



2024 - 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

GROWING, CONNECTING, THRIVING

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 3

Message from the President..... 4

Oswego by the Numbers 6

Student Success 8

Research and Scholarship..... 12

Economic Development and
Upward Mobility 16

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion 20

Institutional Recognition..... 24

Sustaining Our Campus
and the Planet 28

University Leadership 31

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

MISSION

SUNY Oswego contributes to the common good by lighting the path to wisdom and empowering every person in the university community to pursue a meaningful life as a productive, responsible member of society.

VISION

Inspired by a shared commitment to excellence and the desire to transcend traditional higher-education boundaries, SUNY Oswego will be a premier institution that provides a transformative experience to a diverse body of students, empowering them to live ethical and meaningful lives and build a better world.

VALUES

- > **STUDENT SUCCESS:** We are student centered. We promote academic excellence and provide comprehensive support to remove barriers to success, empowering our students to achieve their educational, personal and professional goals as lifelong learners with meaningful careers.
- > **COLLABORATION:** We foster meaningful partnerships within the University and with local, national, and global communities, promoting civic engagement among all members of the University community and applying our knowledge and resources to address real-world challenges and improve society.
- > **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION:** We support a culture of innovation in teaching, rigorous scholarly research and impactful service, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and societal progress.
- > **SUSTAINABILITY:** We prioritize environmental stewardship and sustainable practices in all aspects of our operations, curriculum and research. We strive to strengthen the ecological, social and economic sustainability of our communities and the wider society.
- > **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE:** We foster a university climate where every individual feels valued, respected and empowered to contribute to our academic community. We advance equity and social justice in our teaching, research, university life, and community engagement by removing barriers and dismantling structures that systemically marginalize.



Grow. Connect. Thrive. These are the three primary drivers of our new strategic plan, [Transforming Lives, Igniting Possibilities](#). Still, they are deeply ingrained in the DNA of the institution now known as SUNY Oswego, more than 160 years after its founding.

We move forward focused upon the following and how it will help fulfill the *Oswego Promise* to our students and the SUNY Oswego family:

- > **Grow:** Increase educational opportunities from access to completion
- > **Connect:** Transform learning to build and lift communities
- > **Thrive:** Build educational excellence through human connections

These strategic drivers support each other: By increasing opportunities for students, we provide transformative experiences that resonate within communities and establish excellent opportunities for our Laker family to grow, connect and thrive. Everything we have done for more than 160 years touches on at least one driver.

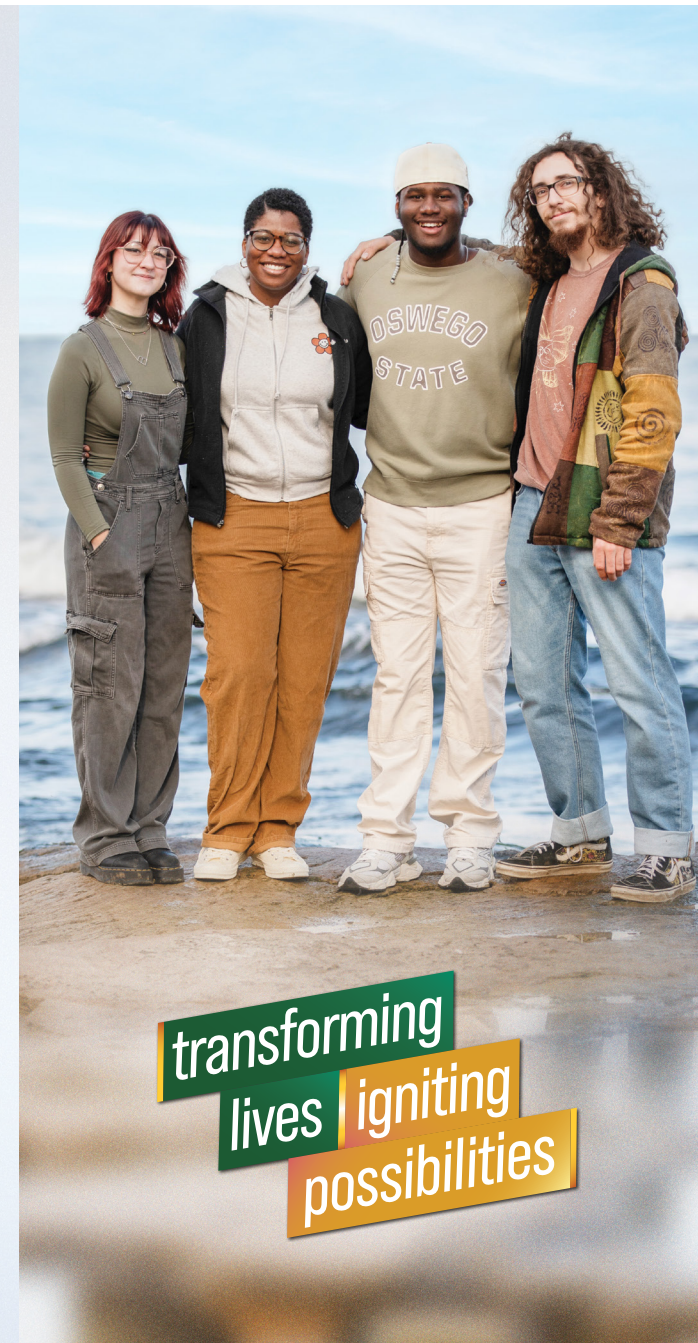
A cross-functional steering committee, comprising faculty, staff, students and community partners, led the way. We also partnered with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Strategic Planning Collaborative to ensure alignment with

national best practices. As one of five campuses in the nation to be selected by AASCU to participate in the Gates Foundation Postsecondary Value Commission's Framework, we aligned our plan accordingly.

This year, the committee engaged with nearly 400 internal and external stakeholders through town halls, focus groups and online feedback. In addition to developing the Grow, Connect and Thrive drivers, the new strategic plan is supported by 18 institutional strategies. Unveiled in February 2025 and taking shape in the months following, the ongoing process is something where everybody on campus can play a role.

As SUNY Oswego implements our strategic plan, action planning will continue as an iterative and participatory process. Units will assess their progress annually, utilizing the six-step assessment process along with a combination of internal key performance indicators (KPIs), institutional lagging indicators and prompts in the planning platform. Leadership will continue to offer updated toolkits, campus-wide dashboards, performance check-ins, and targeted training and planning and resource support.

