As you may know, the SUNY Faculty Senate Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee is sponsoring an event entitled “Innovative Exploration Forum: Undergraduate Research in New York State's Public Higher Education System”. This event will bring together SUNY Administration officials and state legislators with undergraduate scholars from each SUNY campus. We are seeking nominations for undergraduate students to present research posters at this event. The details provided below can also be found at: http://www.newpaltz.edu/research/usr_events.html.

This event is an opportunity to showcase our students and our scholarly endeavors. It is also a chance to educate our legislators about both the education and research process so they may better understand and support our academic work.

We are asking faculty to nominate a student (or a student research group) who have worked on a significant research project. The students must be enrolled at New Paltz in the spring 2014 semester and be able to travel to Albany on Tuesday April 1, 2014, approximately 8a-5p (all expenses will be paid, lunch will be provided). Mentors are welcome, but not required to attend. **Nomination are due February 27, 2014.**

The nomination letter should address the following characteristics of the student (s):
- ability to produce an final abstract by March 12, 2014 (this date is approximate),
- ability to describe the project to individuals not familiar with the field of study;
- ability to describe the project in a poster format (instructions: http://www.suny.edu/facultysenate/GradPosterInstructions.cfm);
- ability to explain the relevance of the project to NYS and broader communities;
- ability to understand her/his role as a representative of both New Paltz and the SUNY system;
- willingness to participate in follow up activities such as the production a "journal of proceedings";
- representativeness of the diversity our student population; and,
- hometown (as a representation of diversity).

The nomination should also include a description of the project (no more than 300 words)

The RSCA Advisory Board will review the nomination letters and choose 3 research projects (the limit established for each campus) for participation in “Innovative Exploration Forum”. Alternates will also be selected and invited to attend should additional poster space become available. Recommendations will be made to the Provost and the students will be informed of their selection status on or about March 10th. Projects will be selected to represent the diversity of disciplines and diversity of student backgrounds (including geographic). The quality of the project (including progress toward publication or presentation) and the relation of the project to issue relevant to New York State will also be considered.

Nomination letters should be sent to rsca@newpaltz.edu with 'nomination' in the subject line. The nomination letter must be saved in a pdf or rtf format. Supplementary information will not be considered. Letters are **due February 27, 2014** and should include the student’s (or students’) email, hometown, and phone number.