



NYSTAA 2017 Conference *Champions for Transfer Student Success*

Monday, May 22nd - Wednesday, May 24th, 2017
High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, NY

Conference Online
Registration now open!

Message from the President

Spring Greetings!

I had the opportunity to attend the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) conference this past February in Atlanta. For us New Yorkers, the ability to eat dinner outside in February was mind-blowing. In addition, it was a great professional development opportunity! It was exciting to hear what other campuses and states are doing to support transfer students. However, I was reminded of the staggering national statistics that still exist related to transfer. [The Transfer Playbook](#), published by The Community College Research Center and Aspen Institute, detail students' struggles: while 80% of new community college students aim to earn a bachelor's degree, only 33% of these students transfer to a 4-year college within 6 years. And only 14% earn the bachelor's degree within 6 years of starting college.

So what are we to do? While we have made much progress in the field of transfer, it is clear that more work is needed. The Playbook outlines "essential practices" for both two- and four-year campuses, and I encourage you and your campus to review.

What becomes apparent, though, in this and other research is that relationships matter. Key words that you



hear again and again as solutions are "pathways" and "partnerships." But it takes *people* to discuss curriculum and map those pathways. It takes *people* at both campuses to be in conversation and develop partnerships. That's where NYSTAA is a resource.

NYSTAA plays an important role in moving the needle on transfer success since we bring *people* together to build professional relationships that aid students. The relationships you create within NYSTAA – at regional meetings, at committee meetings, at the conference, even during conference excursions – are valuable. The knowledge of who to contact on another campus to help answer your questions on courses or admissions policies is beneficial. I've reached out to NYSTAA contacts several times to help connect me with the appropriate chairperson or staff member on their campus to answer my questions.

Continued on page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM COVER

And these relationships lay the groundwork to bring together faculty, deans, provosts, and presidents on meaningful formal agreements.

Mike Henningsen and I had the opportunity to present on NYSTAA at last year’s NISTS conference. What I took away from that conference (and was reinforced this year) is that NYSTAA is special. There are not many other states or regions that have transfer professional organizations. We should feel proud of our organization and the work we are doing across the state to contribute to transfer success. We should also continue to look for opportunities to step out beyond our comfort zone to influence transfer policy and practice nationwide.

The time you spend in NYSTAA, building your professional network between two- and four-year, public and private colleges, is time well-spent. So I hope you plan to spend May 22-24 with NYSTAA in Lake Placid for the annual conference! The Conference and Issues Committee have been working hard in designing a conference schedule that is meaningful and engaging. Thank you to the work of both committees!

If you are a relatively new transfer professional (with 1-3 years’ experience with transfer), I hope you consider coming to the conference early and attending the New Professionals Pre-Conference on Monday, May 22 at 10 am. This is a new option for 2017, and we’re excited to be offering more time specifically for new professionals. Robin Graff and I will

discuss the terminology and trends within the transfer landscape of higher education, help you begin to build relationships, and welcome you to NYSTAA.

Finally, I want to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as President. It has been a wonderful experience – a bit challenging at times, but wonderful nonetheless! Thank you to Kristen Aust, Mike Henningsen, and Kaylynn Iglesias for their support over the last two years as part of the presidential trio. I look forward to Kaylynn’s leadership as she assumes the role of President after the conference.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lake Placid!

Carol Costello Corbin

Carol Costello Corbin
2016-2017
NYSTAA President



NYSTAA Life

Susan Manfred, Director of Academic Transfer Services at SUNY Potsdam, retired in December 2016 after 38 years of employment there. Susan spent many years as an active NYSTAA member. She was a founding organization member, served as a four-year public college rep for numerous years, served as treasurer for six years, helped develop and revise the original NYSTAA Transfer Standards and Guidelines Manual, mentored a number of first-time organization members as well as served for many years on the conference and awards committees. Susan was recognized with the NYSTAA Distinguished Service Award in 2001.



