



LOUGHEED CENTER FOR APPLIED LEARNING

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020





2020: #SUNYPOTSDAMSTRONG

I think we can safely say that 2020 was the year no one expected. Regardless, it was a year that taught us so much - about what we're capable of, about what we can experiment with, about what we value. Those affirmations not only serve us well through the pandemic, but I have faith they'll serve us well beyond it, into the New Normal.

On the unexpected side, we had to bring students back from semesters of study abroad in affected countries, cancel travel courses as entire countries went into precautionary travel lockdown, adjust student internships and service learning expectations for time on site as our partners went remote, reschedule our Police Academy, quickly develop an online research fair after our students went home for the semester, and find ways for students to connect with alumni online.

On the positive side, we found out that we could do all those things. We built an online Learning & Research Fair. We worked with faculty and students to postpone or adjust field experiences. We hosted Zoom networking events. We developed academic standards and processes for interrupted internships.

We adapted on the fly, we mastered online technologies for daily use, we leveraged the features of our existing systems, and most of all, we connected with our communities. Community partners, businesses, alumni, faculty, staff, students. We're all still part of the same Potsdam team. And we're reminding ourselves daily: We're #SUNYPotsdamStrong.

JENICA ROGERS

*Dorf Endowed Director,
Lougheed Center for Applied Learning*

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Our generous donor funding literally makes dreams come true. This year we were able to grant more than \$29,000 to support faculty and students. We had plans to spend more than \$30,000 more in endowment income, but the pandemic made many travel and research experiences impractical and unsafe. The significant cognitive load of life and education during a pandemic also caused some of our students to set their dreams aside for a semester. Fortunately, our endowment income remains available to us as we are all refocusing and beginning anew for 2021!

Faculty and Student Impact

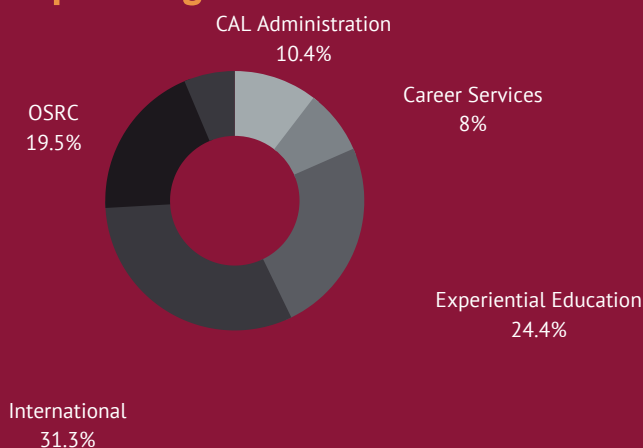


The Dorf Endowment for Applied Learning contributed to a major campus purchase of equipment for the Chemistry lab of Dr. Fadi Bou-Abdallah, who has recently received a major NIH grant. When interviewed about that grant and student research, Dr. Bou-Abdallah said, "Support of undergraduate research at small institutions like ours is extremely important. The majority of students who receive bachelor's degrees in our department go on to earn doctorates and/or medical degrees. Undergraduate research is a fundamental part of their education at SUNY Potsdam, and one of the high-impact learning practices they encounter here."

