



## IN THIS ISSUE

Tony's Notes ..... 2

Clean Sweep 2016 ..... 2

Commencement 2016 ....3

Class of 2016 ..... 2

XAE Student Achievements ..... 4

World Class Leader ..... 5

EOP Conference ..... 6

Student Initiative Program ..... 6

Study Abroad/Guatemala 2016 ..... 7

## Hello EOP Family!

I want to wish you a productive and beautiful fall season. We have a newsletter for you full of the incredible accomplishments of our students and alumni, so let me tell you how we've grown:

We have been awarded funding from the OOP in Albany to place one hundred new students here at New Paltz over the next four years! That's the kind of impact we strive for, and our newest EOP family member, Alicia Mejias, is the Advisor that will help those students achieve their potential.

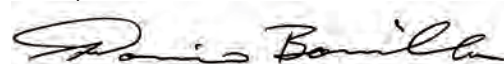
The 4th Bi-Annual EOP Conference was a huge success and

complemented by the Library Gallery featuring EOP for the first time. We had a fun and informative selection of workshops by Alums and current students and could not be more proud of their accomplishments.

I invite you to read here what we've been up to and come join us for the Alumni Reunion October 14th from 1 – 4 p.m. Register online at [www.newpaltz.edu/alumni](http://www.newpaltz.edu/alumni), your EOP family is looking forward to food, fun and music with you!

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the reunion-

Tony Bonilla



EOP Director



Antonio Bonilla and first year student intern, Perla Reyes.





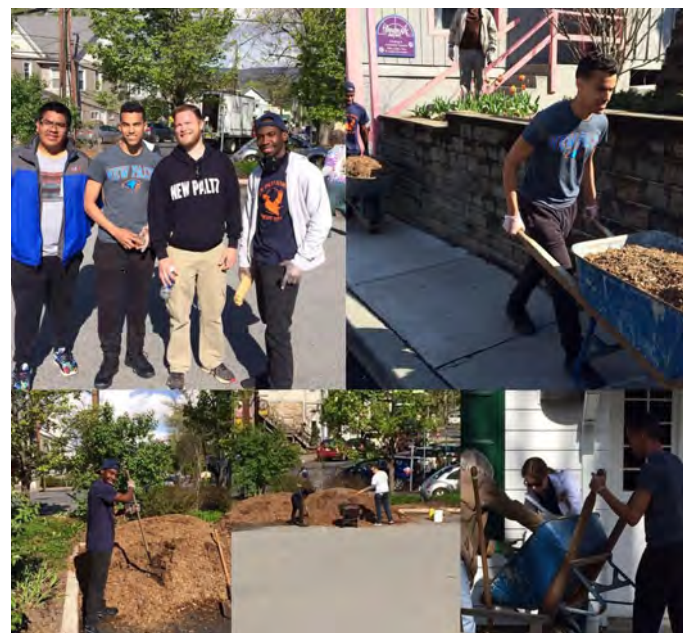
# Tony's Notes

This year our fearless assistant coach, Tony Bonilla, saw the Men's Volleyball team toward the NCAA Division III national championship.



Tony's daughter, Nyah Bonilla, was among the Class of 2016.  
Congratulations Nyah!

# Clean Sweep 2016

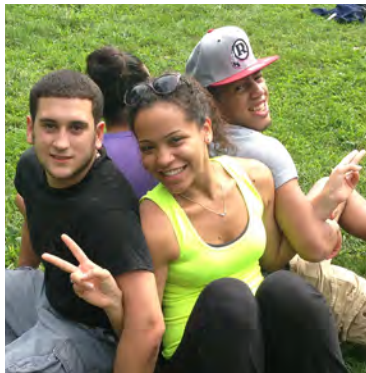




# Commencement 2016 **Moving Forward**



# Class of 2016 **Looking Back**





## Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE) Student Achievements

Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE) is a national honor society for opportunity program students with over 125 chapters. The Beta Omicron Chapter at SUNY New Paltz bears the distinction of having inducted the largest number of students for a chartering induction. The friends, family, staff and members of the campus community gathered on May 5, 2016 to honor our new inductees.

