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**[FacultyStaff] Message from President Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Nov. 17, 2023**

2 messages

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**President's Office** <President.Office@fredonia.edu>

Fri, Nov 17, 2023 at 5:42 PM

Reply-To: president.office@fredonia.edu

To: All Registered students <students@fredonia.edu>, Faculty/Staff group <facultystaff@fredonia.edu>



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**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

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November 17, 2023

Dear Students,

Happy Friday evening! I hope this finds you doing well. I want to take this moment to connect and share a few things with you.

**Giving Thanks and the Upcoming Break**

As you know, the upcoming week will be used by many of us to give thanks for a number of things in our lives. Some of you might travel home and to other places to be with family and friends. At the same time, for some of you, next week might be a time to catch up on work or to simply unplug and take time for self-care. Whatever way you might celebrate or spend this upcoming week in giving thanks, I wish you and your families, friends, and loved ones a safe and wonderful time. Note that when classes resume after next week, it will not be too much longer until the final exams period and conclusion of the fall semester. Hence, let me take that opportunity, as well, to wish you the very best for your final exams and the concluding semester.

## **Congratulations on Some Big Wins**

Congratulations to our following athletic teams on the most recent wins and thank you for making us all proud.

- Men's Ice Hockey vs. Morrisville, win 5 - 3
- Men's Basketball vs. Hilbert, win 79 - 76
- Women's Basketball vs. Hiram, win 68 - 59
- Men's Ice Hockey vs. Buffalo State, win 4-1
- Women's Basketball vs. Hilbert, win 61 - 38

Even when the end result is not a win, Fredonia's student athletes demonstrate tenacity and perseverance. As you know, achieving excellence is a journey that involves valleys, plateaus, and hills. Maintaining the determination to achieve excellence is what makes the difference. Thank you for giving your best.

Coaches, thank you for your work with all our student athletes.

## **Sampling of Activities Across Campus**

Throughout this fall semester, I was pleased to be invited and to attend a few of our students' events or activities, and to tour some areas and programs across our campus. I am always impressed by what I experience from these opportunities. Let me share a few with you.

- I enjoyed attending Dr. Sue McNamara's Strategic Management class where students were preparing product recommendations for local restaurants. It is amazing to see students applying what they are learning at SUNY Fredonia to benefit local businesses.
- We celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Department of Geology and Environmental Sciences. It was good to see many graduates of the program returning to our campus to give back to our students through their fundraising efforts.
- I attended the Scholars Brunch where I enjoyed seeing the students who have received scholarships and the donors who made those gifts possible visiting with each other. I am grateful to the donors for all that they do to enhance access and affordability to the high quality education that SUNY Fredonia offers.
- I was very moved by the Veteran's Remembrance ceremony during which we honored our many students, faculty, and staff, both past and present, who serve our country. Another highlight of the event was the presentation of the annual Fredonia Veterans Scholarships, made possible

by donations to the Fredonia College Foundation. Congratulations to the students who received these awards!

- It was a delight to celebrate with the School of Business at their inaugural Best in Business Awards Ceremony where we recognized some of the wonderful programs our students offer in partnership with local businesses, including Fastenal, recipient of the Best Industry Partner Award. Congratulations to all the honorees and a special thanks to the Richard and Michele Johnson Family Endowment and the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation.
- I was able to tour student learning spaces and facilities in the School of Music thanks to Dr. David Stringham, Dean of the School of Music, and Mr. Marc Levy, Operations Manager. This tour provided me with the opportunity to see the extraordinary facilities and equipment that our students use on a daily basis. These spaces are among the many things that give our students a strong professional edge that leads to their success when they complete their degrees.
- Similarly, I had a tour through the spaces in the Department of Communication, and I offer thanks to Associate Professor Roslyn Smith for such an in-depth tour. Given the facilities and equipment that our students have access to, I came away further assured that they are prepared to lead and work in various real-world environments. At Fredonia, students learn AND do.
- This last weekend, I was very energized when I met with hundreds of students to kick off the 18-year-old tradition of community service at our Fall Sweep activity. This is an entirely student-led activity, and I offer special thanks to the Applied Communications Association student club for organizing the event, and to all the other student groups, clubs, and athletics teams who participated.
- Valeria and I had the privilege of attending the Hillman Opera's performance of *Die Fledermaus*, which was an impressive and dazzling display of Fredonia's talent and further connection to the many community members who attended. Let me say thanks to all the students, faculty, and staff for their work in pulling off such a complex and remarkable performance.
- What a delicious occasion it was when Valeria and I attended the Global Banquet with the international students! Fredonia now welcomes students from 18 different countries, the highest representation of countries in the last decade. I want to thank the students, faculty, and staff who helped organize the event and who attended, and thanks to the

very talented students who offered performances. Thank you to FSA for the array of international dishes that was available for our enjoyment.

I am always pleased when I am able to attend the many ceremonies, activities, performances, and other events involving our students, and this is a manifestation of the excellence that we have at this institution. Thank you to those who extended an invitation to me to share these experiences.



## **Back on Campus**

As you might have heard, I recently was able to move back to Lanford House, the presidential residence for SUNY Fredonia. It is very exciting to be back on campus with you! I am very much looking forward to the increased frequency of opportunities to attend campus events this spring semester.

Everyone, I appreciate your time and being able to share these things with you. I wish each of you a very safe and wonderful week ahead. Students, I wish you the best of luck with your final exams as you finish the fall semester.

Very truly yours,

Dr. K

Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D.  
President and Professor

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Visit this group at <https://groups.google.com/a/fredonia.edu/d/forum/facultystaff>

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**Naomi Baldwin** <Naomi.Baldwin@fredonia.edu>

Fri, Nov 17, 2023 at 5:44 PM

To: "Mr. Joe C. Johnson" <jjohnson42@windstream.net>, "Mrs. Cynthia A. Ahlstrom" <leg.keith@gmail.com>, "The Honorable Frank A. Pagano" <pagano.frank@gmail.com>, "Mr. Anthony J. Dolce" <adolceconsulting@gmail.com>, "Mr. Richard J. Morrisroe" <richm@vandettelaw.com>, Tamu Graham-Reinhardt <tamu.a.reinhardt@jpsny.org>, "The Honorable Stephen W. Keefe" <stephenkeefe@netscape.net>, "Mr. Richard Alexander" <rlalexander83@gmail.com>

Cc: Dawn E Hunt <dawn.hunt@fredonia.edu>

Dear College Council members,  
Please see an update from President Kolison below:

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