

**ADVANCEMENT, ENGAGEMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COLLEGE COUNCIL REPORT  
DECEMBER 19, 2018**

Kevin Hines, mental health advocate and suicide survivor, returned to campus on October 4<sup>th</sup> to address Suicide Awareness and Prevention in commemoration of Mental Health Awareness Month. The event was co-sponsored with Chautauqua Tapestry, the Chautauqua County Department of Mental Health, and the Alliance for Suicide Prevention. There were 200 students, faculty/staff, and community members in attendance. The emotional story of Kevin’s personal struggle with depression and his attempted suicide was emotional and inspiring. Counselors from Fredonia’s Counseling Center, and the Chautauqua County’s Mental Hygiene Department, were present to assist attendees who needed resources or support.



A formal signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for Central Connection took place on October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lanford House. Pictured (L to R) are Fredonia Mayor Landis, Kevin Kearns, President Horvath, Dunkirk Development Director Rebecca Yanus, and Dunkirk Mayor Willie Rosas.

The city of Dunkirk procured a \$2.5M in NYS Smart Growth funding to support initial phases of the city’s development plan. The plan is, in part, an outgrowth of the “Central Connection” CFA planning grant that was spearheaded by the university to connect and brand the Central Avenue corridor between the Dunkirk waterfront and the village of Fredonia. Approximately \$600,000 of the grant will support portions of the Central Connection initiative. The Village was also recently awarded \$2.5M in Smart Growth funding to support downtown revitalization.

AEED co-sponsored the Third Annual Fredonia Mini Maker Faire with BOCES on October 20<sup>th</sup> in the Williams Center and Science Center. This Faire showcased approximately 70 makers who displayed their talents and provided hands-on activities for young students. Families also enjoyed a magician, food trucks, and other attractions. This free day-long event attracted several thousand visitors during Homecoming Weekend. There was widespread participation from all campus divisions and many students and student groups assisted. A planning committee has been formed for Makers Faire 2019.

The division sponsored midterm Election Day events in support of the Fredonia American Democracy Project (ADP). Bus transportation was provided to the polls, and an Election Results Watch Party was held in the Williams Center. Seventy-five students, faculty, and staff attended the watch party. Attendees discussed major issues driving the local, state, and national elections.

Susan Dundon, a representative from the Ralph Wilson Foundation, visited the Fredonia Technology Incubator for a tour and discussion of local needs on December 4<sup>th</sup>. The visit was arranged by the NCCF Local Economic Development (LED) group. Discussion participants included the representatives from Fredonia, the LED, the IDA, and local government agencies.

Kevin Kearns has been asked to serve on a Leadership panel for students at the Hispanic Success Center at JCC in Jamestown on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The event is designed to expose Hispanic students to career and leadership pathways and to discuss strategies for overcoming obstacles to success.

### **Fredonia Technology Incubator (FTI):**

FTI was awarded \$3,500 from the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation for phase 2 of the Multimedia Innovation Design Studio (MIDS), a physical makerspace that houses high-performance computers, specialized software, peripherals, video, and recording equipment designed for innovative cross-disciplinary collaborations and development. The Studio was inspired by a groundswell of student interest in video game development, virtual reality, and other forms of interactive media that use and fuse the visual arts, animation, video recording, sound recording, writing, and coding. The NCCF grant will be matched with NYS grant funds for a total project cost of \$7000.

Since September 26, the Incubator has held 10 events with 1136 attendees. In addition, FTI hosted 46 community events with 2,023 visitors. FTI continued building its *Veterans Entrepreneurial Network* which is an outgrowth of its Boots to Business Reboot event. The Incubator has hosted monthly gatherings of Veteran businessmen and entrepreneurs to develop

ideas, network, and provide information. A recent Veterans and Active Duty Service Members Entrepreneurial Networking Event attracted 40 attendees, including 8 participants representing veteran-owned businesses.

FTI hosted a workshop entitled *Intellectual Property & Pirate Fight Club*. The instructors for the event were attorneys Rebecca Stadler and John Del Vecchio of Del Vecchio & Stadler, LLP. Topics included patents, trademark, licensing, copyright, and intellectual property. Business owners, inventors, and creative professionals learned important strategies and tactics for protecting their intellectual property.

