

Provost's Corner

Bette S. Bergeron, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

February 25, 2019

Greetings from Academic Affairs!

This has already been an extraordinary winter in terms of our unpredictable weather, which has prompted more than the usual number of course cancellations and delays. Your patience has been sincerely appreciated as we work through these unavoidable winter challenges.

Understandably, a number of questions have arisen regarding how the decision is made regarding class cancellations, whether or not courses can still be held during these times, and campus logistics during class cancellations. Specific information regarding our official policy can be found [online](#). Overall, considerations for the health and safety of students, employees, and campus guests take precedence in any final decision. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our campus' closure policy. Let's hope that spring comes early this year!

This spring has already been busy with a number of critically important searches, including new hires in the academic faculty as well as searches for two deans and a new Vice President for Enrollment Management. I am very excited to announce the successful completion of the search for our next Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies, Dr. Allen Grant! More on Dr. Grant is included in this Newsletter. It is anticipated that the search for the next Dean of Arts and Sciences will be wrapping up very soon, and the search committee for the VP for Enrollment Management will begin reviewing applications this week. A huge "thank you" to all faculty and staff who are involved with our campus' searches!

Our spring calendars are also starting to fill up with a variety of exciting events, including: *Days of Reflection* (April 1-4); the *Associated Colleges' Sustainability Day* (April 5); *Gender, Sex, and Sexuality Conference* (April 4-6); *Spring 2019 Open Houses* (March 23 and April 6); *Learning and Research Fair* (April 24); and our annual *LoKo Festival* (April 26-May 5). Be sure to check out this Newsletter for more information!

And don't forget our next *Coffee and Conversation*, scheduled for **Monday, March 4th**, from 8:30-9:30am in the Raymond 8th floor Dining Room. Have a topic that you'd like us to discuss? Be sure to let me know!

New Faces/New Positions

- Please join me in welcoming back *Josh Brown*, who has returned to the Counseling Center.
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Campus Updates

SOEPS Dean. As recently announced by President Esterberg, we are delighted to share that *Dr. Allen Grant* has accepted our offer to become the next Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies beginning June 15, 2019. Dr. Grant joins us from his most recent position serving as both Department Chair and Online Learning Council Fellow at Drexel University. Dr. Grant brings with him a wealth of knowledge in strategic planning, recruitment and retention, and online learning. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Grant to the SUNY Potsdam community!

On behalf of Academic Affairs and the Provost's Cabinet, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to *Dr. Walter Conley* for serving as Interim Dean for the past two years. I have appreciated Walt's deep sense of advocacy for the faculty, innovative program development, and transparent leadership. He has been an invaluable member of our leadership on campus.

I am also grateful to *Kathryn Jeror* (SOEPS) for her leadership on the SOEPS Dean search committee, and to all the members of the committee, for their dedication to this successful search.

Fall 2019 Advising. Advising for Fall 2019 registration begins **March 18, 2019**. Specific registration times can be found: <https://www.potsdam.edu/about/offices/registrar>.

Progress Reports. Faculty will soon receive an email linking to Navigate (formerly SSC Campus) to submit Spring 2019 Progress Reports. This process is available for all undergraduate courses. Grades and comments can be entered February 25th through March 8th.

All instructors are encouraged to submit Progress Reports for their students. While targeting students performing at a 2.0 or lower, these reports can be entered for **any** student regardless of current grade. Please note:

- Instructors are asked to use the **email link** to enter their Progress Reports.
- Students must be marked "**at-risk**" in order to receive an email notification.

- When you've entered your Progress Reports, please select the "**Submit unmarked students as not At-Risk (I'm all done)**" button at the bottom of the page.
- Don't have anyone "at-risk" in your course? You would still follow the link and select the "**Submit unmarked students as not At-Risk (I'm all done)**" button.
- While we ask that you submit during weeks 5-6, Progress Reports can be entered at any time if you wish to provide updates for individuals or entire classes.

For complete instructions and descriptions of the different progress report alert choices, please click here: <http://www.potsdam.edu/ssccampus> . If you have questions or problems, please call the Student Success Center at 267-2580.

