

Student Emergency Relief Fund provides support

Alumnus thrives as creative force on PBS digital design teams Pursuing her passion and goals, meeting a need and making a difference

A 59-year Fredonia friendship: A navy blue Fredonia blazer



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Admissions Update

Fredonia is dedicated to the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and visitors. The Office of Admissions is offering several virtual options to prospective students and their families in lieu of traditional visits. For the most up-to-date information on our virtual events, and the status of in-person tours, please check **www.fredonia.edu/admissions-aid/visit-tour** or call the Office of Admissions at (716) 673-3251.

Alumni and Campus Events Calendar

OCTOBER

Freedonia Marxonia "New York City and the Marx Brothers" Annual Marx Brothers Festival

Author and performer Noah
Diamond will present his illustrated
lecture, "Home Again: The Marx
Brothers and New York City,"
directed by Amanda Sisk, as an
online event on Oct. 2.

Virtual Homecoming Oct. 15–17 See fredonia.edu/alumni for details.

NOVEMBER

Annual Alumni Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, Nov. 12, 4 p.m. (to be conducted online)

Thanksgiving Break Monday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Nov. 29

DECEMBER

Last Days of Instruction for the Semester Monday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 4

Final Exams Exams will be completed by Friday, Dec. 11

Art Exhibits

Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery Main level. Rockefeller Arts Center

Hours: Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.

William Kentridge: "Universal Archives" Aug. 18 through Oct. 11



"Six Birds" from Universal Archive series, 2012. Image courtesy of Gund Gallery, Kenyon College, and David Krut Projects, Johannesburg/New York Teresa Booth Brown: "The Neo-Quietism Project" Oct. 16 through Nov. 20



"Ultimate Metallic Suit" 2017, published by Shark's Ink

There will be no group tours or receptions during the fall semester. For more information, contact Gallery Director Barbara Räcker at (716) 673-4897 or email barbara.racker@fredonia.edu.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones doing well and in great spirits, notwithstanding the COVID-19 era in which we find ourselves.

As you may know, I arrived on campus on August 17, and I am excited to be a part of SUNY Fredonia as your 14th President. My family and I are happy to call this institution our home. Over the next several months, I hope to get to meet and to know many of you. Indeed, it is a high honor to join you in partnership and efforts aimed at the advancement of SUNY Fredonia.

As I indicated to the campus community upon my appointment, I believe that the relevance meter for public higher education institutions must include inspiring and preparing students to be skilled, connected, creative, ethical, entrepreneurial, innovative, and responsible professionals and global citizens. In addition, public institutions must be engaged with the communities in which they are located. In other words, it is not enough for public institutions to be located in a community. They must be of, and for, the communities in which they are located, and be strong socioeconomic anchors for those communities. I find SUNY Fredonia to be all of these things. This is why I am thrilled beyond expression to be appointed by the SUNY Board of Trustees as Fredonia's President.

My first message to students was to tell them that regardless of their background and the challenges we face, they need to embrace Fredonia and take full advantage of all that it has to offer. It is their university. I pledged to work hard every day to ensure that they are successful in their endeavors.

Throughout the search process, I have been so impressed with the talents of the faculty and staff, the beauty of the physical campus, and — most importantly — the remarkable student body. Fredonia's six-year graduation rate remains above the national average for schools of its size. I look forward to working with the campus community to continue to build on that strong foundation.

It is my hope that the Fredonia family is very proud of the way the campus has responded to COVID-19. Along with continuing learning through distance education, several current students and alumni have been on the frontlines of the pandemic. Several stories in this edition of *The Statement* highlight that work. Also, I am grateful for the leadership of my predecessor, Interim President Dennis Hefner, and for the extraordinary efforts by our faculty and staff for the continuation of instruction and operations, and the making of preparations for the new school year. Thank you.

As I begin my first year at Fredonia, I am looking forward to meeting you — alumni and friends of the university — as life returns to normalcy from the constraints imposed on all of us by COVID-19. I wish you the very best. Stay well.

Very truly yours,

Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D.President
SUNY Fredonia

Statement

HE MAGAZINE FOR EREDONIA ALLIMNI AND ERIENDO

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR FREDONIA

The "Nurturing Innovation" comprehensive campaign is the largest in Fredonia's history. If you have already made a gift, the Fredonia College Foundation would like to thank you for contributing to Fredonia's success in educating tomorrow's leaders, and humbly request your continued support as we move forward. Donations to the Nurturing Innovation campaign are supporting scholarships, allowing Fredonia to attract and retain talented students; providing the necessary funds for updated learning spaces with the technology needed to prepare our students for their futures, contributing to faculty/student research, increasing opportunities for experiential learning, and providing unrestricted support.

Unrestricted donations through the Fredonia College Foundation allow SUNY Fredonia the latitude to meet challenges as they arise and support the priority needs of the university. This support is crucial now more than ever as the campus works to adjust to the changing landscape of education in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, while also managing sizable cuts to our state funding.

Last spring, the campus was able to quickly pivot to continue all education in a distance learning format. Now, as the world and the campus community adjust to a post-pandemic reality, it is clear that flexibility will continue to be one of our highest priorities. The support of Fredonia's alumni and friends has always been essential to continuing the high quality education and welcoming atmosphere that Fredonia is known for. We always say that while you may have been a student at Fredonia for only a few short years, you are a Fredonian for life!

If you are able, please consider a gift to Fredonia this fall to support the students of today and help us to adapt to the challenges of tomorrow. Gifts can be made online at www.fredonia.edu/give/form or by returning the envelope in the centerfold of this issue. Thank you for being part of the Fredonia family!





Eager to listen, learn

New Fredonia President Kolison sets collaborative tone

"The left hand needs to know what the right hand is doing and vice versa. Avoid surprises, especially at 4 p.m. on Fridays."

That's the philosophy that will guide Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D., the new president of the State University of New York at Fredonia. As the chief academic officer and member of an executive team at the University of Indianapolis (UIndy), Dr. Kolison saw that approach produce success.

"As one of my takeaways from the University of Indianapolis, the president, Dr. Robert Manuel, emphasized the phrase 'network university' to describe how he wanted his vice presidents to work with each other," Kolison explained. "It simply means any decision that you make for your agency or in your area of responsibility, needs to be known by your colleagues, and you need to consider how that decision is going to impact other areas of the university or other vice presidents," Kolison explained.

"For example, if the vice president for

Finance is making a decision, there has to be an awareness of what that will do or means for Academic Affairs, for Student Affairs, and other areas of the university."

For that concept to be successful, Kolison said, leaders have to be connected to each other and be fully aware of what's happening on the campus. "They have to collaborate, coordinate, and communicate; they have to share things; and they have to be able to say that if we go left, this is what will happen; if we go right, this is what happens. For it to work, even the president cannot go off and make a major decision that the vice president and other senior leaders get to know about for the first time from the newspapers, or from the Internet. No, that should not happen if the president expects this concept to work well."

When everyone is on the same page, on the same team, Kolison said, then everyone is moving things forward.

"The 'network university' in the true sense of the phrase has relevance to how I will manage and how I will lead," Kolison said. "Sure, it sounds simple. But, in times of pressure, or for convenience, it is easy to forget. So, constant practice, and sometimes incentives, are essential to make it become the operating DNA."

Kolison brings nearly 30 years of leadership experience in higher education gained in public and private universities to Fredonia, including the last three years as Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of Indianapolis.

The State University of New York Board of Trustees appointed Kolison as Fredonia's 14th president in July, succeeding Interim President Dennis L. Hefner, who returned to campus a year ago following the retirement of President Virginia Horvath.

A native of Liberia, Kolison joins two African-Americans currently serving as president of one of SUNY's 13 comprehensive colleges. Interim President Hefner indicated he was pleased to see Kolison chosen. "His experience with public and private universities, his extensive grant record, his intimate knowledge of higher education systems and his strong academic background give him the knowledge and experience necessary to assume this important leadership position during these very challenging times," said Hefner, who was Fredonia's president from 1997 to 2012.

Frank Pagano, chair of the Fredonia College Council and the Presidential Search Committee, said Kolison brings a wealth of experience to this position and is well prepared for this role. "I look forward to working with Dr. Kolison as we begin a new chapter in Fredonia's history."

Virus poses urgent challenge

In this new chapter, Fredonia, with Kolison at the helm, must take on major challenges — declining enrollment, shifting demographics, the structural budget deficit and, of immediate concern, the opening of the fall semester in the COVID-19 era — all institutions of higher education are confronting.

"What's going to be heavy on my mind is going to be launching the fall semester under this COVID cloud that we have to deal with," Kolison said. "How do we bring students and faculty and staff back to campus and do it in a way that is safe," he explained, while demonstrating concern for the welfare and safety of the surrounding community.

"Ultimately, we want to ensure the safety of every person who comes onto the campus," Kolison said. The campus wants parents to feel comfortable that they are sending their children to a campus that cares about them and that they are safe.

Another challenge facing Kolison is the campus' budget deficit. "Without addressing the deficit, it is very difficult to take on new initiatives, or to move things forward," he said. While Kolison recognizes that deficits can curtail an institution's ability to add new programs, he firmly believes it's important to keep academic options vibrant and responsive to attract more students.