Also at this year's ceremony we have 32 students that have earned an upgrade distinction. These students have continued to strive for and excel academically and also deserve recognition.



### The 2016 inductees are:

Rami Abouemira	Jabari Dash	Jing Lin	Pamela Reyes
Unique Airall	Jarrelle Dixon	Estefany Lopez	Anthony Rivera
Jordan Almonte	Daniel Francisco	Kaitlin Lopez	Kaina Rivera
Kendall Anderson	Marilyn Garcia	Jeremy Luna	Cesar Rodriguez
Melyssa Arguello	Christine Garmendiz	Jefiny Marte	Luisana Roman
Jesscia Augustine	Mishelle Gonzalez Perez	Mickandres Matias	Daniela Rua
Fousseni Baba	Nana Gyawu	Shanel Montreuil	Analís Salcedo Perez
Madanny Baez	Julissa Hernandez	Ana Morel	Alexis Shea
Cristal Batista	Geraldine Humbert	Jessica Murphy	Tenzin Sherpa
Aumma Begum	Hydia Hunter	Jeffrey Owusu	Moesha Smith
Harry K. Bonsu*	Khaddija Jobe	Yesenia Pazmino	Luisanna Sosa
Jacklyn Borja	Adiaratou Kaba	Ayaris Perez	Toni Starks
Armanis Brown	Cherifatou Kabore	Delilah Perez	Leidy Suero
Robyn Camacho	Clare Kelly-Barra*	Rou Hong Piao	Keuris Torres
Melissa Camacho-Molano	Sabikun Khan	Paula Piedrahita	Ana Valdez
Ramon Capellan	Mattathia Komla	Pedro Pincay	Travone Williams
Geliza Castro	Scarlet Lantigua	Xiomelis Ramirez	



### The 2016 Upgrade Achievers are:

Jacqueline Aguilar — Emerald (S15)	Aileen Gonzalez — Diamond (F15)	Angela Pujols — Emerald (F15)
Kimberly Aguilar — Emerald (S15)	Alexandria Griffiths — Ruby (F15)	Tusha Ramnarine — Ruby (F15)
Rabih Ahmed — Emerald (F15)	Desique Harrison — Ruby (F15)	Adiana Rivera — Emerald (S15)
Jenisse Bouret — Diamond (S15)	Samuel Jimenez — Emerald (F15)	Claiane Rojas — Ruby (F15)
Michael Caro — Ruby (S15)	Kerry Kamrudin — Emerald (F15)	Kimberly Roman — Ruby (F15)
Luisa Cruz — Emerald (F15)	Raquell Kissi — Emerald (F15)	Gina Rondon — Emerald (S15)
Nearlyse Dandas — Emerald (F15)	Indira Larancuente — Emerald (F15)	Ashley Salgado — Ruby (F15)
Victoria Espinosa — Ruby (F15)	Kylie Layne — Ruby (F15)	Akeem Samuels — Emerald (F15)
Stephanie Fernandez — Emerald (F15)	Rosalina Lopez — Emerald (S15)	Tommy Truong — Emerald (F15)
Beverlie Fleurinay — Emerald (S15)	Valentina Mogollon — Emerald (S15)	Kimberly Velazquez — Diamond (F15)
Jessica Gomez — Emerald (S15)	Devorah Price — Emerald (S15)	

**Ruby: 3.5–3.74 • Emerald: 3.75–3.99 • Diamond: 4.00**

**\*Honorary Inductee**

## A World Class Leader

There is a relatively small segment of leaders in the business world who seem to have a keen mind for business and a passion for service...service to societies most vulnerable and often times forgotten. Mr. Bonsu has built his career over the past 25 years being one of those people 'getting things done' and driving results. Harry exudes a sincere passion for service to others. Through collaboration, partnerships, relationship building and community service Harry exude a sincere passion for service to others.