Throughout this annual report, you will see how our university and our wider community of Lakers continue to grow, connect and thrive — and how our work resonates with, supports and benefits the world around us.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This report covers a monumental year filled with meaningful moments and magnificent memories that will pave the way for decades to come.

We launched our strategic plan — which also provides the umbrella theme for this report of Grow. Connect. Thrive. These are the key drivers of the plan, known as [Transforming Lives, Igniting Possibilities](#), that will guide our work for the next five years but lay a foundation for a much longer imprint. The following sections will detail how this plan is coming to life.

“*Grow. Connect. Thrive. —
the drivers that will transform
lives and ignite possibilities.*”

The strategic plan connects with the previous launch of [Vision 4040: Expanding SUNY Oswego's Promise](#), our bold initiative to double the number of credentials awarded annually by 2040, advancing our mission to foster educational attainment and economic mobility across the region. Building on this ambitious vision, we dedicated ourselves this year to finalizing a plan that charts our path forward.

Big projects continue to unfold on our campus. This fall brings the reopening of Hewitt Hall as the home of visual arts programs, including broadcasting and digital media, cinema and screen studies, graphic design, and related programs, following more than \$80 million in investment from the state and donors. In addition to other renovations and updates, we received a \$30 million state grant to support a geothermal exchange network that utilizes alternative, efficient and environmentally friendly energy, thereby reducing heating and cooling costs. These initiatives reflect over \$300 million in investment in our physical infrastructure, thanks to the State of New York and Governor Kathy Hochul.

The year also brought an event of great personal significance and resounding symbolism, as the campus and supporters from across the globe came together for [my inauguration as the 11th president](#) of SUNY Oswego on Sept. 27, 2024. Students, faculty, staff, community members, family, friends and many more filled the arena for a ceremony and day that brought the community together in a shared vision.

While I was honored by the presence of SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. and other top officials and dignitaries, the historic day also showcased the best of what SUNY Oswego has to offer through the words of student poet Emma Deloff, voices of the State Singers choir and the faculty-led Oswego Jazz Project.

And this is the Oswego Way: We make tremendous things happen and know that our student talent — their passion, purpose and pride — sits at the heart of what we do. We come together to celebrate milestones, but also know that we share the road ahead.

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Consistent with our future-facing vision of recognizing emerging trends in the workforce, we renamed what are now the four colleges within SUNY Oswego: the College of Liberal Arts, Sciences and Engineering; the College of Education, Health and Human Services; the College of Business and Entrepreneurship; and the College of Communication, Media and the Arts.

But this is bigger than just what we call these units, as it truly offers an opportunity to recognize the

high-quality academic work within our colleges, position ourselves for emerging in-demand fields and expand student opportunities.

Our commitment to interdisciplinary cooperation for student success and research remains strong, as evidenced by the number of students who complete majors across different colleges and with innovative projects, such as earning a very competitive National Science Foundation grant that unites business and STEM faculty with similar institutions to support research and entrepreneurship.

The increased emphasis on engineering, among other fields, aligns with our partnership with Central New York's largest economic development project ever, the Micron Technology megafab chip plant, rising just three miles across the Oswego County line in Clay. Our valued partnership with Micron is bearing fruit already before its upcoming groundbreaking, and my role as chair of the Oswego County Micron Strategy Steering Committee explores how a range of partners can best prepare and support this historic opportunity.

As a hometown university, our campus and community continue to grow ever closer. Our first cohort of Shineman Oswego Scholars, representing some of the best and brightest in Oswego County high schools, joined us this year, with more to follow. We continue our work with the Campus-City Relations Committee to celebrate our connections and explore ways to enhance our collaborative efforts further.

We participated in a bold new SUNY Africa initiative, with visits to my native Nigeria, as well as Kenya and Rwanda to determine how our system could meet the demands of the rising global middle class, provide outstanding opportunities for our students and faculty for study abroad and joint research and innovation, and continue bolstering our international community on campus.

Every thread comes together to create a vibrant and strong fabric. Our campus is a family that also increasingly connects with our community, playing a key role in the growing Central New York region, and thriving within an interwoven global tapestry.

“What we do today will create a better tomorrow.”

It is a true privilege to serve as president of SUNY Oswego at this auspicious moment, knowing that what we do today will create a better tomorrow.

Peter O. Nwosu
President, SUNY Oswego

OSWEGO BY THE NUMBERS

FALL 2024 TOTAL ENROLLMENT

- > **6,715** students
 - 5,517 undergraduates; 93% are full-time / 7% are part-time
 - 1,198 graduate students; 37% are full-time / 63% are part-time
 - 60% undergraduate students live on campus
 - 16% of student body are online majors
 - 41% Pell Eligible
 - 27% Underrepresented
 - 33% First Generation

FALL 2024 FIRST-YEAR STUDENT STATS

Distribution of class by college/school:

- > College of Business and Entrepreneurship: **20%**
- > College of Communication, Media and the Arts: **16%**
- > College of Education, Health and Human Services: **14%**
- > College of Liberal Arts, Sciences and Engineering: **45%**
- > Undeclared: **5%**

CULTURALLY DIVERSE CAMPUS

27% of total student body and **36%** of the fall 2024 entering class self-identified as Hispanic, African-American, Asian, Native American, Pacific Islander, multi-ethnic, or are international students.

STUDENT SUCCESS OUTCOMES*

- > 6-Year Graduation Rate as of fall 2018: **60.4%**
- > 4-Year Graduation Rate as of fall 2020: **45.7%**
- > Transfer Graduation Rate as of fall 2020: **67.2%**
- > Fall 2023 cohort retention rate: **70%** (*students retained in fall 2024*)

** first-time/full-time students*

Class of 2024 First Destination Outcomes:

- > **97%** Employed and/or Continuing Education
- > **93%** of those working full-time are in their field of choice.
- > **85%** work in New York State

REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Largest Public Employer in Oswego County

- > **3,525** full-time, part-time and student employees in 2024-2025
- > **58%** of non-student employees lived in Oswego County