An enrollment drop of more than 1,000 students over the last 10 years is another hurdle for Fredonia to clear. Helping to fuel this change is a shift in demographics,

Kolison explained, resulting in the pool of traditional college-age students falling about 15 percent. These forces make budget deficits even more difficult to address.

"These are things that we have to deal with in the months or years ahead," Kolison said. So is serious competition from other schools.

"In our neighborhood, a 100-mile radius, you have five other public schools that we have to compete with for students, and then if you look at where our students come from; about 95 percent of our students come from the state of New York," Kolison noted. Very few are from other states or are international students.

"I want to be clear about this. These are challenges I was aware of in pursuing this opportunity. I came because I believe that the campus and the SUNY System will support me addressing these challenges. And, together, we will address all of these challenges and move ahead to many opportunities because we are SUNY Fredonia!"

other states and also find international students that can come to our institution. We have world class programs that can attract students from New York and other parts of the country and the globe. So, let's make it happen!"

Getting to know the campus community and other stakeholders — much of it through meet-and-greets and what Kolison describes as responding to a stream of "very kind emails from well-wishers" — was a priority in the weeks leading up to Aug. 17, his first official day on campus. He's eager to get to know his administrative team as well as faculty, staff and, of course, students, "So, I want to hit the ground listening, learning as quickly as I can and as much as I can, so when it's time to make decisions I'm making decisions based on data and on highly reliable information."

Kolison also wants to get to know the Fredonia community, including elected officials and residents.

Kolison served three years at UIndy, a private school, where he said performance

"What's going to be heavy on my mind is going to be launching the fall semester under this COVID cloud that we have to deal with." — President Stephen H. Kolison Jr.

Going in the 'right direction'

Kolison is also pleased to report encouraging signs for the campus.

"This summer, the numbers of students enrolling are higher than where we were last year, so that's very good. Also, I saw in the last few years the decline has kind of stopped, and it's beginning to point in the right direction." These are not the high numbers of a decade ago, Kolison noted, "but at least I can say we have stopped the bleeding; so, I want to acknowledge that and say thanks to everyone on campus who has put forth the effort to stop the bleeding and then pull us in the right direction."

Kolison wants to see Fredonia diversify the student pipeline. "Yes, it is a good thing that many of our students come from New York; we are a public institution and we should be serving the taxpayers of New York." Kolison said. "At the same time, I am sure you will agree with me that we will need to go out and find students from



Dr. Kolison at the University of Indianapolis.

drives revenue. "As Provost, I also spent a lot of time dealing with enrollment and retention matters. I think that's very relevant to where we are at Fredonia." Shared governance, working closely with Faculty Senate and major stakeholders, was also a priority at Ulndy that Kolison is carrying with him to Fredonia. Kolison said he was fortunate to work with an effective team — the Provost's Council—that was visionary, cohesive, diverse, and committed to advancing Ulndy.

Kolison points to a strong faculty and staff, great students, world class academic programs and a beautiful campus, as Fredonia assets. "These are all incredible strengths to have, that make an institution a place of destination. There's a lot going on for Fredonia that makes it actually a very strong institution."

At Ulndy, Kolison, during his three years, planned 10 new degree programs, secured overwhelming faculty support to establish three types of faculty tracks and planned, launched and completed the development of an intellectual life vision and an

academic master plan for the university.

Before joining Ulndy, Kolison spent nearly nine years in University of Wisconsin System Administration. As Associate Vice President for Academic Programs, Educational Innovation and Governance, Kolison was responsible for academic program planning and array management of the system that serves approximately 170,000 students across 13 universities.

Father 'inspired me tremendously'

The father of Stephen H. Kolison Jr. (Stephen H. Kolison Sr.) passed away nearly 10 years ago, but the legacy that he left his children growing up in Liberia clearly nurtured the career trajectory of Fredonia's new president.

With a high school diploma, the elder Kolison became a teacher at schools (elementary and junior high schools) operated by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, which established about a million-acre rubber plantation in Liberia, for the children of its workers.

Kolison said his father realized that in order "to do even better," he needed to obtain a higher education, so, as a non-traditional student, he enrolled in the University of Liberia to earn an undergraduate degree.

The younger Kolison was in the second grade when his father went back to school.

"I still remember how he would take me to the campus of the University of



Dr. Kolison celebrates his B.S. degree with his dad, Stephen H. Kolison Sr., in 1983, in Liberia.

Liberia on Sunday afternoons to study with him at the university library. I would sit by him and he would take breaks from his study to help me with my arithmetic and reading. And every time we were on the campus, he would show me many things and it all looked big to me. In a way, he may have been laying the groundwork for the day that I would enroll at the University of Liberia. Maybe.

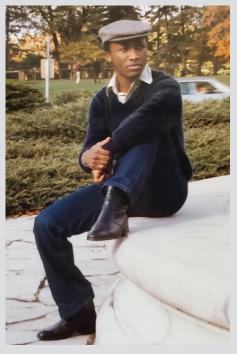
"But, this is what I remember: When I was admitted at the University of Liberia, unlike the many freshmen, especially the first-generation freshmen, I already knew where most things were on the campus including the library, the registrar office and the cafeteria. Think about that for a moment. Think about that in terms of what universities could do for first generations students who lack such advantages."

"My father was a first-generation college student who did very well," Kolison said. His father also received a scholarship from Firestone and enrolled at the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio, to obtain a master's degree in educational administration. The younger Kolison, his oldest son, was a sixth-grade student when that milestone was achieved.

"While I was working on my doctorate, civil war broke out in Liberia. It was a devastating civil war that pretty much destroyed Liberia; it threw the country back by more than 50 years," said Kolison, who was then at Iowa State University.

"There was the destruction of thousands of lives. I was getting very close to finishing my dissertation when this was going on, so I realized very quickly that I was going to be a man without a home to go back to," Kolison remembered.

Life in Liberia was so catastrophic, Kolison recalled, that he didn't know where his family members or friends were or if they were safe or still alive. "Imagine trying to process all that while trying to complete a doctorate degree. But I was



Dr. Kolison's first fall in the U.S. as a student at Iowa State in 1984.

very fortunate; America gave me a home and also gave me a career." Kolison was initially hired by Tuskegee University to its faculty and to lead its forestry program.

"Let me also say this to you. America did not give me only a great education, home, and career. When I need to be loved in a very special way, America gave me a wonderful wife called Valeria, a native of Alabama."

Kolison's father was an educator, a farmer, and a public servant elected to help rewrite Liberia's new constitution in 1984, and Kolison proudly says his father's signature is on that document. "My father was my hero and my best friend. He inspired me tremendously as I grew up."

That inspiration helped the younger Kolison overcome an early setback in elementary school: he failed the second grade and had to repeat it. At Tennessee State University, Kolison was responsible for providing direction of a comprehensive research program related to agricultural and environmental sciences. During his 10 years there, he was the Founding Dean and Research Director of the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Research, and Director and Research Director of the Cooperative Agricultural Research Program.

Kolison also taught for eight years in the field of Forestry/Forest Economics and was a research scientist at Tuskegee University. He began his career in higher education as a teaching assistant at the University of Liberia, his alma mater.

Kolison has Ph.D. in Forest Economics and an M.S. in Forest Economics and Marketing, both from Iowa State University of Science and Technology, and a B.S. in General Forestry from the University of Liberia. He holds four post-doctoral certificates from Harvard University.

Throughout his career in higher education, Dr. Kolison has been the principal investigator on grants totaling in the millions of dollars.

"It was a very difficult, hard time," recalls Kolison, who had a form of dyslexia, so he had difficulty recognizing and telling the differences between certain letters and numbers. "It was very challenging for me. My second grade teacher pretty much gave up on me; I still remember it like it was yesterday... He did not think I would amount to anything and did not hesitate to predict that openly so that all my classmates heard his prediction about me. I felt ashamed often in class."

But the youngster, encouraged by family and other teachers, didn't give up. Kolison became valedictorian of his high school class and enrolled in the University of Liberia to earn a B.S. in General Forestry.

Kolison comes from a very large family, he has nine sisters and seven brothers. "My siblings all call me 'Big Kolison,' a sign of deep affection, love and respect. You can imagine when you have that number of siblings, it's not easy," smiled Kolison, the family's oldest boy.

"Dad said every one of us was going to earn a high school diploma — that was the minimum." They all did, and many went on to college and today work in the fields of education, nursing, banking, forestry, business, religion, government, criminal justice and politics.

"So, the message from me to the students is about never giving up, no matter what your circumstance. Every day that God gives to you is an opportunity for you," Kolison said. "Don't give up. Work hard, and one day you will be very happy that you didn't give up, that you tried."

Much of Kolison's aspiration to be a college president is rooted in his desire to help students succeed. "I know what the value of higher education is; I saw what happened to my dad and my family."

Kolison also holds his mother in very high esteem. A lack of formal education did not hold her back from starting and



Dr. Kolison and his wife, Valeria, endorsing the use of protective masks.

running a successful small business. Kolison said he learned a lot — emotional intelligence, kindness and to be caring for others — from his mother. "She was just a wonderful woman. I still remember the last time I saw her. It was in January of 2013 when visited her in Liberia. As I was about to enter the waiting car to take me to the airport to return to the United States, she hugged me and reminded to me that I was loved dearly by my late father and she told me that she loved me, and concluded by saying to me that God was going to bless me in a very special way. She passed seven months later. I wish she and my dad were still alive to watch my appointment on June 29, 2020 by the SUNY Board of Trustees as the 14th President of SUNY Fredonia. My goodness, that would have been a really, really, big nuclear deal for them." he said.

