1. Call to Order (June O’Neill, Chair)

2. Approval of Minutes (June O’Neill, Chair)

3. Chair’s Report (June O’Neill, Chair)

4. President’s Report (Philip Neisser, Officer-In-Charge) p. 13

5. The Council will Receive Comments from the Public on the Proposed Resolution.

6. Resolution Establishing Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022 to the SUNY Potsdam College Council (June O’Neill, Chair)

7. Reports
   - Administration Division (Melissa Proulx) p. 16
   - Academic Affairs (Alan Hersker) p. 18
   - College Advancement (David Davin) p. 20
   - Student Affairs (Eric Duchscherer) p. 21
   - Enrollment Management (Patrick Quinn) p. 24
   - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Jacqueline Richardson-Melecio) p. 26
   - Faculty Senate Report (Blair Madore) p. 31
   - SGA Report (Kylie Wilkins) p. 32

8. Old Business

9. New Business

Next Meeting: February 3, 2023
SUNY POTSDAM COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING
September 9, 2022
Hybrid Meeting: In-person and via Zoom
(Subject to corrections and approval at the next Council Meeting)

Present: Molly Clough*
Richard Daddario
Harold Johnson, II*
June O’Neill (Chair)
Philip Neisser, (Officer-in-Charge)
Kylie Wilkins, SGA President
(*attended virtually)

Observers: Members of the SUNY Potsdam Administration, Faculty and Staff, and community.

Chair, June O’Neill, called the meeting to order at 10:06. The meeting was hybrid held in the 7th-Floor Boardroom and via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes
Richard Daddario made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 1, 2022; Harold Johnson, II, seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Chair’s Report
June O’Neill shared the following updates:

• A brief update on the ongoing Presidential Search.
  o Some members of the Presidential Search Committee noted were Allen Grant, Blair Madore, Steve O’Shaughnessy (replacing Alex Hammond who had to resign due to his National Guard duty in Germany), Molly Clough, Rich Daddario and June O’Neill.
  o Thank you to everyone serving on the Presidential Search Committee.
  o The size of the Presidential Candidate pool was noted as being pleasing to the Search Committee with over 100 applicants, and a very diverse pool of candidates.
  o The hope is that finalist candidates will be brought to campus prior to the holidays.
  o The Search Committee’s next week was noted as being Monday, September 12, 2022.
  o The Search Committee hopes to have more information to pass along soon.
    ▪ While not much on the Presidential Search has been discussed publicly (due to strict confidentiality through and after the Presidential Search process), more public information will be available once candidates begin their on-campus visits.

Questions:

• Harold Johnson asked the potential timeframe for the Presidential Search to be completed.
  o The current prospective plan for the Presidential Search:
    ▪ To have the finalists on campus prior to the holidays.
    ▪ The Search Committee will then meet to recommend the up to 3 candidates to recommend to the Chancellor.
▪ The Chancellor will then bring these names to the Board of Trustees and the Board will make the final decision.
▪ The hope is to have the top candidates recommended to the Chancellor by December or January so that they can be added to the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting in February.
▪ Chancellor Stanley met virtually with the Presidential Search Committee at the start of the Presidential Search process to give the charge.
  o June noted the enthusiasm from potential candidates of coming to SUNY Potsdam for the on-campus portion of the search.
  o June also notes that the Search Committee has been honest with the current challenges facing SUNY Potsdam, and the appreciative response from candidates for this candor.
▪ Thank you to everyone for all their work, and their open mindedness as we move forward in this process.

President’s Report

Dr. Neisser shared the following highlights:

▪ An update on the current budget situation.
  o Enrollment numbers for first-year students and graduate students are excellent for Fall 2022.
  o Overall, the headcount is not up yet, but the pattern shows that it will be in the coming years.
▪ It has been exciting to see the new students on campus.
  o In addition to tuition and fees, we also garner revenue through the provision of valuable non-credit experiences.
    ▪ Last year several non-credit microcredential programs were created.
    ▪ Once the finished enrollment mechanisms are put in place, these microcredentials will serve the college mission. For example, serving grade schoolteachers in the field toward their professional development.
  o Expenditure Reductions:
    ▪ We have found ways in the last year to realize savings without layoffs.
    ▪ For an example, not utilizing Knowles Hall for student residency this academic year.
      ▪ This allowed for time to address the appearance of the residence hall as well as forgo hiring five employees who voluntarily resigned or retired.
    ▪ We have reduced a number of administrative positions:
      ▪ For example, there is one fewer person in the President’s Office, and one fewer person in Residence Life.
    ▪ We have also found way to provide external organizations access to our campus facilities while also consistently recouping the costs of that usage to the college.
▪ An update on the Middle States review. This past summer, in June, the College received its accreditation review from Middle States Commission for Higher Education (Middle States).
  o The Commission based on our-self study and their review deemed SUNY Potsdam to be in non-compliance as regards to two of the seven Middle States Standards.
  o We were deemed to be in compliance and doing well regarding the other five standards.
  o The standards deemed to be in non-compliance are Standard V (Academic Assessment) and Standard VI (Non-Academic Assessment, Budgeting and Financial Viability).
We have work to do, but we are in good shape to respond.

Current response efforts have been the creation of two Standard Working Groups, one to address each standard.

- These groups are representative of various entities across campus (relevant stakeholders, etc.).
- All college departments and divisions are currently gathering data that will be included in the updated report that will be submitted to Middle States on March 1, 2023.

- We have realized that one issue is that while we have been doing what we are supposed to be, or much of what we are meant to be doing, information and data have not been compiled in an easily accessible way, nor has it been publicized online properly.
- These areas are being addressed to reveal the necessary information and data properly.

- The campus is rallying around the response efforts.
- SUNY Potsdam remains fully accredited. Being placed on warning rather than probation means that the Commission believes that SUNY Potsdam has what it takes to make the adjustments needed to come into compliance.
- It is not unusual for colleges to go through this and deal with these processes.

- The New York State Enacted Budget.
  - 60 million dollars is allocated in support of SUNY to be put towards operations and enrollment enhancement.
    - We are eligible for a grant $600,686 to be used in support of enrollment growth.
    - We are eligible for a grant of up to $125,000 to be used in support of the College’s underrepresented minority students.
  - We will submit our proposals for these grants next week when they are due.
  - While this grant is one-time funding, we appreciate what legislature and SUNY has done to make it available and how it will help support the College.

- Tuition Assistance Program of New York State has expanded access to this program for part-time students.
  - This will help grow enrollment and provide that many more persons of limited means, and disadvantaged backgrounds, with access to higher education.

- SUNY Potsdam’s Procurement.
  - Our procurement is now being manages by the jointly administered Regional Financial Services Office under the leadership of Sean Dermody.
    - The Regional Financial Services Office manages procurement for SUNY Potsdam and SUNY Plattsburgh.
      - This has resulted in better planning, and increased efficiencies.

- The College Leadership Team now includes Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Jacqueline Richardson-Melecio.
  - More information on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be addressed in Dr. Richardson-Melecio’s report.
  - SUNY Potsdam has been and continues to be committed to being a place that welcomes and includes everybody.

