



Message from the President

Happy Fall!

I hope you've all had an exciting summer and are geared up to jump into the 2017-2018 academic year! As many of you know, NYSTAA has partnered with NISTS & NETA on the first annual National Transfer Student Week, to be held the week of October 9th-13th. This is an exciting time for us as professionals to take the lead on educating our campus communities about all things transfer. As we all know, transfer students tend to be the underrepresented population on college campuses. I encourage you all to use this week as a way to show your transfer students what resources are available to them not only on your campus, but at your partner institutions as well!

So how do we do this? Who do we involve? And how do we engage the students? To these questions there is no right or wrong answer, but an opportunity to create programming that makes our transfer students feel informed and appreciated! Encourage your faculty & advisors to meet with students during this week to ensure they're academic plan is in order and they are on track to graduate in a timely manner-because we all know that is a transfer students top priority! Host a low-key reception with faculty, staff, and students, informational programming about transfer credits, clubs & activities, there are so many exciting ways to engage your students during this week!

As NYSTAA looks to grow as an organization and continue sharing our transfer knowledge with our colleagues, we will look to partner with NYSACAC and help their organization expand their transfer knowledge base. Many of you know that NYSTAA has a great working relationship with NETA, exchanging valuable transfer information between the two groups. NYSACAC has approached NYSTAA in hopes of expanding the transfer knowledge of their members. I think it is important for us an organization to support our

colleagues who may not work directly with transfer students on a regular basis, but are seeing an increase in their interactions with this population. It is my hopes that we will be able to assist NYSACAC through possible workshop presentations at their annual conference, and connecting our Executive Boards to provide whatever support we can!

With that said, I also want to remind our newer NYSTAA members about the wonderful support & opportunities we have within our own organization. Be sure to attend your regional meetings to connect with colleagues and stay up-to-date on all the latest transfer news. Get involved! We have plenty of opportunity to get involved in our organization, I strongly encourage you to join a committee and see all of the great things that are happening behind the scenes within NYSTAA. If you're interested in learning more about our committees check them out at <http://www.nystaa.org/committees/>.

Finally, as we begin a new academic year, I hope you all are excited and ready to continue taking transfer to the next level! I am excited for the opportunity to serve as your President this year and look forward to seeing what we as an organization can do for transfer.

Have an awesome fall semester!



Kaylynn Iglesias

Kaylynn Iglesias



**2017-2018
NYSTAA President**

2017 Conference Recap

The NYSTAA 24th Annual Conference was held from May 22nd through May 24th in Lake Placid, New York.

The event opened with a well-attended and thoughtful pre-conference session on Mindfulness Meditation. Corey Muscara from the Long Island Center for Mindfulness hosted the luncheon. Corey provided attendees with guidance and direction on how to use mindfulness in their daily life and how to apply it to their work life as well. At the end of the luncheon, interested parties were also able to download additional materials regarding mindfulness. Included in the materials was an awesome application for smart phone users called Simple Habit, which helps you maintain a practice of meditation.

The conference’s plenary speaker was David Mammano a long-time friend of NYSTAA. David gave a wonderful talk centering on his book “Make Love in the Workplace.” David talked about how to provide a comfortable and fun work environment so that all your personnel are happy and productive. David discussed how to apply these ideas to the higher education environment.

Conference keynote speaker, Dr David Schuler, superintendent to District 214 the second largest high school system in Illinois. Schuler led a lively discussion and interactive talk on how to expand access to higher education. Schuler shared his thoughts on the importance of ensuring all students, regardless of income or other socio-economic factors.

John Gardner, of the John Gardner N. Institute, presented to attendees discussing possible ways to create change through policy updates. John also related that his Institute is receiving a large grant from a prominent organization and is searching for innovative ideas on higher education.

Conference attendees were treated to a visit from the Adirondack Raptors animal rescue. Mark Manske,



Conference plenary speaker David Mammano.



John Gardner of the John Gardner N. Institute.



