#### College Council Meeting April 16, 2015

<u>Present</u>: President Christian, Mr. Basch (acting as chair), Dr. Venables, Mr. DiCarlo, Mrs. Kuhlmann, Mr. Catalinotto, Mr. Abt (phone), Mr. Cozzolino (phone), Mr. Law (phone), Mr. Okundaye (Student Association president), Dr. Anderson (faculty representative); Vice Presidents Halstead, Marks, Rooney, Eaton, and Wright. Guests: Ms. Laura Barrett, dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. The Council approved the minutes of the March 5, 2015, meeting.

<u>Chairman's Report</u>: Mr. Basch opened and stated that he would serve as acting chair for the meeting since Mr. Abt was away. Mr. Basch said that he's been affiliated with SUNY New Paltz for 30 years and was pleased to lead the meeting. He noted that Dean Barrett would give a presentation about liberal arts and sciences, and also reminded the Council about attending the upcoming commencement ceremonies.

President's Report: President Christian stated that we had a very successful "Accepted Student Day" on March 28 and another coming up on April 18. This is part of the College's work to help students (and their parents) decide on New Paltz among the average 6-8 schools that students now consider. The president noted that application numbers have been strong, but "yielding" those students is the challenge that we face between now and the start of fall semester. The number of paid deposits has been tracking closely with last year's pattern. Where we stand after May 1 will be most telling. This is the national date for students to declare their intentions, even though we receive applications and accept students right up to the start of fall semester.

President Christian shared that the Admissions staff had done a tremendous job in a challenging environment, and the entire campus community pitched in to help prospective students and their parents learn about the tremendous opportunities available to students at New Paltz. The College is extremely attentive to its recruitment efforts because of heightened concern across the higher education landscape about declining enrollments because of demographic, economic, and other forces. Those forces are perhaps especially apparent in the Northeast. With 75% of the College's core instructional budget coming from tuition (only 25% from taxpayer revenues), SUNY New Paltz's budgetary health is sharply dependent on enrollment.

The enacted state budget for next year includes the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the five-year rational tuition increase (\$300 for in-state students). The net effect of tuition increase, virtually no new taxpayer revenue, and multiple financial commitments (including increased TAP support, salary increases negotiated at the state level, new positions committed to the new mechanical engineering program) is that our budget for next year will be essentially flat, with little flexibility to invest in new positions and programs. We are in the process now of scrutinizing pending vacancies from retirement, resignation, and non-renewal to reallocate them from areas of declining enrollment to departments and programs where instructional demand is greatest.

President Christian noted that the Council may have read about a recent student protest about tuition increases. The president provided members with copies of a recent message sent to the campus community that is a response to the concerns and issues the students' expressed.

This fiscal year's fund-raising total as of April 1 is more than \$2.5 million, including bequests (booked using standard industry protocols). This compares with \$1.2 million last year at this time.

The president shared that one of the College's really important strategic plan goals is figuring out ways to better engage alumni in the life of the institution. This year, the campus acted on many exciting initiatives to meet this goal, including:

- Hosted several outstanding "President's Roundtables" that bring successful alumni or
  other supporters together with students, helping our students gain important career and
  life guidance as we build new relationships with people who may support the College.
- Organized and hosted a summit entitled "Successful Women: What Does it Take?" We welcomed 32 women scholars and business leaders, most of them New Paltz alumnae, who spoke with students and responded to their questions in five panels organized by the five academic units. Our students, women and men, engaged actively in these discussions and flocked to speak individually with the panelists.
- Identified at least six potential new members of the Foundation Board, who will be asked this spring to join.
- Launched a "100 Days Senior Celebration" on February 6 to help graduating seniors think about sustaining connections to the College after graduation.
- Alumni Relations, partnering with the Career Resource Center, placed 29 first-year students in internships with alumni-employees. The two units are planning an "Alumni Discovery" program in which a select team of students will conduct up to 500 interviews with alumni during summer 2015 to gain insights into alumni perceptions of their New Paltz education and help connect them to the College. Students will receive compensation and a great experience.
- Planning multiple alumni gatherings across New York and the U.S.

SUNY New Paltz has earned a "Silver" STARS rating (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System), a program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS assesses sustainability performance in academics, campus and public engagement, operations, and planning and administration. The STARS data give us the opportunity to track development of sustainability initiatives over time, and benchmark our work to other institutions, providing a path for us to move towards STARS Gold.