- The College Leadership and campus will welcome Dr. David Davin as the new Vice President for College Advancement on September 19, 2022.
  - Thanks to incredible generosity of our alumni and friends. The 2021/2022 fundraising total exceeded 3 million dollars. These funds will help provide over 1 million dollars for scholarship and nearly 750 thousand dollars for academic programs.
• The Rededication of Cassie’s Harp on September 30, 2022.
  o Cassie’s Harp will be rededicated in its new location next to Hosmer Hall. At this ceremony the names of the late Beth Howell, Class of 2022, will be added to the memorial stone that accompanies the structure.
  o Cassie’s Harp, first dedicated in 2011, is named in honor of the late Cassie Devino. The harp and the garden serve as a place of quiet remembrance in honor for the students who passed away while pursing a degree at SUNY Potsdam.
• Dedication of the Richard J Del Guidice (Hon. ’92) Student Forum in the Union on October 14, 2022. The Advancement Office has created an endowed fund which will both bolster civil discourse activities on our campus. Inspired by and in honor of Dr. Del. Guidice.
• The World University Games in January 2023. SUNY Potsdam will serve as the host for the Athletic Village for the World University Games, which is the largest multi-sport, winter event in the world after the Winter Olympics.
  o Along with the Olympic Center in Lake Placid, SUNY Canton, and Clarkson University, the College will also host the games ice hockey contests.
• Washington Monthly, in its 2022 evaluation of liberal arts and sciences colleges, listed SUNY Potsdam 29th in the nation in the category of contribution to social mobility research and the promotion of public service.
Questions:
• June O’Neill asked if information could be gathered on the SUNY rules are for open meetings. Local Governments have had to adopt the new local laws for a quorum counting only in-person participants.
  o Phil will find the answer to this question.

Please see full report.

Naming Resolution
Sherry Paradis presented the proposed Naming Resolution to name the Student Forum in the Barrington Student Union the Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum.
THE COLLEGE COUNCIL OF THE
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT POTSDAM

for
NAMING THE STUDENT FORUM IN THE BARRINGTON STUDENT
UNION THE
Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum

UPON MOTION DULY MADE, SECONDED AND CARRIED, AT A MEETING OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE AT POTSDAM, NEW YORK, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS DULY ADOPTED:

Whereas, in accordance with the State University of New York guidelines and the SUNY Potsdam College Council policy on naming buildings and rooms on campus, it is within the authority of the College Council to approve the naming of a physical space; and

Whereas, Dr. Richard J. Del Guidice (Hon. ’92) provided 43 years of extraordinary service and leadership at the State University of New York at Potsdam, having served as a faculty member, pre-law advisor, Politics Department Chair, academic advisor to the women’s basketball team and Dean of Liberal Studies; and

Whereas, Dr. Del Guidice was instrumental in shaping the educational experiences and career paths of hundreds of SUNY Potsdam alumni through his guidance and passion for teaching; and

Whereas, Dr. Del Guidice positively impacted the SUNY Potsdam community by teaching and encouraging civil discourse among his students and colleagues, thus enhancing critical thinking and a greater understanding of the world in which we live; and

Whereas, in honor and recognition of Dr. Del Guidice’s extraordinary service and career, his former students have pledged gifts in excess of $75,000 to name the Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum; and

Whereas, the Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum, in the heart of the campus, will continue to provide a safe space for students to participate in activities that develop leadership, enhance learning, build connections and encourage discourse;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the College Council of The State University of New York at Potsdam hereby names the student forum in the Barrington Student Union the Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum in recognition of donor gifts in honor of Dr. Del Guidice’s legacy at SUNY Potsdam.

This day, the 9th of September in the year of 2022.

__________________________________________
June F. O’Neill, Chair, College Council, SUNY Potsdam
Faculty Senate Report

Blaire Madore, Faculty Senate Chair shared the following highlights:

- In the spring, Dr. Neiss er instituted some steps to put the realignment plan onto a track that can be followed towards completion.
  - The faculty are glad to gain some more clarity where that’s concerned.
  - The realignment process that was completed was a very quick realignment process.
  - To follow national standards for a very careful realignment it is an approximately two-year process that involves a lot of work.
    - We are going to advocate for that longer, more careful, process to take place in the future.
    - The advocacy to follow the national standard of realignment will not begin immediately but should be considered as a part of our regular ongoing work.
- This past year’s graduation was attended by many in this room. It served as a watershed moment in what’s happened in our campus’ recent years.
  - There was sense of overall gratitude and joy from students, parents, and faulty and staff, and served as a reminder of the joy and value that comes from this academic experience.
- Dr. Neisser outlined that one of the issues we have to put more effort into based on our Middle States review is our planning processes and especially how they related to budgeting.
  - With Dr. John Graham, we were able to finalize the last plan that we had.
  - Dr. Neisser and Provost Hersker recognized how important it was for us to have an ongoing plan in place as part of our Middle State efforts.
    - Dr. Neisser and Provost Hersker put together a group that met in August in order to put together a short 12–18-month plan that can be used in our work going forward.
    - Thank you to Dr. Neisser and Provost Hersker for their efforts in putting together this Institutional Goals Planning Meeting.
    - Also, continued thanks to Dr. Neisser and Provost Hersker for the tone of the meeting.
      - The group of participants in the room was different, a sense of openness and freshness which presented a sense of being “off to a new start” in ways that are really productive.

Please see the full report.

Academic Affairs Report

Alan Hersker, Interim Provost, shared the following highlights:

- Bette Bergeron, former Provost, has stepped back to faculty.
  - We are really grateful that Bette is going to continue to be involved with the campus, helping Dean Grant and the School of Education and Professional Studies with assessment.
- Academic Affairs top two priorities for this year are assessment and Middle States, and enrollment.
  - Academic Affairs approach to assessment and Middle States is assessment is a tool.
    - We are refining our processes for continual improvement. Making sure we are creating a culture of assessment and actively using that assessment data to affect change.
    - Making us better at what we do and improving the student experience.
  - Academic realignment update:
▪ All of the programs identified as facing challenges submitted action plans to their deans which were approved.
▪ The deans, the programs, and Alan are working together to help address those challenges.

• Continuation of Blair’s acknowledgement of the positive atmosphere on campus currently.
• We have a Second Chance Pell program where we teach classes at Riverview Correctional Facilities in Ogdensburg.
  o Over the summer, Alan had a chance to teach a course at Riverview, which demonstrated the impact of what we do on this campus.
  o The course was not only amazing for the students, but transformative for Alan.
• Thank you to everyone for their contributions to the College.

Please see full report.

Administrative Division Report

Melissa Proulx was unable to attend.

Please see full report.

College Advancement Report

Sherry Paradis, Senior Director of College Advancement, shared the following highlights:

• We were able to exceed our fundraising goal last year raising over 3 million dollars. We are very grateful to our alumni and friends who made that possible.
  o This was also due in large part to the SUNY Tax Credit Program, an initiative from SUNY for those who have a tax liability which exceeds 10 thousand dollars in New York State taxes.
    ▪ Those who meet these criteria can make a gift to a SUNY Campus and they would receive and 85 percent tax credit on their New York State taxes and 15 percent tax deduction on their New York State and Federal taxes.
  o It is a program that is in place again for 2022.
  o Anyone who is interested in this program, or if you know someone who may be interested or could benefit from me, let the College Advancement team know.
  o This program is a large reason why unrestricted dollars were able to increase to the campus last year.
• SUNY Potsdam is quietly starting our next comprehensive fundraising campaign. We started July 1 but are not yet in the public phase.
  o More will be shared on this in the coming years, but we are excited to start that next initiative which we hope will raise between 40 and 50 million dollars for the campus.
  o It is exciting for the campus to to dream a little bit about what’s possible and to align our fundraising fully with campus priorities.

