



**A Message from
Teresa A. Miller
Senior Vice-Chancellor &
Chief Diversity Officer**

SUNY is celebrating LGBTQ+ PRIDE this month with a celebration called "PRIDE in BLOOM." And SUNY's newest official holiday — Juneteenth — happens to be observed in the same month. So, our PRIDE in BLOOM celebration will be capped off by a FREEDOM DAY webinar exploring the significance of a holiday celebrating the end of slavery in America within LGBTQ+ PRIDE. Among the rich landscape of issues at the intersection of JUNETEENTH and PRIDE are Black empowerment within the movement for LGBTQ+ rights; the broader meaning of freedom; and the similarity between attempts to limit LGBTQ+ rights and to suppress challenges to racial equity (for example, by banning Critical Race Theory). The Special Events Team at SUNY has created an event that will get students, staff, and faculty across SUNY thinking about the unique opportunity to co-celebrate PRIDE and JUNETEENTH and address thorny issues of race and queer identity.

In addition to keeping you informed of news and views on DE&I, the goal of this new ODEI e-newsletter is to elevate the tremendous DE&I work being done across the SUNY System and the individuals who do that work. SUNY's FREEDOM DAY event is an excellent example of a great job at the intersection of Black liberation and LGBTQ+ PRIDE. I hope you will, or had the opportunity already to, check out some of the events listed below:



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Join us in-person to celebrate our #SUNYPride

Sunday, June 27, 1-5 p.m.
NYC PrideFest in Greenwich Village

4th Avenue between 9th and 13th Streets

Featuring: DJ Trumaster, Live Performances, and More

In case you can't join in person, follow @SUNY for live updates throughout the afternoon.

June 28 - July 2
SUNY Spectrum Conference
SUNY SPECTRUM (Sexual & Interpersonal Violence

Prevention Education, Capacity Building, and Training in Response for Underserved Sexual and Gender Minorities) is the nation's largest education conference devoted to preventing and responding to sexual and interpersonal violence against members of the LGBTQI+ community.

**Chancellor Jim Malatras
SUNY Pride video**

<https://youtu.be/9ogPQo22SnM>

UB AND FSC RENAME BUILDINGS TO HONOR LOCAL CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS



The University at Buffalo (UB) Council announced it unanimously approved a resolution renaming Peter J. Porter Quad in the Ellicott Complex the Willie R. Evans Quadrangle to recognize the late UB student-athlete longtime educator in the Buffalo Public Schools.

Evans was a star running back. And one of only two Black players on UB's historic 1958 football team which unanimously agreed to decline an invitation to the

Tangerine Bowl in Orlando because Evans and Mike Wilson would have been barred from playing.

He received his master's degree in education from UB in 1960, worked in the Buffalo Public Schools for more than 30 years. He also served as president of the UB Alumni Association. He was the Community Leadership Medal recipient, the Distinguished Alumni Award, the Russell J. Gugino Award, and his football teammates, the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal, UB's highest honor.

Porter was a Buffalo resident who served as the U.S. secretary of war, a member of Congress, secretary of the State of New York, a regent of the University of the State of New York – and an enslaver of five African Americans.

According to UB News, in introducing the renaming resolution to council members, President Satish K. Tripathi noted that the university had defined several criteria that candidates would have to meet for the building to be named for them, including having made "exceptional contributions" to UB and Western New York, "setting an inspiring example" for UB's diverse student body, being highly regarded for distinguished achievements in their field of endeavor, and embodying UB's mission of public service.

The council had earlier removed Porter's name from the North Campus residence hall in August 2020 as one of several actions taken by the UB to align with the university's commitment to fight systemic racism and create a welcoming environment for all.

The name change comes on the heels of similar action taken by New Paltz in 2019 after it removed and replaced the names of six SUNY New Paltz buildings named for original Huguenot patentees of the Village of New Paltz. The new buildings pay homage to local geographic features. They will be assigned to the campus buildings to mirror their actual locations.



And Farmingdale State College recently renamed one of its original campus buildings, Conklin Hall, in honor of Delores Y. Quintyne, a community activist civil rights pioneer in Babylon and across Long Island. Conklin Hall — a center for student activities — is now Delores Y. Quintyne Hall.

In a statement issued to the media SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras and the Board of Trustees lauded the name change.

"Farmingdale State College's decision to rename Conklin Hall to Delores Y. Quintyne Hall is a testament to the dedicated and tireless work of this civil rights leader. It is only fitting that the building, which will now be named after such an icon and advocate, is the new home of the campus' Student Government Association, where students can honor Delores Y. Quintyne's legacy while collaborating and solving key campus issues. We thank President Nader and his leadership team for their efforts and for uplifting Ms. Quintyne's mission to create a more equitable world."