CONFERENCE RECAP CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

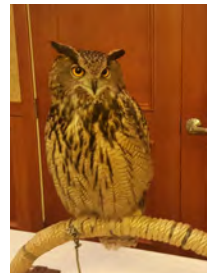
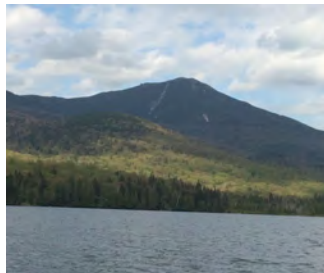
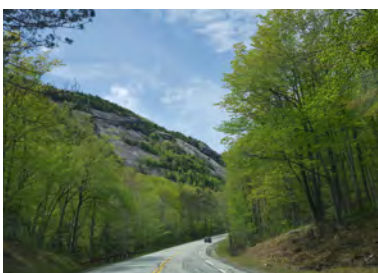
CONFERENCE RECAP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

founder and owner of Adirondack Raptors, showed off several animals from his collection that he has personally rescued and raised. His prize owl Morley was on display for the majority of the presentation and attendees were invited and encouraged to take pictures with Morley. Attendees were amazed to hear the owls' stories and learn more about the native wildlife of the Adirondacks.

After all the learning and sessions, we also broke for fun, fellowship, and networking. Lake Placid, high in the Adirondacks, had some of the most amazing scenery and quaint shops. Attendees enjoyed time wine tasting, touring Lake Placid on a boat ride, and a fun, loud time bowling at Bowlwinkles.

The conference closed with the reading of annual reports and rallying for new committee members before the buck passed from Carol Costell-Corbin to Kaylynn Iglesias of Utica College.

Thank you to everyone and especially the conference and issues committee members for making the 2017 conference a success! See everyone in Syracuse!



Campus Updates

Roberts Wesleyan College has a new concentration in corporation security for their B.S. in Management. Currently searching for a Director of Finance who will report to the CFO. The college also has a new director of multicultural student success.

SUNY Fredonia's School of business has completed its AACSB accreditation.

Erie Community College proudly welcomes it's 11th President Dr Dan Hocog. Their project for a new STEM building is moving forward and the NANO tech building was completed.

The College at Brockport's Academic Success Center professional staff has been hired in preparation for Summer 2018. The College is officially opening an ASC and has renovated one of the campuses center buildings. Seth Johnson and Pat Walter are now "under" the Office of Admissions as part of the Transfer Admissions Process; leading to a better understanding of how transfer credits apply to Brockport College. Brockport is also currently building a new residence hall to be completed for Fall 2018.

D'Youville College has had made updates and additions. We have a new woman's lacrosse team and our main gym is being overhauled. The college has a new VPEM, VPAA, and VPIA. The graduate directorship is open and hiring a new Dean of Students. The college has eliminated skills testing and eased policies for off-campus study. The English and Occupational Therapy programs have been modified. The College has formed a new core curriculum committee with the hopes of finding a core that allows for more electives within the major. We have an online MBA starting in Spring 2018. The college is also conducting a financial aid audit to evaluate the effectiveness of all merit and need based programs.

University at Buffalo has a transfer visit UB program (VUB's)/Open House. This includes a presentation and tour of campus designed for transfer students and is held twice a month. The School of Public Health and Health Professions: Statistics (BA), Public Health (BS), Exercise Science/Athletic Training (BS/MS). The University has also centralized essential offices (ex: Registrar, Parking, Campus dining, etc.).

Genesee Community College's new student success center is open featuring Success Coaches focused on one stop student success. GCC is also celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year. Our transfer fair will be held on November 2nd. GCC has successfully renewed its Middle States Accreditation. We will also have our new event center, Richard Call Arena opening soon.

Buffalo State College is looking to fill the following positions: Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Vice President of Student Affairs, Chief Information Officer, and Admissions Transfer Counselor. A new Alumni Welcome Center is being built and should be open in 2018. In Fall 2016 we centralized our advisement center to help better support students. We are reviewing our General Education requirements. Open House for Buffalo State will be on October 21st.

Bellevue University is offering a \$3,000 scholarship for NYS transfer students enrolling full-time with a 2.5 or higher GPA for the 2017-2018 year. The University just launched Salesforce as our new CRM system.

University of Rochester has a new hire coming soon that will be joining the transfer team and will focus with local students and transfer credit evaluations. A new dorm is opening in Fall 2017 which has athletic training facilities and locker rooms on the lower level. A new combined BS/MS program for Epidemiology that is open to new incoming students. The University is implementing Slate this year in Admissions for CRM and is interested in connecting with others to share transfer practices. The University also welcomes a New Director of Admissions Jason Nevingen. The University also has several new academic programs in the following fields: Data Science, Dance and Movement, Environmental Health.

