

# Provost's Corner

Bette S. Bergeron, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

January 24, 2020

## *Welcome Back!*

I hope that you had a restful, productive, and energizing winter break! I am certainly looking forward to seeing everyone back on campus as we begin what promises to be a busy spring semester. And while we're not sure what our unpredictable North Country weather will bring over the next few months, staff from the Center for Creative Instruction (CCI) recently shared "*Bad Weather Tools*" at their January Winter Workshop to provide tips for coping with our inevitable weather-related class delays. Not able to attend, and curious to learn more? Check out the information on [Teams](#) , [Skype for Business](#) , and [Relay](#) on the [CCI website](#).

This semester, Academic Affairs will continue to focus on ways in which we can effectively engage in and support student retention, building on our successes from last semester. (Thanks to the efforts of faculty and staff from across the campus, this fall saw our lowest percentage of students dismissed in 20 years!) We will be following up on strategies recommended during the campus' fall *Retention Summit*; the PowerPoint presentations, discussion group notes, and a variety of resources related to the Summit are available [online](#). If you have ideas regarding how to continue the conversation and momentum around student retention, please don't hesitate to let me know!

I am also looking for new ways in which to engage the academic community in dialogue around topics and issues related to student retention. One way that I hope to accomplish this is through informal *Book Chats* with a focus on understanding our current GenZ student population; more information about the Book Chats is provided in this Newsletter. I am also rethinking the format for future "Coffee & Conversations" in order to provide wider participation, including spring Academic Affairs forums held in conjunction with the Faculty Senate. I would love to hear from you regarding ways in which we can increase opportunities for conversation and dialogue across Academic Affairs.

Best of luck to you and your students as you begin your Spring, 2020 semester!



## *New Faces/New Positions*

**Welcome!** Please join me in welcoming the newest members of our academic community:

- *Melissa Netzband*- Senior Assistant Librarian (Information Literacy)
- *Vanessa Vaverchak*- Assistant Director, CPS (Community Performance Series)
- *Nichole Wilson*- Library Clerk 2
- *Hillary Wolfe*- Academic Counselor/Coordinator of Peer Mentoring (TRIO)

**Interim Vice President for Business Affairs.** The campus recently welcomed *Keith Kaplan* to serve as our Interim Vice President for Business Affairs. Keith comes to us from the SUNY Research Foundation, where he has served as the Associate Director of Financial Accounting in the RF Central Office. His extensive experience working with SUNY will be a great asset to the campus.

A national search for a new Chief Financial Officer will be initiated in the spring semester. *Gregory Gardner* (Business Administration) and *Melissa Proulx* (Human Resources) will be co-chairing this critical search.

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## *Campus Updates*

**Winterfest 2020.** *Winterfest 2020* is taking place from **January 30-February 9**, featuring a wide variety of events sponsored by numerous campus departments as well as student organizations. To see a full listing of campus events visit <https://getinvolved.potsdam.edu/> or download the free Corq app to participate. As part of the planned festivities, we hope to see you at this year's *Bear Pride Night* event on **February 7<sup>th</sup>** – Go Bears!

A special feature of Winterfest is a departmental competition in support of the Campus Food Pantry. Food insecurity has impacted many college students across the nation, and certainly here at SUNY Potsdam. Every college student has insecurities, but food should never be one of them (swipehunger.org). Your department can make a significant difference on our campus by taking part in the *Winterfest Food Drive Competition* from **January 13- February 6**. If your department is ready to take on this challenge towards contributing to food security, please email *Clifton Harcum* (DEI) at [harcumch@potsdam.edu](mailto:harcumch@potsdam.edu) for further information.

**New Pilot: Academic Support.** The Student Success Center would like to announce a campus-wide pilot of a new academic support model. Following successful pilots within the Excel and Bridges programs, which provide assistance to specific cohorts of underprepared students, the

campus is expanding our use of *Academic Support Recitations* (FY 190) to reach additional students. These recitations provide supplemental instruction and peer support for some of the College's most challenging introductory courses. This model of support has been shown to provide students with earlier opportunities for success (with stronger grades in their first year), while infusing academic support experiences within the curriculum and developing habits of help-seeking behavior. More specific information on the design of the Recitations is provided below:

### **Target Students and Courses**

This model will primarily serve students in their first and/or second-year of college, but it would be available to any student enrolled in one of the selected lower-division courses. These courses could include:

- Mandatory or strongly encouraged courses for first-year students: WAYS seminars, introductory major courses, etc.
- Large, lecture-style courses
- Traditionally challenging courses

### **Curriculum**

The Academic Support Recitations are designed to provide supplemental instruction and guided practice, in relation to a paired academic course. Each week, students engage in activities that require them to review course material and apply the content to a specific learning task. The recitations meet once a week for 50 minutes. Students receive a grade of S\* (satisfactory) or U\* (unsatisfactory), only the first of which results in credit for the course.