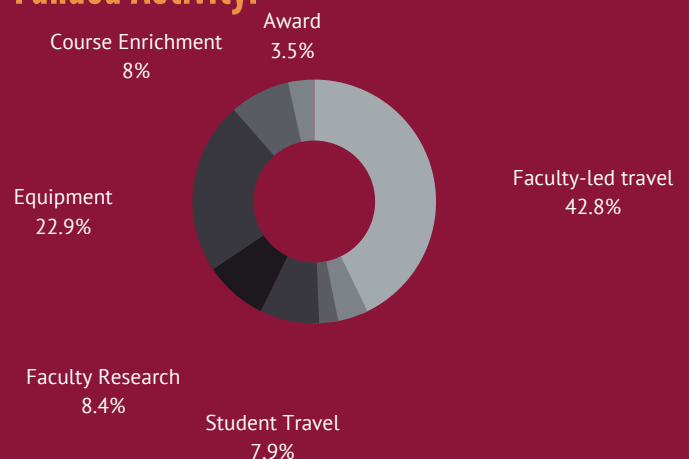
"I had the extraordinary good fortune to not only be invited to present at Penn State University's first ever Early Period Studies Conference this past weekend, but to have received a grant through the Dorf Applied Learning YES Fund which made it possible for me to attend. I wanted to extend my sincere gratitude to you and the Loughheed Center for Applied Learning for being able to pursue this opportunity. One of my fellow classical studies panelists happened to be a managing editor for the Haley Classical Journal who asked me to submit my work to his committee for possible publication, which is beyond thrilling. Just as exciting was being sought out after my presentation by a lecturer in Classical Studies at Penn State so that she could tell me how impressed she and her colleague were with my presentation both in regards to my skill as a speaker as well as the construction of my argument. Needless to say, this experience was overwhelmingly positive for me as a student and as a nascent academic. I can confidently say that I have grown as a result, and am now much more certain in my desires to pursue academia beyond my Bachelor's degree and into Graduate Studies, a concept I have been considering but heretofore unsure about. I truly hope that I have been able to successfully communicate how much good this grant has done for me." **Blinne E. Krieger '21**



Sponsoring Office:



Funded Activity:



REMEMBERING DR. RAM L. CHUGH

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Dr. Ram L. Chugh passed away on October 2, 2020. Dr. Chugh was a pillar in the SUNY Potsdam community, which he served with distinction during a 32-year career. In 1976, Dr. Chugh was recognized with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Years later, in 1991, he was named a SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, one of the System's highest honors.

Dr. Chugh joined the SUNY Potsdam faculty in 1970 as an assistant professor of economics and became a full tenured professor in 1978. He also served as executive assistant to several campus presidents and later as presidential assistant for public service and director of the College's Rural Services Institute.

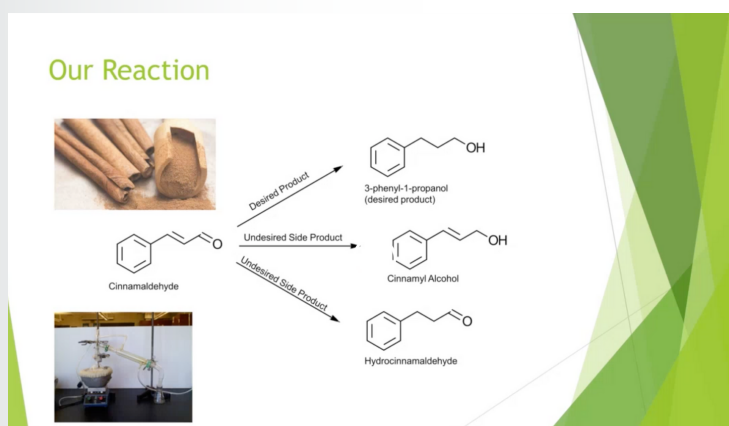
Dr. Chugh's legacy at SUNY Potsdam lives on through the lives of the scholars he impacted and through the Ram and Seema Chugh Family Endowment, which he and his wife established at the College. This fund supports two annual awards: the Chugh University Faculty Senate Award for faculty members in the SUNY System and the Ram L. Chugh North Country Research and Public Service Award for SUNY Potsdam student researchers.

Dr. Chugh's commitment to the North Country was inspiring. He utilized his training in economics to serve the North Country by helping create numerous partnerships, cooperative ventures and grant-funded projects to improve the area's economy. He served on several boards, wrote extensively on development issues and received numerous honors and awards for his many years of dedicated service.