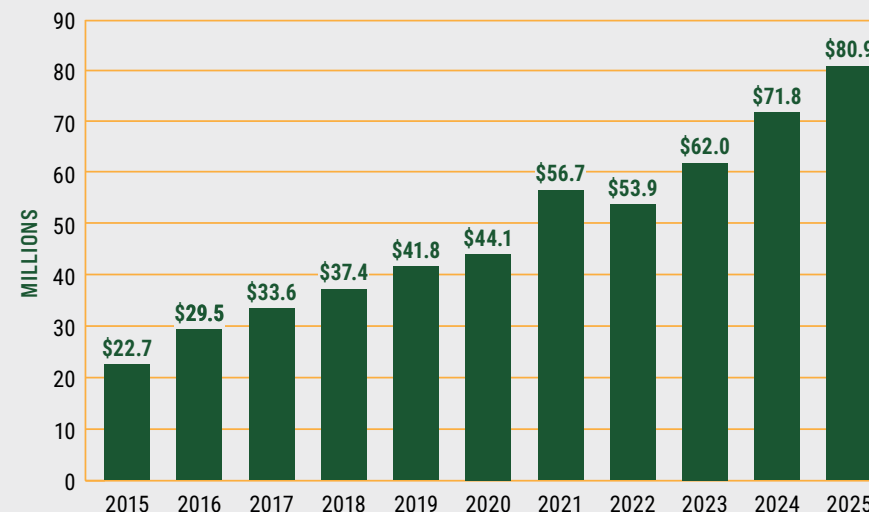
Campus Renewal and Capital Projects

- > Over the past five years of campus renovations and new construction, SUNY Oswego's capital plan projects exceeded **\$179 million** and injected over **\$80.5 million** into New York's economy.

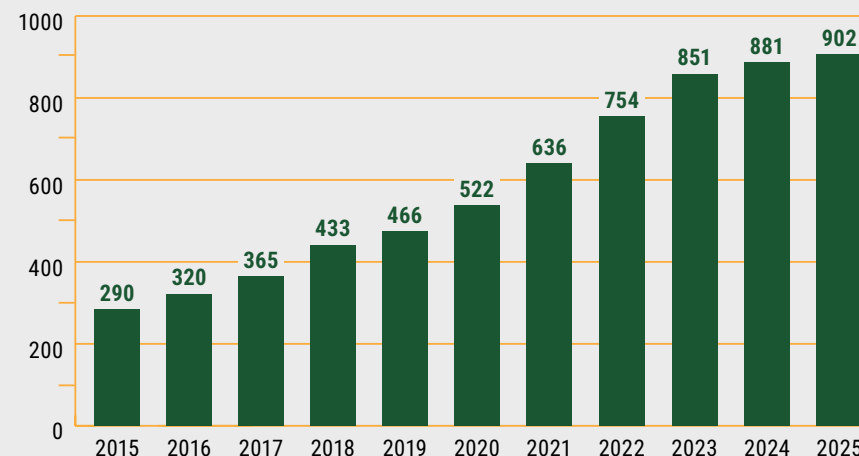
ENDOWMENT AND STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

- > Over the past decade, donor-funded scholarship support at SUNY Oswego has grown from helping fewer than 300 students to more than 900 – **a threefold increase** that's changing lives across campus.
- > In fiscal year 2024-2025, the university raised more than **\$7 million**.

10-Year Endowment Growth



Donor-Funded Scholarship Recipients





STUDENT SUCCESS

STUDENT SUCCESS

In one of SUNY's newest programs to boost student success, Oswego is a leading institution. For the [Advancing Completion through Engagement program](#), a transformative model that has consistently demonstrated the ability to increase completion rates and narrow opportunity gaps, Oswego has the largest program in the SUNY system for its first two years. Resources and support include funding to cover textbooks, groceries, transportation and other costs, as well as academic assistance, personalized advising and career development activities to help Pell-eligible students overcome barriers that can prevent them from obtaining a degree.

Across campus and academic programs, numerous student success stories unfolded among the many ways our students have continued to grow, connect and thrive while working with our outstanding faculty, staff and partners.

- > With more than 376,000 students enrolled in all SUNY institutions, [three students' recognition with Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence](#) confirms that some of the best and brightest come to Oswego's campus. Halle Collins, a double major in cinema and screen studies and in creative writing; Sky Minkoff, a linguistics major; and Layla Sprague, a double major in biology and physics received this award for their combination of academic achievement and accomplishments outside the classroom.
- > An international Master of Business Administration student success story involved Eason Lee realizing a dream he'd had since growing up in Malaysia: making a difference through the world-renowned TEDx platform. Lee led a team that [launched TEDxSUNY Oswego](#) in April to a sold-out audience, with a livestream that continues to attract viewers for the six inspirational speakers, all of whom have university connections. Another international student, Meet Patel, from India, will lead efforts toward a 2026 edition.
- > Two MBA students from Nigeria stood out in different yet impressive ways. Jane Nwagu, Group Head of Business Development for FBN Insurance Brokers in Lagos, says the MBA prepares her for the next level of becoming a C-suite executive in the highly competitive insurance industry in Nigeria. Olusola Fawehinmi, studying here while gaining valuable experience, was one of just 10 students selected nationally to join the [Institute of Real Estate Management's 2025 Student Leaders Program](#).
- > Real estate is a budding topic at SUNY Oswego, with the university recently adding a minor [shaped in part by the success of the active Real Estate Club](#). That student organization also hosted a tremendous lineup and earned widespread acclaim for their [Oswego Real Estate Conference on campus in November](#).
- > Laker student-athletes found ways to shine in competition and in the community. The men's hockey team continued a standard of success in [winning the SUNYAC tournament](#) to once again advance to the NCAA Division III Tournament. Women's hockey had its most successful season to date, with a 22-3-2 record, appearances in the top five of Division III rankings and with [Mack Hull named a national player of the year finalist](#). And women's lacrosse was perfect in their conference in [claiming the SUNYAC crown and an NCAA bid](#) for the first time since 1998.
- > But the Lakers also won awards for their outstanding support of the surrounding community. Oswego's athletics program earned both the [2024 NCAA Student-Athlete Community Service Award](#) and the [Community Partnerships Community Service Award](#) from the National Association of Division III Athletic Administrators. The statistics tell the tale: Laker student-athletes volunteered 3,890 hours, at a 95% participation rate, averaging 7.9 hours per student.
- > Civic engagement continues to be a strength with a student body interested in making the world a better place and ensuring their peers are part of the process.

◀ *Oswego women's lacrosse celebrates a historic win after defeating Cortland 12-8 to claim the program's first-ever SUNYAC championship.*



Sydney Mayer earned national recognition in making [ALL IN's 2025 Democracy Challenge's Honor Roll](#), while several members of the university's award-winning nonpartisan Vote Oswego effort were invited to a 2024 [White House convening on Youth Civic and Voter Engagement](#).

