
SUNY Oswego College Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

9 am – 11 am

114 Marano Campus Center and via Zoom

Agenda

1. **Welcome and call to order** - *James McMahon, College Council Chair*
2. **Approval of Minutes of February 21, 2024** - *James McMahon, College Council Chair*
3. **Update on Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024** – *Tina Cooper, Internship and Student Employment Coordinator, Experiential Courses and Engaged Learning Office (EXCEL)*
4. **New Definition of “Student” in Student Handbook: Request for Council Approval** – *Kathleen Kerr, Vice President of Student Affairs*
5. **Student Association Report** - *Austin Davis, Student Association President*
6. **Alumni Report** - *Mary Canale, Vice President for University Advancement*
7. **Faculty Report** - *Elizabeth Schmitt, Chair, Faculty Assembly*
8. **President’s Report** - *Peter O. Nwosu, President*
9. **Old Business** - *James McMahon, College Council Chair*
10. **New Business** - *James McMahon, College Council Chair*

3. Update on Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024

Tina Cooper, Internship and Student Employment Coordinator

- **Lectures from Industry Experts – Shineman Center**
 - Prof. Sarbani Basu (Yale)
 - Presentation: How Well Do We Know Our Star?
 - Prof. and Vice Principal Martin Hendry (Glasgow)
 - Presentation: From Eclipses To Event Horizons: A Century Of Testing Einstein's Gravity
 - Prof. Anil Pradhan (Ohio State)
 - Presentation: Life In The Universe, Describing The Search For Exoplanets And What We Might Look For
 - Prof. Earl Bellinger (Yale)
 - Presentation: Could There Be A Black Hole Inside The Sun?
 - Prof. Lyn Blanchfield (SUNY Oswego)
 - Presentation: Eclipses in the Medieval World: Signs and Interpretations
- **Doppler on Wheels** (Center for Severe Weather Research)
- **7 Telescopes for Viewing of Eclipse @ Rice Creek** (Syracuse Astronomical Society)
- **Rice Creek Eclipse Experience** (270 tickets sold out)
- **5 Sold Out Planetarium Shows** (~240 tickets)

3. Update on Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024 – Cont'd.

Tina Cooper, Internship and Student Employment Coordinator

- **Main Campus Viewing**

- Hundreds of SUNY Oswego students attended the campus watch party
- **1079** viewers reserved tickets to view the eclipse on campus
- Over **2500** pairs of eclipse glasses were distributed



- Hundreds of **youth and families** participated in craft tables

- Observation deck hosted NewsChannel 9, academic guests, and SUNY Trustee Corngold during eclipse viewing

Selim Kalici and Hugh Riley Randall are both double majors in physics and mathematics, with astronomy minors, interning this semester with NASA for eclipse-related research.



- Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project (NEBP)
- Balloons launched every hour led by Dr. Katelyn Barber & team

3. Update on Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024 – Cont'd.



3. Update on Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024 – Cont'd.

- **Eclipse Media Coverage Showcases Faculty and Student Work**
 - Pre-event coverage included stories/coverage throughout Central/Northern NY (News Channel 9, Syracuse Spectrum News, WRVO, WAER-FM, WROC-8 and most newspapers and news sites in the area)
 - Eclipse Day featured live coverage from morning to night on campus from several outlets.
 - Highlights: coverage of SUNY Oswego's "Covering the Eclipse" course, ballooning project, Rice Creek activities, and interviews with faculty experts.

4. New Definition of “Student” in Student Handbook: Request for Council Approval

Kathleen Kerr, Vice President for Student Affairs

- **Why this change?**

- **Current definition of “Student”:**

On page 17 of the 2023-2024 student handbook and within the Code of Conduct, student is defined as: “Student” includes all persons taking courses, both full-time and part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or extension site studies. There is some explanation of different "student-types" in regards to admissions processes on this page of the catalog but nothing (that we know of) that defines a student broadly beyond what is in The Code.

- **Proposed new definition:**

"Student" includes any person who has accepted admittance to the University for student status or who is currently registered or enrolled as an undergraduate, graduate, professional student, or certificate program participant, whether matriculating or non-matriculating, full-time or part-time, resident or commuter or on-line, paid or delinquent, or who has a pending appeal of an academic dismissal or student conduct matter. Such a person shall also be considered a student during intersession/summer periods, at University-sponsored commencement events in which they are a participant, and those who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing educational relationship with the University.

