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The Achiever: December 2012

The College at Brockport

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The Achiever

THE ARTHUR O. EVE OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

**The College at
Brockport
Division of
Enrollment and
Student Affairs**

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Rolling On

I hope each of you has had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday and you are ready to run the last leg of this race. As we roll on towards the end of the Fall 2012 semester it is my hope that you have taken heed to my words in the last newsletter, encouraging you to really devote your time and attention to firming up your efforts in each of your courses. I hope you are on course to really achieving your goals for every course, so that you will then receive the best grade possible.

We want to remind you of several things that are important for you. Please make sure you are working with your counselor. Please remember that there are things you must be preparing for if you will be returning Fall 2013 especially about financial aid. You must be prepared to file your 2013 – 2014 FAFSA after January and prior to February 15th of next year. It will be important to encourage your parents and make sure that both of you file your 2012 federal income tax return as soon as possible after January 1st.

Now as we edge towards the end of the semester I look forward to celebrating with you on December 5 at our holiday celebration in the Gallery. I also want to encourage you to remember that this is the season of giving, so please help us to help those that are less fortunate than ourselves.

Finally, I want to wish each of you a safe and happy holiday season, a prosperous New Year, and a peaceful semester break.



Volume XVIII Issue III

December 2012

Words of Wisdom:

*"Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared."
-Buddha*

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Financial Aid News

The end of the semester is quickly approaching. This is a busy time of year in the financial aid process. There are tasks you need to do before you leave for the winter break, **and** tasks you need to do during the winter break.

The following are your tasks to accomplish prior to the end of the term:

- Make sure you pre-register **and** affirm your enrollment. You will not receive your last EOP direct check until these tasks are completed.
- Make sure you examine your Spring'13 student bill and financial aid award very carefully to make sure they both are accurate.
- Make sure you remember that the alumni fee is optional and that Easy Money is a charge, not financial aid.
- Check your semester meal plan balance. Always remember that any fall term balance carries over to the spring term. Make sure you also remember that at the end of the academic year in May, any remaining balance is forfeited.
- Make sure you address any holds on your account, prior to the winter break. Certain holds can impact your ability to register and may impact your ability to remain at Brockport.
- Complete a Federal Title IV Authorization. This form allows Federal financial aid to pay for miscellaneous account charges.

The following are your tasks to accomplish during the winter break:

- You need to start the financial aid application process for the 13/14 academic year.
- Make sure you know your PIN for the financial aid application process. If you don't know it, you may request it by going to www.pin.ed.gov Your parent must also request a Federal PIN.
- As returning students, your FAFSA will be available at www.fafsa.ed.gov **after January 1, 2013.**
*** Don't forget that there is a link to TAP (NY State aid) when you reach the end of the FAFSA application.**
- You and any appropriate parent(s) must start gathering the needed income documentation as quickly as possible in January. This is separate from when you actually file your tax forms with the government.
- As soon as you have the accurate information available, you should start the financial aid renewal process. This is accomplished by going to the FAFSA Web site and using your PIN to access your records.
- If you had a Dependency Override in the past you must obtain and complete the Dependency Override Update Request Form (Form I12). You can obtain the form from the Financial Aid Office's online Forms Center.
- Make sure you bring either the signature page or confirmation page to your EOP counselor. You need to apply for financial aid by February 15, 2013. Failure to so do will result in your EOP direct check being blocked.
- Pay close attention to your Brockport e-mail. A notification will be sent if you are in danger of not meeting Federal Academic Progress standards at the end of the Spring 2013 semester. If you receive this warning you may need to meet with your EOP counselor to develop a plan to excel during the spring semester.
- As always, make sure you work with your EOP counselor to ensure a successful financial aid application process. Have a safe and happy break!

Academic Services

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! HEAR YE! There is a wonderful opportunity to earn college credit for knowledge you already have. This is particularly valuable for students who are native speakers of another language such as Spanish. The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) helps you receive college credit for what you already know, for a fraction of the cost of a college course.

Developed by the College Board, CLEP is the most widely accepted credit-by-examination program, available at more than 2,900 colleges and universities including the College at Brockport. There are currently thirty-three exams to choose from. The current cost is around \$100. Many of our EOP students have availed themselves of this opportunity. One restriction is that you cannot have earned college credit in the area for which you want to take the test. Please see your counselor for details. The web site is: <http://clep.collegeboard.org/>

EOP's Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Program

The PAL Program will be ending for the fall semester during the last week of classes. Please stay tuned for information regarding the days and times of the SPRING PAL Program, which will begin during the second week of classes

EOP's NEW *Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Program* offers students another opportunity to practice their learning. We offer guided study groups for specific classes. The groups are facilitated by peer fellows, a student who, like our peer tutors, has earned a superlative grade in the class and is recommended by the professor.

Students attending can expect the peer fellow to support them through the material they want to practice, helping them not just understand challenging content, but also realize that they have been learning better skills as they practice.

Any student enrolled in the specific class may attend the study group. You'll find that this opportunity is not just for students having trouble. Successful students use this opportunity to maintain and increase their competence.