SUNY CONGRATULATES 2021 HLI FELLOW GRADUATES

On June 17th, nine Fellows graduated from the SUNY Hispanic Leadership Institute (HLI). This is the second cohort under HLI Executive Director Dr. Havidán Rodríguez (President, University at Albany) and the fourth to complete the HLI program that has impacted 41 SUNY professionals and faculty.



HLI Executive Director
Dr. Havidán Rodríguez



I am extremely proud of the Hispanic Leadership Institute’s success and progress since its inception,” said President Rodríguez. “Over the past four years, we have not only identified and supported Hispanic leaders who are rising stars at SUNY—we have created a national model for professional development in higher education and beyond.”



The HLI 2021 Cohort has representatives from seven SUNY campuses and a wide variety of areas of the university and positions, including department heads, deans, directors, and an assistant vice president.

HLI is a critical asset for SUNY. It seeks to increase pathways to success for Hispanic/Latinx rising stars across the system and cultivate new generations of SUNY leaders. Its primary objective is to support, retain, and foster the professional development and success of Hispanic/Latinx leaders at SUNY.

“HLI has helped me find a sense of “comunidad” with colleagues who share “mi cultura,” said HLI 2021 Fellow AnnaMaria Cirrioncine. “I have been able to learn from workshops, extremely accomplished Latinx leaders, President Dr. Havidán Rodríguez, my mentors, Dr. Tomás Aguirre and Karen R. Ferrer-Muniz, and my fellow cohort. It has further motivated me to continue to pursue my career goals, and I am more confident now knowing that I have support from those I have built these relationships with.”

The leadership institute enables current and aspiring Hispanic/LatinX leaders to strengthen their leadership ability by gaining a new understanding of their leadership style. Also, knowing when to use different leadership skills based on differing situations, learning how to build and lead a team, developing new collaboration and communication skills, and advancing their understanding of critical issues facing Hispanic/LatinX leaders at SUNY and across the country.

HLI 2021 Fellow Dr. Fred Millán greatly enjoyed his experience as an HLI fellow because it allowed him to learn from dedicated, passionate professionals and advocates for Latinx issues.

“I was able to explore my own leadership style, goals, and plans with a supportive cohort of fellows who shared in the process,” he said. “Many thanks to President Dr. Havidán Rodríguez, Claudia Hernandez Tarquino, and Kimberly Bobb for their work in coordinating the curriculum.”

This year’s cohort was challenged and excelled in doing this training entirely virtually. The six-month intense experience provided a unique opportunity to the Fellows to expand their higher education leadership skills and competencies. Its curriculum included leadership training sessions, workshops, webinars, group discussions, and individual and group projects.

Participants had the unusual opportunity to meet with distinctive leaders from SUNY and the community at large, work with mentors, and network and build connections.

“Despite the unique circumstances we faced this year, our HLI Fellows were incredibly innovative and resilient as we pivoted to the remote format,” President Rodríguez said. “We all missed being together, yet we thrived by frequently meeting, maintaining communication and collaboration, and welcoming excellent guest speakers to our sessions. I congratulate and commend this cohort for their perseverance and creativity.”

THE GRADUATES



Lynda Perdomo-Ayala, MSW, LMSW, CLC, Administrative Department Head, Department of Pharmacological Sciences at the Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University



Karla Jaime-Benitez, Director, Student Union, University at Albany



Angela Herrera Canfield, Director of Undergraduate Admissions Cornell University, School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR)



AnnaMaria Cirrioncine, Director of Multicultural Life and Diversity Office, SUNY Cortland



Ana Costa, MD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology; Assistant Program Director for Residency Education, Department of Anesthesiology, Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University



Angelina Diaz-Myers, PhD, Licensed Psychologist and Coordinator for Digital Services and Technology, Counseling and Psychological Services, University at Albany



Julieta (Julie) Majak, Assistant Vice President for Administration, Campus Controller, SUNY New Paltz



Dr. Fred Millán, Director, Graduate Mental Health Counseling Program, Interim Undergraduate Psychology Chair and Distinguished Service Professor, SUNY Old Westbury



Glenn Pichardo, Senior EOP Counselor, SUNY Oneonta



STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

Dr. Rodmon King

Special Assistant to Senior Vice-Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer



The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion welcomes aboard Dr. Rodmon King on assignment as a Deputy to Senior Vice-Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer Teresa A. Miller,

King, SUNY Oswego's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, will collaborate with Miller on the daily management of ODEI operations and help oversee significant institutional diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives such as PRODiG, the DEI Action Plan, and other major projects under the auspices of ODEI.