5. Student Association Report

Austin Davis, President

- **Presidential Election**
 - Most voter participation per candidate in recent history
 - Passing of the SA Fee!
 - Much appreciation to WTOP, WNYO, and Oswegonian
- **SUNY SA Conference in Late April**
- **Budget Process has started**
 - Current budget still has ~\$2,000 in contingency
- **Restructuring of the Executive Branch is coming soon!**

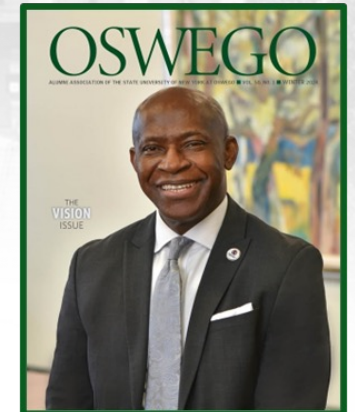
6. Alumni Association Report

Mary Canale, Vice President for University Advancement

- The annual **Commencement Eve Reception and Torchlight Ceremony** will take place on May 10, and will welcome the Class of 2024 into the Oswego Alumni Association.
- **Reunion Weekend 2024 will be held June 6 – 9, 2024.** We will be celebrating 14 class anniversaries and 4 milestone affinity group celebrations. **Registration will open in April.**
- The **Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) program** serves as a valuable resource for student and recent graduate mentees, as well as a valuable way to give back to the university for alumni volunteers. **Become an ASK Mentor at alumni.oswego.edu/ask.**
 - **270+ alumni** have volunteered their time to connect with students virtually or in person
 - **65+ one-on-one** ASK Mentorship connections completed
 - **Launched a new virtual platform for ASK in March** to more efficiently connect alumni and students
- **Alumni Ambassadors are supporting Admissions and Enrollment Management.** This spring, alumni ambassadors are representing SUNY Oswego at regional college fairs on Long Island and serving as speakers at on-campus Admitted Student Days and Open Houses.

6. Alumni Association Report – Cont'd.

- **Six outstanding alumni have been selected to receive 2024 Alumni Association Awards.** Recipients include:
 - **Brian Fogarty '82**, Lifetime Award of Merit
 - **Shanna Fuld '16**, GOLD Award
 - **Thaina Gonzalez '92**, Alumni Impact Award
 - **Aunree Houston '00**, Alumni Impact Award
 - **Indie Lee (Lisa Swengros Agona) '93**, Distinguished Alumna Award
 - **Martha Searles Sturtz '79**, Community Service Award
- Latest episode of the **Oswego Alumni Podcast**, hosted by **Dee McGowan Perkins '85** and produced in coordination with WNYO, features **Greg Stumpf '86** discussing his nearly 40-year career in meteorology as a part-time storm chaser and full-time researcher. Listen on any podcast platform!
- **Oswego Alumni Book Club** is currently reading A Comedy of Pretzels, by alumni author **J.J. Boskin '51**. Join the club at alumni.oswego.edu/bookclub.
- **OSWEGO Alumni Magazine** featured **President Nwosu**. The next edition is scheduled to be released this summer.



7. Faculty Report

Elizabeth Schmitt, Chair

- **Four FA meetings**
- **Curriculum Development**
 - 18 new/revised undergraduate courses
 - 11 new/revised graduate courses
- **Program Development**
 - 3 revised/new programs
- **Academic Policies**
 - Grade Change Policy
 - Hyflex Modality Policy
- **Report from the Task Force on Haudenosaunee Confederacy Naming expected on April 15**



8. President's Report

Engagement with Students, Faculty, and Staff

Faculty and Staff of Color Dinner



Engineering Industry Showcase



Student Leadership Ceremony



Hewitt Hall Renovations

Toured Hewitt Hall with Mitch Fields, Associate Vice President for Facilities Services, and Jennifer Knapp, Dean, School of Communication, Media, and the Arts. We took the time to see progress on the multi-million dollar renovation work going on at Hewitt Hall at SUNY Oswego.

The renovation of Hewitt Hall is an **\$80 million project, capping off over \$124 million in renovations (Tyler Hall renovations were \$44 million) for the School of Communication, Media and the Arts (SCMA)**. Hewitt will be the new home for the departments of Communication Studies and Cinema and Screen Studies, and the Graphic Design, Interaction Design, and Illustration academic programs within the Department of Art and Design.

As we continue to advance our mission and vision 4040, these world-class facilities will place SCMA and SUNY Oswego solidly at the forefront of all institutions in the nation with similar programs. Highlights include two broadcasting studios, a podcasting studio, a newsroom, a white box gallery, a film screening room, an animation lab, a virtual reality suite, a ballroom that serves as both a music performance space, and numerous specialized labs and classrooms. **This project is set to be completed in Fall 2025.**



Presidential Inauguration

Inauguration of the 11th President - Peter O. Nwosu, Ph.D.