### **Peer Academic Coaches**

The Peer Academic Coaches (PACs) are responsible for leading each of the Academic Support Recitations, in consultation with a program coordinator and the instructor of the paired academic course. The PACs develop the students' learning activities to be completed during Recitation and guide students through that process. They will also respond to student questions regarding the content of the paired course, academic success strategies, and navigating the college environment. To further support their students, PACs will hold office hours and respond to student queries outside of the scheduled recitation times.

## **Looking for previous copies of the Provost's Corner?**

Past editions of the Provost's Corner, as well as additional resources for faculty and staff, can be found at:

<http://www.potsdam.edu/about/administration/provost/>

### **Training & Preparation**

The PACs will be required to participate in an initial training during Spring 2020, which will include preparation of a Fall 2020 course syllabus for their assigned recitation. Instructors for the paired academic courses will be asked to provide a copy of their course syllabus and provide feedback on the PAC's recitation plans. During Fall 2020, PACs will participate in ongoing professional development as part of their experience.

Please contact *Tim Morse* ([morsets@potsgdam.edu](mailto:morsets@potsgdam.edu)) in the SSC if you have any questions. If you are interested in partnering with the SSC in this expanded pilot, please contact him immediately with the course(s) of interest.

**Enrollment Census.** Early intervention is critical to our campus' retention strategies. A crucial piece of this intervention is identifying attendance concerns (or other struggles) during the first two weeks of classes. An enrollment census survey will be sent to select 100- and 200-level course instructors via email on **Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** to be completed by **Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**.

**Progress Reports.** The campus has been engaged in implementing a variety of communication strategies through Navigate, including progress reports, as part of our retention strategies. Faculty have found that students appreciate when progress reports include updates on course grades or additional comments. A campaign email focused on these reports will be sent the week of **February 17<sup>th</sup>** to be completed by **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**. SSC staff will follow up with flagged students after both of these efforts, including sending "kudos" messages to students who have positive progress reports.

The Fall 2019 Progress Report Campaign broke records for faculty participation, with positive reports received from nearly 90 instructors. Thanks very much **to all of the faculty** who took the time to provide positive feedback and gave students recommendations for improvement.

The SSC would like to give a special shout-out to the following faculty who submitted more than 100 Progress Reports each in the fall:

- *Jesse Bia* (Anthropology)
- *Walt Conley* (Biology)
- *Jim Fryer* (Psychology)
- *Amy Guiney* (Teacher Education)
- *William Lake* (Crane)
- *Lydia Rodriguez* (Anthropology)

As always, if you have an immediate concern about a student please submit your notes to Navigate from the student's profile page (right side menu, click Issue and Alert).

**Navigate: Calendar Upgrade.** Navigate (our online retention tool) has upgraded its built-in calendar. This upgrade requires action from you to keep syncing with your Office 365/Outlook calendar. All faculty, staff, and students are urged to complete this quick, easy process.

*For users that have previously synced their calendars, you must complete this process by February 6, 2020 to avoid a lapse in calendar syncing:*

- Visit <https://potsdam.campus.eab.com>.
- Log in using your SUNY Potsdam username and password.
- Once logged in, you may receive on-screen instructions for the calendar syncing upgrade or you can click on the Calendar icon on the left.
- There you will find a yellow banner at the top of the screen, with a blue 'Authorize' button.
- Click that button and follow the directions on the next screen (just two more clicks) to complete the upgrade.

For users who wish to sync their calendars for the first time, adding this useful upgrade will make appointment scheduling simpler:

- Visit <https://potsdam.campus.eab.com>.
- Log in using your SUNY Potsdam username and password.
- Once logged in, you may receive on-screen instructions for the calendar syncing upgrade or you can click on the Calendar icon on the left.
- Click the 'Settings and Sync' button in the upper right.
- Click 'Setup Sync...'
- Click 'Use Office 365.'
- Follow the directions on the next screen (just two more clicks) to complete the upgrade.

If you have any questions or concerns related to this process or Navigate in general, please contact *Tim Morse* (SSC) at [morsets@potsdam.edu](mailto:morsets@potsdam.edu).

**First-Connect Program (1YC).** Starting in the summer of 2020, all first-year students at SUNY Potsdam will participate in the *Soliya First-Year Connect (1YC)* program before they arrive on campus. The Soliya 1YC program aims to help incoming SUNY Potsdam students to get to know each other more deeply, understand each other better, and find ways to constructively engage each other in a polarizing United States.

The Soliya 1YC Program builds on a strength our campus already has, our diversity. Most of our students have often had only very limited opportunity to engage with diverse populations. To help our incoming first-years with becoming a member of a diverse and inclusive community, students will meet on a virtual video-conferencing platform in groups representative of our campus diversity and will be introduced to facilitated dialog as a form of communication. The curriculum helps students to experience diversity positively and deepens understanding and respect for constructive engagement across differences. In addition, 1YC provides an avenue to allow for a deep commitment to freedom of speech while creating a feeling of belonging which in turn might lead to increased retention.