Campus Updates

Finger Lakes Community College

FLCC is happy to announce the creation of two new degree programs. An A.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics and an A.S. in Health Care Studies. Nutrition is a fascinating and dynamic science with a powerful role to play in promoting health and wellness. If a student's career and personal goals are leading them toward pursuing an undergraduate degree in nutrition and dietetics, this program may fit perfectly into their plans. Our comprehensive approach to food and nutrition will help students obtain a well-rounded understanding of how nutrition plays a part in health, disease and wellness. The Health Care Studies A.S. degree program provides a solid core of classes that give students the opportunity to discover the variety of pathways they can take in the health care field before choosing a specific four-year degree or career to pursue. With this degree, they will be prepared to transfer into a bachelor's program such as Nursing, Public Health, Health Promotion, Community Health, Health Care Administration, or Human Services.

Siena College

Siena College is now offering a new major in our School of Business that offers students the option to customize their Business degree with options to choose from over 20 concentrations. Transfer students are encouraged to apply! The new Bachelor of Science in Business offers the following concentrations in which each student in the major must choose at least two. The concentrations can be combined to create 184 unique educational experiences. However, all students at Siena will have the opportunity to complete a concentration regardless of their major, providing a truly interdisciplinary program for students majoring in business, liberal arts and the sciences.

SUNY Plattsburgh

SUNY Plattsburgh's School of Business and Economics (SBE) is pleased to announce its new online accounting completion program. The SBE is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB-International). The new online program is designed for students who are looking to obtain a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Accounting. The program offers a flexible web-based curriculum and assigns all students a full time faculty member to serve as their advisor/mentor for the duration of their enrollment. There will be an online information session regarding the new program on Monday 17 April 2017 at 6pm with Dr Rowena Ortiz-Walters, Dean of the School of Business and Economics. Registration for the information session is available online, contact [Shatawndra Lister](mailto:shatawndra.lister@plattsburgh.edu) for details at shatawndra.lister@plattsburgh.edu.

SUNY Old Westbury

SUNY Old Westbury is happy to announce several new or reactivated programs from this last year including the BPS in Business & Management. The BPS is designed with working students in mind so the majority of required courses are offered online or on Saturdays.

Additionally, our School of Business has reconfigured some of its programs and we once again have B.S. degrees in Marketing and Finance.



Member Spotlight

Rebecca Mack, Transfer Counselor at Monroe Community College, has been a member of NYSTAA since 2003 and has held almost every position you can think of from President of NYSTAA to Chair of the Newsletter Committee. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee and as a Two-Year College Executive Board Member. Rebecca's career in higher education has an unusual starting point. Rebecca, a native of New York State, obtained her undergraduate degree at the University of Rochester, studied Social Work at the University at Buffalo, and then worked in the field for eight years. In her last position as a social worker, she assisted stabilized patients with their goals of returning to school and/or work. It was in this position that she first visited Monroe Community College. That visit to Monroe made her decide that working with students was what she really wanted to do.

Two-year colleges have unique challenges when it comes to assisting students. One of the most cumbersome is that every four-year college has different requirements, standards and processes. It is the challenge of the two-year college transfer counselor to try to stay on top of as many schools policies as possible. This problem is compounded when students request assistance transferring out at the last minute. Rebecca states that NYSTAA has been invaluable to her in meeting this challenge. With her connections from NYSTAA regional meetings and conferences, she is able to reach out to colleagues for assistance when needed. Being able to directly call campuses to discuss policies or program changes means a great deal, especially when trouble shooting potential problems such as missing pre-requisites or understanding admission requirements for specific majors.

Another challenge Rebecca faces at MCC is the need to educate students. For example, when discussing the desire students have to transfer out of state, Rebecca observes that they often do not realize how difficult the move will be or how costly; it becomes the job of the two-year counselor to tactfully point out these issues. Rebecca states that you need to educate them on these issues without bursting their bubble, which is a decidedly delicate procedure. Rebecca also advises that sometimes the jargon of higher education is a barrier. She recommends using plain language, not assuming they understand basic concepts such as the difference between undergraduate and graduate school, and continually assessing their level of understanding when imparting information.

