SECOND ANNUAL APPLIED LEARNING CONFERENCE:
GATHERING EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

AGENDA

November 9th-10th, 2015
Large Courtroom
SUNY System Administration
353 Broadway, Albany, NY 12246
“Applied learning refers to an educational approach whereby students learn by engaging in direct application of skills, theories and models. Students apply knowledge and skills gained from traditional classroom learning to hands-on and/or real word settings, creative projects or independent or directed research, and in turn apply what is gained from the applied experience to academic learning. The applied learning activity can occur outside of the traditional classroom experience and/or be embedded as part of a course.”
MEETING PURPOSE

The Second Annual Applied Learning Workshop will focus on gathering evidence to support student success. The planned presentations and breakouts will focus on current best practices across the various SUNY sectors, as well as general information about the movement of the Applied Learning initiative and what will be expected of campuses over the coming months.

NOVEMBER 9

LARGE COURTROOM

5:30 p.m. Welcome Reception and Applied Learning Update
• Elise Newkirk-Kotfila - Director of Applied Learning, SUNY System Administration
  This SUNY Applied Learning update will include information on Applied Learning Steering Committee work, Applied Learning Plans and guidance documents, as well as other projects.

6:30 p.m. Measuring the Effects of Applied Learning at SUNY, Rockefeller Institute of Government
• Alan Wagner - Professor, University at Albany
• Patricia Strach - Associate Professor, University at Albany
• Ruirui Sun - Ph.D. Candidate, University at Albany
• Braden Hosch - Assistant Vice President for Institutional Research, Planning, and Effectiveness, Stony Brook University
  What impact do applied learning experiences have on students, and how can we measure them? Researchers from the Rockefeller Institute of Government present a pilot study of one SUNY campus using readily available data to assess the effects of internships on student retention, graduation, and employment outcomes.

NOVEMBER 10

LARGE COURTROOM

8:00 a.m. Light breakfast and Applied Learning Guidance Documents Q&A

9:00 a.m. Update on Applied Learning Evidence Gathering, SUNY IR
• Teresa Foster - Interim Director and Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Data Analytics, SUNY System Administration
• Jinrong Li - Assistant Provost for Institutional Research and Data Analytics, SUNY System Administration
• Bruce P. Szelest - Associate Provost for Academic and Resource Planning, University at Albany
  SUNY Institutional Research experts will discuss data-collection methodologies at SUNY, including SIRIS, SOS, NSSE, and the SUNY Department of Labor MOU. Dr. Bruce P. Szelest will discuss UAlbany’s foray into formally tracking applied learning activities for reporting, planning, and student success.

10:00 a.m. Registrar Update
• Thom Hanford - Registrar, SUNY Cortland
• Rosemary Spetka - Registrar, Mohawk Valley Community College
• Karen Chico Hurst - Registrar, University at Albany
  Join registrars Thom Hanford, Rosemary Spetka, and Karen Chico Hurst for a discussion on some of the challenges, approaches, and strategies on documenting applied learning.
10:50 a.m.  Break

11:00 a.m.  The Campus Process Panel: Applied Learning Information-gathering Strategies
- Sue Zimmermann - Provost, SUNY Cobleskill
- Donna Pesta - Director of the Student Success Center, SUNY Cobleskill
- Sheila Myers - Associate Professor, Cayuga Community College
- Nancy Goroff - Associate Provost for the Integration of Research, Education, and Professional Development, and Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Stony Brook University

Provost Zimmermann and Donna Pesta will explain the process followed by the Applied Learning Alliance at SUNY Cobleskill to create an inventory of applied learning experiences for all academic programs. This process included an online survey that was created and distributed to faculty, and results will be shared with workshop participants. Zimmerman and Pesta will also discuss "next steps" with regard to institutional applied learning initiatives.

Since 2011, Sheila Myers has been working with other faculty and administrators at Cayuga to establish definitions, guidelines, and best practices for experiential (applied) learning. During this process, Cayuga developed a policy and procedure for designating individual courses as experiential learning (EL). She will be talking about this process and implementation.

Dr. Goroff will explain Stony Brook University’s EXP+ General Education policy.

