

The Magazine for Fredonia Alumni and Friends

# Statement

FALL 2019

althcare

## Focus on the patient

Fredonia graduate leads  
rehabilitation-centered  
health system



Fredonia graduates in  
GRAMMY awards spotlight

Business students craft market  
research for Dunkirk school

 **FREDONIA**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



**SAVE THE DATE**  
Homecoming Oct. 18–20

# Statement

THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Fall 2019



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## Admissions Events

### Fredonia Exploration Days

Saturday, Sept. 21

Saturday, Nov. 9

### Signature Saturdays

Saturday, Oct. 5

Visual and Performing Arts

Saturday, Oct. 26

Natural Sciences and Psychology

Fredonia also offers weekday tours and information sessions.

For a complete list of available dates visit: [fredonia.edu/visit](http://fredonia.edu/visit) or call 1-800-252-1212.

The Office of Admissions has moved to the sixth floor of Maytum Hall. Campus Tour and Information Sessions begin at the Welcome Center, located in the Williams Center.

## Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

For alumni event registration and payment, go to [fredonia.edu/alumni](http://fredonia.edu/alumni)

### SEPTEMBER

#### Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner

Friday, Sept. 20, 6 p.m.

Williams Center

Tickets available at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center.

#### Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center 50th Anniversary Gala Pops Concert

Saturday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.

King Concert Hall

Tickets available at the Fredonia Ticket Office in the Williams Center.

### OCTOBER

#### Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture

by Dr. Junaid Zubairi

#### "A Celebration of Student-centered Research"

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m.

Rosch Recital Hall

Reception following

#### Fredonia Marxonia Annual Marx Brothers Festival

Thursday–Friday, Oct. 3–4

Reed Library Exhibit: Oct. 3–20

Fredonia Marxonia activity on Friday, Oct. 4, with Trav S.D. presenting "The Marx Brothers and Vaudeville" at 7:30 p.m., 1891 Fredonia Opera House.

See page 30 for information on additional activities.

#### President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Lecture

by Assistant Professor Michael Igoe

#### "The Consolidation of Communication Conglomerates and What it Means to You"

Wednesday, Oct. 16, noon

Williams Center Room S204

#### Class of 1969 50-year Reunion Celebration

Friday–Saturday, Oct. 18–19

Campus

#### Family Weekend

Friday–Sunday, Oct. 25–27

Campus

#### Scholars Breakfast

(by invitation only)

Saturday, Oct. 26

Steele Hall

### NOVEMBER

#### Annual Alumni Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 14, 4 p.m.

Alumni House



#### Homecoming Weekend

Friday–Sunday, Oct. 18–20

Schedule of Events will be available at [fredonia.edu/alumni](http://fredonia.edu/alumni)



# Statement

THE MAGAZINE FOR FREDONIA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

VOLUME 48, NO. 1, FALL 2019

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*Published semiannually by the Marketing and Communications Office at the State University of New York at Fredonia, Gregory Hall G104, Fredonia, NY 14063, (716) 673-3323. Periodical postage paid at Fredonia, NY and at additional mailing offices. The Statement is mailed to alumni, parents, graduate students, faculty and staff, and friends of the university. Articles may be reprinted without permission.*

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

Seven years ago, when my 16 years serving as President was nearing an end, I wrote what was supposed to be my last *Statement* message. However, President Virginia Horvath's recent retirement and a phone call from the SUNY Chancellor brought Jan and me back to this exceptional university. I plan to keep the campus moving forward during this year of transition, and, of course, ensure we have a successful search for our 14th President.

Upon arriving on campus, the physical changes were obvious. Construction of the Science Center and Rockefeller Arts Center Addition was completed, Houghton Hall's beautiful new exterior is nearing completion, some new sculptures, to name just a few. However, what has not changed is the caring attitude and renowned professionalism of our faculty and staff, and the excitement generated during the summer by students attending summer camps and the all-important new student orientations. The "Fredonia Spirit" is alive and well!

The \$20 million "Nurturing Innovation" campaign, our largest, is winding down as December 2020 fast approaches, but there is still time to participate in the campaign with a gift large or small. These dollars enrich the academic experiences of our students and provide many with much needed financial support. I am confident we will reach and exceed our goal through your generosity.

The university's 10-year reaccreditation will occur this spring, while this fall we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Rockefeller Arts Center, where so many of you performed, learned, and/or attended. This year will see renewed emphasis on working with Albany to ensure SUNY's fiscal strength, refining our program mix to better align with current demands, expanding undergraduate and graduate student recruitment, introducing our first-ever degree program taught fully online, and yes, conducting a successful national search for a new President. It will be a very busy year!

Articles contained in this edition of the *Statement* highlight a 1995 alum recently named the first female CEO of a highly regarded healthcare system, two Fredonia alums who received GRAMMY recognition at this year's ceremony, a well-deserved international award for our long-standing Fredonia jazz ensemble, and one of our newest majors, Exercise Science.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Oct. 18-20 Homecoming. Thank all of you for your enthusiastic support of SUNY Fredonia.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Hefner, Ph.D.  
Interim President



**FREDONIA**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

# Jazz Ensemble wins prominent DownBeat magazine award



The Fredonia New Jazz Ensemble.

Rarely does an unheralded student music ensemble win a major award from a prestigious international publication, but that's exactly what the Fredonia New Jazz Ensemble did when it received DownBeat magazine's Student Music Award for Outstanding Performance by a College Large Jazz Ensemble for 2019.

"This is an incredible honor for [director] Nick Weiser and the students in his jazz program," said Mel Unger, director of the School of Music. "We are absolutely thrilled!"

**"The fact that this is blindly judged means that the results can't be biased by the history or reputation of iconic jazz programs or big names ... To be selected from what was sure to be a strong pool of applicants is all the more satisfying."**

— Ensemble Director Nick Weiser

Student Music Awards are often dominated by prestigious conservatories and universities, such as the University of North Texas College of Music, Eastman School of Music and Frost School of Music at the University of Miami.

What makes Fredonia winning this award even more remarkable is that

the live recording Weiser submitted to the magazine was drawn from the ensemble's inaugural performance held last November. Weiser, who joined the School of Music in 2017, rechristened the former Latin Jazz Ensemble and began emphasizing music by living composers, composers of color and composers who are otherwise under represented.

"The change welcomes a new perspective and energy, and really opened the band up to exploring a repertoire that doesn't get programmed as much," Weiser remarked of the new catalog. "Students are excited about it; they own the music because they can relate to it."

The three selections submitted by Weiser were "Wyrgly" by composer/jazz orchestra leader Maria Schneider; "Skylark," arranged by musician/composer Bob Brookmeyer; and Radiohead's "Kid A," arranged by Steve Owen.

A list of all award recipients was published in the magazine's June issue.

A copy of our most recently filed financial report is available from the Charities Registry of the New York State Office of the Attorney General at [www.charitiesnys.com](http://www.charitiesnys.com), (212) 416-8401, or by contacting the New York State Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005, or us at 272 Central Avenue, Fredonia, NY, 14063.



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# Focus on the patient

Fredonia graduate leads rehabilitation-centered health system

— by Roger Coda

Classmates, professors and friends — those who knew Sonja LaBarbera at the State University of New York at Fredonia in the 1990s — inspired the Silver Creek native to “think differently, to work harder and to always remember that people are what matters most.”

She never forgot that advice.

More than 20 years later, that challenge is guiding Ms. LaBarbera in her new leadership role as president and CEO of Gaylord Specialty Healthcare, a highly regarded healthcare system that provides a complete continuum of rehab care through technology, research, clinical experience and human compassion.

LaBarbera is the first woman appointed to lead Gaylord. She’s also the first clinician elevated to that position in four decades

and the first internal candidate chosen.

An already distinguished career at Gaylord undoubtedly helped LaBarbera stand out among candidates seeking to lead the 117-year-old organization. In fact, retired CEO George Kyriacou attributes much of Gaylord’s success in the last decade to LaBarbera’s dynamic personality. “Not only is she full of energy, but she’s bursting with ideas and has the rare ability to make things happen quickly and effectively,” LaBarbera’s predecessor said.

Robert Lyons, who chairs Gaylord’s board of directors, believes it’s imperative to appoint leaders who can position Gaylord for the future in a positive, cost-effective way that meets patients’ needs and delivers integrated care. “Sonja epitomizes someone who can take Gaylord from

where it is today to where it needs to be tomorrow,” Mr. Lyons said.

Founded as a tuberculosis sanitarium in 1902, Gaylord Specialty Healthcare has become a major player in the healthcare industry in Connecticut. Its 400-acre campus in rural Wallingford is anchored by Gaylord Hospital, a 137-bed specialty hospital, or long-term acute care hospital, which specializes in medical management and rehabilitation for patients who have experienced an acute illness or a traumatic accident.

Patients typically come to Gaylord for additional care after a stay in an Intensive Care Unit or following a hospital discharge. Most are from Connecticut, though the hospital has seen a nearly 70 percent increase in admissions from out-of-state



and out-of-country over the last five years.

LaBarbera oversees 800 employees who provide care and rehabilitation for illness or injury related to the brain and nervous

**“She was self-motivated, certainly managed her time well and knew where she was going and what she wanted.”**

— Dr. Robert Manzella, retired chair,  
Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology

system, spine, bones and joints and lungs, among other conditions. Two satellite operations in nearby communities offer physical therapy, orthopedics and sports medicine services.

With two decades of experience in the healthcare industry encompassing clinical operations, strategic planning business development, leadership development and philanthropy, LaBarbera is clearly up to the challenge to lead Gaylord.

“My personal goal is to continue to learn every day and push the boundaries through innovation. In order to stay ahead of the curve, you have to always be anticipating what comes next,” LaBarbera explained. “As a clinician, I am in a unique position to draw upon my experiences with patients and their families to drive business decisions.

“Keeping the patient at the center of every decision I make, is what matters most to me.”

The Silver Creek High School graduate always assumed she would become a school speech pathologist, so enrolling at Fredonia — which LaBarbera said had a “stellar local reputation and an excellent Speech Pathology program” — was an obvious college choice. She received a B.S. in Education: Speech and Hearing Handicapped in 1995 and a M.S. in Speech — Language Pathology a year later.

Through the Henry C. Youngerman Center for Communication Disorders, LaBarbera acquired real-life clinical experience that showed how theory and skills learned in the classroom are practiced and integrated into the learning

environment. As an undergraduate, she saw how different clinicians interacted with patients and their families. In the graduate program, LaBarbera participated in the treatment of patients.

“I can remember children that I saw for articulation therapy and adults for dysfluency as well as accent reduction,” LaBarbera said. “The experience was of tremendous value as a kick start for my other clinical experiences.”

During her Gaylord tenure, LaBarbera received an M.S. in Organizational Leadership at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn. She belongs to the Healthcare Financial Management Association and American College of Healthcare Executives, and maintains licenses or certifications from the American Speech and Hearing Association and the state of Connecticut.

LaBarbera served seven years in



Sonja LaBarbera meets with Shekinah Hawkins, a mobility tech at Gaylord.

### Impressive career trajectory

LaBarbera worked several years in speech language pathology at Middlesex Hospital, located in Middletown, Conn., and was promoted to manager of Inpatient Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in 2001.

Though not actively looking to make a career move, LaBarbera interviewed for the position of Director of Inpatient Therapy at Gaylord in 2005. She was clearly awestruck by what she saw. Everyone was working toward a common goal, LaBarbera remembered. The energy was palpable. “I was inspired to become part of this amazing team so that I could be part of the journey to help more people who were at a point in their lives when they needed it most.”

Inpatient Therapy Services before receiving successive promotions: Senior Director of Therapy and Outpatient Services; Vice President of Operations and Strategy; and Chief Operating Officer, where she played a vital role in increasing system-wide volumes and patient satisfaction scores, and more than tripled the size and scope of Gaylord’s outpatient physical therapy, orthopedics and sports medicine programs.

### By the (very good) numbers

Gaylord’s track record is a source of pride. Rates of hospital re-admittances and emergency department experiences are below national averages. The percentage of patients returning home is above the nationwide average. The outpatient service line has grown over 60 percent in the last five years.

