

**Donald P. Christian**  
**President**  
**SUNY New Paltz**

**Donald P. Christian** was appointed the eighth president of SUNY New Paltz in June 2011 after serving as interim president during 2010-2011. Previously, Christian served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the College in 2009-2010.

As president, Christian is responsible for all aspects of campus academic and administrative operations. The president represents the campus's interests within the SUNY System, with local, state, and federal elected officials and surrounding communities, and leads and supports many aspects of the College's role in SUNY and New York State economic development initiatives. In 2013-14, the College began implementing a strategic plan developed under the president's leadership; primary goals of the plan are to take specific actions that improve the quality of the student experience and the College's educational contributions, strengthen the College's role and visibility in the region, enhance alumni relations, improve philanthropic success, and enhance institutional effectiveness.

Prior to his arrival at New Paltz, President Christian was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; associate dean for the Biological Sciences at the University of Montana; and held many positions at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, including chair of Biology and director of graduate studies in the Biology Graduate Program.

President Christian earned a B.S. in Wildlife Biology, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Zoology from Michigan State University.