Medaille College has an array of new minors and has updated their orientation program. Contact the campus for more details.

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Campus Updates

Finger Lakes Community College has a new A.S. degree in Healthcare Studies and Nutrition and Dietetics. A new advising system was implemented in which students will have an assigned faculty and professional academic advisor and additional specialty advisors (ie. Athletics). The campus has also begun using Starfish software to support academic advising.

SUNY Upstate Medical University's Cardiovascular Perfusion program has moved from a Bachelor's Degree program to a Master's Degree program. Complete information on the program and its' admission requirements can be found on the Upstate website at: <http://www.upstate.edu/chp/programs/cp/index.php>

Fall Open House dates for SUNY Upstate are as follows:

Undergraduate Programs Open House-November 4th

Graduate Programs Open House-November 18th

Information on both programs can be found on the Upstate website at:

<http://www.upstate.edu/prospective/events/index.php>

SUNY Old Westbury is actively completing its AACSB accreditation and is looking forward to its completion in the near future.

Open House will be on Saturday November 11th starting at 9am. Registration for Open House can be completed here:

<https://www.oldwestbury.edu/admissions/register-events>

St. John Fisher College has added a variety of minors in the last couple of years, including sustainability, film and television studies, pharmaceutical chemistry, public and professional writing, and gerontology. New for 2017-2018 are data science and legal studies minors. Fisher offers 30 majors in the humanities, social sciences, sciences, business, education, and nursing, as well as pre-professional programs and numerous minors and concentrations. Explore our majors, minors, and concentrations here: <https://www.sjfc.edu/major-minors/>

Detailed information about the new data science major can be found here: <https://www.sjfc.edu/news-and-events/news-archive/spring-2017/fisher-offers-new-data-science-minor/>

Siena College's Baldwin Nursing Department and Ellis Medicine's [Belanger School of Nursing](#) have teamed up to provide a dual degree program. Through the program students will earn an associates and bachelors in nursing —through one seamless program. Students will gain invaluable, hands-on experience in cutting edge health assessment and simulation labs. Class sizes will be small in order to provide personal attention. Students will learn on both campuses while spending all four years living at Siena. In order to ease the students' entrance procedure they will only be required to submit one application to Siena and receive a joint admission decision. Siena is also has an **RN to BS Program** that will enable full-time students to finish in as few as 24 months. Part-time students within three to four years. Students with a bachelor's in another field can earn your degree in as few as 16 months. ***The perfect schedule for the working nurse:*** All classes in our RN to BS in Nursing program are offered on Wednesdays throughout the academic year, and we admit in both fall and spring terms. This way, students can earn their degree while continuing to manage other life and work responsibilities. In fact, most classes are hybrid, allowing reduced seat time in the classroom. Siena is also introducing a BA in Health Studies program provides an overview of the healthcare system and critical public health issues. You will choose between one of three tracks: health administration, health science and health policy. This unique program is designed for students with multiple interests, educational goals and aspirations that would be unable to pursue them in a traditional curriculum model.

Iona College

In a continued effort to deliver top-notch academic facilities to its students, Iona College opened a new multimedia digital lab and radio booth for use by its Mass Communication Department. The College celebrated the opening of the facility with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, September 12.

"The Mass Communication Department wanted a 'wow' factor with our new lab, and I think we got it," said Michael Damergis '89, '06MS, clinical professor/graduate coordinator in Sports Communication & Media. "The new multimedia digital lab creates a professional experience for students in an academic setting. The pièce de résistance is the radio studio, a working lab with a glass wall to separate it. Professors can monitor students and give feedback all through the push of a button."

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Campus Updates

"We're all excited about our new multiplatform media lab. It's going to enable our Mass Communication majors to work with cutting-edge technology and learn the software tools they will need to apply in their professional careers once they leave Iona," added Tony Kelso, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of Mass Communication. "For the first time, we will have the capability to perform a news stand up in New Rochelle and transmit it directly to a studio in Manhattan or anywhere in the world."