From a qualitative perspective, LaBarbera has led an organizational culture change to promote optimal clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction and employee engagement.

“There are many factors that go into Gaylord’s results,” LaBarbera explained, “but at the center of it all is the employee family. Our staff drives our culture of excellence. I am fortunate to lead an amazing team of experts that supports every aspect of patient care. Everything we do at Gaylord is focused on maximizing functional outcomes for the people we have the privilege of serving.”

LaBarbera’s primary goal for the not-for-profit organization, the only provider of inpatient and outpatient programs in Connecticut accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, is to increase the number of patients served — currently around 10,000 a year at three locations — as well as programs offered.

“We are looking to expand our physical footprint as well as our clinical footprint by participating in research to advance the field of rehabilitative medicine,” she said. Gaylord recently went through a comprehensive strategic planning process that LaBarbera developed and launched as Chief Operating Officer.



Jacob Hunter, a physical therapist and director of Outpatient Services at Gaylord, confers with Ms. LaBarbera.

Manzella, retired chair of the former Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology (now Communication Disorders and Sciences) and director of the Youngerman clinic. “He was tough but made us laugh at the same time. He truly cared about each and every student and their individual needs and goals.”

Dr. Manzella remembers LaBarbera as “a very good student” and one of the first

Attending Fredonia is a family tradition. A sister, Susanne, also received a pair of Fredonia degrees: B.S. in Elementary Education and M.S. in Early Childhood Education. She taught at Silver Creek Elementary School for 17 years. Her father, Vito, received a B.S. in Biology and also taught in the Silver Creek district before opening a restaurant with his brother.

Another sister, Andrea, received a B.S. in Physics and Astronomy at the University of Rochester and a medical degree at the University at Buffalo.

“My fondest memories of my time at Fredonia all center around the people, my classmates, my professors, my friends. The people I met during my college career shaped who I am today and how I see the world,” LaBarbera said. “The relationships I made at Fredonia have stood the test of time and I cherish them and our time together at Fredonia.”

LaBarbera’s parents still reside in Silver Creek, so she makes occasional visits to the campus. “There have been many significant changes to the campus and programming — many advancements since I graduated. I am very proud to see the growth and changes.”

**“My personal goal is to continue to learn every day and push the boundaries through innovation. In order to stay ahead of the curve, you have to always be anticipating what comes next.”**

— Sonja LaBarbera

LaBarbera remembers SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Mitchell Burkowski as a unique teacher who taught students the art of creative thinking. “Not everything has a straight path and he taught me to think outside the box. I enjoyed his ‘non-traditional’ approach to learning. He was tremendously supportive.”

The importance of being a dynamic presenter was conveyed by Dr. Dennis Perez. “He made learning fun, yet always pushed us to be the best we could be.”

Another “tremendous teacher” LaBarbera cherished is Dr. Robert

four M.S. graduates who became hospital administrators. “She was self-motivated, certainly managed her time well and knew where she was going and what she wanted,” he said.

Fellow classmate Doug Florkowski remembers LaBarbera being “incredibly personable” and always having a smile on her face. “She related really well to everyone in our department and was a great communicator,” added Mr. Florkowski, who is chief executive officer of Crawford Memorial Hospital in Robinson, Ill. “I am not surprised at all on her career success.”



# Fredonia graduates in GRAMMY Awards spotlight

Randy Merrill and Patrick Harrington, graduates from different decades at Fredonia, were recognized for their work on either side of the recording studio glass at the 61st GRAMMY Awards ceremony in February.

A recording industry veteran in New York City, Mr. Merrill won a GRAMMY for “Best Engineered Album (Non-Classical)” for Beck’s album “Colors.” He received a B.S. degree in Sound Recording Technology in 1997. Mr. Harrington is an acclaimed guitarist with the band Victor Wainwright and The Train, recipient of its first GRAMMY nomination. Harrington’s degree in Business Administration, with a concentration in Music Industry, was received in 2013.

“I am grateful to have won this award, since it specifically relates to my job as a sound engineer,” Merrill said. “Colors” also won a Technical Excellence & Creativity Award, which can sometimes lead to winning a GRAMMY in the “Best Engineered” category.

Merrill, a senior mastering engineer at Sterling Sound, also received a GRAMMY nomination in the “Record of the Year” category for “Shallow,” by Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper, part of the soundtrack of the 2018 remake of “A Star is Born.”

“It’s always a surprise to win, but of



Randy Merrill, in the back of his mastering studio at Sterling Sound in Edgewater, N.J., flanked by a collector’s boxset, from Taylor Swift’s 2018 Reputation stadium tour, that he received from Swift’s management when he worked on her “Reputation” album.

on six additional GRAMMY-nominated recordings.

Merrill won GRAMMY Awards in 2017, for Adele’s “Hello,” which won “Record of the Year,” and for “25,” also by Adele, named “Album of the Year.”

The Falconer native joined Sterling Sound in 2013 and was promoted to senior engineer in 2017. He previously worked as mastering engineer at Masterdisk, from 2008 to 2013, and was a mastering assistant at Scott Hull

“These two wonderful teachers taught me the value of hard work and perseverance, characteristics which have helped me to survive and even thrive in the music business,” he said.

Merrill received an A.A. in Arts and Humanities, with a concentration in Music, at Jamestown Community College. He attended the GRAMMY ceremony at the Microsoft Theater and the live telecast ceremony at the Staples Center.

Harrington joined Victor Wainwright and The Train in 2016. Scoring a GRAMMY nomination on their debut album for Best Contemporary Blues Album came as a surprise.

“It wasn’t on any of our radar as far as being a possibility,” Harrington said. “When we made it, we just wanted to make a good record of music that was true to all of our hearts. To be recognized on the level of the GRAMMYS for making a completely honest record like this is such a high honor.”

Band members, their producer and Harrington’s wife, the former Lydia Biernat, who received a B.S. in Business Administration: Marketing at Fredonia in 2014, attended the awards ceremony.

Harrington credits the Music Industry program for giving him the mindset to work hard and push himself beyond his comfort zone. Inspiration and work ethic exhibited by fellow students propelled him to do his best work.



Patrick Harrington (third from left), flanked by members of the band, Victor Wainwright and the Train.

the two nominations, I thought ‘Shallow’ might have a better chance since it had already won a Golden Globe and (was) nominated for an Oscar for ‘Original Song,’” Merrill noted. “Shallow” went on to collect GRAMMY Awards for “Best Song Written for Visual Media” and “Best Pop Duo/Group Performance.” Merrill worked

Mastering, run by Fredonia graduate Scott Hull, from 2006 to 2008.

Faculty having the greatest influence on Merrill included David Kerzner, assistant professor of Music and head of the Sound Recording Technology program, and SUNY Distinguished Professor Kay Stonefelt, head of the Percussion area.

# Homecoming 2019 Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, reservations for events may be made at: [fredonia.edu/alumni](http://fredonia.edu/alumni)



Tickets will be mailed for reservations received prior to Wednesday, Oct. 16. After this date, tickets may be picked up on Thursday, Oct. 17 at the Alumni House, 286 Central Ave., from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.; on Friday, Oct. 18, from 1 until 5 p.m., at the Alumni House, and on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., in the Williams Center.

Some events may be subject to change. Please check the website for any updates.

A free shuttle bus will continuously circulate the parking lots and campus for your convenience.

## Friday, Oct. 18

### Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit

7:30 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sponsored by the Hahn Family Fredonia Marxonia Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation.  
Reed Library  
Free

### Bookstore Open

9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
University Commons (formerly Cranston Hall)

### Golden Alumni Luncheon

Noon  
For all graduates of 1969 and before.

Horizon Room, lower level of Williams Center (formerly known as the Campus Center)  
Reservations recommended  
\$35/person

### Martha Colburn Exhibit

Noon–9 p.m.  
An exhibition of four stop-motion, animated films and related collages and props.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free.

### Registration and Ticket

**Pick Up**  
1–5 p.m.  
Alumni House, 286 Central Ave.

### Fredonia 1891 Opera House Tour

2 p.m.  
Village Hall, Fredonia  
Transportation is on your own.  
Free

### Department of Biology Keynote Presentation

4 p.m.  
Deborah Good, Ph.D., '87 (Medical Technology)  
Kelly Family Auditorium  
Science Center Room 105  
Free

### Homecoming Dinner

5 p.m.  
Celebrating the classes of 1954,

1959, 1964, and 1969, recognition of Alumni Award recipients.  
Multipurpose Room, Williams Center (formerly known as the Campus Center)  
Reservations recommended, seating is limited.  
\$40/person

### Women's Volleyball

6 p.m.  
Fredonia vs. SUNY Cortland  
Dods Gym

### Student Pep Rally/Talent Show

7 p.m.  
Crowning of Homecoming Royalty.  
Indoor Track, Steele Hall  
Free

### Recreational Public Ice Skating

7–9 p.m.  
Ice Arena, Steele Hall  
Nominal rental charge for skates.

### "The Grapes of Wrath"

8 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center  
Tickets are \$25/person and may be purchased at [fredonia.edu/tickets](http://fredonia.edu/tickets) or by calling the Fredonia Ticket Office at (716) 673-3501.

### 1970s Reunion Jazz Concert

8 p.m.  
Rosch Recital Hall, Mason Hall  
Free

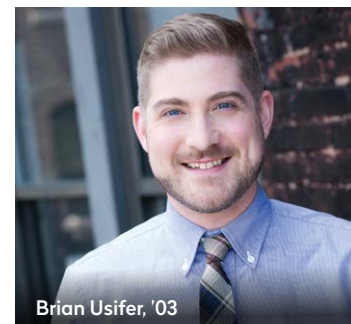
## Saturday, Oct. 19

### Registration and Ticket

**Pick Up**  
8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Williams Center Information Booth  
Coffee may be purchased at Starbucks and Tim Hortons.

### Biology Alumni Breakfast

9 a.m.  
Major Alice Sam Conference Room, Science Center  
Free



Brian Usifer, '03



Dr. Deborah Good, '87



Dr. Thomas Quatroche Jr., '92

## Homecoming '19 Highlights

Homecoming 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the **Class of 1969** and the 30th anniversary of our prestigious Leadership Corps. Honored classes will be recognized — especially the classes of **1954**, **1959** and **1964**. You will be able to attend the fourth annual **Mini Maker Faire** ([makerfairefredonia.com](http://makerfairefredonia.com)), the spectacular **Fredonia Wind Ensemble concert**, great athletic contests and a host of other special events. **Deborah Good, Ph.D., '87** (Medical Technology); **Thomas Quatroche Jr., Ph.D., '92** (Business Administration); and **Brian Usifer, '03** (Music Performance), will be

honored for their outstanding contributions at the **Homecoming Dinner**, on Friday, Oct. 18.

On Friday, there will also be a special **Golden Alumni Luncheon** for all alumni from 1969 and before. During the afternoon, all alumni and families are invited to attend a special **Department of Biology keynote alumni presentation and reception by Dr. Good** at 4 p.m., to be held in the Kelly Family Auditorium (Room 105) of the Science Center. There will also be an opportunity to tour the **1981 Fredonia Opera House**, down at Village Hall, at 2

p.m. (Transportation to the Opera House is on your own.)

After the Friday evening dinner, there are two events from which to choose and to enjoy: the student performance of "**The Grapes of Wrath**," in Marvel Theater (Tickets may be purchased by contacting the Fredonia Ticket Office at: [fredonia.edu/tickets](http://fredonia.edu/tickets) after Aug. 27, or by calling (716)-673-3501.) or the annual free **1970s Reunion Jazz Concert**, scheduled in Rosch Recital Hall. Additional performances of "The Grapes of Wrath" are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday.

**Women's Alumni Soccer Game**

10 a.m.  
University Stadium

**Fourth Annual Fredonia Mini Maker Faire**

10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Co-sponsored with Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES. For more information: [fredonia.makerfaire.com](http://fredonia.makerfaire.com)  
Williams Center and Science Center  
Free  
Food trucks will be located in Jewett Hall parking lot.

