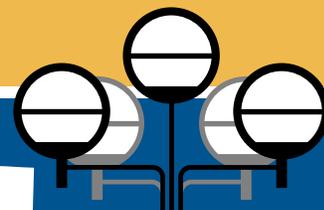


the Bridge

Fall 2018

A Magazine for SUNY Polytechnic Institute Alumni, Faculty, Friends & Students



New Mario Café Dedication



The Bridge

Fall 2018

The Bridge is published by the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute Alumni Association to keep you informed of campus activities and news.

Publisher: Andrea LaGatta
Editor: David Dellecese G'18
Lynne Browne '04, G'14
Production: Patrick Baker '15
Matthew Kopytowski

Find out more!
Visit us online: www.sunypoly.edu/alumni
Call: 315-792-7273
E-mail: alumni@sunyit.edu

Address change? E-mail alumni@sunyit.edu, call 315-792-7273, or write SUNY Polytechnic Institute Alumni Office, 100 Seymour Road, Utica, New York 13502.

This publication is printed on recycled paper.



3

New Interim Provost



6

"Woman of the Year"



4

Faculty Profile



8

New Café Dedication



14

Wildcats of the Year

Contents

Interim President's Message



Greetings from SUNY Poly,

I am honored to write to you as SUNY Polytechnic Institute's Interim President. In this new role, I look forward to opportunities to work with our faculty, staff, students, and you, our alumni, to move our institution forward, together. I am extremely thankful to Dr. Bahgat Sammakia, who recently returned to his position at Binghamton University after leading SUNY Poly since December 2016; he provided a firm foundation for our institution to reach its full potential.

Looking into the future, SUNY Poly will remain focused on enabling student success and enriching students' lives at both of our campuses in Albany and Utica, expanding our research and innovation activities, and stimulating the economic growth of our community.

It is an exciting time at SUNY Poly. Our 2,900 students, 13:1 student to faculty ratio, and cumulative economic impact of more than \$15 billion in research and development investments during the last two decades, have positioned SUNY Poly at the center of a dynamic educational and research-focused ecosystem. It provides our students with unique, valuable, and hands-on learning experience and offers our faculty, students, and staff the fertile ground to innovate and collaborate.

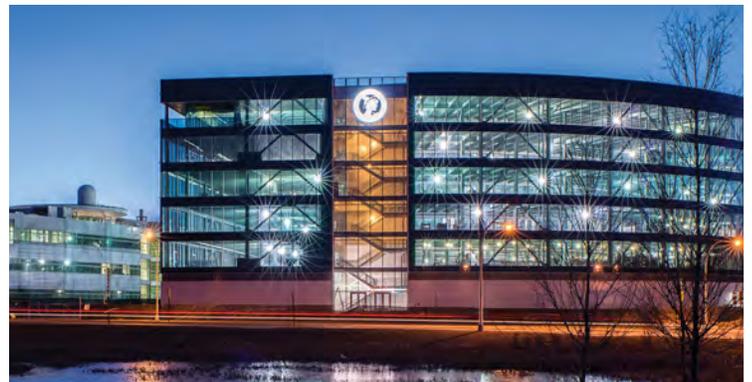
I look forward to the opportunity to meet many of you as we work together to create a clear pathway toward a more sustainable future and cultivate a dynamic and inclusive environment for each and every one of us who work and study at SUNY Poly.

Again, it is an exciting time, and I am honored to start SUNY Poly's next chapter with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Grace Wang'.

Dr. Grace Wang
SUNY Poly Interim President



SUNY Poly Foundation Welcomes Andrea LaGatta

It is my honor to have the opportunity to serve as the Assistant Vice President of Development at SUNY Polytechnic Institute. Our institution is filled with knowledge, creativity and talent. We offer students a premier education at a nationally ranked institution. Throughout our history, SUNY Poly students, faculty, alumni and friends have made what, at times seemed impossible, possible.

By investing in SUNY Polytechnic Institute, our students will learn from the brightest minds; will be ready to lead and excel in their given fields and will provide our community with a strong workforce ready to generate new ideas and solve challenges.

I thank the generosity of our alumni, donors, friends, businesses and partners who believe in the SUNY Poly Foundation's mission and vision. Generous donations fund scholarships, academic and athletic programs, research, facility and campus enhancements, and countless other initiatives. Your philanthropy allows us to connect the passion of those who want to support SUNY Poly with our areas of greatest need. Our donors have different reasons for giving, but share a similar passion – to see SUNY Poly students thrive and succeed.

Please visit our web site to learn more about the many ways you can make a direct impact on our students and faculty. Every gift is meaningful and will contribute to the progress and success of our institution. The greatest days are ahead for SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

So much of our success depends on you. I invite you to join us as we change lives, transform our community, and expand the possibilities for SUNY Polytechnic Institute. I look forward to seeing you on campus.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea LaGatta".

Andrea LaGatta
Assistant Vice President of Development

sunypoly.edu/foundation/giving



Thank you to all who participated in our 9th Annual Golf Tournament on June 18, 2018 at the Yahnundasis Golf Club in New Hartford, NY. The tournament raised nearly \$48,500, increasing 45% from 2017. All proceeds benefit a wide range of scholarships for students who have demonstrated strong academic ability, community service, and/or financial need.

A special thank you to our Presenting Sponsor, SUNY Poly Wildcat Athletics!

Longtime Faculty Member Dr. Steven Schneider Named Interim Provost

The provost is SUNY Poly's chief academic officer, overseeing six academic colleges: Arts and Sciences, Business Management, Engineering, Health Sciences, Nanoscale Engineering and Technology Innovation, and Nanoscale Sciences. Each of the colleges is comprised of a number of undergraduate and graduate programs and their faculty is headed by a chair.

In addition to his teaching duties in the realm of communications, information design, and political science, to name just a few, Dr. Schneider has served in numerous administrative appointments since joining SUNY Poly in 1991, including Chair of the Department of Communication and Humanities, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and coordinator of the Information and Design Technology graduate program, among others. Dr. Schneider has also spent time as a visiting Associate Professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and as a Research Fellow at the University

of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center.

"Dr. Schneider brings significant institutional knowledge along with a passion for teaching and scholarly activities," said SUNY Poly Interim President Dr. Grace Wang. "Dr. Schneider will undoubtedly leverage his decades-long experience as a professor at SUNY Poly and previously at SUNYIT, in addition to his work as Interim Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Chair of the Department of Communication and Humanities, to lead academic operations at both campuses, further academic accountability and excellence, and enable new, innovative academic programs."

Dr. Schneider holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an MA in Communications from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BA in Political Communications from George Washington University. ♦



Dr. Steven Schneider

Current Student and Recent Graduate Leverage Experience at SUNY Poly to Secure Exciting Internships



Sasha

Aleksandr (Sasha) Filippov, a recent SUNY Poly graduate, who received a Bachelor of Science in Nanoscale Engineering, interned with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) this summer in Silver Spring, MD. He was a Fellow in the Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education's (ORISE) Research Participation Program, managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) and worked with the Office of Pharmaceutical Quality's Science Staff within the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. As an ORISE Fellow, Sasha contributed to ongoing efforts to develop nanoscale analytical methods using enhanced dark field microscopy and hyperspectral imaging (EDFM-HSI) and Raman spectroscopy. This fall, he begins a PhD program in Molecular and Cellular Biology at the Irell & Manella Graduate School of Biological Sciences, part of the Beckman Research Institute at the City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA.



