

Academic Affairs

Acmes & Accolades

GENESEO | April 2017

The Division of Academic Affairs at SUNY Geneseo is organized into 20 academic units and departments that provide a variety of majors, minors, and concentrations for our students. The division also includes several support units that complement our academic programs, enhance programmatic study, and ensure the development and completion of degree programs.

Gypsy: The Musical

The Alice Austin Theatre will be alive with music and action Wednesday-Saturday April 5-8 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday April 9 at 2 p.m. with the performances of “Gypsy: The Musical,” a production based on “Gypsy: A Memoir” by Gypsy Rose Lee.

Rose, played by junior communication and musical theatre double major Sophie Yeomans, is a mother who pushes her daughters Baby June and Louise toward show business throughout their lives – all without highlighting the hardships that come with performing on stage.

Directed by Scott Scaffidi with music direction by Department of Music faculty member Don Kot and choreography by Katie LeSuer, the musical was composed by Jule Styne with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim.

Tickets are \$15 for the general public and are available one hour before each show at the Brodie Box Office or online at www.geneseo.edu/bbo/tickets.

Michael Teres Exhibit

The *Michael Teres: 50 Years of Photography* exhibit is on display in the Bertha V.B. Lederer Gallery through April 29.

The exhibit features retired Professor of Art Michael Teres' work, including his *Self Portraits* and his extensive photographic examinations of his own eyes.



The exhibition is free and open to the public during Gallery hours: 1-4 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and 1-5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Geneseo Symphony Orchestra

The Geneseo Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Lecturer Jim Tiller, will perform Sunday, April 9, at 3 p.m. in Wadsworth Auditorium. Free and open to the public, this concert will also feature student winners from the 2016 Concerto Competition.



Verdi Requiem, featuring the Geneseo Symphony Orchestra and the Geneseo Festival Chorus, will be performed April 30 at 3 p.m. in Wadsworth Auditorium—\$10 at the door. For information on other performances, check the schedule online at www.geneseo.edu/music/upcoming-events.

Geneseo Piano Trio

The Geneseo Piano Trio, consisting of lecturers James Kirkwood on the cello and Andrew Bergevin on the violin and Professor of Music Jonathan Gonder on the piano, was just one of several performances which took place in the Doty Recital Hall this past weekend.



The three musicians delighted their audience for a well-spent hour and a half on Sunday afternoon.

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New Provost Selected

The search for Geneseo's new provost has been successful with the appointment of Stacey M. Robertson, who will begin her duties June 29, 2017.

Currently dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, Stacey has expertise in women's studies and is author of four books about women's rights and the abolitionist movement.

Her previous positions include interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, director of the Women's Study program and the Ogelsby Professor of American Heritage, and chair of the history department, all at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, where she taught from 1994-2014.

Stacy earned a bachelor's degree in history in social history and social movements from Whittier College in California. She then earned a master's in history and a Ph.D. in history with an emphasis in women's studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

She will replace Interim Provost Paul Schacht, who will return to his position as professor in the English Department.



Articles of Interest

Associate Professor of Physics and Astronomy Aaron Steinhauer recently co-authored an article which appears in the March issue of the *Astronomical Journal*.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Karleen West's research on indigenous reactions to oil development in Ecuador has earned national attention in two publications: the April issue of the *Nature Climate Change* journal and the *New Security Beat* blog. The research articles were co-authored by American University Professor of Government Todd Eisenstadt.

Assistant Professor of History Yvonne Seale's *George Washington: A Descendant of Odin?* article was published in the open-access online journal, *The Public Domain Review*, in February. Her article examines a questionable 19th century genealogy of the founding father, which reveals more about turn-of-the-century identity than it does about Washington.

Professor Named to Board

Language and Literatures Professor Beverly Evans has been named to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Association of College Honor Societies.

Founded in 1925, "[t]he Association of College Honor Societies is a visibly cohesive community of national and international honor societies, individually and collaboratively exhibiting excellence in scholarship, service, programs, and governance. A coordinating agency for these societies in chartering chapters in accredited colleges and universities, the Association sets high priority on maintaining high standards, on defining the honor society movement, and on developing criteria for judging the credibility and legitimacy of honor societies."

(www.achsnatl.org/orginfo.asp)

Since 2011, Beverly has represented Pi Delta Phi, the National French Honor Society, as executive director.



Commencement Ceremonies

Plans and preparations are in full swing for commencement ceremonies, which will be held in the Wilson Ice Arena in the Merritt Athletic Facility May 13 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Geneseo alumna Molly Smith Metzler, '00, will deliver the keynote address at both sessions.

The majors which had graduated last year in the morning session will instead graduate in the afternoon session this year, and vice versa. Both sessions will be live streamed.

Commencement for master's degree recipients will be held Friday, May 5, at 7 p.m.

More information about commencement, including the future plans of several Class of 2017 graduates, may be found online at www.geneseo.edu/commencement.



Business Students Attend GAME Forum

The School of Business sponsored five students to attend the Global Asset Management Education (GAME) Forum in New York City this past week.

The students, sophomores and juniors who are pursuing a career in finance and who demonstrate the academic achievement and personal motivation necessary to be successful in this highly competitive industry, traveled to the City with School of Business Lecturer Robert Boyd to attend the conference,

Designed to help students learn about career opportunities and trends in the finance sector, GAME Forum is an annual conference hosted by Quinnipiac University in partnership with NASDAQ each spring in NYC.



