Additionally, members of the steering committee and working groups will be available at an “Open House / Q&A” that will be held in Knowles Conference Center on February 13th from 12-4:00pm. This open house will give faculty and staff the opportunity to speak with members of the working groups and to provide direct feedback. In addition, the GESC will be reaching out directly to faculty groups in the three schools, the SGA, and departments/units for input. They will also continue their collaboration and ongoing dialogue with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

2. The GESC and the working groups will revise the descriptions, criteria, and SLOs for the WoB, WoT and WoC designators based on input received. If the revised designators are ready, it is hoped that these can be presented to the Faculty Senate (FS) mid-semester in order to seek endorsement to continue to Phase III, developing the implementation plan.

3. If the FS endorses Phase II, the GESC will present the proposed GenEd plan to the Student Government Association and work with them to solicit additional student input on the proposal.

4. If the FS endorses Phase II, the GESC will begin to gather the information needed for the implementation plan. This will include, but will not be limited to:
   a) Solicit impact data from departments and units across campus
   b) Propose faculty workshops and development support resources
   c) Estimate course and staffing requirements
   d) Develop the transition plan
   e) Design The Potsdam Pathways management/organizational structure
   f) Confirm feasibility of The Potsdam Pathways program outline and designator descriptors, criteria, SLOs

5. It is anticipated that work on the Implementation Plan will continue through the summer. In August, the GESC will revisit Phases I and II for feasibility, considering issues uncovered in the development of the Implementation Plan, and revise the Potsdam Pathways proposal as appropriate. The GESC hopes to present the Phase III Implementation plan to the Faculty Senate in September 2018.

We are 15 months into a process that is expected will take over three years. The GESC has received support from many faculty colleagues across campus as well as much thoughtful feedback. The GESC hopes to continue to engage an ever-expanding group of faculty in the process and to receive feedback from as many members of our campus community as possible. If you have questions, or would like more information on any part of the process or the Potsdam Pathways, please don’t hesitate to reach out to any member of the GESC. Or, feel free to submit
your questions or comments on the anonymous “Comments/Suggestions” link on the GenEd Restructuring page.

**Days of Reflection.** The Spring 2018 program of *Days of Reflection: Education for Racial Equity and Racial Justice* will be held on **Thursday-Friday, March 1-2, 2018** from 1pm-7pm. If necessary, some events may be scheduled on Wednesday, February 28th as well.

The program is being developed now, so please watch for more details in the coming weeks. Proposed sessions include topics related to Puerto Rico, education as a form of activism, segregation in housing and gentrification, democratic institutions, white privilege and allyship, and anti-Semitism. The Days of Reflection website is [http://www.potsdam.edu/daysofreflection](http://www.potsdam.edu/daysofreflection).

I encourage you, and your students, to participate in these critical campus-wide dialogues!

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**Coffee and Conversation**

I have enjoyed our discussions during this fall’s “Conversations” and appreciate the feedback and input from those who have been able to attend.

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

- Friday, February 9th, 8:30-9:30am- *Textbooks, Access, and Student Success*
- Tuesday, March 6th, 4-5:00pm- TBD
- Friday, April 6th, 8:30-9:30am- TBD
- Tuesday, May 1st, 4-5:00pm- TBD

If you have ideas or suggestions regarding this change, 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@potsdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potsdam.edu).

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**Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP).** As of January 1, 2018, Jack McGuire (Politics) has assumed the role of Interim Director of the ORSP. If you have ideas, suggestions, or feedback related to the ORSP and its programming and support of faculty, please don’t hesitate to contact Jack at [mcguirjp@potsdam.edu](mailto:mcguirjp@potsdam.edu).
Are you in the process of completing a proposal for an external grant, or are considering an application in the near future? The ORSP is planning an open session on the newly articulated process for grant applications to be held on **February 28, 2018** at 12:00 noon in the CCI.

**FaculTE Awards.** The FaculTE application process has been streamlined and simplified. In summary, the proposed project must be clearly conducive to the improvement of teaching and/or active learning strategies in the classroom and college environment. Funds may be used for participating at workshops or conferences, online faculty development courses, as well as sponsoring on-campus workshops or speakers for faculty. Funds for purchasing equipment and supplies are not eligible. Faculty members must apply for funds based on the date of their project, as outlined in the table below.

<table>
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<th>Applications Accepted</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 1-15, 2018</td>
<td>July – October 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 1-15, 2018</td>
<td>November 2018 – February 2019</td>
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To apply:
1. Complete the new FaculTE Application Form (a one-page form that does NOT require the attachment of a Travel Requisition Form or other materials) available at [http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/faculTE](http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/faculTE).
2. Email the application to FaculTE@potsdam.edu by the deadline listed in the table above.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of CCI Board members. For more information, contact the CCI (cci@potsdam.edu) or Phil Neisser (x2871), or check the [CCI website](http://www.potsdam.edu).