Mr. Basch said that the Foundation has accomplished great work that he is both fond of and thankful for. The board has dedicated considerable energy focused toward fundraising and making the institution better always. He thanked the president, Vice President Marks, and the board for their success in this area.

Mr. Abt echoed Mr. Basch's comments and noted that the College's fundraising efforts should work very well for the large alumni base that New Paltz has. President Christian thanked the members for their support and recognition.

Mr. Abt asked what the graduation rates are for full-time New Paltz students. President Christian replied that the College's 4-year rate is 55% and 6-year rate is 73%. He also noted that these are narrow measures of institutional success as the metric looks at only first-year students. Transfer students are not reflected in graduation statistics.

Vice President Eaton stated that the national average 4-year graduation rate at public and private universities is 29%; 6-year is 55%. President Christian said the College has a real opportunity to increase its 4-year rate and bring it closer to the 6-year rate. This can be achieved by identifying course bottlenecks, supporting students, and increasing curricula.

Mr. DiCarlo asked how this year's 4-year graduation rate compares with 30 years ago. Vice President Eaton replied that the 4-year graduation rate in 1980 was below the national average at approximately 19-20%.

Dr. Anderson inquired about first-year retention rate statistics. Vice President Eaton replied that the overall first-year retention rate is 90%. President Christian concurred with the overall rate and added that the retention rate for African American students is 92%, EOP students 91%, and Latino students 91%.

Mr. Okundaye asked about sophomore retention rates. The president said that the College was looking into those statistics as well.

<u>Dr. Laura Barrett:</u> Dr. Barrett thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak about the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LA&S). She has been dean at SUNY New Paltz for eight months after serving as dean for five years at another public university in Georgia. Dean Barrett provided an overview of her unit and discussed specific initiatives and programs of interest. See attached PowerPoint presentation.

There are 17 departments, 21 major programs, and more than a dozen concentrations in LA&S. Dean Barrett also noted that LA&S has approximately 2,700 student majors with 43% residing on campus, and 51% of New Paltz's total student credit hours. Students can choose from nearly three dozen minors, including interdisciplinary programs in Asian Studies, Black Studies, Evolutionary Studies, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. Many students also choose to double major or combine minors during their studies.

Dean Barrett said that LA&S has maintained fairly even enrollment across programs with a few notable exceptions. For example, the Public Relations concentration within Communication has grown by 50% in the last three years. Communication Disorders continues to be one of the most sought after programs in the College and the Deaf Studies minor is the most popular minor at New Paltz. And next spring, the Speech, Language and Hearing Center will be renovated, increasing capacity for the graduate program.

The dean described a number of noteworthy LA&S initiatives to the Council, including:

- This year, the College hired its first digital humanities faculty member, who will work with faculty across the campus to create an interdisciplinary scholarship center.
- Two years ago, a Global Information Systems (GIS) specialist joined the geography faculty to work with faculty and students to expand GIS opportunities.
- In the past year, Languages, Literatures and Cultures worked with the Center for International Programs to bring two languages to the College – Arabic and Portuguese.
- The Department of Political Science boasts some of the College's most unique experiential learning programs, including Model European Union.
- Psychology and Sociology are among the most popular programs and also offer great experiential learning opportunities, including a minor in Disaster Studies through the Institute for Disaster Mental Health (IDMH). IDMH also launched a new advanced certificate in trauma and mental health.

Dean Barrett said that many programs also sponsor lectures, presentations and conferences that can appeal to the entire College. For example, this year, LA&S welcomed environmentalist Bill McKibben to campus, Evolutionary Studies hosted a spring seminar series, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies hosted a conference on Sex, Power and Money, and IDMH held its annual conference with this year's focus on responding to climate change.

The dean ended her presentation with a focus on the LA&S strategic plan. The plan outlines goals, including increasing student/faculty research and faculty team-taught classes, and enhancing the quality of the academic experience for students and faculty. The document will help streamline LA&S work and counter the perception that the liberal arts are impractical and out of touch.

Mr. DiCarlo asked if the College still had a legislative internship with Albany. Dean Barrett replied no. The president said that the NYS Assembly has its own program in which New Paltz students participate.

Mr. DiCarlo asked if there has ever been an attempt to get more right, conservative speech on campus. The dean replied that we do not discourage anybody from bringing different viewpoints on campus. Mr. DiCarlo asked if we are reaching out for alternative views. Mr. Okundaye replied that it would be useful to hold an event with speakers who offer differing points of view. Students could see what a real political debate looks like outside of college.

