



October 18, 2021

To SUNY Poly Students, Faculty, and Staff,

As we reach the midpoint of the fall 2021 semester, I want to provide several brief updates, including one new way in which we are sharing the excellent work being undertaken at SUNY Poly.

First, I want to thank everyone for your diligence in adhering to current COVID-19 guidelines that are helping us protect each other, from wearing face coverings and social distancing, to screening when on campus and being vaccinated. I am proud that our on-campus Wildcat student community boasts a vaccine compliance rate of more than 99%, including students who have received one or more doses of an approved vaccine, or who have been approved for a medical or religious exemption.

In this spirit of progress, I am also pleased to present [SUNY Polytechnic Institute's 2020/2021 Academic Year Annual Report](#), which highlights our educational, research, and economic engagement efforts that continue to further build this institution's reputation as a leading catalyst for creative learning. Notably, we are excited to share this resource in a new, more accessible online format that we hope better showcases how SUNY Poly is thriving.

Even as we navigate this globally challenging time, the report shares how SUNY Poly advanced in many meaningful ways, from maintaining our high *U.S. News & World Report* rankings to ensuring strong enrollment. The annual report shines a light on SUNY Poly's research and innovation efforts, as well as faculty, student, alumni, and athletic accomplishments. It also provides an inspiring statistical glimpse into some of the reasons why SUNY Poly is such a special place.

Similarly, [I urge you to read how \*Newsweek\* and \*Make\*: selected SUNY Poly as one of the "Best Maker Schools in 2021."](#) SUNY Poly was identified among only 200 other colleges and universities throughout the world. The only SUNY school to be nominated, SUNY Poly demonstrated competency in areas that support a robust maker ecosystem. It is a noteworthy recognition of what we provide many of our students.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without you. Yes, we are still in the midst of a pandemic that continues to test our society. I know it challenges each of us in different, personal ways as well. Yet, throughout this time, your efforts here are deeply appreciated. As you will see in the annual report, we accomplished much during the past year. I hope it imbues a sense of progress, the kind of feeling that inspires each of us to consider how resilient we truly are while pushing ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tod A. Laursen  
Acting President  
SUNY Polytechnic Institute