Education is transformative and many students at two-year campuses like MCC are first generation or working students (or both) and may have other challenges in their lives as well. For example, Rebecca states that hunger is a problem on many campuses. Ideally, we should be aware of these issues and assist students, as we are able. It is difficult to stay focused on schoolwork when you have not eaten all day. Rebecca says it continually humbles her to think of the problems and trials her students deal with each day and their persistence in achieving their goals.

Rebecca's background in social work leads her to approach students in a holistic manner. She helps lay out an educational foundation and create a game plan so that the student can be a competitive applicant when it comes time to transfer. She recommends having frank and real conversations with students; helping them push for their dreams while also preparing them emotionally by suggesting back up options. Rebecca states that this frank yet compassionate approach is effective because the students want to know the reality of their situation. Additionally, many community college students have aspirations that include graduate work. Educating students on how the system works and teaching them how to research fields is imperative to their success. The correct coursework at the 2-year college level can make all the difference.

With the pressure on two-year colleges to increase graduation rates along with the overall decrease in high school graduates that is affecting all schools, Rebecca states it is important for two and four-year schools to continue to work together. NYSTAA connections can again help relieve some of the pressure. For example, promoting reverse transfer is an excellent option when it makes sense for the student to transfer before obtaining an Associate degree. Developing pathways for students to build strong foundations at the two-year college and then move on with support and ease of transfer credits is another. NYSTAA is built on mutual respect and understanding between the two and four-year colleges. We share the goal of helping students obtain higher education, achieve their career goals, and ultimately, become self-sufficient members of our society who contribute to the world. Working together, we can help transform the lives of our students.

Committee Updates

Research & Retention Committee

The NYSTAA Research and Retention Committee would like to hear from you! We are looking to collect examples of "best practices" from both two year and four year colleges. The best practice can be big or small. Anything you do that works particularly well in facilitating student transfer is what we are looking for.

Once the information is collected we will share it with all of you. We hope to keep a running database of best practices for use by any and all members of NYSTAA. Beware! If you are doing something really fantastic you might be asked to present at a future conference!

Please take a few moments and fill out the attached form. Please give as much detail as possible. We look forward to hearing from you and learning about all of the wonderful things you and your school do to make the transfer process work for our students.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc3PX_2eNr7QB3SIra7Qm-qpPzplt3IPkhWEw3-uC51BMLirA/viewform

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you!

The NYSTAA Research and Retention Committee

Molly Ludmar (co-chair), Robin Graff (co-chair), Kira Love, Roza Makmudova, Susan Nesbit Perez, Jessica McCaffery, Rebecca Mack, Corie Kohlback

Issues Committee

The Issues Committee has been hard at work identifying possible workshop topics and major speakers. We are happy to announce that Cory Muscara, founder for the Long Island Center for Mindfulness and resident expert on the Dr. Oz show, will be our Pre-conference speaker discussing: "Mindfulness: Shifting from Surviving to Thriving."

Our plenary speaker will be, friend of NYSTAA, Dave Mammano who will present on his book "Make Love in the Workplace" which discusses strategies to make the work-place a more enjoyable environment.

We have also identified our keynote speaker! Dr. David Schuler, superintendent of District 214 in Chicago, Ill. has been a leader in the "Redefining Ready" movement to assess real indicators of when students are ready to transition successfully from high school to college. Dr. Schuler will put a new spin on this topic and talk about how the "Redefining Ready" research can be applied to transfer.

The Issues Committee also recently finalized workshops for the conference - Join us in Lake Placid from May 22 – May 24 to learn all about what your colleagues have been doing to ensure transfer student success and retention! Some workshop topics include: Transfer Trends, Transfer Policy, The Transfer Registration Process, Concurrent Enrollment Programs, Transforming the Transfer Student Experience, Advantage Programs, Early College High School Programs, Transfer 101, and the First Annual Transfer Student Week.