Friday, September 27, 2024

- **Co-Chairs**

- Mary Canale '81, Vice President, University Advancement
- Rich Bush '92, Chair, Technology Department
- Phil Grome '89, President, Oswego Alumni Association

- **Timeframe**

- Sunday, September 22 – Sunday, September 29, 2024

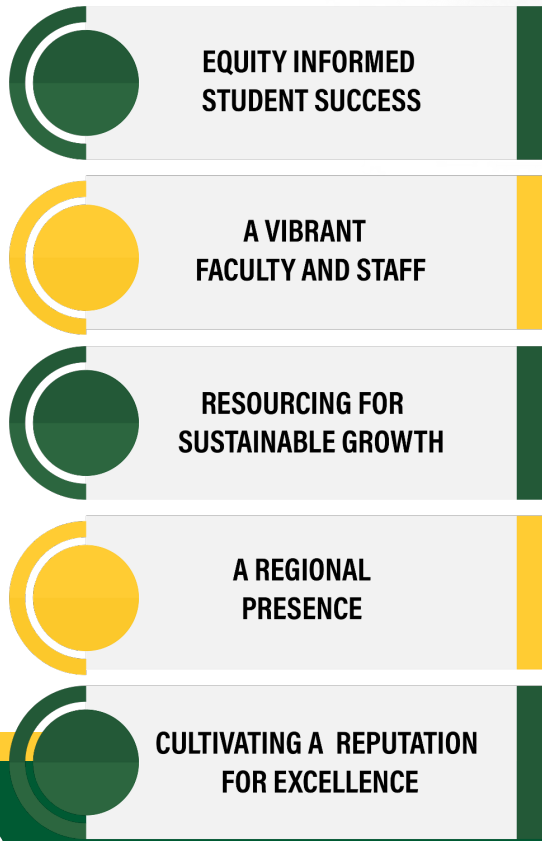
- **Partial Schedule for Inauguration Week**

- Oswego Community Event - Monday, September 23
- Syracuse Community Event - Tuesday, September 24
- 20th Annual Media Summit - Wednesday, September 25
- Boards Meeting Day – Thursday, September 26
- Inauguration with Community Reception – Friday, September 27
- Scholars Brunch – Saturday, September 28

Vision 4040: Ensuring a More Educated Region

EVOLUTION OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Anchors: Operational plans in these areas contribute to the institution's overall goals.



Strategic Drivers: What do we need to do? Set goals for each driver and develop strategies and metrics.

GROW ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

- Invest, grow, and promote signature programs
- Launch school of Nursing and Health Professions
- Expand strategic programming growth areas
- Develop On-Line, Market-Driven Graduate Programs and Micro-Credentials
- Launch a School of Professional Studies (concept) in Syracuse
- Expansion of International enrollment and support
- Invest in Transfer Support and Programming
- Develop a plan for athletic expansion

EXPAND BRANDING AND MARKETING

- Leadership/Staffing/External Experts
- Website
- Digital
- Hometown University

ENHANCE SUPPORT STRUCTURES

- 5 Strategic Anchors: Be highly selective in prioritizing work to optimize impact and articulate in an operation plan

Vision 4040: Ensuring a More Educated Region – Cont'd.

▪ **Strategic Plan Next Steps:**

- University Strategic Planning Town Hall update on April 10
- Develop agenda and outcomes for April 24-25 meeting (Includes Gates Foundation Post-Secondary Value (PSV) Commission Equity action agenda)
- Steering Committee retreat with our external facilitator from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) on April 24
- President's Report to the General Faculty on April 29
- Expected Completion June 2024

Enrollment Update

Spring 2024 Enrollment	Applications	Accepts	Enrolled (degree-seeking only)
First Year:	503 (-182)	189 (-138)	41 (-2)
Transfers:	884 (+18)	366 (+30)	183 (-8)
New Graduate Students:	340 (-88)	221 (-59)	130 (-7)

Spring 2023 vs Spring 2024 Enrollment	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total Enrollment
Spring 2023	5,442	990	6,432
Spring 2024	5,204	1,089	6,293
Change:	-238	+99	-139

Fall 2024 Enrollment (as of 4/1/24)	Applications	Accepts	Deposits
First Year:	15,257 (+825)	11,552 (+778)	448 (+56)
Transfers:	1,252 (+38)	594 (+8)	152 (+24)
New Graduate Students:	388 (-32)	154 (-49)	91 (-13)