12:00-12:30 p.m.  Provost Alex Cartwright’s Remarks and Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  Breakouts and Facilitated Work on Campus Plans by Sector

State-operated Colleges
Large Courtroom
Facilitated by Peter Knuepfer - President, University Faculty Senate

Community Colleges
13th Floor Board Room
Facilitated by Nina Tamrowski - President, Faculty Council of Community Colleges

Join your sector colleagues to discuss Part I of Campus Applied Learning Plans. Come prepared to share your own campus success stories and questions.

3:00 p.m.  The Engaged Cornell Story
- Amanda Wittman - Associate Director for Engaged Learning + Research, Cornell University

Dr. Wittman will discuss methods of leveraging data and assessment processes to help institutions think deeply about student success. She will outline the efforts of Engaged Cornell to create systemic processes of data collection and analysis, focusing on challenges and successes. The session will include an overview of methods of data collection and suggestions for good practice that can be applied on any campus.

3:30 p.m.  Closing Remarks
Dr. Alexander N. Cartwright is SUNY provost and executive vice chancellor and the interim president of the Research Foundation for SUNY. As chief academic officer, he supports the chancellor and Board of Trustees in their oversight responsibilities of the 64-campus system. He also oversees the Research Foundation's management of over $1 billion in annual sponsored research activity. Most recently he served as the University at Buffalo vice president for research and economic development and acting executive director of the NYS Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences. He continues to serve as a UB faculty member.

An internationally recognized researcher and scholar in the area of optical sensors, Dr. Cartwright’s one-step, low-cost holographic technology for fabricating a rainbow-colored polymer was one of five inventions worldwide named to the Society of Manufacturing Engineers’ 2013 list of Innovations that Could Change the Way You Manufacture. Dr. Cartwright has produced more than 150 peer-reviewed journal publications and conference proceedings and received funding from organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Department of Defense, and Office of Naval Research. He holds six patents and his work has been licensed by three start-up companies. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, Fellow of SPIE, a senior member of IEEE, a member of AAAS, ASEE, Eta Kappa Nu, and the Materials Research Society (MRS). His PhD is from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Nancy S. Goroff is associate provost for the integration of research, education, and professional development, and associate dean of the graduate school at Stony Brook University. Dr. Goroff earned her bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1990 and PhD in chemistry from UCLA in 1994. She held a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship in chemistry at Michigan State University and a Research Corporation postdoctoral fellowship in chemical education at the University of Michigan before starting at Stony Brook in 1997. Dr. Goroff's research focuses on organic materials, and especially carbon-based conductors and semi-conductors. In 2013 she was recognized with the American Chemical Society’s Award for Creative Research and Applications of Iodine Chemistry.

Dr. Thom Hanford is the college registrar at SUNY Cortland. In addition to his formal professional role, he is also vice president for information services for The State University of New York Registrar’s Association and serves on several SUNY committees and working groups. Prior to serving as a registrar, he was assistant director for Banner Support at Binghamton University and a senior academic advisor in Harpur College. Thom received his bachelor's degree in sociology from SUNY Oswego, and his PhD from the University at Buffalo.

Dr. Braden Hosch is assistant vice president for institutional research, planning, and effectiveness at Stony Brook University, where he leads all aspects of institutional research, helps shape policy and planning, and oversees institutional effectiveness efforts. Braden conducts large-scale national benchmarking for institution and state-level use, including metrics for finance and institutional effectiveness, and he contributes actively to state, regional, national, and international efforts to advance quality and accountability in higher education. In addition to positions in academic affairs and institutional research at various institutions, he has previously served as chief academic officer at the Connecticut Department of Higher Education and chief policy and research officer at the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education.

Teresa Foster is the interim director and assistant provost for institutional research and data analytics at SUNY System Administration. Teresa’s areas of specialty include data integration and analysis, statistical methods and special projects.

Karen Chico Hurst has been in records and registration since 1993, serving as student records coordinator, assistant and associate registrar, and assistant to the president for institutional research at the Sage Colleges; associate registrar at Hudson Valley Community College; and assistant registrar at the University at Albany. She also ran the University in the High School Program at the University at Albany for many years. Karen has been university registrar at the University at Albany since 2010. She holds a bachelor's degree from SUNY Plattsburgh and an MBA from the Sage Colleges.