Ana

Ana Segarceanu, a rising SUNY Poly senior undergraduate, interned with Stat Peel, Ltd. in Glarus, Switzerland this summer. She expanded on her occupational health and safety training on the Brenner Research Team as she worked with Stat Peel to develop and assess instruments for detecting airborne nanoparticles in work environments. During her 14-week internship, Ana put her training in nano health and safety to use as she contributed to advancing the state of the science in occupational exposure assessment for the nanotechnology workforce. ♦

Faculty Profile: John Marsh

“Working with students and helping them launch their careers”

that’s what Dr. John Marsh, Associate Professor of Computer and Information Science, enjoys the most about working at SUNY Poly.

Before entering the world of academics and wearing the multiple hats of an Associate Professor and Program Chair, Dr. Marsh studied physics in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at Carnegie Mellon University before receiving a postdoctoral appointment overseas in Paris.

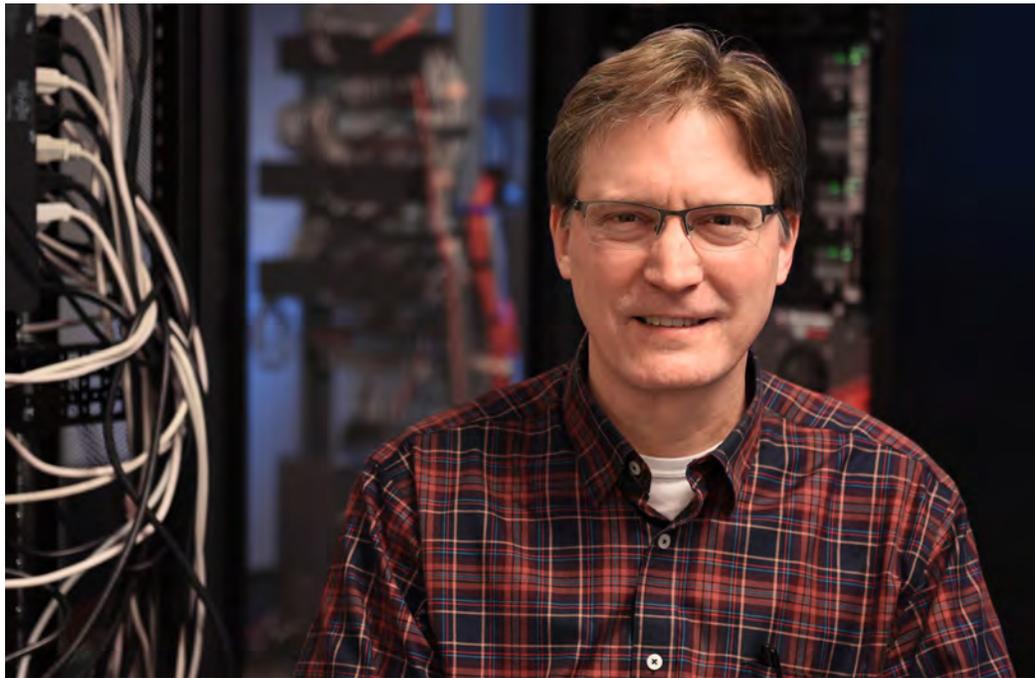
Upon his return to the United States, Marsh taught physics for students enrolled in the photonics program at SUNY Poly. After roughly five years, he temporarily left SUNY Poly and joined high-tech industry, where he held various research and product management positions in the fiber optic testing and photonic integrated circuits. It was during this time that one of his career stops led him to become a cybersecurity researcher at AIS in Rome – an organization with deep roots to SUNY Poly.

“Most of the world came late to the realization of how important information assurance and network security is to our modern lives. The founders of Assured Information Security (AIS), both SUNY Poly alums, recognized this early on, and I pursued an opportunity to join AIS and become fully immersed in the field.”

There he gained a vast amount of first-hand experience, all of which he carried with him when, in 2007, he returned to the SUNY Poly classroom and his passion for teaching and helping to guide the careers of the next generation of innovators.

With all those experiences, Dr. Marsh certainly has a lot of wisdom to offer students looking to step into the world of cybersecurity. And the most important thing he says any student can do is to get themselves immersed in the field with their own projects.

“Read about cybersecurity topics in order to familiarize themselves with the field and the current issues at hand,” he says. “Working hard to learn the networking and computing fundamentals while immersing oneself in technology news and blogs will allow one to acquire an insider view of the industry, and that’s a big plus.”



Dr. John Marsh

Despite its widespread popularity and appeal today, Dr. Marsh is quick to note that cybersecurity was not always a mainstream field. In fact, when he began as a researcher, it was what many would consider a niche. Reflecting back on that time, Dr. Marsh sees what a drastic change the world and the field have gone through, becoming a completely mainstream concept. In today’s world, it’s not uncommon to find articles online, in print, or on TV about security breaches and Internet security, emphasizing what an extremely fast-growing industry it has become. He says cybersecurity is not an easy field to keep up with, but provides him with a wonderful challenge and forces him to keep engaged with a number of colleagues in the industry.

With the field of cybersecurity ever-increasing with each passing day, there is a growing need to fill positions with individuals who possess both technical and non-technical backgrounds. With that in mind, Dr. Marsh says it is important for students to recognize that the programs they have access to at SUNY Poly are heavily oriented towards the technical side of computer science, which is where the vast majority of entry-level opportunities for graduates lie. As students make their way through the coursework and experiential learning of cybersecurity, the

academic advisory board offers the next step, helping students connect with real-world opportunities to work in the field.

And while he certainly has a full plate developing, managing, and teaching in the Network and Computer Security programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level, Dr. Marsh does still find some time to enjoy his passions, such as playing guitar in a band made up of some of his closest friends.

But when he’s not rocking out, his mind moves from guitar strings to strings of coding and problem solving, constantly keeping up to date on the latest cybersecurity issues, data security, privacy, and the growing importance of these topics in our lives.

“The growth in the field of cybersecurity is only going to continue, and we expect our academic programs to grow along with it. We will continue to see great demand for our NCS program graduates as the world continues to evolve into an ever more-connected place.”

SUNY Poly now offers the master’s degree program online – read more about the online Cybersecurity: NCS program. ♦

Online Degree Program in Nursing Launched

In a continued effort to provide students with the highest quality academic offerings, SUNY Poly's online degree programs continue to expand with the addition of a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Through its online format, students from all over New York State, the country, and even the world will have access to the courses, faculty, and resources of SUNY Poly's Nursing Department, allowing even those that are working full-time the ability to still complete a college degree in a format that is convenient to them, providing those with busy lifestyles and work schedules an educational option built upon a strong history of excellence at a great price point.

This online version of the long-running and highly successful on-campus nursing program at SUNY Poly reflects the changes occurring in the nursing profession and addresses the changing landscape of healthcare. For instance, topics such as ethics and epidemiology are integrated into all the courses as they are essential content areas that are highly relevant within multiple courses instead of being standalone courses. A course in Care Management has been added to the nursing curriculum to assist nurses in facilitating patient care seamlessly throughout the health care system. Also, the Public Health

curriculum has been redesigned into one course to reflect the interwoven nature of the relationship of learning about community health support services and public health organizations within one's community and aligning this information with the experiential component of the course. Students in Public Health will now be working in the field of community and public health at the same time they are taught the role and responsibility of the public health nurse and the appropriate ways of accessing support services across communities.

Registered nurses work in a variety of settings such as hospitals, physicians' offices, home healthcare services, nursing care facilities, outpatient clinics, schools, or serve in the military. These professionals provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members.

"The Department of Nursing at SUNY Poly is extremely excited to be welcoming the first class of students to the online nursing program," said Dr. Kathleen Rourke, Interim Dean of the College of Nursing. "Given the new law requiring Associate prepared nurses to complete their Bachelor of Science Degree within ten years, we believe our program

is an excellent choice at a great price point and enables students from throughout New York State to complete the program on their schedule."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of Registered Nurses is projected to grow 15 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. The bureau also estimates that with an increased emphasis on preventative care, growing rates of chronic conditions such as diabetes and obesity, along with an aging baby-boom population and longer, more active lives, there will likely be an increase demand for healthcare services.