Thank you for participating in this important retention initiative!

Academic Affairs Strategic Plan. Based on input from the spring Academic Affairs Leadership Retreat, updates have been made to the *Academic Affairs Strategic Plan* including the reprioritization of action steps to be focused on for the spring. The 2018/19 Plan has also been updated to highlight the goals and action steps that directly align with both the campus' strategic plan and the strategic priorities outlined by SUNY Chancellor Johnson. Input on the Strategic Plan is always welcomed; please contact me (bergerbs@potsdam.edu) with recommendations. The updated Plan can be accessed through the Provost's [Plans and Goals](#) page; or through a direct link to the [Academic Affairs Strategic Plan](#).

DIAC. Are you seeking ways to enhance your service related to inclusion on our campus? Then please be on the lookout for upcoming invitations to join [DIAC \(Diversity and Inclusion Action Coalition\)](#) for the 2019-2020 year.

Did you know that DIAC has some funds available for projects related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? The funding request form can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2Vd54C4>. You can also find more information, including the mission statement of DIAC's subcommittees, on the [DIAC website](#). Feel free to contact any member for more information, or you can reach out to the Chair of the Membership and Communications Subcommittee, *Anna Sorensen* (Sociology) at sorensam@potsdam.edu. Please consider joining one of the subcommittees and participating in the important work of helping SUNY Potsdam reach and maintain the highest standards of excellence with respect to diversity.

Writer's Block. The *Writers' Block* provides free peer tutoring in writing for SUNY Potsdam students. Our campus' trained tutors focus on all elements of writing, starting with fulfilling course assignments in a clear and well-supported way. The personal encouragement of faculty

members brings many students to the Writers' Block. Please share the Writer's Block [webpage](#), which shows students how to book a tutoring session and provides helpful links on writing. Staff can then identify appropriate tutors, or students can consult the [list of tutors' strengths](#).

Also to consider—offering students the opportunity to revise a graded paper with Writers' Block tutors. At the student's request, staff can email faculty to confirm their participation. If you are very concerned about a student's academic writing skills, please consider letting the Writer's Block know directly so that these students can be assisted in a focused way, tracking their visits and encouraging various forms of assistance. For now, this pilot program is referred to as the "Writers' Block Initiative." To participate, follow these steps:

- Simply email *Jennifer Mitchell*, the Writer's Block Director, at wblock@potdam.edu, including the student's name and your general concerns (e.g., understanding assignment, support, organization, grammar/editing, citing sources). Ask Jennifer to invite the student to participate in the three-session Writers' Block Initiative.
- If the student follows up, an evaluation will be conducted of their writing and relevant resources will be shared. Then two tutoring sessions will be scheduled with a designated Writers' Block tutor to work on current assignments or general skills. When necessary, these three sessions can happen quickly, within 7-10 days.
- A report will be provided to the faculty member on participation and general progress. Even if the student doesn't follow up, students will be reminded of available services. This is just a first step. It is hoped that these students will continue to work with the Writer's Block and to pursue other means of improving their writing abilities.

Finally, some basic [resources on assigning and evaluating writing](#) are provided online. Of particular interest are "Sequencing Writing Assignments" and "Techniques to Encourage Revision." If you need assistance in locating other sorts of resources related to writing instruction, please contact *Jennifer Mitchell* at wblock@potdam.edu.

Employee Assistance Program. The *Employee Assistance Program* (EAP) has recently gone through a staff transition. The new EAP Coordinator is *Bridget Bradish* from Student Health Services and the new EAP WellNYS Ambassador is *Heather West* from CSTEP.

Bridget has been the health educator at Student Health Services for 20 years. She will be able to provide employees with confidential assistance in many areas including, but not limited

Looking for previous copies of the Provost's Corner?

Past 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/>

to: relationship issues, financial and legal concerns, gambling and other addictions, alcohol and substance abuse, grief and loss, child care and elder care, mental health issues, domestic violence, retirement, housing, food insecurity, work-related issues, health and wellness, stress, and balancing life's demands. Please feel free to contact Bridget at: 315-267-3434 or bradisba@potdam.edu.