Mr. DiCarlo stated that people are afraid of speaking out and that he is concerned students who may have minority viewpoints do not have the opportunity to have their voices heard. He noted that this may especially be the case at liberal arts colleges where discussion and free expression of ideas on the conservative spectrum may be hampered. Dean Barrett emphasized that liberal and liberal arts colleges are two very different things.

<u>Budget Update:</u> See attached PowerPoint slide. Vice President Halstead stated that the College achieved its target for tuition collections for 2014-2015, and will exceed the target by \$1.2-\$1.5 million. The additional revenue will be deposited into a one-time funds account. The vice president noted that expenditures are well-below the personal service expenditure allocation, but

slightly above the temporary service allocation. She noted it is natural to see a "see-saw" between these two numbers. Vice President Halstead also stated that utility expenditures are doing really well and are currently under the utilities target for this year, primarily due to lower costs compared with last year.

Mr. Basch concluded noting that this was the last Council meeting of the academic year. He wished everyone a good summer. The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Winter

Richard Winters

Community & Government Relations Associate

# Liberal Arts & Sciences: An Overview

### Majors

Anthropology

**Asian Studies** 

**Black Studies** 

**Communication Disorders** 

**Communication Studies** 

 Concentrations: Interpersonal/ Intercultural Communication, Organizational Communication, and Public Relations

**Digital Media Production** 

Economics

Concentrations: General, Business, and International Economics

English

 Concentrations: General, Creative Writing, and Graduate Preparatory

French

Geography

 Concentrations: General, Planning, and Environmental

History

International Relations

Journalism

Latin American & Caribbean Studies

Media Management

Philosophy

Political Science

Psychology

Concentrations: Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Psychobiology

Sociology

Concentrations: General, Criminology, and Human Services

Spanish

Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies

#### Minors

Anthropology

**Ancient Studies** 

Asian Studies\*

**Black Studies** 

**Communication Studies** 

Creative Writing

Deaf Studies\*

**Disaster Studies\*** 

**Economics** 

English

Environmental Studies\*

**Evolutionary Studies\*** 

Film & Video Studies\*

French

Geography

German

History

**Italian Studies** 

Jewish Studies\*

Journalism

Linguistics\*

Latin American & Caribbean Studies

Medieval/Early Modern Studies\*

Native American Studies\*

Philosophy

Political Science

International Relations

Law & Politics

Psychology

Industrial & Organizational Psychology

Religious Studies\*

Sociology

Spanish

Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies \*Interdisciplinary Minors

### Growth & Innovation HE

# Growth & Innovation

# Departments of Communication/Digital Media & Journalism

- •50% growth in 5 years
- Growing public relations concentration
- Equipment upgrades

Department of Communication Disorders

## Growth & Innovation

- Curricular Revision
- Digital Humanities
- Geography
- Languages, Literatures & Cultures



PUC-Rio graduate student Veronica Gomes Afonso (center) leads a classroom discussion in Portuguese.

# Growth & Innovation

- Political Science
- Model EU
- Psychology and Counseling
- IDMH: Advanced Certificate in Trauma & Disaster Mental Health (online program)
- Sociology



New Paltz students participate in the Model European Union.

### **Experiential Learning**

- Global Engagement Program
- Disaster Mental Health trip to Israel
- United Nations Semester Program
- Harvard Model UN

Disaster Mental Health students with a reinforced concrete shelter near cattle pens at Kibbutz Saad.



#### Internships

- 204 students enrolled in internships this spring; 136 in fall
- Offering LA&S Summer Internship Scholarships in Summer 2015, all funded by Jeff Korn, an alumnus of LA&S
- Amanda Ruschak (Public Relations) Kingston Land Trust
- Sam La Covara (Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies) Crime Victim's Assistance Program
- Danielle Halikias (History) Vassar Brothers Medical Center

### Field Experiences

- Kaitlyn Lavacca (Sociology Human Services) New Paltz Youth Program, Step One at the North East Center for Special Care
- Monica Glosque (Sociology Human Services) Family of Woodstock, Midway; Center for Spectrum Services