Our first cohort of incoming students will go through this experience this summer, July 20 – Aug 14, 2020. There are lot of opportunities to get involved for all members of our campus community. Please look out for information about First-Year Connect (1YC) in the coming weeks. If you want to learn more right away, please do not hesitate to contact *Michael Popovic* (Politics/International Education) at ([popovimj@potdam.edu](mailto:popovimj@potdam.edu)).

**Diversity Attribute.** The Diversity Attribute Review Committee would like to invite faculty to submit syllabi for their diversity-rich courses to be considered to receive the new *Diversity Attribute*. Receiving the Diversity Attribute will allow students to more easily identify your diversity-rich courses in the schedule of classes. (The Diversity Attribute is not associated with Potsdam Pathways or General Education, is non-curricular, and is in response to student leaders' requests for diversity-rich course offerings.)

The Diversity Attribute Review Committee will be reviewing diversity-rich course syllabi submissions in early Spring 2020 so that these courses can be added to the Fall 2020 schedule of classes.

The **deadline** for syllabi submission is **Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>** (first day of spring classes). More information on the attribute, guidance for preparing your syllabi, and syllabi submission can be found on the [Diversity Attribute Webpage](#). For more information please contact *Ananta Adhikari* (Physics) at [adhikaar@potdam.edu](mailto:adhikaar@potdam.edu).

**Online Faculty Fellows.** We are very pleased to announce the selection of our first *Online Faculty Fellows*: *Karen Caldwell* (Business Administration), *Geoffrey Clark* (History), and *Andre Mount* (Music Education). The Online Faculty Fellows have two main responsibilities: 1) providing faculty with training and professional development, and 2) providing peer review of online courses. Fellows will participate in the design and delivery of the Essentials in Online Learning course, which will serve as a replacement for the current PTOL course. This week-

long course will be delivered at appropriate times as determined by the Fellows, with input from the SUNY Potsdam community. Fellows will be available for peer mentoring on an “on call” basis for online instructors after the conclusion of the training course.

In addition, Fellows will lead the OSCQR review process which will take place after the initial design of an online course, after the third year renewal of an online course, and as requested by members of the Potsdam faculty. Fellows will be trained in the OSCQR review process, identify the external reviewers, and set timelines for review.

The Online Faculty Fellows initiative is being led by *Allen Grant*, Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies. If you have questions or ideas regarding the Online Fellows initiative or the redesign of the course delivery process, please contact your School’s Online Fellow or Dean Grant ([grantac@potsdam.edu](mailto:grantac@potsdam.edu)).

**Summer Course Incentive.** During the summer of 2019, the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education, in collaboration with the Provost’s Office, launched a pilot profit-sharing program with departments to support their implementation of summer courses. Providing students with summer options is a specific retention initiative, and is particularly important in ensuring that students remain on track to graduate. We are very happy to announce that nine departments and programs received nearly \$10,000 from this 2019 Summer Revenue Sharing pilot. Due to this preliminary success, we will be running the Revenue Share again for Summer 2020. Courses (hybrid, on-campus, on-line) that have an enrollment of more than 15 (undergraduate) and 10 (graduate) will receive payments into departmental accounts based on the revenue generated from tuition dollars in the summer courses offered by each department.

As a quick reminder — there is a different compensation schedule for Summer and Winterim courses: for a three-credit course, faculty will receive regular salary (\$3105) for courses that enroll 12 (undergraduate) and eight (graduate). Salary for courses below those thresholds will be prorated (if instructors agree to teach for the prorated salary); for courses above the thresholds, instructors will receive an additional \$25 per credit per student.

If you have questions on Summer Revenue Sharing or faculty compensation, please contact *Alan Hersker* ([herskeal@potsdam.edu](mailto:herskeal@potsdam.edu), X3445) in the Office of Graduate & Continuing Education.

**Updates from the Libraries.** *Melissa Netzband* has joined the Library faculty as our campus’ new Information Literacy Librarian. Melissa has a background in vocal music and history, and received her MLIS degree from the University of Buffalo. Melissa will be supporting information literacy instruction for classes across the campus, and will also be working with the

Potsdam Pathways initiative to integrate information literacy into these new courses. Faculty who are interested in scheduling an information literacy class with Melissa should email her at [netzame@potdam.edu](mailto:netzame@potdam.edu) or contact her by phone at extension 2483.

**Lougheed Center for Applied Learning: Funding Opportunities.** The Lougheed Center for Applied Learning Advisory Board invites funding applications for activities, projects, or professional development directly related to applied learning. The Center's flexible donor funds can support field trips and site visits, registration and travel expenses, equipment and supplies, curriculum development, workshops, guest speakers, and more. All funding requests will be reviewed by the Advisory Board on a rolling basis and within two weeks of submission when classes are in session. Timeframes may be extended during academic breaks. Information on funding sources, Advisory Board makeup and membership, and links to applications are listed on the [Applied Learning website](#).