The newly built multimedia center offers students a professional space with the latest Adobe Creative Suite software including Photoshop, Audition, Premiere, After Effects, InDesign and more. In addition, the lab has distance-learning capabilities, so students abroad can take and participate in classes.

The radio booth is equipped with the latest technology available. It includes a fully functioning audio desk equipped with software and a phone line for interviews.

Students are excited to begin work in the lab as well.

"As a senior and a Mass Communication student, it is incredible to see the growth the program has had over the past four years, both physically through its newest additions, and also through the rigor of the curriculum," said Erin Kutch '18. "I am excited to see how these new facilities provide students with even more opportunities."

SUNY Cobleskill

BASEBALL is back at SUNY Cobleskill!!! Cobleskill also has new programs a BS and BT in Applied Fermentation and just back from State Education – BT in Environmental Management.

NYSTAA Life



Bernice Dunn a.k.a. Bernie retired from Schenectady County community college on September 1, 2017. Bernie has been active in NYSTAA for 18 years holding offices such as two-year representative, historian and regional Coordinator, etc. She was instrumental in creating the Eastern region of NYSTAA along with Ivan Edelson of University at Albany She was also the coordinator for the Eastern region. Bernie was especially known for her omnipresence on the NYSTAA listserv.

Bernie was the transfer coordinator for Schenectady county community college for the last 20 years. She received the New York State chancellor's award in 2009. She was also honored by NYSTAA for Outstanding Service in May 2005.

Big news out of the Eastern Region, **Casey Kohler**, Eastern Region co-chair, had a healthy baby girl on August 20th 2017. The baby, a daughter, was named **Tara** and weighed in at 8lbs, 20 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.

Rachel Littenberg from SUNY Old Westbury would like to announce that her daughter, Theresa, age six, spent July 2017 raising money for the New Hampshire based Veterans charity, The DV Farm. Theresa sold beaded bracelets that she created herself (with some help with the knots) to family, friends, and anyone else she could including nearly every police officer working in Pennsylvania Station in New York City. In the month she spent selling bracelets she raised \$210.39, and \$45 of those dollars were raised with contributions from the SUNY Old Westbury staff.



Transfer Success

Utica College is proud to highlight Melanie Carlson as a successful transfer student! Melanie transferred to Utica from Mohawk Valley Community College in the fall of 2015 as a BS/MS Health Studies-Occupational Therapy major. A native of Remsen, NY Melanie graduated as valedictorian of Remsen high school in 2013 before attending MVCC. While at MV Melanie was awarded the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence in 2015, and graduated with a 4.0 GPA in the spring of 2015.

When asked about her transfer experience to UC Melanie said, "I felt a little lost at first, coming to a place where other students had already found their way, knew their place, and knew each other. Everyone at UC was welcoming and helpful and it didn't take me long to become a part of the Pioneer family. Being a student athlete I was able to get on campus early, make friends, and get to know my way around. It became obvious very quickly that the UC community would be a great fit for me." In addition to her flawless academic record, Melanie played on the UC women's soccer team for two years and served as a Student Ambassador in the Admissions Office during her undergraduate studies.



In the spring of 2017 Melanie graduated from Utica College's bachelors in Health Studies degree with a 4.0 GPA as valedictorian. Now in the second year of her masters program Melanie had the following advice for future transfer students, "What set me up for success was getting to know the four-year college I was interested in transferring to early. Make sure you plan ahead, know what courses you need to take at the two-year level that will transfer over as major coursework, not just electives. And don't be afraid to put yourself out there. Get involved, get a job on campus, join a club, go to a game, and just get involved! Get to know your campus and become a part of the community and family that it offers"

Congratulations to Melanie on all of her success thus far, and best of luck as she completes her masters in Occupational Therapy this spring at Utica College!

Conference First Timer

by Jenna Nolan

As a first timer to the NYSTAA Conference I was not sure what to expect; however it did not take long for it to exceed my expectations. The landscape on the drive from Central New York up to Lake Placid was beautiful. The location of the conference- at the High Peaks Resort was the perfect venue. It was very accommodating and because of its close proximity to the Village of Lake Placid, there was plenty to do.

As one of the most introverted extroverts you'll ever meet, it didn't take long for me to feel welcomed and comfortable. Everyone at the conference was enthusiastic and passionate about Higher Education and their jobs. The First Timer's Reception was beneficial and I would suggest all newbies attend! It was a great way to speak with those who have been involved in NYSTAA for years and to meet those that were new as well.