Questions:

• Richard Daddario there a maximum amount to get the tax credit?
  o The range for the tax credit is 10 thousand to 100 thousand dollars.
Enrollment Management Report

*Patrick Quinn, Vice President for Enrollment, shared the following highlights:*

- Our success on the enrollment side is never due to any one thing that Patrick individually or the Admissions team does. It is really a campus-wide effort.
  - Thank you to campus colleagues, faculty, staff, and offices that have participated and made this a successful year.
  - The “other arm or second hand” of what is done for enrollment is completed by the Communications team who has and continues to do an incredible job while, like a lot of offices, doing a lot with little in terms of resources.
  - Pat expressed his gratitude for the Foundation funds that we were able to use to put the digital spring campaign in place which has yielded some really good results.
  - Thank you to the enrollment team which includes Admissions, Financial Aid, and Student Accounts.
- The renovations in Crane are incredible. It is an impressive project that was completed in near record time.
- The bandshell that is being completed which is a great space for student and participants.
- Enrollment priorities:
  - Middle States, which includes non-academic assessment.
    - Patrick is also co-chairing the Standard VI working group with Matt LeBire.
  - Enrollment growth.
  - Assisting in stabilizing our Business Affairs Office.
    - While SUNY Potsdam is still working jointly with SUNY Plattsburg on the procurement side of things, we have moved away from our relationship with them in our Business Affairs Office.

**Questions:**

- Richard Daddario asked about the focus on retention.
  - Our retention rate (which is primarily, statistically and reporting purposes focused on first-year students) dipped last year to about 67 percent. This was close to a 10 year low.
  - In terms of where we are enrollment-wise, we are close to 75 percent this year. While we had a smaller freshman class, that extra eight percent does make a big difference in the returning numbers.
  - We are over our budget projection in terms of students living in housing which helps on the revenue side as well.
  - Retention is on the uptick, and Sean Partridge and his team have done an awful lot of work to make that possible.
- Blair Madore asked what a reasonable goal is for retention and what is achievable for a comprehensive college in the SUNY system.
  - Typically, the private sector, with mid to upper level academic reputation, will have a goal of 80 to 85 percent retention.
  - National retention rate averages for four-year public institutions are usually much lower than private institutions.
A retention rate of 75 percent is a good baseline goal from which to consider improvements (financial resources, more academic support, etc.).

- There will never be 100 percent retention at any institution.
- Harold Johnson asked if retention rate takes into consideration transfer students as well.
  - Yes, and the statistic information can be gathered. In general, transfer students will usually have a higher retention rate and may be 3 to 5 percent higher on average.
- Richard Daddario asked if there is any way to track why a student left, whether it’s a financial situation, an academic situation, etc.?
  - We do try to collect information before they physically leave campus (since it is harder to get responses via mail or surveying emails).
  - A lot of times a student will tell you what they think you want to hear because they may not want to talk about the real issues. It is typically not one thing.
    - Often it is affordability, reconsideration of their program, and the social adjustment.
  - The categories of students that retain at ideal or higher rates are student athletes, students in our bridges and EOP programs, and students enrolled in Crane. These groups have communities or connections more readily available to them at an earlier point in their academic careers.

Please see full report.

At this time, June introduced, Shiho Imai, interim Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

- June welcomed Shiho and thanked her for being the interim dean.

**Student Affairs Report**

*Eric Duchscherer, Dean of Students, shared the following highlights:*

- The Student Affairs report is a combination of a summary of last years activities and some statistics in departments as well as some information for the start of this year.
- We are off to a terrific start for the year.
  - Terrific numbers for participation in our opening welcome weekend events that Campus Life put on.
  - Just over 750 unique students attend different events and almost 7,400 total students at the welcome weekend activities.
  - Many of these events happened before the continuing students were back, so that number is a lot of our new and transfer students.
- COVID-19 Update:
  - SUNY has given a lot more authority to individual campuses to dictate Covid policies for themselves.
  - Largely, SUNY Potsdam is relying on students and employees to report their symptoms and their testing.
  - We are no longer doing any testing ourselves or hosting the state site.
  - Currently, we have approximately 30 to 35 students in our isolation area.
    - As current guidelines don’t require much in terms of quarantine, these students are in isolation for about 5 days.
Our Student Health team continues to do a great job working with those folds in Residence Life as well.

- SGA is back with a lot of enthusiasm and ideas.
  - The Bandshell, funded by the Student Government Association, to be built over in Marshall Park.
    - The Bandshell will be an outdoor amphitheater type of experience.
    - Physical Plant is finishing up the work on the Bandshell.

Please see full report.

*Eric yielded time to Kylie Wilkins, SGA President:*

- The Bandshell should be completed by October 1, 2022.
  - SGA is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony and taking a lot of feedback from Crane students.
  - If anyone would like to be involved in the ribbon cutting event, to attend, or speak, please reach out to Kylie.
  - While the space is being donated to the campus, SGA is heading the efforts of the Opening.
  - As the Bandshell was funded by the students, SGA is taking guidance from them and want the event to be student centered.
- SGA has had the most students attend their last two meetings.
  - Monthly events will be planned every month, and themed assemblies.
  - October 2022, a Halloween bash will be planned for student to attend.
- Kylie asked that if committees are created regarding a student issue, to contact her as she can assist in getting a student representative for the committee.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report.**

*Jacqueline Richardson-Melecio, Associate Vice President, Chief Diversity Officer, shared the following highlights:*

- Jacqueline joined the campus in May and wanted to say how pleased she is to be part of the campus community.
- The DEI theme this year will be community, and community building.
  - A lot of the work and essence of the work of the Diversity and Inclusion Division as really looking at how we are living out and affirming our commitment to diversity and inclusion on this campus.
  - There has been a continued openness about having discussions about biases, racism and other issues that impact the experience of inclusivity on our campus and the experiences students are having in their belonging.
  - There has been such a commitment across all of the departments on campus:
    - Before students arrived on campus, 3 or 4 bias trainings had been held for all Residence Life Staff (other departments also participated in these trainings)
    - Jacqueline gave a presentation to all the students in leadership roles
    - There are various collaborations taking place in programs that will address DEI issues
- We are working on a speaker list for the Center for Diversity due to student interest across broad areas and wanting to provide those engagement opportunities.

- It is important, and has been welcomed, being able to look across all critical areas whether policy, practice, education, our engagement opportunities, our messaging, and our communications around issues of diversity and inclusion and of course assessment and evaluations.
  - The work is being done and conversations are taking place which are such important pieces.

- At the Center for Diversity, we have hired a Program Coordinator, Sean Ramos.
  - Sean is familiar with SUNY Potsdam, a SUNY Potsdam graduate, and has a master's degree and bachelor’s degree from Potsdam.
  - We have already held our first program with student association representatives to brainstorm how whatever is done at the Center for Diversity reflects what the students want to see.
  - Various events are currently being organized.

- We want to highlight the importance of the engagement of our students with our external community here in the Adirondacks, and the familiarity with all that the Adirondacks has to offer.
  - We will continue our relationships with the Adirondack Diversity Initiative and the Adirondacks Experience.
    - They are in full support of the work done at SUNY Potsdam and will continue to create programs throughout the year for our students.

- Continuation of the Bert Bias Incident Reporting Platform.
  - It is on our website for everyone to use.

- Formation of a Community Wellness and Safety Committee
  - This committee is a collaborative approach in our addressing any concerns students may have, or that impacts our students.
  - The committee is composed of representatives from University Police, the Guidance Office, Student Health, Title IX, and others on the campus.

Questions:

- Richard Daddario asked what kind of programs a program coordinator tries to put in place on a campus.
  - We have various social events and extracurricular activities, but there are also mentorship type workshops with different topics of conversation (related to diversity, career options, etc.)
  - We also have several student associations that have requested assistance from the Center for Diversity in collaborations because they also want to reach out and do programs with local schools in the area and other types of community service work.

Please see full report.

Old Business:
None.

New Business:
None.

Harold Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Molly Clough seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kaitlin Fuller
1. SUNY Potsdam Institutional Priorities

Thanks to the work of a group of faculty and staff representative of the College, as well as to the viewpoints gathered via a survey of the faculty and staff, the College has established five new Institutional Priorities. These Priorities are to guide the College from now, October 2022, until the College has in place a new five-year strategic plan.