Dr. Peter L.K. Knuepfer is associate professor of geological sciences and environmental studies at Binghamton University. He has been president of the University Faculty Senate and a member of the SUNY Board of Trustees since July 1, 2013. He serves as chairman of the Applied Learning Steering Committee and also serves as a legal advisor to faculty, student mobility, sexual assault, as well as organizing committees for conferences on diversity and shared governance. Professor Knuepfer received his BS and MS degrees in geology from Stanford University and his PhD in geosciences from the University of Arizona. A member of Binghamton’s faculty since 1986, he specializes in the study of processes operating at the Earth’s surface, particularly rivers and flood hazards. He has taught undergraduate courses in environmental studies (and was director of the Environmental Studies Program for a decade). He also has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in geology, as well as courses in the Binghamton Scholars program and freshmen seminars. He has been principal advisor to eleven master’s and four PhD students, as well as serving on numerous master’s and doctoral committees.

Jinrong Li is assistant provost for institutional research and data analytics at SUNY System Administration. Jinrong’s areas of specialty include data integration and analysis, statistical methods and special projects.

Sheila Myers is an Associate Professor at Cayuga Community College. She is the Coordinator of Experiential Learning Initiatives, Co-coordinator of the Honors Study Program, and teaches environmental science and ecology. She is also the author of two novels.
Donna Pesta is the Director of the Student Success Center at SUNY Cobleskill. Donna has worked at SUNY Cobleskill for 24 years. She started working in the Career Development field in 2003. Donna has been an active member of the SUNY Career Development Organization. Currently she is serving on the CDO board as the SUNY Liaison. She also is a member of the Faculty Senate Undergraduate Internship and Co-op Manual Revision Committee.

Rosemary Speetka is the Director of Student Records & Registrar in the Office of Records and Registration at Mohawk Valley Community College. She holds a B.A. from the School of Social Work in El Salvador and a B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Patricia Strach is the deputy director for research at the Rockefeller Institute of Government and an associate professor in the departments of Political Science and Public Administration and Policy at the University at Albany.

Ruirui Sun is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies at the University at Albany and a research assistant at the Rockefeller Institute of Government.

Dr. Bruce P. Szelest is the Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Resource Planning at the University at Alban. Over the past twenty-eight years Dr. Szelest has been progressively involved with harnessing the university’s treasure trove of data to support operations, decision-making and long-term planning. With an academic background in Public Administration and the decision and policy sciences Dr. Szelest has led the U Albany Institutional Research office since 2006. Dr. Szelest has served in national as well as regional institutional research organizations, including President (2014, 2015), and other leadership positions, in the North East Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR), and President (2000) of the SUNY Association for Institutional Research and Planning Officers (AIRPO). He is also a long-standing member of the National Association for Institutional Research (AIR), where he served on the Higher Education Data Policy Committee (HEDPC), was HEDPC liaison with the U.S. News Research Advisory Committee, and has also served on the editorial board of the AIR Professional File.

Nina Tamrowski is the President of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges and member of the Board of Trustees since July 2015. She was recently granted the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service in spring of 2015. Tamrowski has served as Delegate to the FCCC from Onondaga Community College since 2009 and was a member of its Governance Committee. She also served as Secretary of the FCCC from 2011-2013, and as Vice President from 2013–2015. She has also been the Faculty Council liaison to the University Faculty Senate’s Governance Committee for five years. Tamrowski has been a Professor of Political Science at Onondaga Community College since 1993. At Onondaga, she has regularly taught: American National Politics; State and Local Politics; Comparative Politics; and Women and Politics. She was a founding co-chair of OCC’s Service-Learning Committee and served in that role for seven years. She has served on numerous campus committees, including Campus Curriculum committee (past chair), the Women’s Studies Committee, the International Education Committee, the OCC Federation’s Executive Committee (Federation Secretary and Delegate), the ad-hoc Faculty-Trustee Committee on Shared Governance, and the campus Presidential search committee (2013). From 1999-2002, Tamrowski was the Executive Director of OCC’s Student Government Organization. Her accolades are many, including the International Center’s International Educator of the Year Award (November 2014), Trustee’s Award (May 2013), the Ann Felton Multi-Cultural Award (December 2005), YWCA Diversity Achiever’s Award (April 2004), OSSA Faculty of the Year Award (May 2002), and a Resolution of Appreciation from OCC Board of Trustees (May 2002). Tamrowski is also a past president of the League of Women Voters of the Syracuse Metropolitan Area. She earned a Master’s of Arts degree in Political Science from Syracuse University and completed her PhD coursework in political science as well. Tamrowski’s B.A. degree in Spanish and Political Science is from SUNY College at Brockport.