Launched in Fall 2018, the online BS in Nursing program joins already popular online programs through SUNY Poly, including the MS in Nursing Education, Health Information Management, Finance, Forensic Accounting and Valuation, Cybersecurity: Network and Computer Security, Information Design and Technology, and many more.

Those interested in learning more about the online Bachelor of Science with a major in Nursing program can visit sunypoly.edu or contact the SUNY Poly Admissions Office at admissions@sunypoly.edu or 315-792-7500. ♦

Thank you to our donors for their generous support!



The Foundation awarded scholarships to over 150 current students for the 2017-2018 academic year.

For more information on the SUNY Poly Foundation and to view the 2017-18 Annual Report, visit:

www.sunypoly.edu/foundation

Kathryn Stam Named “Woman of the Year”



Dr. Kathryn Stam speaks at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute.

A member of SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s faculty is among those recognized in the Mohawk Valley with the prestigious title of “Woman of the Year.” Celebrating outstanding women in the community during the month of March in conjunction with Women’s History Month, Professor of Anthropology Dr. Kathryn Stam was honored with other community members by the Mohawk Valley Chapter of New York State Women, Inc. at the “Women of the Year” awards dinner on March 20.

The event, which has been held under various names and forms over the years, has been honoring professional women of the Mohawk Valley for several decades.

Dr. Stam earned her Ph.D. in Social Science (Anthropology and Sociology) from The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, an M.S. in Forest Resource Management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and a B.A. in Environmental Studies from the University of Vermont. Her areas of research include cultural anthropology, information design and technology, information security and information professions, anthropology of work, communication, refugee studies, and Thai studies.

Dr. Stam also serves as the President of the Board for the Midtown Utica Community Center, whose mission is to foster inclusive community participation by providing an environmentally sound facility for arts, recreation, celebration, and locally based human services in order to increase opportunity for personal and collective growth in our community.

Recently, Dr. Stam was recognized by The Genesis Group at the 12th Annual Celebration of Education for ongoing efforts to shine a spotlight on some of the 15,000 refugees

who sought refuge from war and political or ethnic strife, from Cambodia to Sudan.

Among her long list of accolades, Dr. Stam and SUNY Poly Web Coordinator Lynne Browne were awarded a grant in 2017 by the New York State Regional Bibliographic Database Grant program to create an archive of the collection of images and stories the two have collected. In particular, the grant focused on archiving items from the Refugees Starting Over Project and Portraits of Hope: Faces of Refugee Resettlement in Central New York – an exhibit at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute in Utica that was on display in conjunction with the work of internationally recognized photographer Steve McCurry.

The project involves creating metadata and an online collection for the Refugees Starting Over Project, an online community for and about the refugees of the greater Utica area. The project involves the permanent online archiving of images to preserve their work and further strengthen connections to the refugee community in the City of Utica. Portraits of Hope depicted survivors of war, genocide, and political strife who came to the U.S. and settled in the Utica region after living in refugee camps in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East. The exhibition celebrated diversity and confronted stereotypes about resettlement while exploring the challenges and aspirations of local refugees starting over in a new land. Through the archiving of these projects, they will be connected with other collections of New York history as well as with larger statewide and national communities.

“Working in this community, I am impressed with the brilliance, creativity, and potential of some of the girls who might be overlooked because they communicate differently, appear culturally different, or don’t reach the more traditional standards that focus strictly on academic achievement,” says Dr.

Kathryn Stam. “Women refugees and immigrants often struggle with issues that are not the same as their male counterparts. They try to learn English as quickly as they can but that is really difficult for some who may have been denied educational opportunities their entire lives. A little bit of understanding and assistance can go a long way to help them overcome isolation and confusion about many of the social, health, and legal systems upon which they now interact. I am so pleased when I see people and organizations in our community being thoughtful about the inclusion of everyone. Gone are the days when it’s acceptable to invite a keynote speaker or even a panel of speakers that does not represent broader perspectives and positions.”

Dr. Stam is also a 2015 recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, given by SUNY System to publicly proclaim its pride in the accomplishment and personal dedication of its instructional faculty and professional staff across its campuses. Dr. Stam was honored with the award for her qualitative research on information technology and culture which has been published in numerous academic journals as well as for her co-authoring of Information Nation: Education and Careers in the Emerging Information Professions. In 2010, she received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“Our mission statement is to build powerful women, professionally, personally, and politically,” said Lucretia Hunt, Chair of the Women of the Year event. “We are women helping women. In other words, to be all they can be. I personally know that women have come a long way, but women have accomplished what they have not for themselves, but for others – their daughters, their granddaughters, and their nieces. And I know that while the glass ceiling has been shattered, it hasn’t fallen yet.” ♦



Recipient and SUNY Poly Alum, Eve Van de Wal G’07 G’08 and Kathryn Stam.

SUNY Poly's FRC Robotics Team Takes Home Regional Wins, Travels to FIRST World Championships

A robotics team made up of local high school students and mentored by SUNY Poly engineering students headed to the FIRST World Championships in Michigan in April following an exciting win at the Central New York 2018 FIRST Robotics Competition at SUNY Poly's Utica campus.

SUNY Poly's own FRC Team 5030, The Second Mouse, along with FRC Team 340 Greater Rochester Robotics from Churchville, NY, and FRC Team 2791 Shaker Robotics of Latham, NY, made up the alliance of teams declared regional champions. These three teams competed among the 35 total teams from across New York State, China, and Taipei in a series of challenges throughout the weekend March 2-4 in the Wildcat Field House in Utica for the CNY 2018 FIRST Robotics Competition.

The world-renowned, multi-day robotics competition saw students, along with their mentors, demonstrate skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) as they competed for honors, recognition, and the chance to earn that coveted spot at the World Championships the following month. Event sponsors came from some of the most highly-regarded organizations in the area, including National Grid, SUNY Poly, and NYSTEC. Sponsors provided resources including time and talent from professional mentors, services, equipment, financial contributions, and volunteers.

Over the course of six weeks, students worked with professional engineering mentors to design a robot that solves a problem using the same parts kits and a standard set of rules. Once the young inventors had created their robot, teams participated in regional competitions across the globe that measured the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students.

"Team 5030, The Second Mouse, advanced to the FIRST world championship in Detroit after coming back from a last place seeding at one point over the weekend," said Janice Martino, FRC Coordinator. "While that is a great accomplishment, I think I am even prouder of the fact that they won the Gracious Professionalism award for being a welcoming host team, helping other teams throughout the tournament and setting an example of how to behave and move forward in the face of adversity."



FRC Team 5030, The Second Mouse, at the CNY First Robotics Competition, held at SUNY Poly.

Each year the competition's rules and gaming environments change, requiring students to build new robots that can accomplish particular tasks relevant to the new challenge. Called "Power Up," this year's competition focused around the theme of 8-bit video games, with each three-team alliance taking advantage of three ways to help defeat the game's "boss." Symbolizing goals and moves of classic video gaming, teams earned points by tipping a scale or switch in their favor, exchanging power cubes to gain temporary advantages during the match, and climbing the scale to face the game's "boss." The alliance with the highest score at the end of each match won that match.

"We're thrilled to have all the hard work and dedication of our team members and mentors over those six weeks pay off with the chance to go to the championships in Detroit," said Dominick Ferone, one of the team mentors and a senior SUNY Poly student majoring in Computer and Information Design. "The entire team was so excited to host the event to begin with, we never expected to do so well so early."