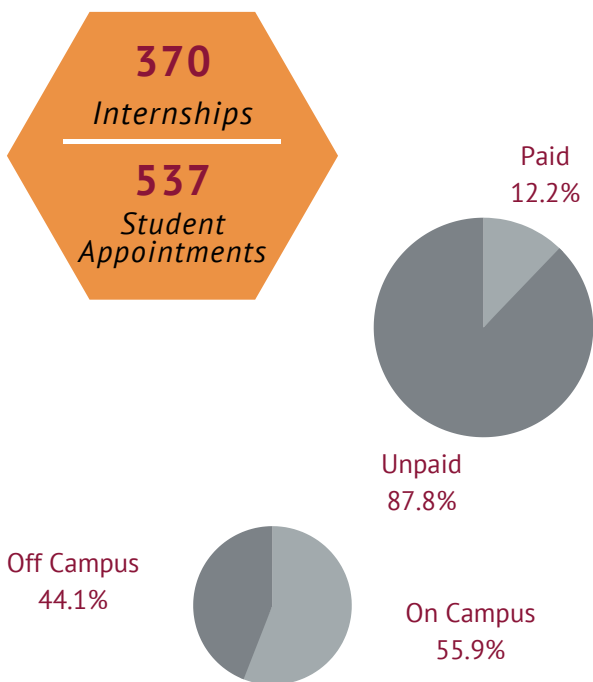
NORTH COUNTRY IMPACT

2019-2020 winner of the Ram L. Chugh North Country Research and Public Service Award is Aaron Charlack '20, M'21, for his research and development work creating standardized lab experiments which are environmentally sustainable, affordable for public schools, and safe for a high school lab.

Following his graduation in 2020, Aaron enrolled in SUNY Potsdam's MST program, and hopes to find a position teaching high school science.



INTERNSHIPS



ECONOMIC IMPACT

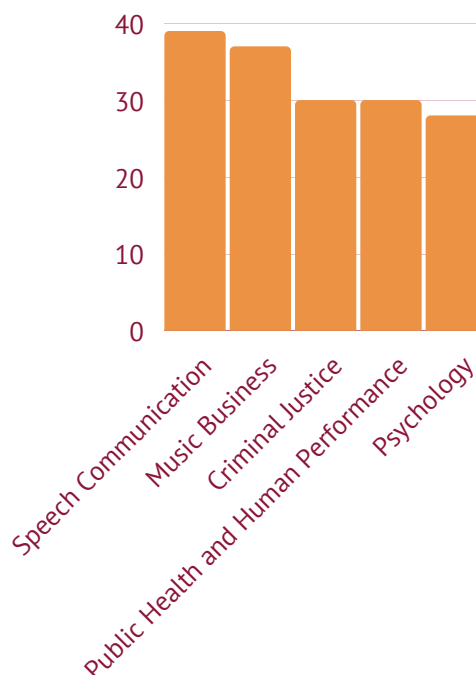
- \$** \$693,280 in total labor provided by unpaid academic internships
- \$** \$260,960 in labor provided in St. Lawrence County

Toby White, the Director of the Experiential Education Office, implemented a number of new programs and opportunities for students at SUNY Potsdam, which include:

- Awarded over \$15,500 in scholarships to 18 students
- Established new website with 40 new internship sites in NYC
- Worked with high schools from NYC to provide Mentoring internships
- Worked with CFES, Gear-Up Grant, and Malone Middle school to establish student mentoring program
- Met with Fort Drum Military to establish relations with SUNY Potsdam in Applied Learning
- Planned for a (COVID-19 delayed) InternBridge workshop with St. Lawrence County Chamber

Internships are the traditional heart of experiential education and applied learning. Academic internships at SUNY Potsdam allow students to earn up to 12 upper division credits towards the 45 required for a Bachelor's degree. They get great real world experience for their résumés, and can try out their selected career field to see if this is the career path they will take in the future. And finally, they begin to build the network of career professionals in their desired field that will be so critical to their future successes.

TOP MAJORS COMPLETING INTERNSHIPS



- Updated to new Gradleaders database for Spring 2020 internship tracking and evaluation
- Started planning for a new Arts and Sciences Co-Op program with the ARC
- Served as Faculty Sponsor for 13 students for Music Business Practicums.

In addition, Toby White wrote and implemented Internship Guidelines for completing academic internships that were impacted by COVID-19. We are extremely proud of the work Toby did to ensure that our students had the best possible experience in an extremely difficult semester.



LETI Cadet Class of Fall 2019

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE

This year, the LETI experimented with different instruction models.