- > Our students provide outstanding support of physical, emotional and mental health. Patrycja Kulesza was the only undergraduate among 15 students selected for the [SUNY Office of Mental Health Scholarship Program](#). Oswego's Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma, a national health education honorary society, earned the [2024 Chapter Excellence Award](#).
- > Oswego's renowned technology education, with many graduates teaching in classrooms throughout the state and beyond, continued to bolster its reputation and win more awards, including a half-dozen honors (two firsts and four seconds) at the [Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association Eastern Regional Conference](#).
- > Bryan Diaz-Ximello, a double major in technology education and history, added another award as one of five winners of the state's [Carey Gabay Scholarship Program](#).

◀ *Sydney Mayer (center) tables to encourage voter registration with her fellow students in POL 386: "Vote Oswego."*

- Oswego's theatre program sets the stage for success, with several earning awards and showcasing skills at the **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region 2 Conference**. Closer to home, the program continues to lead the way with another smashing **Dramafest, hosting nearly 300 high school students** from throughout the region.
- Our students succeed because they have support and role models at the top. President Nwosu's longstanding dedication to student success resulted in his chairing the Committee on Student Success of the AASCU. Composed of presidents of AASCU-member institutions, the committee leads a strategic agenda on student success, including student success programming, persistence and completion initiatives, career pathways and workforce development, in alignment with upward mobility and regional economic development.
- From the international, national, regional, and local levels, our students succeed both inside and outside our classrooms through their own extraordinary efforts and talents, and within a culture that supports their endeavors toward a fruitful future.

Bryan Diaz-Ximello, a technology education and history double major, spoke at the Maraviglia Atrium dedication and was named a 2023-24 Carey Gabay Scholarship winner by Gov. Kathy Hochul. ➤





RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Research and scholarship are not just part of our syllabus; these are real-world experiences where faculty and staff examine the problems of yesterday, today and tomorrow to find solutions for today's challenges and a brighter future. Supported by around \$7.6 million in acquired research funding — the highest in more than a decade — the Laker family works on projects ranging from fighting diseases to combating global challenges, empowering creativity to supporting communities. The university aims to leverage its strong faculty and student expertise to expand its grant-funded research and pursue the American Council on Education's new Carnegie Research Colleges and Universities (RCU) designation, which recognizes significant research activity at institutions without extensive doctoral programs.

- > The esteemed reputation of Oswego's meteorology program, with its hands-on opportunities, continued to grow through exciting research projects. A faculty-student team conducted **groundbreaking work studying lake-effect lightning**, thanks to a National Science Foundation grant, trying to unlock more clues on the formation and prediction of lake-effect snowstorms. The **Oswego Chasers class had intensive learning opportunities**, observing and tracking several twisters on a long trek through Tornado Alley, with an ultimate goal of more accurate forecasts to save lives. Meteorology majors Zoe Bush and Thomas White had an outstanding opportunity to **research how supplemental radar units can fill in blind spots** in the critical process of predicting the where, when, and how much of lake-effect storms.
- > It's rare for a business school to earn an NSF research grant, yet that happened when what is now **Oswego's College of Business and Entrepreneurship teamed up with our STEM faculty** and other public universities to explore ways to support research, innovation and entrepreneurship within the campus and surrounding communities.
- > Graduate student research at Oswego brings together driven students, inspiring faculty, and top facilities to pursue prevention, cures and other goals in public health. Manideep Reddy Pothula, biomedical and health informatics grad student, **used machine learning and genetic data** to assist doctors in making informed decisions, enhancing patient outcomes and refining treatments for individuals battling breast cancer. Muhammad Musozoda, who earned his graduate and undergraduate degrees from Oswego, **worked on advancing safer, more sustainable materials** for high-temperature applications while also serving as part of a team trying to stabilize vaccines at room temperature for improved shelf life and effectiveness.
- > Oswego unlocks a world of research through international connections and opportunities. An example was **Kenyan Ambassador to the United Nations Erastus Ekitale Lokaale visiting campus** to discuss partnerships, student exchanges, and more. The ambassador's connection to campus was facilitated by anthropology faculty member Patricia Princehouse, who is involved with one of the world's most significant paleoanthropological research sites, located in Turkana County in the northwest part of the emerging nation.
- > Oswego offers many other exciting opportunities across the globe for research and scholarship, including a **summer study abroad course to Tanzania**, which opens new worlds for biological sciences students, **and an experience in Honduras** that helps in the critical preservation of coral reefs. Opportunities to learn about cultures and history abound, with shorter study-abroad explorations available in **Hong Kong, Ireland** and many other countries.
- > International collaborations also support interstellar research for the university's physics and astronomy program, as well as its successful graduates. Through an **International Space Science Institute grant**, **Shashi Kanbur is working with former students** around the world whom he has helped mentor into successful professionals, exploring questions about the age, size and creation of the universe. Today's students are becoming tomorrow's astronomers and teachers, thanks to **opportunities offered in Oswego's state-of-the-art planetarium**, which also provides popular programs for the public. Planetarium director Natalia Lewandowska also plays a key role in bringing the universe to a broad terrestrial audience through an **editorial role with NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day website**.

◀ *Sheila Sicilia performs research on a coral reef during a study-abroad trip to Honduras. (Photo courtesy of Sheila Sicilia)*



- > Oswego students receive many opportunities to showcase what they are learning and studying. Quest, the university's annual celebration of scholarly and creative activity, continues to thrive. Whether exploring ways to **help people better understand neurodiversity, boost college readiness among high school students, or examining education and solutions to counter microaggressions**, students turn their passions and interests into projects that benefit the world around us. The annual **Three-Minute Thesis for graduate students** showcases ways our advanced learners are working on solutions and innovation.
 - > Having a campus that includes Rice Creek Field Station and its environs provides outstanding opportunities for researchers studying animals, plants and other organisms. A magnificent example, with university-wide support, involved **returning fields to nature to better understand migrating birds**, providing unique hands-on opportunities for students. Rice Creek also offers avenues for students and others to restore nature through the Canal Forest Restoration Project, which **earned a Constellation Leading Environmental Accelerators Network grant**.
 - > Also close to home, the recent resurgence of the university's **archaeology field school provides hands-on experiences for students** while also helping the community learn more about the rich history of the area.
 - > We examine the past while looking forward to the future. Oswego continued steps toward **becoming an AI campus**, studying, integrating and implementing the benefits of artificial intelligence while also examining how to avoid the pitfalls and problems that come with its possibilities. By emphasizing how to use AI safely, ethically and sustainably, and recruiting our faculty expertise to create solutions, Oswego will become a leader in research, integrity and innovation in deploying this emerging technology for the greater good.
 - > Statistically speaking, providing today's students opportunities to be tomorrow's data researchers adds up to a winning formula. That's why **a new statistics major** will provide dividends to students, employers and the economy.
 - > Supporting avenues toward in-demand fields where students can thrive remains an area where our academic adaptability and outstanding faculty excel.
-
- ◀ *A \$25,000 Constellation Leading Environmental Accelerators Network award will support at least five more years for SUNY Oswego's Rice Creek Field Station's role in the Canal Forest Restoration Project. Zoology major and intern Sarah McCauliffe holds a tray of saplings that are part of the effort to restore white oak, swamp white oak and white pine trees to areas along the New York State canal system.*