➢ Priority: Financial Stability and Analysis
➢ Priority: Retention and Enrollment
➢ Priority: Academic Programs and Planning
➢ Priority: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging
➢ Priority: Connections with the Community

2. College Budget

College leadership is, with support from SUNY System’s Finance and Business Affairs Office, in the process of creating a multi-year deficit-elimination plan based on realistic, evidence-based, revenue projections. Those projections are will in turn be based on enrollment projections, expected amounts of non-enrollment revenue, and projected expenditure amounts.

As you might know, the 2022-2023 NYS Budget allocated $60m to SUNY to be used for support enrollment enhancement. We were deemed eligible to receive as much as ~$610k in support of general enrollment enhancement and also deemed eligible to receive as much as ~$125k to be used to support historically underrepresented or minority (URM) students. I am pleased to announce that all of the proposals we then submitted have been approved: we’ve been allocated $735,686 in special enrollment enhancement monies to be used in 2022-2023.

3. Middle States Accreditation Monitoring Report, to be submitted to the Middle States Commission for Higher Education on March 1, 2023

As you will recall, back in June of this year the Middle States Commission, as part of the accreditation process that all accredited institutions of higher education are subject to every ten years, was found to be fully in compliance as regards five of the seven Middle States Standards but to have work to do in order to demonstrate its full compliance with two of those standards:

- Standard V: academic assessment processes.
- Standard VI: non-academic-assessment processes; alignment of budgeting decisions with institutional mission, goals, and priorities; the degree to which budgeting is informed by assessment results; and demonstration of sufficient resources.

You might also recall that the College, in response, created two Middle States response working groups. Each group consists of faculty and staff from across campus and each group meets once a week.

- The Standard V Working Group has met with every academic department chair and is working with every academic program in an ongoing way. That work has confirmed that our academic programs are excellent. It has also confirmed that assessment and the periodic use of assessment results to improve already happens as it should here at the College. What has been missing is (1) we need to schedule
assessment procedures so that some of each program’s reflections-to-improve takes place each and every year, and (2) we need to better document the assessment work we do.

- The Standard VI Working Group is likewise on track.
  - The group has met with every non-academic division, each of those divisions has adjusted its assessment procedures so that a portion of their reflection-to-improve work takes place each and every year, and each division has established procedures to better document that assessment work.
  - The group is developing a new version of the College’s yearly budget development process in order document how, and ensure that:
    - The College’s Institutional Priorities inform its budgetary allocations.
    - The College’s multi-year budget plan informs its budgetary allocations.

We expect to submit all needed documentation to Middle States on March 1, 2023.

4. The FISU Winter World University Games

SUNY Potsdam will, in January 2023, host the Athlete’s Village for the FISU Winter World University Games, that being the largest multi-sport winter event in the world after the Winter Olympics. The College will also – along with the Olympic Center in Lake Placid, SUNY Canton, and Clarkson University – host the FISU ice hockey contests both at the round robin and quarterfinal levels.
https://www.fisu.net/sport-events/fisu-world-university-games/winter-fisu-world-university-games

5. In Conclusion

Thank you for your steadfast support of SUNY Potsdam. I am pleased to report that we are doing well: we are making steady progress in each area where we face challenges, challenges faced by most small colleges in the country. And we continue to one of the best colleges in the country when it comes to the quality of our educational programs, the co-curricular experiences we offer our students, and the level of personal support we provide to our students.
RESOLUTION OF THE SUNY POTSDAM COLLEGE COUNCIL
FOR
ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 56 OF THE LAWS OF 2022

WHEREAS, by passing Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022 (“Chapter 56”), the New York State Legislature amended Section 103 of the Open Meetings Law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 56 adds Section 103-a of the Open Meetings Law, permitting the SUNY Potsdam College Council to authorize its members to attend meetings by videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(a) requires the SUNY Potsdam College Council to adopt a resolution following a public hearing authorizing the limited use of videoconferencing under such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2) allows for hybrid meetings by requiring “that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the public body’s quorum requirement in the same physical location or locations where the public can attend”; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(c) requires that members be physically present at any such meeting “unless such member is unable to be physically present at any such meeting location due to extraordinary circumstances . . . including disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member’s physical attendance at such meeting”; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 103-a(2)(d), any members attending by videoconference must, excerpt during executive session, be “heard, seen and identified, while the meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon”; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(g) requires that any meeting where a member attends by videoconference be recorded, posted to the SUNY Potsdam College Council webpage within five business days, and transcribed upon request; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(h) requires that members of the public be permitted to attend and participate, if authorized, in any meeting by videoconference when a member attends by videoconference.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SUNY Potsdam College Council authorizes its members who experience an extraordinary circumstance, as described above and further defined by any rules or written procedures later adopted, to attend meetings by videoconference: (i) as long as a quorum of the members attend in-person at one or more locations open to the public; (ii) as long as the member can be seen, heard, and identified while the open portion of the meeting is being conducted; and (iii) as otherwise permitted under Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the SUNY Potsdam College Council shall create written procedures further governing its use of videoconferencing by its members in compliance with Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022.

This day, the 4th of November in the year of 2022.

June F. O’Neil, Chair, College Council, SUNY Potsdam
Director of EHS, acting as campus lead for the World University Games, negotiated contracts with the games organizing committee bringing in over $700,000 worth of revenue to the campus. After expenses, the campus will have retained a profit of at least $427,026.00. Additionally, through negotiations with the games organizing committee, we secured $100,000.00 of funding for renovations and furniture purchases for Residence Life, $22,000 worth of IT equipment, and a $10,000 battery-powered ice edger, all at no cost to the campus.

EHS documented over 382 code enforcement violations on campus, working with Physical Plant to abate 100% of these.

EHS provided fire extinguisher training to an unprecedented number of students this year. Up over 380% from 2020 and 150% from 2021.

EHS in conjunction with HR has scheduled a series of townhalls with various employee groups to focus on fire and electrical safety across campus.

Satterlee PRV on the main steam line failed and had to be replaced. This ensures heat is provided to the building.

The CEMP (Clean Energy Master Plan) has completed building assessments for energy usage from recorded data and energy bills. This gives the campus a better understanding of electric and natural gas usage with factors such as time of year, weather, and occupancy. Soon discussions will start on heating and cooling scenarios with clean energy options such as geothermal and heat pumps.


Central Printing FY 2022-2023 so far have completed 1228 job orders for July-October. On campus 86,353.63; Non-State $30,698.75; other SUNY Universities $65,188.91. Grand Total FY 22-23 so far $182,241.29.

New DMS Head end has been ordered for University Police dispatch office. The current head is outdated and would not be able to be replaced should it fail. This will provide important fire safety coverage for the campus.

PMI upgrades for the Dorm buildings is in progress. This also provide important fire safety coverage for the campus.

The Capital Facilities Group has put in place Term Design Contracts with 5 consulting firms. This approach will allow the campus to address facility issues with an accelerated schedule. The Projects currently starting Design under the Term consultant agreements are:

- Brainerd Art Gallery Renovate HVAC
- Dunn Hall exterior panel replacement
- Satterlee Hall Clock Tower
- Raymond Lobby Renovations

Maxcy Hall Ice Arena Ammonia Replacement Project
- The design documents are complete, and the project is scheduled to bid November 15th. This project was set up using the Campus Let program in which the campus selected a Consultant and worked through the design phases with input from physical plant personnel. Construction should begin in the spring.

Capital projects in construction:
- Project 121033 Renovate Carson Hall, Construct Two Elevators: This project will begin Construction in November. Elevators will be constructed to make the upper floors Carson, Morey and MacVicar accessible. Renovations to the first and second floors of Carson will provide a central location for Interdisciplinary studies on the first floor and a new Dean’s suite on the second floor.
• Project 121013 Renovate Bishop Hall: This project is nearing completion.