### Study Abroad

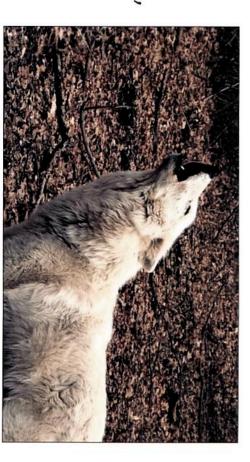
- London Theatre Seminar
- London Art Seminar
- Université de Franche Comté (Besancon, France)
- Universidad de Sevilla (Spain)
- German Language Studies at Kapito Language School (Germany)
- Spanish Language Studies at Universidad de Oviedo (Spain)
- Charles University (Prague, Czech Republic)
- Kingston University (UK)
- Universidad de Especialidades Espíritu Santo (Ecuador)

- University of Limerick (Ireland)
- Jamaica Service-Learning Program (Jamaica)
- Cardiff University (UK)
- Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina
- University of Dundee (UK)
- International Social
- Welfare in South Africa
- Curtin University (Perth, Australia)
- Nagasaki University of Foreign Studies (Japan)
- University of Huddersfield (UK)
- Dankook University (Korea)

- Italian Language Studies at the University of Urbino (Italy)
- Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Spain)
- Victoria University (Melbourne, Australia)
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Spain)
   National Taipei
- University (Taiwan) Meiji University (UK)
- Middlesex University (UK)
- Victoria University (New Zealand)
- American University in Cairo (Egypt)

### **Awards and Honors**

 Digital Media Production students' film "Waning Wolf" named an Official Selection at Woodstock Film Festival.



Brenna McCaffrey '14 (Anthropology, prize from the Association for Feminist earned Undergraduate Sylvia Forman Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies) Anthropology in December.





### Living and Learning Communities

- East-West
- Romance Languages

### New in 2015-16:

- LGBTQ
- Sustainability/Environmental Studies





# 2014 Provost Awards for Faculty Excellence

- Hamilton Stapell (History) Teaching Excellence
- Eve Waltermaurer (Sociology) Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity
- Navin Viswanathan (Psychology)

   Outstanding Pre-Tenure Faculty

### 2014 LA&S Teacher of the Year

Penny Freel (English)

### Team-Taught Courses

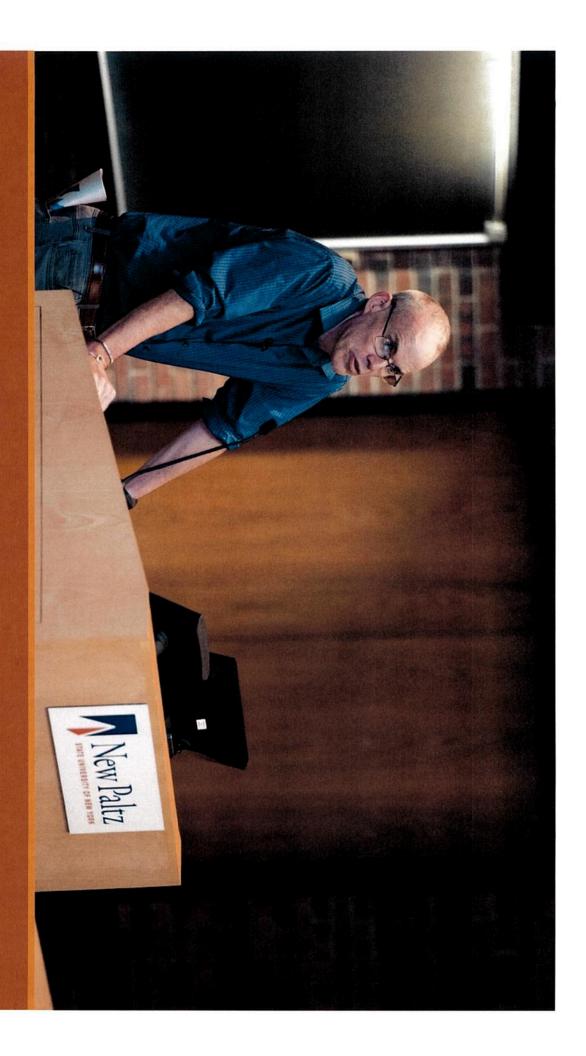
- "Inequality, Gendered Violence, and Migration in Guatemala"
- Annee Roschelle and Luz Porras (Sociology and Languages, Literatures, and Culture)
- "Climate Change Science, Politics, and Policy"
- Dan Lipson and Rosemary Millham (Political Science and Secondary Education)
- "Inside Out" course at the Brookwood Center in Sullivan County
- Alexandra Cox and Karanja Carroll (Sociology and Black Studies)