**Applied Learning/Navigate Update.** Starting in Spring 2020, the Lougheed Center for Applied Learning staff are adding appointment notes to Navigate for students who have met with the staff about career and major exploration, study abroad, internships, and student research. You will find these notes in Navigate's appointment history along with all other advising appointments scheduled through Navigate. These contributions to the advising data will help contribute to the campus' retention efforts through enhanced communication and support for our students.

**Fiber Arts Makerspace.** In the Spring, 2020 semester the Lougheed Learning Commons (LLC) will be opening its second makerspace, in support of fiber arts. This makerspace content was chosen by students in an informal poll in the LLC, and the "Sticks and String" gathering held every Tuesday afternoon in Fall, 2019 has already been a consistent draw for student and faculty crafters. Informal workshops will be offered throughout the semester to either teach new skills or expand on students' understanding of their craft.

The College Makerspace in the LLC strives to connect students with resources that engage their creativity, both in academic and in personal pursuits, and to expand their access to ideas and skills. To support that goal, this spring the *Fiber Arts Makerspace* will begin to showcase the connections between this popular craft and its historical uses, the cultural importance of fiber arts in many cultures, the counter-cultural and advocacy uses of traditional crafts, and the fascinating linkage between weaving and modern computing. For more information and the workshop schedule, check the [LLC website](#).

**Campus Job Board.** Do you have a student worker job to fill? The Loughheed Center for Applied Learning has created a campus job board on *Handshake* so that all of our students have access to all the jobs for which they can apply. And students are interested! On January 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, pre-semester Handshake emails were sent to students alerting them to the jobs available on campus for Spring 2020. As of January 15<sup>th</sup>, those two emails were opened and read 1402 times, 331 students clicked through to jobs, and the 9 jobs posted have received 89 applications. If you have an open position, please post it in Handshake! If you have questions about using Handshake, contact the Loughheed Center for Applied Learning at [career@potsgdam.edu](mailto:career@potsgdam.edu) or x2507.

**Confidential Accommodation Plans.** In an effort to streamline the process of student accommodation plans and to get plans to faculty as soon as possible, accommodation plans will now be emailed by the Accommodative Services Office. Please keep in mind that many factors determine when faculty receive a student's accommodation plan. The biggest factor is how early the student comes in to request the accommodation. Accommodation plans cannot be sent without the student's consent and signature.

Faculty will receive the accommodation plan via email as soon as it is ready. Students will be instructed that they must meet with their faculty member(s) either before/after class or during office hours to discuss their specific plans. Those receiving accommodations will have signed an agreement each semester acknowledging their responsibility to communicate with their faculty about their plans.

For more information about this new process please visit the [Information for Faculty](#) section of the Accommodative Services website.

**Summit Leadership.** Over 60 workshops are being offered throughout the Spring semester as part of the *Summit Leadership Program* designed to enhance student leadership development and career readiness. Summit workshops are listed on <https://getinvolved.potsgdam.edu/>. After you log in, click on the 'Events' tab and use the 'Categories' drop-down menu to find events that correspond to each of the Summit competencies. For more information about Summit, visit: <https://getinvolved.potsgdam.edu/organization/summit>. We appreciate the help of all faculty/staff encouraging student participation in these excellent learning opportunities.

**Construction Update.** The construction team is set to open the main entrance to Barrington on January 20<sup>th</sup>, allowing for pass-through traffic while renovations are still underway this semester. A corridor has been constructed to safely connect the Student Mailroom to the College Store/Union Market, the restrooms and the Student Union Dining Court.

The temporary alternate exterior entrances to the College Store and the Dining Court will both remain open this semester as well. This will allow Barrington to be utilized as a “pass through” during the Spring 2020 semester, but it will also allow the construction team to continue making progress on the renovation.

For the map and more information about this renovation project, please visit:

<https://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/get-involved/barrington-student-union>

**Bear Shuttle Hours Extended.** The Bear Shuttle, which provides transportation from campus to various locations within the Village, has significantly expanded its hours. As of Spring 2020, hours will be from 7:00am to 10:30pm Monday through Friday, from 12noon to 11:30pm on Saturday, and from 12:00noon to 10:30pm on Sunday. The Bear Shuttle is part of the St. Lawrence Public Transit College Connector program. The program provides hourly connections at Walmart to allow for transportation between Potsdam and Canton to support the educational and employment needs of students and the community. SUNY Potsdam students will be able to ride any public transit route within St. Lawrence County for free by showing their student ID. More information on the shuttle, including the new schedule, can be found [online](#).



## ***Potsdam Pathways***

**Pathways Update.** The Potsdam Pathways Curriculum Committee is currently accepting applications for course designation for Pathways designators. Of particular interest are those courses which are appropriate for first year students (mostly the *Ways of Thinking* courses, but also *Connecting Globally* [CG] and *Connecting through a Language Other than English* [CL]). Instructions and forms for submission can be found at the [Pathways Processes webpage](#). The deadline for submissions seeking inclusion in the Fall 2020 schedule is **March 15, 2020**.