Heather has been the counselor at CSTEP for 10 years and has been at SUNY Potsdam for 20 years. She will be available to assist employees in finding resources for everyday well-being and registering for the WellNYS Everyday Monthly challenges. She can also be contacted for tips and strategies for improving health, finding healthy recipes, and other healthy resources. Heather is also interested in finding out more from the campus community regarding interests in wellness programs. Please feel free to contact Heather at: x2708 or westhj@potdam.edu for assistance in your healthy endeavors.

Departmental Videos. We are excited to share that the “*Why Major in..... Videos*” that were completed in the Fall, 2018 are now up on the SUNY Potsdam website! Prospective students and families will now be able to hear directly from SUNY Potsdam faculty and students anytime on why they should choose a particular major here at SUNY Potsdam. I would like to personally thank everyone that volunteered for this project and shared your story about our unique and high-quality academic programs, faculty, and students. I would also like to thank *Toby White* (Applied Learning) and his team for the leadership provided to this important recruitment initiative.

Videos can be found on the [Academic Programs website](#).

Approval for Extra Service. For those employees seeking approval for extra service at another state institution outside of SUNY Potsdam (e.g., teaching a class at another SUNY campus), an updated [UP-8 Form](#) is now available. The process now includes attaching approvals from the department chair, dean, and provost in addition to approval by the president to ensure transparency in communication.

Open Access. In March of 2018, the SUNY Trustees charged all state-run SUNY campuses with the development and implementation of an Open Access policy that recognizes each campus' unique mission and culture; utilizes a process that follows local faculty governance procedures; and includes the faculty, student, and staff protections and best practices identified in the [Trustees' memorandum](#). I have asked the Libraries to lead this effort on our campus. The Librarians will present at an upcoming Faculty Senate meeting and issue a call for interest in a faculty working group. More information can be found on SUNY's [Open Access website](#). If you

are interested in participating in the development of an open access policy for our campus, please contact *Lauren Jackson-Beck* at jacksola@potsgdam.edu.

Teaching Relatives Policy. The President's Council has recently adopted the following *Teaching Relatives Policy*:

A student who is the relative of an instructor through blood, marriage, adoption, legal guardianship, or domestic partnership (e.g., spouse/partner, child, grandchild, niece, nephew) should not register for a course taught by the relative. If there is no alternative to taking the course, the student may seek special permission from the provost.

The student may be granted permission if there is no other course that will meet the academic requirement and there is a plan in place for another faculty member to evaluate the student's work. The student and the instructor should develop a written plan with the department chair. At that time, the department chair will submit this plan through the dean to the provost for consideration and approval. If the instructor of the course is also the department chair, the dean will work directly with the student on the plan and submission to the provost.

If prior approval has not been obtained and a violation of this policy is discovered, the student may be withdrawn from the course and may be liable for tuition based on the withdrawal liability policy.

Faculty Renewal Documentation Guidelines. Recommended guidelines for developing the documentation for the renewal and promotion of academic (teaching) faculty have been posted on the Provost's [resource site](#). These are intended as recommendations only; faculty members should work directly with their department chairs to ensure that documentation adheres to the expectations and policies of individual academic units.

Regional Science and Engineering Fair. On **Saturday, March 30**, SUNY Potsdam is again hosting the *Terra Northeast Regional Science and Engineering Fair* on campus. This all-day event is affiliated with the International Science and Engineering Fair, and the event's top high school winner will be invited to attend the International Event being held this year in Phoenix, Arizona.

Middle School and High School students from St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, and Essex Counties as well as Akwesasne will be participating in the event. Besides the Fair itself, the STEM departments on campus will be holding activities during the day for the school students to attend. There will also be a Skype event with a representative from NASA and an awards

ceremony just after that event. If you are interested in learning more about the fair, contact *Jan Trybula* (Biology) at trybulj@potsdam.edu.