- > Our interaction design program **was featured in a U.S. News piece on majors with excellent job prospects**, opening doors to jobs in app design, digital design, experience design, motion design, user-interface design, multimedia design, virtual reality and more.
- > With an increasing need for reliable sources serving the public among an evolving news industry, Oswego's journalism program is a **pioneering member of SUNY's Institute for Local News**, which connects talented students with valuable experiences to help hometown newspapers collect stories that might otherwise go untold.
- > Faculty creativity and productivity span well beyond teaching. Talented storytellers show the way by producing compelling narratives as well. Soma Mei Sheng Frazier of our English and creative writing faculty, **received rave reviews for her novel "Off the Books,"** which deftly walks a tightrope between an engaging, character-driven story and a profound exploration of atrocities in China. Murat Yaşar, a history faculty member recently promoted to deputy to the president for strategy, planning and special projects, **visited the top of sales charts** for his groundbreaking borderlands studies in "The North Caucasus Borderland Between Muscovy and the Ottoman Empire, 1555-1605." Cinema and screen studies faculty members Tiffany Deater and Jarrod Hagadorn **created a documentary on stewardship of Glacier National Park** related to their participation in the AASCU's Stewardship of Public Lands program.

- > Oswego faculty also serve as leaders and connectors around important issues and fields of study. Counseling and psychological services faculty member **Michelle Storie earned the national Early-Career Faculty Award** from the Trainers of School Psychologists organization, even as she took her students to present their work at this group's and other conferences. Maria Sagot of the biological sciences **helped organize a first-of-its-kind workshop gathering bat researchers across the Global South**, promoting connections and collaborations in studying this often-misunderstood yet ecologically vital animal.
- > Scholarly journals educate, connect and inspire academic committees, and in addition to contributing many articles, our faculty provide leadership for countless publications. English and creative writing faculty member Erik Wade **played a key role in launching the Public Humanities journal** when the humanities are as important as ever. Criminal justice faculty member Matthew McLeskey was **named editor of the contemporary social problems section** for the influential American Sociological Association's Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology. Andrea Vickery of communication studies **expanded her editorial role in International Journal of Listening**, contributing toward greater society connection and understanding. Amy Shore, of cinema and screen studies, and Roberta (Rosie) Hurtado, of English and creative writing and the director of the Latino and Latin American studies program, **serve as editors for the recently launched Gatherings: An Interdisciplinary, Intersectional Feminist Journal**.

- > Scholarship also includes hosting thought leaders and top professionals in their field. This includes launching a new tradition during 2024's Inauguration Week, the **Sheldon Lecture on Leadership and Service**, with Bob Moritz, a 1985 alumnus of our accounting program and retired global chair of PwC. A longstanding signature event, the Lewis B. O'Donnell Media Summit, brought together Oswego alumni and other industry leaders to explore Technology Evolution and the Future of Television Production and Distribution.
- > In many ways, inside classrooms, in laboratories and out in the rest of the world, students and faculty reflect our academic excellence in providing research and scholarship that span the globe, allowing solutions to grow, connect and thrive.



Amy Shore of cinema and screen studies and Roberta Hurtado of English and Latino and Latin American studies pose in front of the website for "Gatherings." ▶

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND UPWARD MOBILITY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND UPWARD MOBILITY

Contributing to the common good and creating an empowering university community are not just the core of our mission; they are concepts deeply embedded in our DNA. SUNY Oswego plays a key role in the economic future of our city, our county, Central New York and beyond.

But economic progress is only truly successful when it provides opportunities to all. Student access and social mobility remain crucial to our role and mission as an institution of higher education. We are also part of the pipeline, providing vital access for those who will fill the roles that help drive the region's renaissance.

- > SUNY Oswego is a partner with the most significant economic development project in the history of Central New York, as Micron Technology moves toward investing \$100 billion over the next 20 years to establish a microchip fabrication facility in Clay, three miles from the Oswego County line.
 - > As Micron and our university both place a high priority on educating for an evolving workforce, a Micron grant to help establish the SUNY Oswego Regional Center for STEM Excellence will benefit our students, our faculty, Central New York and beyond. Action started in earnest with the first VEX IQ robotics training for teachers from across New York State over the summer, with follow-up events planned to include teachers and their students visiting the campus in spring to learn more while engaging in friendly competition.
 - > Since our county is heavily impacted by the coming of Micron and the many opportunities to modernize infrastructure, create jobs and provide logistical support, President Nwosu chairing the Oswego Micron Strategy Steering Committee leverages our expertise, connections, and vision to help guide collaborations.
- The committee's second annual summit in June marked collaborative progress** and the many efforts and opportunities to come.
- > Oswego students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to tour and learn more about the Micron Technology fabrication plant in Manassas, Virginia, for a glimpse at the future. And thanks to generous Micron sponsorship, **SUNY Oswego's Engineering Week** once again provided opportunities for students and community members to hear from professionals, network with companies hiring engineers and related jobs, and encourage local schoolchildren to solve challenges and learn more about the possibilities of engineering.
 - > Preparation for Micron includes exploring the global semiconductor industry, **bolstered by a grant** from the U.S. Department of State's Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students (IDEAS) Program. The grant enables university leaders and faculty plus our partner, Monroe Community College, to develop partnerships with South Korea and Taiwan, with opportunities to explore curricular collaboration in the semi-conductor discipline, establish study-abroad programs, conduct research and explore popular cultures.
- > President Nwosu continues to play a role in the current and future prosperity of the region, including **serving on the CNY Regional Economic Development Council**. His leadership, along with our focused Vision 4040 plan, aligns with the organization's commitment to sustainable growth and innovation.
 - > Oswego's new **Center for Business Excellence and Transformation** takes shape under its first director, Maureen Melville of the College of Business and Entrepreneurship. Supported by funding from the National Science Foundation, Empire State Development and alumni donors, the center serves as a new hub for student, faculty and community collaboration, fostering business excellence through learning, partnerships and programs driving real-world impact.
 - > The interdisciplinary nature of our coursework means faculty and students can dig in, literally, for research that spans fields. Alanna Ossa, chair of anthropology, takes part in an **international project exploring historic small-community economic development**. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the project analyzes data and discoveries from as far back as 700 A.D. to gain insights into how modern communities can come together and thrive.