For more information please contact Debra Joseph-McEwen, EOP Academic Coordinator at djoeshephm@brockport.edu or 585-395-5411.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:15pm – 11:15pm
Where: Drake Memorial Library (Keifer Room)
What subjects/courses: Varies Math courses, PSH 110, PSH 202, BIO 111, pre-requisite nursing courses and writing

G.P.S. Mentoring Program Receives Good Remarks From All Participants

After speaking with several mentors and mentees, the feedback in regards to the G.P.S. program has been phenomenal. Mentors are reporting that mentees have done a great job of accepting their responsibilities as members of this program and they are seeking out their mentors and asking thoughtful questions with a desire to learn more about their desired profession, they are inquiring about internship opportunities that will provide valuable experience, they are discussing how they can use their degrees as valuable tools when searching for jobs after college, as well as the availability of professional development opportunities. Mentees have shared they feel more comfortable going to their academic departments and asking for help, they have been given good academic advisement regarding course schedules, they have been encouraged to take a more proactive approach to their academics and life, and their mentors have provided essential networking contacts that will be beneficial as they research and apply for potential career opportunities.

We are looking forward to matching more students in the spring semester. With limited spots available for the spring semester, PLEASE take advantage of this wonderful opportunity that can help enhance your career knowledge and your overall relationship with your academic department. We will be accepting applications for the spring semester between December 1, 2012 and December 14, 2012 in the EOP Office because we would like to finalize matches before the fall semester ends. Participants currently enrolled in the G.P.S. Program have given great reviews about the benefits of the G.P.S. Program and the valuable relationships they have built. G.P.S. is doing our part to promote student success and we are excited to continue working with more students.

Attention all student athletes!!

A new EOP Support Group will begin in the spring semester to meet the continuing needs of our student athletes. The Athletes Support Group is designed to create a safe and inclusive environment in which EOP student athletes can come together to build positive relationships and share meaningful experiences. All athletes will be expected to participate in this group, which will be facilitated by Gabriel Marshall. Each of you will be contacted as soon as possible about a starting date, but do not hesitate to contact him with any questions you may have, at 395-5434 or gmarshal@brockport.edu.

EOP EVENTS

Please join the EOP family at our annual Holiday Celebration!!!

EOP will be hosting a holiday celebration on Wednesday, December 5th, 2012, in the Gallery, from 1pm-3pm. We invite you to come share in this experience with your friends and fellow students of EOP, socialize, have a bite to eat, and enter your name in the raffle for an opportunity to win great prizes! We'll have food, music, and activities; all you need to bring is you and your holiday spirit!!! We will also celebrate the December birthdays at the event so come and join us. We are looking for all of our EOP family to come out and be a part of this wonderful end of the semester happening!



Career Spotlight

Hello EOP Family,

Based on the career surveys that most of you were so kind to participate with, it has been determined that the workshops you were most interested in being a part of are as follows: resume and cover letter development, and how to find career and internship opportunities. We are looking forward to collaborating with Career Services in the month of January 2013 to have these topics presented for your academic and personal growth. Please read your EOP newsletters and look for postings within the EOP offices as to dates and times. Thank all of you once again and have a great holiday.

To Nursing Intents and accepted Nursing Majors:

During the last several years, we have recognized that acceptance into the Nursing Major (Program) has become more and more competitive at The College at Brockport. As a result, it is important that we in EOP do all we can to ensure that each of those students on the EOP program who has Nursing as a career goal is as informed and prepared as possible, in order to help each of you reach your goals. One of the things we have done is to develop a Nursing Support Group that is designed to assist our students in becoming both prepared and as knowledgeable as possible about the Nursing Major and career options in the helping professions. Your success is our number one priority. It is for this reason we are requiring all of those students who are identified as Nursing Intents to attend the meetings of the Nursing Support Group. We would also like to request that those of you who are presently in the Nursing Major join this group as well. Please notify Gary Owens if your course schedule prevents you from attending. This will be the only reason you will be exempted from this meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5th, 2012, at 5pm in C18 Cooper Hall (CSTEP/McNair Office), and will feature Bomie Cooper, a former CSTEP/McNair/ EOP student who graduated from the Nursing Program. Come hear him speak about his experiences in the Nursing Program and working in the field of nursing!

Student Spotlight

The College at Brockport's Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE) National Honor Society - Epsilon Rho Chapter, held its 5th annual private pinning and public induction ceremonies on Friday, November 2, 2012, to honor its 18 new inductees. Chi Alpha Epsilon was formed to recognize the academic achievements of students admitted to colleges and the universities through non-traditional criteria. Its purposes are to promote continued high academic standards, to foster increased communication among its members, and to honor academic excellence achieved by those students.

Induction criterion requires EOP students to have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or greater for two consecutive semesters.

We are looking for more active involvement from our EOP students, and encourage you to visit the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society website at www.xaehonor.com to learn information about this organization. If you have any questions please contact Debra Joseph-McEwen at (585) 395-5411 or Stephanie Kula at (585) 395-5440.



2012-2013 XAE Chapter Officers

President.....Honorable Shanai Major
 Vice President.....Honorable Daniel Beyer
 Secretary.....Honorable Daisy Moy
 Treasurer.....Honorable Nicole Kurzdiel
 Fundraising Chair.....Honorable Hakeem Banks
 Chartering Co-Advisor.....Debra Joseph-McEwen



Congratulations to the 2012 XAE Inductees!!!

Spring 2012 Inductees

Lance Bridges
 Laura Gallagher
 Vanessa Moreira
 Laquanda Onyemeh
 Alise Underwood
 Sherly Urena

Fall 2012 Inductees

Abu Bility	Fanta Kaba
Daniela Bulos	Nicson Martinez
Dana Clegg	Curtis Manson
Karina Cruz	Davina Manson
William Fleth	Deanna Poczciwinski
Erica Fardette	Shaquille Rivera
Teyanee Harewood	Deanna Robinson
Eoin Hughes	

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Visit.
Rakov Building, Ground

Congratulations to our most recent XAE Inductees!