Relay. *Relay* is a video capturing platform that allows individuals to quickly and easily create and share videos securely. This tool is available to all students, faculty, and staff and seamlessly integrates with Moodle. Introductory information is available through a three-minute [Introducing Relay 01 - Getting Started](#) video.

What can you do with Relay?

- **Lecture capture-** Record in-class lectures and make them available to students for on-demand viewing.
- **Screen capture-** Record any presentation or website on your desktop and create tutorials and flipped-classroom videos.
- **Event recording-** Whether a committee presentation, performance, or campus event, easily record and distribute your video recording.
- **Student assignments-** Give your students the ability to demonstrate what they've learned. Relay makes it easy for them to submit video recording assignments to you for review.
- **Feedback-** When grading papers and assignments, easily provide your students with comments and feedback they can see and hear.
- **Devices-** Record *Relay* videos on all your devices (Windows, Mac OS, iOS, and Android).

More information on *Relay* support is available through the following short video tutorials:

[Introducing Relay 02 - Video Settings](#)

[Introducing Relay 03 - Navigating My Library](#)

[Introducing Relay 04 - Groups and Gear](#)

You are also encouraged to contact the CCI at cci@potsdam.edu for assistance.

Did You Know...

...Our Distance Learning Classroom is up and operational in Satterlee 201!



Around the State/System

DEI Learning Certificate Program. The SUNY Center for Professional Development (CPD) is looking for individuals interested in designing and/or delivering one or more of the six-week asynchronous online courses in the *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Teaching and Learning Certificate Program*. The purpose of the program is to help faculty and others involved in teaching and learning in higher education develop new mindsets and strategies for more inclusive and equitable practices in classrooms and other learning environments.

More information, including a link to the application form, can be found [on the DEI website](#). The deadline to complete the form is **March 4, 2019**.

SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference. SUNY's annual *Undergraduate Research Conference* (SURC) will be held at three campuses in April:

- SUNY Adirondack with SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury, **April 26, 2019**
- Farmingdale State College, **April 26, 2019**
- Niagara County Community College, **April 27, 2019**

SURC is a multidisciplinary event that brings together undergraduates and faculty mentors from across the state for a full day of activities. Students from all academic disciplines are encouraged to submit proposals to present their original research (oral presentation or poster); creative writing; visual art; music performance and composition; dance choreography; theatrical script, or other work. All students interested in participating must work with a faculty mentor on their campus before submitting a proposal.

The Event Registration is open from **February 11 - April 12, 2019**. Questions may be sent to: SURC@SUNY.edu. For more information, refer to <https://www.suny.edu/surc/>.

SUNY Sail: Mindfulness Seminar. SUNY SAIL (Strategic, Academic, and Innovative Leadership) is offering a free webinar on *Practical Approaches to Mindfulness on the College Campus*. The objective of this one-hour seminar is to increase understanding of how mindfulness practices can mitigate personal stress and teach simple techniques that can be incorporated into one's daily routine. Information on registration is provided on the [SUNY SAIL website](#).



Mark Your Calendars!

Mental Health First Aid. The Counseling Center is offering *Mental Health First Aid* for all faculty and staff interested in learning more about mental health conditions and strategies to help those who are struggling. The eight-hour training will be split between **Tuesday March 12th** and **Wednesday March 13th** from 1:00-5:00pm in the Raymond Hall 8th floor lounge. Both days are required for certification, but individuals are welcome to attend what they can. Email *Gena Nelson* at nelsongc@potsdam.edu to sign up or for more information.

Days of Reflection This semester's *Days of Reflection* will take place in the afternoons of **April 1-4, 2019** in Knowles MPR. The events will offer a variety of important topics, which include presentations and workshops on interrupting bias, blackface, Martin Luther King, free speech, antisemitism, racial anxiety, woke environmentalism, and suicide prevention. An annual DIAC Alumni Panel will be hosted, and a conversation is planned for faculty members centered on teaching and talking about race. More information is available on the [Days of Reflection website](#); a detailed schedule will be available soon. Please encourage your students to attend. I want to extend my thanks to the Planning Committee, chaired by *Michael Popovic* (Politics), and to all faculty and staff who are participating in this important initiative.