Before they headed to the World Championships in April, the team made a stop at RIT for the Finer Lakes Regional and then the Buckeye Regional in Cleveland. It was at the Buckeye Regional that Team 5030 The Second Mouse took home an additional regional championship win.

And while they may not have taken home a win at the World Championships, the impressive record leading up to the main event remains a well-deserved feather in the team's cap and the team's input and hospitality has been a leading contributor to the success of the inaugural CNY Regional Robotics Competition. The Competition returns to SUNY Poly's Utica Campus on March 14-16, 2019.

Students learning from FIRST events and programs come away with a greater appreciation of science & technology and how it can be utilized to positively impact the world around them. Teams gain valuable life skills, such as brainstorming, creative problem solving, collaboration, teamwork, planning, time management, leadership, and a myriad of impressive technical skills.

The positive impact on FIRST Robotics Competition participants is tremendous, with FIRST studies showing more than 88% of those who participate are interested in doing well in school and 92% of participants are interested in attending college. Teams learn from professional engineers; master STEM skills; learn and use sophisticated software, hardware, and power tools; improve teamwork, interpersonal, and communication skills; learn the practice of gracious professionalism; and qualify for millions of dollars in college scholarships. ♦



New Café Honors Memory of Professor Emeritus

In order to get a student's attention, Albert Mario was known to say "You need to use your head for something more than a hat rack, my friend."

And now students stopping in to the Peter J. Cayan Library in Utica will have an extra spot to hang their hat. In January 2018, the library opened the doors to the Mario Café,

Sodexo General Manager Michael Lusk (left) and Rudy D'Amico



servicing up beverages provided by Utica Roasting Company, as well as light food and small meals with a focus on local New York fare, including offerings from throughout the Utica area.

Most significantly, this new café honors a longtime member of the SUNY Poly faculty who left an indelible mark on the institution from its earliest days – the late Albert Mario.

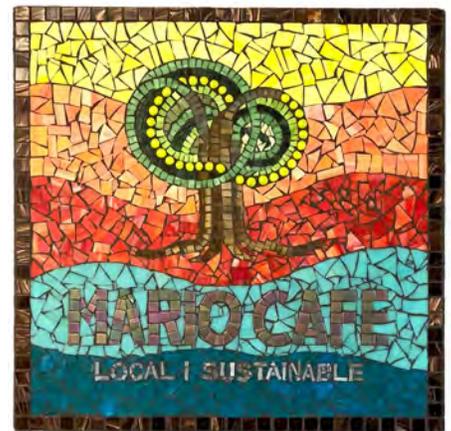
Present at the café ribbon cutting was Mario's nephew, Rudy D'Amico, who referred to the new campus hotspot as the "Uncle Albert Café."

"So many conversations I had with him revolved around SUNY and what he loved about this institution," D'Amico told the crowd at the opening. "What an honor to have him recognized this way."

A café was a fitting tribute, D'Amico said, for a man who made sure families in East Utica had olive oil for the holidays by buying cases wholesale and having it delivered to their door.

"Food was a high priority for our family," D'Amico said with a laugh.

His uncle, Albert Mario, joined the institution shortly after its establishment in 1966, known then as Upper Division College. Before coming to SUNY Poly, Mario had been a



faculty member at Utica College and an employee at the Rome Air Development Center. Colleagues of Mario's recall that when Upper Division college was formed in 1966, he saw an opportunity to create a program that would give graduates skills needed to be successful members of the workforce.

"He left a beautiful traditional campus at Utica College to come to Upper Division College in an old, run down mill building on Court Street," recalled Associate Professor Emeritus Robert Orilio of the Business Management Department. "Upon his arrival to Upper Division College, he energized the

business program which, to my knowledge, was the first approved academic program at the school.”

Thanks to his tireless efforts in the classroom, Mario created visibility and credibility for the business program as well as establishing the Small Business Development Center and the Small Business Institute.

“This was a program where the Small Business Administration would fund the School of Business to create a class where the students went out and did projects with small businesses in the community,” recalls Thomas Reynolds, a Business Advisor at the Albany Small Business Development Center (SBDC) who as a graduate student worked with Albert Mario.

When the institution was designated as an SBDC in 1985, thanks to Mario’s work in the Small Business Institute Program, Reynolds was one of the first SBDC employees. His work to connect the college to real-world businesses and experiences led to numerous opportunities and developments, such as the school being designated as part of the New York State Industrial Innovation Extension Service, a program providing manufacturing and technical assistance to small manufacturers in the region and a forerunner to the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

“Al was my mentor upon my hiring in January 1977 and he took me under his wing,” said Orilio. “I noted his tougher than nails approach in the classroom was simply a ruse to get students to understand that the way they comfort themselves, their dress, their speech mannerisms all played a role in their future success.”

Many described him as a superb teacher who brought to the classroom a hands-on, real world scenario that reflected society at the time and paved the way for the experiential learning that has become a trademark throughout SUNY Poly’s 50+ year history.

“Together, he, [Associate Professor of Accounting] Ken Wallis, and myself traveled the state visiting community colleges to inform them of our programs in the department,” said Orilio. “Those contacts with faculty, staff, and students were the beginning of the tremendous growth of the business programs.”

It was thanks to Mario that the institution gained approval from the New York State Education Department and SUNY Central for an Advanced Management certificate program that ran for many years for middle level managers of local and regional companies, including Rome Labs, General Electric, Oneida Limited, and PAR Technology.

Local business leaders also got a taste of academia when they came into the classrooms to teach for the “Professors for a Day” program

while the “Professors for a Day” program allowed students to gain the workplace experience by shadowing at local companies. Both programs were created by Mario.

Even when the grades were in and the classroom work complete, Mario continued to take an active role in the institution, the community, and his students, coordinating the yearly graduation ceremony, including making arrangements for its location in the days when the college had no campus, securing a keynote speaker, and granting any honorary degrees.

It also didn’t matter if school was in session for the kind spirit of Albert Mario to shine onto those around him. Even during holiday breaks, he looked out for others in the same way he looked out for his colleagues and students.

And though Mario is no longer with us, the memory of his contributions to the school that would become SUNY Poly lives on as an influential force, whether from his teaching, education, mentorship, or community involvement, and through the many lives that he came into contact with.



Albert (Al) Mario

“I will never forget the influence Al had on me and my teaching style,” recalls Orilio. “I do not think I would have been as effective an educator without him as a mentor and guide.” ♦

Rudy D’Amico, nephew of Al Mario, speaks at the opening of the Café honoring his Uncle.



Dr. Russell, Colleagues, Talk Maintenance at U.S. Senate

Politicians love a good ribbon cutting; the cameras, the audience, a new building to feast one's eyes on.

But what about the building next door, once heralded as the talk of the town but that has started falling into disarray as the years waned?

"We like the next thing," says Dr. Andrew Russell, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at SUNY Poly, referring to this practice as "the ribbon cutting paradox."

"The ribbon gets cut on the new building, but there's no ceremony when a sewer pipe gets fixed...and it turns out we need the fixed sewer pipe more than we need the new building."

It's this idea of maintaining, of keeping up the systems that we've built that has become a specialty of Dr. Russell, who has drawn the attention of the *New York Times* and sat on a panel of experts at the U.S. Senate for a conversation on Innovation vs. Maintenance in the Drive Toward Hybrid Infrastructure, hosted by the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation.

Along with Vice President of Global Information Technology Stephen Ezell, Director of the American Society of Civil Engineers John Casana, President and CEO of Eno Center for Transportation Robert Puentes, and Virginia Tech Assistant Professor of Science, Technology and Society Lee Vinsel (who is Dr. Russell's partner in their research and writings on maintenance), the panel discussed possible solutions to aging infrastructures. The panel focused on integrating digital technology with physical infrastructure in a way to be more efficient and sustainable than the concrete roads and bridges of yesteryear.