FTI continued its signature Arts and Business Luncheon Program with Mighty Oak, Hand-made Animation & Design, and Jennifer Ling Datchuk, Porcelain & Installations. The Incubator Art Gallery continued to feature community and campus art exhibitions under the direction of Barbara Racker, Director of the campus Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery. The gallery included well-attended networking receptions for the artists. Exhibitions included a Next Wave of Figurative Painting Art Exhibition, and the paintings of James East. A reception was held and guests viewed the paintings by Fredonia Students: Alison Gugino, Maria Johnson and Erin Ruffino. Their exhibition runs October 29 - December 14, 2018.

The incubator continues to sponsor and support the Northern Chautauqua Young Professionals with their monthly luncheon meetings. This year's Incubator indoor trick or treating attracted 900 guests. The event was supported by FTI interns and five Fredonia student groups.

### **The Career Development Office (CDO):**

The Applied Learning Council worked with the Professional Development Center providing faculty mentorship to award winners of the Instructional Incentive Awards for applied learning innovation. Funding was provided by Academic Affairs to support faculty incorporating high impact, applied learning teaching practices in their courses. Faculty mentors from the Applied Learning Council were paired with faculty winners to help facilitate curriculum changes and impact student success.

The Director of the Career Development Office (CDO) Tracy Collingwood participated in SUNY's fifth annual Applied Learning Conference in Watertown, NY on November 1-2, 2018. Dr. Joseph McFall, a professor in the Department of Psychology, also attended and presented a workshop on "Authentic Research Project-Based Learning in the Introductory Psychology Classroom." Tracy continues to serve on the SUNY Central program planning committee and she is the SUNY Applied Learning Liaison.

The CDO's impact on student-employer engagement has been extensive with the launching of a new partnership with Handshake, a career service management system used by Fortune 500

companies and organizations for students and alumni. Over 3,000 jobs and internships have been posted with 2,800 positions currently available in FREDNetwork powered by Handshake on a daily basis. Engagement has increased by approximately 200% since the launch of the platform. Feedback from students, alumni and employers has been very positive.

Over 400 students participated in the CDO's Network on the Go event which was held during Activities Night. Students were had conversations about careers, internships, and jobs with 17 employers including Agricultural Transport & Logistics, Annex25, Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center, Chautauqua Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Council (CASAC), Citi, Enterprise Holdings, Fredonia - Technology Incubator, Fredonia Mini Maker Faire, GEICO, Greystone Nature Preserve, Lily Dale Assembly, Inc. - Marion H. Skidmore Library, National Postdoctoral Association, Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Northern Chautauqua Soccer Association, Patterson Library, People Inc., and United Way of Northern Chautauqua County.

The CDO collaborated with the School of Business to host Meet the Professionals Night on September 20th. Christopher LaGrow, Associate Director, also presented a session for 68 accounting students to help them present themselves professionally. The CDO counselors reviewed student resumes. The majority of participating CPA firms returned to campus to interview students after the event.

The CDO internship program continues to help students gain experience and connect to employers. Students completed 178 credit-bearing internships during the fall 2018 semester. Relatedly, CDO staff presented 44 workshops to 1,017 students on topics including exploring career pathways, writing resumes and cover letters, conducting a successful job search, and applying to graduate school.

The CDO coordinated the tenth annual Graduate School Week during the week of October 15. A series of workshops devoted to specific graduate school topics were hosted by the offices of Career Development, Graduate Studies, and Financial Aid. The Graduate School Fair was held on October 16th from 4-6 p.m. in the Williams Center. More than 65 programs attended the event.

As a co-sponsor of Writers@Work: An Alumni Writers-in-Residence Series, the CDO assisted with the coordination of James Foley's visit, an alumnus and former U.S. Ambassador. The residency and series of events were held November 8-10th, and were co-sponsored by the Fredonia Convocation series.

The CDO director is co-chairing a Middle States Working Group for Standard 1 – Mission and Goals. The director also is serving on the Watermark Assessment Management Steering Committee representing the AEED Division.

### **Native American Consortium:**

The Fredonia Native American Student Group has grown, and members are participating in campus meetings and events. The club sponsored weekly events and hosted speakers during Native American Heritage Month. The club also participated in Culture Fest Day.

Director Cheryl John participated in several recruitment events including the SUNY Fredonia STEP program campus visit by Silver Creek high school Native American students, and a campus visit for Native American high school from Gowanda Central School District.