"I was very fortunate to have had wonderful parents who inspired me."

Away from academia, Kolison's expertise in kitchen has yielded some recognition from friends, colleagues, and family members, including a blue ribbon that a spinach recipe won in a VA hospital

cooking contest while he was at Tuskegee University. He grows African violets as a hobby, loves airplanes, follows advancements in automobiles, is into all kinds of music, and loves soccer, basketball and hockey. He enjoys hiking in forests and tall grasslands.

He says that if he had the time to learn to play a musical instrument at this point in his life, it would be the saxophone. He says his love for the saxophone was influenced by the late Mano de Bango of Cameroon and the late Clarence Clemons of the E Street Band.

Kolison and his wife are the parents of three adult children: Ophelia, Stephen III and Samuel. Mrs. Kolison, who has two master's degrees, serves as a Chief of Nutrition and Food Services at a VA hospital.

"I've had an incredible journey, I've been very fortunate to have been able to be associated with a number of outstanding institutions, had opportunity to travel widely overseas, and work with people all over the world. It's been a tremendous journey, and now I'm looking forward to being part of SUNY Fredonia."

Outstanding Achievement Award to Finn and Taylor; Career Development Office to host 'Network on the Go' event in October

Two alumni will be honored this year with Outstanding Achievement Awards from the Fredonia Alumni Association — William Finn, '83, (Business Administration), who is currently President of both Hospice of the Western Reserve and Western Reserve Care Solutions, and the Honorable William Kemsey Taylor, '97, (Political Science and English), former Class President, Lanford Presidential Prize recipient, and currently a New York State Supreme Court Judge.

The honorees will be recognized at a date yet to be determined.

The Career Development Office is excited to announce a virtual collaborative event scheduled for employers, alumni and students called, "Network on the Go," scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. "Network on the Go" will connect employers/organizations with Fredonia alumni and students seeking internships (year-round), and part-time and full-time job opportunities. In addition, alumni employers are invited to establish



William Finn, '83

professional interaction opportunities with students from their first-year through senior year, and beyond. Free employer registration is available online at https://fredonia.joinhandshake.com/



The Honorable William K. Taylor, '97

employer_registrations/new.

For more information, please contact Internship Coordinator Jennifer Wilkins from the Career Development Office via email at <code>jennifer.wilkins@fredonia.edu</code>.



Fredonian to Fredonian; Dunkirk woman sews, gives protective face masks to students

Thanks to a former Fredonia student, students living on campus for the rest of the spring semester had cloth face masks to wear so they could do their part to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

The colorful, all-cotton masks were made by Cheryl Gawronski, who attended Fredonia more than a half-century ago. She is part of Community Sourced PPE: Operation Sewing Squad, a Facebook group whose members wash material, cut fabric, sew masks and distribute them where they're needed in Western New York.

Working remotely, these volunteers made and distributed some 33,000 face masks in 36 days to law enforcement agencies, local governments, hospitals, the New York State Department of Health and

home nursing agencies, among others.

"We noticed that students were not wearing masks like they should be wearing, and I knew Cheryl was making them for other groups," explained Jill Zappie, an office assistant in Residence Life. "I reached out to her, and she made 100 for us in a matter of three days!"

"I am so thankful to Cheryl for her kind gesture," said Kathy Forster, director of Residence Life. "I know that the on-campus students and the staff that the students interact with on a daily basis appreciate the thoughtfulness."

Those thoughts were echoed by Zappie. "The residence directors were very excited about them, are very thankful," she said.



Pursuing her passion and goals, meeting a need and making a difference

For Kayla Purcell, a junior Medical Technology major at Fredonia, the faces of COVID-19 victims don't live just on television newscasts or in newspapers. They were a part of her life as a patient care technician (PCT) and member of medical teams treating COVID-19 patients at Rochester (N.Y.) General Hospital.

"I am seeing patients, but I consider myself to be someone supporting the doctors, nurses and PAs who are really on the front lines managing the treatment of these patients," Purcell noted. "I love it, the people I work for, the patients. I love learning something new every single day" Purcell added.

Purcell was assigned to 4800, the medical specialty unit where Rochester General, a 528-bed tertiary care hospital, treats COVID-19 patients.

With a career goal of becoming a



Kayla Purcell

earlier by the hospital. She began PCT training in the third week of April, working 20 hours a week, while continuing her Fredonia course work online, as all students were doing.

During the summer, Purcell was on duty 32 hours a week. She plans to serve one or two weekends a month during the 2020-2021 school year, working around class and althletic schedules, and then plans are put into place and followed through within the hospital setting, and how each profession plays a vital role in patient care," Purcell said.

Purcell saw COVID-19 patients every day, and as part of their care, asked them how they were feeling, if they were comfortable or were in need of something. "Whatever they need I try to get it for them," she said.

"Patients are focused on getting better, doing what they have to do," Purcell said.

Does Purcell have concerns about her own safety when caring for COVID-19 patients?

"No, I don't, because I have faith and trust in the people around me that they are practicing safe procedures. I know if I pay attention to what I have to do and follow protocols, that I know I'll be protected."

"RGH does an excellent job protecting us," Purcell said.

"My floor is the only floor currently with COVID patients, so we have the most protective gear as of now in the hospital. We have to wear scrubs given to us every day that we cannot wear out of the hospital," Purcell said. "If we enter a COVID-19 patient's room we need to wear full PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), including gowns, face masks and face shields, and follow the procedures for putting them on."

About half the patients on Purcell's floor are COVID-19 patients, the other half are vented/respiratory patients other than COVID-19, so all team members must be very cautious going from patient to patient, Purcell said.

What has been the biggest takeaway so far for Purcell?

"I have always known I wanted to work in medicine, but this experience has really solidified the desire," Purcell said. "I have been able to put myself out there and make connections that will help me down the road in my path to becoming a PA as well as learn how to put myself in the best position to get into a program from professionals who have done it themselves."

"I love it, the people I work for, the patients. I love learning something new every single day." — Kayla Purcell

physician assistant, Purcell had planned to work the summer as a PCT at Rochester General to get a head-start on the 1,000 hours of direct patient care that most graduate schools require of applicants in their PA programs, but was summoned return and work full-time next summer.

"Since working at the hospital regularly I have refined skills such as taking blood pressures, EKGs and other basic tests that indicate patient health, communicating with patients effectively, how treatment





















Students in Department of Visual Arts and New Media Associate Professor Phil Hastings' SPFX for Experimental Video class demonstrating cloud tanks in Fall 2019.



Student Emergency Relief Fund provides support

Fredonia's faculty and staff, along with members of the community, came together this spring to assist students during this turbulent time in their lives.

A Student Emergency Relief Fund was created through the Fredonia College Foundation to help students faced with unexpected expenses related to the



pandemic, and to help alleviate hardships related to moving to a digital education format. Individual grants of between \$100 and \$500 assisted with technology costs related to distance education, lab fees, software, Internet connections, food insecurity and other basic needs.

"It was heartwarming to see Fredonia's faculty and staff, alumni, and friends come together to help students experiencing hardship due to the transition to distance education," said Fredonia College Foundation Executive Director Betty Gossett.

In June, it was announced that the SUNY Impact Foundation would match dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000, any additional gifts made by July 1 to Fredonia's fund.

The campus and community met that challenge. As of July 12, total funds raised reached \$184,990 including the \$50,000 in matching funds. To date, the foundation has received 423 requests, providing over \$59,000 in assistance to students — who can continue to apply at Fredonia.edu/relief-request.

The funds that Vinace, a Business Administration major, received went to cover essential expenses that allowed him to connect to his online classes. "I was able to continue trying to complete my work online, yet it was still overwhelming," Vinace said. "I was very thankful and felt a little less pressure from this pandemic."

Maddy used her allocation to help purchase a much-needed laptop. This helped her to be able to spread her learning throughout the day instead of having to consolidate it in between 5 p.m. and midnight on a shared laptop.





the Communication: Public Relations major with food, a new charger and an

extension cord.

The fund has helped to enable Jun, who lost her part-time job at Cranston Marché, to continue to live and study at Fredonia. She avoided the risk of infection if she would have traveled back to China, and was able to continue online studies, which Jun says is hard to do because of the way the Internet works in China.

A grant allowed Jun to continue telephone service, so she could complete online classes, reach her family in China and purchase food and other necessities that her family could not help with since they could not send funds from her home country.

Jun indicated the assistance program

"It is a nice surprise; my heart is filled with gratitude. Because I know that, I can continue to study here, I am here pursuing my dreams and doing what I love,"

— Jun, TESOL major

She will continue to use the laptop in her studies as a Mathematics and Applied Mathematics major, with a concentration in Finance, during her remaining years at Fredonia.

The funds Yek received were used to pay a month's worth of medical insurance, which SUNY requires of all international students, as well as miscellaneous items, such as the telephone bill and course supplies, so he was able to focus all of his attention to the distance education transition.

"I was relieved more than anything," Yek said upon learning that his application was accepted. "There were a couple things that I needed the money for urgently that I didn't know where I would find the money for, so when I got the email I just let out a huge sigh of relief," he said. Yek, who is from Malaysia, has three majors: Physics, Mathematics and Applied Mathematics.