- We collaborated with regional police agencies to teach their hired officers, and in return these agencies are sending their instructors to help teach our cadets.
- Federal, State, and local police agencies sent multiple instructors to teach at our police academy, exposing our cadets to multijurisdictional instructors.
- We put two SUNY Potsdam University Police Officers through both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of their training in the LETI with our state-of-the-art equipment and focus on responsible community-based policing. Both officers are now on patrol on campus.
- We held multiple in-service defensive tactics training for Malone, Potsdam and Tupper Lake Police Departments.

Building on our investment in the Firearms Simulator, we became the first police academy in New York State to implement Stress Vests for Reality Based Training. Our cadets absolutely loved this applied learning component which will make them so much better in the field of law enforcement.

As a result of this high-quality experiential education, our graduating Cadets have been hired at multiple Federal, State, County, City, Town and Village law enforcement agencies as well as private colleges as campus security officers. Our cadets are spread out throughout the country, bringing their excellent SUNY Potsdam education to new communities.

We will welcome our next class of cadets in spring 2021!

SERVICE LEARNING

Service-learning is a credit-bearing, educational experience in which students participate in an organized service activity that meets identified community needs and reflect on the service activity in such a way as to gain further understanding of course content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, and an enhanced sense of civic responsibility.

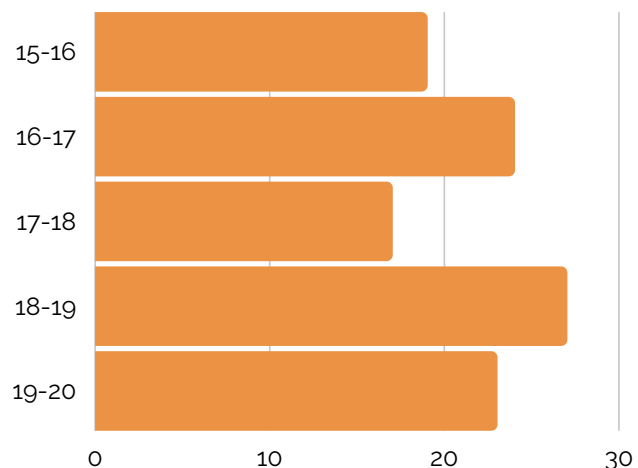
Robert Bringle and Julie Hatcher,
The Michigan Journal of
Community Service Learning,
Fall 1995. 112-122.

Service Learning Sections Offered

317 students enrolled in service learning courses in 2019-2020 academic year. **16 faculty** taught **23 different sections** of 19 service learning courses.

Those courses included:

EDLS 201: Principles of Education
GEOL 125: Earth Systems
OVS 465: Field Service Abroad
POLS 289: Approaching Political Puzzles
SOCI 105: Introduction to Social Justice
SOCI 305: Sociology of the Family
WILD 350: Wilderness Adventure and Program Planning
and more!



ECONOMIC IMPACT



\$53,256 in total labor provided by service learning courses

In addition to these courses, Dr. David Bugg, Service Learning Coordinator:

- Developed new service-learning courses as part of our involvement with the GearUp Grant-funded mentoring program with Malone Central School District. The project began in Spring 2020 with five faculty members and five sections of students mentoring an estimated 180 8th graders from Malone Middle School.
- Developed a series of alternate plans to allow for service learning to continue in the event of quarantine or social distancing, as only half of the spring semester's placements were possible on-site, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic remains unpredictable.

The following faculty developed new service-learning courses for 2019-2020:

SECD 370: Teaching Math in Middle School, Dr. Peter Brouwer

POLS 361: Bioethics, Dr. Daniel Lempert

GEOL 125: Earth Systems, Dr. Page Quinton

SOCI 390: Sociology of Mental Illness, Dr. Leandra Smollin

SOCI 395: Criminalization of Mental Illness, Dr. Nancy Lewis



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION DURING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

This section should be full of 2020's photos of students and faculty in exotic locations, experiencing the beauty and richness of the world first-hand. Instead, we share a triumphant pre-pandemic photo of the 2019 service learning students who went to Puerto Rico to help with hurricane recovery. Because that's what we do, at SUNY Potsdam: We do the hard work, and we help each other to persevere.

This was a hard year for international education. All of our programs were affected by the global pandemic, from international students and scholars who were affected both locally and at home, our students who were studying abroad and had to make emergency plans to return to Potsdam, to our faculty and students who had planned to begin short-term travel courses in the spring of 2020. Everything was disrupted, and many dreams were deferred.