Pathways Leadership is also happy to announce that the Provost’s Cabinet has approved the WAYS Hours proposal as a pilot program for AY 20-21. All WAYS courses will be offered at one of the following times:

- MWF 11:00-11:50
- MWF 12:00-12:50
- TTH 12:30-1:45
- TTH 2:00-3:15

In order to accommodate for students' required Pathways coursework, Department Chairs and Program Directors are strongly encouraged not to schedule other lower division courses (courses aimed at first year students) during those times. Thank you!

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### *Around the State/System*

**PRODiG Fellows.** During the past eight months, the SUNY comprehensive sector provosts have collaborated to create a new faculty pipeline recruitment program, the *SUNY PRODiG Fellows*; we have recently been notified that SUNY will fund this initiative. The PRODiG Fellows project aligns with the System's overall diversity strategies; more information on PRODiG and its goals can be found at <https://www.suny.edu/prodig/>.

The PRODiG Fellows program focuses on bringing underrepresented minority and/or women in STEM late-stage ABDs or post-docs to our campuses. The program will provide intentional support toward degree completion, teaching experience and training, and faculty development at the 13 SUNY comprehensive colleges. PRODiG Fellows will receive a two-year non-renewable contract, travel allowances, summer research stipends, and reduced teaching load. Fellows will be paired with a campus senior faculty mentor to help facilitate integration and support, and will be a part of a larger cohort of Fellows who will meet (both face-to-face and virtually) throughout the two-year fellowship.

If you know of colleagues who might be interested in applying as a PRODiG Fellow, please be sure to pass along the application information. In order to be eligible, applicants must be enrolled in an accredited doctoral program in the U.S. or have completed an accredited doctoral program, and be authorized to work in the U.S. The applicant must also have an approved dissertation proposal and have advanced to candidate status at their home institution (or have completed their dissertation). Post-doctoral applicants are also encouraged. Successful candidates will show evidence of outstanding academic achievement and promise as teachers and scholars. Candidates should have a capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of diverse students attending a comprehensive college.

Applicants should submit a current C.V. and letter of intent describing the applicant's interest in teaching at a comprehensive college; a letter from the dissertation advisor commenting on the applicant's performance, potential, and expected time to degree; and a transcript. Within their letter of intent, applicants should include which SUNY comprehensive campuses (up to three) that they are most interested in for their application.

Application review will begin January 27, 2020 for rolling admissions. Additional information will be provided upon hire, including details on a scheduled retreat in June/July 2020. Please email all materials and questions to: [sm\\_PRODiGprogram@brockport.edu](mailto:sm_PRODiGprogram@brockport.edu).

**SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference.** The *SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC)* is a multidisciplinary spring semester event hosted each year by different SUNY institutions. It brings together undergraduate student researchers and faculty mentors from across the SUNY system for activities, including sessions devoted to student presentations—oral, performance, artistic displays, and posters presentations—in **ALL** academic disciplines.

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and SUNY Old Westbury will co-host SURC 2020.

- **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**- - SURC 2020 Upstate - SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- **Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**- - SURC 2020 Downstate - SUNY Old Westbury

For information on how to submit a proposal or to register please go to [SURC2020](#). If you have any questions, please [contact the SURC team](#) at any time. SUNY Potsdam faculty or students interested in attending SURC should speak with *Tom Baker* in the Office of Student Research and Creativity, [bakertn@potsdam.edu](mailto:bakertn@potsdam.edu), to join in our campus' transportation arrangements.

**Conversations in the Disciplines.** The Request for Proposals for the *Conversations in the Disciplines (CID)* program for *Conversations* to be held during academic year 2020-2021 have been issued. This competitive grant program is designed to support campus efforts to bring together faculty within and outside of SUNY for the purposes of scholarly discourse—examining new trends, addressing changes and challenges, reviewing promising research findings, and more. These *Conversations*, which take advantage of the breadth and depth of SUNY's faculty, faculty-at-large, and the opportunities that emerge when faculty come together, are important to advancing our shared goals and mission.

The program guidelines have been posted on [www.suny.edu/provost/cid/](http://www.suny.edu/provost/cid/). Proposals are due **Friday, March 27, 2020**. As in prior years, the University Faculty Senate's Committee on Programs and Awards will review and recommend proposals for consideration. For additional information, contact *Ann Hawkins*, Assistant Provost for Graduate Education and Research or *Yvette Roberts*, Special Assistant to the Vice Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Program Manager for Faculty and Staff Awards at [CID@suny.edu](mailto:CID@suny.edu) or (518) 320-1670.

**Applied Learning Workshop.** On **February 7, 2020** SUNY is hosting a workshop to introduce faculty to a model for exploring the *SUNY Approved Applied Learning (AAL)* criteria as High Impact Practices. The event will be held at Nassau Community College in Garden City, NY. Topics included in the workshop will be methods and resources for integrating SUNY AAL criteria into existing curriculum and transforming existing courses to meet the criteria. An introductory video can be accessed [online](#).

