



The 2017 President's Award for Excellence in Fostering a Welcoming and Inclusive Campus Climate – Sharon House

Sharon House, the Director of Accommodative Services in the Student Success Center, provides the campus with a welcoming and inclusive voice.

Sharon acts as both a resource and an advocate for our students with disabilities. Her work transcends both curricular and co-curricular endeavors. She works with our students from the time they initially become interested in our school, communicating with the student and their parents regularly to ensure that they recognize their accommodations will be met at SUNY Potsdam. Once enrolled, Sharon works tirelessly with these students and their faculty on a variety of testing accommodations; as well as academic intervention strategies to maximize the student's potential to be

successful. Sharon is also a tremendous resource for persons with disabilities outside of the classroom.

Sharon sponsors Disability Awareness Day, occupying a table in the Student Union offering resources for our students and has presented numerous workshops on campus over the years. For example, she provides workshops for our student Resident Assistant staff, which allows our RA staff to better service the students who reside on campus.

Sharon continues her proactive engagement in the community by serving as an active member in the Diversity in Action Coalition (DIAC). She speaks to incoming graduate special education classes to inform them about the available services on campus. Sharon helps promote inclusion by creating student panels. These student panels provide an avenue for students to discuss the positive things implemented on campus or the problems that still exist for students and staff with disabilities.

In recognition of her dedication to the advancement of learning, SUNY Potsdam presents Sharon House the 2017 President's Award for Excellence in Fostering a Welcoming and Inclusive Campus Climate.