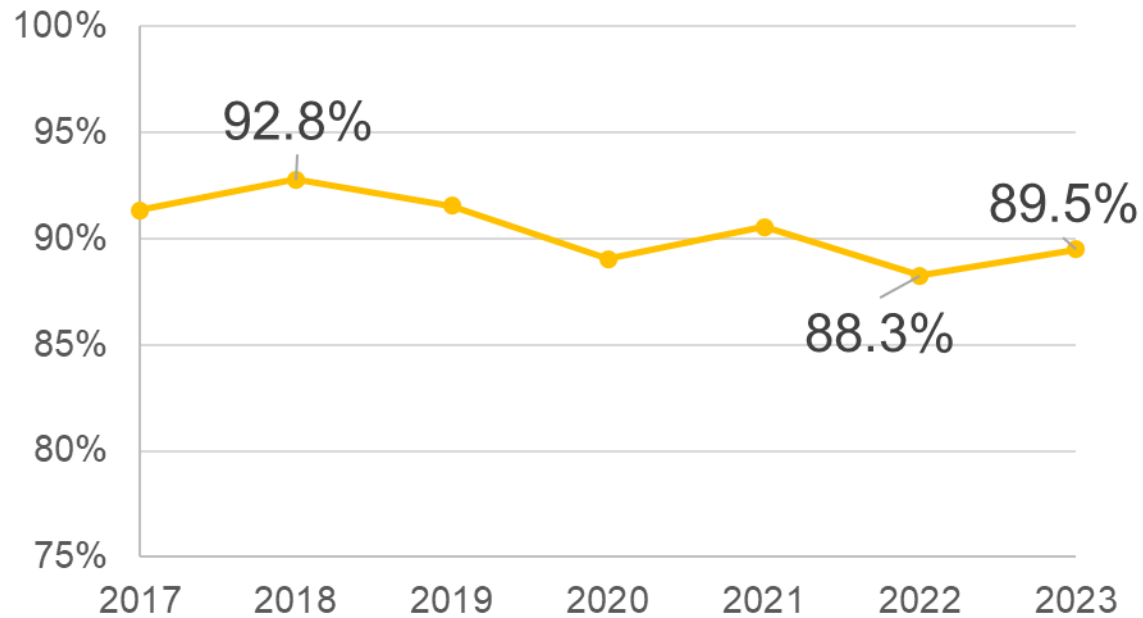
FAFSA Update

- First Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) arrived on March 15
- FAFSA Completion Corps
- National Candidate Reply Deadline pushed back until June 1st
- FAFSA Completion Workshops
 - March 18, 1 pm-3 pm
 - March 21, 1 pm-3 pm, 6 pm-7:30 pm
 - March 27, 1 pm-3 pm
 - April 2, 12:30 pm-2:30 pm
 - April 5, 1 pm-3 pm
 - April 6, 10 am-12:30 pm
- New Electronic Award Letter
- Slate Communications letting families know what to expect
- [New Website](#)
- Extended Hours in Financial Aid
- Increased discretion in Professional Judgement

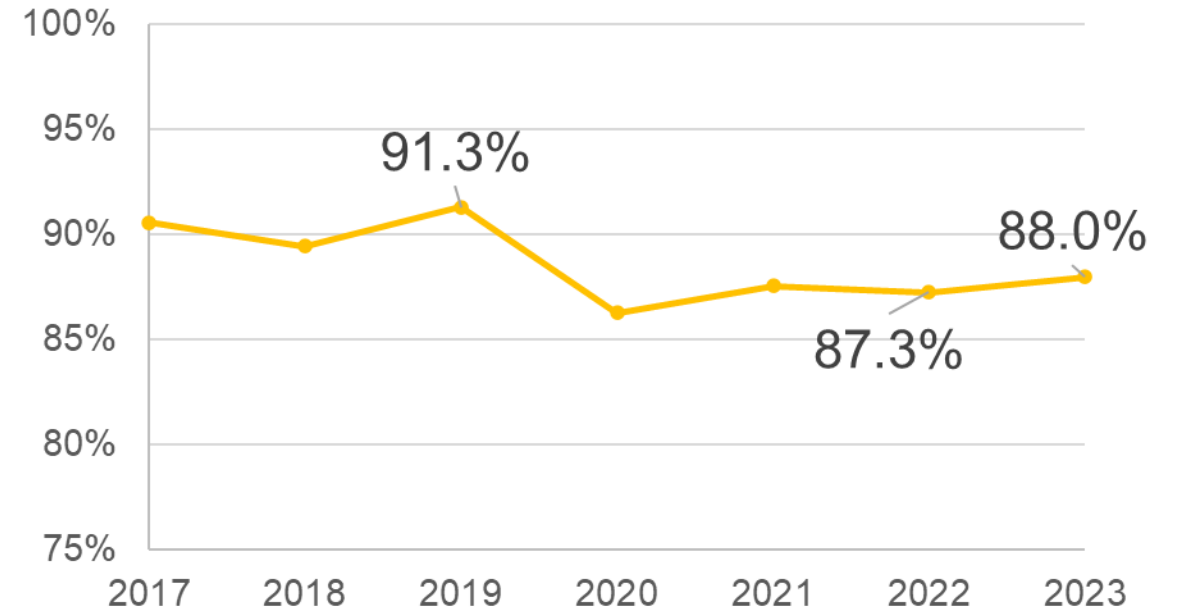
Retention of New Fall Undergraduates into their First Spring