The panel of experts addressed a room of roughly 50 people in the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington, DC, mostly made up of congressional office staff, staffs from various federal agencies, and representatives from trade associations.

"We had a really substantive discussion about the major themes of innovation and maintenance," said Dr. Russell. "We're not doing a great job with infrastructure and the main question is, if we can invest more, can we incorporate new technologies?"

The solutions they seek are very much needed, as noted by a recent D+ rating for the United States on an infrastructure report card from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The cost to maintain the U.S. infrastructure has hit \$4.6 trillion in necessary repairs, with



Dr. Andrew Russell (center at table) part of a panel of experts address issues of maintenance of the U.S. Senate.

only \$77 billion appropriated for transportation and infrastructure improvements by Congress. So the question remains how to move forward.

"That is the core issue, spending," Dr. Russell said. "We don't have adequate mechanisms or policies to maintain or repair the things that we've already built, whether that's train infrastructure, roads, bridges, water, or sewage systems, or dams. Hundreds of billions of dollars would be needed to fix what we have. That's the core problem, made worse by the fact that private and public investment is thrown disproportionately to new technology."

While Dr. Russell believes that those dealing with policy matters recognize the importance of these issues, he says there is a disconnect and problem had by policy makers moving from that recognition to putting the funding into actual budgets. He says that during the panel discussion he was asked by U.S. Senator's staff what message she should bring back to her boss.

"I told her the first thing she should do is to start talking about maintainers in her public messaging and to talk about the important work people do, like teachers, or janitors, or technicians and nurses. These are the people who maintain society. We need to express our appreciation of them. The next step is straight forward – that if we want to, on the whole, improve and show our respect for them, to make sure their wages are better as a class, as a group, and to support their work in terms of policy."

One of the promising aspects for the future of maintenance, Dr. Russell notes, is that it's the type of topic that doesn't fit within one party line or the other, making

it an issue that truly reaches across the aisle of political ideology.

"Progressives really like it because it's good for the working poor. Conservatives like it because it's about conserving the technological achievements we've already built. There's something about the idea that's bipartisan."

While the topic itself and its impact is recognized and felt by both sides of the aisle in Washington, Dr. Russell notes that much of the future of maintenance falls back to how it can be funded. However, he hopes that through the work of he and his colleagues, keeping the idea of maintenance on the forefront of minds versus the attractive allure and shiny veneer of new technologies and products, will help find a way to keep things working.

"I think the need to do something about this is very well established. The big challenge now is how to pay for it. So I think the contribution I'm making, along with my co-author, Lee, is to help this cultural side of things to solidify bipartisan consensus that we need to do more about it. And hopefully it gives policymakers more tools to keep maintenance at the forefront."

And while Dr. Russell helps move the discussion about maintenance on the national stage, he's also helping to let the world know that many programs at SUNY Poly put these ideas to practice, training students to enter the maintenance workforce, including engineering, engineering technology, network and computer security, computer science, and nursing.

In Spring 2019, he began teaching a course on maintenance - IDS 103: Science, Technology, and Human Values. He notes that part of the course was student projects that examine the work of maintainers on our campus and in the local area. ♦



Commencement 2018



New College of Business Management Dean Named

SUNY Poly proudly welcomes Dr. Xinjian (Arthur) Lu as Dean of the College of Business Management.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Lu to SUNY Poly,” said Dr. Grace Wang, Interim President of SUNY Polytechnic Institute. “His experience in the world of business, higher education, and research is a perfect match with the goals and mission of our College of Business Management. We are confident that Dr. Lu, together with our outstanding faculty members, will continue to drive academic excellence of the College and provide unique, world-class learning opportunities to our students.”

With a Ph.D. in Management Sciences, two master’s degrees (M.S. in Computing & Information Science and M.S. in Systems in Engineering) and a B.S. in Mathematics, Dr. Lu joins SUNY Poly from the College of Business and Economics at California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), where he was serving as Interim Dean of the College of Business and Economics. At CSUEB since 1999, Dr. Lu has also served as Associate Dean, Chair and Associate Chair of the Department of Management, and Professor of numerous undergraduate and graduate courses in Operations Management and Computer Information Systems. With a myriad of publications in refereed journals to his name, Dr. Lu also brings with him industry experience as a software engineer at Mortice Kern Systems and Prior Data Science.

“With his extensive background and experience and his well-developed leadership skills, Dr.

Lu is the perfect candidate to lead our College of Business Management as it continues to rapidly grow and expand,” said Dr. Steven Schneider, Interim Provost at SUNY Poly. “We are confident that with Dr. Lu as our Dean, the already impressive track record of the College of Business Management will continue to reach new heights.”

The Dean of the College of Business Management (CBM) helps to promote the vision, mission, and focus of the institution with a commitment to advancing the merged institution with strong advocacy on campus and in the community. With duties that include recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty, the Dean of the CBM helps maintain SUNY Poly’s position as a world-class institution, leading the way in education to prepare its students for the 21st Century economy and workplace.

“I was drawn to the opportunity at SUNY Poly because of its 21st century model of promoting the technology-driven ‘knowledge-based’ economy of New York State, while providing an unparalleled experiential learning, research, and development platform for students, staff, faculty, and community partners,” says Dr. Lu. “Being a polytechnic institution’s business school, the College has a unique advantage to collaborate with other colleges in SUNY Poly on innovative programs that can serve the ever-evolving demand for talent in areas such as data science, business analytics, and artificial intelligence, among others.”

With graduate programs individually ranked by U.S. News & World Report, SUNY Poly’s



Dr. Xinjian (Arthur) Lu

College of Business Management offers students the opportunity to learn about and become leaders in the realms of global business, technology management, accounting, government, and not-for-profit organizations. Major programs of study within the CBM include Master of Business Administration in Technology Management, Master of Science in Accountancy, Post-Bachelor’s Certificate in Forensic Accounting & Valuation, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, and Bachelor of Science in Accounting. The rigorous programs within CBM are accredited by the Association for the Advancement of Colleges and Schools of Business (AACSB) International – a worldwide gold-standard. Fewer than 5% of the world’s business degree-granting schools are AACSB accredited, and SUNY Poly is proud to be among them. ♦

SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE Foundation

www.sunypoly.edu/foundation • 315-792-7419

Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

**Please return to: SUNY Poly Foundation
100 Seymour Road
Utica, NY 13502**

Yes! I would like to support the Foundation!

Enclosed is my gift of:
 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$ _____

Check made payable to: **SUNY Poly Foundation**

One-time credit card charge
 Please charge my: Visa MasterCard Discover AMEX

Card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____

CSC # _____

Name on card (print): _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Designate my contribution to:

The Annual Fund
 Other _____

The SUNY Poly Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
 Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.



Earn an Advanced Degree at SUNY Poly

College of Arts & Sciences

- **Computational Mathematical Modeling**
(post-bachelor's certificate)
- **Data Analysis** (post-bachelor's certificate)
FULLY Online
- **Information Design & Technology** (MS)
FULLY Online

College of Business Management

- **Accountancy** (MS)
FULLY Online
- **Forensic Accounting & Valuation**
(post-bachelor's certificate)
FULLY Online
- **Technology Management** (MBA)
FULLY Online
Concentrations in: accounting and finance,
business management, health informatics,
human resources management,
marketing management

College of Engineering

- **Computer & Information Science** (MS)
- **Cybersecurity: Network & Computer Security** (MS)
FULLY Online
- **Systems Engineering** (MS)

College of Health Sciences

- **Family Nurse Practitioner**
(MS and post-master's certificate)
- **Nursing Education**
(MS and post-master's advanced certificate)
FULLY Online

Colleges of Nanoscale Science & Engineering

(Albany NanoTech Complex)

- **Advanced Technology** (MS)
- **Nanoscale Engineering** (MS and PhD)
- **Nanoscale Science** (MS and PhD)
- **Medicine and Nanoscale Science or Nanoscale Engineering** (MD/PhD)



Learn More!

