



Academic Affairs

Acmes & Accolades

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The Division of Academic Affairs at SUNY Geneseo is organized into 2 schools and 18 academic departments which 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.

Evans Named SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor

Beverly J. Evans, professor of French and Western Humanities in Geneseo's Department of Languages and Literatures, is among the latest cohort of 14 faculty members named to a distinguished professorship by the State University of New York Board of Trustees.

The board appointed Evans as one of only two Distinguished Teaching Professors this year. The distinguished rank recognizes and honors mastery of teaching. Candidates must have demonstrated consistently superior mastery of teaching, outstanding service to students and commitment to their ongoing intellectual growth, and adherence to rigorous academic standards and requirements.



"The individuals joining SUNY's distinguished faculty exude academic excellence, commit themselves to being exemplary professionals inside and outside of the classroom, and relentlessly work to build on SUNY's prominence as a national leader in education and service," said SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson.

Evans has been on the Geneseo faculty since 1985. She received the Geneseo GOLD Award for Outstanding Student Organization Advisor in 2003 and the President's Award for Excellence in Academic Advising in 2014. For well over a decade, Evans has been the faculty liaison to Geneseo's study abroad program at the Université Paul-Valéry, Montpellier 3 in France, and the SUNY program in Paris at the Sorbonne. Her contributions to furthering Geneseo's global awareness mission include creating, teaching, and serving as the administrator of the Western Humanities II in Paris summer program. Since 2011, Evans has been the Executive Director of Pi Delta Phi, the National French Honor Society.

"Professor Evans' appointment as Distinguished Teaching Professor is a tremendous honor that is well-earned," said SUNY Geneseo President Denise A. Battles. "Beverly is a remarkable teacher who is active in and outside of the class-

room. Her enthusiasm for teaching and research makes her a highly effective professor and mentor, and we are fortunate to have an educator of her caliber at Geneseo."

Evans has written over a half dozen articles on medieval French literature and music. She is currently Editor of *Encomia*, the publication of the International Courtly Literature Society. In the past several years, Evans has been researching the literature and music of the Great War period. Her work was supported in part by a Roemer Summer Faculty Fellowship in 2014. She has presented at World War I conferences in Canada, England, and Scotland. This scholarship has informed her teaching in the form of a French/Comparative Literature course and the Edgar Fellows course, "The Great War in Literature and the Arts."

Evans is among 55 Geneseo faculty members who have received the distinguished teaching professor rank since 1973.

Geneseo Launches Reinvigorated Winter Intersession

Exploring innovative approaches to teaching, learning, and research as outlined in its strategic plan, Geneseo has relaunched its intersession program after a 15-year hiatus. The response from students has been overwhelmingly supportive, with near-capacity enrollment for winter break 2019.

In spring 2017, President Denise Battles charged a college-wide working group to analyze the opportunities associated with an enhanced intersession. After a thorough review, the working group presented their findings to President Battles and the campus community in August 2017. College Senate subsequently accepted the President's request to establish an ad hoc calendar committee to recommend the best calendar alternative in support of a robust and pedagogically sound intersession, culminating in the Senate's May 2018 endorsement of a revised academic calendar for 2018-19 and beyond.

This winter's intersession will run from December 27 to January 17. It includes a range of offerings, such as online

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School of Business Trading Room Named for Edward Pettinella '73

The Trading Room in SUNY Geneseo's School of Business is now the Edward Pettinella '73 Trading Room, named in honor of the generous alumnus whose \$750,000 gift to the College will create an endowment to support the annual operating costs of the applied learning lab.

The College cut the ribbon two years ago for the facility, located on the first floor of South Hall and equipped with several Bloomberg terminals which contain real-time and historical data on equities, fixed income and derivative securities, and data on the foreign exchange markets. Geneseo business students – including members of the Student Managed Investment Fund – gain real-time trading experience through state-of-the-art technology for a variety of academic projects related to finance and management.

“Ed’s philanthropic support will solidly secure the future of the Trading Room for the many students who will use it to help build their careers,” said Geneseo President Denise A. Battles. “Just as the Trading Room grew from a vision of excellence in education, we celebrate the vision Ed embraces of alumni involvement in supporting the next generation of business students.”

Pettinella spent 28 years working at several multi-billion-dollar financial services companies, including Rochester Community Savings Bank, Charter One Bank, and Ford Motor Credit Corporation, headquartered in Detroit. In 2001, he joined Home Properties which operated, developed, acquired, and rehabilitated apartment communities in the coastal Northeast and Mid-Atlantic markets. He soon became president and CEO of the company’s \$7 billion real estate investment trust which he took to new heights before shepherding the company through a purchase by another fund.