The deadline for application to the workshop is **January 27, 2020**. The event is free for SUNY members. Apply at: <https://sunycpd.eventsair.com/aal020720/reg/Site/Register>. For more information, contact *Ann Emo* at [emoar@buffalostate.edu](mailto:emoar@buffalostate.edu).



### **Mark Your Calendars!**

**Center for Creative Instruction.** The CCI has a wide range of professional development activities planned for the spring (e.g. *The Allure of the Neuromyth* – facilitated by *Tony Betrus*). Come join us at any CCI event and enjoy a free coffee or drink from Minerva's Cafe. Be sure to regularly check the Events page for a full list of upcoming events, to watch an event you might have missed, or to **register online** ([www.potsdam.edu/faculty/center-creative-instruction/events-calendar](http://www.potsdam.edu/faculty/center-creative-instruction/events-calendar)).

The Center for Creative Instruction (CCI) is located in Suite 106, Loughheed Learning Commons; or contact staff through [cci@potsdam.edu](mailto:cci@potsdam.edu).

**Book Chats.** You are invited to participate in this spring's *Book Chats*, which will focus on understanding (and retaining) our GenerationZ students. Two Chats are planned:

- Book Chat 1: *Generation Z Learns* by C. Seemiler & M. Grace--  
<https://www.coreyseemiller.com/>
  - **February 11, 18, & 25** from 12:30-1:30pm (Raymond 8<sup>th</sup> floor lounge)
- Book Chat 2: *iGen* by J. M. Twenge-- <http://www.jeantwenge.com/>
  - **April 7, 14, & 21** from 11-12:00noon (Raymond 8<sup>th</sup> floor lounge)

If you are interested in attending either Chat series (and can commit to the dates above), please email me ([bergerbs@potsdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potsdam.edu)) to let me know. If you are able to participate in either of the Chats, also let me know if you'd like a hard copy of the text—I have ordered a dozen and have them available.

I am looking forward to continuing our campus-wide dialogue around best practices for supporting our GenZ students!

**De-Stress with Yoga.** *Robin Collen* (A&S Associate Dean/Theatre & Dance) will continue offering a free *Gentle/Intermediate Kripalu yoga class* for SUNY Potsdam faculty and staff. All levels of experience are welcome. The class will meet 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Studio 127/B in the PAC on the following Tuesdays: **January 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 3, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19.** Please bring a yoga mat and any props you like to use. Contact Robin with any questions at x2234 or [collenrl@potsdam.edu](mailto:collenrl@potsdam.edu).

**Days of Reflection.** This semester's *Days of Reflection* will take place in the afternoons (most events are at 3:00, 5:00, or 7:00pm) of **March 23-26, 2020** in Knowles MPR. We are excited to have a variety of important topics, which include presentations and workshops on interrupting bias, our campus climate, immigration to the U.S., the environment, the N-word, and many others. We are also hosting the annual DIAC Alumni Panel and are planning a conversation for faculty members centered on teaching and talking about race.

A detailed schedule will be available in the coming weeks. As always, all information will be posted related to the events at <https://www.potsdam.edu/daysofreflection> once all events are finalized. Please encourage your students to attend—your participation is also encouraged! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to *Michael Popovic* at ([popovimj@potsdam.edu](mailto:popovimj@potsdam.edu)).

**Learning and Research Fair.** SUNY Potsdam's annual *Learning and Research Fair* will be held on **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 10:00am- 2:00pm in the Knowles Conference Center. We hope that you can join us to celebrate our students' research projects! If you have questions, or would like to volunteer as a judge, please contact *Tom Baker* (Office for Student Research & Creativity) at [bakertn@potsdam.edu](mailto:bakertn@potsdam.edu).

**Career Day.** Career Services is excited to host *Career Day* on **Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** from **1:00-3:00pm** in the Knowles Conference Center. We ask you to encourage your students to attend - it's a great opportunity for students to connect with employers and practice the networking skills they will need when seeking employment and pursuing future endeavors.

The first half of the event will feature networking skills/elevator pitch workshops, followed by a large networking event where students will get direct exposure to employers and a chance to practice their skills. Business casual attire is expected. Goals of Career Day include opportunities for students to meet employers and learn about career fields, discuss their skills

and experience with employers, identify a career readiness mentor, and explore ways to get involved within the community by building work experience. It is anticipated that over 50 employers will be attending the event.

Please contact *Career Services* at [career@potsgdam.edu](mailto:career@potsgdam.edu) for more details.

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## *Coming Due*

**Lougheed Learning Grants.** [Lougheed Applied Learning Grant](#) applications will be accepted from **February 1-15, 2020** for activities starting on or after April 1, 2020. This fund is intended to support faculty and staff activities that improve our ability to facilitate student participation in high impact and Applied Learning activities. For more information, please review the materials [online](#) or in [Moodle](#).