**Lougheed Learning Commons Updates.** In response to student requests, the Lougheed Learning Commons (including the Crumb Memorial Library) will be increasing its hours on Saturdays for the Spring 2018 semester. The Commons will be opening at 11am on Saturdays and closing at 6pm.

**Calling All Former First Generation Students.** Were you the first in your family to complete a college degree? If so, you are invited to share your stories with students to let them know they aren’t alone. The Student Success Center is looking to create a series of mixers this spring involving our large (and growing) population of first-generation students and our faculty/staff who have had similar experiences as undergrads. To get a sense of what the SSC is planning, please check out this short video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ES1s41Wx1A4&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ES1s41Wx1A4&feature=youtu.be)
The current plan is to have a social event to kick things off early in the spring term, to be followed up with additional opportunities for panels or 1-1 mentoring. If you’d like to be in the loop for more information, please email ssc@potsdam.edu with the subject line First Gen Faculty.

**Open Educational Resource (OER) Task Force.** Are you interested in joining our campus’ new Open Educational Resource (OER) Task Force? We are in the process of identifying and convening an OER Task Force to plan for the future of OER on our campus. This group will be comprised of faculty and staff stakeholders and will be tasked with the following:

- Developing a sustainability plan for OER support on campus
- Developing a model for distribution of OER grant funding
- Planning and implementing outreach to campus faculty and staff

The group will have their first meeting during the week of February 21-23, and will meet at least monthly after that, through the end of the Spring semester. Please let Esta Tovstiad (tovstiem@potsdam.edu) know no later than **February 2, 2018** if you are interested in joining this group.

Additionally, if you are teaching a course using more than 51% OER material in the Summer 2018 or Fall 2018, please contact Esta so that we can ensure that your course is counted in our OER reporting. As a point of clarification: journal articles and other materials that students access through databases purchased by Crumb/Crane Library are not considered OER (although we do encourage their use to save students money). Feel free to contact Esta if you have any questions.

**Travel Policy Updates.** In order to be more efficient, our campus has recently aligned the travel approval and expenditure process so that there is consistency between the rules enforced by the State Purchasing & Payables Office and the Foundation Business Office. This has become increasingly important to ensure compliance with audit standards (both State and Foundation), as well as to ensure proper stewardship of donor funds.

**From this point forward:** When traveling on Foundation dollars, **all of the same rules and spending limits apply** as when traveling on State funds.

As a summary of the rules/process:

- State rules require all SUNY Potsdam employees who plan to travel on College business to first complete a Travel Requisition form and submit this to the Purchasing & Payables...
Office. This form is required for all travel, regardless of whether it’s paid by State or by Foundation funds.

- As applicable, the Purchasing & Payable Office will forward Travel Requisition forms to the Foundation. This form will be required to process any Foundation check requests for travel or attendance at off-campus conferences/meetings.

- NOTE: The campus has recently clarified that meal expenses incurred while in travel status may be reimbursed up to the per diem amount when paid with personal funds (no receipts required). However, given the limited amount of funds available for travel, we encourage people to claim only the actual amount spent on meals. Conservative spending/per diem requests will ultimately result in more funds available for future travel. As always, charges to your TCard must include an itemized receipt.

- When no state vehicle is available, please refer to the “Personal Car at Rental Rate Calculator” at the bottom of the Travel Page/Resources to determine your reimbursement rate if you choose to use your own car (vs. renting a car from Enterprise).

- Any exception to the travel rules or spending limits must be pre-approved by the appropriate office (State or Foundation) by utilizing the existing Over the Maximum Justification form (for lodging requests that exceed spending limits), or by email to the Foundation (if it’s a request to spend funds in a way not allowable by state rules).

- Please note that if you choose to donate money to a Foundation account in order to support your program and/or professional development expenses, those funds must be spent according to Foundation guidelines.

For any questions regarding this information, please contact Karen Clary, Foundation Business Manager (claryks@potsdam.edu or campus ext. 2872).

**IT Updates.**

**Lab and Classroom Upgrades and Improvements:**

- Crane B115, Flagg 164, and Satterlee 222 will be upgraded to "smart"/projection classrooms; this work will likely occur during the Spring 2018 semester.

- The monitors in the Crane MIDI Lab are being replaced.

- New computers will be installed in the Performing Arts Center’s CAD Lab.

- A significant improvement to our campus’ support systems will dramatically improve the login times on lab/classroom/podium computers.

**Computer Lifecycle Changes:** In order to gain fiscal efficiencies, the campus is moving its Faculty Lifecycle computer replacement program from a 3-year cycle to a 4-year
cycle beginning in 2018. The updated schedule can be found on the Faculty Computer Lifecycle page. See here for anticipated FAQs.