◀ *Rosely Paulino and Jeudin Alvarez are among the peer mentors in SUNY Oswego's new Money Matters financial literacy program.*

- > Since education is an investment that builds and sustains economic development and a sense of community, **President Nwosu advocated for regional public universities in Washington, D.C.**, meeting with representatives across the political spectrum to advocate for student support. The 119th Congress for the AASCU on the Hill supported regional public universities, which serve the “new majority” of college students — including those who are first-generation, low-income, Pell Grant recipients, community college transfers, veterans and students of color.
- > Knowing that the best and brightest students can come from our own backyard, the Shineman Oswego Scholars program, now in its second year, continues to

provide financial support to deserving and outstanding students from throughout Oswego County’s nine school districts. Education lifts and empowers our communities, and thanks to support from the Shineman Foundation, this provides a concrete example of our dedication.

- > **One City. One Campus. One Community** — supported by SUNY Oswego, the City of Oswego Mayor’s Office and the joint Campus-City Relations Committee — **unveiled student photojournalism promoting features and connections around the community** in May in Oswego’s City Hall. Now in its third year, the project produces photos and short essays exploring the vital partnerships between SUNY and the community.

- > Our Office of Workforce Innovation and External Relations (OWIER) houses the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Oswego County, which provides more than 200 active volunteers at more than 30 sites to positively impact the community. RSVP continues to receive support from AmeriCorps Seniors, United Way of Oswego County and the New York State Office for the Aging, complemented by in-kind support from SUNY Oswego.
- > OWIER continued its successful **Instructor Bootcamp**, training professionals from high-demand industries to become instructors in regional community colleges, adult education, apprenticeship readiness and registered apprenticeship programs. Participants receive a laptop and stipend as additional incentives. As of July, 68 individuals completed this no-cost 40-hour training, with 52 (and counting) employed or retained as instructors.
- > The first study-abroad MBA class traveled to India in January to explore entrepreneurship and to the country’s tech sector, knowing that incorporating the best practices of other countries and cultures into economic development efforts at home fosters growth and innovation.

◀ *Anthropology faculty member Alanna Ossa (right) prepares a major research project on Gulf Coast Mexico’s open markets. Here Ossa works with students Mackenzie Schmitt (left) and Rudy Arietta (center) in a Mahar Hall lab.*



UPWARD MOBILITY

- Social mobility is exemplified in the personal story of Edward Austin Sheldon, once destined to carry on the family farm but instead founding an institution that helped create a revolution, launching a better education system at home and overseas. In Sheldon's own life and dreams, and in countless stories of students and graduates, the commitment to upward mobility endures.
- Two of the most important rankings in this area testify to ongoing success: SUNY Oswego rose to **#9 in the North for social mobility** among our peer institutions and into the national top 50 of master's institutions in **Washington Monthly's "public good" rankings**. While some lists lean on metrics of exclusivity, these ranks instead measure inclusivity and dedication to improving the lives of its students and world around them, making this good news indeed for the Laker family.
- The new **Empire State Service Corps allow students to make a difference in our community**. Oswego's 13 participating students align with our larger mission to prepare students for success while contributing to the public good. Students received paid placements in high-need areas, including K-12 tutoring, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, basic needs outreach, peer mental health, sustainability, anti-hate and anti-bias prevention, nonpartisan civic engagement and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion.
- In addition to the FAFSA Completion Corps, Lakers received additional help via a new **Money Matters financial literacy program** from our Financial Aid Office.

Funded by a Department of Education Title III grant, Money Matters offers paid placements for Oswego students to provide outreach activities to peers and other campus members, focusing on available financial resources, budgeting, spending money wisely, risk management, loan information and more.

- Students having opportunities for paid internships means they don't have to choose between working other jobs to pay for college and taking unpaid positions that will help build their careers. Ongoing efforts by the Office of Experiential Learning **continued to make more paid internships available** to Lakers, supported by the SUNY Internship Impact Fund.
- Our focus on basic needs expanded, including opening of a branch of the **Students Helping Oz Peers pantry on the Syracuse campus**. Given the success of SHOP's services, which include food, toiletries, clothing and more on the lakeside campus, this idea and partnership demonstrate a continued dedication to meeting student needs. A collaborative effort between SHOP and the Empire State Service Corps resulted in a **donation drive to support Thanksgiving baskets** for those in need. Additional expansions will support greater outreach and assistance with the basic needs of Lakers, including those who are homeless.
- Because emergencies and unexpected events can happen to anybody at any time and can derail a college experience, Oswego's **Just-in-Time Scholarships help students overcome unexpected financial barriers**.

Awards ranging from \$100 to \$2,000 have not only helped Lakers survive but also thrive. These grants supplement the Dean of Students Office's ongoing support programs that include a Student Emergency Fund.

- Students with opportunities for higher education become professionals who help others succeed. This sense of connection and commitment to upward mobility shows with our inclusion in the **Most Promising Places to Work in Student Affairs**. Recently adding a master's in higher education leadership will empower more Lakers to stay and help students at their alma mater.
- SUNY's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) has long proven to be a successful social mobility program, helping students who might not otherwise graduate by providing financial support, advisement and a sense of belonging. Oswego's EOP students continue to shine, receiving systemwide awards that add exciting chapters to EOP's success story. Mary Kwofie **earned an EOP Norman R. McConney Jr. Award for Student Excellence** for showing persistence in overcoming obstacles and becoming a leader and role model. Tatiana Samuels became one of nine inaugural students statewide taking part in a **new EOP career development fellowship**, bringing her skills to Oswego Health's storytelling and outreach activities.
- Economic development and upward mobility work in tandem, creating a cycle where the former supports the latter, fueling opportunities for students and our region to thrive and grow together.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Any institution will only truly succeed when all students feel welcome, included and a sense of belonging. That truth sits at the heart of our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, but we know that actions speak louder than words.

A major new initiative, Being Bold: A Conversation on Race and Identity, facilitated an important, if sometimes uncomfortable, conversation on the path toward understanding, while bringing together faculty, staff and students. In all, the Triandiflou Institute provided 15 campuswide dialogue programs on this and other topics, attracting more than 1,000 attendees.