• Capital projects in design with SUCF:
  o Project 121037 Upgrade Maxcy Hall: Consultant selection has been finalized and design will commence in November. Construction is scheduled for Summer 2024. The main areas of renovation are as follows:
    ▪ Remove existing field house floor and replace substrate and flooring
    ▪ Gymnasium will receive new wood flooring, bleachers, partitions
    ▪ Pool ceiling will be removed and replaced with new lighting
    ▪ Existing roof top steam unit heaters will be replaced
    ▪ A new elevator will be constructed to provide needed ADA access
  o Project 121038 Construct Flagg Elevator: The project is currently under design. Construction is scheduled for Fall 2023. The main objective is to provide ADA access from Flagg Hall to Satterlee. The elevator will serve the 1st and 2nd floors of Flagg and connect Flagg to Satterlee.

• Project 121034 Masonry Study – Crane Complex and Maxcy Hall: This study will help to determine the extent of masonry repairs needed and the cause of the deterioration. The study will lead into a masonry restoration project.

• Project 121044 Replace Roofs – Schuette Hall, Dunn Hall and Heating Plant Low Roof: Design will begin on this project in November. Construction is scheduled for Spring 2024.

• Human Resources has added a Human Resources Associate and part-time Human Resources Coordinator to help streamline their staffing. This coupled with newly developed workflows and a job task matrix will allow us to provide the highest level of service to stakeholders while ensuring an efficient use of our limited staffing.

• Completed an in-depth audit and evaluation of our Biz Library compliance training program. This helped to identify means through which our compliance training can be better focused on the needs of various employee groups. Through this renewed focus we are better able to reduce redundant or unapplicable courses to allow employees to concentrate on courses which are beneficial and relevant to compliance.
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Academic Affairs is pleased to offer a small sample of the great things that have been happening in the division. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please don’t hesitate to reach out to the Provost or the Deans.

We continue to see growth in our College in High School program, which offers students the opportunity to take classes in their schools that confer college credit. We’re on track this year to have nearly 800 students participating from over 30 high schools. This has a direct impact on recruitment: this fall, 12% of the incoming first-year class had taken a CHS course.

Two new online programs have been approved for Fall 2023: the online BA in Politics and the online MSED in Special Education. We have several other programs in the approval pipeline and expect to hear back in the coming weeks.

School of Arts & Sciences
Through a generous donation to the Geology program, the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences has established a fund to enhance high impact classroom experiences, especially through the purchase of lab equipment and subsidizing transportation costs for its travel course. Other noteworthy activities include continued work by Dr. Page Quinton and Dr. Michael Rygel with their National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, which enables them to do research in Montana and Texas with students. The department is hosting GIS (Geographic Information System) Day on November 16th, celebrating the multidisciplinary applications of GIS.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs across the College hosted its day-long SUNY Potsdam Careers in STEM Event on October 19th, sponsored by Arconic. This was SUNY Potsdam's first run of the high school fieldtrip to campus, where we welcomed 167 high school students from Canton High, Brasher Falls, Madrid-Waddington, Harrisville, Norwood-Norfolk, and Potsdam High. Faculty from Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Community Health and Human Performance, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Environmental Studies, Mathematics, Physics, and Philosophy offered hands-on activity sessions through our laboratories and research facilities. The event enjoyed local news coverage, featuring Drs. Page Quinton and Tim Messner. One of several outreach efforts, the College hosted a STEM teacher professional development workshop for area K-12 educators last spring and is planning another workshop for social studies educators on November 10th.

Crane School of Music
The 2022 Potsdam Single Reed Summit took place (October 21-22) with a concert of Crane faculty and guest soloists with the Crane Wind Ensemble followed by a full day of masterclasses, panel discussions and presentations about period instruments, instrument repair, and career discussions in the music industry, performance and music education. We also welcomed industry guests from Yamaha, Buffet, and Selmer. In addition to the two featured guest artists, clarinetist Eric Abramovitz and saxophonist Joseph Murphy, we were also joined by twelve Crane alumni who returned to campus to work with our current students. The summit was organized and run by clarinet professors Dr. Julianne Kirk Doyle and Christine Hoerning, and saxophonist Dr. Casey Grev.
Two recent Community Performance Series guests have also spent considerable time with our students. The chamber music group *fivebyfive*, joined by composer/harpist Amy Nam, held an open reading session of works written by Crane composition students following their concert early this month. And this coming weekend, the Akropolis Reed Quintet (the first reed quintet to grace the Billboard Charts) will conduct workshops on stage presence, chamber music (working with several student chamber groups), and composition ahead of their concert on Friday.

The Central New York-Finger Lakes Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) held a regional competition at Ithaca College last weekend, and a contingent of students and faculty from the Crane School attended. Emily Corlew (a senior Music Education major, studying with Steven Groth at Crane) won in the Musical Theatre category. In the Classical Singing categories, senior Performance major Ben Johnson earned a first place, and two students placed second in their categories: Eddie Hayes (a sophomore Music Education/Performance double major) and Cole Denton (a senior Music Education/Performance double major). All three are students of Professor Donald George.

**School of Education & Professional Studies**
- The School of Education and Professional Studies continues to pursue innovative programming to both attract new students to Potsdam and to satisfy the educational needs of our alumnae. The Business Administration program has entered into an International Articulation Agreement for a dual degree program in International Economics / Business Administration with Kyiv National Economics University. Exercise Science has proposed a revision to the undergraduate program that focuses on several professional tracts designed for instant job opportunities upon graduation as well as graduate track designed to aid acceptance to and success in graduate school. Education programs continue to propose new online graduate programs as well as a focus on recruitment of students from NYC through our partnership with the New York City Department of Education’s Coalition for Teacher Preparation.
Potsdam College Foundation and Administrative Updates

- The Potsdam College Foundation Board had its biannual meeting in September where it focused on strategies to recruit new trustees to serve the college as well as discussion about how to kickoff and support the quiet phase of The Campaign for Potsdam.
  - Focused on the core needs and opportunities for support for SUNY Potsdam, this campaign will seek to be a cornerstone in stabilizing the college and supporting our students for generations to come.
  - The leadership gift phase has begun, with conversations starting to take place with our most stalwart supporters.
- New Vice President for College Advancement, David Davin, has been having introductory meetings with a variety of on and off campus stakeholders as he begins to chart a course for a new chapter of support to SUNY Potsdam.

Development, Fundraising, and Stewardship

- The fiscal year 2022-23 fundraising is already outpacing the early returns at this same time last fiscal year. We are looking forward to another strong year of fundraising for our college and students.
- The SUNY Impact Foundation’s tax credit program for donors with a New York State income tax liability in excess of $10,000 was a success, raising more than $300,000 in donations for the Foundation.
- Travel amongst the frontline development officers has picked up as pandemic-related restrictions have eased. The team have been busy building relationships and preparing for asks for the leadership gift phase of our campaign.
- The 2021-22 Donor Impact Reports are finalized and making their way to donors and volunteer supporters. The reports are beautifully designed booklets that highlight the impact that the many donors, volunteers, and other supporters made possible in the last fiscal year (2021-22) around campus.

Alumni Relations & Events

- Alumni and friends took part in a special ceremony on Friday, October 14 to celebrate the dedication of the Richard J. Del Guidice Student Forum in memory of the beloved longtime faculty member.
- SUNY Potsdam alumni, friends, and current students participated in the third annual SUNY Potsdam Alumni Fall 5k the week of October 17th.
- Crane School of Music NYC area alumni and friends gathered at the Yamaha Artist Studio on October 27 to meet Dr. William Gibbons, the new dean of the school. Attendees were treated to a performance by Dean Gibbons as well as his vision for the school.
- All alumni are invited to the premiere of the “Bodacious Bears” documentary about the Men’s Basketball championship era on Sunday, November 6 at 1:30 p.m. EST at the Proscenium Theatre in the Performing Arts Center on campus.