**General Reminders:** The Campus Technology Acceptable Use Policy applies to all users with a Campus Computer Account. Never share your CCA password with anyone, or allow users access to a computer on which you are logged in. All users should login to computers and devices using their own CCA. If you experience a problem with technology in a classroom, please use the phone in that classroom to report it to CTS (x-4444) right away. If no one is available to take your call, leave a message with your name, location, and a brief description of the problem. CTS cannot always respond immediately, but prioritizes instruction-in-progress whenever practical and possible.

Please report all problems with or questions about any CTS-provided and/or -supported device or service to the CTS Helpdesk via the self-service support request form, by e-mail, or by phone: 315-267-4444. If no one is available to take your phone call, leave a message with contact information and staff will follow up.

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**Around the State/System**

**First Amendment Workshop.** The SUNY Office of General Counsel will be offering a two-day conference: *Shall Make No Law: An Exploration of Current First Amendment Issues on College Campuses* on April 11-12 in Albany. More information will be forthcoming.

**Enhancing Resilience Conference.** The SUNY Mental Health Task Force and SUNY Office of University Life are sponsoring the Enhancing Resilience Conference, to be held at Onondaga Community College on Friday, April 27th. Conference and hotel registration information will be made available soon. For more information, please contact Nazely Kurkjian Nazely.Kurkjian@suny.edu or Ann Topping atopping@monroecc.edu.

**TEDx: Searching for Truth.** St. Lawrence University (SLU) is holding a TEDx talk on the topic of Searching for Truth: In a World of Alternatives, presented by SLU President William Fox. The event is being held on February 3, 2018 at 12:00 in SLU’s Gulick Theatre. More information can be found at: https://www.tedxstlawrenceu.com/.

**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/. 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 or by phone at: (518) 320-1429 with questions.

**Associated Colleges’ Survey.** The Associated Colleges of St. Lawrence Valley (ACSLV) has developed a faculty survey to solicit information and input regarding past and possible future programming. Your input is invaluable. The survey can be accessed at the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ACoSLV.

**SUNY Facebook Workplace.** Last year SUNY began the first phases in migrating the SUNY Learning Commons over to Workplace by Facebook. Workplace is a secure, private version of Facebook for the SUNY System and is available via the web, Workplace, and Workplace chat mobile apps. The Workplace platform allows individuals to communicate on three levels: personal, collegial, and cross-campus. Goals of this tool include helping streamline communication, reducing redundancies, and expanding communities of practice through collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The use of Workplace is voluntary. Kelly Williamson (SUNY system) is the Community Manager at SUNY’s Center for Professional Development and is responsible for supporting the tool and its communities. Please feel free to reach out to her via Workplace or email at Kelly.williamson@suny.edu with any questions.

SUNY Potsdam is already connected to Facebook Workplace which can be accessed through http://sunyedu.facebook.com using your Campus Computer Account. For more information on this initiative, visit Facebook Workplace.
Mark Your Calendars!

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

- **Teaching First-Year Students: What Works and What Doesn’t**
  Do you have ideas to share about teaching first-year students? Do you find reaching those students a challenge? Would you like to hear some of your colleagues’ thoughts on the subject? If so, please join a discussion in Crumb 204 on **Tuesday February 6, 4:30 – 6:00pm**. The discussion will commence with four brief presentations by fellow faculty members.
  
  o **Presenters:** Walt Conley, Jessica Ramey, Eudora Watson, Michael Popovic, and Matt LaVine

- **Two Mini Writing Retreats:** Having trouble finding time for your own writing? Come to the CCI to experience your own writing! You’ll feel the power of having colleagues nearby who are doing the same thing. **Bring a laptop or use the link below to let us know if you will need to borrow one.** The writing retreats will be held in the CCI on **Friday, February 9th from 12-1:00 and Tuesday, February 13th from 12:30-1:30.**
  
  o The writing retreats will be hosted by Viki Levitt and Phil Neisser

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 to set an appointment or share your ideas.

SSC Campus Training. Interested in learning more about SSC-Campus, our new retention platform? A variety of sessions will be made available this semester; these sessions will be held in the CCI. All faculty and staff are invited to participate.