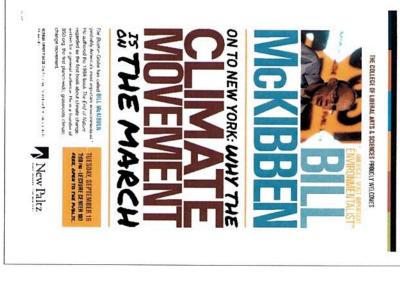
### **Faculty Publications**

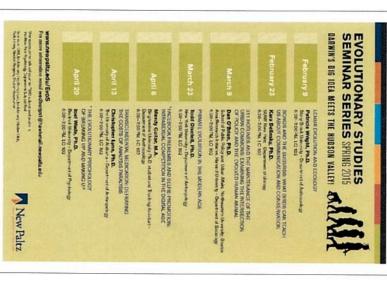
- Elstein, David. Democracy in Contemporary Confucian Philosophy. New York: Routledge, 2014.
- Geher, Glenn. Evolutionary Psychology 101. New York: Springer, 2014
- Halasz, Judith R. The Bohemian Ethos: Questioning Work and Making a Scene on the Lower East Side. New York: Routledge, 2015.
- Jacobs, Jaap and L.H. Roper. The Worlds of the Seventeenth-Century Hudson Valley. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2014.
- Meeker, Lauren. Singing Sentiment. Color DVD, 43 minutes. Berkeley: Berkeley Media LLC, 2014.
- Phillips, Lisa A. Unrequited: Women and Romantic Obsession. New York: HarperCollins, 2015.

### Faculty/Student Collaborations

- Johnsen, L.L., Guitar, A.E., and Geher, G. (2015). "Divorce patterns and the male-to-female mortality ratio: is midlife crisis the death of men?" The Journal of Evolutionary Studies Consortium, 6(2), 33-41.
- Lewis, Dylan and Meeker, Lauren. "CQ...CQ...CQ...Who's Your Elmer?" (2013). 30:21. (Filmed screened through RSCA on campus. Currently seeking distribution deal.)
- Nelson, L. 2013. "English Loan Words in Mandarin Chinese: Phonology vs. Semantics." In Proceedings of the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. 11-13 April.
- Nystrom K.C., Mackey A. 2014. "Dissection and surgery at the Erie County Poorhouse." Presented at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Calgary, Alberta Canada, April 8-12.
- Cyrus Mulready and students from his Spring 2013 and 2015 Honors seminar, "The Materials of History, Thought, and Art," collaborated on the online exhibit, "Storied Objects: a Material History of New Paltz." The site is hosted by the Southeastern New York Library Resources Council's *Hudson* River Valley Heritage project, which is catalogued by WorldCAT









Bill McKibben 9/16/14

**Spring EvoS Seminar Series** 

Lisa Phillips 2/17/15



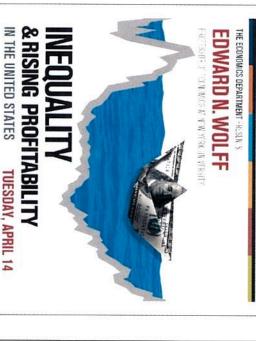




Regina Calcaterra 3/11/15

Human Rights Panel 4/13/15

Alissa Quart 4/13/15

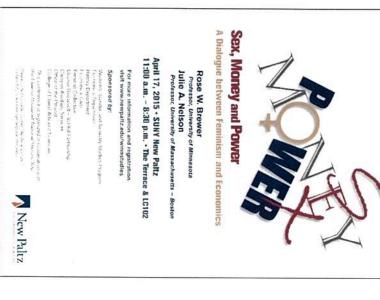


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New Paltz

5:00-6:30 P.M. Il you are a person with a deads of who will require addressed one, plause context Economics Experiment. SURY Hear Patz. 645-957-9960 as soon at possible. TUESDAY, APRIL 14 FREE AND OPEN TO ALL **LECTURE CENTER 100** 