Right to left: Bob Boyd, Michee Jacobs, Michael Slattery, James Anania, Kitrick McCoy, and Ben Walsh.

Departmental Changes in Erwin

The International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) Department will transition from Academic Affairs to Enrollment Management in June, while maintaining its offices in Erwin Hall. The goal for the transition is to develop an efficient and comprehensive approach for strategic student recruitment and marketing.

The Office of Study Abroad will remain with Academic Affairs, and will continue to work in close communication and coordination with the ISSS on aspects of campus internationalization to ensure our international students continue to have access to the full array of student services.



NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Shayne O'Brien, a senior applied mathematics/Spanish double major, won a 2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship in the area of Computer/IS/ Machine Learning.

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program provides three years of financial support within a five-year fellowship period for graduate study leading to a research-based master's or doctoral degree in science or engineering.



Joining Shayne as a recipient of a 2017 NSF Graduate Fellowship is Geneseo alumna Jane Coons, '15, who won in the area of Mathematical Sciences/Mathematical Biology.

Receiving an Honorable Mention in Life Sciences/Systems and Molecular Biology, was Geneseo biology alumna Jenna Lentini, '16.

Student Authors Novel

Geneseo senior Olivia Vetrano's novel, *Neverland*, which she began writing as a high-schooler, has now been published by Amazon's Kindle Scout, a reader-powered site that allows online readers to vote for submitted writings to be published.

Neverland's main character, Hayley, relies on thoughts of enchanted tea parties and glimmering kingdom lights as the only way to dull her flashbacks and insecurities and decrease the pain from losing loved ones and facing tragedies.

While writing the book, Olivia drew on her own challenges and experiences with getting through them. She hopes that her book can offer individuals ideas and hope that they, too, can overcome challenges by using their own tactics.



More than 500 online copies and about 100 print copies of *Neverland* have been sold.

With an ignited passion for writing and a new-found hope to become a novelist, Olivia has already begun writing her next novel.

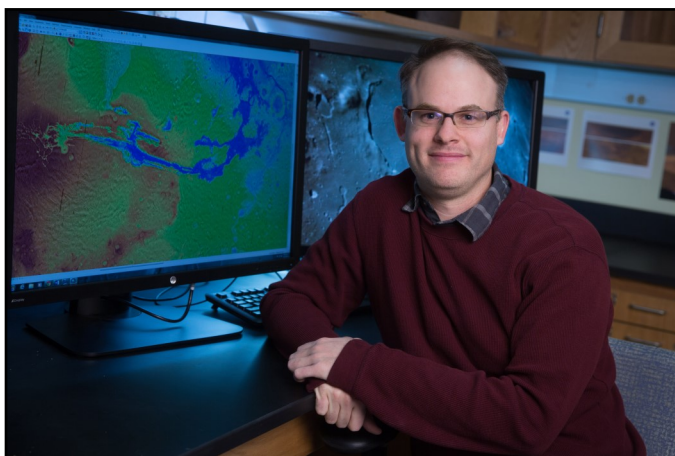
Professor Advises NASA

Associate Professor of Geological Sciences Nicholas Warner took part earlier this year in the planning process for the next Mars mission, scheduled for launch in 2020.

Nick and several planetary geologists presented evidence about eight sites that NASA is considering for landing the Mars rover mission.

The mission is to land on Mars, study the site's possibilities for habitability, and bring back samples for use in planning for future robotic—and human—explorations there.

Nick has been analyzing data gathered from past rover missions and satellites orbiting the Red Planet, and has been part of other Mars missions' planning groups.



Class Engages in Unique Reading Program

Lecturer Ginni Jurkowski's *Features and Opinion Writing* course goes above and beyond in its approach to applied learning.

Her students are working with about 40 inmates in the Livingston County Jail in a reading program that helps keep the inmates connected with their families.

In the program, inmates are recorded reading books to their children. The recordings are then sent to their children with the books in which the inmates have handwritten a note.

The reading program not only helps the inmates and their children build their reading skills but also helps the college students enhance their writing skills and expand their outlook on the world.



GREAT Day 2017

A record number of presentations will be on display in the College Union Ballroom on Tuesday, April 25th.

The GREAT (Geneseo Recognizing Excellence, Achievement & Talent) Battle of the Artists exhibits will be open 8:30 a.m. — 6:00 p.m., with the GREAT Battle of the Artists awards presentation taking place at 5:30 p.m.

The keynote address, which this year will be given by Dr. Erich Jarvis, professor and head of the Laboratory of Neurogenetics of Language at the Rockefeller University and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, will take place at 1:00 p.m.

Periodic Review Report 2017

Interim Associate Provost Ken Kallio and Associate Professor of History Cathy Adams are co-chairing the team of staff and faculty who have been leading the effort since August to prepare the College's Periodic Review Report, an accreditation requirement of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Geneseo's accreditation is based on how well the College meets a set of 14 standards established by the Commission and how well the institution complies with specific federal regulations.

Due to Middle States on June 1, the report draft was recently made available to the president, president's cabinet members, and other campus constituents for review and comment, prior to finalizing the document.