Brianna noted, "I felt relieved being that someone heard what I had to say and was able to help me during this crazy time." The funds received assisted



relieves the economic pressure felt by students and shows them that the university cares for them. "This is the love and help from the faculty members who are like family members," Jun said.

"It is a nice surprise; my heart is filled with gratitude. Because I know that, I can continue to study here, I am here pursuing my dreams and doing what I love," said Jun, who is majoring in Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages.

Fredonia.edu/relief-request

Photographic memories...

A blast from the past with images from Geology of National Parks summer trips over the years, courtesy of Distinguished Teaching Professor Richard Gilman.









This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Fredonia State Baseball SUNYAC Championship in 1990 and the only championship in Fredonia baseball history. Thanks for sending the photo, Matthew Terry, '90!



Social media snaps

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

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@fredoniaalumni **TWITTER**

@fredoniaalumni **INSTAGRAM**

YOUTUBE @fredoniau

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Fredonia

March 27 • @FredoniaU

Looking for something to do while staying connected to Fredonia? We made this photo of Rosch Recital Hall into a 200-piece jigsaw puzzle. Have fun! https://www. jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=09b1c3e19b0f





29 shares



Fredonia • @FredoniaU • 5/1/20

As we prepare for the final week of distance learning, @fredoniau is sending a #FREDCares package to students because your Big Blue Family misses you! VP of ESS @CedricBHoward4 's staff and FSA are sending them out. Share a pic when it arrives using #FREDcares



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The 2020 Fredonia State spring sports season had just begun when the curtain fell

Members of the Athletics department were in an emergency meeting on Friday, March 13, when word came down, via Twitter, that the NCAA was cancelling all championships — what remained of winter sports and all those in the spring — due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Conferences followed suit, including the SUNYAC, and sporting venues around the world fell silent.

The Department of Athletics found a couple of ways to bring some closure to the year. A social media campaign to recognize all senior student-athletes on spring teams was launched on the Fredonia State Athletics website (www.fredoniabluedevils.com).

Planning also began to switch the annual awards gala known as The FREDDYS to an online format.

The FREDDYS was rolled out over the course of a week in early May. Here is a look at each of the awards categories:

Academics — The Fredonia State chapter of Chi Alpha Sigma, the national honor society for college student-athletes, was increased by the induction of 20 Blue Devil seniors. Chi Alpha Sigma inductees included the 2020 Scholar-Athletes of the Year, Avril King from women's tennis and Nic Fiore from baseball, for attaining the highest GPA among all Blue Devil seniors. In addition, the women's soccer team coached by Chris Case won the Team Academic Award for its 3.57 team GPA.

Outstanding Rookies — An award reserved for freshmen, this year's winners were Collin Barmore of men's cross country and track & field and Izzy



Audette of women's soccer. Barmore edged out Kyle Copper from men's swimming and diving. Audette, a Third Team All-SUNYAC performer last fall, was chosen ahead of Ashley Mills of women's tennis, and Sierra Keim and Kourtney Krchniak of women's volleyball.

Outstanding Athletes — The winners were senior Charlie Manley of men's hockey and junior Lauren Cullinan from women's soccer. Each won multiple awards during the school year. Manley was Second Team All-SUNYAC and SUNYAC Defender of the Year. Other FREDDYS male nominees were Dy Dy Bryant from men's basketball. Jacob Haynes from men's hockey, and Aidan Pollard from men's cross country and track & field. Prior to her FREDDYS award. Cullinan received four post-season awards — two for athletics and two for academics. Other FRFDDYS female nominees were Anna Chiacchia from women's tennis and women's basketball, Emily Jones from women's volleyball, and McKayla Polowy from women's swimming and diving.

Top 10 Moments — An ESPN-style Top 10 list was produced using video, where available. The first nine finalists, in reverse order, were:

- **10. Women's Volleyball**: The return of junior Emma Falk in early October from rare shoulder surgery;
- **9. Baseball**: Homers in each game of a Feb. 29 doubleheader by sophomore Tyler Murphy, including a pinch-hit grand slam:
- **8. Men's Hockey**: Three goals by Manley on Dec. 6, only the second hat trick ever by a Blue Devil defenseman;
- **7. Women's Soccer**: Game-tying goal with three seconds left in regulation by senior Melanie Minotti on Sept. 27;
- **6. Women's Basketball**: Career-high scoring of 27 points each by sophomore Katie Pitcher and freshman Audrey Craffey on Feb. 8;
- 5. Swimming and Diving: School records by junior Drew Page (400 individual medley) and Polowy (500, 1,000 and 1,650 freestyle) at the SUNYAC meet in mid-February;



- **4. Men's Soccer**: Golden goal by junior Jack Retzer on Oct. 26 to finish the season at 7-7-4;
- **3. Men's Soccer**: Golden goal by senior Matt Belardi on Oct. 25 to keep the team's playoff hopes alive;
- **2.** Men's Hockey: A 33-save shutout by senior Anton Rosen on Feb. 7 in his first game back from an injury which sidelined him for two months.

The No. 1 moment — a tribute to all 2019–20 Blue Devils. "The top moment this year," Director of Athletics Jerry Fisk said in the Top 10 video, "was the toughness and resilience shown by our teams, especially our spring teams who had their seasons cancelled at the last minute. COVID can send us apart, it can cancel our seasons, but it cannot defeat us."

Also — Men's Basketball: Sean Smiley was appointed head coach of men's basketball. A former player at University at Buffalo, Smiley was most recently an assistant coach at Hobart College... Men's Hockey: Haynes was also Second Team All-SUNYAC...Men's Swimming: Copper was Second Team All-SUNYAC as an individual and as part of a relay with Page and seniors Cameron Cross and Bradley Zifra...Women's Swimming: Polowy was Third Team All-SUNYAC... Women's Track and Field: Emily Fish won the SUNYAC Elite 20 award for the highest GPA at the SUNYAC meet. She is a sophomore...junior Cassie Serafin was Second Team All-SUNYAC...Men's Track and Field: The relay of junior Marcus Torres, sophomore Griffin Dombroske, and freshmen Will Guagliardo and Toby Onuoha made Third Team All-SUNYAC... Softball: Katie Yudin, a senior, was named CoSIDA Academic All-District.

Five alumni, three teams added to Athletics Hall of Fame



The newest class of the Fredonia Athletics Hall of Fame includes (from left) Jordan Basile, Matt Borchard, Sarah Hite–Moore, Walt Hubbard and Greq Prechtl.

The newest Fredonia State Athletics Hall of Fame induction class, the 25th in school history, consists of five alumni and three Teams of Distinction.

Greg Prechtl ('69), the former men's basketball coach and director of athletics, will be enshrined along with one of his former players, Walt Hubbard ('93). The 1992-93 men's basketball team, which Mr. Prechtl coached and Mr. Hubbard was a part of, also will be entered as a Team of Distinction.

Jordan Basile ('09) from baseball, Matt Borchard ('06) from men's soccer, and Sarah Hite-Moore ('05) from women's track and field will also be enshrined individually. The 1981 men's cross country team, and the 1985 and 1986 men's soccer teams, will be added to the teams list.

The Hall of Fame ceremony, originally scheduled for October, will be rescheduled on a later date.

"It is with great excitement," Director of Athletics Jerry Fisk said, "that we announce the newest Fredonia State Athletics Hall of Fame Class. These individuals and teams enjoyed tremendous success during their times as Blue Devils and are now being recognized among the other greats."

Here's a brief look at the five individual inductees:

Greg Prechtl had a relationship at Fredonia State athletics that spanned

54 years. He was a member of the men's basketball team, an Assistant Coach, later the Head Coach, and eventually Director of Athletics until his retirement in 2017. He received coaching awards for regular-season success and team sportsmanship, guided the Blue Devils to 1985 ECAC Upstate New York and the 1993 SUNYAC titles, and, as Director of Athletics, oversaw the construction of softball's Blue Devil Field, the Steele Hall Natatorium, both phases of University Stadium, and the Blue Devil Fitness Center.

Jordan Basile is the all-time hit leader in Fredonia State baseball history and is in the top 10 in nine other statistical categories. The Blue Devils' lead-off hitter, he set single-season records for hits and runs and batted a conference-leading .420 during 2009, a season in which the Blue Devils won a program-record 26 games, including an appearance in the ECAC Upstate New York Tournament.

Matt Borchard authored one of the finest seasons as goalkeeper in men's soccer history when he posted 16 solo shutouts in 2005, still tied for fifth most in NCAA Division III history, during a run to the NCAA Round of 16. His 32 career shutouts is a school record and his 42 wins is tied for second-most in program history.

Sarah Hite-Moore was both an All American in her sport and the classroom. She excelled in the high hurdles and holds team records in the 55-meter and 60-meter high hurdles and the pentathlon. She also competed in the multi-events. A Biology major, she was an Academic All-America as chosen by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Walt Hubbard was a prolific scorer during his four seasons as a Blue Devil. He is currently fourth on the Fredonia State career scoring list with 1,309 points. He's also sixth in career three-pointers and is among the top 15 in four single-season lists while helping orchestrate the most successful run in men's basketball history, including a 22-9 mark his junior year.