Oswego's CDO is responsible for implementing the college's strategic diversity and inclusion goals while leading the cultivation, enhancement, and promotion of an environment of equity and inclusion for all. King also is a member of the President's Council and provides counsel on all matters pertaining to diversity and inclusive excellence on campus.

Interestingly enough, as a young boy, the Rochester native dreamed of being an astrophysicist and working for NASA, like Dr. Carl Sagan. The latter was located not too far down the road at Cornell University in Ithaca.

Unfortunately for NASA but lucky for SUNY, he realized his true passion lay in the Humanities. He soon turned his focus to pursuing an equally ethereal, if not more earthly profession of being a scholar of philosophy, religion and a passionate advocate for social and racial justice.

Since earning his doctorate and master's degrees in philosophy from the University of Rochester and a bachelor of art degree in religion and philosophy from Roberts Wesleyan College, King has dedicated his career to working with communities

and empowering individuals to become agents of social change.

For more than a decade and a half, he has facilitated workshops on diversity, activism, full participation, structural inequality, micro-aggressions, nonviolent communication, cultural humility, implicit bias, and unearned privilege, and restorative practice.

Before his time at SUNY King was a member of the faculty at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, New York, where he spent the better part of a decade teaching as a full-time instructor and assistant professor in philosophy. Before SUNY, he was Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity Initiatives at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky.

In the three years he has been at SUNY, King said, one thing that is very obvious to him is the need for diversity, equity, and inclusion to be among the core values that drive institutional policies and practices.

"You want diversity equity and inclusion centralized in every single institutional policy, practice, and engagement. Advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion requires a core commitment from all stakeholders within a community. Every employee should have their role in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion clearly articulated in their job description" he said.

"Diversity, equity, and inclusion is integral to higher education's mission to enable both access and success for all individuals," he said. "

" I look forward to collaborating on initiatives to promote positive change throughout the SUNY System."

Dr. Malika Carter

SUNY ESF Chief Diversity Officer



In August of 2017, Dr. Malika Carter became the first-ever Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF) in Syracuse, NY.

This wasn't the first time she made history; Carter previously served as the inaugural CDO for the City of Worcester, Massachusetts, where she helped the city meet its goals of being an inclusive and diverse local government. Carter is also the CEO of Passion4Pivot LLC, a social justice consulting firm where she lives the firm's tagline "eliminate bias, minimize litigation, and increase productivity." Carter boasts nearly 20 years of experience developing innovative solutions to overcoming the most daunting obstacles standing in the way of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Now, she is being recognized for her tremendous contributions to her community. The Syracuse branch of the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) recently announced Carter as this year's recipient of the Harriet Tubman Freedom Award. The Harriet Tubman Freedom Award is given annually to a singular individual whose extraordinary leadership and efforts have contributed to eradicating racial injustice, promoting social equity, and advancing and improving the community at large.

Carter will be honored at the Syracuse NAACP's 42nd Annual Freedom Fund Virtual Dinner on June 19, 2021, also known as Juneteenth. Juneteenth is an annual celebration that marks the the announcement of the emancipation of enslaved people in Texas on June 19, 1865. This event will feature keynote speaker (and SUNY alum) Al Roker and other special guests such as CNBC Correspondent Sharon Epperson, Former Governor of New York State Hon. David Paterson, and NYS NAACP President Hazel N. Dukes, among many others.

"Inclusion, diversity, and equity are precisely situated in the sojourn of the collective," said Carter. "Thank you to those who trusted me to assist or lead as we've moved forth on behalf of our common humanity."

ODEI NEWS BRIEF

ODEI WELCOMES NEW PRODiG FELLOWSHIP CLASS

State University of New York Chancellor Jim Malatras has announced the second PRODiG Fellowship class with 10 Fellows to begin as visiting instructors on SUNY campuses for a two-year program starting this fall. This is the second class of Fellows, with the 2019-2021 class preparing to complete their fellowships in Spring 2022. The fellowship is part of SUNY's PRODiG (Promoting Recruitment, Opportunity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Growth) initiative to increase diversity among SUNY faculty. This fall, 174 PRODiG Faculty, and Fellows are set to teach, with new PRODiG faculty hires expected before the start of the 2021 semester.

PRODiG is led by SUNY Senior Vice-Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer Teresa Miller. She said ODEI was thrilled to welcome the second class of PRODiG Fellows to the SUNY system.

"They are emerging experts in their fields and are infectiously passionate about what they do," Miller said. "Representing a wide variety of academic backgrounds, subject matters, and demographics, these fellows already possess the necessary skills to thrive as scholars on our campuses, but they will be supported in their roles and provided assistance to ensure they succeed. This is an exciting moment for SUNY, and we know that each of the ten fellows will serve as leaders, academic stewards, and role models for their students on their respective campuses."