

October 30, 2009

Provost (Jones):

On behalf of our colleagues on the Undergraduate Committee of the State University of New York University Faculty Senate, we are inviting your campus to participate in “SUNY Undergraduates Shaping New York’s Future: A Showcase of Scholarly Posters at the Capitol.” The event is scheduled for February 2, 2010 in the Legislative Office Building in Albany – a venue that receives high foot traffic during the peak legislative season.

This celebration is designed to bring together some of SUNY’s most talented undergraduate scholars with SUNY Administration officials and members of our New York State Legislative delegation and their office staff. The midday poster session will allow SUNY undergraduates the opportunity to present their research and creative academic projects to a large audience at Albany’s Legislative Office Building. We hope to create a truly memorable experience for our student presenters and our audience.

To participate, each SUNY campus is asked to self-select up to three undergraduate research or creative endeavor posters that represent a sampling of the breadth of academic work offered at its campus and/or an academic or research specialty that highlights the individual campus. Poster/Display parameters and other details will be communicated via our event website, which is currently under construction.

If your campus chooses to participate in this event by sending students, their research/creative endeavor posters and the faculty mentor(s), we ask you to assign an individual to serve as campus liaison and send their contact information, by November 16, to the University Faculty Senate office via the response form at www.suny.edu/facultysenate. Future correspondence regarding logistics for the February 2, 2010 event will go directly to that individual.

The SUNY campus liaisons and the steering committee will then collaborate on the details needed to make the event a success. For example, the steering committee will work with campus liaisons to offer suggestions for travel and lodging (which are the responsibility of each participating campus), as well as poster set-up instructions, itinerary and meal arrangements for the February 2, 2010 event.

Although due to space limitations we are limiting this first call to no more than three student posters per campus, campuses can certainly send more than one student per poster where appropriate. Should additional display space become available, campus liaisons will be alerted to additional openings.

Each participating SUNY campus will have its own prominently marked display area, and the student and faculty mentor names and project abstracts will be displayed appropriately in our event program. Following the poster session, we hope to produce a “journal of proceedings,” which could serve students well as they begin their careers.

To expedite the project, please begin now to select up to three “primary” posters plus approximately three prioritized “alternate” posters. Should circumstances allow, a prioritized list of alternates will provide a means for the steering committee to quickly identify additional participant posters based on the campuses self-selection process.

We trust that you share our enthusiasm in presenting the tremendous undergraduate research projects that are taking place across SUNY to a state-wide audience. The opportunity for your students and their faculty mentors to be recognized for their outstanding work is an event we are proud to sponsor on behalf of the University community.

The undergraduate research/creative endeavor posters are displayed for the express purpose of enhancing the image and reputation of the University. The University Faculty Senate and steering committee are responsible for making the final determination as to which posters shall be exhibited or displayed.

We ask that you identify your campus liaison as soon as possible but no later than November 16, 2009. Please visit www.suny.edu/facultysenate to register the liaison. We expect to have more information on the website by November 16, when we will begin the registration procedures.

In the meantime, please note the following deadlines and dates:

- November 16, 2009 –register the campus liaison at www.suny.edu/facultysenate
- December 21, 2009 – provide student names and poster titles. Instructions to follow
- January 15, 2010 – Submit final versions of student poster projects. Details to follow.
- February 2, 2010 – posters on public display in Albany, NY

Thank you for your attention to this announcement. With our event a mere three months away, your timely cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kenneth P. O’Brien,
President of the University Faculty Senate

D. Kane Gillespie,
Stony Brook University
Chair, the Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee

Timothy Tryjankowski
University at Buffalo
Chair, Undergraduate Research subcommittee

Members, Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee:

Anne Bongiorno - Plattsburgh State College
Henry Durand - University at Buffalo
Marwan El Nasser - SUNY Fredonia

Joy Hendrick - SUNY Cortland
Joe Hildreth - SUNY Potsdam
Sunil Labroo - SUNY Oneonta
Art Lundahl - Suffolk Community College (FCCC Liaison)
Jim Nichols - SUNY Oswego
Howard Reid - Buffalo State College
Rose Rudnitski - SUNY New Paltz
Daniel Smith - University at Albany
William White, Buffalo State College
Kathryn Van Arnam - System Administration Liaison
Nancy Willie-Schiff - System Administration Liaison