BE A FACILITATOR! The Issues Committee is looking for volunteers to be facilitators for the workshops at the Annual Conference. Contact the Issues Committee Co-Chairs if you are interested. An email will be going out to the LISTSERV shortly.

Continued on page 6

Committee Updates continued from page 5

Conference Committee

We have an exciting addition to our scheduled speakers for the 2017 NYSTAA Conference. **John N. Gardner**, President of the [John N. Gardner Institute](#), will be joining us to present an Opening Session titled “Increasing Institutional Priority for Transfer Students: What Can WE Do to Advance this Cause?”

John Gardner is a well-known nationally and internationally undergraduate improvement advocate and thought leader, who developed his original work at the University of South Carolina, where he is now Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Senior Fellow. In addition, John is currently the President of the non-profit John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. The highest priorities for the Gardner Institute are the support of efforts to reduce high rates of student failure in gateway courses and to improve the success of transfer students. John and his organization have worked with 23 Empire State colleges and universities since 2003.

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee is proud of the progress that has been made with the new look of the NYSTAA website and membership area. The committee is excited about future projects, but committee membership is currently low. If you are interested in anything to do with websites or technology, please consider joining the Technology committee.

Outreach Coordinator

Shari W. Quinn, NYSTAA Outreach Coordinator is now the new Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions with the Lally School of Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy. As part of her new role, she works with potential MBA/MS students in addition to traveling internationally to recruit new students from China, India, Latin America and US domestic locations as well as building strong relationships within these areas.

Although Shari’s new role does not primarily work with community college transfer students, she will continue to serve out her term as the Outreach Coordinator and support the initiatives of NYSTAA to increase transfer opportunities for graduating community college students. Shari is also working closely with the New England Transfer Association (NETA) for the conference swap of this year’s NYSTAA Annual Conference as NETA and NYSTAA will present at each other’s conference.

She will also present an interactive workshop at NETA’s Annual Conference on behalf of NYSTAA, “7 Habits of a Highly Effective Transfer Counselor” on April 4th in Portland, Maine.

Her new contact information is: quinns4@rpi.edu

Scholarship Committee

The scholarship application deadline was March 1, and the committee is currently reviewing materials. Thank you all for promoting this to our transfer students! We look forward to announcing the four winners at the annual conference in May.

During the NYSTAA conference, our committee hosts several fundraising activities. Every dollar that we raise goes directly to the four \$2,000 scholarships. We are asking for your help by donating items to the Silent Auction and College Swag Raffle. In the past, auction items have included hotel getaways, regional baskets, pottery, jewelry, photography, local items, books, wine, gift certificates...the options are endless! An auction donation form is included in this newsletter and periodic reminders will be sent out via e-mail as well. We would like to have all silent auction donations confirmed by May 8, 2017.

If you are attending the conference, please bring college items such as sweatshirts, blankets and t-shirts for the swag raffle. It is always great fun to win a jacket or sweatshirt from one of our wonderful institutions! Also, grab some extra cash for the 50/50 raffle, cookbook sale, and other opportunities to raise scholarship money!

For further information about the fundraising activities, please contact Nicole DeStefano-Stone at nstone@daemen.edu or 716-839-8574.

2017 NYSTAA Annual Conference

May 22-24, 2017

High Peaks Resort, Lake Placid, NY

Conference Changes

This year's annual conference will be Monday-Wednesday instead of the traditional Tuesday-Thursday schedule.

For the first time, attendees will need to make their own reservations directly with the resort. At the time you make your reservation you will be required to pay for one night's stay by credit card. This charge is refundable up until May 15. In order to be part of the NYSTAA room block with conference rate reservations must be made by Friday, April 21st.

Pre-Conference Events

For the first time in 2017, there will be a New Professionals Pre-conference workshop. This workshop will take place on Monday 22 May from 10am-12noon. The workshop, designed for professionals with one to three years' experience in the transfer field, will introduce terminology and give you an opportunity to have your questions answered.