Disciplined Inquiry in Education Seminar Series. Be sure to mark your calendars for this spring semester's *Disciplined Inquiry in Education Seminars*, sponsored by the School of Education and Professional Studies. The remaining Spring 2019 Seminars are as follows:

- **March 6:** *Marta Albert* and *Carolyn Stone*, "How Do They Do It?": Lessons from an Educational Travel Course in Finland and Sweden"
- **April 3:** *Bryan Herman*, "Science and Culture on the Soviet Screen: Russian and Member Republic Biographical Films During the Early Cold War, 1946-1953"
- **April 24:** *Krista LaVack* and *Jim Pasquill*, "Internationalizing the Faculty"

For the full descriptions of upcoming Disciplined Inquiry in Education events for the semester, visit <http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS/education/seminar>.

2019 Learning and Research Fair. SUNY Potsdam's *2019 Learning and Research Fair* will be held **Wednesday, April 24, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** in the Barrington Student Union. For questions regarding the Fair, please contact *Tom Baker*, Director of the Office for Student Research and Creativity (bakertn@potsdam.edu). Thank you for your continued support and participation in the Learning and Research Fair.

Associated Colleges Sustainability Day. On **Friday, April 5, 2019**, SUNY Potsdam will host the third annual [Associated Colleges Sustainability Day](#). The theme is “*Seeing Sustainability*,” which is inspired by this year’s keynote speakers, Peter Menzel and Faith D’Aluisio. Menzel and D’Aluisio are the internationally renowned photojournalism team best known for their photo essays of average families around the world with iconic shots of them posed in front of their dwellings with all of their possessions, and in their kitchens with a week’s worth of food.

If you have any questions regarding this important event, contact *Heather Sullivan-Catlin* at sullivha@potsgdam.edu.

Gender, Sex, and Sexuality Conference. The **2019 Gender, Sex, and Sexuality (GSS) Conference** will be held on **April, 4-6, 2019**, at SUNY Canton. This year’s focus is on health—in terms of bodies, minds, and societies. Much of our ongoing local and national political discourse centers on various forms of health: Health Care, Mental Health, Civic Health, Environmental Health, Occupational Health and Safety, and Economic health. This fifth annual **Gender, Sex, and Sexuality Studies Conference** hopes to encourage thoughtful dialogue about all aspects of health, from the physical and mental health of individuals to the health of our communities and our polity. More information can be found on the [Conference's website](#).

Gen Z Professional Development Series. During the Spring, 2019 and Fall, 2019 semesters, the Center for Creative Instruction (CCI) will be offering a range of professional development activities focused on understanding our “Gen Z” student population. Funded in part by a Lougheed Applied Learning Grant, these workshops address a variety of topics pertaining to teaching and communicating with our current generation of students. Be sure to be watching for the Gen Z logo!



Please be sure to mark your calendar for our upcoming Gen Z event:

Event: *Disabilities, The Next Generation or Accommodations from A to (Gen) Z*

Date: Friday, **March 1st**, 2-3:00pm

Presenters: *Sharon House* (Accommodative Services Coordinator, SUNY Potsdam);
Sharmela Garcia-Martin (Student Accessibility Services Director, St. Lawrence);
Megan Riedl (Student Accessibility Services Director, SUNY Canton)

Description: Learn from accommodative and accessibility services directors at Potsdam, St. Lawrence, and SUNY Canton how to better communicate with and assess the progress of Gen Z students with disabilities.

Location: Lougheed Learning Commons 106

Registration: [Register Online](#)

Upcoming CCI Events. Be sure to mark your calendars for the following upcoming professional development events offered through the Center for Applied Learning (CCI):

Event: *Enhancing Learning Through the Flipped Classroom*

Date: Friday, **March 22nd**, 1:30-2:30pm

Presenters: *Caron Collins* (Music Education); *Alex Gomez* (CCI)

Description: Learn from teaching faculty and staff how to successfully use the flipped classroom approach, to enable students to spend class time developing critical thinking and other skills in addition to absorbing course content.

