



[FacultyStaff] Message from Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., November 1, 2024

President's Office <President.Office@fredonia.edu>
Reply-To: president.office@fredonia.edu
To: All Registered students <students@fredonia.edu>
Cc: Faculty/Staff group <facultystaff@fredonia.edu>

Fri, Nov 1, 2024 at 6:02 PM



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 1, 2024

Dear Students,

Happy Friday! I hope you had a safe and fun Halloween, and I wish you a wonderful weekend ahead.

As a reminder, Tuesday, November 5 is Election Day. I encourage you to please make your voice heard with your vote. If you did not have the chance to vote early, make sure you do not let Tuesday go by without voting.

Reflections on October Highlights

[Open House](#)



I want to thank all the faculty, staff, and students who helped coordinate and who contributed to the success of the Open House that was held on October 26, 2024. There were a total of about 540 visitors on our campus, including about 190 prospective students, their guests, and family members. I enjoyed the opportunity to talk with some of the prospective students and their parents, and I felt tremendous energy at the event. Thank you especially to the Enrollment Management and Services team for planning this event.

[Keeper of the Dream Event](#)



I had the pleasure of attending the Keeper of the Dream Scholarship and Leadership program on Sunday, October 27. At the ceremony, we recognized several students who have distinguished themselves through their high school achievement, community service, and demonstrated commitment to multiculturalism:

- Joseph Hernandez Bentley, Exercise Science
- Haley Evertt Childhood Inclusive Education
- Katrele Grover Childhood Inclusive Education
- Emily Harrigan, Communication Disorders and Sciences
- Sydney Hawkins, Biology
- Alaina Hogue, molecular Genetics
- Molly Hubbard, Biology Adolescence Education
- Cameron Kerr-Smith, Animation and Illustration
- Cleo McDermott, Medical Laboratory Science
- Alexander Scalcione, Computer Science
- Julia Skiba, Molecular Genetics
- Molly Tichacek, Communication Disorders and Sciences
- Emily Tytler, Environmental Science
- Elise Westrich, Early Childhood/Childhood Education (Math concentration)

Students, thank you for the inspiring stories about your journey that you shared at this event. I was truly moved by your experiences and your achievements.

Faculty and Staff Recognitions

Students, you live and learn alongside excellent individuals who are key to your success at SUNY Fredonia, and I want to take a moment to recognize and thank them for their accomplishments. Please join me in congratulating these individuals who are working every day to help you achieve a high quality SUNY Fredonia education.

Poummit Secretarial Award



Please join me in congratulating Ms. Lisa Schrantz, Administrative Assistant in the Department of Theatre and Dance, who was the recipient of the Poummit Secretarial Award. I want to thank Lisa for all her efforts and especially for her service to the department and to the university where her work positively impacts student learning and student success.

Athletics Hall of Fame

I want to congratulate Angela Pucciarelli-Rice and PJ Godek, Interim Co-Directors of Athletics, for hosting a very successful Athletics Hall of Fame ceremony on October 19, which brought several former athletes and their families back to campus. Thank you to all the coaches and staff in the

Department of Athletics and Recreation for their contribution to the Hall of Fame ceremony and for what they do for our students.

Kasling Lecture Award and Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award

On October 22, the Kasling committee formally recognized Dr. Juan De Urda, Professor of World Languages and Cultures, with the 2024 Kasling Memorial Lecture Award. They also recognized Dr. Courtney Wigdahl-Perry, Associate Professor of Biology and Dr. Wentao Cao, Associate Professor of Geology and Environmental Sciences, with the 2024 Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award. Please join me in congratulating them.

Recognizing Student Leadership

The work with the President's Student Cabinet is underway and we will continue meeting regularly over this academic year. The President's Student Cabinet was established to facilitate communication on issues of importance to students. Meetings are designed to provide time for discussion among the President, Vice Presidents, and Student Leadership. I want to take a minute to acknowledge these student leaders and thank them for their service to their fellow students and the university. I am excited to be working with them:

- Dakota Richter, President, Student Association
- Cynthuna Hunter, Vice President, Student Association
- Ebony Jones, Comptroller, Student Association
- Cassidy Pierce, Chief Justice, Student Association
- Daniel Quagliana, Speaker, Student Association
- Thomas Hayes, Senior Class President
- Isabelle Price, Junior Class President
- Morgan Martin, Sophomore Class President
- Kalen James Harley, Freshman Class President
- Heather O'Leary, Graduate Student Representative

Celebrating with Residence Life Staff



I had the distinct pleasure of having lunch on Halloween Day with our hall directors. Our Residence Life staff play a significant role in enhancing the learning experience of our students, and they contribute to the overall retention of our students at SUNY Fredonia. For this, I am truly grateful for their work. As someone who once served as a residence assistant in the residence halls, I can fully appreciate the roles that they play.

Shout Out to Women's Soccer

I want to extend a big congratulations to the Women's Soccer team for making it to the SUNYAC playoffs. As you head into the weekend, don't forget to come cheer our team as they play Buffalo State on Saturday, November 2, at 12:00 at the University Stadium.

Go Big Blue!

Very truly yours,

Dr. K

Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Ph.D.

President and Professor

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