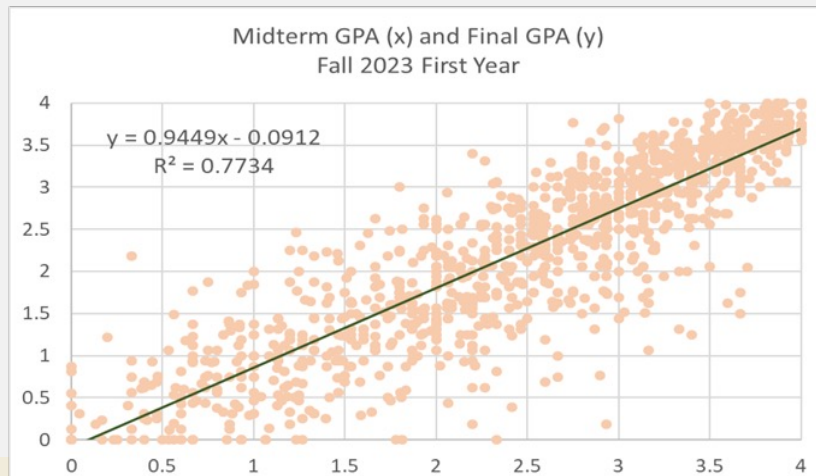
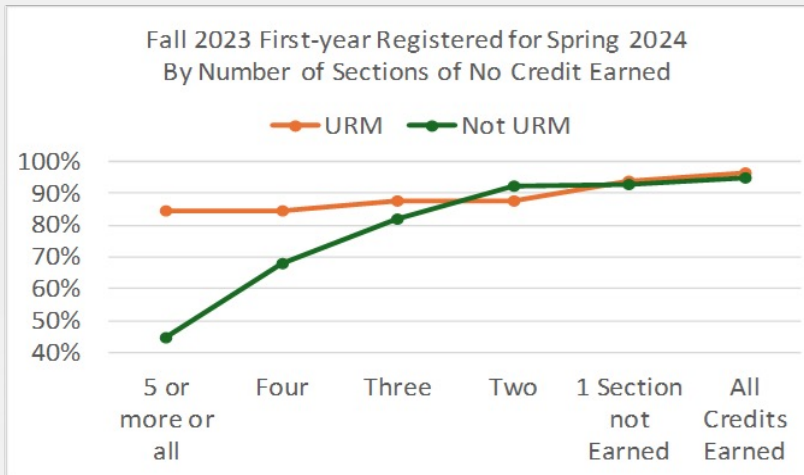
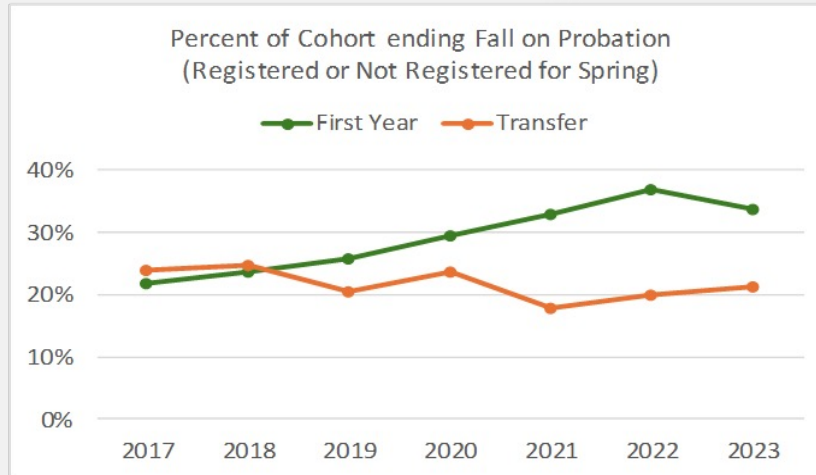
Percent of New Fall **FIRST-TIME** Students Registered for the Spring



Percent of New Fall **TRANSFER** Students Registered for the Spring



Retention of New Fall Undergraduates into their First Spring - Cont'd.



	Number	Percent of Cohort	Retained	Percent Retained
Above 2.0 at Midterm	820		774	94.4%
Above 2.0 at Final	688	58%	655	95.2%
Below 2.0 at Final	132	11%	119	90.2%
Below 2.0 at Midterm	318		269	84.6%
Above 2.0 at Final	28	2%	24	85.7%
Below 2.0 at Final	290	24%	245	84.5%
No GPA (ex. early W)	60	5%	20	33.3%
	1188		1063	89.5%

Our 290 strugglers are relatively more likely to be male (56%), Pell (53%), EOP (18%), first generation (38%), and have no prior college (67%).