**Campus Tour**

11 a.m.  
Meet at Information Booth, Williams Center.  
Free

**Bookstore Open**

11 a.m.–5 p.m.  
University Commons (formerly known as Cranston Hall)

**Martha Colburn Exhibit**

Noon–8 p.m.  
An exhibition of four stop-motion, animated films and related collages and props.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center  
Free

**Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit**

Noon–8 p.m.  
Sponsored by the Hahn Family Fredonia Marxonia Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation  
Reed Library  
Free

**Class of 1969 Buffet Luncheon**

12:30 p.m.  
Horizon Room, lower level  
Williams Center  
Reservations recommended  
\$25/person

**Women's Soccer Game**

1 p.m.  
Fredonia vs. SUNY Buffalo State  
University Stadium

**Women's Volleyball Game**

1 p.m.  
Fredonia vs. Oswego  
Dods Gym

**Alumni Get Together**

2–4 p.m.  
Dods Grove/Tent/DJ  
Nominal charge for beer.  
Please bring ID  
Food trucks will be located in Jewett Hall parking lot.

**Recreational Public Ice Skating**

2–4 p.m.  
Ice Arena, Steele Hall  
Nominal rental charge for skates.

**Leadership Corps 30th Anniversary Reception**

3–4:30 p.m.  
For all former and current Leadership students  
Williams Center Room S-222  
Free

**Honored Class Reception**

4 p.m.  
Tim Hortons, Williams Center  
For classes of 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989 and 1994  
\$10 at the door

**Class of 1999**

6–9 p.m.  
20-Year Reunion Happy Hour  
Old Main Inn, 24 Water St.  
Complimentary munchies.  
Cash Bar.

**"The Grapes of Wrath"**

7:30 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center  
Tickets are \$25/per person and may be purchased at [fredonia.edu/tickets](http://fredonia.edu/tickets) or by calling the Fredonia Ticket Office at (716) 673-3501.

**Fredonia Wind Ensemble**

8 p.m.  
Conducted by Dr. Paula Holcomb  
King Concert Hall, Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Free

**Class of 2009**

9 p.m.  
10-Year Reunion Happy Hour  
Old Main Inn, 24 Water St.  
Complimentary munchies. Cash Bar.

**Downtown Meetings**

9 p.m.  
Look for location assignments at Homecoming Registration Booth. All honored classes (1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014) will have opportunities to convene at designated establishments downtown.

**Sunday, Oct. 20**

**Martha Colburn Exhibit**

Noon–4 p.m.  
An exhibition of four stop-motion, animated films and related collages and props.  
The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery, Rockefeller Arts Center  
Free

**Fredonia Marxonia Exhibit**

Noon–Midnight  
Sponsored by the Hahn Family Fredonia Marxonia Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation  
Reed Library  
Free

**"The Grapes of Wrath"**

2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre, Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center.  
Tickets are \$25/per person and may be purchased at [fredonia.edu/tickets](http://fredonia.edu/tickets) or by calling the Fredonia Ticket Office at (716) 673-3501.

**Recreational Public Ice Skating**

7–9 p.m.  
Ice Arena, Steele Hall  
Nominal rental charge for skates.

**The Department of Biology** (in the Science Center's Major Alice Sam Conference Room, at 9 a.m.) will host a complimentary **breakfast** on Saturday morning for alumni.

The **Mini Maker Faire**, to be held in the Williams Center and the Science Center on Saturday, will celebrate creativity, invention and the do-it-yourself (DIY) spirit. There will be a diverse mix of makers; from tech enthusiasts to crafters, home-steaders to scientists, and garage tinkerers to kids, who design and build interesting items. Admission is free. Food trucks will be on site in the Jewett Hall parking lot.

Please plan to attend the great athletic contests and events scheduled this year. On Friday, the exceptional **Women's Volleyball Team** will face SUNY Cortland at 6 p.m., in the Dods gym and, on Saturday, will meet SUNY Oswego, at 1 p.m. Also on Saturday, there will be a **Women's Alumni Soccer** match at 10 a.m. in University Stadium. After the Alumni match, at 1 p.m., the **Women's Soccer Team** will play SUNY Buffalo State.

Additional intriguing events include a wonderful **Fredonia Marxonia** exhibit in Reed Library and a special **Martha Colburn Exhibit** in the Carthy and Jesse

Marion Art Gallery. Ms. Colburn, an internationally renowned artist, has an exhibition of four stop-motion, animated films and related collages and props. Her vibrant imagery can belie the seriousness of the themes she addresses. While her work is viewed in both film and art contexts, she believes that the individual films are secondary to the ideas and images behind her work. Colburn's films and music videos are regularly screened in festivals and museums around the world.

The **classes of 1999** and **2009** will celebrate anniversaries with other specially designated events. For all other honored classes,

specific downtown establishments will be designated for further opportunities in which to gather later Saturday evening. Look for the location assignments at the Homecoming Registration Table.

Check out the entire Homecoming Schedule of Events posted on the Alumni website at: [fredonia.edu/alumni](http://fredonia.edu/alumni) and make your reservations. Plan now to celebrate the memories at Homecoming 2019 in Fredonia!

## Fredonia students become links in Honduras ‘medical brigades’



Students deliver a campus presentation on their J-Term Honduras medical mission experience in the Kelly Family Auditorium in February.

Serving on “medical brigades” in Honduras during the winter semester break gave unique insight into health care challenges afflicting third world countries to students majoring in biological sciences at Fredonia.

The biggest benefit for the 16 students, explained Department of Biology Professor Ted Lee, was experiencing how primary health care is delivered in a country dramatically different from the United States. Dr. Lee coordinated Fredonia’s inaugural medical mission to the impoverished Latin American country in the Study Abroad course INED 299 Honduras Health Care.

Sociedad Amigos de los Ninos, a non-profit organization that operates an orphanage that cares for about 140 children and other programs, hosted the Fredonia group. It operates medical brigades in four small communities to deliver primary care in rural areas.

More than 640 patients, mostly women and children, were seen by Fredonia students at the four brigades in four days.

At each brigade, students were assigned to one of four stations; each had its own function. They were: intake (compiling patient health care histories identifying specific needs or concern that warrant a physician’s attention); vitals (measuring pulse, temperature, blood pressure, height and weight); pharmacy (distributing prescribed medicine) and play (organizing games and other activities with children while their parents were being seen by a physician).

Fredonia graduate Jessica (Richards) Balarin, a physician assistant in the Albany area who accompanied the student contingent, and a Honduran physician saw patients after vitals were taken. Students shadowed Ms. Balarin and Honduran doctors to observe how

medical care is provided.

Balarin noted that many Hondurans rely on medical brigades as their sole source of health care, so they would share multiple symptoms they had developed in the last year or longer.

“The patient’s mentality was to get as much medical advice and medication today to prepare for what may happen until they could be seen at another brigade,” she recalled.

Dr. Lee was delighted to have Balarin (B.S. Biology, 2009) on board. “She was terrific both in terms of seeing patients and also in mentoring students.”

Sociocultural and Justice Sciences Professor Emeritus Joy Bilharz worked with students to set up makeshift pharmacies at each brigade and supervised the distribution of over-the-counter and prescription medications. Vitamins, ibuprofen, antibiotics and medicine to treat diabetes and parasites

were among the most frequently administered medicines.

Three Fredonia students were bilingual, so they played an especially valuable role by explaining in Spanish how medicines were to be taken, in addition to helping other students during patient intake and also serving as a translator for Balarin.

Dr. Bilharz believes the greatest takeaway for the students — and herself as well — was witnessing the patience and gratitude that Hondurans showed for the brigades. She marveled how a man severely injured in a motorcycle accident as a child was able to walk two miles to the clinic.

Brad Brown, a sophomore Biochemistry major from Jamestown, was also overwhelmed by how thankful

than he could have ever imagined.

For Christian Pacheco, takeaways from the experience ranged from embracing Hispanic culture to engaging with a diverse group of people to witnessing the outstanding brotherhood and humility displayed by Hondurans.

The senior Molecular Genetics major from Monticello, N.Y., planning a career in medicine quickly signed up for the J-Term course. “It was geared towards a profession I was interested in, by a professor that was connected to that profession, and in a country that I felt needed to be experienced,” said Mr. Pacheco said.

Even seemingly routine acts — passing the soccer ball with children after intake information was assembled — made a

Exercise Science major from Williamsville, N.Y., realize how much is taken for granted in the United States. “Seeing people live with unsafe drinking water, limited food, and lack of access to health care put a lot of things into perspective for me. Many of us consider safe water, food, and health care to be readily available to everyone, but they’re not,” Ms. Moreno said.

Combining medicine with a study abroad adventure was a “perfect fit” for Moreno, and she’d love to be a part of the program again. The experience also underscored the value of brushing up on dormant Spanish language skills acquired in high school. Moreno hadn’t really considered practicing in underserved areas until going on this trip.

“Since coming back and reflecting on my experience, I think that I would enjoy working in areas like this. It seems to be very rewarding,” Moreno said.

Lee described the Honduran experience as a resounding success. “I think the students had a great time; all were willing to stay several more days.” Each student compiled a daily journal and wrote a reflective essay about the experience. They gave a campus presentation in February.

The students, who enrolled in BIOL 250 Health Care in Latin America to prepare for the journey, were responsible for travel expenses as well as room and board and held an art raffle that raised \$3,000 to pay for medicine to distribute.

About half of the students, all majoring in Biology, Molecular Genetics or Biochemistry, plan to attend medical or other professional school. Students from all majors are welcomed to participate, as learning experiences extend beyond the clinics.

Lee accompanied a group of John Carroll University students on a Honduras medical brigade in 2017. Another medical mission is planned at Fredonia in January 2020, and the project received a prestigious SUNY Innovative Study Abroad program grant.

“I think the best summary of the students’ reaction to their experience is the number who want to return next year,” Bilharz added.

**“To have this experience was a blessing, not just from having the chance to go to a foreign country, but to meet people, talk to people, and get a sense of comfort in a field that I had been passionate about since high school.”**

— Christian Pacheco



Danielle Jacobs (front), with (from left): Christian Pacheco, Morgan Bake, Alison Prendergast and Katie Fink.

the residents were, waiting in line for hours and never complaining. “Everyone that I encountered at the brigades was genuinely happy and grateful that we were there and I felt truly appreciated.”

Despite all the research he did into Honduras last fall, Brown says actually being in the country and seeing how people live and the levels of poverty they endured was so much more impactful

lasting impression on Pacheco.

“To have this experience was a blessing, not just from having the chance to go to a foreign country, but to meet people, talk to people, and get a sense of comfort in a field that I had been passionate about since high school,” Pacheco said.

Staying in Honduras for nearly a week helped Haleigh Moreno, a sophomore



## Fredonia welcomes formal Exercise Science major



Exercise Science students line up to get blood pressure readings.

High school students aspiring to work in the growing health professions field have an attractive option at Fredonia following formal approval of its B.S. in Exercise Science degree by the New York State Education Department and the State University of New York.

“Exercise Science is an area of great interest to students hoping to pursue career opportunities in the health professions and athletic training,” said Department of Biology Associate Professor Emeritus Patricia Astry, who retired in July. “Many students who want to work in physical therapy, occupational therapy, athletic training or health and wellness or become physician assistants often graduate from programs in Exercise Science,” Ms. Astry explained.

“The biology department has a large number of students in programs who are interested in the health professions, and we felt that Exercise Science would be a strong program to add to the mix,” Astry said. It’s positioned alongside four other degree programs: B.S. in Biology, B.S. in Medical Technology, B.S. in Molecular Genetics and B.S. in Biology: Adolescence Education.

By strategically placing the Exercise Science major in the Department of Biology, students gain a very strong foundation in the biological sciences that include several courses in chemistry, biology and anatomy, explained

Associate Professor Todd Backes.