Here's a brief look at the three Teams of Distinction:

The 1981 men's cross country team, recognized at the 2000 Hall of Fame dinner, will be officially enshrined as a Team of Distinction in 2020. Coached by Hall of Famer Dr. Everett Phillips, the 1981 team won the SUNYAC Cross Country championship, finished second at the New York State meet, and third at the NCAA meet. In addition to Dr. Phillips, Don Brenner ('82) and Bernie Prabucki ('83) are Hall of Fame enshrinees from the '81 team.

The 1985 and 1986 men's soccer teams will be recognized for the first time. Coached by Nelson Cupello, both teams advanced to the NCAA Division III semifinals and had a two-year record of 33-4-5, including a program-best 21-game unbeaten streak in 1986. The 1986 team won the SUNYAC title. Hall of Fame members from the two teams are Delille Edoizin ('86), Steve Brickler ('87) and Jeff Hammond ('87).

The 1993 men's basketball team, coached by Mr. Prechtl, posted an 18-10 record and won the SUNYAC championship by defeating host Binghamton. It also resulted in the program's only appearance in the NCAA Tournament. The SUNYAC title was a culmination of the most successful stretch in program history which saw the Blue Devils win 40 games. Ryan Smock ('93) is the team's previous Hall of Fame member.

fredoniabluedevils.com

Creative Commencement celebration



As the spring semester wound down, it became evident that the original in-person May 16 Commencement ceremonies at Fredonia's Steele Hall would be postponed.

Along with this, there were strong feelings on the part of administrators and the Commencement Committee that, regardless, the day should be observed in a special way. The idea for a digital celebration was developed, and Department of Marketing and Communications Videographer Jim Gibbons set to the task.

Over a series of weeks in April, Mr.
Gibbons recorded Interim President Dennis
L. Hefner recognizing the bachelor's,
master's and advanced certificate
graduates and their families; seniors
Jacklyn Wick and Danielle Zareski singing
the national anthem; and opening and

closing reflections from Avril M. King, Alyson J. Baumann, Brigham Pratt and Caroline Schettler. Class President Deoniss Jackson also addressed the graduates, congratulating them on the completion of their academic careers via distance education.

A recording of the Fredonia Chamber Choir singing, "The Welcome Table," arranged specifically for the chamber choir and conducted by nationally known composer, arranger and clinician, Stacey V. Gibbs, was included on the video.

Mr. Pratt was recognized as the recipient of the Lanford Presidential Prize. Also acknowledged were the late Stephanie Handschu, whose family will accept a posthumous degree in her honor, and Melanie Aronow, who passed away just prior to the beginning of her freshman

year and would have been a member of the Class of 2020.

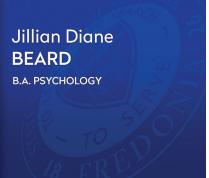
Graduates were encouraged to view the celebration with their families. In addition, they were invited to send photos to be featured, which were developed into slides with the student's name, major and Latin honors, as appropriate. Graduates names were read by Associate Provost for Graduate Studies, Sponsored Research and Faculty Development Judith Horowitz and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Jack Croxton. After the first "viewing" on May 16 — additional photos were sent by graduates to be added — for a total of nearly 500 Fredonians on the final version released in June.

To view the video, go online to https://www.fredonia.edu/2020.

Watch the video: https://www.fredonia.edu/2020















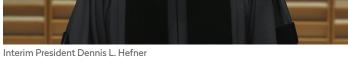
Kyle WHITTON MUS.B. MUSIC PERFORMANCE **CUM LAUDE**

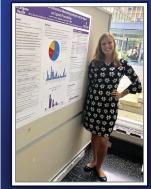
















Alumnus thrives as creative force on PBS digital design teams

Chris Bishop traces his love of art to grade school when he began drawing cartoons and copying images out of newspapers.

"Art has always been my thing and all I've ever cared about," Mr. Bishop recalled. "My mom told me when I was little, the teacher would hand out coloring sheets and I would flip mine over to the blank side to draw my own picture. I remember studying and copying 'Garfield' in first grade which led to making up own comic strips."

It was a comic strip, "Convenience Store," carried by the national magazine *React*, that became Bishop's first paying art job while he was pursuing a B.F.A. in Art, with a concentration in Drawing, at Fredonia. The three-panel gag strip depicted two convenience store clerks, Sasha and Audrey, working the late shift. (Bishop worked nights at a convenience store while on semester breaks.)

"This was a huge relief for my parents who were always 100 percent supportive of me pursuing art while also being quietly nervous about how I would make a living at it," the 1998 graduate said.

"Up until and through college, I was most passionate about drawing cartoons and comic strips," Bishop said. "Becoming a syndicated cartoonist like in the newspaper was my end goal."

Ground floor at PBS

The Syracuse, (N.Y.), native grew to love illustration at Fredonia but becoming a freelance illustrator didn't quite pan out as a career, so he taught himself web design and HTML so he could build a website to promote his art. That technical knowledge combined with proven cartoon skills made him an ideal fit for a full-time gig at PBS Kids.

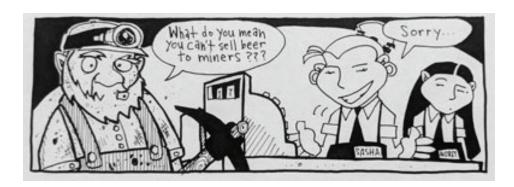
Those were the early years of PBS Kids; Bishop was their fourth employee.

Today, Bishop is the award-winning Senior Creative Director of PBS and PBS Kids Digital, where he leads two digital design teams — stocked with interactive designers, user experience designers, animators, illustrators and a sound/ music designer — but still keeps his hands in actual design and illustration work. Bishop's body of work has grown in nearly two decades to encompass digital games, websites, apps, branding, social media and digital and broadcast content development.

"We craft the user experience and visual design of websites, apps and games on all digital platforms such as phones, tablets, computers, Apple TV, Roku, etc.," Bishop said.

The creative team grew as the use of the web, apps, phones and tablets exploded, Bishop said. "I pride myself on being able to find creative talent and build teams. Despite this, I've always remained hands-on with design. It's easy to get rusty or lose touch with the latest software or techniques."

Bishop loves doing character design and creating art for apps and games, as well as creating logos and branding. He works in a flat art style with vibrant colors and a bit of humor, and counts Looney Tunes, *Mad Magazine*, Garbage Pail Kids,



I love trying to carve a concept or visual down to the most simple it can be while still working intuitively."

— Chris Bishop

Groo the Wanderer and Ren & Stimpy among his influences.

Bishop is the mastermind behind Kart Kingdom, PBS Kids' first-ever virtual world. In this game, children build their own karts and go on adventures that they create, which can unlock prizes and reveal secret worlds. "We wanted to have a social place where kids could get together and kind of learn things in that world."

Designing for children, ages 2 to 8, is a unique challenge, Bishop acknowledges. "Trying to get into the mindset of a kid and think how they would use an app or interface is a different way to think. I love trying to carve a concept or visual down to the most simple it can be while still working intuitively."

Bishop credits three faculty members for having a profound influence on his growth as an artist.

He remembers Emeritus Associate Professor Mary Lee Lunde, his advisor, as a phenomenal art instructor who taught Bishop how to navigate the system, find loopholes and get away with pushing the boundaries. "And you could just chat with her endlessly."

SUNY Distinguished Professor Alberto Rey, Bishop's illustration professor, was simply "The toughest. Looking back now I get it. There were no shortcuts with Alberto — just hard work."

Though he admits to having a horrible memory for names and dates, Bishop took more than the minimum art history



Beverage containers featuring illustrations designed by Chris Bishop for Crooked Crab Brewing Co.

classes because of SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus Daniel Reiff. He loved courses Dr. Reiff taught — including a particularly challenging one focused on the study of art historians and their writing techniques — and his teaching style. He was a "very funny guy," Bishop recalled. "I barely passed these classes, but they were fun."

"Convenience Store" comic strip.

College life parody

Bishop also served on *The Leader* staff. He began drawing comic strips, of course, and eventually became the Lampoon editor. His comic strip, "They Tell Me I'm Annoying," made fun of college life, students, student government, Dunkirk and other aspects of the Fredonia experience.

"A lot of people loved it and a lot of people hated it. The newspaper staff and faculty advisor were very supportive no matter how many unhappy letters or phone calls we received about the comics. Some of my best memories of Fredonia are hanging out with the people from the newspaper."

Bishop still does freelance illustration work, including beer can art for Crooked



Chris Bishop and his wife, Shannon, and their two sons, Leo, 3, and Connor, 9 months.

Crab, a brewery in Maryland. His website is populated by paintings (large scale popart); illustrations (games, logos, etc.); prints (sold on INPRNT); Instagram (daily art and works in progress) along with PBS and PBS Kids digital; and merchandise.

Bishop and his wife, Shannon, who also works at PBS Kids, have two sons, Connor and Leo.

1950s

William Scott, '54, (music ed.) has been affiliated with the Hochstein School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., for 40 years, currently as Voice Department Chair.

Dr. Gerald Chesin, '55, (speech and hear. hand.) retired as a full Professor Emeritus from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. He has had over 50 educational articles published in state and national journals. In addition, Dr. Chesin holds four International Fish and Game Association world fishing records — three for Lake Trout and one for Northern Pike. He and his wife, Dr. Carol Kennedy Chesin, live in Pittsburgh, Pa., and have a daughter and two grandchildren.