This year's Pre-conference workshop (22 May 12-1:30pm) will be a workshop on Mindfulness with Cory Muscara, founder of the Long Island Center for Mindfulness. Mindfulness has been a hot topic lately and is a tool whose use is growing in primary, secondary, and higher education areas. For additional information on presenters at this year's conference, check out the Issues Committee update.



Conference Fees & Rates

Registration fee

- Members \$425
- Non-Members \$425 plus an additional \$75 fee

Room rates

- \$139-\$159 per night, single room
- \$149-\$169 per night, double room

Resort Contact Information

Hotel Phone: (518) 523-4411/ Toll-Free: 1-800-755-5598/ Fax: (518) 523-1120

Be sure to ask for the "Transfer and Articulation" conference rate!



NYSTAA Life

Pregnancy Announcement

Casey Kohler, Eastern Region Co-chair, and her husband are happy to announce their family will be expanding by one in August 2017! Congratulations to Casey and her family!

Region Updates

Western Region

Our Fall meeting was held on November 4, 2016 at SUNY Fredonia. Presenters at the meeting were Dr. Christine Givner, Dean College of Education and Nicole Hohenstein, Coordinator of Student Services College of Education. Dr. Givner and Nicole Hohenstein presented on CAEP Standards and Fredonia's best practice of adapting the new education standards for both first year and transfer students. Our meeting concluded with a round table discussion focused on The Transfer Transition and Best Practices.

Our Spring Meeting is scheduled for Friday April 28th hosted at Hilbert College. RSVP by April 21st.

Both co-chair positions are now open; we encourage our colleagues to begin thinking about serving as a co-chair for the WNY region. Please contact Patrick Walter (pwalter@brockport.edu) or Nicole DeStefano-Stone (nstone@daemen.edu) with any questions and to RSVP for the spring meeting.

Lastly, on behalf of the Scholarship Committee, the Western Region would like to collect items for a Western Regional Basket to donate to the silent auction during the annual NYSTAA conference. Please contact Nicole DeStefano-Stone regarding any donations such as; gift certificates, college swag, regional food such as marinades/rubs/candy etc...)

Central Region

Recently a message went out through the NYSTAA list serve announcing the save the date for our upcoming spring meeting which took place on **Friday, April 7 at LeMoyne**. Thanks to Scott Setek for hosting us!

Below you will find the tentative agenda from the meeting.

Tentative Agenda

10:00 Welcome and Introductions

Emily and Craig – Regional Co-chairs

Carol Corbin – NYSTAA President

Members

10:15 – Speaker (Representative from LeMoyne)

10:45 – Professional development – Details to come!

11:45 – Lunch (We are looking forward to having lunch at one of LeMoyne's dining facilities so there will be quite a few options to choose from)

1:00 – Tour

1:30 – Round table discussion – members share updates and highlights from their campuses

2:30 – Wrap Up/Meeting ends



Region Updates

REGIONAL UPDATES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Eastern Region

Our Fall meeting was held on November 3, 2016 at the University at Albany. It was the first meeting for new co-chairs Jill Brinkman and Casey Kohler. We welcomed Chris Hockey to our meeting to share updates about Reverse Transfer. We learned about updates and changes to the process to assist students in completing the Reverse Transfer process. Our meeting concluded with lunch and a NYSTAA themed stress relief coloring page. Anyone interested in the coloring page please email Casey Kohler (ckohler@albany.edu).

Our Spring Meeting was held on Friday March 24th hosted at The College of Saint Rose where we welcomed the Regional Immigration Assistance Center. James Milstein and Evelyn Kinnah spent time speaking with us about the various manners in which executive orders under President Obama and President Trump have changed. We learned a great deal about the key differences and impacts the executive orders under President Trump have on immigrant populations within our communities as well as on our campuses. If anyone would like more information, or if you would like to connect with the Regional Immigration Assistance Center in your area, please visit: <https://www.ils.ny.gov/content/regional-immigration-assistance-centers>

We are beginning to plan for our Summer Regional Meeting. Updates will be available at the NYSTAA Annual Conference in May.