Contact the Graduate Admissions Office
Call: **315-792-7347** or **1-866-278-6948**
E-mail: graduate@sunypoly.edu

The \$60 application fee is waived for SUNY Poly students and alumni.

State University of New York Polytechnic Institute

sunypoly.edu/graduate-admissions



The Bridge 13

WILDCATS

2017-18 Year in Review

The Wildcats had another successful season in 2017-18 with 10 of the Wildcats 12 teams qualifying for the North Eastern Athletic Conference post season, three more than in 2016-17. Three teams made it as far as a championship game appearance. The SUNY Poly cross country team continued to break records, securing a fifth consecutive NEAC Championship, the only championship for SUNY Poly in 2017-18.

Wildcat student-athletes excelled this season both on and off the field. A record-breaking number of Wildcats were named NEAC Scholar athletes in 2017-18. There were 74 student-athletes who have a combined GPA of 3.4 or higher at SUNY Poly, the largest total amount in SUNY Poly's history. Wildcat Athletes garnered 180 total awards: 38 NEAC All-Conference awards, 13 NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week awards, two NEAC Player of the Year awards, three Regional Coaches Association Awards, and a SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete award.

The Wildcat Athletic Department added to their digital offerings this season, opening their first online apparel store. The store, polywildcats-gear.com, features more than 2,000 items, including clothing, accessories, drink ware, tailgating gear, and more!

WildcatTV, the SUNY Poly athletics web based streaming network hosted a record number of events this season. There were 104 events streamed on the platform with over 13,000 view-

ers tuning in to watch or listen to SUNY Poly's student-athletes compete. Next season, the portal will take on a new name, more fitting to the platform's mission of multimedia offerings including video, audio, and live statistics. The new name for the platform will be the SUNY Poly Sports Network or SPSN for short and will still be found at portal.stretchinternet.com/polywildcats.

This year's Wildcat Athletic Banquet was held at SUNY Poly's Wildcat Field House where a record number of guests joined the athletic staff to honor this year's athletic achievements. The department gave out 30 awards to Wildcat student-athletes. Notable award winners were Angela Bartlett (West Winfield, N.Y.), senior goalkeeper for the women's soccer team, who was named the female student-athlete of the year. Kevin Williams (Brooklyn, N.Y.) was named the male student-athlete of the year after his outstanding senior season for the Wildcat men's basketball team. Wildcat men's soccer player Jeremiah Besse (Delmar, N.Y.) and Wildcat softball's Haley Breyer (Fort Edward, N.Y.) were named the male and female Scholar Athletes of the Year. Both had cumulative GPAs over 3.9. The SUNY Poly athletic department also used the event to celebrate the retirement of long-time Wildcat Administrative Assistant Marisa Greer, who retired in June after a 30+ year career with SUNY Poly in multiple departments.

The fifth consecutive season the Wildcats hoisted the NEAC trophy at the NEAC championship race.



Angela Bartlett

FALL

This season, the men's cross country, did what they do best, win a championship. For the fifth consecutive season the Wildcats hoisted the NEAC trophy at the NEAC championship race. To go along with their fifth NEAC Championship in as many years, the Wildcats had five all-conference runners, Noah Valvo (Town of Wright, N.Y.), Ian Kurzrock (Woodbourne, N.Y.), Jonathon Miller (Oneonta, N.Y.), Derek Smith (Rochester, N.Y.), and Christopher Bouchard (Latham, N.Y.). Wildcat Noah Valvo earned the NEAC rookie of the year award after finishing third in the race, and coach Tylutki won his fifth straight Coach of the Year Award. Their level of success is the best run of any team in the history of Wildcat Athletics.

This season, the women's cross country team had its best season in recent memory. The Wildcats had three, top-five finishes and placed fourth at the NEAC Championships. For their efforts this season, Rebecca LaPorte (New Hartford, N.Y.) and Jalize Mejia-Perez (Bronx, N.Y.) earned NEAC Second Team All-Conference honors. Kiersten Albertson (Kirkville, N.Y.) and Cassidy Eng (Staten Island, N.Y.) were named to the NEAC All-Conference third team. The four All-Conference Awards were the most in program history.

The Wildcat men's soccer team had a fantastic 2017 season. Coach Peterson Jerome coached his squad to an 11-9 record, qualifying for post-season play where the team had a fantastic run. The Wildcats advanced to the NEAC Championship where they narrowly lost by just a single goal. Three Wildcats earned All-Conference awards, Benjamin Alonge (Elmont, N.Y.) and Jeremiah Besse (Delmar, N.Y.) were first team selections and Amadou Ndiaye (Harlem, N.Y.) was second-team all-conference selection.

This season, the women's soccer team finished 13-3-2 under head coach Jess Skelton; The team made the NEAC post-season, advancing to the

semifinal game. Five Wildcats earned NEAC All-Conference nods. Angela Bartlett (West Winfield, N.Y.), Alicia Wittmann (Rome, N.Y.), and Nakeya Stedman (Sauquoit, N.Y.) were voted first team. Brittany Waterbury (Remsen, N.Y.) and McKenna Hungerford (Morris, N.Y.) earned third team awards.

The 2017-18 season was solid for the Wildcat women's volleyball team. First year Head Coach Juleah Wanner led her team to an 11-16 overall record with a 5-4 conference record, qualifying for the NEAC Post-season. The Wildcats made it to the first round of the NEAC Championship tournament with a young roster chock-full of talent and will have all of their entire roster returning in 2018 including NEAC All-Conference Second Team setter Sydney Johnson (Nine Mile Falls, Wash.) and Third Team All-Conference outside hitter Karlie King (Liverpool, N.Y.).



Kevin Williams

WINTER

The SUNY Poly women's basketball team had a fantastic season in 2018. The Wildcats went 21-7 with a 15-1 NEAC record, clinching the number one seed and the rights to host the NEAC Championship Tournament. Unfortunately, the team came up just shy of their third consecutive NEAC championship and NCAA Tournament appearance. Two players earned All-Conference nods. Khristajah Jackson (Levittown, P.A.) was the NEAC Player of the Year, a first-team All-Conference selection, and a D3hoops East All-Region second team selection. Kiersten Leos (Camden, N.Y.) earned NEAC second team All-Conference.

This year, the SUNY Poly men's basketball team went 19-8 with a 14-2 Conference record. The Wildcats won the Lehman Coaches versus Cancer Tournament, placed second in the Hilbert Tip-off, and made it to the NEAC final four. Kevin Williams (Brooklyn, N.Y.) and Redell Freeman (Rochester, N.Y.) were named NEAC First Team All-Conference First Team. Kevin Williams was also named NABC East All-District first-team,

D3hoops East All-Region first-team, and was SUNY Poly's only SUNY Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award recipient. His season was one of the most decorated in Wildcat athletics history.

The SUNY Poly men's volleyball team had a solid 2018 season under first year Head Coach Katie Kenny. The Wildcats went 7-2 in conference play, securing the three seed in the NEAC Championship Tournament. The Wildcats season came to an end in the semi-final after a hard-fought matchup with Wells. The Wildcats had three NEAC All-Conference selections; Zach Goggin (Feeding Hills, M.A.) was a first team selection, Max Szuba (Irondequoit, N.Y.) was voted to the second team, and Ryan Gloff (Brockport, N.Y.) earned third team honors.