“Our program emphasizes health promotion, human performance, applied physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics and nutrition to broaden and enhance a student’s Exercise Science education,” said Dr. Backes, who developed the Independent Studies Exercise Science program in 2005 and coordinates the new Exercise Science program. Students also have numerous opportunities to engage in hands-on

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**“Our program emphasizes health promotion, human performance, applied physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics and nutrition to broaden and enhance a student’s Exercise Science education.”**

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— Associate Professor Todd Backes

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activities such as human performance evaluation, internships and faculty mentored research.

The program, based in a 1,400 square-foot suite in Fredonia’s Science Center, houses classrooms and state-of-the-art equipment — valued at more than \$300,000 — to evaluate human

performance, human physiological stress response, health assessment, body composition and cardiovascular fitness.

Enrollment has steadily grown in the Department of Biology, notably in Biology, Medical Technology and Molecular Genetics programs, since the Science Center opened in 2014. More recently there has been an uptick in students choosing Biology: Adolescence Education.

Astry expects Exercise Science will ultimately enroll 100 students and contribute to further enrollment increases in the Department of Biology, already one of the campus’ largest academic departments.

The Exercise Science major can serve as a stepping stone to a career or graduate school. The degree can open doors to an entry-level position in athletic training or health, wellness or cardiac rehabilitation in a hospital setting. Graduates are also well positioned to pursue advanced studies leading to master’s degrees as a physician assistant, and in occupational therapy, physical therapy and athletic training or enroll in doctoral programs. Students with master’s degrees can work at the corporate level or become athletic trainers for NCAA Division I athletic programs or professional sports teams.

Job prospects in the health professions are projected to remain strong as people become increasingly health conscious and an aging population seeks a better quality of life.

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT THE TICKET OFFICE AT (716) 673-3501 (1-866-441-4928),  
OR IN PERSON. FOR A FULL LIST OF CAMPUS EVENTS, VISIT DEPARTMENT WEBSITES AT [FREDONIA.EDU](http://FREDONIA.EDU)

**ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER/THEATRE AND DANCE EVENTS**



**50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA POPS CONCERT**

Saturday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20 (Students \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10)  
Eighteen of Fredonia's most accomplished alumni return to campus for a showcase of popular jazz standards and show tunes. A DFT Communications Pops Series event.

**"THE GRAPES OF WRATH"**

Oct. 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26, 7:30 p.m.;  
Oct. 20, 2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$25 (Students \$12)  
The stage version was a winner of both the 1990 Tony Award and Outer Critics Circle Award. A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.



**U.S. NAVY BAND "COMMODORES"**

Sunday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: Free, but required. Limit 4.  
Kristine Hsia, '10, and past Pops Series performer, returns as lead vocalist with the U.S. Navy's elite jazz ensemble.

**FREDONIA DANCE ENSEMBLE CHAMBER CONCERT**

Nov. 8, 9 and 15, 7:30 p.m.;  
Nov. 9, 2 p.m.  
Merrins Dance Theatre  
Tickets: \$10  
Featuring talented Dance majors.

**"CENDRILLION" THE HILLMAN OPERA**

Nov. 15 and 16, 7:30 p.m.;  
Nov. 17, 2 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$25 (Students \$12)  
Set to a French libretto by Henri Cain, Jules Massenet's opera classic is based on Perrault's 1698 version of the "Cinderella" fairy tale.



**"MYSTERY SOLVED: THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MICHAEL C. ROCKEFELLER"**

Thursday, Nov. 21, 5 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: Free, but required  
Learn about the life and tragic death of the man for whom the RAC is named, in a special lecture by noted journalist and author Carl Hoffman. Supported by a grant from the Carnahan Jackson Fund for the Humanities of the Fredonia College Foundation.

**"THE WOLVES"**

Dec. 5, 6, 7 and 8, 7:30 p.m.;  
Dec. 7 and 8, 2 p.m.  
Bartlett Theatre  
Tickets: \$25 (Students \$12)  
From the safety of their suburban world, a girls' indoor soccer team navigates big questions and wages tiny battles with the vigor of a pack of adolescent warriors.  
A Walter Gloor Mainstage Series event.

**"THE CHIPPER EXPERIENCE: WHERE COMEDY AND MAGIC COLLIDE"**

Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.  
Marvel Theatre  
Tickets: \$15 (Children \$12)  
Bizarre feats of original magic, ad-libbing comedy, juggling stunts, and an evening of laughs and amazement. Approximately one hour, recommended for age 9 and up.  
An Observer Kaleidoscope Family Series event.

**THE SWINGLES: "WINTER TALES"**

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.  
King Concert Hall  
Tickets: \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 (Students \$17, \$15, \$12, \$10)  
A unique a cappella sound mixes jazz, baroque, folk and more.  
A DFT Communications Pops Series event.

**ART EXHIBITS**

**CATHY AND JESSE MARION ART GALLERY, ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER**

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.

**"MARTHA COLBURN"**

Sept. 3 to Nov. 22  
Colburn is best known for her animation films, which are created through puppetry, collage and paint on glass techniques.

**"SENIOR SHOW"**

Dec. 6 to 12  
Opening reception: Dec. 6, 6 p.m.

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

\* indicates live streaming of event (subject to change) through the link found at [www.fredonia.edu/music](http://www.fredonia.edu/music).

**ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES**

Free, open to the public, and all at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Conductors/Directors include Barry Crawford, Donna Dolson, Drs. Paula Holcomb and Vernon Huff, Laura Koepke, Dr. Katherine Levy, Jonathan Lombardo, Dr. Adam Luebke, Cody Mott, Tiffany Nicely, Dr. Carrie Pawelski, James Piorkowski, Drs. David Rudge and Andrew Seigel, Raymond Stewart, and Drs. Wildy Zumwalt, Nick Weiser and Kay Stonefelt.

**KING CONCERT HALL**

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 26 AND 21\***  
Fredonia Concert Band (Stewart)

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3 AND TUESDAY, NOV. 14\***  
Fredonia All College Band (Pawelski)

**THURSDAY, OCT. 3 AND NOV. 14\***  
Fredonia Wind Symphony (Dolson)

**SATURDAY, OCT. 19,\* AND TUESDAY, OCT. 29**  
with Ortenau Symphonic Youth;  
**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20\***  
Fredonia Wind Ensemble (Holcomb)

**SATURDAY, OCT. 26\***  
Fredonia College Symphony (Rudge)

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6, 7:30 P.M.**  
New Horizons Band (Levy)

**SUNDAY, DEC. 8\***  
Holiday Concert with Fredonia Chamber Choir, College Choir, Camerata and University Chorus (Huff, Unger, Luebke, Mott)

**ROSCH RECITAL HALL**

**MONDAY, OCT. 7 AND THURSDAY, OCT. 31\***  
Fredonia Student Composers

**MONDAY, OCT. 21\***  
Fredonia Trombone Choir (Lombardo)

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23\***  
Fredonia Clarinet Ensemble (Seigel)

**THURSDAY, OCT. 24**  
Fredonia Brass Chamber Ensembles and Brass Choir

**SUNDAY, OCT. 27\***  
Fredonia Choral Showcase

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30\***  
Fredonia Flute Ensemble (Crawford)

**SUNDAY, NOV. 3\***  
Fredonia Percussion Ensemble (Stonefelt)

**MONDAY, NOV. 4\***  
Fredonia New Jazz Ensemble (Weiser)

**TUESDAY, NOV. 5\***  
Fredonia Bassoon Ensemble (Koepke)

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6\***  
Fredonia Saxophone Ensemble and Quartets (Zumwalt)

**THURSDAY, NOV. 7**  
Fredonia String Chamber Ensembles

**FRIDAY, NOV. 8\***  
Fredonia Jazz Orchestra (Weiser)

**SATURDAY, NOV. 9\***  
Fredonia Woodwind Chamber Ensembles

**TUESDAY, NOV. 12\***  
Fredonia Guitar Ensemble and Quartets (Piorkowski)

**MONDAY, NOV. 18**  
Fredonia Chamber Made Guitar

**MONDAY, DEC. 2\***  
Fredonia Chamber Orchestra (Rudge)

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4\***  
Fredonia World Mallets (Nicely)

**TUESDAY, DEC. 10**  
Fredonia Improv Collective (Rudge)

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11\***  
Fredonia African Drumming Ensembles (Nicely)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 28**  
Fredonia String Festival

**FRIDAY, OCT. 18**  
Fredonia 1970s Alumni Jazz Concert\*

**SUNDAY, OCT. 27**  
Double Reed Day

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOV. 1-3**  
Sorel Piano Competition and Fellows Program

**SUNDAY, NOV. 10**  
Fredonia Day of Jazz

## Business students craft market research for Dunkirk school

It was a classic win-win for seniors on the cusp of receiving degrees in Business Administration: Management at Fredonia and Northern Chautauqua Catholic School (NCCS) seeking valuable market research.

Two teams of students, Alliance Consulting and Creative Consulting, compiled detailed reports for the Dunkirk school in their senior capstone course (BUAD 499 Strategic Management). Each semester, students gain valuable experience by developing strategic plans that address specific needs of eight to 10 local organizations and businesses, explained School of Business Associate Professor Susan McNamara.

The two reports were prepared by Hannah Johnson, Stephanie Rawa, Ben Welker, David Totaro, Jennifer Barron, Casey Cullen, Samantha Taddio, Clay Troia, Charity Jewell, Ben Logan, Tanya Eggleston and Kaylei Russell.

"Students learn, but more importantly, a local organization benefits from the creative minds of our students," Dr. McNamara explained. "Students learn experientially through community engagement and applying what they learned in the classroom to real strategic opportunities which helps them prepare for success in their next chapter of professional life.

The Alliance team identified ways to retain current students and recruit new ones and learned what NCCS means to families and why parents choose to enroll their children at the pre-K-8 school. The Creative group facilitated collection of information from alumni to suggest ways the school can better position itself in the local market.

"I think the students did a fantastic job," said Paul Wallenhorst, a management consultant assisting NCCS and principal of Wallenhorst Associates, Ltd.



Creative Consulting team members (from left): David Totaro, Ben Walker, Stephanie Rawa, Casey Cullen, Jennifer Barron (project lead) and Clay Troia.



Alliance Consulting team members (from left): Hannah Johnson, Ben Logan, Samantha Taddio (project lead), Kaylei Russell, Charity Jewell and Tanya Eggleston.

He described the reports as "robust and quite comprehensive" and pegged their retail price — had they been written by a consulting firm — around \$10,000 each.

Students deployed widely-accepted analysis tools — PESTEL (Political, Economic, Social, Technology, Environmental and Legal), SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) and competitor and competitive positioning grids — to present their case. Survey questions were comprehensive, Wallenhorst noted, recommendations well-conceived.

"All the components that you'd expect to have in a good, professional report were

there," Wallenhorst said, beginning with the firms' student-designed logos placed on front covers. "The look and feel of the reports was high class. It was very professional."

Alliance Consulting focused on parents and explored their motivation for enrolling their child at NCCS. "It took a look at how current parents evaluate the school with respect to their children, the benefits it provides, while simultaneously learning what parents assign as high priorities relative to the education of their children," Wallenhorst explained.

Wallenhorst was particularly impressed with the acronym FAMILY (Faith and Academics Makes Intelligent Leaders of Our Youth) developed to drive brand awareness.

Creative Consulting's concentration on alumni delved into how graduates rate the value of their entire school experience, including academics, extra-curricular and social activities and spiritual aspect, and proposed ways the school can better market itself to parents of prospective students. The report also reaffirmed the value of alumni testimonials to motivate parents to consider enrolling their children at NCCS.

"It strongly recommended a major emphasis in building stronger alumni relationships," Wallenhorst said.

Students conducted a client entry meeting, performed research, gathered preliminary data, interacted with school representatives and Wallenhorst, and prepared and presented the final report.

The school's board of trustees was "absolutely delighted" by the findings, Wallenhorst reported, and noted that recommendations will be incorporated into brand development, marketing and advertising campaigns, "but the absolute most important use is to better serve students and the families of those students; that's the real payoff."



# Photographic memories...

On the 50th anniversary of the release of The Cowsills hit "Hair," we present a timeline of "hairy-est" looks over the past 50 years.