School of Business Dean Mary Ellen Zuckerman praised Pettinella’s gift, as the room, software, and related activities will be an enduring legacy. She also credited former Business Advisory Council chair Tom DeMott for originating the idea and faculty member Mike Schinski for his role in advancing the project.

Generous alumni donors whose gifts were instrumental in the construction of Trading Room include John '87 and MaryGrace '84 Gleason; Dan '86 and Nancy '86 Loughran; Bob '83 and Elizabeth Murray; and Bob '83 and Deborah Walley. Among the major contributors to the original construction were alumni Michael Camarella '98, who led the charge in establishing the facility; Kristin Castner '94; Roger Lavan '85; Jim Mollen '94; and Tim Ostrander '83.



Geneseo Foundation Chair John Gleason '87, SUNY Geneseo President Denise A. Battles, Ed Pettinella '73, School of Business Dean Mary Ellen Zuckerman, and Student Management Investment Fund Vice President Brandon Lee '20. (SUNY Geneseo photo/Keith Walters '11)

Partnership with Laser Lab Expands Research Opportunities

This past summer, Sarah Mandanas '19 and Praveen Wakwella '19 used cosmic ray muons to characterize the response of scintillators that detect neutrons produced by thermonuclear fusion reactions, like those that occur in the core of the sun and nuclear weapons. Muons share identical properties with electrons but are approximately 200 times heavier and on average only live two milliseconds before they decay.

Mandanas and Wakwella were among 21 full-time summer research assistants at Geneseo whose efforts helped scientists at the Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE) develop better nuclear diagnostics for their investigations into High Energy-Density Physics and Inertial Confinement Fusion experiments. The LLE is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) lab operated by the University of Rochester.

Geneseo has had a unique 25-year partnership with the LLE, which is the second-most powerful laser facility of its type in the world. It is only surpassed by the National Ignition Facility located at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. Established in 1970, the LLE is an international center for investigating the interactions that occur between extremely intense radiation and matter. The National Nuclear Security Administration, a division of DOE, funds the LLE.

“Geneseo has received more than \$7 million in funding during the last quarter century from the Department of Energy via an LLE pass-through account,” said Stephen Padalino, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Physics and project director of the grant. “The funds paid hundreds of summer

research students and dozens of faculty at Geneseo during that period.”

This summer’s research group included 21 students – 18 from Geneseo and three from Houghton College as well as six faculty – five from Geneseo and one from Houghton.

The group performed their research in several locations, including the LLE, Geneseo’s two accelerator laboratories, and Houghton’s detector development lab.

“When undergraduate students have the opportunity to undertake high-level focused research for prolonged periods, especially as full-time research assistants during the summer months, they become hooked on physics research,” said Padalino. “These immersive research experiences help motivate them to continue their studies in physics and engineering graduate school.”

Padalino is proud of his former students. More than 150 of his research assistants have gone on to receive advanced degrees at prestigious universities. At least a dozen have become physics professors.

Wakwella intends to pursue a doctorate in physics, likely theoretical physics. Mandanas plans to attend graduate school in a few years after she works for a national outreach program that motivates and encourages minorities and women to study physics.



The Laboratory for Laser Energetics (LLE), operated by the University of Rochester for the U.S. Department of Energy.

(Photo provided by the University of Rochester/J. Adam Fenster)

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courses in art history, chemistry, economics and finance, English, French, philosophy, sociology, and theatre. Also in the lineup is a selection of study abroad opportunities, including a first-ever experience at the Universidad de Holguín in Cuba, where students will explore topics related to race, racism, and the Black Experience in the Americas, as well as opportunities in Argentina and Peru.

NYC Business Trip Prepares Students for the World of Finance

During his senior year at Geneseo, Andrew Smith '10/M.S.'11 and his fellow School of Business students visited accounting and financial firms in New York City to meet with alumni working in the field. “It was definitely a great, eye-opening experience,” said Smith. “The trip helped me get a sense of how people really work, different cultures of the firms, and all of the different opportunities and types of positions there are.”

After graduation, Smith spent four years as an auditor for KPMG in New York before taking his current position three years ago as an assistant controller at Rothschild & Co. Last month, he was one of several alumni who work in the world of finance who met current Geneseo students on the 2018 New York City trip.

This trip was led by Professor of Accounting Harry Howe (who has made nearly every trip since the program began 2001), School of Business Dean Mary Ellen Zuckerman, and Lecturer in Business Bob Boyd. They visited KPMG, Dog Data, Neuberger Berman, JPMorgan Chase & Co., EisnerAmper, Rothschild & Co., Deloitte, Goldman Sachs, Citibank, and NASDAQ.