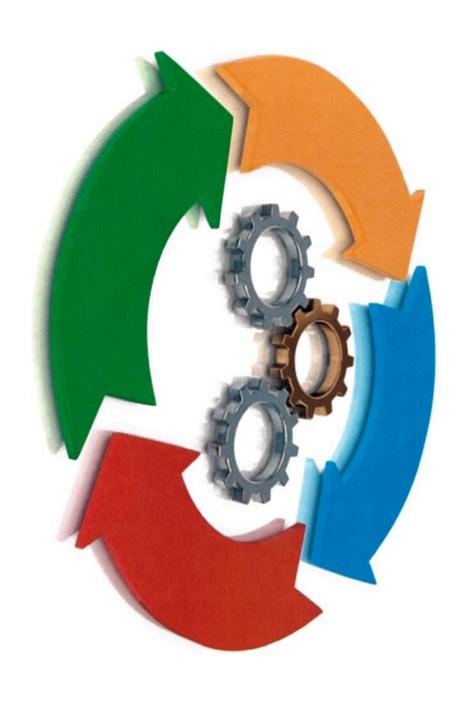




Dr. Edward Wolff 4/14/15

Sex, Money & Power 4/17/15

IDMH 4/17/15

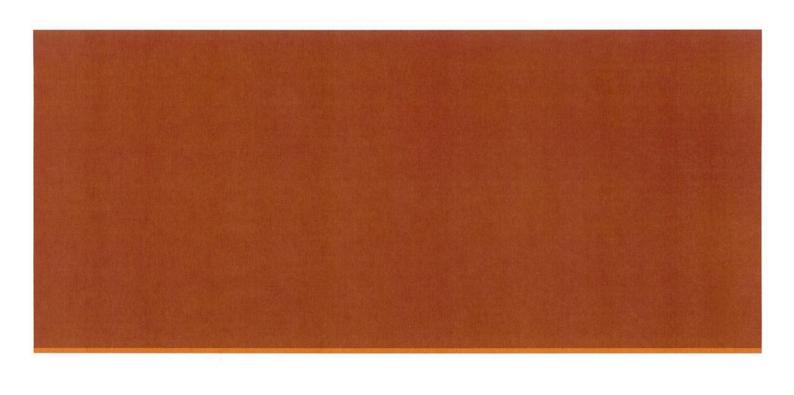


# LA&S Strategic Plan

### LA&S Strategic Plan

### **Proposed Initiatives**

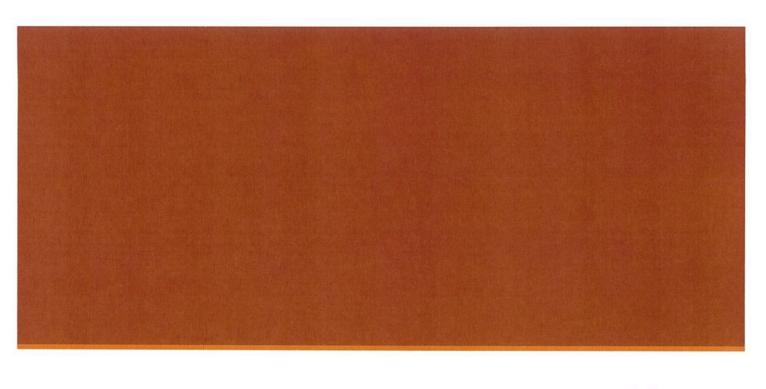
- Represent and promote the strengths of faculty and student research in contributing to the quality of teaching and learning
- Enhance quality of academic experience for students and faculty
- Articulate the LA&S story of liberal education for students and the public



### Newsletter

- Published in fall and spring
- Email distribution to alumni, faculty, and staff
- Available for viewing online at http://sites.newpaltz.edu/collegelasnew sletter/





# Potential Partnerships

## Joint BA/MPA in Public Administration

Partnership with the Roosevelt Institute at SUNY Albany

### **Autism Initiative**

Partnership with School of Education and School of Fine & Performing Arts



### **Budget Update**

College Council April 16, 2015



### FY 14-15 Status of Core Instructional Budget As of April 15, 2015

#### REVENUE

		Budget		Actual	
Fall Tuition & Fees	<del>()</del>	24,369,250	↔	25,091,228	
Spring Tuition & Fees	€9	24,982,950	<del>co</del>	24,343,902	519
Total Funded Generated by Campus Activities	€	49,352,200	↔	49,435,130	
State Support	8	16,207,000	₩	16,207,000	
Total Revenue	€9	65,559,200	€	65,642,130	
EXPENDITURES					
		Initial Budget		<u>Actual</u>	
Personal Service	↔	51,964,582	↔	38,734,071	
Temporary Service	↔	3,786,618	↔	3,546,025	
Utilities	s	2,902,200	↔	1,232,302	
Supplies, Travel, Contracts & Equipment	↔	4,167,776	↔	3,119,314	
Tuition Scholarship	S	2,738,024	8	2,625,771	
Total Expenditures	↔	65,559,200	€9	49,257,483	