Scholarships & Campus Support

- Support to the college and students in fiscal year 2021-22 was impressive, per the Donor Impact Reports, that are hitting mailboxes soon:
  - 482 students received a total of 648 scholarship awards
  - Endowed scholarship funds supported $937,366 in direct student support
  - Endowed program funds supported $885,924 for departments and programs across campus.
STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

Athletics
The athletic department is wrapping up Fall playing seasons and gearing up for the start of winter sports. Men's and women's soccer, women's volleyball, and cross country all saw improvements in their records from 2021, with the cross-country team looking forward to a successful showing at the SUNYAC championships this coming weekend. Off the field, the Bears have continued to serve the campus and greater Potsdam communities. Fall sports teams were integral in helping organize the welcome weekend carnival, women's lacrosse and softball are collecting donations for the Potsdam snack pack program, and all teams will take part in leaf taking around Potsdam on November 6th.

Campus Life
Campus Life has been successful implementing Fall programming. Since the first day of classes (not including Welcome Weekend), Campus Life has offered 21 programs with 1,025 attendees. Our weekly Friday night programs including DIY, Bingo, or Trivia events have had an average of 57 attendees each week. Women, Gender, and Leadership has had an average workshop attendance of 28 students. We successfully recruited 28 new Emerging Leaders and offered a dynamic Retreat training experience, as we do each year. We are currently hard at work planning for Potsdam Appreciation Week, which will include recognition efforts as well as fundraising to support the Campus Food Pantry.

Many departments and student clubs offered engaging activities throughout the semester which were marketed on Get Involved. To date, 1,029 events/meetings/initiatives were inputted on Get Involved for Fall 2022. Of this number, 599 tracked attendance with a total 22,544 attendees reported.

We are currently hard at work planning for Winterfest 2023.

Counseling Center
The College Counseling Center (CCC) utilized the HEERF III grant to complete a minor remodel of the CCC. The CCC remodeled the waiting room and reception area space to provide safer, more secure services to their students. The CCC has also upgraded its group room to include new furniture, new carpeting, lights, a tv for psychoeducational material presentation. The Peer Counseling class is held in this room weekly. While the tv is not completely setup yet and our groups are not up and running this year yet, we are excited for the use this space has potential for once it is completely assembled and for the use it is already receiving in its unfinished form. This is another space that just conveys a welcoming and caring environment.

To begin the 22-23 academic year, the CCC staff are currently seeing 233 unique clients for a total of 560 sessions. We have had 6 psychiatric hospitalizations so far during the fall semester. We have 8 active Peer Counselors and 6 students who are taking the Peer Counseling course. The Counseling Center presented for the Fall Leadership Conference for Campus Life, continues to present QPR sessions (for Peer Counselors, Residence Life Staff, and Faculty/Staff), AAA Mental Health for Residence Life Staff, Student Leaders Faculty/Staff as requested, and provide groups and presentations upon request.

With all that is mentioned above, the CCC staff has also been very busy completing trainings in Dialectical Behavioral Training (DBT), Cognitive Behavioral Trainings (CBT), LGBTQ Training, and currently this semester working to complete their Progressive Counting Training which is focused specifically on trauma.
PACES
PACES has been keeping a very close eye on the number of students on campus with meal plans. The number is much lower than budgeted for back in February 22. We continue to be reactive to the student’s feedback with menus. We have tweaked many menus that don’t seem to go with the requested menu items students have shared with us. Talks have started now on what to do in the coming semesters, so when budget time in January for next Fall starts, we can have an idea on how to combat the decrease in enrollment. College store is plugging along and have shown an increase in sales from prior year. We continue to try and ween down the old inventory to bring on some new and exciting items. Abby Lee has taken on an intern for the remainder of the semester to help us with social media and our other lines of communication to the campus community. We will be advertising in North Country Now for the College Store and Starbucks to try and help us generate more sales.

Residence Life
Opening for Residence Life went very well and we were very pleased with the results. We implemented a centralize drive through process for first years and then an in-area process for our returning students. There were minimal issues and based on what we learned from this year, we will continue to make improvements for an overall smoother process. We conducted our RA selection information sessions and received an 87% return rate from eligible candidates in completed applications. Interviews will be held this upcoming week. As of now, we have a 95% retention rate in RA’s who plan to return for the next semester (those that are leaving are graduating). With our reduced number of students on campus and the hosting of the World University Games in January 2023, we were able to keep Knowles Hall offline for the entire 2022-2023 academic year. We currently have 1088 students living on campus, of which 433 are in single occupancy rooms (including the Townhouses and Apartments). We will be hosting around 500 athletes and people connected to the games in Knowles Hall from January 7th through January 22nd.

Student Conduct and Community Standards
As of October 13, 2022, 56 incident reports have been submitted. As a result of these reports, 46 cases were opened involving 90 students. Half of these cases have been resolved and the other half are currently pending (including outstanding sanctions). The Office of Student Conduct is currently recruiting student, faculty and staff members to serve as hearing officers. A mock hearing was held in September and two more events are planned for later in October and November. Voter Registration Drives were held. One at a EOP summer orientation program, one as part of Campus Life’s Union Take Over event and one in partnership with the League of Women Voters. 30 students completed voter registration forms and another 46 completed absentee ballot applications. In partnership with Title IX and a Campus Leadership Team, the campus Culture of Respect team has reviewed the analysis of a self-study on the campus response to combating sexual violence and is working to develop an action plan. This plan will be implemented in the Spring.

Student Health Services
Vaccination Clinics: the campus has hosted 2 Monkeypox clinics and 1 Bivalent COVID-19 clinics for the community as well as 2 student Influenza clinics to date. Almost 200 students have received their flu shot. 149 COVID positive cases have been reported. We have been approved to receive, for free, Narcan kits to add to the AED’s throughout campus. 18 students have received Narcan training so far this semester. 986 student appointments so far this fall 2022 which compares to last fall and we have one provider that is working 4 days a week instead of 5. Transgender/gender nonbinary healthcare is increasing (almost doubled). 95% of students report that Student Health Services helped support their academics, class attendance and retention. 100% of the students who completed the survey would recommend SHS to a friend.
University Police

UPD continues the search for two UPO-1 positions. Four qualified candidates are being scheduled to interview. As of 10/14 the new patrol car has been scheduled to be outfitted (no timeline as of how long). Axon Body cameras have arrived and are being set up. UPD participated (PACES sponsored event) in Coffee with a Cop on 10/05 at the Student Union. On 09/23 UPD provided a “beer goggles program” outside the student union. On 09/26 UPD assisted with a multi-agency fire emergency drill at Knowles Hall. UPD has instructed physical fitness for the LETI academy every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and has also assisted instruct Emergency Vehicle Operation for LETI. As of 10/21-13 crimes have been reported, 4 of which are pending, 9 are solved, one of the solved resulted in an arrest, 3 Vehicle and traffic tickets have been issued and 374 other service calls completed.
ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Admissions

- SUNY Free Application Week runs October 24-November 6.
- Spring applications are tracking ahead of last year.
- Fall applications are tracking the same as last year, but it is still very early.
- Fall travel has returned to pre-Covid activity levels. We are down one Admissions Counselor and one support staff, but the team is taking an all-hands-on-deck attitude.
- We made some modifications to our fall open house format, and we had good attendance at our October 22nd event. We anticipate having improved overall numbers in at our November 5 event as well.
- We continue to see good attendance at our weekly campus visit appointments, including Saturday visits.
- Our Instant Admit Days at high schools in St. Lawrence County remain popular with the guidance counselor community.
- We have secured a $10,000 recruitment grant from a non-provide organization called Brilliant Pathways. The resources will be used to engage prospective students and school staff through campus info sessions and tours among several regional school districts that support rural communities.
- We hosted Careers in STEM Day on October 19, led by Professor Page Quinton. This was a follow up to the event she hosted last year for teachers. We entertained over 150 students from 5 local schools. They participated in live activities that were both interesting and fun. All reports are they had a great experience.
- We will also host a Social Studies Professional Development Day for local teachers on November 10. This will satisfy continuing education units as approved through BOCES. Several campus academic departments are involved in the planning and execution of the activities.
- Planning is underway for 3-4 prospective student bus trips this spring to include accepted students, targeted programs in NYC and our Multi Cultural Weekend.