The frustration and sadness - in our staff, in our students, in our faculty - were palpable as we made the tough decisions to halt international education.

Hindsight helps. We can see that we did the right thing in the moment. We responded appropriately to the crisis, and our community was not put at extra risk through our choices. We're proud of the emergency plans we had in place and the way we enacted them. The level-headed round-the-clock responses from our International Education team, Krista LaVack and Bethany Parker, were both reassuring and evidence of their deep dedication to our students and faculty.

We are already making plans for 2021, and while it, too, may be a hard year, we're ready to engage. International Education will be ready to meet the next challenge!



FACULTY-LED TRAVEL COURSES

Not all was lost in 2020 - four of our cohorts completed their planned faculty-led travel courses before the pandemic began. Students joined a faculty member in Belize, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Spain and Morocco in January of 2020.

Our travel courses are a very popular way for students to have an adventure outside of Potsdam. They have the opportunity to experience the wonder and challenge of a new culture, new language, and new perspective on the world - with the camaraderie of a cohort of students and the guidance of a trusted faculty mentor.

We look forward to re-starting cancelled courses and exploring new opportunities to learn in 2021!

50 students completed travel courses in the 2019-2020 academic year. 5 faculty led students through four countries and Puerto Rico. The courses were:

- ARTH 390: The Arts in Mexico, Dr. Iggy Beerbower
- BIOL 352: Tropical Ecology and Conservation (Belize), Dr. Glenn Johnson
- LITT 350: North African Literatures and Culture (Morocco and Spain), Dr. Lora Lunt and Allonah Ezro-Christy
- MUAP 377: Crane Latin Ensemble in Puerto Rico, Dr. Peter McCoy

Also approved for 2020 but canceled due to the pandemic were:

- MUCP 395: Irish Ensemble Abroad, Dr. Shelly Tramposh
- GEOL 450: Geology of the Colorado Plateau, Dr. Adam Pearson
- MUCP 395: International Choral Studies (Italy), Dr. Jeffrey Francom

CAREER SERVICES

In Fall 2019, students and alumni had a chance to connect at our first (and we hope, annual!) Alumni Networking Event. Members of the College's Foundation and Alumni Boards took time from their busy meeting weekend to connect with students in the Lougheed Learning Commons. The event was a smashing success, and showed us the genuine desire our students and alumni have for connection with each other.



Students and alumni connect at the Alumni Networking Event, October 2019

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, Career Services continued providing all the critical services our students and alumni rely on - just moved to Zoom. Workshops, resumé reviews, networking with local employers, panel discussions with alumni - they all happened as usual, just online, hosted by our full-time staff and Peer Advisers. Student attendance was excellent, and we quickly learned that there are distinct advantages to virtual connections for both students and community partners.

As a result of these successful events, virtual and F2F, both local businesses and far-flung alumni will have new opportunities to connect with our students in 2021!

We also proactively updated all of our resources - our website, and our workshops - to reflect the impacts COVID-19 has had on the American economy. We developed resume language for students to use to highlight their online learning experience, assisted young alumni in refocusing and retooling their job searches, and shared data and tactics in our workshops to ensure students would have an edge in an increasingly difficult job market.