The guest speakers and the workshops were insightful and the conversations generated were invaluable. The three days were packed full of great opportunities to learn, share, and most importantly to utilize back at your own institution. One thing that resonated with me during the conference that I continue to live by is that if you can take that additional step in helping a student then you should take it. That extra step could be life changing for that individual, but only costs you an extra minute or two of your time.

I'm glad to have become involved in NYSTAA and can't wait for the 2018 conference in Syracuse just a stone's throw away from my institution. The venue is beautiful and the location is key for activities!



2017 Service Award Recipients

It was a night of laughter, friends, nostalgia, and even some tears as NYSTAA recognized the contributions of several outstanding NYSTAA members at the 2017 Conference Awards Dinner. As is our annual tradition, the Awards committee considered nominees in three categories.

The Joan Austin Distinguished Service Award was established to recognize individuals who have made long-term commitments of time and energy to NYSTAA. It recognizes significant and lasting contributions to the organization and advocacy for transfer issues. This year, the Awards Committee was pleased to honor two such individuals with this award, **Kristen Aust from Bryant and Stratton College and Tara Gates from Utica College**. Kristen's nominations cited her commitment to the organization as evidenced by her many roles over the years, from chairing various committees to her service as NYSTAA president. Her nominations were peppered with words like "involved", "collaborative", "positive", and "respectful". Tara's nominations cited her "hard work, dedication, and commitments to transfer students along with her years of service to NYSTAA", most notably her tireless work with the Conference Committee.

The New Professional Award, given to members with fewer than three years of NYSTAA involvement, seeks to recognize the contributions and enthusiasm of new members who become involved with the organization and promote continued service. This year's New Professional Award recipient is **Brittany Morawiec from SUNY Polytechnic Institute**. After joining NYSTAA in 2014, Brittany quickly became an involved member of the organization, devoting countless hours to the role she quickly adopted as Conference Co-chair.

The Emeritus Award is a symbol of respect and affection given to recognize NYSTAA members who have retired or moved on to new professional positions outside the realm of transfer who have made significant and long-term contributions to the organization and are respected professionals in their field. This year, the Awards Committee was pleased to honor **Susan Manfred of SUNY Potsdam**. Don Young, NYSTAA Emeritus member speaks to an individual who that offered transfer students "caring help" and "expertise". She also helped form the NYSTAA organization we know and love. In his nomination letter, Don writes:

"Sue was there almost from the origins of NYSTAA. She was with us when we would meet at ESF and other campuses as we laid the framework for what was to become NYSTAA. Several of us formed a working committee that was taking the seed of the idea of forming a NYS transfer association and making it happen. We invited transfer people from across the state to participate and Sue was one of them. Together we fleshed out the framework for NYSTAA, and put forth the proposal. Each of those people contributed mightily to NYSTAA, none more than her. Sue was elected to the NYSTAA board, being a tireless worker at our first conferences. There is a wonderful picture of Sue at the helm of our cruise boat on the St. Lawrence somewhere that deserves to have a prominent place in our picture archives."

Congratulations to all of our 2017 Service Award Recipients! And thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate their colleagues. It's not too early to think about who you might like to nominate for 2018. Please email Jessica McCaffery at jessica.mccaffery@esc.edu or visit the NYSTAA Awards page on the website for details <http://www.nystaa.org/awards/>.



2018 Conference Updates

Conference Committee

The conference committee is busy gathering ideas and working on our 2018 conference that will take place at the **Marriott Hotel in Syracuse, NY!** The conference runs **May 22-24**, so mark your calendars for this annual event. The 2018 conference will also be celebrating our 25th anniversary and we are leaning toward a carnival theme!

As of now, here are some of the costs associated with this upcoming conference:

\$425 conference registration fee (hotel fees separate)

Room charges:

\$135 per night for single room

\$135 per night for double room

Non-members will be assessed an additional \$75 fee

At the conclusion of the 2017 conference, our group met briefly and decided that we would be hosting a fall meeting at the conference site in October.

We have also been working with the executive board to secure a location for our 2019 conference. As of now, we have tentatively selected Ithaca, NY as our next conference location. Once a contract is signed, we will announce the details to the membership.