Financial Aid and One-Stop Center

- We are currently down one staff member in the One-Stop Center and are managing with our financial aid team stepping in to assist on an as needed basis while we conduct a search for replacement.
- Our Director of Financial Aid will be on maternity leave thru the end of March 2023. Our two Assistant Directors (Ms. Kelly Crosbie and Ms. Jennifer Gates) are picking up extra duties during this time.
- We have completed all required federal and state reports on time and with no issues or follow items to correct.
- As one of only two 4-year SUNY campuses to receive the Supplemental Support under the American Rescue Plan, we have distributed the $366,221 funds to our most needy students. Their eligibility was based on them completing the 2022-23 FAFSA and having a “0” EFC (Expected Family Contribution). We were able to award an average grant of $929.49. This should have a positive impact on our retention.
- The staff will participate in training and professional development opportunities over the next few months.
Student Accounts

- New legislation related to Attorney General Collection fees was signed into law, prohibiting state agencies from assessing collection fee charges on outstanding debt. This waives the 22% collection fee on any debt associated with the student debt. Prejudgment interest when a student has defaulted on payments owed to SUNY are also being removed. This act goes into effect April 1, 2023.
- Solicitation of missing social security numbers and testing for 1098T file submissions to the IRS is underway as part of the Tax Relief Act and preparation for 2022 tax season.
- Winter and spring billing preparations are under way. We anticipate billing to begin in early November for winter and mid-December for spring.
- All staff attended a half day, Student Administrative Services division-wide training with an emphasis on customer service through our campus One-Stop. Objectives were to better prepare staff by providing back-up coverage, as well as encouraging front-line staff to be more consistent in their approach.
- Two professional staff members attended the SUNY professional development session for Accounting, Budget, and Bursar operations.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION REPORT

The Division for Diversity and Inclusion encompasses campus-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives, Affirmative Action, Title IX, Center for Diversity Operations, N-STEP, C-STEP, and PRODiG. The division is committed to affirming Potsdam’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through the delivery of strategic planning, policy, compliance, and programming initiatives which support campus wide DEIB goals and objectives. The DDEI division oversees such initiatives as DEI training efforts, programming initiatives, mentorship, engagement supports, policy and practice assessment, and the operations of bias training, bias reporting and bias response across campus.

New in 2022:

- **New Chief of Diversity**: The campus welcomed a new Chief of Diversity Officer in May 2022: Vice President Dr. Jacqueline Richardson-Melecio.

- **Community Wellness and Safety Committee**: This committee was formed June 2022. Committee membership is comprised of department representatives from Division for Diversity and Inclusion, University Police, Guidance, Student Conduct, Title IX, Health, Office of Accommodations. The committee focuses on a collaborative approach to addressing campus community wellness and safety concerns as related to student accommodation needs, student conduct, bias incidents, mental health, and the campus response to emergency situations.

- **Sisson Hall Community Meetings**: The departments residing in Sisson Hall together represent many of the academic and social support services afforded to students on campus and they include: Center for Diversity, Student Success, TRIO, N-STEP, C-STEP, EOP, and the office of Accommodations. The Sisson Hall Community meetings provide an opportunity for dialogue around shared goals, the identification and development of collaborative initiatives, resource sharing, and the enrichment of student engagement and student facing support services.

DDEI Administrative & Staff Updates – (September- October 2022)

**Staffing Updates: (September – October 2022)**

- CFD Program Coordinator Position – (Position Filled) Shawn Ramos, CFD Program Coordinator
- CFD Director Vacancy – (Vacant) Search Underway.

**New and Updated Areas to Explore at CFD Fall 2022:**

- **Zen / Meditation room**: The new student Zen/Meditation Room is now open at the Center for Diversity (2nd floor Sisson Hall)

- **Refurnished CFD Lounge**: Our CFD student lounge has been updated with new furniture, games, and other items for the enjoyment of students. We invite folks to stop in and visit.

**Underrepresented Faculty Recruitment and Retention Initiatives: (PRODiG)**

PRODiG – Promoting Recruitment, Opportunity, Diversity, Inclusion and Growth: PRODiG, is a SUNY program that aims to increase the representation of historically underrepresented faculty, including underrepresented minority ("URM") faculty in general and women faculty of all races in STEM fields ("WSTEM").

PRODiG Fall 2022 – Spring 2023:

- Our campus continues to participate in this program. We currently have a total of seven (7) PRODiG faculty members which includes (1) new faculty member new to the program this fall 2022.
• **PRODiG Mini Grants:** We will once again offer PRODiG mini grants of up to $2500. A total of 10 mini grants will be provided for the 2022-2023 academic year. These grants will serve to supplement departmental funds used to support professional development, research, creative endeavors, memberships, research support (books, equipment, supplies, assistants), and mentoring.

**NCSTEP – Summary Activity Notes: September- October 2022**

**Overview of NCSTEP Service Areas**
- NCSTEP collaborated with local schools and assisted with College Applications
- Provided Educational Support and Stem Career Orientation
- Provided Student Stipends & Voucher Program
- Pathways to higher education and STEM Career Awareness

**NCSTEP Programming and Activity Highlights** (September – October 2022)
- Enrolled 36 new students in the program
- Hosted STEM based Wild Center & Cliff Coaster trip for grades 7-9 (24 students attended event)
- Assisted with College Application Week at Salmon River, Massena, and Madrid-Waddington Central Schools (100+ seniors assisted)
- Partnered with the Geology Department to host a STEM Career Day of Service at SUNY Potsdam (150+ local high school students attended)
- Distributed Senior Parent Book/FAFSA Parent Survival Kit
- Established a Fuel Voucher Pilot Program which provides Stewart’s gas cards to support parents as they take their student on college visits (four families have been offered support at this time)
- Participated in and supported the Sisson Hall Spooktacular Open House (40 college students in attendance)

**Division for Diversity & Inclusion Presentations for Fall 2022**
- Residential Life DEI & Bias Training Presentations (8/11,8/16,8/18)
- Student Leadership Conference 8/23/22
- Student Orientation Presentations: Panel Presentations w: Community Wellness & Safety Committee members 8/26/2022
- Athletics Dept. Bias Training - 9/21/2022 and 9/26/2022

**Campus Departmental DEI Presentations & Meetings:** (Held & Scheduled to Date)
- Participating in Theater Dept. Q & A Panel following Film on Bias 9/3
- SAS (Student Assistance Services) Leadership Staff Meeting [Registrar, Student Accounts, Financial Aid-) 10/12
- Environmental Studies Dept. – 10/31
- Crane School of Music – 11/7
EIT: Electronic Information Technology - Digital Accessibility Committee

The committee works on addressing student access needs and supporting faculty in making materials accessible.

Meeting Schedule:

- August 18, 2022
- November 15, 2022

Departmental Information Sessions:

As part of its work the EIT committee has offered to delivery several Technology Access Resource workshops (First Steps Toward Meeting EIT Accessibility) to campus departments. To date workshops have been scheduled with the following departments.