> **National Grid Foundation VP Robert Simmons, the university's new Scholar in Residence**, provides a role model whose story, accomplishments, and genuine warmth enable him to mentor students effectively, offer career guidance and present lectures and talks related to his expertise. He also will collaborate with faculty on research projects and curriculum development while supporting our development of faculty partnerships and student engagement.

> The annual **African, Latino, Asian and Native American Student Leadership Conference** spans decades and generations on our campus, consistently shining in elevating multicultural voices and leadership. With the theme Our Culture, Our Voice, Our Community, Our Vote, the fall 2024 edition united the multicultural organizations behind the conference with speakers, engagement and numerous opportunities for all members of our communities to learn and grow.

> Students of all abilities should feel welcome for opportunities to thrive on our campus, so having two Oswego students lead the way makes efforts even more noteworthy. **Luiz Perez-Rivera and Elizabeth**

Mulle were selected to serve as representatives in the new SUNY Disability Ambassador program, an initiative designed to promote accessibility and inclusivity across SUNY campuses by providing a range of support services for those who need them.

> Being visually challenged did not prove a barrier to Erin Czadzeck, who earned her MBA and public justice undergrad degrees from Oswego, and won second place in the software and services category of the New York State Business Plan Competition and entering the select Launch NY program. Those attending Czadzeck's December Commencement saw firsthand the support of business faculty member Sarah Bonzo, who **served as a guide for her during the ceremony**, part of a relationship that is a tremendous example of our student-faculty bonds.

> With so much business and learning happening online, ensuring all learners receive equitable opportunities remains paramount. Oswego is a leader in these efforts, evidenced by **Rebecca Mushtare's facilitation of a SUNY-wide accessibility fellowship program**. Mushtare guided 11 fellows from across the SUNY

System to expand digital accessibility and Universal Design for Learning practices across their campuses, which is crucial for student success.

> First-generation students — comprising 30% of Lakers — attend college with more unknowns than those whose parents have higher education experience. We are pleased to provide support and any road maps possible, primarily through our network of first-generation faculty and staff. Events such as the **First-Generation College Student Social**, the student-run First-Generation Club and the campus-wide FirstLEAP committee offer guidance, a sense of belonging, and a supportive network. A new **Be First Living Learning Community** provided first-generation students with opportunities to navigate the experience together.

> The new **All In Living Learning Community** connects and supports LGBTQ+ students and their allies with sections of Waterbury Hall for new and returning students. This community provides an environment where students feel safe, supported and surrounded by positivity.

◀ *SUNY Oswego students gather to celebrate May Commencement.*



- ▲ *Nuyorican poet and SUNY's chief diversity officer, Ricardo Nazario y Colón (second from left), visited Oswego through the "Latino Poetry: Places We Call Home" grant, meeting with students and faculty.*



- ▲ *Terrian Garvis accepts the ACPA Emerging Professionals Award, celebrating his dedication to equity, inclusion, and service in higher education.*

- > A large contingent of Lakers **attended the TransAction Conference**, focusing on the needs and experiences of transgender and gender queer individuals in higher ed. Students and employees learned about allyship, creating inclusive spaces, combating myths, mental health supports, storytelling and more. Lakers also participated in CNY Pride and Oswego Pride events, coordinated an Out-tober program series and traveled to Rochester's Image Out Film Festival.
- > An initiative to open doors for some students to hear from those who are like them and for other students to experience new perspectives as a **Library of America grant that sponsored appearances from four Latino poets**. Supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Emerson Collective, the series welcomed talented poets and communicators providing engaging presentations for diverse audiences.
- > For years of helping students and professionals of color feel welcome, empowered and connected, Terrian Garvis **earned the ACPA-College Student Educators International's Annuet Coeplis Emerging Professional Award**. The interim associate director of Oswego's Triandiflou Institute routinely supports the organization and its members with professional development and providing connections, roles he plays effectively on campus as well.

- Communication studies faculty member Francisco Suarez, known for teaching skills, infectious enthusiasm and award-winning “From Suarez’s Basement” video podcast, was one of 10 emerging Hispanic leaders and allies to become fellows for the [2025 Hispanic Leadership Institute](#), further developing higher education leadership skills and proficiencies in participants.
- Upstate New York has long opened its doors and its arms to refugees and marginalized communities fleeing danger or seeking a better life. Oswego continues that tradition through initiatives like health promotion and wellness professor [Sandy Bargainnier’s Refugee Wellness course](#), where students immersed themselves in the lives of refugee families, forged connections, and fostered growth in a comprehensive service learning program.

Val Mayer and Jackie Gamlen work with the beads they used at the Destiny Center, creating meaningful moments with the children in a project connected with professor Sandy Bargainnier’s HSC 387: “Refugee Wellness” class. ▶





INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

One of the most significant transformations in the university's history was marked by the reopening of Hewitt Hall this fall semester. More than \$80 million in renovations converted the former student union into a state-of-the-art home for storytellers, communicators and artists. Hewitt reflects real-world studios and creative environments, serving students and positioning us at the forefront of media, journalism, filmmaking and design in Central New York and beyond. It also connects College of Communication, Media and the Arts programs along an arts corridor that also includes recent renovations of Tyler Hall, home to fine and performing arts.

Hewitt is part of nearly \$300 million in investments from the SUNY Construction Fund earned by visionary and far-reaching campus leadership, with renovations of Mahar Hall, Lanigan Hall and Penfield Library ahead to update all the buildings around Oswego's historic academic quad.

RANKINGS AND RECOGNITION

- > SUNY Oswego **continued to climb the U.S. News and World Report rankings**, rising to #37 among "2025 Best Regional Universities in the North," and up to #14 in public colleges in the region. Oswego jumped nine spots to #9 in the North for social mobility, earned a Best Value rating, ranked #18 in the region for Best for Veterans, and placed on Top Undergraduate Engineering Programs, non-doctorate; Top Computer Science Schools; Top Undergraduate Business Programs; and Top Psychology Programs.
- > **SUNY Oswego again placed on the Best for Vets college list** while providing services and supports for around 120 veterans, active-duty military, reservists and National Guard members — as well as another 300 students who identify as military dependents.
- > SUNY Oswego's online MBA remains the **top public option in New York State**, according to sources including U.S. News, The Princeton Review, Fortune Education, and industry-focused Poets and Quants. Oswego also features among the Best Online Bachelor's in Business Programs and Overall: Best Bachelor's Programs.
- > Shining student stars also helped our strong broadcast and digital media program earn recognition **among the best in the nation**, and the distinction as the best public university in the state, from the Broadcast Education Association. Programs in audio and in broadcast and digital news earned exceptionally high recognition by winning several awards (by far the most in SUNY) in the **BEA's rigorous annual competitions**, continuing Oswego's stout showing.
- > SUNY Oswego's role in transforming lives of adult and nontraditional learners underscored our commitment to create a customized and successful path for every student. The Division of Extended Learning received the UPCEA (University Professional and Continuing Education Association) 2024 Excellence in Enrollment Management Award for outstanding work in academic advisement and support for adult learners enrolled in its main campus, Syracuse Campus and online programs. The institution's commitment to supporting a wide range of students also **earned Abound College Awards**, including the Finish College Awards for Best Online Colleges: North 2024, Best Colleges for Adults: 2024, and Best Grad Schools for 2024.