Let this email also serve as an invitation for our committee members and those who were not able to meet with us in May to join us. We welcome, and would appreciate, any volunteers to join the committee!

If you have questions about the conference committee, feel free to reach out to either of us.

All the best,

Your NYSTAA conference committee co-chairs:

Tara Gates

Transfer Admission Specialist

Utica College

tlgates@utica.edu

Brittany Morawiec

Admissions Advisor

SUNY Polytechnic Institute

englisb@sunyit.edu



Issues Committee

The Issues Committee had a phone conference on August 10, 2017 to begin the workshop planning process for the 2018 conference. The committee is looking at issues of mental health, stress in the workplace, personal assessments, public speaking and emotional intelligence as potential pre-conference topics. We are exploring having Mark Montgomery from Mohawk Valley Community College and John Fink from the Community College Research Center as plenary and keynote speakers respectively.

In addition, the committee is looking to identify workshop speakers for the topics of Excelsior, National Student Clearinghouse, and an Ivy League school panel. The committee is looking to have the call for proposals go out by October 16th. We will be moving towards having the workshop proposal forms online through our Survey Monkey account.

Our next meeting will take place in September.

Region Updates

Central Region

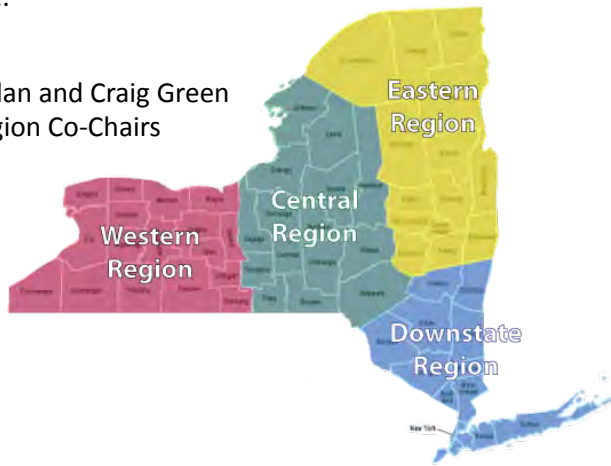
The Central Region had a successful Summer meeting in July at Ithaca Beer Company and all are looking forward to the Fall meeting. The Central Region Fall Meeting will be held Friday, November 3, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (approximately) at SUNY Cortland.

SUNY Cortland is excited to host the upcoming fall Central Region meeting. The meeting will be held at the Student Life Center and will include a presentation and tour of the facility by Julian Wright, Director of Recreational Sports.

Additional details including an agenda and parking information are being finalized and will be sent out in the near future.

Thank you,

Emily Quinlan and Craig Green
Central Region Co-Chairs



Eastern Region

Our Summer meeting was held on July 31, 2017 at Empire State College. It was our annual Track event! We discussed the annual May conference, membership, new officers for 2017-18, updates from the members that attended. We were delighted to have Casey Kohler from SUNY Albany present on Navigating Faculty Support for Transfer Course Evaluations. We discussed ways to improve membership, new workshops for the annual conference and ideas for our Spring 2018 meeting.

Mark your calendars because our Fall 2017 meeting will be held on November 1, 2017 at SUNY Cobleskill. Josh Sager, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business will be with us to talk about Governor Cuomo's Excelsior Scholarship Program. We will then visit our student operated Rolling Hills Bistro for a delectable lunch!

Darlene Poirier from SUNY Albany will be assisting me as Casey Kohler, who had a baby girl, is out on maternity leave until January.

Jill Brinkman &
Darlene Poirier (Interim Co-Chair for Casey Kohler)
Eastern Region Co-Chairs

Downstate Region

The Downstate Region had a pleasant meeting at Purchase College in July and since has been actively conducting outreach to ensure its membership remains and becomes more active in committees. The Downstate Region is actively planning its Fall 2017 meeting to be held in November at Iona College. We hope to release more details as soon as we have completed the planning process.