Lougheed
Center for Applied Learning
EXPLORE EXPERIENCE REFLECT BECOME

**BUSINESS
ROUNDTABLE**
CAREER CONVERSATIONS
WITH ALUMNI ENTREPRENEURS
AND BUSINESS LEADERS

JOIN OUR ALUMNI ON ZOOM FOR A
PANEL DISCUSSION

BRIAN DEWITT '79
EILEEN WHELLEY '76
RONALD FISHBECK '80

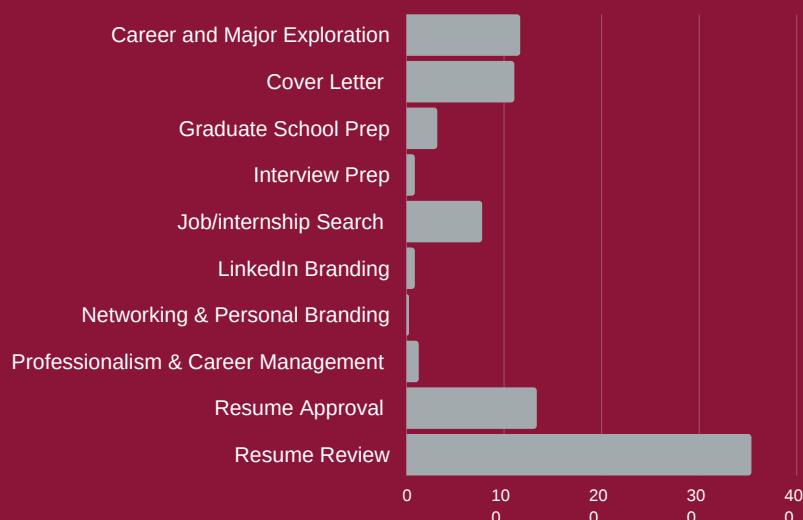
**THURSDAY, MAY 7 AT
3PM EST**



Social media publicity for a Zoom event with alumni

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Student appointments by topic



63

Workshops delivered through Get Involved, the Campus Life events platform

786

Student attendees at Career Services workshops

3

Sections of FY215 "Career and Major Exploration" taught by Karen Kus, Assistant Director of Career Services

40

Students attended the health careers and graduate school fair

120

Students attended the Associated Colleges' Women's Leadership Initiative Conference

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WITH AND FROM CAREER SERVICES

In addition to routine engagement with our partners, staff from Career Services and the LoCAL presented on diversity issues, software tools, leadership skills, and town-gown relationships to many organizations including the St. Lawrence County Chamber, SUNY Career Development Officers, the SUNY Applied Learning conference, and the Associated Colleges.

In fall 2019, Business Administration major Victoria Hocking '20 completed a Community Engagement Internship in the Loughheed Center for Applied Learning.

Victoria opened new conversations with local businesses and organizations on behalf of SUNY Potsdam and the LoCAL, met with legislators to share student perspectives, and assisted with all of the events hosted by the Center. The career competencies she learned and practiced during her internship are serving her well today - in January 2020 Victoria began work as SUNY Potsdam's Assistant Director of Alumni Relations.



Victoria Hocking '20 meeting with Assemblyman Mark Walczyk (top) and working at a Career Services event (bottom)



Peer Advisor Jason Perregaux '21 assisting a fellow student at a Career Services event

PEER ADVISERS

Each year, as a part of our commitment to providing high-impact applied learning opportunities within the Loughheed Center for Applied Learning, Career Services hires 2-5 new Peer Advisers and a graduate assistant to help manage the program.

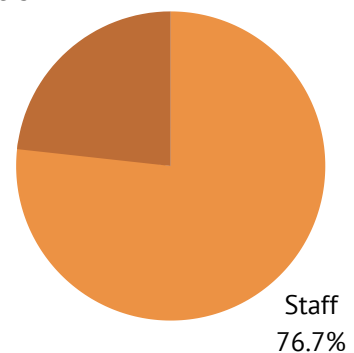
Our Peer Advisers take pride in mentoring their peers on their career path. These students, graduate and undergraduate, spend a full semester training with the Career Services professionals, and then begin taking appointments with other students.

In 2019-2020, our Loughheed Center for Applied Learning full-time staff met with students in 1,168 appointments, while our Peer Advisers held an additional 354 appointments. These student employees are increasingly valuable in our efforts to reach every student with up-to-date career guidance.

Through their individual appointments, workshops, and special projects, Peer Advisers helped students create and refine their resumes to be success and results oriented, walk students through writing cover letters that bring out their skillsets, and help with job/internship searches to maximize every opportunity available to students. Peer Advisers also work with students on LinkedIn and other digital branding strategies to stand out to potential employers.