- Provost Cabinet Presentation
- Graduate & Continuing Education Department
- Pathways Gen Ed

Center for Diversity (CFD)

The Center for Diversity (CFD) fosters an inclusive and supportive environment that inspires students to become proactive members of the SUNY Potsdam Community. The Center is dedicated to advocating for students from underrepresented groups, and their allies, by providing opportunities for leadership development, cultural celebration, and educational reflection on a range of multicultural issues.

The Center for Diversity continues to serve as a hub for diversity and inclusion initiatives across the campus, for example by providing student support, mentorship, and engagement opportunities. In addition to hosting and supporting several diverse student organizations, the center amenities provide a central place for student engagement (Student Lounge and Game room, Computer Lab, Zen/Meditation Room, student association offices, and more).

The Center continues to collaborate with the a Diversity Initiative and the Adirondack Experience Center to provide student engagement, educational, and extracurricular activities focused on creating familiarity with the Adirondacks, culture, and natural resources. These events have provided students with exposure to the outdoor, recreational, and cultural experiences afforded by the Potsdam community and the extended Adirondack community.

Potsdam Center for Diversity –

Student Programming Initiatives and Activities Updates: September – October 2022

Student Engagement Activities (Abbreviated List of Activities):

**Student Association Mixer-9/7:**

- Meeting with the several student organizations housed under the Center for Diversity umbrella and introduce new staff members to the students. The meeting provided an opportunity for organizations to brainstorm events for the larger Center for Diversity, as well as, their own events promoting collaboration and identifying sponsorship and support needs.
Celebrating Potsdam: Community Cook-out 10/1

- Coming together as students from all walks of life to celebrate one another and foster a community across campus. Hosted by the Center for Diversity and Co-Sponsored by The Student Government Association

Student Association Planning and Networking Meeting 10/18

- This meeting provided an avenue for groups to voice ideas for events, continue to provide efforts towards collaboration, advertise upcoming events, and allow discussion for ways the Center for Diversity can assist them as their continue through the academic year.

Spooktacular Sisson Hall Open House 10/25: This was a collaborative event in which all of the student service departments housed in Sisson Hall which includes the Center for Diversity (CFD), Educational Opportunities Program (EOP), Student Success Center (SSC), TRIO, Office of Accommodations, BRIDGES, NSTEP/CSTEP (Science and Technology Entry Program), all worked together to create a themed open house through which various fun activities were used to inform students about the various services available to support their social and academic success as Potsdam Students. Information, Networking, Gift Baskets, Snacks, Games, were all part of this well attended program.

Educational & Career Workshops and Activities

Neuroscience of Self-care 11/8

- Speaker Josh Brown of the college Counseling Center will provide education on self-care and the neuroscience behind it to student leaders to combat the stressors they would have as the semester comes to a close.

- The presentation will incorporate the newly created ZenDen mediation room and Center for Diversity Lounge to promote recreational and physical/spiritual self-care.

National Day for Truth Reconciliation: Recognition Event and Activities 9/28-9/30/2022

Organized by the Potsdam Native American Faculty Committee

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honors the thousands of Indigenous children that were forcefully removed from their families and communities to attend residential schools in North America. We honor the children who died, celebrate the resilience of Indigenous Peoples, and affirm the commitment that every child matters.

9/28-9/30 10,000 Flag Art Installation: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- Students help create an Art Installation across the academic quad placed 10,000 orange flag markers - one for each indigenous student at a single Indian Boarding school -- the Carlisle School in Pennsylvania, 1879-1918.

9/30 Orange T-Shirt: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

- ORANGE shirt was held on September 30. Meaning *Orange shirts reference a real orange shirt taken from Phyllis Webstad on her first day at a church-run residential school in 1973.
LIVE NOW Programs and Partnerships Overview

• **About the LIVE Now Program**: Live Now is an outdoor education and recreation program designed to provide opportunities for access and instill a sense of belonging in nature for people from underrepresented communities. Our vision is to develop a community of diverse outdoor enthusiast who pursue careers in the outdoor industry /develop a passion for outdoor recreational activities.

• **About the Adirondack Diversity Initiative**: The Adirondack Diversity Initiative (ADI) exists at the intersection of environmental and transformational justice, working to make the Adirondacks a more welcoming and inclusive place for both residents and visitors while ensuring a vital and sustainable Adirondack Park for future generations.

Live Now Programming: 2022 Events

• **Lake Placid White-Water Rafting 9/24** As part of the Live Now programming, provide students with a chance to experience the beauty of the Adirondacks and enjoy nature.

• **The Adirondack Experience**: The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake/ Facilitated Nature and Science Workshop (Nov – Date TBA)

• **Alternative Spring Break** (January 2023/ Dates to be Announced)
FACULTY SENATE REPORT

The fall semester is progressing quickly. I have heard many anecdotal reports that our students this fall are particularly enthusiastic and engaged – almost as if they are making up for lost time. I have also heard anecdotal reports that a good number of students seem to be lost in action. They are not as engaged as we like in academics nor campus life. The emotional toll of the past few years is clearly still affecting a segment of our student population, and faculty and staff, too.

We must work towards everyone on this campus having the same stimulating learning or working experience that we have always been known for.

Faculty Senate’s current work includes

- evaluating a proposal to replace PE/HW with a Health and Wellness requirement,
- reviewing new and revised programs including Environmental Sciences Minor, Graphical Information Sciences Major, Exercise Science Major, MST in Mathematics, and a Minor in Finance,
- investigating how to adjust policies or add supports for dealing with seriously disruptive students in an academic setting,
- reviewing a proposal for a new Honors program,
- proposing a second governance hour on Fridays at 3pm, and
- providing faculty feedback and support for the 5 institutional priorities established by our administration.

The issue of faculty and staff morale has been a very serious one. At the recent University Faculty Senate meeting it was a common refrain that we speak regularly about supporting our students but we have not taken the same care to support our faculty and staff. The result is a campus and a system that has low morale, is losing qualified people and has more difficulty in filling open positions. On our campus, Dr. Jim Fryer from the psychology department, who has some professional expertise in the area of making employees feel appreciated, initiated a discussion with OIC Neisser and Provost Hersker. The discussion is ongoing and no specific plans have been laid, but talking about the problem is the first step towards solving it.

I’d be happy to speak at greater length on any of these topics. Finally, I want to thank the College Council for your ongoing support of our college, its mission and its people.
SGA REPORT

The current executive board members are Kylie Wilkins as President, Steven Higgins as Vice President, Ashley Langton as Treasurer, Eve Borrelli as Comptroller, and Lacie Castille as Secretary.

SGA is working on many campus initiatives. The first initiative is working on making SGA a positive experience for our members and campus community. We are working to help students acquire leadership skills and obtain new problem-solving skills by fostering a solution-oriented mind set. The second initiative is more programming for students and clubs. We just had an event called the Monster Mash where students could trick or treat and dance! This provide our SGA clubs a chance to advertise and do outreach to students. We had 150 students who attended this event.

A problem that students are having that we are currently trying to resolve as an executive board is student retention. Our goal is to keep students here at SUNY Potsdam by offering more programs outside of their daily classes. We are helping our students create a network of their peers that lasts for a lifetime. We are also helping clubs advertise after covid affected most of our club’s membership. We know that increasing enrollment is crucial but we as SGA think keeping our current students is even more important.

The final thing I want to make you aware is our finished infrastructure project. We just opened the Band Shell on September 30th, 2022. We had almost 60 students attend this event. This structure is now open for students to use and enjoy!

We are also very excited to say that our clubs have reached a new high of attendance. We have also had a lot of newly approved clubs like the Native American Student Association, Women in Business, The Radio Station club, and Potsdam’s Hint of Broadway! We are really excited with of the new additions to our organization.

With everything said above I just want to thank you for your continued support. I also want to let you know that campus is alive, and students are happy and excited to be here, and I hope we can continue this trend.

With any question or concerns don’t hesitate to contact me at sgapres@potsdam.edu.