Location: Crumb Library 204

Registration: [Register Online](#) by **March 20th**

Event: *How our Students Consume Media*

Date: Friday, **April 5th**, 2-3:00pm

Presenters: *Leandra Smollin* (Sociology); *Alex Gomez* (CCI); *Steve Canning* (CCI, Business Administration)

Description: Become familiar with Scripts, Twitch, and other live and recorded streaming media used by Gen Z students. Learn why they use it and how to successfully create media for classroom consumption.

Location: Loughheed Learning Commons 106

Registration: [Register Online](#) by **April 3rd**

For more information regarding all of the CCI's upcoming events, visit the [Center for Creative Instruction](#) website or stop by the CCI, located in Loughheed Learning Commons 106.

Coffee and Conversation

Have an idea for a topic that you'd like to discuss? Be sure to let me know, and we'll add it to a "Coffee and Conversation" agenda. Please email your suggestions to me at bergerbs@potSDam.edu.

Our upcoming "Coffee" dates for this spring semester are scheduled for the following (all are held on the 8th floor of Raymond):

- **Monday, March 4th**, 8:30-9:30am (Dining Room)
- **Monday, April 1st**, 8:30-9:30am (Dining Room)
- **Tuesday, May 14th**, 4:00-5:00pm (Lounge)



I hope to see you there!

Coming Due

Sustainability Awards. As part of our campus' [strategic planning](#) efforts, specifically in the area of sustainability, SUNY Potsdam has created a campus *Sustainability Award*. This award will honor either an individual or group that has engaged in activities that make our campus and/or community more sustainable. Activities can include curricular or other education innovation, efficiencies in our use of resources, and activities aimed at raising awareness of environmental concerns. Faculty, staff, and students are eligible to receive this award.

Nominators should submit a one to two paragraph description of how the individual or group's activities meet the criteria as described above using the [online](#) submission form. Submissions must be received by **March 1, 2019**. The Sustainability Award Committee will evaluate nominees based on overall impact, connection to campus strategic goals for sustainability, innovation, and stakeholder involvement.

Kudos and thanks to the Award Committee members: *Peter Brouwer* (Secondary Education), *Caroline Downing* (Art), and *Heather Sullivan-Catlin* (Environmental Studies).

UUP Individual Development Awards. We are pleased to announce that SUNY Potsdam has been notified that *Individual Development Awards* have been allocated to the campus in the amount of \$27,704.35 for eligible UUP members. The Individual Development Program is intended to assist eligible employees in developing their full professional potential and in preparing for advancement. A minimum of fifteen percent of these amounts must be allocated initially to eligible part-time employees.

All expenses for an award must have been incurred and expended between **April 1, 2017 and July 1, 2018** or **July 2, 2018 and July 1, 2019**. A maximum of \$1000 per person may be awarded. Applicants may submit only one proposal for one activity per award period for consideration.

Award Period:	Deadline to Submit Application (no exceptions):	Submit Applications to:	Anticipated Notification of Awards:
April 1, 2017 – July 1, 2018	March 29, 2019 by 4:30pm	Human Resources Raymond Hall 219	June 2019
July 2, 2018 – July 1, 2019	March 29, 2019 by 4:30pm	Human Resources Raymond Hall 219	June 2019

The Individual Development Awards program guidelines and required forms may be found at the following website: <https://goer.ny.gov/grant-opportunities>.

Please note that the Joint Labor Management Committee from Albany has mandated that funding will not be awarded to purchase equipment or supplies.

The Individual Development Awards Committee consists of the following individuals: *Eric Johnston-Ortiz* (Business Affairs) *Joshua LaFave* (Graduate and Continuing Education), *Jennifer Murray* (Human Resources), *Melissa Proulx* (Human Resources), *Annette Robbins* (Student Success Center), and *Louise Tyo*, (Student Success Center).