◀ *Newly renovated Hewitt Hall*

Mahar Hall Renovation Renderings ▶





OUTSTANDING PEOPLE

- Honors, awards and recognition throughout Oswego's faculty and staff show a deep, talented and caring employee network. SUNY awards for excellence recognize the best of the best across the 64-campus system and show how members of Oswego's family continue to serve students, their communities, higher education and the world in ways that go above and beyond.
- Lisa Glidden, a politics professor and inaugural director of the campus Great Lakes Institute **earned a Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service**. Andrea Pagano of accounting, finance and law and Allison Rank of politics **earned Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching**. Kristin Gublo of chemistry and Maggie Rivera of the Dean of Students Office **received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service**. Psychology faculty member Mark Mirabito merited the **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching**.
- Two campus leaders were among 37 talented academic and administrative professionals selected by **AASCU for its 2025-26 Emerging Leaders Program**: Nichole Brown, director of both the Clinical Practice and Partnerships Office and Teacher Opportunity Corps in the College of Education, Health and Human Services, and Murat Yaşar, who heads up several key initiatives as deputy to the president for strategy, planning and special projects. Rodrick Andrews, assistant vice president for admissions and financial aid, had **just completed the same program for 2024-25**. Andrews also received the opportunity to support student-athletes nationwide with an appointment to the NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee.
- Staff members earned numerous honors and recognitions on the competitive statewide landscape, as Oswego remains a true gem in SUNY. Stephanie Wallace, assistant director of our Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program, furthered her professional development and service of students

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- ◀ *(Top) Politics professor Lisa Glidden receives her Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service and congratulations from President Peter O. Nwosu at SUNY Oswego's Opening Breakfast.*
 - ◀ *(Bottom) SUNY Oswego administrators Murat Yaşar, left, and Nichole Brown are both members of the latest American Association of State Colleges and Universities' newest Emerging Leaders Program cohort.*

through a **New York Education Policy Leadership Program fellowship**. Michelle (Shelly) Sloan, assistant dean of students for student well-being, received **three awards from the SUNY Council of Senior Student Affairs Officers** – the Mental Health Champion Award and two honors for outstanding programs. Tim Nekritz, director of communications, was **inducted into SUNYCUAD Hall of Fame** for service to the profession and the organization. **Career Services staff members were honored for excellence**: The SUNY Career Development Organization recognized Gary Morris with the Outstanding Leadership Award and presented Megan McGarvey Mazzoccone its Rising Professional Award, while the Central New York Career Development Association gave Mazzoccone the Career Pioneer Award and Kate George its President's Award. Vivian Evans, director of Seneca Hall, **earned the Michael C. Holland New Professionals Award** from the SUNY Residence Life and Housing Administrators.

From left, Career Services staff members Gary Morris, Megan Mazzoccone and Kate George who recently received awards from state organizations. ▶





**SUSTAINING OUR CAMPUS
AND THE PLANET**

SUSTAINING OUR CAMPUS AND THE PLANET

As the only campus in New York State on the shores of Lake Ontario, we see how today's actions shape tomorrow's world. Our natural setting, including a 400-acre nature preserve at Rice Creek Field Station, and our forward-thinking, conscientious leadership make Oswego one of the top institutions in sustainability.

In addition to amazing work happening within Hewitt Hall's classrooms, studios and labs, what happens underneath it is noteworthy. A geothermal field, drawing energy from the heating and cooling of the earth, is part of an increasingly sophisticated geothermal network developed by the university and supported by \$30 million in state funding. The Hewitt geothermal project involved 90 six-inch bore holes going 500 feet deep each, resulting in 8.5 miles of drilling and 18.8 miles of piping. This field will connect with the existing geothermal operation for the Shineman Center and future renovations of Mahar Hall, Penfield Library and Lanigan Hall.

> Oswego continues to be **among the most sustainability-focused institutions** in Princeton Review's "Guide to Green Colleges." We earned increased buzz by **joining the Bee Campus USA program celebrating the preservation of pollinators** via team effort toward sustaining and enhancing the pollinator-friendly nature of our campus, including Rice Creek Field Station. Oswego repeated its **Tree Campus status, conferred by the Arbor Day Foundation**, for activities including tree planting and restoration, academic initiatives and developing community events.

> The Office of Sustainability continues to find new and innovative ways to create opportunities, reduce waste and develop education. These include an urban food forest initiative via a U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant to develop an "urban food forest," planting 300 native, edible and climate-adaptive trees and shrubs that also address stormwater runoff. A new hardcover book recycling project diverted 15,000 pounds of books away from landfills and toward specialty recycling, showing knowledge can be eternal.

> Our Great Lakes Institute's connection with the new Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary provides more ways to raise awareness of the importance

of our great lake and preserving its ecosystem. **A Day in the Life at the Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary**, funded through the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, provides student opportunities to gain experience planning and delivering educational programs on the lakeside campus and Rice Creek Field Station. The university also began developing a bachelor's degree program in marine archaeology to prepare the skilled talent needed to support this designation and related efforts.

> Building a large Oswego family that gives back to help the university financially connects past alumni, community donors and corporate partners with a bright future for the institution. University Advancement worked with more than 4,500 donors and friends to raise more than \$5 million in philanthropic support for today's Lakers and a range of campus initiatives. These included more than \$1.5 million for 925 donor-funded scholarships and awards for students.

> To be a campus focused on sustainability and a better future means that every day is an opportunity to create a better tomorrow through purposeful, thoughtful, and sustained activities and actions. At SUNY Oswego, that concept has become a reality and a habit.



▲ Sustainability interns Josephine Ragland (left), a junior mathematics major, and Barnaby Hurst (right), a senior biology major, at Rice Creek's Fresh Air, Fresh Start event with a display of their maple tree tapping tools used to gather sap for making maple syrup.





UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

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SUNY Oswego is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools; where appropriate, individual programs may be accredited by specific discipline oriented organizations.