1960s

Vincent Aiosa, '60, (music ed.) has retired after teaching for 55 years, 31 at Newfield (N.Y.) Central School and 24 in the music education department at Ithaca College.

Ronald, '61, (music ed.) and Catherine (Brown) Sutherland, '77, (music ed.) completed their 33rd and final year as Head Chaperones for the New York State School Music Association's annual winter conference, responsible for over 30,000 high school musicians over the years.

Michael J. Tramuta, '65, (elem. ed.) a former member of the Fredonia Blue Devils men's basketball team, was inducted with the Class of 2020 into the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame in February. For more than 30 years, he has been a chemical dependency counselor.

1970s

Nina Karbacka, '70, (music ed.) was named to *City & State* magazine's Education Power 100 List.

Bonnie D. Mitchell, '70, (elem. ed.) retired in January 2014 after 20 years of working at the Corry (Pa.) campus of Barber National Institute in Erie, Pa., as an Associate Instructor.

Marshall Seddon's, '71, (soc. stds./ sec. ed.) latest book, "The Sleeper Street Gang," was released by NFB Publishing.



Nina Karbacka, '70 (Rob Sigler Photography)



William Giannone, '72



Anthony J. Joseph, '73



Sherry Taylor Cleary '75, '80



Todd S. Ruppel, '79



Karla M. Digirolamo, '82



Brent P. Sheldon. '82



David Heid. '83

William Giannone, '72, (music ed.) arranged J.S. Bach's 15
Sinfonias, BWV 787-801, (Three-part Inventions) for three flutes, published by Rosebud Music
Publishing Co. and available at www.flutesheetmusic.com. Many of the sinfonias were dedicated to teachers and mentors he has had over the years, including No. 13 to his flute professor at Fredonia, Dr. Donald Hartman.

Mary Anne (Meck) Dellegrotto, '73, (speech and hear. hand.) retired in 2011 as a Speech/ Language Clinician with the West Shore School District in South Central Pennsylvania. She and her husband are enjoying time spent with children and grandchildren.

Anthony J. Joseph, '73, (music ed.) was inducted into the Oswego (N.Y.) Music Hall of Fame in October 2019, receiving its Educator Award. Anthony and his wife, Kathy, celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary on Oct. 13, 2019. He retired from teaching in 2006, completing a 33-year career, but continues to lead his own combo: The Anthony Joseph 'Swingtet' which specializes in performing classic jazz standards and ballads.

Tanya Beshgetoor Weiss, '74, (English) represented former President Virginia Horvath in March 2019 at the inauguration of Dr. Irma Becerra as President of Marymount University in Arlington, Va., and Fredonia at a SUNY Day Washington, D.C. alumni reception.

Sherry Taylor Cleary '75, '80, (early child. ed.) was appointed University Dean of Early Childhood Initiatives at the City University of New York. Cleary has been at CUNY for the last 13 years, leading the work of the New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute, a statewide effort focused on the early childhood workforce. She held posts at the University of Pittsburgh and Erie Community College before joining CUNY. Prior to her work in higher education Ms. Cleary was a teacher at the Fredonia Migrant Program and Director of the Early Childhood program with the Seneca Nation of Indians.

On Feb. 9, flutist **Richard Paratley**, '**76**, (music-applied)
and bassoonist **Donald Venezia**, '**76**, (music perf.) performed

Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 and Brahms' Serenade No. 1 with the New York Symphonic Arts Ensemble in New York City. The pair performed again with the orchestra in March in a performance of the music of Faure, Saint-Saens and Bizet.

Jack Doyle, '77, (music ed.) from Sidney, N.Y., was a member of the cast of Tri-Town Theatre's production of "Jekyll and Hyde," in March.

Nancy (Kelly) Feroldi, '77, (elem. ed.) retired in November 2019 as Executive Director of the ALS Association, Rhode Island Chapter, after 24 years of service. In retirement, she is volunteering for The Johnny Cake Center food pantry and the Women's Club of South County.

Marian "Molly" Anderson, '78, (elem. ed.) received her second National Board Re-certification in Teaching English as a New Language in October 2019. She was originally Nationally Board Certified in 2000. Molly retired after 30 years of teaching In Florida and is currently teaching high school ESL in the Buncombe County Schools in Asheville, N.C.

Todd S. Ruppel, '79, (bus. admin.) received the Laurance S. Rockefeller Award for Community Service. He is President and Cofounder of Rivertown Runners with Kristen Idalski, an organization developing community running events with the purpose of raising money to benefit local charities and organizations. He is a Vice President of Chubb Tempest Re in Stamford, Conn., and he and his wife, Roberta, live in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y.

1980s

Josie DiVincenzo, '81, (theatre arts) received an outstanding review in The Buffalo News for her performance in the one-woman show, "What I Thought I Knew," at the Jewish Repertory Theatre in Getzville, N.Y.

Karla M. Digirolamo, '82, (psych.) was named Founding Executive Director of the new Women's Institute at Russell Sage College. She formerly was Executive Director of the Bleeding Disorders Association of Northeastern New York.

Brent P. Sheldon, '82, (biology) is retired after a 32-year career with the Chautauqua County Health Department's Division of Environmental Services. He was recently re-elected to his fifth term as a Jamestown City Councilman and appointed Chairman of the Public Safety Committee.

David Heid, '83, (applied music/ piano) was recently named Director of Duke Opera Theater. This year marks David's 25th year on the faculty at Duke University, working in the piano and voice

Timothy "Tim" N. Nobles, '85, (soc. stds./sec. ed.) was inducted with the Class of 2020 into the Chautaugua Sports Hall of Fame in February. He teaches at Pine Valley Central School in South Dayton.

Damon R. Miller, '88, (commun.) reports that after 32 years in broadcast news he has changed careers and is Assistant Director of Facilities for Waynflete School in Portland, Maine.

1990s

Paul Preston, '92, (theatre arts) is the founder of TheMovieGuvs.net and in 2019 became co-producer of "D23: Inside Disney," a podcast of the official fan club of The Walt Disney Company. He also recently booked roles in the film "La Vraie Vie" and corporate videos for LinkedIN and Lifescope.

Kyle Tarrant, '92, (pol. sci.) retired in December 2019 from the U.S. Marine Corps as a lieutenant colonel, and works for Oracle Corp. in its National Security Group.

Andrew Weber, '92, (chem.) recently founded the Upper Hudson American Viticultural Area, a federal designation, and Upper Hudson Wine Trail, a N.Y.S. designation.

Scott Paddock, '93, (coop. engineer., physics) was appointed Chief Executive Officer at Healthcare Bluebook. He was formerly President and CEO for GuideWell Connect.

Melissa Lyon, '95, (biology) earned her master's degree in Public Health from Kaplan University, and is the Public Health Director for the Erie County (Pa.) Department of Health.

A 59-year Fredonia friendship: A navy blue Fredonia blazer

By Linda (Kauderer) Burke, '64

I met Ellen (Hitchcock) Meister in September 1960 while living in Hillman House freshman dorm; she was a friend of my assigned roommate from Niagara Falls. Friendships have always been important to me. It seems as a child when we sang the song, "Make new friends, but keep the old...one is silver and the other gold," I took these words to heart, using them as a theme throughout my life.

Ellen and I continued our friendship through four years at Fredonia, marriages, children and grandchildren, even though we never lived in the same city. Of course, it helped that our husbands thoroughly enjoyed each other's company also. As the years and then the decades flew by, we tried to meet for dinner at least once a year.



Ellen (Hitchcock) Meister, Class of 1964

This year was no exception, but it did have a surprising outcome. A few weeks ago [Fall 2019], Ellen and Bob arrived at our home for dinner and an overnight. During cocktails, Ellen casually mentioned they would be attending the 50th Anniversary Reception of the Rockefeller [Arts] Center on the Fredonia campus over the upcoming weekend.

"Really?" I replied. "I clearly remember Nelson Rockefeller coming to Fredonia every year and marching through campus like a king. That's when I would wear my Fredonia blazer and we would line the campus to welcome him."

"What?" said Ellen, her eyes flashing. "You had a Fredonia blazer? I never had one. What did it look like?"

I started to laugh telling her I had just noticed it the other day at the very back of our front hall closet and thinking at the time how old that must be...about 60 years old! I am not a saver so to see it there was rather surprising. To the closet I went and brought it out, taking off the protective plastic covering. Surprisingly enough it was in excellent condition, just missing one brass button. I am dismayed to say I could get but one arm into it, however Ellen, who has maintained her college weight, slipped it on easily; it fit perfectly!

Needless to say, we all decided she had to take the blazer and wear it to the Rockefeller reception. She would need to find a brass button to sew on but otherwise it was perfect. We chuckled throughout the evening thinking of her wearing the blazer with the Fredonia crest on the pocket proudly announcing 1964, our graduation year. "Everyone will know how old I am," she lamented.

Well, a few days later I received an email from Ellen including a photo of her wearing the blazer. She had paired it with a white shirt, white pants and several gold bracelets; she looked like a Ralph Lauren ad.

Her email said, "The blazer was the buzz of the evening. The college president, the chairman of the board [College Council] and several longtime professors were all interested in the 59-year-old blazer with the 1964 crest. No one knew something like that existed."