Plans for the Fall Regional Meeting are underway. SUNY Cobleskill will be hosting, and we will be welcoming a representative from NYS Budget and Finance to talk with us about Governor Cuomo's Excelsior Scholarship.

The NYSTAA family will be expanding by one in August 2017, when Casey Kohler will welcome her first child. If anyone is interested in assisting Jill during the Fall 2017 semester within the Eastern Region please email Casey Kohler (ckohler@albany.edu) or Jill Brinkman (brinkmja@cobleskill.edu).

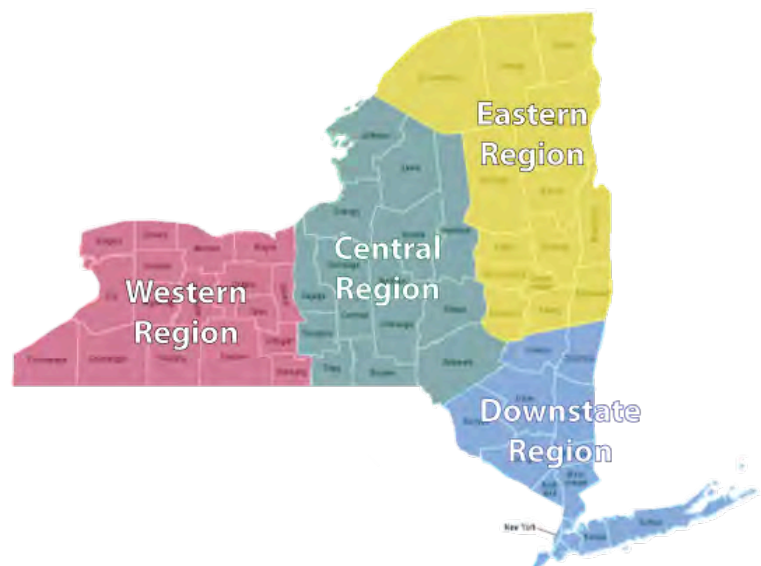
Downstate Region

The Downstate region had a successful Fall 2016 meeting hosted by Farmingdale State College. The region received a talk from Chief Deputy Judy Geirman of Stony Brook University. Chief Deputy Geirman's talk discussed how state and local government budgets and policies could impact universities in New York. We also listened to a special presentation on the Farmingdale Research Aligned Mentorship program (RAM) which is part of a multi-campus partnership involving the First in the World grant.

The Downstate Spring meeting will be held on Friday April 28th at LIU Post.

The region is seeking donations for a basket to give to the silent auction at the annual conference. Items do not need to be fancy anything you think is wonderful and representative of the Downstate region would be welcome.

Lastly, the region would also like to thank Austin Nelson for his service as co-chair and wish him well in his move to Ellucian.





NYSTAA

New York State Transfer and Articulation Association

AUCTION DONOR FORM

E-mail to nstone@daemen.edu or mail to address at the bottom of this form.

(Please fill in ALL requested information and PRINT CLEARLY)

Donor / Company Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Contact Name / Position _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Email _____

Kindly furnish descriptive information about donated item(s) below:

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion and Jewelry | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kid's Stuff | <input type="checkbox"/> Beauty and Wellness | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurants, Food & Wine | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Getaways | |

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW AND IN SALABLE CONDITION.

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item(s)</u>	<u>Estimated Value</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Any additional description of goods and services here, *including* all applicable restrictions, expiration date(s), etc.

*A one-year validation date is preferred. Certificate will be valid until:

Recipient should contact:

Name / Position _____ Phone () _____

_____ E-Mail _____

Other Instructions: _____

Contact Nicole DeStefano-Stone, with any questions 716-839-8574 or nstone@daemen.edu
(NYSTAA Scholarship Committee)
Nicole DeStefano-Stone
Daemen College Office of Admissions
4380 Main Street
Amherst, NY 14226