Harry K. Bonsu is the Senior Vice President for Administration and Member Services at Independence Care System, a Manage Long Term Care Program in New York City, which serves over 6,000 adults with physical disabilities and seniors with chronic illness. In his role,

Mr. Bonsu manages 8 departments and over 100 people.

Prior to coming to the Independence Care System, Mr. Bonsu was the Chief Financial and Administrative Officer for Safe Space, New York, which offers a wide range of integrated family supports and youth focused programs, including community and mental health services designed to help families build a more hopeful future for themselves and their children.

In keeping with the spirit of business and leadership, in 2007 Mr. Bonsu founded Golden Shores Financial Group, an insurance and tax Services Company currently based in the Mid-Hudson Valley area and serves all 50 states.

A graduate of SUNY New Paltz, Mr. Bonsu earned his Bachelor's degree

in Political Science, has a degree in Business Management and an MBA in Business Finance.

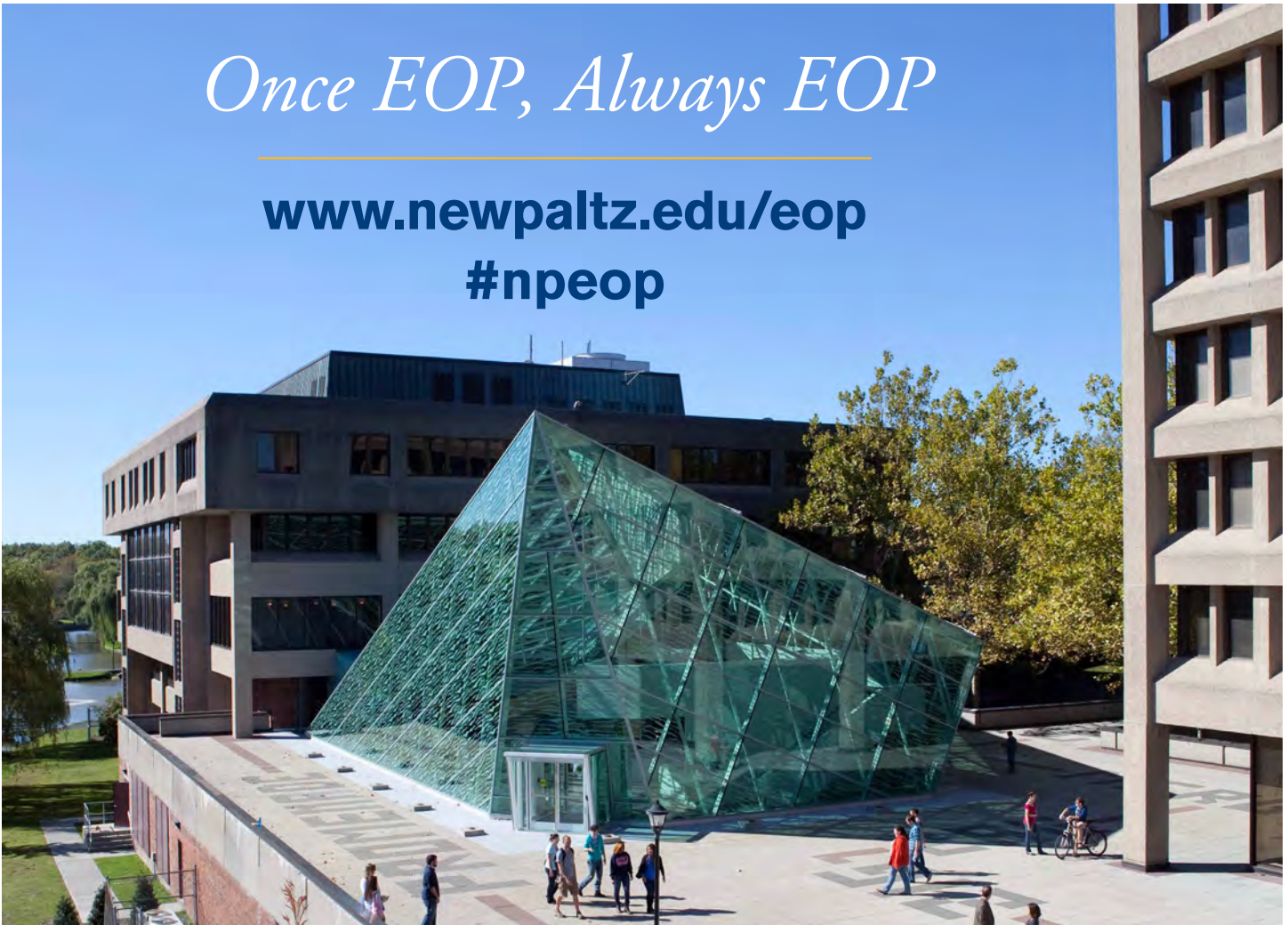
Mr. Bonsu is a proud and active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, where he is a board member for the Poughkeepsie alumni chapter and has served as the Treasurer for the 64 chapters in the Northeastern Region for eight straight years.