Now, if only I had saved my freshman beanie!

fredonia.edu/alumni Continued ▶

Abraham Ferraro, '96, (art) constructed his installation, "NOT the Red Button" at St. Bonaventure University's Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts.

Dr. Casey T. Jakubowski, '98, (social stds./sec. ed., history) was a panelist on a virtual presentation on rural education in March at the 2020 Local Government lab at SUNY Rockefeller Institute of Government. He presented on rural education reform in New York state. He is also the author of the book, "Thinking About Teaching," by Edumatch.

Certificate) joined the Vermont Symphony Orchestra double bass section in the 2019-2020 season. He also continues to serve in his previous appointments as Principal Bassist of the Norwalk (Conn.) Symphony, Assistant Principal Bass of the Springfield (Mass.) Symphony and conductor of the Shoreline Youth String Ensemble in Connecticut.

2010s

Joseph C. lanaconi, '10, '12, (music ed., music. perf.) who teaches grades 4 to 12 band and several high school music classes, reports owner of Park Place Acupuncture, PLLC, with her office in Fredonia.

Kyle Sackett, '12, (music ed.) and Kateri Gormley-Sackett, '12, (music ed., music perf.), moved to Madison, Wis., this summer, and Kyle will begin working on his Doctor of Musical Arts (D.M.A.) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a University Fellow. They also look forward to building Kateri's private voice studio.

Jacob C. Skudlarek, '12, (interdis. stds./environ. sci.) graduated as a forest ranger in December 2019 from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's 22nd Basic

College Conservatory of Music's production of "Rest in Pieces – In Memory of Opera" in March. She earned a master's degree in Opera Performance from Arizona State University and is now in Bard College's Graduate Vocal Arts Program.

Kristen (Meier) Hada, '14, (adv. cert./school bldg. lead.) is Assistant Principal at Maryvale High School in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

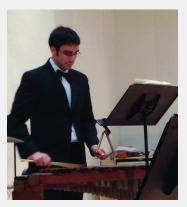
Carl Lam, '14, (commun./ journalism, audio-radio) is beginning studies in the Professional MBA program at the State University at Buffalo this fall.



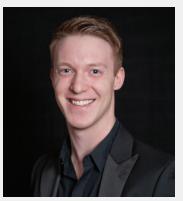
Dr. Shannon (Reedy) Coleman, '02



Alexander (Smith) Svensen, '07



Joseph C. Ianaconi, '10, '12



Matthew Glover, '15

2000s

Robert Egan, '00, (commun.) from Johnson City, was hired as Music Director for Tri-Town Theatre's production of "Jekyll and Hyde."

Janae Longo, '00, (music. theatre) was hired as a Cruise Director for Carnival Cruise Lines.

Dr. Shannon (Reedy) Coleman, '02, (elem. ed.) graduated with a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and Quantitative Methods in May 2019 from the State University at Buffalo.

Timothy Cupello, '06, (interdis. std./sport mgmt.) is Men's Soccer Head Coach at the University of California Riverside. He was recently named to the NCAA Soccer Playing Rules Committee.

Scott Bye, '07, (vis. arts/sculpture) built the large scale sculpture, "Scala," made from ladders, on the Kenan Center campus in Lockport, N.Y., his home town.

Alexander (Smith) Svensen, '07, (music ed., music perf., Performer's

that his school district, St. Regis Falls (N.Y.) Central School, was named a "Best Community for Music Education" by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. While at Fredonia, he was also a percussion graduate assistant.

Katie (Christian) Mulheron, '11, (psych.) was recently promoted to Campus Program Manager at Paychex in Rochester, N.Y.

Kyle van Schoonhoven, '11, (music ed.) sang the role of Chekalinsky in the production of "Queen of Spades" with the Lyric Opera of Chicago in February.

Rachel D'Alfonzo, '12, (vis. arts and new media) was featured at Starlight Studio and Art Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y., in its "Side By Each" series

Rachel Mulcahy, '12, (music. theatre) appeared in the Geva Theatre Center/Syracuse Stage production of "Once," in one of the lead roles as the Ex-Girlfriend.

Julian Pierce, '12, (interdis. stds.) is a licensed acupuncturist and

School for Uniformed Officers. He is currently a forest ranger in Schoharie County.

Betsy Thayer, '12, (public account.) was named Director of Fiscal Services at The Resource Center in Jamestown.

Ashley Bereziuk, '13, (music bus.) was recently appointed Manager of Donor Relations for the Hospice and Palliative Care Buffalo Foundation.

Dr. Zachary Kiendl, '13, (interdis. stds./exercise sci.) has joined Brookside Chiropractic Center in Jamestown. He earned his Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 2019 from D'Youville College in Buffalo, N.Y.

Elizabeth "Libbi" Martin, '13, (public account.) has been hired as a Staff Accountant for the 2020 tax season by AM Suchar Accountants of Jamestown.

Ashley Senske, '13, (history) was named Jamestown City Historian.

CodyRay Caho, '14, (music perf.) appeared as Harlequin in Bard

Patrick Miller, '14, (sport mgmt.) is Events and Marketing Coordinator, and Recreation Manager, for the city of Glenwood Springs, Colo.

Dr. Joel Newburg, '14, (interdis. stds./exercise sci.) has joined the staff of providers at the Chautauqua Center's Dunkirk and Jamestown sites. He earned his Doctor of Chiropractic degree at the New York Chiropractic College in Seneca Falls, N.Y., and is the owner of Newburg Spine and Sports in Dunkirk.

Nathan Sloan, '14, (music perf.) from Gilbertsville, N.Y., was a member of the cast of Tri-Town Theatre's production of "Jekyll and Hyde."

Brad Costa, '15, (soc. stds./adol. ed.) was named varsity boys basketball coach at Eastern Alamance High School in North Carolina. He was formerly a varsity assistant and head JV coach. He teaches Civics and Economics, as well as AP Government, in the school's Social Studies department, and earned

his master's degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Dr. Kaitlyn Crossan, '15,

(biology) has earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), and will enter surgery/general residency training at McLaren Greater Lansing in Lansing, Mich. While at Fredonia, she was the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

Matthew Glover, '15, (music perf.) was named Executive Director of the Billings (Mont.) Youth Orchestra. He also serves the Billings Symphony Orchestra &

Michael J. Hawk, '16, (music perf.) was scheduled to make his international debut and role debut as the clever and mischievous barber, Figaro, in "The Barber of Seville," at the Daegu Opera House in South Korea in April; however, the festival was cancelled due to COVID-19. He completed a second year at LA Opera as part of the Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist program, and appeared in the LA Opera production of "Roberto Devereaux" as Sir Walter Raleigh, performing alongside Met regulars Ramon Varaas, Anaela Meade and Quinn Kelsey. This summer, he was scheduled to perform

Brandon Bunch, '17, (bus. admin./ finance, public account.) is a Staff Accountant with Chiampou Travis Besaw & Kershner LLP in Buffalo, N.Y.

Lucia Helgren, '17, (music perf., interdis. stds./arts admin.) sang the role of Cunegonde in the Syracuse (N.Y.) Opera production of "Candide" in February.

Grace Gerass, '18, (commun./ public rel.) was named Assistant Director of Communications and Alumni Engagement at the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Nursing. Molly Opp, '19, (bus. admin./ market.) is a marketing and sales consultant for WROC in Rochester, N.Y.

2020s

Avril M. King, '20, (commun./ public rel., commun./journalism) is working as a Digital Communications Specialist with Vervology in the Syracuse, N.Y., area.



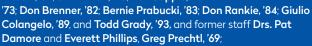
Sam Johnson, '19



Avril M. King, '20

PROGRAM REQUEST

With the help of alumni, Sports Information Director Jerry Reilly has found copies of Athletics Hall of Fame induction dinner programs missing from department files. George Whittier, '55; Pete Criscione, '61; Tim Gallineau, '62; Bill Leslie, '68; Ermanno Ritschl, '69; Jim Killian, '70; Ken Supple,



Tom Prevet, and **Jim Ulrich** assisted. Programs still missing: 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992 and 1993. Contact Mr. Reilly at *Jerome.reilly@fredonia.edu* if you have any of the missing programs.

Chorale as Manager of Artistic Operations. He earned his master's degree in trumpet performance from Washington State University and a master's degree in orchestral studies from Oklahoma State University.

Jackson Graham, '15, (public account.) was hired as Controller of The Resource Center in Jamestown.

Dr. Dimitri Landis, '15, (interdis. stds./exercise sci.) has opened a chiropractic practice in Fredonia. He earned his doctoral degree from New York Chiropractic College.

Danielle (Beckvermit) Maimone, '15, (music perf.) received a George London Encouragement Award in memory of Jaclyn Rendall at the 2020 George London Foundation Awards Competition held at Gilder Lehrman Hall at the Morgan Library & Museum in New York City.

Fiorello and cover the role of Figaro in "The Barber of Seville," as well as cover the leading role of Rene Gallimard in the world premiere of "M. BUTTERFLY" with Santa Fe Opera (a role that he workshopped in New York City this past November with the company).

Chelsea Ortolano, '16,

(bus. admin./market.) is an Administrative Assistant with Chiampou Travis Besaw & Kershner LLP in Buffalo, N.Y.