Persistence Rates for Student Athletes

Fall 2023-Spring 2024 Persistence Rates for Student Athletes (Undergraduates)	Student-Athletes (128)	Non-Student-Athletes (1,058)
Fall 2023 GPA	3.11	2.94
First-year student who registered for Spring	96.1%	89.0%
First-year student who registered for Spring in Good Academic Standing	74.2%	59.5%

Fall 2023-Spring 2024 Persistence Rates for Student Athletes (Transfers)	Transfer Student-Athletes (30)	Transfer Non-Student-Athletes (456)
Transfer student who registered for Spring	96.7%	88.6%
Transfer student who registered for Spring in Good Academic Standing	83.3%	73.5%

Budget Update

Budget

- 2023-24 Projected Deficit as of 8/1/2023: **(\$5.4m)**
- 2023-24 Projected Deficit as of 3/1/2024: **(\$1.9m)**

Actions to Support Deficit Management

- Position Control – Cabinet reviews all requests for positions with most held for 60-90 days.
- Divisional Targets – Divisions were given efficiency-modeling targets to assist with deficit management.
- 2024-25 Budget Development is well underway internally with divisional budget toolkits to develop our budget. NYS Budget due shortly (due 4/1 annually).
- President's Budget Advisory Group Meeting: March 19 and April 23

Fiscal Landscape at all Levels

Federal

- Changes affecting Higher Education
- FAFSA Simplification Act
- Lack of Federal Government funding (HEERF)

State

- Projected NYS budget Deficit for 2024 (Declining personal income tax revenue and an end to pandemic stimulus funding)
- Projected deficit \$4B as of Jan 2024

SUNY

- NYS has settled on collective bargaining agreements with all major unions.
- The 2024-2025 Budget call letter: chance for an add'l \$54M Operating Aid and maintenance of all past budget additions.

SUNY Oswego

- Mandatory Costs for 24-25 total: Additional \$4M for 24/25
- Continue efficiency modeling
- Vision 4040 - Strategic Planning - Resourcing for Sustainable Growth

Facilities Update

University Facilities Master Plan

- Work on the University Facilities Master Plans has been completed for academic and residence hall facilities and the University-wide Energy Master Plan.
- We are currently preparing our plans to be posted on our University website for review.

Ongoing Projects

- Hewitt Hall – construction expected completion Aug. 2025
- Mahar Hall – Pre-Bid design phase complete
- Lanigan/Penfield Connector – Consultant selection underway
- Critical Maintenance (roofs, parking lots, sidewalk repairs) - ongoing design/construction
- Pathfinder Dining Hall - interior refresh construction expected completion Aug. 2024

