



Academic Affairs

Acmes & Accolades

GENESEO | February 2018

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.

Harrison Joins Provost Office

Dr. William Harrison, Lecturer in the Department of English, has been appointed to the full-time position of Interim Assistant Provost for Curriculum and Assessment effective January, 2018. The Assistant Provost is a key member of the Provost's leadership team with primary responsibility for overseeing curriculum development and approval, and assessment of student learning outcomes.



Bill brings two decades of teaching experience at Geneseo, having served since 1997. Before that, he taught at Wichita State University and the University of Delaware.

Outside of the classroom, Bill has provided service to both the Department of English and the College through his participation and leadership on various committees. He has served on College Senate as a department senator since 2006 and currently chairs the Senate's Committee on Undergraduate Curricula. He also is a member of the Executive Committee.

In his new role, Bill will work closely with the Committee on Undergraduate Curricula of the College Senate, the General Education Committee, and the Curricular Design Working Group to create sound curricular policies and ensure compliance with new and existing ones as we move forward.

Bill's new office will be in Erwin 205B.

Geneseo Among Colleges "That Pay You Back"

The Princeton Review has cited SUNY Geneseo as one of the nation's best colleges for students seeking a superb education with great career preparation and at an affordable price. Geneseo is included the 2018 edition of "Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck."

The Princeton Review chose the schools based on data it

collected in 2016-17 from its surveys of administrators at more than 650 colleges. The company also factored in data from its surveys of students attending the schools and surveys of schools' alumni that PayScale.com conducted through April 2017.

In the book's profile of Geneseo, editors write that "there is an incredible balance between an Ivy League atmosphere of liberal arts learning and new technology for the hard science majors."



Schinski Named Acting Director of School of Business

Provost Stacey Robertson announced that Dr. Michael Schinski has been designated acting director of the School of Business for the spring semester as an intermediary step to the selection of dean. Mike currently serves as associate professor of management. He previously served as Dean of the School of Business from 2008-2013.

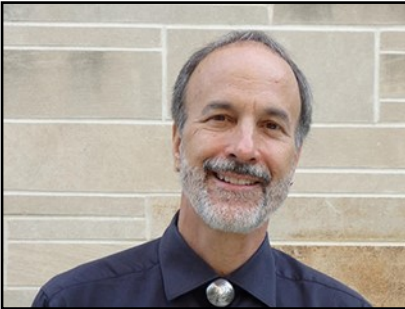


Under his leadership, the school earned its first AACSB reaccreditation. SUNY Geneseo's School of Business is recognized for producing graduates exhibiting professional confidence and strong quantitative, analytical, and communication skills critical for professional success in today's complex business environment and competitive graduate business programs.

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Phi Beta Kappa Lecture Announced

Dr. David L. Haberman, a leading authority on South Asian religions as well as environmentalism and religion, will deliver SUNY Geneseo's Phi Beta Kappa lecture February 22. The lecture, titled "Drawing Personality Out of Stone: Environmental Possibilities in the Worship of Natural Entities in India," is scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Doty Recital Hall, with a reception to follow in the Doty Hall Foyer.



Currently professor of religious studies at Indiana University, Haberman also will meet with students, faculty, and staff in classes and small group sessions during his campus visit February 21-23 as part of

Phi Beta Kappa's Visiting Scholar Program.

"There are few scholars anywhere whose expertise integrates so many traditional disciplines in such distinctly non-traditional ways," said Tom Greenfield, president of Geneseo's Phi Beta Kappa chapter. "Dr. Haberman is an environmentalist, an Asian studies scholar, an ethicist, a religious studies professor and an expert on anthropomorphism in narrative. Over the course of many years, he has lived and worked in the most sacred places in India, including Banaras, Vrindavan, Yamunotri, and more."

Haberman's visit is made possible by the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar program and Phi Beta Kappa Alpha Delta of New York, with support from the Office of the President and Office of the Provost at SUNY Geneseo. Founded in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa has chapters at 286 colleges and universities throughout the country. Geneseo is the only undergraduate college in the SUNY system to be granted a chapter; the Alpha Delta of New York chapter was installed in January, 2004.

Save the Dates: Spring Concerts

Saturday, March 3: Geneseo String Band Pre-St. Patrick's Day Concert (Jim Kimball, director). Enjoy music and dance in the Celtic tradition; 7:00 p.m., Wadsworth Auditorium. General Admission, \$5 — tickets sold at door, cash only; 12 and under, free.

Sunday, March 4: Winter Choral Concert featuring Spectrum Women's Ensemble (Amy Cochrane, director) and the Geneseo Chamber Singers and Geneseo Men's Choir (Dr. Gerard Floriano, conductor); 3:00 p.m., Central Presbyterian Church. Admission is free.

Sunday, March 25: Geneseo Symphony Orchestra (Dr. Leah McGray, conductor); 3:00 p.m., Wadsworth Auditorium. Free admission.