Number of appointments held

Peer Advisers
23.3%





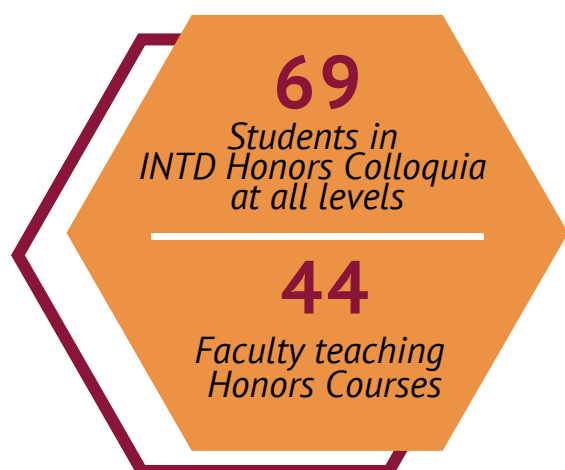
Dr. Tom Baker, Director of the Office for Student Research and Creativity, flanked by the incoming Honors Class of '23

HONORS PROGRAM

We offer highly motivated students the benefits of small classes and excellent professors, with special opportunities to pursue advanced independent projects. The Honors Class of 2023 is made up of 58 incoming freshmen, and 24 more first-year students who enrolled in spring 2020. 24 of those first-year students lived together on the Honors Floor of Bowman Hall, and they all took advantage of the Honors Lounge, special events for Honors Students, and activities that help them bond into a strong cohort of students.

The graduating class of 2020 included 33 students who graduated with Honors Degrees, 24 with General Honors and 9 Distinguished Scholars.

ENROLLMENT DATA



PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

Through the Presidential Scholars Program, motivated & talented SUNY Potsdam students are given the opportunity to create their own independent project and to more fully develop their interests and intellect. The Presidential Scholars program links students who wish to explore possibilities beyond the limits of traditional classroom experiences with faculty mentors who help them develop and complete their independent research. A fund administered by the College Foundation provides funding for both the student scholar and the faculty mentor, and supports celebratory events to recognize the remarkable achievements of these Scholars.

Our Presidential Scholars traditionally present their research to their peers and faculty guests at annual Colloquia. In 2020, half of our graduating scholars were able to present this way in the fall of 2019. The remaining graduates presented in May 2020 as expected, but presented via Zoom instead of in Thatcher Hall. They were brave and eloquent, and our audiences of fellow Scholars, faculty, friends, and family members were engaged and active on chat and during Q&A!

GRADUATING SCHOLARS, 2019-2020

Emily Berardicelli	Integrating Indian Music into Western Instrumental Classrooms
Casey Cassel	The Effects of Violin Playing on Children's Musculoskeletal Health
Megan Heins	Analyzing oxygen isotopes of conodont elements to determine ecology
Alex Hofler	Determining Def1's role in the DNA damage response; Optimizing protein extraction protocols.
Sarah Hyland	Laso- Technology to Change Mental Health
Delphine Léonard	Does Physical activity moderate the relationship between stress and current emotions?
Alexa Mani	Hip-hop: The Music Industry and the Appropriation of Black Music
Samantha McComb	Carbon Isotope Analysis of the Madison Group Carbonates
Benjamin Quiñones	Musical Injuries: Prevention in the Classroom via Informed Lesson Planning and Curriculum Design
Matthew Stroinski	Teaching Modernity: Alexander Zemlinsky and his Influence on Arnold Schoenberg
Adelle St. Onge	Gender Bias in Conducting
Breanna Trombley	Allied Arts: Puppet Construction and Application for Stage & Film

KILMER GRANTS

Kilmer grants provide funding for our undergraduate researchers and creative artists to engage in independent student/faculty collaborations. Kilmer grants fund research and creative projects across the campus in all academic fields of study. Kilmer grantees active in the 2019-2020 academic year are listed below, along with their project title.