Faculty Seminars/Faculty Student Dialogues. The Associated Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley has announced that it is now accepting proposals for *Faculty Seminars* and *Faculty/Student Dialogues* to be held in the 2019/2020 academic year. Applications must be made in writing (hard copy or via email in pdf) and are due in the Associated Colleges office on or before **Friday, March 8, 2019**. Inquiries may be addressed to *Kelly Bonnar*, Coordinator of Faculty Programs for the Associated Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley, at (315) 267-2027 or by email to bonnarkk@potdam.edu. This program is supported by the Chief Academic Officers of the Associated Colleges.

The *Faculty Seminars* program provides up to \$1,000 to bring faculty from all four campuses together to exchange ideas, share scholarly interests, discuss curricular issues, promote faculty development, advance individual research interests, read works in-progress, and/or host a guest speaker. The purpose of the *Faculty/Student Dialogues* program is to bring students and faculty together from the four campuses to collaboratively discuss issues that they are studying in their courses, with the goal of providing students an opportunity to learn about their field of study or interest in an interdisciplinary context. Up to \$600 may be requested for academic seminars/conferences to be held during the 2019/2020 academic year.

Proposals should be sent to *Vicki Jacot*, Associated Colleges, 288 Van Housen Extension, SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY 13676 for mail delivery or to asclv@potdam.edu for email submissions.

Facul-TE Awards. The Facul-TE Awards (maximum \$500) are intended to promote faculty teaching excellence by supporting professional development activities to improve teaching and learning. All faculty, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to apply.

The next round of applications for Facul-TE awards will be open for submissions between **April 23rd – May 7th** for activities occurring June-October, 2019.

Please note: these dates have moved slightly earlier than in past years. The CCI Board will be revisiting the timelines for application submission and award usage for next year. Please reach out to the CCI staff or board members if you have ideas for how the award cycle should be timed.

Spring Open Houses. Please join the campus community for our *Spring 2019 Open House Programs*. The programs will be held on the following Saturdays: **March 23, 2019** and **April 6, 2019**. Prospective students and their guests find that one of the highlights of the Open Houses is the opportunity to interact with our campus' phenomenal faculty, staff, and students. Your participation at these critical recruitment events is most deeply appreciated.

LoKo Arts Festival. This spring's annual *LoKo Arts Festival* will take place **April 26 - May 5, 2019**. The 10-day celebration of the arts at SUNY Potsdam includes theatre, dance, vocal, and instrumental performances; visual arts exhibitions; creative writing workshops and readings; and guest artist visits.

Throughout the festival, students, faculty, and visiting artists will present over [40 free events](#) that celebrate the diversity of artistic expression. In addition to popular annual events (such as the Crane spring concert, Senior Choreographer Show, and Festival of Light), there will be many opportunities for you and your students to enjoy novel perspectives and learn from respected artists.

Also, make sure to join the campus community in downtown Potsdam on **Saturday, April 27, 2019** when LoKo takes over Market Street for a new one-day outdoor event!

In Case You Missed It...

Academic Assessment Reminders. Please check the [Academic Assessment Cycle](#) on the Institutional Effectiveness website to confirm when your program review and reports/plans are due. If you have an Assessment Report due in Fall 2019, and you have questions about either component (the Assessment Report itself or the updated Assessment Plan), be sure to contact our campus Academic Assessment Coordinator, *Carrie Bates* (batescl@potsdam.edu). Also, check out the [Academic Assessment website](#) for general information about assessment from the course through the program level. This website will soon have a new training video, "Academic Assessment Process for New Chairs or Assessment Coordinators."

SUNY Conversations in the Discipline. SUNY has issued its annual Request for Proposals for the *Conversations in the Disciplines* program (SUNY CID) for conversations to be held in 2019-20. 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. The program guidelines have been posted on: www.suny.edu/provost/cid/. Proposals are due **March 29, 2019**. As in prior years, the University Faculty Senate’s Committee on Programs and Awards will review and recommend proposals for consideration. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact SUNY Assistant Provost *Kristina Bendikas* at: CID@suny.edu.