Wednesday, April 4 – Sunday, April 8: Musical Theatre: Page to Stage "She Loves Me" Wed.—Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:00 p.m., Doty Recital Hall. General Admission, \$10, Geneseo students \$5. Tickets may be purchased at www.geneseo.edu/bbo or at the Doty Box Office one hour before each show.

Research Funding Awarded to Faculty

Dr. David Meisel and Co-Investigators Dr. Charles Freeman

and Dr. Savitri Iyer have been awarded a \$20,000 Research Initiation Grant (January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018) from the NASA/NY Space Grant Consortium for their project titled, "Explorations into Time-resolved Particle Tomography for Atmospheric and Space Research."



This award will provide for the construction of a multi-energy particle detector array to study rapidly moving features in the earth's atmosphere above Geneseo. The array involves instrumentation currently held by the Department of Physics and Astronomy and a high-sensitivity muon detector which will be provided by Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) via a long-term equipment loan arrangement. The award will provide support for Dr. Meisel and two undergraduates, and needed materials and supplies. The funds will also support costs of equipment delivery and travel expenses for Dr. Helio Takai of BNL, who is overseeing muon detector installation. Funds will be added to our current NY Space Grant Consortium agreement.

Also, Dr. Duane McPherson, Associate Professor of Biology,



received a \$13,537 award from the National Science Foundation to support travel expenses and fees for eight presenters at the "Integrative Biology of Sensory Hair Cells" symposium, held January 6 during

the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology in San Francisco.

Sensory hair cells are mechanosensory cells that respond to sound, gravity, acceleration, and water pressure in vertebrate animals. In humans, they are necessary for hearing and for vestibular function.

Math Research Weekend Featured Former Dreamer

Against a backdrop of national debate on the fate of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, mathematician Pamela Harris from Williams College delivered a campus lecture titled “The Lonely Reality of an Academic Dreamer,” Jan. 25.

Her talk was part of Geneseo’s Math Research Weekend (MRW) January 26-27.

Harris, assistant professor in Williams’ Department of Mathematics and Statistics, is an award-winning mathematician and former “dreamer,” immigrating to the U.S. from Mexico when she was 12.



Created in 2012, the DACA program affords protections to undocumented immigrants who have lived and worked in the U.S. since childhood.

In her lecture, Harris shared her life story, including her fears of being an undocumented first-generation college student, the challenges she overcame as a woman of color with a passion for STEM, and the support networks and mentors that helped shape her identity as a scientist.

“What she has accomplished so early in her career thus far is amazing,” said Mathematics Department Chair Caroline Haddad. “She’s a rising rock star in the mathematical community.” At Haddad’s invitation, Harris led this year’s MRW focusing on broadcast domination theory.

First held in 1991 and now annually since 2015, MRW helps Geneseo math students achieve their professional and educational goals.

Students Awarded Travel Grants

Thasfia Chowdhury '20 (left) and Chelsea Pierre-Louis '19, have won Institute for International Education (IIE) Generation Study Abroad Travel Grants in a national competition.



The program is in its inaugural year and provides a \$2,000 grant towards the travel costs of studying

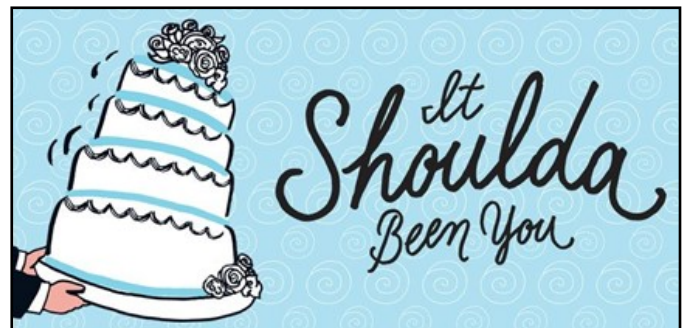
abroad, to be used for travel to and from the country of study and within the region.

Chowdhury (political science and government) applied for a summer 2018 study abroad program in Bahia, Brazil.

Pierre-Louis (psychology) will spend spring semester 2018 at the University of Groningen, Netherlands, as part of the exchange program the College maintains with that institution.

It Shoulda Been You Opens Valentine’s Day

Just in time for Valentine’s Day, the Department of Music will present its winter musical, *It Shoulda Been You*, February 14-18, 2018 in the Alice Austin Theatre. Show times are Wednesday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m.



Tickets are \$15 for general admission or \$10 for student admission—and may be purchased online with a credit card (service fee applies) at www.geneseo.edu/bbo or at the Brodie Box Office (cash only) one hour before each show.

Director Scott Scaffidi and Choreographer Katie LeSuer team up again with Music Director Don Kot to show that “Love is love is love” in a Valentine of a show that is rated PG13. *It Shoulda Been You* features music by Barbara Anselmi and book/lyrics by Brian Hargrove.