SPRING

This season, Head Coach Brandon Misiaszek and the SUNY Poly men's lacrosse team had the best season in the history of the program. The Wildcats started the season off with a seven-game winning streak to surpass the former season record of six. The Wildcats finished 9-5 with a 4-4 NEAC record, missing the NEAC postseason by a single win. This year's team was young, energetic and fun to watch. Freshman goalkeeper Jared Laird broke the single season wins record, sophomore Eddie Rosaschi broke the single season points and assists records, and moved into first place, all-time on the assists list. Freshman Ryan Mead set a new season high with a faceoff percentage of 61 percent. The Wildcats had five All-Conference players, four of which were freshman. Daniel Rivie (Ossining, N.Y.), Ryan Mead (Churchville, N.Y.), and Jared Laird (Ontario, N.Y.) were second team selections. Austin Rio (Cicero, N.Y.) and Tyler Schmitz (Eden, N.Y.) were voted to the third team.

The women's lacrosse team finished this season 4-10 with a 2-7 record in the NEAC under first year Head Coach Jamie Elderbroom. Adversity tested the will of this group of fantastic student-athletes and coaches. The team responded with fight, showing up with passion for every single game. Despite their best efforts, the team just narrowly missed post-season play. Three Wildcats were voted to All-Conference teams. Mari Ames (Carthage, N.Y.) and Kayla Prosiniski (Endwell, N.Y.) were voted to the second team and Megan Will (Remsen, N.Y.) was voted to the third team.

This season started a bit slow for the Wildcat softball team. The



Connor Manderson

weather was rough at the beginning of the season and did not let up until the end of April. Despite the cold and rain, the bats heated up helping the Wildcats wrap up their regular season with a six-game winning streak to clinch a playoff spot. They finished the season 10-13 with a 8-5 NEAC record. Three players were voted to NEAC All-Conference teams. Bailey Wood (Preston Hollow, N.Y.) and Courtney Morton (Whitesboro, N.Y.) were second team selections. Bailee Haddad (Frankfort, N.Y.) was a third team selection.

The SUNY Poly baseball team under first-year head coach Tom Pfisterer had a solid season in 2018. The team became the first in the history of the program to start the season 4-0 on their annual trip to Florida. The poor spring weather shortened the season and made it very difficult for the team to hit their stride, but the Wildcats still qualified for post-season play, finishing the season 12-18 with a 6-7 NEAC record. Just one Wildcat was named to the NEAC All-Conference teams. Senior Connor Manderson (New Hartford, N.Y.) was a first-team All-Conference selection for the second time in as many seasons. ♦

Khristajah Jackson



Class Notes

Emma Larson '17 moved to Austin, Texas after graduation and is a medical scribe for an orthopedic surgeon and a clinical assistant in pediatric psychiatry while coaching volleyball on the side

Mark Mowers '96 is employed at Black River Systems Company as a senior software engineering specialist

Dominic Merante '90 currently is the program director for Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley and city councilman for the city of Hudson, NY

Shaquille Berhanu De Bique '14 currently resides in Cincinnati, working as a software developer at a major industrial machine company and is currently working on a Masters degree in Cyber Security at Utica College

Autumn Campau '11 has been working for more than for years at the Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau working with adults with varying disabilities and was recently promoted to be the investigator/program review specialist for the agency

Dan Akers G'17 is the lead instructor and also the Director of the Ford ASSET Automotive Technology Program at SUNY Morrisville

Abby Coyne '16 G'18 is currently working as a senior accountant at a Rivers Casino

Erika Kistowski '16 is currently working as a school guidance counselor at Notre Dame Jr. Sr. High School

Rob Wilbert '01 is working as Project Engineer in the commercial nuclear industry

Justin Deschamps '17 is working as a design engineer

Ryan Bentz '02 currently is an instructional design and delivery specialist with Syracuse University

Sarah LaFont '13 is working on earning a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Syracuse University

Michelle Balderston Simonds '92 is a claims specialist for the Social Security Administration

Kelsey Marie '15 recently earned an MSW through UAlbany

Joe Chevrette '13 G'15 is the senior manager of IT systems and Infrastructure at Nascentia Health

Jesus Kaiser Carrasco '12 has been working the last five years at an acute care institution dedicated to end-of-life care

Christopher A Bivins '02 is currently a finance manager at Steet Toyota in Yorkville, NY

Katharine St. Laurent '10 is the librarian at Solvay High School

Jessica N. Hastwell '10 went onto Sage Graduate School for a Master's in Professional School Counseling and is currently a school counselor at Carthage Middle School

Darlene Marie '03 is currently a corporate compliance officer at Rome Hospital

James McGuire '96 has been employed with Toyota Financial Services for last 21 years, currently as an area sales manager, living in the Hudson Valley

Sean Bayliss G'10 is an operations manager for Amazon

Jeffrey Hinderliter '06 is now working for NYS Building Standards and Codes as a code developer and is married with three children.

Michelle Lewis '11 is currently working at Oriska as a claims adjuster for workers compensation

Erik Franceschini '15 is currently a systems/components engineer at Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, NY

Carmann Benedetto '17 is beginning a Masters in Social Work from University at Buffalo this fall and currently working as a behavior specialist assistant at the Kelberman Center

Carey Michelle '14 went on to get a masters degree in social work from University at Buffalo and is now a preventative social worker with Catholic Charities

Crystal Bastien '15 is currently a practicing PA in Herkimer

Ashley Pratt Kise '06 is a program manager of a residential program for adults diagnosed with mental illness and chemical addiction at a non-profit agency

Jennifer Gilston '95 is currently retired nursing home administrator

Samuel Speziale '16 went on to earn a Masters in Criminal Justice from UAlbany and is currently working for child protective services

Valerie Salamon '85 is currently living in Colorado Springs, CO working as a healthcare auditor for a national company

Elliot Stuart Thomas '18 is currently employed by Cooperstown Central School District as their network coordinator

Jon Eguren '13 G'15 is currently in a technical sales role as a product manager for CED Baldwin-Hall

Lillian Mary Zambri '14 is currently working full time as a care manager for UCP and going to Utica College for a masters degree in Occupational Therapy

Kris Ellman Curry '85 spent 30 years in HR for two different companies and now is an operations manager

Andrew Jonas '08 has been working for almost 10 years as a software developer and is now software development supervisor

Tracy Lewis Fletcher '88 retired in 2016 as the business administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in FCI Ray Brook, NY

Rebecca Laymon '87 is a senior claims specialist at Utica National Insurance Group

Karen Nesbitt Belcher '94 is currently COO at Food Bank of Central New York

Leah Segerlin '17 is an airport engineer in Rochester, NY, designing airports and completing construction inspections

Chris Crafts '95 finished her MBA at the Simon School in 2011, is living in Oklahoma, and is an IT director with OU Medicine

Loren Rose Burnor '13 moved to California two years ago and is a full time release of information specialist for Sharecare Health Data Services

Pamela Moore '04 is working for Cornell University Hospital for Animals as the medical record director

Kyle Bliet '17 is currently pursuing a masters degree in IDT while working as a front-end coordinator at Wegmans Food Markets

Mark Vrydaghs '15 works as a software engineer at SRC, Inc. in Rome, NY

Erin Tobin '06 is currently head of advertising technology and systems at Bloomberg Lp.