# Social media snaps

Stay connected with fellow alumni using any of our social media platforms:

-  FACEBOOK @fredoniaalumni
-  TWITTER @fredoniaalumni
-  INSTAGRAM @fredoniaalumni
-  YOUTUBE @fredoniau
-  LINKEDIN @fredoniau



**Fredonia**  
May 21

...

Check out this year's Commencement highlight video! You're already missed on campus, but we know you're ready to do great things. Congrats to the Class of 2019!  
#FREDlast #Fredforlife #Fredonia #Commencement






185

15 Comments
143 Shares


fredoniau







1,037 likes



fredoniau Looking good class of '23! Be sure to tag yourself in this class photo. #FREDbound #FREDlife #FREDfamily #BigBlueFamily #fredonia #SUNYfredonia Aug 24

## SPRING 2019 RECAP



### WOMENS' TEAMS

**BASKETBALL** — As No. 6 seed, upset No. 3 Oneonta in first round of SUNYAC Tournament under first-year head coach Sarah Cartmill... **Jenna Einink** was Third Team All-SUNYAC, her fourth straight all-conference award, and Fredonia Female Athlete of Year, announced at The FREDDYS, the season-ending awards celebration...Einink graduates as Fredonia career leader in blocked shots, third in rebounds, fourth in points, eighth in assists, tied for second with Clare Crowley in games played, one behind career leader Amy Bushen...**Rae White** won FREDDYS' Performance of Year for 17-point fourth quarter — including five treys — in a home win over Plattsburgh...team won FREDDYS' 2018-19 Blue Devil Cup as top program in athletic, academic and community service categories.

**LACROSSE** — First-year head coach **MaryKate Edmunds** earned first Fredonia win March 3 over SUNY Poly, where she had previously coached...**Alli Coon** named SUNYAC Offensive Player of Week March 4.

**SOFTBALL** — Qualification for SUNYAC Tournament included Fredonia's first-ever shutout of Cortland, 3-0. **Sam Seegar** pitched a two-hitter and **Eva FitzSimmons** drove in all three runs. Game ended on a double play, one of 23 the team turned in 2019, for an NCAA D3-best 0.64 double plays per game...**Karli Murray** was All-SUNYAC Second Team and **Katie Yudin** SUNYAC Pitcher of Week March 11.

**SWIMMING AND DIVING** — **McKayla Polowy** was Third Team All-SUNYAC and FREDDYS' Female Rookie of the Year. Polowy tied Lizzie Lodinsky's 500-yard freestyle school record, and broke Lodinsky's 1,000-yard freestyle and 1,650-yard freestyle records, all set in 2012.

### TRACK AND FIELD — Hannah Kurbs

and **Ayana Bursie** made Second Team All-SUNYAC...Kurbs set a 10,000-meter school record and finished second at the SUNYAC outdoor meet in 37:55.74, eclipsing Sarah Furman's 38:06.26 in May 2010...Bursie was second in SUNYAC 60 meters, No. 2 on Fredonia's career list at 7.93 seconds...**Cassie Serafin** moved up to No. 3 on Fredonia's outdoor long jump list. She tied for 24th nationally in NCAA outdoor triple jump...**Stephanie Wojnowski** earned 2019 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.



### MENS' TEAMS

**BASEBALL** — Made SUNYAC playoffs as No. 3 seed. Elimination game was 1-0, 10-inning loss to Cortland, with **Sam Cestra** pitching a complete game...**Luke Kuczewski** was repeat SUNYAC First Team and **Russell Mistretta** made Second Team...Kuczewski was twice SUNYAC Pitcher of the Week (March 18, April 15) and co-winner of FREDDYS' Male Athlete of Year...**Kevin Yirinec** was twice SUNYAC Athlete of Week (March 4, March 18), made March 18 *D3Baseball.com's* Team of Week, campus finalist for SUNY Chancellor's Award, and co-winner of FREDDYS' Male Scholar-Athlete of Year with **Ethan Francis** of cross country and track & field.

**BASKETBALL** — Lone conference win came Jan. 8 in Dods Hall over Geneseo, 91-84, in double overtime with **De'Quan Smith** connecting for 39 points.



**HOCKEY** — Defeated SUNY Buffalo State, 3-2 in overtime, in first round of SUNYAC Tournament. The game-winner by **Kyle Jelinski** was selected FREDDYS' Play of Year...an 8-1-1 start resulted in No. 14 ranking in *USCHO.com* and *D3Hockey.com* polls, first national ranking since 2004-05...**Ethan Kirbis** was FREDDYS' Male Rookie of Year and SUNYAC Rookie of Week Nov. 19...**Todd Schauss** was SUNYAC Player of Week Jan. 7...**Victor Tracy** repeated as Second Team All-SUNYAC...**Eric Bogart**, co-winner of FREDDYS' Male Athlete of Year, graduates as team career leader in saves per game and save percentage...**Luke Rivera** was repeat finalist for Hockey Humanitarian Award for his work on the annual Stroke Awareness Game.



**SWIMMING AND DIVING** — Christian Krasnek made First Team All-SUNYAC upon winning conference 3-meter springboard diving title...**Jacob Favret** (100-yard breast-stroke) made Second Team; **Cameron Criss**, **Drew Page** and **Robert Atwood** made Third Team...Krasnek and **Patrick McCormick** were SUNYAC Diver of Week winners twice each.

**TRACK AND FIELD** — Pole vaulter **Gus Alvarez Jr.** was 13th nationally at NCAA D3 outdoor meet as Fredonia's lone national meet participant...**Nick Serafin** was SUNYAC indoor high jump champ, Fredonia's first conference men's jump winner since Mike Kelley's 2009 indoor triple jump. In addition to First Team indoors, Serafin was SUNYAC Third Team outdoors...**Jonah McGrath** (Third Team/outdoor pole vault) and Alvarez (Third Team/indoor pole vault) also made all-conference...**Dan Sudyn** was third in All-Atlantic Region indoor triple jump, SUNYAC Field Athlete of Week on Feb. 4.

## New 'Blue Devil' bleachers cap Dods gym renovation

The final phase in the Dods Hall gymnasium renovation can't be missed: new royal blue bleachers with the Blue Devil mascot on one side of the gym, and Fredonia Blue Devils on the other.

"It's a tremendous asset," Director of Athletics and Recreation Jerry Fisk said of the bleachers. "They'll be easier to maintain, are safer and are going to be able to better serve those who attend games and events in Dods.

"Coaches love them," Mr. Fisk added. "They are excited to be able to play in the new gym," he said. Men's basketball, women's basketball and women's volleyball teams play in Dods.

"It shows a commitment by the

administration to supporting student-athletes," Women's Volleyball Coach Geoff Braun said of the new bleachers and other improvements made to the 1960s-era gym. "It's a space that now becomes a highlight on tours of the campus, where in the past we've struggled with how to fit it in," Coach Braun added.

"The Dods Gym bleacher renovation brings an added sparkle to the facility and allows us to further showcase our student-athletes," said Women's Basketball Coach Sarah Cartmill.

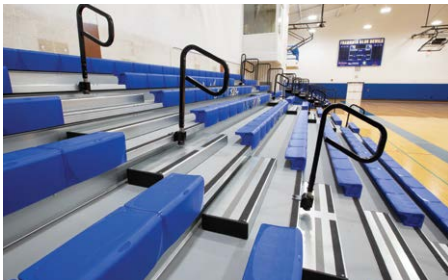
With defined aisles and handrails, the bleachers are easier to get into and out of and are also compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Each

bank of bleachers has an open space to accommodate wheelchair-bound spectators.

Unlike the original wooden bleachers that were operated manually, the new fixtures are motorized, so they're easier for staff to pull out or fold up. Crowd capacity of about 1,000 is unchanged, but the seats are contoured, so they'll be more comfortable.

Other significant gym upgrades include new lighting fixtures, enhanced scoreboards, a refinished floor and a fresh coat of paint.

Fisk expressed appreciation to Director of Facilities Planning Markus Kessler for supporting the renovation and securing funds.



# Commencement

- 1 President Virginia Horvath and keynote speaker Dr. Shaun C. Nelms, '99, walk with members of the Processional Party through the faculty lineup into Steele Hall.
- 2 Faculty Marshals for the morning ceremony included (left to right) Sandra Lewis, Patricia S. Astry, Dr. Kathleen Magiera and Dr. Penny Hite.
- 3 Student Marshals for the morning ceremony included (left to right) Michael A. Conti, Molly Woodarek, Kayleigh Bates, Kathryn Fink, Mary DiCioccio and Sydney Deppas.
- 4 SUNY Distinguished Service Professor H. Joseph Straight, serving as Mace Bearer, leads the Processional Party into the Steele Hall arena at the beginning of the morning ceremony.
- 5 Laura Cook, who earned her Mus.B. in Music Education, magna cum laude, sang the National Anthem during the afternoon ceremony, accompanied by the Commencement Wind Ensemble.
- 6 College Council Chair Frank Pagano presented President Horvath, who retired on July 1, with a rendering of Scholarship Walkway Bricks purchased in her honor by the council. The bricks were added to the walkway outside of the Williams Center.
- 7 The Fredonia Chamber Choir, directed by Dr. Vernon Huff, performed Dr. Rob Deemer's composition, "The Graduate Leaving College," based on the poem by George Moses Horton.
- 8 Class President Katherine Hanover gave an address and presented President Horvath with the class gift, a scholarship fund created through the Fredonia College Foundation.
- 9 Dr. Nelms, who is superintendent of East High School in Rochester, N.Y., and the William and Sheila Konar Director for the Center for Urban Education Success in the Warner School of Education at the University of Rochester, gave the keynote address at both ceremonies on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of his graduation from Fredonia.
- 10 Monica A. Manney was awarded the Lanford Presidential Prize by President Horvath and Provost Teresa Brown (left) during the afternoon ceremony.
- 11 Closing Reflection Reader Tiv J. Cumberbatch was presented with his academic hood as the recipient of a Master of Visual degree in Music Performance by Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Ralph Blasting (left) and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences J. Andy Karafa.
- 12 Happy graduates Tommy Linares and Allyssa Sievers.
- 13 Dr. Nelms congratulates his daughter, Nia, who received her B.S. in Social Work during the afternoon ceremony.
- 14 SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Robert Booth, serving as Mace Bearer for the afternoon ceremony, leads the recessional.







*Los Angeles Times* editorial writer and Fredonia alumnus Scott Martelle discussed the craft of writing and offered analysis of the news media during the Trump era in a *Writers@Work* residency. Mr. Martelle met with students in small-group sessions and was joined by Department of Communication Associate Professor Elmer Ploetz and *Buffalo News* columnist and Fredonia alumnus Sean Kirst in an open dialogue gathering.



Poster presentations, live performances, oral presentations and displays of art filled the Williams Center Multipurpose Room at the 21st annual Student Research and Creativity Exposition. Department of Biology Associate Professor Scott Ferguson delivered the keynote address.



Classic guitarist Luis Zea (right), who has achieved world-wide acclaim as a performing and recording artist, arranger, composer, teacher, author and music producer, works with student William Jenney at a four-day residency in the School of Music in March.





◀ The timeless Broadway musical “Anything Goes,” a comedic love story set on an ocean liner sailing the seas, was presented in Marvel Theatre as part of the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series.

▶ The Lenna Conference Room, located adjacent to the President’s Office in Fenton Hall, was dedicated in honor of Reginald A. and Elizabeth S. Lenna as part of a \$100,000 gift to the Fredonia College Foundation by the Lenna Foundation to establish a scholarship endowment for eligible Jamestown Community College students transferring to Fredonia. The gift is part of the Nurturing Innovation capital campaign.



◀ The President’s Award for Excellence was presented by President Virginia Horvath to Department of Communication Assistant Professor Michael Igoe, for excellence in teaching, and then Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Carmen Rivera (far left), for excellence in university service.

## Student combines art, biology in unique medical illustration internship



One of Olivia Connor's favorite places on campus is her art studio in Rockefeller Arts Center.