The student cast includes Katelyn Brooks, Maria Cento, Kim Cole, Josh DeBell, Mick Elliott, Maria Floriano, Brett Hammes, Zachary Koenig, Annie Levine, Erica Milliman, Jessica Murphy, Rocky Nardone, Brian Sousis, Will Snyder, and Carl Treiber. Stage manager Erin Hassett and her student assistants, Emma Brune and Sydney Lyons, lead the stage crew that includes students Kat Berton, Erin Burris, Miranda Calarco, Michaela Durr, Kyle Johnson, Patrick Jones, Sandra Kralik, Aram Peers, Kelsey Roberts, and Tristan Strasser. The design team of Brodie McPherson (scenic/props design), Toni Elderkin (lighting design), Kayleigh Barclay (costume design), and Dave LaDue (sound design) is assisted by experts Graydon VanRy (carpenter) and Johnnie Ferrell (technical director of the Alice Austin Theatre).

Save the Dates: Spring Performances

Friday, March 2—Sunday, March 4: Student Directed Main Stage Production, “The Heart of the Earth: A Popul Vuh Story by Cherrie Moraga,” directed by Kimberly Romano. Fri.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:00 p.m. Robert Sinclair Theatre. Admission is free.

Thursday, April 19—Sunday, April 22: Geneseo Dance Ensemble Dancing Past to Present: Celebrating Fifty Years, featuring new choreography by guest artists Chang and Chung Fu; alumni guest artists Kylee Pike Fassler '04, Alex MacDonald '08, and Ambre Emory Maier '85; and Dance Studies faculty Dr. Mark Broomfield '94, Jody DeLoria, Deborah Scodese French '85, and Jonette Lancos. Thurs.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2:00 p.m. Alice Austin Theatre. General Admission, \$10; tickets sold at door.

See also www.geneseo.edu/theatre_dance/performance-calendar.

April 17 will be a GREAT Day

GREAT Day (Geneseo Recognizing Excellence, Achievement & Talent Day), a college-wide symposium celebrating the creative and scholarly endeavors of students, will be held April 17.

In 2017, more than 1,000 students participated in GREAT Day, showcasing their work through presentations, performances, and exhibits.

This year, the Jack '76 and Carol '76 Kramer Endowed Lectureship speaker is Dr. Barbara Kellerman, who will present on “Professionalizing Leadership” at 1 p.m. in Wadsworth Auditorium. Kellerman is the James MacGregor Burns Lecturer in Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School. She is the Founding Executive Director of the School’s Center for Public Leadership and also served as its Research Director from 2003-2006.



Kellerman has held professorships at Fordham, Tufts, Fairleigh Dickinson, George Washington, Uppsala, and at both Dartmouth and the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. She also served as Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at Fairleigh Dickinson, and as Director of the Center for the Advanced Study of Leadership at the University of Maryland.

She is the author and editor of many books including *The End of Leadership* (2012) and *Hard Times: Leadership in America* (2014). *The End of Leadership* was long listed by the Financial Times as among the Best Business Books of 2012.

Her most recent book, *Professionalizing Leadership*, was published by Oxford University Press.

Kellerman has appeared often on media outlets such as CBS, NBC, PBS, CNN, NPR, MSNBC, Reuters and BBC, and has contributed articles and reviews to the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Boston Globe, the Los Angeles Times, and the Harvard Business Review. She blogs regularly at barbarakellerman.com.

Leading by Example

SUNY Geneseo’s distinction for volunteerism and community service reflects a deep commitment from students, faculty and staff to help make a difference in the lives of others. Such resolve was again evident on a recent Livingston CARES service trip January 7-13, 2018. A delegation from Geneseo — including Ella Cline Shear School of Education Dean Anjoo Sikka — traveled to Houston to support cleanup efforts for individuals and families recovering from Hurricane Harvey.

Joined by Garth Freeman, Coordinator of Student Leadership, Volunteerism, and Service, and 11 Geneseo students, Anjoo spent a week in Beaumont, Texas, helping a homeowner clear his flooded house and strip his floors and walls.

“It was a transformational experience,” she said. “Our students are amazing; their dedication, humor, and patience is awe-inspiring. We cooked and ate together — and the sense of community that was fostered as a result was also rejuvenating. From my perspective, it was inspiring to see our students’ altruism and spirit of service.”



The trip for Sikka was quite personal. Before coming to Geneseo in 2012, she served as Professor of Education and in other various academic capacities at the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) over an 18-year career. Like other communities, the University was affected by Hurricane Harvey as well, experiencing a flooded building and loss of power during and after the storm. “Flooding is a common occurrence in Southeast Texas, including Houston and Beaumont. Flooding from Hurricane Harvey was unprecedented and various communities suffered significant damage. I know of friends in the Houston area who are still waiting for their homes to be repaired or restored after the storm.”



In addition to other spring trips, Livingston CARES will return to the Houston area March 10-16, 2018.