With a passion for philanthropy, Harry sits on several not for profit boards, whose focus is serving the youth, seniors, disabled and underserved populations. He is the Chairman for Beyond the Dreams Foundation & Co-Founder and Treasurer for Dream Builders Foundation, Inc. For the past 20 years, Harry has provided scholarship opportunities for students at his alma mater, who have demonstrated leadership qualities and passion for community service.

*Once EOP, Always EOP*

[www.newpaltz.edu/eop](http://www.newpaltz.edu/eop)

#npeop





# EOP Conference



## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Raquell Kissi** will attend graduate school in SUNY Stony Brook.

**Akeem Samuels** will attend graduate school in SUNY Albany.

**Kylie Francis** will attend graduate school in SUNY Albany.

**Jenisse Bouret** was accepted into the Viacom Summer Associate program, which is a competitive 10-week paid training program for highly motivated recent college graduates with experience in and passion for new media.

**Jesus Silvestre Bonilla** was accepted into the MBA program at SUNY New Paltz.

**Betsy Weiner** was accepted into the graduate school at SUNY Albany.

**Jabari Dash** will be participating in a summer long internship at Target in Minnesota.



Akeem Samuels

## Student Initiative Program Spring 2016

**February 3rd: Spring Social**

Food, Games and Fun!

**February 24th: Get ready to Interview! How to make the right impression and get the job/internship!**

Do everything right in that next interview! This workshop will give you the tools you need to make employers sure you are the best fit for them!

**March 3rd: Study Abroad "Snack and Chat"**

See the world! Adventure! Get the real story from students about what they did and how they got there!

**March 9th: Stress Relief!**

Come take a break from midterms and lighten up!

**April 6th: Depression**

Are you curious about the signs of depression? Wonder if you or a friend might be more than just "blue"? Come learn how to recognize the signs and how to cope. Millions suffer from various forms of depression and there are ways to stay productive and get through it!



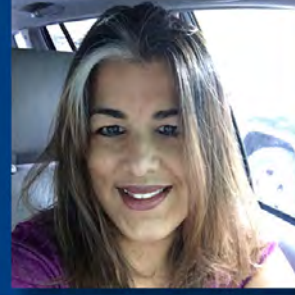




# STUDY ABROAD GUATEMALA SUMMER 2015







**2016 EOP STAFF:** Robert Hancock, Clare Kelly-Barra, Christine N. Featherston, Jessica Purcell, Rita Celariste, Antonio Bonilla, Ivelisse Tuttle, Siuyim Auyeung, Courtney McDermott, Alicia Mejias and Erica Parker

*Once EOP, Always EOP*

**Educational Opportunity Program**

State University of New York

Haggerty 401

1 Hawk Drive

New Paltz, NY 12561-2433

Phone: 845-257-3226

Fax: 845-256-3273

For feedback, questions or content submissions for the EOP newsletter, please address:

Courtney McDermott, EOP Advisor

EOP Newsletter Editor

[mcdermoc@newpaltz.edu](mailto:mcdermoc@newpaltz.edu)

[www.newpaltz.edu/eop](http://www.newpaltz.edu/eop)