Olivia Connor, who forged her own academic path by pursuing degrees in Biology and Visual Arts and New Media: Drawing and Painting, combined these seemingly distant disciplines into a unique summer internship in medical illustration.

Ms. Connor describes a medical illustration as a rendering made by a professional artist who collaborates with scientists in order to turn complicated scientific information into a visual piece that can be more accessible and understandable to others.

"Amazing" is how she described the start of the internship in this highly specialized field at Mayfield Brain and Spine Institute, a full-service care provider in Cincinnati, in early June. Even her timing could not have been better.

Mayfield hosted a Minimally Invasive Neurological Society conference during that busy first week, so Connor was promptly introduced to spine anatomy and medical spine procedures. What followed were presentations by surgeons on topics such as keyhole craniotomy and minimally invasive complex thoracic surgery. She also learned about the Mayfield Spine Surgery Center's outpatient practices.

Wearing scrubs and a lead vest, Connor had a front-row seat in a cadaver lab, where she observed and photographed surgeons demonstrating unique procedures, resident surgeons practicing tech-

niques and sales reps displaying proper use of their tools.

"The experience was crazy, and I learned so much in such a short amount of time," Connor exclaimed. "The surgeons were kind and if I had a question they were very helpful at explaining."

She also observed the work flow for creating a medical illustration, beginning with the initial request made by an end user. The goal is to use background research, photographs to prepare drawings and observations in a physical laboratory to produce a "beautiful anatomical illustration," Connor explained.

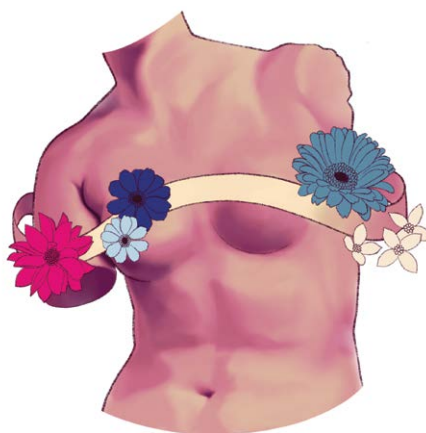
Connor traces her early interest in medical illustration to a DNA wall poster designed by a student majoring in scientific illustration that she saw at the Rochester Institute of Technology. "The



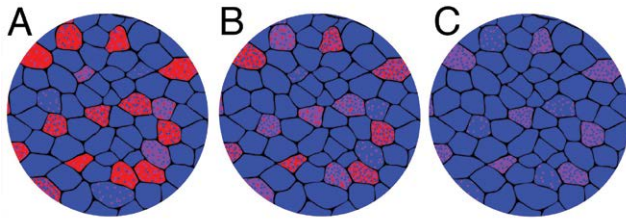
drawings were colorful; it was really graphic," she remembered. And it suggested to Connor, then in high school, that it might be possible to combine her strong interest in and enjoyment of art and biology into one career.

"I would definitely say it's not unprecedented, but it's certainly unusual for students to combine art with a science degree," said Department of Biology Associate Professor Scott Medler. He occasionally comes across students with these shared interests, pointing to a Biology graduate now in optometry school who also studied art, as well as a current dual Chemistry/Ceramics major.

But an internship that merges art and science, Dr. Medler affirmed, is an exception.







**“I expect that this experience will be especially valuable for Olivia, because she will get to see what these professionals do in their daily routines and it will also help her make professional connections.”**

Associate Professor Scott Medler

“Part of what stands out to me about Olivia is her passion and determination to blend these two disciplines,” explained Medler, who is Connor’s adviser. “I know that it’s a rigorous path that requires her to carefully balance the demands and time commitments of both degrees.”



Olivia (left) with Tonya Hines, art director at Mayfield Brain and Spine Institute and Connor’s supervisor during her summer internship.

“I expect that this experience will be especially valuable for Olivia, because she will get to see what these professionals do in their daily routines and it will also help her make professional connections,” Medler added. “Our Career Development Office has been very helpful in assisting our Fredonia students in setting up the expectations and contracts for the internships.”

With guidance from Jennifer Wilkins, Fredonia’s internship coordinator, Connor arranged a job shadowing experience and informational interview at Mayfield to get

a well-rounded view of medical illustration work. She met an entire Mayfield team — art director, videographer, grant writers, educators and marketing and business staff — last summer. The Mayfield affiliation began with Connor’s father, who works in the medical supply industry.

There’s a “blurring” of career industries overall, but it’s most evident in a global trend towards blurring the boundaries between artistic practices and methodology used in various research disciplines, said Tracy Collingwood, director of Engagement and Career Development. “Industries that used to be considered separate and disparate, are combining in innovative ways and will be the norm of jobs in the future.”

Biology was the Starpoint Central School senior’s declared major at Fredonia. Having always enjoyed art classes in high school, Connor started “chipping away” at foundations art courses in her first year. What was contemplated as a minor in Drawing and Painting blossomed into a full-fledged major in Connor’s sophomore year.

Connor could not have found a more supportive internship coordinator. Tonya Hines, the art director who supervised Connor, is a former president of the Association of Medical Illustrators, and Connor said Ms. Hines was very helpful in explaining models used for demonstration as well as an actual human spine, Connor said.

Medical/scientific illustrations are found in scientific textbooks and diagrams and

illustrations in magazines, as well as in informational posters displayed in offices of physicians, dentists and veterinarians, Medler explained. “They are often essential in communicating an understanding of basic biological processes to non-scientists.”

Within the narrow medical community, an illustration can show proper use of a surgical device in an operating room. “It demonstrates to a surgeon how a tool works in real life, with a real human body,” Connor said.

Photographs can support development of an illustration, but their application is limited so they’re not a substitute. An illustration allows the artist to emphasize or highlight specific elements or reveal multiple layers, often through different colors, that would otherwise not be visible or distinguishable, Connor noted.

“You can really pinpoint exactly what you want the viewer’s eye to look at, make things sort of pop out more,” Connor explained. Moreover, an illustration can give viewers x-ray vision, so they can see through the anatomy of the body, she added.

Connor brought extensive illustration experience to the internship, which is her senior capstone. She has served as the assistant art director of The Leader student newspaper, creating illustrations and communicating with the illustration team, and graphic designer for WNYF-TV, preparing information graphics for locally produced programs as well as in promotions and posters.

Also in Connor’s portfolio are illustrations she created for Medler in “Transitional Role for Hybrid Skeletal Muscle Fibers in Rat Soleus Development,” an article he submitted to the peer-reviewed *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry*.

Connor also excelled at the Art of Science Exhibition, earning consecutive first place awards in the event’s first two years. Her 2018 entry included a video that incorporates her experiences working with fruit flies in the genetics lab. The 2019 piece depicted a parasitic roundworm emerging right out of a parasitology text book. She also helped organize the event both years.

Educational options after Fredonia are being kept open by Connor, who is contemplating an M.A. in Medical Illustration, a highly selective program offered at only a handful of schools.

**Take Note:**

We love it when the Fredonia family grows! We are always looking for announcements of marriages and children — and photos! We look forward to hearing from you at

☞ [fredonia.edu/classnote](http://fredonia.edu/classnote)

**1950s**

**Robert Willover, '58**, (music ed.) is an organist at the First Church Christ Scientist Sanibel-Captiva and Fort Myers, Fla.

**1960s**

**Dr. Roger Thorpe, '60**, (music ed.) is conductor of the renowned Sammy Kaye Orchestra and was recently inducted into the Big Band Hall of Fame.

**Irene (Elliott) Hedger, '61**, (elem. ed.) moved to Hamburg, N.Y., and her new home will be in a former church that has taken years to renovate into a residence.

"The Full Monty" and Miss Shields in "A Christmas Story" presented by the Ti-Ahwaga Community Players in Oswego, N.Y.

**Francis "Bud" Mazura, '66**, (chemistry) has three children and seven grandchildren. He is a fire district CFO and an educational consultant in Dubai.

**Janet (Myers) Northrup, '67**, (English) wrote a book about the history of the Robert H. Jackson Center in Jamestown, "A House Preserving History for 150 Years: The Robert H. Jackson Center."

**Carol (Timblin) English, '68**, (music ed.) and her husband **Douglas English, '68**, (music ed.), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2018.

**Verland "Butch" Cooper, '69**, (math-sec. ed.) and his wife **Rita Cooper, '69**, (elem. ed.) are enjoying retirement by traveling. They went on a cruise to Cuba and some Caribbean islands. Verland is still involved with Boy Scouts at the troop and district level.

**Phil Zimmer, '69**, (history) wrote the extended feature on the dramatic capture of U-505 for the cover story in the April issue of America in WWII magazine.

music at East Irondequoit, Alexander, and Batavia, N.Y., school districts.

**Susan Puerer, '70**, (elem. ed.) retired in 2009 after 39 years of teaching 5th and 6th grades in the Williamsville Central School District in Western New York; retirement has enriched her life in many ways.

**Alan Dubrowski, '71**, (psych.) is the founder of Avonis Inc., a boutique business consulting firm. He held numerous marketing and management strategy positions with Oracle Consulting, Booz Allen & Hamilton, and Accenture, serving the U.S. Department of Defense in the Washington D.C. area. Alan also serves as a senior acquisitions strategy adviser for the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers of Florida, in cooperation with the Defense Logistics Agency. He graduated with an M.B.A. from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and attended Harvard University's International Management Program. Alan is a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, and took the Shipley Business Development & Proposals Process course. He co-developed a patent in RFID

The orchestra was conducted by **Vince Bonafede, '72**, (music ed.) and one of the cellists was **Joann (Graboski) Bonafede, '72** (elem. ed.).

**Tom Dudzick, '73**, (art) wrote a musical, "Christmas Over the Tavern" which premiered at MusicalFare theatre on the Daemen College campus in Amherst, N.Y.

**Susan Makai, '73**, (sec. ed.- speech English) is owner of Personal Best, a model and talent school and recently celebrated 30 years in business. Her school has helped thousands of students enhance their personal and professional careers including local television personalities. Ms. Makai was elected to the national board for talent managers, Prima Talent Group.

**Dorothy (Hilbert) Courtois, '74**, (art) retired from teaching 2nd Grade at St. Anthony Catholic School in Tigard, Ore.

**Tanya (Beshgetoor) Weiss, '74**, (English) represented President Virginia Horvath and Fredonia at the inauguration of Marymount University's seventh President, Irma Becerra, Ph.D.



Phil Zimmer, '69



Bill Giannone, '72, (far left) with Vince and Joann (Graboski) Bonafede, '72.



Susan Makai, '73



Dr. Roberta Gebhard, '80



Tom Waring, '80

**Dr. Eugene Alexander, '64**, (elem. ed.) is retired and living in Merrick, Long Island, N.Y., but spends four months per year in Phoenix, Ariz. He has been married to Sandy for 52 years and has two grown daughters, each with a son and daughter.

**Jacob Ludes, '64**, (history) was a guest speaker at The Chautauqua County Historical Society's annual meeting. He discussed his recent book, "A Thread in the Fabric: The Chautauqua-Erie Region to 1865."

**Carolyn (Christy) Boyden, '65**, (elem. ed.) was Molly MacGregor in

He has written extensively on World War II for numerous journals and magazines.

**1970s**

**Carolyn Castiglione, '70**, (psych.) retired from teaching 10 years ago and has been rescuing marine mammals (dolphins, whales, seals) with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) on Cape Cod, Mass.

**Kenneth Hay, '70**, (music ed.) was inducted into the Byron-Bergen (N.Y.) Central School District's alumni hall of fame. He taught

awarded in 2010, and spoke at M.I.T. and other colleges on the use of automatic information technology in the U.S. Army. He also did a pre-IPO startup as the U.S. chief executive for a large English company (Sage Group plc.). He served as Association of the United States Army (AUSA) area representative for Northern Florida, located in Jacksonville, Fla., where he and his wife, Wendy, and family now reside.