Cheryl continues to assist with retention efforts of Fredonia Native American Students. Contacts were made with all Native American Students via emails to inform them of significant campus events, deadlines, and policies that are relevant and emphasized for their benefit.

The director continues to represent Fredonia and the WNY Native American Consortium at local and regional events including: the BOCES Native American Forum meeting for Native American personnel working with students PreK-12 and school administrators; the National Indian Education Conference in Hartford, CT.; and, the Native American SUNY: Western Consortium Network Advisory Board in Niagara Falls, NY.

### **Fredonia Alumni Association:**

Homecoming 2018 was a great success and marked the twentieth anniversary of our combined Theatre and Dance program and the sixtieth anniversary of Dr. Georgiana von Tornow's contributions to our Theatre Dept. The College of Education and the radio station celebrated significant anniversaries. A new class was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Honored classes were recognized-- especially the Classes of 1953, 1958, and 1963. Other events included the third annual Mini Maker Faire, the Ruterbusch 5K Run, the College Symphony Orchestra concert, and athletic contests. Dr. Jonathan Green '85 (Music Performance) and Dianne Kricheldorf '54 (Elementary Education) were honored for their outstanding contributions at the Homecoming Dinner. Award winning actress, Mary McDonnell '74 (Theatre Arts), gave an outstanding presentation. Homecoming 2019 is scheduled for Oct. 18-20, 2019.

Class of 1968 members celebrated their fifty year reunion during Homecoming Weekend. The turnout was excellent and they were pleased to have such a variety of events from which to choose. The alums enjoyed seeing students performing on the stage and on the athletic fields. The Class of 1969 will also celebrate their fiftieth anniversary during Homecoming Weekend next year.

Four alums were invited to campus for the Writers@Work series. The series stressed the importance of writing in various disciplines. Carol Pulver '90, Richard Ryan '02, and Heather (Mansfield) McKeever '00 were on campus Sept. 20 – 22, sharing their experiences in writing for their non-profit organizations. Former Ambassador, James Foley '79 participated in the program Nov. 8–10.

Recent alumni reunions included: Washington, DC, September 27, and a Fredonia Chamber Singers reunion held on campus, October 5-7. The School of Music hosted its annual alumni reception in Rochester, on Nov. 30. Upcoming reunions will be held in Phoenix, AZ, Philadelphia, and Atlanta. An alumni event will be held at a NY Yankees game in New York in May. Additional admissions/alumni events will be held in the spring.

The Senior Challenge is now in the fourteenth year, and the current campaign is being organized by leaders of the Class of 2019. Seniors, led by Class President, Katherine Hanover, will soon be voting on and selecting one project to assist in funding as their class gift to the campus.

### **Advancement/ College Foundation:**

Summary of current funds:

Endowment market value: \$33, 978,388

Nurturing Innovation Campaign: \$16,181,611

The Foundation's receipts: \$1,959,721

On-line giving: \$57,354

The recent sale of the painting by Niko Pirosmani, titled "Georgian Woman Wearing a Lechaki," sold November 27<sup>th</sup> at Sotheby's in London for an estimated \$2.3 million dollars. Net proceeds are anticipated to be approximately \$2.1 million depending on the exchange rate at the time of payments. An endowment will be established in the Foundation to support the prestigious Stefan Zweig collection, as well as archives and special collections in Reed Library.

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) will be on campus on January 15<sup>th</sup> to train leadership teams on fundraising techniques and methods of enhancing partnerships in a centralized fundraising environment. The overall goal is to develop a campus culture for fundraising that is inclusive and spreads beyond our Foundation staff. Select campus leaders, coaches, faculty, and staff will participate in the day-long training.

During the October Fredonia College Foundation Board meeting, the Board approved the following slate of officers for 2019:

- Michael Marletta – Chair
- Joe Falcone – Vice-Chair
- Louann Laurito-Bahgat – Treasurer
- Rachel Martinez-Finn – Secretary
- Dennis Costello – Immediate Past-Chair

The Foundation Board also approved the following new board members for three-year terms:

- Dr. Christopher Mirabelli – President of Declimmune Therapeutics, Inc., and managing partner at HealthCare Ventures LLC.
- Gopal Burgher – Partner at BurgherGray in NYC
- Philip Belina – Co-Founder, Highline Software, Inc.