Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome back to another exciting semester at SUNY Potsdam. I hope that everyone enjoyed their breaks. The semester has gone by so quickly that it’s time for another one! April recess is right around the corner! Please take a look through this issue of our newsletter for updated information that may pertain to you. There is also information about activities taking place in our area in the coming weeks. Please pay particular attention to the section regarding registration processes and deadlines.

Please make an effort to stop by the Adult Learner Commuter Lounge in Carson Hall 107 for one of the Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO) bi-weekly Friday 12:00pm meetings. 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.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding any of the information contained within this newsletter. We’re still finalizing details for the Adult Learner appreciation day and will pass that information along once it’s complete. Have a great semester!

Patrick Massaro
Faculty Advisor, NTSO
Coordinator of Military & Veterans Student Services
128 Sisson Hall
Phone: 315-267-3398
Fax: 315-267-3268
E-mail: massarps@potsdam.edu
Web: www.potsdam.edu/support/ssc

Who is your Advisor?

- Sign onto BearPaws:
  - Click onto Student Services & Financial Aid
  - Go to Student Records
  - Click on “Course Summaries”
  - Your advisor’s name will appear at the top of the page OR log on to your Bearden account and you advisor’s name will appear in the upper right hand corner.

Helpful Resources

Contact Information for Offices on Campus:

http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/services/nontraditional/upload/CampusResources.pdf

Faculty and Staff Directory:
http://www.potsdam.edu/directory/

Academic Assistance Help:
http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/services/nontraditional/upload/Resources-for-Academic-Assistance.pdf

For more resources check out the NTSO website:
http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/services/nontraditional/
Do Not Forget...

The following list is just a few of the many important dates rapidly approaching us now…

- Don’t forget to take care of your holds, these need to be taken care of before registering.
  - Last Day to Withdraw or select a S/U – April 3.
  - April Recess – April 4-7
  - Registration begins for Fall 2015 courses - April 14
    - Last Day of Spring Classes: May 8
    - Final Exam Week - May 11-15
    - Graduate Commencement – May 16
    - Undergraduate Commencement – May 17
    - Final grades due on May 20 on BearPAWS

Registration Information

- Check it out! The Schedule of Classes will be available online on Monday, March 23! Go to “Class Search” on BearPAWS or check out the “Class Schedule by Department” for an overall PDF view

- Make an appointment: Advising begins Monday, March 23

- Registration begins Monday, April 14

- 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: April 14,
  - Seniors: April 15,
  - Juniors: April 16,
  - Sophomores: April 17,
  - Freshmen: April 21 & 22.

You may register on the web anytime after your beginning registration time, and may continue to add courses until midnight, August 30 – the night before our fall semester begins!

- Questions? If you have questions, please contact the Registrar’s Office, at 267-2154, or the Academic Advising Office, at 267-2720.

Prior Learning Assessment

SUNY and SUNY Potsdam specifically are starting to research opportunities where past life experiences/learning experiences/employment experiences/etc may be evaluated to see if any credit could be awarded to a student. The director behind the research has asked for suggestions as to what students feel merits “prior learning credits”. An example, would be someone who has owned and operated their own business might be qualified to receive lower level business classes, etc. There are a number of possibilities but the committee wants to get student perspectives. The committee is meeting Friday, March 13th. I ask that you have your submissions back to me no later than Thursday, March 12th.
Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO)

Executive Board

- President – Gina Norrell
- Vice-President – Chris Donnelly
- Treasurer – Katis Fetcie
- Secretary – Mark Daby

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

A) Is 24 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

NTSO Meetings:

Friday's at 12:00 p.m. in the Adult Learner/Commuter Lounge in Carson Hall 107...stop by and lend your support!

NTSO’s Mission

- To focus on providing a safe and informative space for nontraditional 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 student community and their needs.

Job Opportunity - St. Lawrence County Dept of Social Services

The Department is looking for adults who would be interested in supervising visits for parents who are separated from their children due to neglect & abuse. Visits are generally scheduled for 1–2 hours, once or twice a week. This is an unpaid position. Any mileage that occurs will be reimbursed at the IRS rate of 52.5 cents per mile. There is an application and orientation required. If you're interested please contact:

K. A. Rhinebold, SDC
St. Lawrence Co Dept Social Services
6 Judson Street, Canton, NY 13617
315 329 2195
315 329 2162 X1
Kathryn.Rhinebold@dfa.state.ny.us

“Join the Non-Traditional Student Organization. Have a say in your life on campus!”
Scholarship Information

Alpha Sigma Lambda, is offering a total of eleven $2500 scholarships for the 2015-2016 academic year.

- To be eligible for the scholarship, you must have a minimum of a 3.2 GPA, have completed 30 hours at SUNY Potsdam, be at least 24 years of age, have financial need, and will be enrolled for the 2014-2015 academic year.

- You do NOT need to be a member of Alpha Sigma Lambda to apply.

  Application Packet can be downloaded at: https://www.alphasigmalambda.org/students/scholarship-information/

  Application packets MUST be submitted by April 15, 2015, to:
  Patrick Massaro 128 Sisson Hall, SUNY Potsdam

  Do NOT submit packet to the Alpha Sigma Lambda home office in Illinois.

Omicron Zeta Chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda

The Omicron Zeta Chapter (SUNY Potsdam Chapter) of Alpha Sigma Lambda is the international honor society chartered expressly for Non-Traditional students who are 24 years of age or older. Their members are adult students who engage in balancing the responsibilities of home, family, career, community and education. Each spring semester a number of non-traditional students who meet the national standards for student membership are inducted into this prestigious honor society.

Alpha Sigma Lambda's mission is to provide an on-campus association for and recognition of academically outstanding students in continuing higher education.

When inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda you will receive an Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Certificate, an insignia pin, and honors cords that can be worn at graduation.

Standards for Alpha Sigma Lambda membership at SUNY Potsdam are as follows:

- Be matriculated, undergraduate students at SUNY Potsdam
- Have a minimum of 24 course hours completed at SUNY Potsdam.
- Be at least 24 years of age.
- Have a minimum grade point average of 3.2.

Eligible members, for Spring 2014's induction, will be notified via your home address and via email in the month of March.