Best Wishes,

Tracey Iorio and Christina Koromi

NYSTAA Downstate Co-Chairs Western Region

Western Region

The Western Region met on August 4th in Ellicottville for their summer meeting. We enjoyed a beautiful day and fabulous lunch around our discussion topics. New co-chairs Anne Anthon (D'Youville College) and Deborah Jones (Buffalo State) were "Passed the Buck" by Nicole Stone (Daemen) and Patrick Walter (SUNY Brockport), in the NYSTAA tradition started by Bart and Alex at the state level. They each received a framed Kennedy half dollar, total value "a buck" to signify the partnership for the next two years.

The majority of the meeting was discussion of some relevant topics and choosing which we would like to further explore. We now have a roadmap of topics which we would like to learn more about by bringing in an expert speaker or discussion panel in future meetings.

The most vibrant conversation was around what we do and don't know about the NYS Excelsior Scholarship program. Medaille is hosting the fall meeting and we are bringing in financial aid reps and hopefully a NYS expert to inform us of the policies for transfer students.

There was also a great conversation about the best practice for orientation, advisement and registration for transfer students and that will be the main meeting focus for the spring meeting, being hosted by University of Rochester.

Of course, we also shared the NYSTAA State Conference dates and location so we can all plan to be there!

Western Region Transfer Fairs

Wednesday, October 4th FLCC 10:30-1

October 10th MVCC and Herkimer

October 11th Cayuga Community College

Tuesday, October 17th ECC South 10:30-1

Wednesday, October 18th ECC North 10-1

Thursday, October 19th ECC City 10-1

Wednesday, November 1st MCC 10:30 – 1 or Wednesday, October 18th

Thursday, November 2nd GCC 10:30-1

2017 NYSTAA Scholarship Awards

Each year, NYSTAA is proud to sponsor four \$2,000 scholarships for transfer students that have graduated or will be graduating from a member institution and transferring to another. As an organization, we seek to assist students in making their education goals a reality and we recognize that financial barriers may exist. This scholarship seeks to aid four of our many deserving students in offsetting these costs.

The application process for the scholarship includes submission of an application, personal essay, letter of recommendation, and academic transcript. This year, the committee received 53 completed applications that were reviewed by two rounds of committee members. The four recipients of the 2017 scholarship are: Haris Khan, Marshall Winters, Jacob Lux and Bobbie Weaver

Haris Khan is a graduate of Queensborough Community College and has goals of becoming a public interest lawyer, community advocate and the first mayor of New York City that is of Asian descent. He labeled himself a “globetrotter” living across the world, which has afforded the opportunity to learn about human rights, and the power of voting privileges. He was named one of CUNYs “Best and Brightest” and intends to study political science or government this Fall.

Bobbie Weaver is a May graduate of Tompkins Cortland Community College and transferred to SUNY Cortland this fall to major in Psychology. Bobbie is a small business owner and a single mom to a busy 9-year-old boy. She stated in her essay that she decided to pursue higher education with intent of creating a better life for her small family while also finding a way to give back to her community. She hopes to use her

psychology degree to further her education and eventually open her own practice within her community.

Jacob Lux is a May graduate of Mohawk Valley Community College and a transfer to the University of Buffalo studying Biochemistry. While at MVCC, Jacob had many academic accomplishments including: an authorship in the science publication *Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine*, his work on a study of sleep apnea at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, and achieving his paramedic certification at the age of 19. He is thankful for this scholarship so that he can continue to focus on research, internship opportunities, and extra-curricular; all to which will advance his pursuit of his degree and future acceptance into a Physician Assistant program somewhere within New York state.

Marshall Winters is a May graduate of Mohawk Valley Community College and a transfer to Utica College. He credits his passion for Cybersecurity and computers after his warehouse boss pulled him in and had him learn how to use Excel. From there, he self-taught himself multiple computer applications, which allowed him to achieve, coveted IT certifications. Marshall is the sole provider for his wife and two children so he was grateful to receive this assistance. In his “Thank You” letter submitted to the committee he stated, “I am committed to making the most of every dollar invested in my education, and I assure you that your scholarship will not be wasted. Your generosity has inspired me to give back to the community, and I hope to one-day help other students realize their academic goals as you have helped me. Once again, thank you for your assistance.”

Congratulations to all of the 2017 winners!

RPI – Arch Program – A New Take on Summer

by Theresa Abbott

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has just completed its first summer of The Arch. The Arch is a unique approach to education that provides flexibility in the semester schedule, allowing students to pursue professional and personal development opportunities. The program requires rising juniors to spend a full summer semester on campus before taking the following fall or spring semester off to explore an area they are interested in.