**Walker Fellowship.** I am pleased to announce the continuation of the *T. Urling and Mabel Walker Research Fellowship Program* for 2020. The purpose of this program is to encourage faculty from the region's 11 institutions of higher education to undertake research on critical issues confronting North Country communities, and to make recommendations for possible solutions. The program is designed to promote greater community-academic cooperation. Proposals that include a strong statement of support from a local individual or organization that clearly explains how the community will benefit from the project results will be given preference.

Funding for this program comes from the Campaign for the T. Urling and Mabel Walker Research Fellowship Program, which is administered by the SUNY Potsdam Provost's Office. A maximum of two research projects of up to \$5,000 can be awarded each year. The Walker Fellowship Steering Committee will determine the amount of the award for each approved project. In the past, funds have been used to pay a student assistant, support travel costs, and purchase software and supplies. Only in limited cases have funds been used as a stipend for the researcher.

Proposals are due by **January 31, 2020**, close of business. For further information and an application, please visit the [Walker Fellowship website](#).

**NEH Summer Seminar.** On behalf of SUNY Potsdam's NEH Faculty Development Committee, I cordially invite you to apply for the upcoming *2020 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar*, to be held at SUNY Potsdam from **June 15 to July 8, 2020**. This year's seminar, *Technologies and Cultures of Writing in the Age of Print*, will be led by Heather Wolfe, Curator of Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

Each year the SUNY Potsdam's NEH Program organizes an interdisciplinary summer seminar for scholars from the four associated colleges whose work addresses the humanities, broadly defined. The seminar typically meets twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In return for their participation, seminar members are each paid a stipend of \$3,500 and are also eligible to receive a further \$1,000 towards projects or materials related to the themes explored in the seminar. Admission is by competitive application, with seminars usually limited to eight members. The application deadline is **Friday, February 7, 2020**.

An application, together with a description of the seminar, a syllabus outline, and instructions for submission may be found on SUNY Potsdam's website at the following link:

<https://www.potsdam.edu/about/leadership/provost-academic-affairs/research-scholarship-and-creative-work>.

Once on that page, scroll down to "III. NEH Seminars," then click on the link "Application 2020 NEH Summer Seminar for Faculty."

Applications may be submitted to *Geoffrey Clark* (History) electronically (in one file please) at [clarkgw@potsdam.edu](mailto:clarkgw@potsdam.edu) or in hard copy by post. Should you have further questions or encounter any difficulties accessing the application, please do not hesitate to contact Geoffrey directly.

**TEDx SUNY Potsdam.** The second annual *TEDxSUNYPotsdam* will take place on **Saturday, April 18** in the Performing Arts Center. This is an exciting opportunity for faculty and advanced student researchers to share their innovative practices with the campus and online world. The topic of our TEDx is "*Identities*." While it is organized by Arts Management (Theatre & Dance) and the Crane Institute for Music Business and Entrepreneurship, we enthusiastically welcome presenters from all subject backgrounds.

Suggestions for presentations should connect to the overall topic, be accessible to a general audience, and not exceed 18 minutes in length (nine minutes for student presenters). Further information and the proposal form for faculty can be found [here](#), for student presentations

please click [here](#), or go to the event website: [www.tedxsunypotsdam.com](http://www.tedxsunypotsdam.com). Proposals are due by **Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00pm.**

For more information on TEDxSUNYPotsdam, contact *Marc Ernesti* (Crane Institute for Music Business and Entrepreneurship) at [ernestm@potsdam.edu](mailto:ernestm@potsdam.edu) or *Josh Vink* (Program Coordinator, Arts Management) at [vinkjb@potsdam.edu](mailto:vinkjb@potsdam.edu).

**Drescher Leave Program.** The campus has received notification that applications for the *Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Leave Program* for Fall 2020 are currently being accepted. In order to be considered, all materials must be submitted to Human Resources no later than **February 7, 2020** close of business. To apply for the program, you will need to submit a Curriculum Vitae (no more than three pages) AND complete a Personnel Action Form (either Academic or Professional) found on the [HR website](#) (allow yourself enough time to secure the campus signatures on the form) AND the Drescher application form. Please visit the [website](#) for complete information on the program and application.

The Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Diversity and Inclusion Leave Program enhances employment opportunities for employees who are preparing for permanent (professional employees) or continuing appointment (academic employees). Established under the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Committee, this Program seeks to promote diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity in SUNY's workforce. Preference will be given to employees who are under-represented on the basis of their protected class status including but not limited to age, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, military or veteran status, disability, gender expression and gender identity. This Program also seeks to promote diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity for specific employees in a department, unit, program if the employee and the campus can demonstrate that the employee is under-represented in a particular department, unit or program. The types of support available include salary for a replacement for the duration of the employee's leave and other related expenses for research or study. In addition, the campus will continue paying the employee's regular salary for the duration of the leave.

**Domestic and International Travel Courses.** Faculty who are interested in leading a domestic or international travel course in Winterim 2021 or spring break 2021 should contact *Krista LaVack* (International Education) for proposal submission information. The proposal deadline for Winterim or spring break 2021 is **Wednesday April 1, 2020**. For more information, please contact: [lavackkm@potsdam.edu](mailto:lavackkm@potsdam.edu) or visit the [International Education website](#).