“The trip affords students the opportunity to meet successful alumni working at a variety of prestigious New York City firms,” said Zuckerman. “Many of these alumni participated in this trip when they were students. These alumni remember the value of this trip and are happy to host the current students. The enthusiasm and desire to help, which these alumni show, is a testament to their loyalty to the Geneseo community and their desire to give back to our students.”

According to Howe, such visits also highlight the success of School of Business majors: Geneseo has alumni who work at nearly every global, national, and large regional accounting firm in New York City.



Geneseo Hosts COPLAC Undergraduate Conference

More than 70 students and faculty sponsors from COPLAC (Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges) institutions in the Northeast convened on campus October 12–13 as Geneseo hosted the 2018 Northeast Regional Undergraduate Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity Conference.

Participating COPLAC members included Eastern Connecticut University, Keane State University (NH), Mansfield University (PA), Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Ramapo College of New Jersey, and SUNY Geneseo. Presentations included posters, oral presentations, performances, creative writing presentations, and visual artists.

Last year, 12 Geneseo students presented at the same conference hosted by Mansfield University. This year's Geneseo student presenters and faculty sponsors were:

- **Brandon Burger '19** (history/Professor Emilye Crosby): "Like a Tree Beside the Water: Amzie Moore, Bob Moses, and the Reinvention of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee)"
- **Lina Clifford '19** (geography/Assistant Professor Steve Tulowiecki): "Old-Growth Forests in New York State"
- **Shannon Curley '20** (geography/Assistant Professor Steve Tulowiecki): "Contested Spaces: Changing Borders and Life in the West Bank (Arab-Israeli Conflict)"
- **Emma Lupoli '21** (education/Associate Professor Doug MacKenzie): "Tobii Dynavox Eye Gaze Device as a Means of Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) in an Educational Setting"
- **Hannah McClow '20, Kevin Palmisano '18, Corey Wilkinson '19** (physics/Distinguished Teaching Professor of Physics Steve Padalino): "Characterizing ICF Neutron Diagnostics on the nTOF line at SUNY Geneseo"
- **Harrison Moses '18** (anthropology/Associate Professor Barb Welker): "Bite Force Analysis"
- **Isabel Owen '18** (history/Professor Emilye Crosby): "Lessons From the Past: What Can the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Teach Today's Organizers?"
- **Simran Singh '19** (chemistry/Lecturer Barnabas Gikonyo): "Evaluating the Promise of Calcium Phosphate Cements to Transfer Proteins to Fractured Bone Site Part 1: Diffusion Studies"
- **Colleen Steward '19** (chemistry/Lecturer Barnabas Gikonyo): "Role of Epigenetically Dysregulated Glycine N-methyltransferase in Diet-Induced Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease"
- **Scott Williams '20** (geography/Assistant Professor Steve Tulowiecki): "Lake Ontario Flooding in Monroe County: Plan 1958DD and Plan 2014"

Historian Spencer Crew Delivers Walter Harding Lecture

Author and public historian Spencer Crew, Ph.D., delivered the 2018 Walter Harding Lecture Friday, Sept. 28 in Doty Recital Hall, addressing "Civil Disobedience, the Underground Railroad and Thoreau."



Currently the Clarence J. Robinson Professor of History at George Mason University, Crew has worked in public history institutions for more than 25 years. He served as president of the National Underground

Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, for six years and worked at the National Museum of American History, a Smithsonian Institution, for 20 years – including nine as director.

"In his long career as a scholar, teacher, curator, and museum director, Spencer Crew has embodied the mission of 'public history:' to give the widest possible audience an understanding of the past that inspires them to take informed and effective civic action in the present," said SUNY Geneseo Professor of English Paul Schacht, who also serves as director of Digital Thoreau.

Crew has written extensively in the areas of African American and public history. Among his books are, *Field to Factory: Afro-American Migration 1915–1940* (1987), *Black Life in Secondary Cities: A Comparative Analysis of the Black Communities of Camden and Elizabeth, N.J., 1860–1920* (1993), and he co-authored both *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden* (2002) and *Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives* (2002).

Crew earned his bachelor's degree from Brown University. He holds a master's and a Ph.D. from Rutgers University.

Geneseo launched the annual Harding lecture in 2004 in honor of the late Distinguished Professor Emeritus, who was the world's leading scholar on Thoreau and founding secretary and former president of the Thoreau Society, the oldest and largest international organization devoted to the study of any American author.

Harding's wife, the late Marjorie Brook Harding, created an endowment to make the lecture series possible and significantly enlarged the endowment in 2010, assuring that generations of Geneseo students and faculty will benefit from Walter Harding's tradition of scholarship and learning.