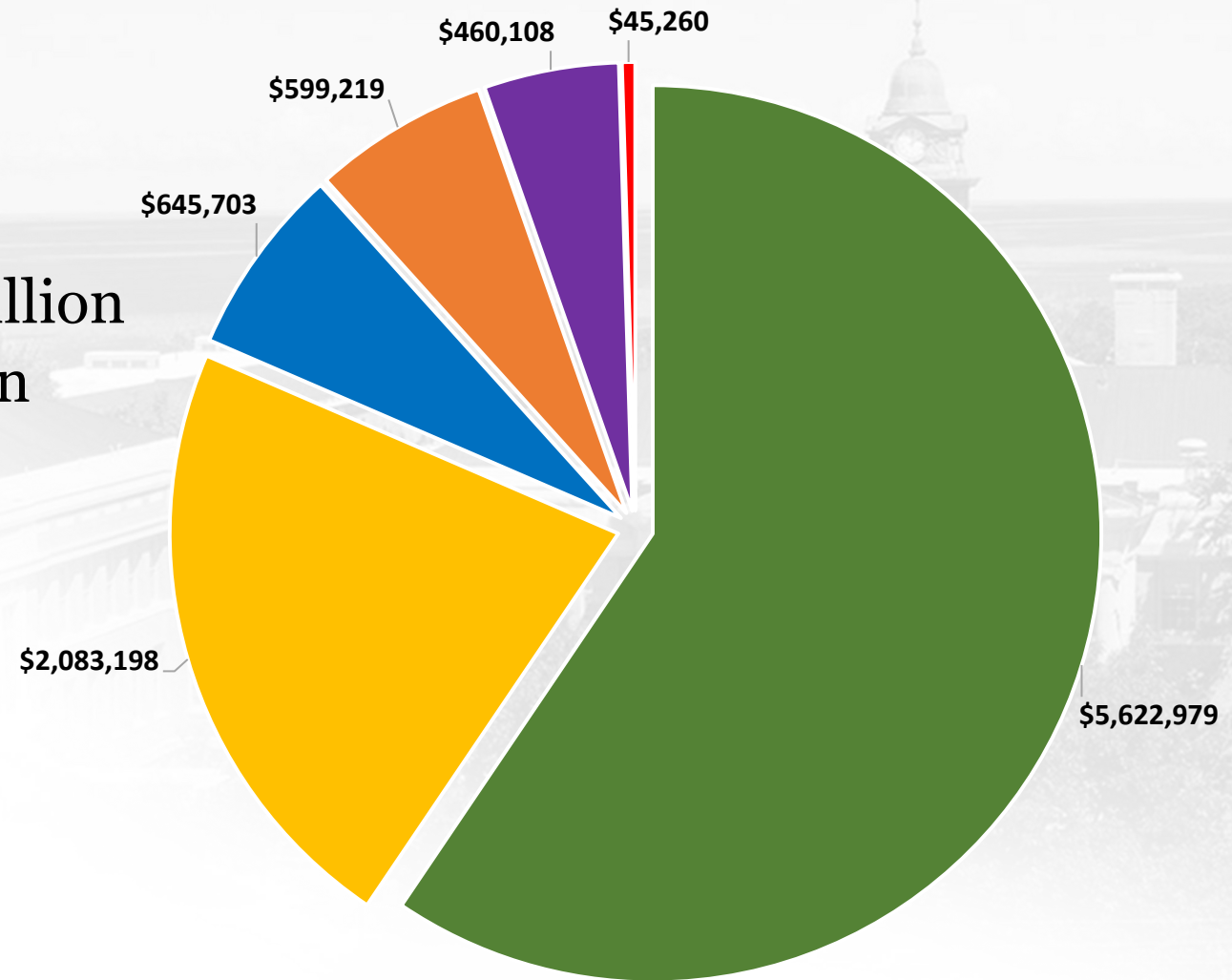
Fundraising Update

FY 2023-24 Fundraising Summary

Raised **\$9.4 million** to date

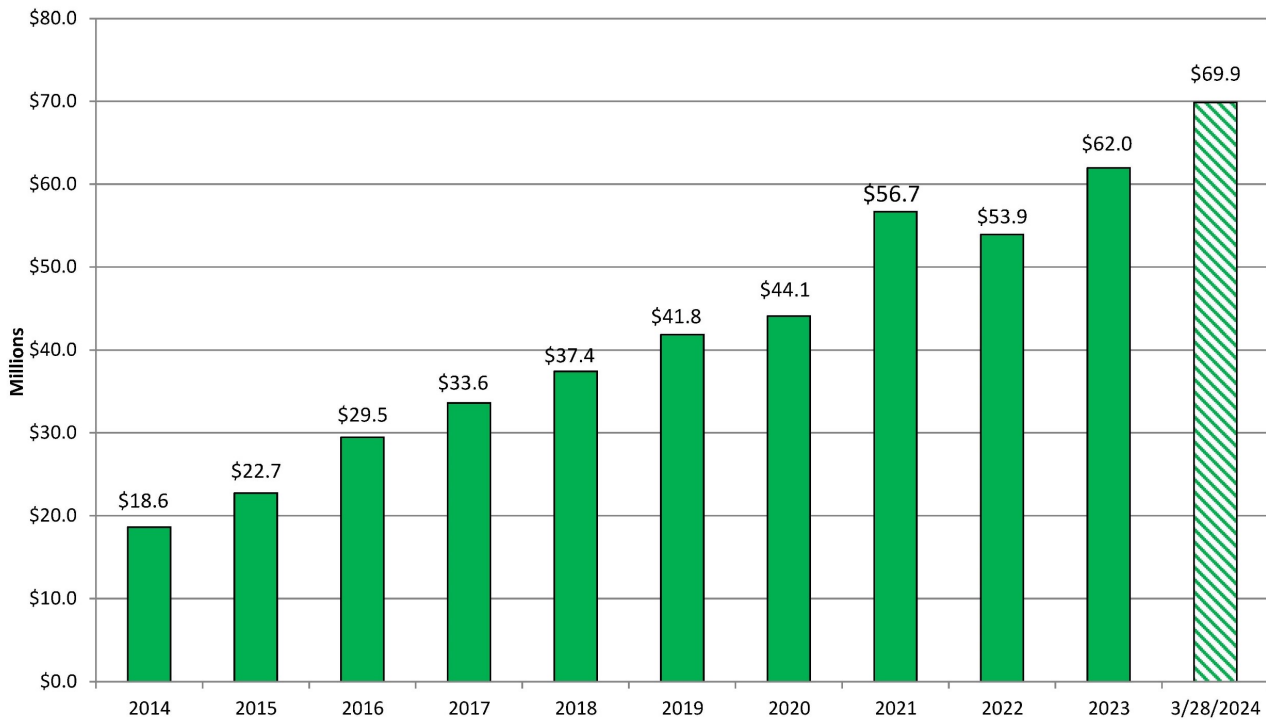
- Cash and Pledge Commitments **\$3.8 million**
 - Revocable Planned Gifts **\$5.6 million**

- Endowed Scholarships
- Endowed Campus Department & Program
- Unendowed Scholarships
- Campus Department & Program
- Unrestricted
- Future Bequest with Pending Restriction



