Hello SUNY Potsdam Adult Learners!!!

I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well, both academically and socially, at the mid-semester mark of our Fall 2013 semester. As your faculty advisor and a former adult learner alumna of SUNY Potsdam, I want to extend a special welcome to our new adult learners who are either returning back to college after a time away from the world of higher education or to those who are, beyond courageous, and attending college for the very first time—WELCOME TO YOU ALL!

As of this semester, SUNY Potsdam proudly has over 270 students who are enrolled as matriculated undergraduate students who are 24 years of age or older. You all need to be commended for taking on the challenges that college life offers!

In this newsletter you will find some key information regarding “important academic advising/registration dates, a bulleted list of the services my office offers, and an update on the hard work your non-traditional peers are busy conducting as new executive board members of the student-lead Non-traditional Student Organization (NTSO). Please make an effort to stop by the Adult Learner Commuter Lounge in Carson Hall 107 for one of their bi-weekly Friday 10:00 a.m. meetings starting October 25th. These fellow adult students are always looking for new ideas that will enhance your learning experience and, more importantly, communicate ways in which SUNY Potsdam faculty, staff, and younger students can lend their support.

I wish you all the best of luck as you persevere in your studies these last seven weeks of this fall semester and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns specific to your adult learner needs, please feel free to contact me at tyola@potsdam.edu or 315-267-2735.

Respectfully,

Louise Tyo, Director
Student and Family Transitions
128 Sisson Hall
Important Information

Do Not Forget...
The following list is just a few of the many important dates rapidly approaching us now…

- Don’t forget to check your holds, these need to be taken care of before registering
- Don’t forget to VOTE November 5!
- November 11 Veteran’s Day—Keep an eye out for all of the PACES specials to celebrate and honor our Veterans.
- Registration begins for Spring 2014 on November 12.
- Thanksgiving Break: November 27-29
- Last Day of Fall Classes: December 6
- Final exams week December 9-13
- Final grades due on the December 17 on BearPAWS

Who is your Advisor?

- Sign onto BearPaws
- Click onto Student Services & Financial Aid
- Go to Student Records
- Click on “Course Summaries”
- Advisor’s name will appear at the top of the page

Registration Information

- Check it out! The Schedule of Classes will be available online on Monday, October 21! Go to “Class Search” on BearPaws or check out the “Class Schedule by Department” for an overall view
- Make an appointment: Advising begins Monday, October 21
- Registration begins Wednesday, November 6
- Log on to the Registrar’s website at www.potsdam.edu/offices/registrar and click on “Registration” for step by step instructions and information
- Registration dates: Graduate Students: November 12, Seniors: November 13, Juniors: November 14, Sophomores: November 15, Freshmen: November 19 & 20. You may register on the web anytime after your beginning registration time, and may continue to add courses until midnight, January 19.
- Questions? If you have questions, please contact the Registrar’s Office, at 267-2154, or the Academic Advising Office, at 267-2339.

Potsdam Holiday Fund Program

Applications are now available for the Potsdam Holiday Fund, Inc. Program.
The program provides new toys, warm clothing and food to area families with children and senior citizens in need.
College students with families who are in need of assistance are eligible as well.
The program is coordinated by a group of volunteers in the Community and serves residents in Potsdam, Madrid, Hopkinton, Nicholville, Brasher Falls, Chase Mills, Fort Jackson, West Stockholmm and Winthrop.
The deadline for submission is November 30, 2013.

Eligibility guidelines and application will be available in the Adult Learner Lounge on the bulletin board, as well as in the Career Planning Office in Sisson Hall, room 206 or at: http://potsdamholidayfund.com/app ly.html
Executive Board

- President – Gina Norrell
- Vice-President – Lara Varden
- Treasurer – Sara Cantwell
- Secretary – Janet Terrance

NTSO defines a non-traditional student as any matriculated students at SUNY Potsdam who:

A) Is 22 years of age or older, or  
B) Has at least a 2 year hiatus in their education, or  
C) Holds a GED rather than a high school diploma, or  
   D) Is married, or  
   E) Is single with dependents

- For more information please contact: Louise Tyo

NTSO Meetings:

Biweekly on Fridays at 10 a.m. in the Adult Learner Lounge in Carson 107.
Next meeting will be on: October 25, 2013

NTSO’s Mission

- To focus on providing a safe and informative space for non-traditional students.
- Raise awareness of the challenges non-traditional students face and provide a forum where students can discuss these challenges.
- The primary goal of the NTSO is for adult learners to enjoy the community space of the Adult Learner Lounge and to exchange information about the non-traditional stu-

“Join the Non-Traditional Student Organization. Have a say in your life on campus!”
What is Omicron-Psi?

Omicron-Psi is the National Honor Society for non-traditional students. Omicron-Psi stands for Duty, Honor, and Service. Members are dedicated to being active members of their community.

The National Omicron-Psi Honor Society's mission is as follows:

1. To recognize achievements of non-traditional students throughout the United States.
2. To award these students with a certificate of achievement and insignia pin.
3. To encourage the continuation of educational pursuits.
4. To supply scholarship applications to members and to encourage participation in our scholarship program.
5. To provide scholarships from monies received through membership dues.
6. To be of service to our members and provide referrals and references upon request.
7. To have members commit to a life of honor, integrity and service in the home, community and workplace as well as duty to Country.

In order to be eligible for the Omicron-Psi National Honor Society at SUNY Potsdam, you must be considered a non-traditional student defined as:

1. Being 24 years of age or older, or
2. Having at least a 2 year hiatus in your education, or
3. Holding a GED rather than a high school diploma, or
4. Be married, or
5. Be single with dependents.

In addition, you must have ALL of the following:

1. Attained a junior class standing (minimum of 57 hours).
2. Completed 12 semester hours at SUNY Potsdam.
3. Earned a minimum of 3.30 GPA in Potsdam course work.

To apply visit: www.omicron-psi.com