KILMER GRANTEES, 2019-2020

Tara Allen	Music as a Cognitive Skill: Dyslexia and Music
Aaron Charlack	Development of Green High School Chemistry Labs
Camille Dalley	Boethius on the Compatibility of Freedom and Foreknowledge
Chase Denton	Doing What I Can, With My Set of Hands
Philip Dorman	Assembly of Gold Nanoparticles Induced by Chromium
Skyler Esprit	Minority Stress, Microaggressions and Distress in LGBTQ+ Students
Catherine Gagnon	Chamber Pots Function: Utilitarian, Aesthetic or Status?
Alis Hart	Cloning the MTP1 Gene from Chlamydomonas Reinhardtii
Alex Hofler	Effect of a Protein Degradation Factor Mutant on mRNA Processing Factors
Isabella Lucia	Petrological, optics, and Microstructural Analysis of Shear Zones within the Popple Hill Gneiss of the Carthage Colton Shear Zone
Monica Mack	Large Scale Purification of a Protein Complex Involved in Protein Degradation from Yeast
Tyler Nilsson	Institutional Commitment and Sense of Belongingness in LGBTQ+ Students
Zaine Roberts	Spirituality and Coping with Distress in Indigenous Students
Sarah Simmons	Assessment of Blanding's Turtle, Emydoidea Blandingii, Overwintering Sites in St Lawrence County, NY
Gemma Small	A Look at "The Blue Lotus" through the language comparison and Historial Setting
Jeremy Walts	Where Creativity Lives: Effects of Performance and Contagion on Valuation of Digital-Art
Arielle Wolter	Effect of a Transcription Blocking Drug on RNA Processing



Dr. Glenn Johnson (right) with student researchers

LEARNING & RESEARCH FAIR

The COVID-19 crisis forced the Office of Student Research and Creativity to pivot to an all-online presentation for the 2020 Learning & Research Fair.

Understandably, as students worked to balance their normal workload with COVID-caused complications, our expected roster of student projects underwent considerable attrition, down from the initial registration of about 80 projects. In the end, we featured 26 projects on the newly-designed Learning & Research Fair 2020 website, and conducted virtual judging sessions with students from all three schools.

PROVOST'S AWARD WINNERS

Excellence in Student Research

John Christantiello

"Electroencephalography: Machine Assembly and Diagnostic Testing"

Faculty Mentor: Jason Schreer (Biology)

Outstanding Faculty Mentorship of Undergraduate Research

Dr. Glenn Johnson (Biology)



HUMANITIES
4 PRODUCTS



KILMER
5 PRODUCTS



RAM CHUGH
8 PRODUCTS



SCIENCES
12 PRODUCTS



SOCIAL SCIENCES
11 PRODUCTS

The project categories for the online Learning & Research Fair

FREDERICK B. KILMER RESEARCH AWARDS

Sciences

First Place: Aaron Charlack

"Development of Green High School Chemistry Labs"

Faculty Mentor: Martin Walker (Chemistry)

Second Place: Arielle Wolter

"Transcription Blocking Drug on mRNA Processing Factors"

Faculty Mentor: Fathima Nazeer (Chemistry)

Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences

First Place: Emily Willis

"At Rest: An Epidemiological Study of Potsdam Cemetery Populations"

Faculty Mentor: Nasser Malit (Anthropology)

Second Place: Jeremy Walts

"Valuation of Computer Generated or Enhanced Art"

Faculty Mentor: Melissa Dolese (Psychology)

RAM CHUGH NORTH COUNTRY RESEARCH & PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS

First Place: Aaron Charlack

"Development of Green High School Chemistry Labs"

Faculty Mentor: Martin Walker (Chemistry)

Second Place: Tabitha Brown

"'My Own Ever Loving Arvilla': Personal Correspondence Brings Life to History"

Faculty Mentor: Thomas Baker (History)

Third Place: Cara Aguirre

"Global Climate Change Influences Wine Production and Tourism In Northern New York"

Faculty Mentors: Greg Gardner, Dawn Robinson, Pamela Griffin (Business Administration)

THANK YOU!

The Loughheed Center for Applied Learning team is grateful to all who help us meet SUNY Potsdam's goal of ensuring that every student has access to high-impact applied learning experiences. We cannot do this work without our partners in the faculty, our staff colleagues who make things run smoothly behind-the-scenes, the academic leadership of Provost Bette S. Bergeron, and all the alumni and friends who help our students afford the cost of higher education. Your generosity with your time, expertise, and money is so valued, and we thank you.

CONTACT US

Loughheed

Center for Applied Learning

EXPLORE EXPERIENCE REFLECT BECOME

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<https://www.potsdam.edu/academics/appliedlearning>

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Loughheed Learning Commons Suite 107