Fredonia alumni based in Buffalo, N.Y., Daeil Kim, '20, (commun./video prod.) and Melanie Sudyn, '17, (commun./public rel.) screened a preview of their forthcoming feature film, "White Demise" at the Aurora Theatre in East Aurora in February. They spent three years making the film, which they are submitting to 50 film festivals in the U.S. and Canada this year and hope to land a distributor for the film for wider theatre distribution in 2021.

Alexis Gigliello, '18, (commun./ public rel.) who participated in Fredonia's Leadership program, is Coordinator for Development at the American Lung Association in New York's Buffalo, N.Y., office.

Jeffrey Kringer, '18, (music. theatre) won the 2019
BroadwayWorld Milwaukee
Awards' Best Actor in a Musical
Award for his role in "West Side
Story" with the Milwaukee
Repertory Theater. He also
appeared off-Broadway in
"About Love," a new play by Will
Pomerantz, at The Sheen Center
Off-Broadway. Brian Staton, '18,
(theatre prod. and design) was the
scenic designer.

Sam Johnson, '19, (geochem.) has joined the firm of P.W. Grosser as a field hydrogeologist/ environmental scientist based out of its new Saratoga Springs, N.Y., office. Submit Class Notes at fredonia.edu/classnote or send to the Alumni Affairs Office, Alumni House.

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

Marriages

Kristina Kitzen, '10, (history) to Michael Harlan

Dominick Maimone to **Danielle** Beckvermit, '15 (music perf.).

Deaths*

ALUMNI

Ruth (Munney) Rudolph, Class of 1940

Ethelea "Lou" (Mastor) Wardner. Class of 1948

Mary (Paschke) Cogliano, Class of 1950

Peggy L. (Andrews) Daulton, Class of 1950

Marion "Polly" (Hequembourg) MacFadden, 1950

Joan Marguerite (Larson) Lebold, Class of 1951

Marlene A. (Pittman) Collins, Class of 1956

Joan A. (Civilette) Dunning, Class of 1956

Robert "Bob" J. Erickson. Class of 1956

Floyd "Herk" Hughes, Class of 1957

Wanda Jacqueline (Godfrey) Johnson, Class of 1959

Verdun L. Kerswell, Class of 1960

Dr. Merrill J. "MJ" Palmer, Class of 1961

Peter P. Kent, Class of 1962

Susan (Karin) Matesevac. Class of 1963

Nancy Olga (Weber) Renyhart, Class of 1965

Angelo J. Pillo, Class of 1966

John J. Abrams, 1968

Barbara Kirkpatrick, Class of 1968

Gary Dydyk, Class of 1969

Onaje Allan Gumbs, Class of 1971

Kenneth H. Powers, II.

Class of 1971

Joseph Maduri, Class of 1972

Tom Robinson, Class of 1974

Kellyann Simon, Class of 1974

Randall J. Johnson, Class of 1978

Sharon (Smith) Hickman. Class of 1979

Cynthia A. (Wolanin) Cunningham, Class of 1980

Richard M. Ives. Class of 1981

Michael R. Ward. Class of 1981

Jeanine M. (Nigro) Neal, Class of 1984

Paul R. Osterman, Class of 1984

Brenda (Twoguns) Jimerson, Class of 1985

David Thorpe, Class of 1986

Glenda B. (White) Davis, Class of 1990

Cynthia "Cindy" L. Gabriel, Class of 1991

Daryle C. (deFay) Sander, Class of 1991

Amy K. (Flewelling) Gregory, Class of 1992

Karen Volpe Preston, Class of 1993

Suzanne M. Swift-Spencer, Class of 1993

Michelle (Pinkney) Trombley, Class of 1995

Mark F. Clarke, Class of 1997 Kara Grace Hall, Class of 2017

FACULTY/EMERITI

Dr. Lee Braude, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology; Executive Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, 1968-2004

Dr. Marvin Kohl, Professor, Chair, Department of Philosophy; SUNY Faculty Exchange Scholar,

Dr. Myron Luntz, Professor, Chair, Department of Physics, 1989–1997

Franciska Kuharovits Safran, Librarian, Reed Library, 1973-2000

Dr. Irvin R. Schmoyer, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, 1970-1974

STAFF/RETIRED STAFF

Denilson Costa, Cleaner, 2011-2020

George G. Grover, Assistant Director, Public Safety/University Police, 1973-1990

Patricia A. Halas, Typist, Fenton Hall Library; Library Clerk 3, 1965-2003

Phyllis L. Pilarim. Faculty Student Association (food services)

Earline Smith. Cleaner, 1976-2004

*Memorials may be directed to a scholarship established with the Fredonia College Foundation. See fredonia.edu/foundation.

A copy of our most recently filed financial report is available from the Charities Reaistry of the New York State Office of the Attorney General at 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

'New York City and the Marx Brothers' the theme of Freedonia Marxonia 2020

The annual festival saluting the connection between Fredonia and the Marx Brothers will be held differently this year. Author and performer Noah Diamond



will present his illustrated lecture "Home Again: The Marx Brothers and New York City," directed by Amanda Sisk, as an online event on Oct. 2 - Groucho Marx's 130th birthday. Mr. Diamond was one of the organizers of New York City's 2014 Marxfest; the creative force behind bringing the Marx Brothers' 1924 musical "I'll Say She Is" to the off-Broadway stage in 2016; and writer and performer of "400 Years in Manhattan," an award-winning show at the 2019 United Solo Theatre Festival in New York City. He is currently a co-host of the Marx Brothers Council Podcast. Mr Diamond was guest speaker for Freedonia Marxonia 2017.

Please watch for details about the time and specifics on how to access the event. Contact Cindy Yochym via email at Cynthia. Yochym@fredonia.edu for information.

Mr. Diamond's presentation is supported by a grant from the Carnahan Jackson Humanities Fund of the Fredonia College Foundation. Freedonia Marxonia is supported by the foundation's Hahn Family Freedonia Marxonia Fund.

Fredonia's Career Development Office...

Working Remotely: An opportunity to recalibrate



The COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything we have known. People are rethinking their values and what is important to them. Thoughts concerning commuting, quality of life, satisfaction levels, and work life balance are rising to the forefront. There is no going back as U.S. workers are increasingly doing their jobs from home as a result of the crisis.

Telework, also referred to as telecommuting, includes working from home, mobile work, flexible work, and remote work. According to a recent Gallop poll, 62 percent of those employed in the U.S. indicate that they have worked from home during the pandemic. Digging deeper, data revealed that 60 percent of American workers would prefer to continue working remotely after the health crisis passes. Workers cite increased productivity, creativity, flex time, and agility in handling the unexpected. Employers who have found success point to benefits including increased employee productivity, happier and healthier employees, financial savings, eco-friendly outcomes, and employee loyalty.

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) reported that the demand for telework continues to rise, and recognized that telecommuting is the new reality for many U.S. employees. Further, a survey of over 5,400 LinkedIn members completed in early May found that 55 percent of respondents think their industry can be effective with people working remotely. That optimism plays out strongest in technology driven fields such as software, media, and finance. On the flip side, health care, manufacturing and retail work may not be as well-positioned for remote work, although there could be disruptions such as telemedicine and virtual doctors for less serious health issues.

If you are interested in exploring telework opportunities, search using the key word "remote" in traditional job search sites such as Indeed, Career Builder, FlexJobs.com (although there is a cost for this one — week, monthly or one-year subscription fees), and Remote.co. There are many more, but this will give you an idea of the type of opportunities that exist currently.

FREDNetwork powered by Handshake

You can also search for remote opportunities in the Career Development Office's FREDNetwork powered by Handshake, the leading career platform used by more than 250,000 employers and Fortune 500 companies. The career management system intuitively connects you to relevant job opportunities based on your profile, interests, and search activity.

Login today at https://fredonia.joinhandshake.com/register to create your account and complete your profile so that you can put your best self forward to employers. Search for "remote" job opportunities, or simply search through all the job listings in your field of interest.

Alumni – Search for jobs

Register for your personal alumni account by clicking on the Student/Alumni button. Once your account is set up, you can begin exploring thousands of opportunities that are tailored to your interests!

Employers – Host a remote internship

If you have an idea for a remote internship working with your company or organization, you can create an employer account and post opportunities for students. Call us with your ideas and we can discuss these in more detail and help you get started. Once your account is approved, you can begin posting jobs, registering for events, and more!

Remember the Career Development Office (CDO) is here to assist you as long as you need. 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. You can also visit the CDO's website at www.fredonia.edu/cdo to schedule a virtual appointment.





Call (716) 673-3327 Email careers@fredonia.edu Web fredonia.edu/cdo



Help recruit the next generation of Fredonians!

You can make an important impact on your alma mater by engaging with future Blue Devils. By becoming a Fredonia Alumni Recruiter you can help recruit students wherever you are.

Working with prospective students is a fun and rewarding experience. One of the most powerful and impactful recruiting tools is the experience of successful alumni who are proud of their time at Fredonia and who want to share their stories.

When you are a Fredonia Alumni Recruiter, you take part in college fairs near you, helping to expand Fredonia's footprint in communities across the country. It allows you to remain connected with your beloved Fredonia campus, enhance the value of your degree by attracting qualified students, and create opportunities for future Fredonians.

To learn more about becoming a Fredonia Alumni Recruiter, and to sign up, go to *fredonia.edu/recruiter* today!