Dr. Amanda Wittman, is Associate Director for Engaged Learning + Research at Cornell University. She encourages the growth of community-engaged faculty, staff and students through programming and consultative support. Amanda received her Ph.D from the University of Edinburgh in Political Science and International Relations. Her research examines the (im)possibilities of radical change agendas in institutions, with applications in higher education and institutions of politics. She has a long history with practices of the feminist classroom, but she found her way to service-learning and community engagement when she served as an Americorps*VISTA after she completed her Ph.D. She learned the ropes of faculty development at Northeastern University and brings to Cornell her experience as the Director of Academic and Strategic Initiatives for Campus Compact, a national non-profit that supports service-learning and engagement at 1,100 campuses across the nation. Amanda’s current research investigates the creation of “engaged learning economies” that align community and economic engagement in community-campus partnerships focused on impact. She has a strong interest in measurement, assessment and program evaluation.

Dr. Susan Zimmermann is currently Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at SUNY Cobleskill and is Co-Chair of the institution’s Applied Learning Alliance. During her tenure at SUNY Cobleskill, Dr. Zimmermann has also served as Dean of the School of Business and Liberal Arts and Sciences and Department Chair and Professor of Humanities.
SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CONFERENCE-PLANNING TEAM

- Maureen Artale - SUNY Registrars’ Association President, SUNY Oneonta
- Lee Dixon - Graphic Designer, SUNY System Administration
- Thomas Hanford - Registrar, SUNY Cortland
- Karen Chico Hurst - Registrar, University at Albany
- Anyeline Mejia - Graduate Student Assistant, SUNY System Administration
- Beth Mollen - Dean of Business and Public Services and Associate Vice President of Academic Services, SUNY Broome Community College
- Sheila Myers - Associate Professor, Cayuga Community College
- Rosemary Spetka - Director of Student Rec. & Registrar in the Office of Records and Registration, Mohawk Valley Community College
- Laura Trottier - Program Assistant – SUNY System Administration
- Toby White - Director of Experiential Education, SUNY Potsdam

SUNY APPLIED LEARNING STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Convened by Alexander N. Cartwright - Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, SUNY System Administration
Co-Chaired by Peter Knuepfer - President, University Faculty Senate and Christy Fogal - Vice President, Faculty Council of Community Colleges

- Laura Anker - Distinguished Service Professor, Old Westbury
- Minna Barrett - Distinguished Service Professor, SUNY College at Old Westbury
- Francis L. Battisti - Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer/SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Broome Community College
- Marc Cohen - Chief of Staff, Student Assembly
- Michael Delaney - Chair of Communications and Professional Development Committee, Faculty Council of Community Colleges
- Patrick Gareau - Director of Academic Affairs, Student Assembly
- Gwen Kay - Professor of History, SUNY Oswego; Vice President, University Faculty Senate
- Paul Marthers - Vice Provost for Enrollment Management and Student Success, SUNY System Administration
- Thomas Mastro - President, Student Assembly
- Elise Newkirk-Kotfila - Director of Applied Learning, SUNY System Administration
- Miriam Rafailovich - SUNY Distinguished Professor in the Material Science and Engineering Department, Stony Brook University
- Nina Tamrowski - President, Faculty Council of Community Colleges
- Amitra Wall - Assistant Dean, Intellectual Foundations and First-Year Programs, Buffalo State
- Morgan Wood - Interim Secretary, Student Assembly
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