**Bill Giannone, '72**, (music ed.) performed as a flute soloist with the Delmar Community Orchestra.

**Barry Shapiro, '75**, (psych.) has been a casting director for the last 38 years with Herman & Lipson Casting and now owns the company. Barry also teaches on-camera classes in New York City and also conducts workshops around the country and in Europe. He came back to Fredonia this past April to do several master classes at the new Rockefeller Arts Center studio complex. He loves to travel around Europe and enjoys living in New York City where he has been for the last 40 years.

**Laurie (Fullone) Mecca, '76**, (elem. ed.) retired in June as an elementary science lab teacher.

**Andrew Perry, '77**, (music ed.) is currently Artistic Director and Conductor of the Central Winds Music Educator Wind Ensemble and Founder/Director of the Camillus (N.Y.) Community Band.

**Christina Rausa, '77**, (theatre arts) appeared in the play "Occupant," by Edward Albee, presented by The Burchfield Penney Art Center at SUNY Buffalo State in collaboration with SuiteCase Productions.

**Nancy (Barnard) Slonaker, '77**, (music ed.) retired from teaching elementary school at the Los Angeles Unified School District after 21 years.

**Cliff Kostuk, '78, '79**, (bus. admin.) is retiring after 39 years as an educator. He spent 12 years in the Waycross (Ga.) City School District as an elementary school teacher at Alice Street School and later as an Assistant Principal at Center Junior High. The final 27 years were spent as Principal of Randall Elementary School in the Cortland City School District.

**Tom Waring, '80**, (pol. sci.) was elected Chairman of the Board for The Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York (LRANY) and board chair for Trocaire College. Tom is a certified business specialist and head of Waring Financial Group, and Principal with Shawn Glogowski at GCW Capital Group. He is also the CEO of Family & Business Directions, LLC.

**Dr. David Sluberski, '81**, (special stds.) is a part of the planning and design for the Rochester Institute of Technology's new Magic Spell Studios.

**Louis Atti, '82**, (bus. admin.) has joined Tompkins Insurance Agencies Inc. as the Personal Insurance Manager and a member of the agency's senior leadership team in Batavia, N.Y.

**Dr. Jeff Kelly, '82**, (chemistry) was inducted into the National Academy of Inventors in Houston, Texas.

**Steve McCall, '83**, (sociology) was featured in the full length movie, "Sushi Tushi, or how Asia butted into American Football." Steve has now been in three motion pictures as an extra or with speaking parts.

Frank Valente, with Mateo Mendez directing the Fredonia Big Band, is in very good hands. Mike added, "The curricular jazz program, directed by Nick Weiser, is stellar!" Mike is an instructor of trumpet, jazz ensembles, theory and jazz history at The Harley School, Eastman Community Music School, The Institute for Creative Music (IFCM) and Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC).

**Cheryl Cruver, '87**, (medical technology) was hired as Chief Revenue Officer at SONIFI Health. Cheryl has more than 20 years experience in working in healthcare technology and will be responsible for leading sales strategy, business development, and innovation for SONIFI Health.

**Nancy (O'Hara) Kiscadden, '88**, (music-applied) earned a Master of Science degree in Instructional Media Education from Wilkes University in Pennsylvania.

**Bonny Scott-Sleight, '88**, (sociology) has been named Executive Director of the St. Susan Center in Jamestown.

**Bradley Hall, '89**, (bus. admin.) has been appointed as CEO at ECVA (Eye Care & Vision Associates), an eyecare medical practice in WNY.

**April (Arbeiter) Allen, '94**, (psych.) was ordained by General Superintendent Reverend Wayne Schmidt of the Wesleyan Church and is serving as an assistant pastor charged with children's ministry and pastoral care at Fellowship Wesleyan Church in West Seneca, N.Y.

**Steven Swanson, '94**, (econ.) has been named Vice President, Commercial Lending of Northwest Bank at the branch in Jamestown.

**Amy (Dombrowski) Steiner, '96, '04**, (music ed.) directed the junior band at the Chautauqua County Music Teachers' Association annual spring All-County Festival held at the Chautauqua Institution Amphitheater.

**Jeff Bucki, '98**, (English) joined Delaware North as a Senior Copywriter in the Creative Studio.

**Scott Damiecki, '98**, (account.) was appointed a Partner with CohnReznick, LLP in Bethesda, Md., and is a member of the firm's Construction Industry Practice.

**Casey Jakubowski, '98**, (soc. stds.-sec. ed.) has a chapter in a new book published by Springer International, "Interdisciplinary Unsettling of Place and Space"



Bradley Hall, '89



April (Arbeiter) Allen, '94



Scott Damiecki, '98



Chris Handley, '05



Kristopher Hite, '05

**Cynthia (Mead) Flaherty, '79**, (music ed.) was a guest conductor and conducted the finale performance at the Chautauqua County Music Teachers' Association annual spring All-County Festival held at the Chautauqua Institution Amphitheater.

## 1980s

**Dr. Roberta Gebhard, '80**, (psych.) has been installed as President of the American Medical Women's Association.

**Nina (Dougherty) Slade, '84**, (elem. ed.) was hired as the new Principal of Stowe (Vt.) Elementary School.

**Mark Simshauser, '85**, (commun.) was hired as Senior Vice President of Business Development at CBC Business Credit.

**Mike Kaupa, '86**, (music-applied) was a guest soloist with the Fredonia Big Band and The New Jazz Ensemble. He was at Fredonia for three days working with the bands and giving lessons to jazz majors. He noted that the Fredonia Jazz Workshop, led by

## 1990s

**Michael Page, '91**, (sociology) was promoted to Station Commander at New York State Police Troop T in Syracuse, N.Y.

**Robert Riccobono, '92**, (psych.) was promoted to Director of Clinical Services at Genesee County Mental Health Clinic in Batavia, N.Y.

**Wendy Diina, '93**, (commun.) was promoted to the senior staff leadership team as Director of Special Projects and Associate Director of Development with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

(2019). His chapter, "Ourselves, Our Rivals," examines rural New York State School Consolidation. The link for the work can be found at: [www.springer.com/gp/book/9789811367281#aboutAuthors](http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9789811367281#aboutAuthors)

## 2000s

**Sandra Davis, '00**, (bus. admin.) represented Fredonia and President Virginia Horvath at the inauguration of University of Southern Indiana's fourth President, Ronald S. Rochon.

*Continued* ▶



Kevin Scully, '07



Kyle van Schoonhoven, '11



Grace Gerass, '14



Lauren Orlovski, '15



Elizabeth Deeks, '15

**Elizabeth Eggerding, '00**, (music therapy) represented President Horvath and Fredonia at the inauguration of Mississippi University for Women's 15th President, Nora Roberts Miller, on Feb.1.

**Brian Sullivan, '00**, (English) was appointed Dean of Libraries at Alfred University. He previously was an instructional librarian and information literacy librarian.

**Andrew Bodemer, '01**, (music ed.) directed the All-County Elementary Band at the 2019 Winter All-County Festival and Concert at Chautauqua Lake Central School. Andrew is a trombonist and performs throughout Western New York with the Erie County Wind Ensemble and the American Legion Band of the Tonawandas.

**Nicholas Fattey, '02**, (history) is a Partner in Hamm & Fattey's Beer Company and opened a beer store/bottle shop/bar hybrid in downtown Buffalo, N.Y.

**Jonathan Handman, '02**, (music perf.) led the Woodstock Symphony Orchestra at a performance at the Woodstock Playhouse in January. Handman, a Hudson Valley conductor and cellist, is a Co-founder and Artistic Director of the Stringendo Orchestra School of the Hudson Valley where he directs the Vivace and Mazurka orchestras. He serves as Orchestra Director at Arlington High School and is the conductor of two symphony orchestras and a chamber music program.

**Nicholas Koziol, '02**, (English) started a new position at Rochester Institute of Technology as a Leadership Giving Officer. He has enjoyed visiting alumni and parents in the D.C., area and Long Island.

**Patrick O'Donnell, '04**, (music ed.) conducted the 2019 Erie County Music Educators Association (ECMEA) Junior High North Orchestra at Grand Island High School. He is the Director of Orchestras at Amherst Middle School. Under his direction, the 6th grade orchestra and the 7th/8th grade orchestra received Gold and Gold with Distinction ratings at New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) major organization festivals.

**Chris Handley, '05**, (music theatre) was selected to oversee the Alleyway Theatre in Buffalo, N.Y., and take on the role of Executive Artistic Director when the current director retires in May 2020.

**Kristopher Hite, '05**, (biochem.) was named Assistant Professor of biochemistry at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech.

**Jennifer (Phillips) Russo, '05**, (biology) was hired as Viticulture Extension Specialist at The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program.

**Melissa Berry, '07**, (childhood ed.-earth sci.) earned her National Board Certification in teaching. She currently teaches 1st grade at Silver Creek Elementary School.

**Scott Glasser, '07, '10**, (music ed.) is currently teaching orchestra and Mariachi at a large high school in Tempe, Ariz., and performs regularly with a string quartet of music educators. His quartet just started a new concert series.

**Kevin Scully, '07**, (bus admin., commun.) previously of Michael Kors, has joined Carolina Herrera Ltd. as Vice President of Human Resources, based in New York City.

**Alexander (Smith) Svensen, '07**, (music ed.) was recently appointed Principal double bass at the Norwalk (Conn.) Symphony

Orchestra, along with his current position as Assistant Principal double bass at the Springfield (Mass.) Symphony. He recently was appointed Conductor of the Shoreline Youth String Ensemble, a new ensemble within the Connecticut Shoreline Youth Symphony Orchestras.

## 2010s

**Kristine Hsia, '10**, (mus. theatre) is a vocalist with the U.S. Navy Band "Commodores" and will be coming back to Fredonia for a concert with the jazz band on Oct. 27.

**Dr. Scott Simpson, '10**, (chemistry) received the Junior Faculty Award for Professional Excellence at St. Bonaventure University.

**Anne Wood, '10**, (biology) was hired at Genesee Community College as an economics Instructor.

**Frank Jagoda, '11**, (social work) was hired as the Director of the 18U National Team for USA Baseball. He will oversee the 16U and 17U National Development Programs and work closely with the Prospect Development Pipeline League as well. He previously served as the pitching coach for rehabilitation for the Minnesota Twins.

**Kyle van Schoonhoven, '11**, (music ed.) was one of five winners of the prestigious George London Foundation for Singers' annual competition held at the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City. He also sang the featured role of Don José in "Carmen in Concert" with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in June.

**Ashlee Bueg, '12**, (vis. arts/graphic des.) has been hired as Senior Art Director at The Martin Group.

**Rachael Coccia, '12**, (commun.-pub. rel.) accepted a new position

at the Surfrider Foundation as the Plastic Pollution Manager. She previously worked at The Ocean Project as Director of Youth Initiatives, NBC as a National Sales Assistant and the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science. Rachael received a master's degree in Marine Conservation and Policy from Stony Brook University. While at Fredonia, she hosted and associate produced the nationally syndicated television show "Aqua Kids."

**Lorenzo Parnell, '13**, (music-applied) was a member of the cast in "Ragtime" at MusicalFare Theatre in Amherst, N.Y., along with Dominique Kempf, '15 (theatre arts/commun.-public rel.).

**David Sanna, '13**, (bus. admin.-market.) was hired as Internal Marketing Coordinator/Inside Sales support for Indoor Air Professionals/Kanbera Group located in Lancaster, N.Y.

**Amanda Bottoms, '14**, (music perf.) appeared with the NHK Symphony in a production of "West Side Story" in Tokyo, was a featured performer in "Carmen in Concert" with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in June and in September will debut with Opera Philadelphia in the role of Smeraldina in "The Love for Three Oranges." She also received an Encouragement Award at the George London Foundation for Singers' annual competition.

**Grace Gerass, '14**, (commun.-public rel.) was the recipient of the Ann R. Carden Rising Star Award from the Buffalo Niagara Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America in June. She is Content Developer in the Advancement Services and Administration area at the University of Buffalo's University Advancement office.



Mary Plum, '16



Daniel Bertleff, '18

**Danielle Beckvermit, '15**, (music perf.) was one of 13 finalists in the 2019 Lotte Lenya Competition held at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. She is a returning Resident Artist with the Minnesota Opera for its 2019-2020 season.