Summer on campus:

While attending the on-campus academic summer semester students receive focused attention from faculty and student life staff. Summer classes are smaller so there are opportunities to get to know faculty better and network for future opportunities. Students also have the opportunity to take advantage of unique cultural, environmental, and professional experiences available in the capital region during the summer. These include visits with local companies, hearing from visiting lectures and taking trips to Adirondacks.

The summer of 2017 was the pilot summer for the Arch. It was optional for students studying in the School of Engineering and students studying in the Lally School of

Management. This past summer students who took advantage of the semester on campus were offered pop-up classes such as “Black Holes, Black Branes and Holography”, “Intro to Microfluidic Technology” and “Space in the Movies”. Students were able to participate in educational field trips to Sikorsky, Ecovative and SABIC Corporation. Excursions to go zip lining and kayaking in Berkshires, whitewater rafting and trips to six-flags were also available.

The world away:

These students will now spend either this fall or the spring 2018 semester off campus. During their away semester, these students have the opportunity to participate in internships, co-op, research, international travel, community service or start their own business.

During the summer of 2018 the Arch will be available for students studying in all five schools. Beginning in the summer of 2019 all students will be required to participate in the Arch. This experience will allow students increased networking opportunities, more hands-on learning and prepare students for life after Rensselaer.

E-board & Chairs

President

Kaylynn Iglesias
Utica College

President-Elect

Robin Graff
Westchester Community College

Immediate Past President

Carol Costell Corbin
SUNY Cortland

Secretary

Rebecca LaBombard (16-19) 1st term
Excelsior College

Treasurer

Paul Williams (17-20) 1st term
SUNY Delhi

Regional Coordinator

Troy Cogburn (17-18) spec 1 year term
Manhattan College

Outreach Coordinator

Erin Rickman (17-20) 1st term
The College at Brockport

Historian

Chris Hockey (17-20) 2nd term

Two-Year Representatives:

Jeanine Patsko (17-19) 1st term
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Molly Ludmar (16-18) 2nd term
Nassau Community College

George Muchita (16-18) 2nd term
Queensborough Community College

Jenna Nolan (17-18) spec 1 year term
Onondaga Community College

Four-Year Public Representatives:

Amy Steir (17-19) 1st term
SUNY Farmingdale

Terry Kelley-Wallace (16-18) 2nd term
Binghamton University

Chris Bouknight (17-19) 1st term
SUNY Purchase

Corie Kohlbach (16-18) 1st term
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Four-Year Private Representatives:

Kathryn Aviza (17-18) spec 1 year term
The Sage Colleges

Shari Quinn (17-19) 1st term
RPI

Kimberly Lourinia (16-18) 1st term
Excelsior College

Lisa Martinez DeVinney (17-19) 1st term
Roberts Wesleyan College

Committee and Regional Chairs

Awards:

Jessica McCaffery
SUNY Empire State College

Lindsay Gerhardt
SUNY Geneseo

By-Laws:

Chris Hockey
Onondaga Community College

Conference:

Tara Gates
Utica College

Brittany Morawiec
SUNY Polytechnic

Issues:

Misty Fields
SUNY Delhi

Chris Hockey
Onondaga Community College

Membership:

Michael Henningsen
Mohawk Valley Community College

Newsletter:

Rachel Littenberg
SUNY Old Westbury

Nominations and Elections:

Carol Costell Corbin
SUNY Cortland

Retention & Research

Roza Makhmudova
SUNY Dutchess

Corie Kohlbach
SUNY Oswego

Scholarship:

Melissa Moore
Bryant and Stratton College

Darlene Poirier
University at Albany

Technology:

Carol Costell Corbin
SUNY Cortland

Central Region:

Craig Green
SUNY Oswego

Emily Quinlan

SUNY Cortland

Downstate Region:

Christina Koromi
Adelphi University

Tracey Iorio
SUNY Stony Brook University

Eastern Region:

Jill Brinkman
SUNY Cobleskill

Casey Kohler

SUNY, University at Albany

Western Region:

Anne Anthon
D'Youville College

Deborah Jones
SUNY Buffalo State