SUNY Chancellor’s Grant for Innovative Study Abroad Programs. The SUNY Global Office has announced the call for applications for the *2019-20 Chancellor’s Grant for Innovative Study Abroad Programs* (ISAP Grant). Four grants of \$4,000 will be awarded (contingent upon funding availability) to programs administered during the 2019-2020 academic year. The application deadline is **Tuesday April 2, 2019**. The current competition provides financial support for the development of innovative study abroad programs as well as the addition of new elements to existing study abroad programs. The list of the elements and the criteria to be considered for the selection are included in the call for proposals posted to the SUNY Global [website](#). All interested faculty are encouraged to work closely with *Krista LaVack* (International Education) regarding their submission: lavackkm@potdam.edu.

Explorations in Diversity and Academic Excellence. SUNY’s Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is again accepting applications for the *2019-20 Explorations in Diversity and Academic Excellence Initiative* in support of innovative approaches that strengthen the intersections between diversity and inclusive excellence on SUNY campuses. Projects eligible for funding include, but are not limited to, those that improve the campus climate, access and success for students, course development and pedagogical innovations, recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, and campus-community dialogues. The [2019-2020 guidelines](#) can be accessed online. These guidelines require that both the campus’ Chief Diversity Officer and Chief Academic Officer sign off on the final project/proposal. The deadline for this year’s application is 5 p.m. on **Friday, April 12, 2019**, and awards will be announced in May.

Kudos

National Recognition for Education Programs. The Council on Accreditation for Education Programs (CAEP) has informed the campus that the following Specialized Program Area (SPA) reports were successful and have achieved national recognition. This is the result of the hard work and deep dedication of the SPA writers (listed below), the entire CAEP team, and the remarkable leadership of Associate Dean *Deborah Conrad*.

- EC/CE Education Program - *Julie Reagan* and *K. Chad Graham*
- MST Childhood Education – *Debbie Anderson*
- Science Education (Masters) - *Tyler St. Clair*
- Adolescence English Education - *Laura Brown*
- Literacy Specialist and Literacy Specialists, 5-12 – *Marta Albert*

Congratulations and thank you to everyone involved in this critically important accreditation effort!

Winter Food Drives. Congratulations and thank you to all units and individuals that participated our campus' winter food drives in support of the SUNY Potsdam Food Pantry.

Through the *Winterfest Food Drive Competition*, participants raised 1,834 food donations. A special congratulations to *Residence Life*, the winners of the Winterfest Competition!

Thanks to the following the departments for their participation and support:

- Department of Anthropology
- Campus Life
- Center for Diversity/ Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Crane School of Music
- College Advancement Office (Potsdam College Foundation Board & Alumni Association)
- Department of C&I, Literacy and Special Education
- Residence Life
- Student Health Center
- University Police

An additional \$550 was raised by College Advancement to be donated directly to the SUNY Potsdam Food Pantry.

I would also like to acknowledge the leadership of *Student Accounts*, which coordinated a drive during Winter Break that generated 250 items. Thanks to all of our Raymond Hall colleagues who supported this initiative, including:

- *Sal Cania* (College Advancement)
- *Stephanie Claxton* (Registrar)
- *Peter Cutler* (College Advancement)
- *Susan Godreau* (Financial Aid)
- *Nicole Conant* (Office of the President)
- *Josh LaFave* (Graduate & Continuing Education)
- *Wendy Manchester* (Student Accounts)
- *Andy Martin* (Facilities)
- *Laurie Martin* (Student Accounts)
- *Tom Nesbitt* (Admissions)
- *Jill Pearson* (Office of the Provost)
- *Melissa Proulx* (Human Resources)
- *Heather teRiele* (Student Accounts)
- *Mindy Thompson* (College Communications)
- *Joe Wisniewski* (Student Accounts)

Thank you to everyone who donated, helped disseminate information, and who collected, tracked, and organized donated items. Your generous contributions make an important difference to our students.

Please continue to donate to the student food pantry in **Dunn 100** throughout the semester.

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@potdam.edu.