



Academic Affairs

Acmes & Accolades



GENESEO
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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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.

Geneseo Adds Sociomedical Sciences Major

The Department of Anthropology at SUNY Geneseo is introducing a new major for undergraduate students interested in the social determinants of disease and health. The socio-medical sciences major examines the correlation between trends in health and their social causes, including social inequality and structural inequities. It prepares students to pursue careers and advanced training in both clinical and non-clinical health professions by focusing on the causes, spread, prevention, and treatment of disease and illness.

“This is one of the only undergraduate programs of its kind in SUNY,” said Melanie Medeiros, associate professor of anthropology and sociomedical sciences program director. “The degree reflects national trends in interdisciplinary training in health and medicine using the lenses of the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.”

Sociomedical sciences has been a minor at Geneseo since 2014. The new major indicates Geneseo’s response to emerging career opportunities, evolving student needs, and increasing emphasis on integrative learning.

The B.A. program is a gateway into chiropractic, dental, or physician assistant school and programs in nursing, public health, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. “A real benefit is that pre-med, pre-nursing, pre-PA, and pre-PT students can fulfill up to 80 percent of their graduate program prerequisites with courses that count towards the major,” added Medeiros. The major can also lead to

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Joe Cope Named Associate Provost for Academic Success

Following a national search, History Professor Joe Cope, who served as interim associate provost for student success, has been selected for the permanent position.

Joe has been a member of the SUNY Geneseo faculty since 2001. In his faculty role, Joe has taught a range of classes focusing on early modern European history and Irish Studies; his published work includes multiple articles on the British Isles in the 17th century and a monograph entitled “England and the 1641 Irish Rebellion.”



Prior to joining the Provost’s Office, Joe served for five and a half years as chair of the department of history and two years as the director of the Center for Inquiry, Discovery and Development. In the latter position, he played a key role in restructuring the office into the current Center for Integrative Learning.

Since joining the Provost’s Office on an interim basis, Joe has been involved in a number of projects connecting to student success, including piloting a first-year seminar for undeclared students and supporting a revision of tutor-training processes.

A key member of the Provost’s leadership team, the Associate Provost for Academic Success (APAS) leads the college’s efforts in fostering student academic achievement and completion. Areas the APAS oversees include Academic Planning and Advising, the Center for Integrative Learning, and Study Abroad.

As Geneseo sustains its mission as a public liberal arts institution, the Associate Provost for Academic Success will play an important role in ensuring that we continue to provide high levels of support that allow our students to achieve their goals.

Faculty Kudos



Associate Professor **Suann Yang**, Department of Biology, and Evan Burr '20, a biology major, represented Geneseo in January at the SUNY Campus Showcase offered in conjunction with SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson's State of the University System speech. They discussed the Designing Open

Modules on Environmental Sustainability (DOMES) project, a Geneseo-based initiative developed by Yang and Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations **Karleen West**. The online curriculum allows faculty to incorporate sustainability themes into any class. Materials in the DOMES curriculum introduce students to principles of sustainability, specifically focused on food systems.

Professor of Physics **Aaron Steinhauer** was an invited speaker at the Lithium in the Universe: To Be or Not to Be conference at the Observatory of Rome, Monte Porzio Catone, Italy. Aaron presented his talk, "Evolution of the Correlation Between Lithium Depletion and Angular Momentum in Open Cluster F Dwarfs."

Assistant Professor of Political Science **Aaron Herold** and **Carly Herold**, visiting assistant professor in philosophy and political science, have received an award of \$10,000 from the Jack Miller Center to support the project "Forum on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the State University of New York at Geneseo." Funds will establish a campus program focusing on America's constitutional principles and history and will support a yearly symposium and student discussion groups on issues of pressing public concern. The program aims to serve as a model of what informed civil discourse from multiple perspectives can look like. The grant will support three speakers' honoraria as well as travel, food, lodging, and advertising costs.

Historians **Justin Behrend**, professor and chair of history, Associate Professor **Catherine Adams**, and Distinguished Professor **Michael Oberg** have received a \$6,000 award from the National Heritage Trust in collaboration with the New York State Parks Division of Historic Preservation. An additional \$1,000 for project-related travel expenses will also be reimbursed. Grant funds will support their project, "Underground Railroad (UGRR) Sites in the Genesee River Valley." The project will investigate Genesee Valley UGRR locations and history for the possible creation of interpretive signs. The research will begin with a survey of African American presence in the Genesee Valley using federal census records from the period. This will allow the investigators to determine the locations in which to pursue further records such as newspapers, church archives, anti-slavery manuscript collections, and town archives.

Lytton Smith's translation of Ófeigur Sigurðsson's novel *Öraefi: The Wasteland* (Deep Vellum, 2018), was one of 156 fiction titles selected for the International DUBLIN Literary Award's 2020 Longlist. Smith is an associate professor of English and creative writing and director of the Center for Integrative Learning. The award aims to promote excellence in world literature. Nominations are submitted by library systems in major cities throughout the world. The shortlist will be announced in April 2020.



Harry Howe Named SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor

In November, Harry Howe, professor of accounting in the School of Business, joined the existing 55 Geneseo faculty members whom the State University of New York Board of Trustees has named to a distinguished professorship, recognizing and honoring consistently superior mastery of teaching, outstanding service to students, and commitment to their ongoing intellectual growth; scholarship and professional development; and adherence to rigorous academic standards and requirements.



Harry joined Geneseo's faculty in 1995. He teaches Intermediate Financial Accounting, Accounting Theory and Research, and a variety of electives, including Financial Statement Analysis. He is the director of Geneseo's M.S. accounting program and the accounting coordinator. He serves as faculty advisor to the Accounting Society and Geneseo's CFA Research Challenge team, is actively involved in many student co-curricular activities, and holds or has held positions in numerous college- and campus-wide committees and programs.

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in-demand entry-level positions in the allied health fields, such as patient navigators, health care administrators, and health policy analysts.

Highlights of the new major include the opportunity to earn major credit during short-term study abroad or fulfill major requirements while abroad for an entire semester. Students may also earn credit while interning for an organization focused on health or medicine. The capstone course teaches research methods and offers students the opportunity to design and conduct a study on a topic of their choosing. Research findings are presented at Geneseo's annual student research conference GREAT Day.