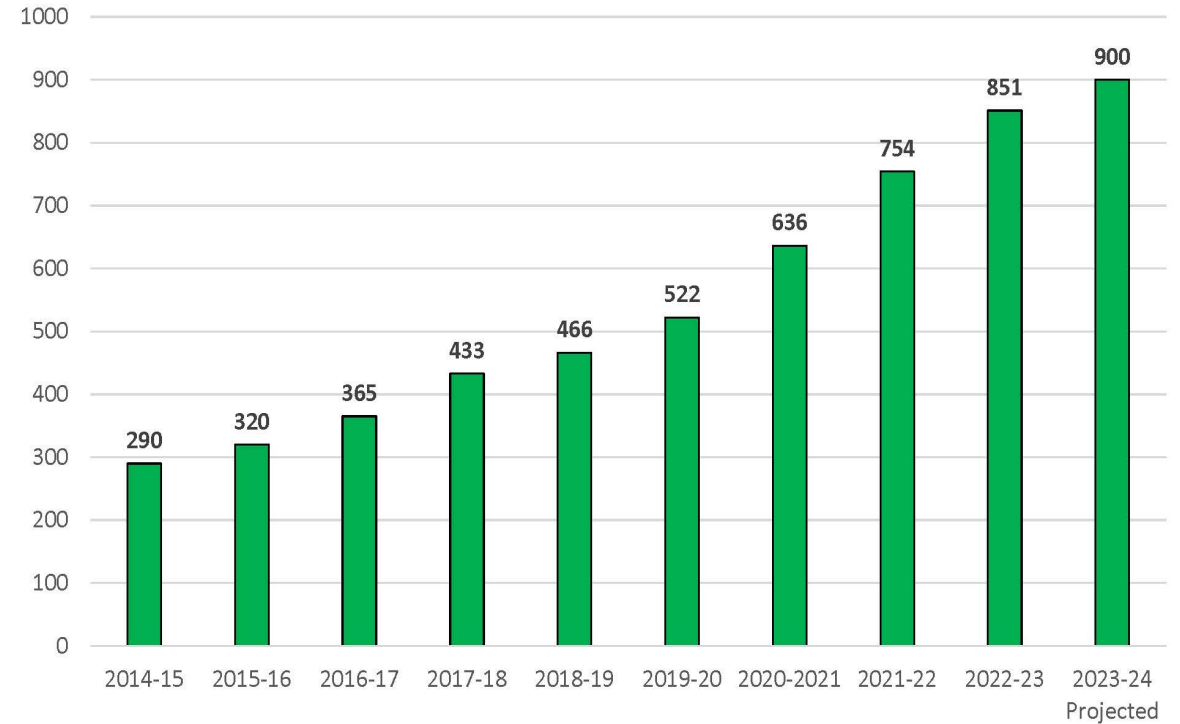
Endowment

Oswego University Foundation, Inc.
10 Year Growth of Endowment
Years Ended June 30
(with interim updates for 2024)



Scholarship

Oswego University Foundation, Inc.
Number of Donor Funded Student Scholarship and Award Recipients
Years Ended June 30



Of the 2022-23 recipients, 540 were merit based and 311 were need based

Academic Affairs Update

- Nursing program letter of intent submitted to SUNY is a “high-need” program for the state; Supports Vision 4040.
- Upcoming QUEST showcases for student research scheduled for April 16 (Syracuse campus) and April 17 (main campus).
- Begun implementation of Title III grant, ACE, and internship funds from SUNY Impact fund
- Submittal of two Congressionally Directed Spending request for The Great Lakes Institute and Advanced Manufacturing.
- Ongoing efforts focused on retention, including Title III initiatives, department activities, faculty development, across the university, not limited to Academic Affairs.

Strengthening Long-Term Health

- **Re-imagining the Syracuse Campus**
- **Restructuring of Colleges and Schools**
- **Campus Climate and Engagement**
 - Non-Partisan Voting Access
 - Oswego Dialogue Project
 - Making Sense of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Faculty Panel Discussion
 - 2026 Carnegie Community Engagement Reclassification
- **Senior Leadership Searches Underway**
 - Vice President for Communications and Marketing
 - Vice President for University Advancement
 - Deputy to the President for Strategy and Planning

Telling Our Story

A. Brand Perception Survey

- Phase 1 - Internal Brand Survey: Completed; message testing underway via student focus groups, a/b testing of ads
- Phase 2 - External Brand Survey: Underway; final report expected mid-May

B. Faculty and Staff Expert Directory – Underway; to go live on the website in mid-April

C. External Engagements

- Virtual meeting with Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay
- Meeting with Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli
- Oswego County Micron Strategy Steering meeting
- CenterState CEO Board meeting

Telling Our Story - Cont'd.

C. External Engagements

- SUNY Comprehensive Presidents' meeting
- 2024 American Council on Education (ACE) Presidents and Chancellors' Summit
- New York Times and American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Symposium for Presidents and Provosts
- Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP) Board Spring meeting

American Council on Education (ACE)
Presidents and Chancellors' Summit



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New York Times and AASCU
Symposium for Presidents and Provosts



Jefferson Community College's Inauguration



SUNY Comprehensive Presidents' meeting



Q & A