**Academic Internship Registration Deadlines.** Please note the following deadlines for academic internships:

- Spring 2020: **Friday, February 14, 2020 by 4:00pm**
- Summer 2020: **Friday, June 12, 2020 by 4:00pm**  
Special note for summer sessions: When students register for an academic internship after the first day of classes for the summer session and are not using Financial Aid to pay for tuition and fees, students will be required to pay total tuition/fees bill to Students Accounts before being registered for the summer academic internship.
- Fall 2020: **Friday, September 18, 2020 by 4:00pm**

Students who are requesting that an academic internship be registered after the deadlines must detail reasons and request late add permission via an [email](#) to the Director of Experiential Education, *Toby White*.

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### *In Case You Missed It*

**EAB Resources.** As part of our contract for the Navigate platform, the entire campus has access to free research resources from EAB (Navigate's parent company) through the Academic Affairs Forum. All campus employees can create an account with EAB to access these resources; to set up an account, follow these steps:

1. Go to the EAB's website, located at [www.eab.com](http://www.eab.com).
2. Select the "**Login**" link in the upper right-hand corner above the search bar. Select "**Create an account.**"
3. Use the drop-down menus to select the **Country, City, and State** where SUNY Potsdam is located.
4. Choose your **Organization Name** from the drop-down menu. Select "**Go to Step 2.**"
5. Enter your **Name and Contact Information.** Select "**Register Now.**"
  - Note: Be sure to use your SUNY Potsdam email address.
6. You will receive an email to your institutional email address. Click the link to **create a password** and confirm your account.

Once you are logged in, you can use the website's search icon to locate information on topics of interest (e.g., retention!). Included in the resources are downloadable research reports as well as on-demand webinars.

## FACT<sup>2</sup> Corner



The 2020 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the *Innovative Instruction Technology Grants (IITG)* program have been released. These competitive, peer-reviewed awards of up to \$60,000 are allocated to demonstrate, communicate, and replicate innovations developed at campuses across SUNY. The 2020 RFP has been posted to the IITG [website](#) along with application details and a listing of currently funded projects and posted outcomes.

The IITG program seeks to promote research and foster understanding of how new technologies serve pedagogy. Funding may be requested to:

- Improve student learning, student success, & program completion;
- Build competencies and support post traditional and adult learners – particularly those seeking to reinvent their academic or career trajectory;
- Support modular courses or pathways that are highly transferable and “stackable” into microcredentials, certificates or degrees;
- Address needs identified by recent [FACT<sup>2</sup> task groups](#) on educational transformation, online pedagogy, adaptive learning, open pedagogy, micro-credentialing, mixed realities, students with special needs, learning environments, and virtual and alternative labs; and/or
- Address one or more of the four themes in [Chancellor Kristina Johnson’s 2018 State of the University \(SOU\) address](#): Innovation & Entrepreneurship; Individualized Education; Sustainability; and Partnerships.

The response deadline for the RFP is **February 23, 2020**. Applicants will need to create an account in the [SUNY online grant management website](#). Multiple proposals from a campus—each requiring a brief project and budget narrative as well as an assessment plan—are welcome. Proposals featuring multi-campus collaborations are strongly encouraged. Your campus [SUNY FACT<sup>2</sup> representative](#) can assist with further questions or refer you to resources.

Award announcements will be made by May 8<sup>th</sup>. Recipients must follow state and campus procurement policies (IITG is part of the University Wide funds, and not managed through the Research Foundation). The timing of the award announcement intentionally precedes the annual [Conference on Instruction and Technology](#) (CIT), hosted this year at SUNY Oswego, as all grant recipients are encouraged to attend the conference. Note, too, that all project outcomes must be documented and openly shared through selection of a Creative Commons license on the IITG website.

Additional communication will be forthcoming via the IITG [website](#), and SUNY and FACT<sup>2</sup> listservs. In the interim, please do not hesitate to contact *Christopher Price* or *Lisa Stephens*, co-administrators of the program at [iitgrants@suny.edu](mailto:iitgrants@suny.edu) with any questions or for additional information.

## *Kudos*

**Distinctions.** Please join me in congratulating our faculty on the following:

- *Tony Betrus* (Business Administration)- co-authored a textbook entitled *“Digital Media for Learning: Theories, Processes, and Solutions.”*
- *Fadi Bou-Abdallah* (Chemistry) has been awarded a \$400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.
- *Allen Grant* (Dean, SOEPS)- co-authored a text entitled, *“Learning in Information-Rich Environments.”*
- *Savita Hanspal* (Business Administration) recently co-authored a book entitled *“Consumer Affairs and Customer Care.”*

*Do you have ideas or news to include in the next Provost’s Corner? Be sure to let me know! Just email me at [bergerbs@potdam.edu](mailto:bergerbs@potdam.edu).*