Johnnie Buffalo '85 has worked in the auto industry since 1992 as a plant and manufacturing manager

Shelby Kostal '17 is currently a medical assistant for CNY Brain and Spine Neurosurgery and a Chief Medical Scribe for St. Luke's, Rome Memorial, and Crouse Emergency Departments. She will begin a masters degree program in January 2019, at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

David Bush '89 is working as a system administrator for the NYS thruway

Tom Harter '97 is employed as senior project manager at Excellus Blue Cross and Blue Shield

Chad LaDue '97 is employed as director of athletics at North Country CC

Corey Hickok '07 has worked for Northern Safety since graduating and is currently a senior application developer

Liz Harrigan Wagner '98 is employed at Upstate Homecare in Clinton, NY

Brenda Episcopo '97 G'02 is the President & CEO of United Way of New York State

Mandy Cornick '01 G'03 is teaching preschool-12th grade computer science in Albany, NY

Pamela Marshall is currently a Global Manager with Nielsen

Howie James '02 is currently living in Schenectady and working at SUNY Schenectady Community College as a student success coach

Shelby Parker '14 is working with Saratoga EOC casework

Scott Monahan '03 has been working for Nielsen as a solution architect for 15 years

Becky Vasquez '05 is now working at Indeed in Austin, TX

Tricia Flinn Hadden '02 lives in Southbury, CT and has been working for IBM for 16 years

Vicki Fuess Mayne '93 is a licensed P&C insurance agent

Cathy Behrendt '94 is a consultant for medical devices

Carol Hutchings Renwick '82 retired last year with 35 years service with New York State

Cassie Liz '12 is a practicing attorney in Buffalo, NY

Brandon Meszko '13 has been an engineering technician for five years at Osmose Utilities

O'Dell Gordon G '14 is working in emergency medicine at a Critical Access Hospital

Garrett Musto '17 has been working as a software engineer since graduation

Rachel Lynn '11 is currently working as a labor and delivery nurse

Jim Rafferty '91 has been an IT project manager at UPS for 27 years.

Bianca Brown '13 is working at Excellus BCBS as a provider relations representative

Vicki Cinelli Callagan '02 G'10 is currently the associate chair in nursing for curriculum at Maria College

Heather Fry '93 is the director of development, automation and performance at Paychex for 23 years and counting

Jason Kahler '00 is employed at PAR Government and BAE systems

Jennifer Ryan '93 is a technical trainer at Rite Aid Corp

Gayle Kilburn '89 works at Utica College in the Registrar's Office

Alison Bowman G '10 is a human resources manager at Ringling College of Art and Design

Todd Thompson '11 works at GE as a calibration specialist

Amy Leclair '97 is the director of academic advising at SUNY Fredonia

Lisa Moore Sheldon '84 is a senior director of IT for a government contractor in Florida

Kimberly Olsen '11 is currently an underwriter at MetLife

Matthew Watson '04 G'07 went on to attend law school in Virginia and now works in Utica, NY for the public defender's office

Christine Cuccio '96, has been employed at UPS for 22 years as a quality assurance analyst

Kyle Lince G'04 is a full-time professor at MVCC in computer science and web development

Scott Michael Murray '18 is currently working as a contracts administrator for Assured Information Security in Rome, NY

Dinesh Reddy G '12 is currently a senior business intelligence analyst

Victoria Pompey Encalade '87 is a health services director living in New Orleans

David Peterson '18 is currently pursuing an MBA in Technology Management at SUNY Poly while working as an analyst in client services at BNY Mellon, Oriskany branch

Nicole Buccheri G '16 is currently working in NYC for Viacom as a legal finance coordinator

Anoosha Movva G'16 moved to Michigan and is working as a network engineer

James Ellis '02 is a system administrator at Schneider Electric

Denise Crandall '12 is working in the department of theater at Colgate University

Chris Black '16 is working for the state of Maine as a programmer analyst

Bridget Ashmore '15 is teaching 8th grade math in the Utica City School District

Renee Dudajek '10 is a commercial lines underwriter at Utica National Insurance

Chris Erdmann '14, is a project manager at SECO/VACUUM Technologies in Meadville, PA

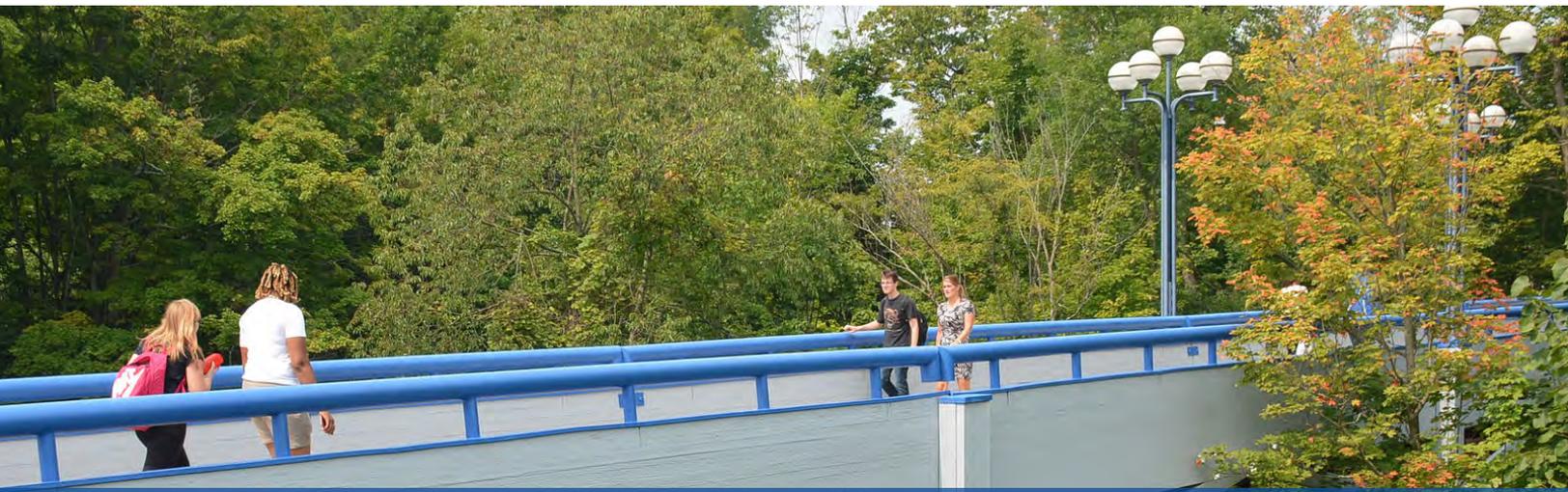
Maureen Seaman Boufas '10 Accounting is working in financial aid at MVCC

Matthew Payne '99 Psychology is currently a manager at FedEx

To submit your Class Notes please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@sunyit.edu or call 315-792-7110.

SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Alumni Association
100 Seymour Road
Utica, New York 13502



Making a Gift to the SUNY Poly Foundation

Making a gift is just one way that you can have a positive impact on the lives of our students, faculty, staff and the community at large.

Established in 1974, the SUNY Poly Foundation was created to support the University's mission and institutional goals through philanthropic support.

With the help of a dedicated board of directors, loyal alumni, donors, friends and volunteers, the Foundation has developed a funding stream that provide essential financial support for SUNY Poly and our students.

Below are some key areas that will benefit from your investment and provides support for departments and programs including equipment, supplies, travel, professional development and more.

Thank you for your interest in sharing the gift of education with SUNY Poly Students.

College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering

- Dedicated Endowment for establishment of Endowed Faculty lines in Nanoscale Engineering
- Dedicated Endowment or fellowships for graduate and undergraduate students in Nanoscale Engineering

College of Business Management

- Joint Center for Creativity, Ethics, and Venturing
- Chaired/Funded Faculty Lines
- Internship Management and Placement Center

College of Engineering

- Electrical engineering department drones
- Collegiate Seminar Series
- Computerized server for Network and Cyber Security

College of Health Sciences

- Syndaver
- DEXA
- Nursing lab updates