**Elizabeth Deeks, '15**, (commun.-pub. rel.) was hired as Special Events Specialist at Niagara Hospice.

**Alec Dube, '15**, (music perf.) conducted the All-County Percussion Ensemble at the 2019 Winter All-County Festival at Chautauqua Lake Central School. Alec is a performer, composer and educator in Buffalo, N.Y., and Fredonia.

**Chelsi Mikowski, '15**, (bus. admin.-market.) was promoted to product marketing manager at Reverie in Buffalo, N.Y. She started as a customer service intern after graduating from Fredonia.

**Lauren Orlowski, '15**, (commun.-public rel.) was appointed Development Manager for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Western New York chapter. Lauren oversees the chapter's young professional programming, Great Strides initiatives and marketing/social media efforts.

**Mary Plum, '16**, (psych.) has been promoted to consultant at Development Guild DDI, a consulting firm that partners with nonprofits to help advance their mission through strategy, fundraising and executive search. Her range of clients includes the National Audubon Society, Smith College, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Jersey City Medical Center and the Clayton Christensen Institute. Mary, who joined the firm in June 2018, earned an M.A. in Public Advocacy and Activism at the National University of Ireland,

Galway. She was active in Enactus at both Fredonia and the National University of Ireland.

**Allison Burdick, '17**, (psych.) received her master's degree in Industrial-Organizational Psychology in May from Hofstra University and began working as a Human Resources Client Services Administrator at Hofstra.

**Rebecca Masiker, '17**, (vis. arts and new media) accepted a role as the main graphic designer for former Vice President Al Gore's Climate Reality Project in Washington D.C., a non-profit organization involved with educating the public, coming together to solve climate change and raising awareness.

**Nicholas McCormick, '17**, (public account.) is a staff accountant at Baghat & Laurito-Baghat and just received his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license.

**Lauren O'Brien, '17**, (music theatre) performed the role of Liesl, the oldest child in the von Trapp family, in the national touring Broadway show "The Sound of Music." This new production of the beloved Rodgers and Hammerstein musical was scheduled to be presented in eight cities in Western New York and Pennsylvania. "The Sound of Music" is Ms. O'Brien's first national tour; her regional credits include "Dames at Sea," "South Pacific" and "The Murder Room."

**Daniel Bertleff, '18**, (bus. admin.-finance) was hired at Landmark Wealth Management in Amherst, N.Y., as an Associate Financial Analyst.

**Victoria Hendrix, '18**, (interdisc. stds.) moved from New York to Georgia and has been applying to graduate schools for a dual master's program in Social Work and Christian Studies. She was

hired as a camp counselor for the Girls Club Camp through the Athens YWCO and was First Aid and CPR certified.

**Katelyn Killoran, '18**, (vis. arts-graphic design) was hired by Crowley Webb as a Designer and will be responsible for production and layout design.

**Jeffrey Kringer, '18**, (mus. theatre) played the role of anti-hero Sebastian Valmont in the musical "Cruel Intentions." It was his first national tour.

Submit Class Notes at [fredonia.edu/classnote](http://fredonia.edu/classnote) or send to the Alumni Affairs Office, Alumni House.



Alumni and friends at the Phoenix, Ariz., reception on Feb. 28.



A ceremony to dedicate a piano practice studio in honor of Christian "Chris" Granger, a 1966 graduate of the School of Music, was held in Mason Hall Room 2106 on March 29. Mr. Granger (second from left) with President Virginia Horvath cut the ribbon, held by School of Music Director Mel Unger (left) and Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Ralph Blasting.

**The Health Professions Advising Office** has been working to establish connections with alumni working in the health professions. Alumni have provided advice for current students, served on an alumni health panel during Homecoming Weekend and one accompanied Fredonia students to Honduras on a trip to conduct medical clinics in rural communities. It would be beneficial to students if alumni were able to provide shadowing and/or internship opportunities to students as well. If you are interested in assisting Fredonia pre-health students and/or working with the advising office in any capacity, please contact Dr. Ted Lee, who serves as chair of the advising committee ([theodore.lee@fredonia.edu](mailto:theodore.lee@fredonia.edu) or 716 673-3816). Fredonia students have been accepted to different professional programs in the health professions including medical, dental, optometry, veterinary, physician assistant and pharmacy schools.

## Marriages

**Nayla Kabir, '17**, (bus. admin.) to Aleem Mohammed.

## Births

**We want to meet the next generation of our #FREDfamily!**

We will accept photos of new-born babies of Fredonia alumni for *The Statement*. Send your photo, along with a description, via [fredonia.edu/classnote](mailto:fredonia.edu/classnote).

Due to space constraints, we may not be able to feature all photos submitted to us.

A son, Jaxson, to **Jennifer (Vanlaeken) Schreier, '02**, (commun./comm. stds.) and Jason Schreier.

Twins, Cole and Liam, to **Jennifer (Murray) Michalek, '07, '10**, (English-adol. ed., English) and Chris Michalek.

## Deaths\*

### ALUMNI

**Elisabeth B. "Bettie" Tompsett**, Class of 1936

**Miriam "Mim" (McCorkle) Hosack**, Class of 1942

**Martha (Rood) Hunt**, Class of 1943

**Ingeborg (Hedin) Remais**, Class of 1944

**Jeanette (Sanger) Brooks**, Class of 1947

**Joyce (Curtis) Brooks**, Class of 1947

**Mary (Baxter) Dixon**, Class of 1947

**Andrew P. Zingaro**, Class of 1948

**Marjorie Shaw**, Class of 1949

**Carol (Osborne) Block**, Class of 1950

**Anthony Castle**, Class of 1951

**Phyllis (Burdick) Mattison**, Class of 1952

**John K. Walthew**, Class of 1952

**Marlene (Horning) Guild**, Class of 1953

**Rita (DeMarchi) Hardy**, Class of 1953

**Esther L. Reinbold**, Class of 1953

**Lee Arthur Howe III**, Class of 1954

**Dr. Donald Nelson-Nasca**, Class of 1954

**Patrick F. Hogan**, Class of 1955

# Fredonia Marxonia slated for October

Fredonia Marxonia, which celebrates the link between the village of Fredonia and the 1933 Marx Brothers' film, "Duck Soup," is slated for Oct. 3 and 4. The event is supported by the Hahn Family Fredonia Marxonia Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation. Activities, all free and open to public, are coordinated by Cynthia Yochym of Reed Library.

## Thursday, Oct. 3

**3:00 p.m., Reed Library** Exhibit opening, annual group photo, and cake in honor of Groucho Marx's 129th birthday. This year's exhibit theme will be "Vaudeville and the

Marx Brothers." The exhibit will be up through Oct. 20.

**7:30 p.m., 1891 Fredonia Opera House**, 9 Church St., Fredonia. Screening the 1930 Marx Brothers film "Animal Crackers."

## Friday, Oct. 4

**7:30 p.m., 1891 Fredonia Opera House** - Trav S.D. will present his illustrated lecture, "The Marx Brothers and Vaudeville," in the site that was Fredonia's venue for vaudeville.

Everyone, regardless of age or skill level, is welcome to participate in the Fredonia Marxonia art contest.



Additional activities TBA.

All activities are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Ms. Yochym in Reed Library at [Cynthia.Yochym@fredonia.edu](mailto:Cynthia.Yochym@fredonia.edu).

**Kenneth G. Keith**, Class of 1957

**Madeline (Mancuso) Manning Benson**, Class of 1958

**Richard James Foster**, Class of 1958

**Edward N. Buseck**, Class of 1959

**Albert R. Kavanaugh**, Class of 1959

**Francis Kosciwicz, Sr.**, Class of 1960

**Molly Kayes Ransbury**, Class of 1961

**Rev. Nancy (Feltham) Barber**, Class of 1963

**Alfred M. Cole**, Class of 1966

**Susan (Sonntag) Hallin**, Class of 1966

**Joyce (Wood) Ross**, Class of 1969

**Barbara Ann (Gnadzinski) Rys**, Class of 1969

**Eric Traub**, Class of 1969

**Nancy M. Koris**, Class of 1971

**Frank V. Gawronski, Jr.**, Class of 1972

**Sally (Gens) Aranzullo**, Class of 1974

**Janice M. Cuddahee**, Class of 1974

**Ronald "Ron" Kroohn**, Class of 1974

**Carolyn (Harrison) Tedesco**, Class of 1974

**Daniel L. Dempsey**, Class of 1975

**Donald Milligan**, Class of 1975

**Susan Harkness (Pfleeger) Andre**, Class of 1976

**Cynthia (Zanghi) Cassidy**, Class of 1977

**David M. Fleck**, Class of 1977

**Daniel J. Moriarty**, Class of 1977

**Lorraine E. (Hadley) Spaulding**, Class of 1979

**Debra (Anderson) Garifi**, Class of 1980

**Lawrence "Lawrie" R. Taylor**, Class of 1980

**Richard Bornes**, Class of 1981

**John P. Nicolia**, Class of 1982

**Gloria Ann (Peabody) Gallagher**, Class of 1983

**Timothy J. Noonan**, Class of 1983

**Christopher "Chris" Elliott**, Class of 1985

**Jane Minichelli**, Class of 1985

**Ralph A. Cardone**, Class of 1999

**Jason Williams**, Class of 2001

**Dana E. Miller**, Class of 2013

### STAFF

**Elmer L. Cotton**, Custodian, 1968-1989

**Evelyn Fintzel**, Clerk, Accounting/Accounts Payable, 1999-2014

**Randy "Pete" Goodemote**, Janitor, 2000-2016

**Eleonore (Sajdak) Malkowski**, Janitor, 1984-1999

**Diane (Ellman) Metzger**, Cleaner, 2002-2007

**Daune (Miller) Palmer**, Assistant to the President for Employee Relations, 1972-1975

**Frances "Fran" Polito**, Medical Technician/Technologist, Health Center, 1988-2014

**Anita Rettig**, Green Thumb Program, departments of Philosophy and World Languages and Cultures, 2011-2019

**Anthony "Tony" J. Rutski**, Cook/Commissary Manager, Faculty Student Association, 1965-1995

**Alfred Shalkowski**, University Maintenance Management Planner, Maintenance and Operations, 1964-1993

**Rachel (Braymiller) Slaght**, Assistant Service Worker, Faculty Student Association, 2010-2019

### EMERITUS

**Dr. Paul O. Davey**, Professor, Physics, 1964-1993

**Robert Jordan**, Professor, School of Music, 1980-2004

**Dr. Richard Charles Larson**, Professor, School of Music, 1972-1998

**Janet E. Meissner**, Lecturer/Instructor, Department of Mathematical Sciences, 1978-2010

**Dr. Stephen Douglas Warner**, Professor, English, 1970-2000

### STUDENT

**Stephanie Handschu**

\*Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See [fredonia.edu/foundation](http://fredonia.edu/foundation).

# CAREER CORNER

by TRACY COLLINGWOOD, '94  
Director, Engagement and Career Development



## Fredonia's Career Development Office... Your career is still our priority



Whether you've just graduated from Fredonia or have been working for years, the Career Development Office (CDO) is always here to support you — at no cost — no matter what stage of your career you're in.

Here are a few ways we can help you.

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To schedule an appointment, call the CDO at (716) 673-3327, or create an account in FREDNetwork (powered by Handshake) and select an appointment date and time that is convenient for you.

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Explore FREDNetwork with thousands of jobs and employers searchable by location, industry and keyword. New to FREDNetwork? Alumni can register anytime.

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Whether you are starting or negotiating career challenges and opportunities, the CDO can help you plan your next move. If you would like to make an appointment to discuss strategies to advance your career, contact the CDO at (716) 673-3327 or email [careers@fredonia.edu](mailto:careers@fredonia.edu). You can also visit the CDO's website at [www.fredonia.edu/cdo](http://www.fredonia.edu/cdo) to schedule an appointment.



Call (716) 673-3327 Email [careers@fredonia.edu](mailto:careers@fredonia.edu) Web [fredonia.edu/cdo](http://fredonia.edu/cdo)



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OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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27	28	29	30	31	1	2

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