**Introduction to SSC Campus:** Have you heard about SUNY Potsdam’s new student success software? SSC Campus is a great new tool for connecting with students, collaborating with colleagues, tracking progress, and making data-driven decisions in an effort to help retain and graduate more students. These sessions will provide you with an overview of this multi-dimensional system and get you started with some of its most useful functions. Join us in the CCI for any or all of these open sessions, tailored to our audience:

- **February 7, 10-11am**
- **February 8, 9-10am**
**Progress Reports:** Beginning last semester, SUNY Potsdam began using the SSC Campus software’s Progress Reports to deliver early alerts to students in academic difficulty. Although similar to our previous system, there are some changes designed to make things easier for faculty and more useful for students. Let us show you how to quickly and easily complete your Progress Reports, see exactly what students receive as a result, and learn about the additional support efforts that are initiated by your feedback. Join us in the CCI for any or all of these open sessions, tailored to our audience:

- **February 26**, 11am-12pm
- **March 1**, 9-10am
- **March 6**, 11am-12pm

**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. This same tool can be used to schedule all kinds of appointments with students throughout the year. Join us in the CCI for any or all of these open sessions, tailored to our audience:

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

**Did You Know…**

…Our Online Learning website, which explains the new Online Course Approval Processes, has been completely updated: [http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/eLearning](http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/CCI/eLearning)

**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 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@potsdam.edu.

The Learning and Research Fair 2018 Registration Form will be posted under “Learning and Research Fair” on the home page of the Office for Student Research and Creativity.

**Coming Due…**

**NEH Summer Seminar.** On behalf of SUNY Potsdam’s NEH Faculty Development Committee, you are invited to submit an application for the upcoming 2018 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar, to be held at SUNY Potsdam from June 19 to July 12. This year’s seminar, *Animal Minds and Animal Ethics*, will be led by Dr. Kristin Andrews, York Research Chair in Animal Minds in the Department of Philosophy at York University, Toronto.

Each year SUNY Potsdam’s NEH Program organizes an interdisciplinary summer seminar for scholars from the four associated colleges whose work addresses the humanities, broadly defined. The seminar typically meets twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In return for their participation, seminar members are each paid a stipend of $3,500 and are also eligible to receive a further $500 towards projects or materials related to the themes explored in the seminar. Admission is by competitive application, with seminars usually limited to 8 members. The application deadline is **Monday, February 12, 2018**.

An application, together with a description of the seminar, a syllabus outline, and instructions for submission may be found on SUNY Potsdam’s website at the following link: [http://www.potsdam.edu/about/administration/provost/research.cfm](http://www.potsdam.edu/about/administration/provost/research.cfm)

Applications may be submitted to Geoffrey Clark electronically (in one file please) at clarkgw@potsdam.edu or in hard copy by post. Should you have further questions or encounter any difficulties accessing the application, please do not hesitate to contact Geoffrey directly.

**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—each requiring a brief project and budget narrative as well as an assessment plan—are welcome. Proposals featuring multi-campus collaborations are strongly encouraged. Funds may be used as a planning grant, following the guidelines.

In Case You Missed It…

**Lougheed Endowment.** As announced by President Esterberg, Donald and Kathryn Kofoed Lougheed have pledged $5.25 million to support applied learning initiatives at SUNY Potsdam. This is the largest gift commitment in our College’s history. The focus of this unprecedented gift will be 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. This includes, but is not limited to, curricular transformation, laboratory materials and equipment, transportation costs, professional development, course releases, travel delegations and new program development.

While there will typically be two application periods a year for these funds (fall and spring semesters), for this inaugural semester applications will be accepted twice—**January 15-February 1**, and again from **March 1-15**. 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 Lougheed Applied Learning Grants can be found online or on Moodle, where applications are to be submitted.

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**Kudos**

**Life Topics.** Kudos to Marianne Hebert (Librarian) for leading our librarians in creating a new Life Topics browsing book collection for students, which includes titles to help students navigate “life issues” including racism, diversity, gender, and disabilities. So far, 41% of the 160 titles have been borrowed!

**SUNY Impact Grant.** Congratulations to the SUNY Potsdam Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), which was recently awarded a $24,000 grant from the SUNY Impact Foundation. The grant award will help send 10 EOP students to a field service project in Jamaica for 10 days during spring break 2019. The Jamaica Field Service Project is a service-learning course on the diverse people, society, culture, and music of the Caribbean and West Indies. While in Jamaica, students will participate in daily training sessions and service work at local schools and care-centers. Students will also take part in supervised tutoring, music education, healthcare, sound-recording, and music-therapy programs in their area of specialization. This is a short-term, service learning experience designed to provide experiential learning that will lead to academic success. Congratulations to Sabel Bong, the EOP Director and the staff in both the EOP and International Education Offices for this successful grant application!
JCC Education Partnership. Kudos to Lisa Stewart (SOEPS), Julie Regan (SOEPS), Laura Carbone (Graduate/Continuing Education), and Terry Francis (Admissions) for their support and efforts with the BA Early Childhood partnership with Jefferson Community College (JCC)! Due to their persistence and incredible work, we hope to enroll our first students in this new collaborative program in the Fall of 2018.

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.