February 2017 "The Achiever"

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FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Moving Forward,

It’s a little late but, welcome back to all of you for the spring semester. I just can’t get over how quickly time is passing. We are now at the end of February and before you know it will be May and the semester will be over. To some of you that will mean graduation, Yeah! So I want you to not let time pass you by and you end up not doing the things you need to do to earn those As or B grades. I hope you have filed your 2017 – 2018 FAFSA and by now your file is complete, so that you can receive your financial aid package for 2017 – 2018. Remember if you delay you can lose certain limited financial aid. Time is important! If you don’t understand, I expect your counselor will be able to inform and assist you. Our goal and your goal ought to be that your financial aid package is complete before you leave this spring. Please remember, we need you to help EOP on Advocacy Day, March 8, 2017. Please go with us to Albany to ensure our funding for EOP is what it should be. Remember this is for you and about your funds.

Finally, I want to thank you for a wonderful fall semester. Help us make an even more successful Spring 2017.
Welcome Graduate Intern, Renée Finnemore!

I am a graduate student in the Counselor Education program here at Brockport. I am working in the EOP program for my internship in my concentration of college counseling. I am also working on requirements for the bridge program in mental health counseling. After graduation, I hope to work in a counseling center on a college campus, as I thoroughly enjoyed my practicum experience at the Counseling Center at Hazen. I earned my Bachelor’s degree in Human Services at Empire State College and prior to entering the program at Brockport, I worked in volunteer training and development at a local nonprofit. In my free time I enjoy hiking and spending time with

Look at What Happened Abroad!
The Ghana Experience – Winter 2017

During the winter session, Daryl McCullough was able to study abroad to Ghana, West Africa. He was able to tie this trip into his academic major of African & African-American Studies as well as his academic minor in communications. “The trip was a very humbling experience and makes you appreciate things on a different level.” Above is a picture of Daryl and some of the children from one of the villages they visited.
As you have been made aware, there have been major changes to the financial aid renewal process for 2017-18. You should have filed your FAFSA and TAP renewals by now. If you have not yet so done, contact your counselor immediately. Everybody needs to pay particular attention and all supplemental documentation requests. You must complete the process as quickly as possible if you wish to get all the aid to which you are entitled. Some students are in danger of losing their SEOG if their renewal process is not completed on time. Your EOP check will be blocked if you have not completed your FAFSA. There are a number of other tasks related to your bill and financial aid which you need to accomplish at this time.

Make sure you affirmed your enrollment for the semester. You should also very carefully examine your student bill to make sure you understand everything on it. You must work with the Office of Student Accounts to address any money you owe the college. Late charges will be assessed. Pay particular attention to Easy Money, alumni fee and meal plan status. All of these charges can impact a potential refund. Being aware of the amount of your refund will help you plan for personal expenses for the spring term. You should decide if you really need the refund. Using all or part of the money to pay down your loans is always a wise idea. If you are ready to graduate this term make sure you are aware of your loan repayment obligations and options. Make sure you complete the applicable loan exit counseling processes. Don't forget to talk with your counselor about graduate school financial options as well as the tuition waiver. Many of you will be or are contemplating working part time. Your first priority should always be your studies. Ask yourself if you really need that extra money. Always remember that the EOP family will always be here for you and ready to talk with you about these issues.

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EOP’s One-On-One Peer Tutoring Program

EOP students: need a little help reviewing for a class, deepening your understanding of specific course content and/or improving your study strategies, and increasing your chances of academic success and obtaining a healthy GPA?

EOP’s One-On-One Peer Tutoring Program provides individualized academic support to students in their specific course content areas of study to assist in further expanding their understanding of the various processes, concepts and principles of the course material; as well as offer opportunity for students to practice their learning. The peer tutors are fellow students, who have earned a superlative grade in the specific course of study and who are recommended by the professor.

Students in their one-on-one session(s) can expect the peer tutor to support them in addressing the particular academic needs specific to their course(s) of concern (i.e. assistance in understanding how to work through solving problems, reviewing, test preparation, explanation of concepts, etc.).

To acquire this support service, see your counselor, complete a ‘Tutoring Request Form’ and submit it to Andrea Parker, EOP Academic Coordinator in Cooper Hall, Rm. C25A or email ajparker@brockport.edu
Hello Students,

Here at The College at Brockport, there are numerous career related services offered to students. The Career Center is one that can be very useful to you. At the Career Center, they are specialists who prepare you for the real world. The specialist help you build a strong résumé, make business cards, and the center also has a closet where you can pick out professional clothes for future interviews. It is important to prepare yourself for the career field and experience ahead of time, along with the expectations of what employers and graduate schools are looking for. Whenever you have a chance, check out the Career Center for questions regarding jobs and internships that are of interest. If you have any question, comments, or suggestions, feel free to contact Jonathan Santana at 585-395-5440.

Leadership Development Program

Are you looking for ways to deepen your understanding of what it takes to be effective in a role of leadership and experiences/opportunities that will assist you in acquiring the skills and knowledge that will make you stand out above the rest?

The Leadership Development Program offers students the opportunity to engage in a variety of experiences that have been shown to have a significant impact on students’ leadership development. The program utilizes the following methods to encourage leadership development in a diverse world:

- Engaging workshops and seminars
- Mentoring relationships with faculty, staff and students
- Ongoing opportunities for community service
- Discussions with peers about issues of diversity, privilege and social justice
- Social action projects within the community
- Annual leadership conference, planned by Capstone Certificate participants which allows students to
- Develop relationships with Brockport alumni who serve as session presenters

Become a part of this dynamic program which engages nearly 400 students, 200 faculty, staff and alumni annually. Students who participate in the Leadership Development Program are shown to have significantly higher rates of experience with high impact practices and other indicators of student engagement, based on results from the National Survey of Student Engagement and Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership.

For more information and to register for the Leadership Development Program, please go to the Leadership Development Program’s webpage at www.brockport.edu/leadership
The Achiever

The Educational Opportunity Program Presents:

**WOMEN OF DISTINCTION**
**Spring 2017 Semester**
**Calendar**

- **02/28**
  - For our Daughters/Zumba
  - Mercedes Holloway will come and share her inspirational story of how she beat breast cancer. We will have a discussion about healthy life choices followed by a Zumba class.
  - Union room 185

- **03/07**
  - Dinner and a Movie
  - We will watch “Prison Song” and have a discussion on our choices and how they can impact our future. We will also discuss the impact on the family unit when the father is in prison.
  - Union room 185

- **03/28**
  - Stress Management and Coping Skills
  - Learn how to effectively manage stress and cope with life’s challenges in a healthy manner.
  - Union room 114

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**The Educational Opportunity Program Presents:**

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**Celebration**

Friday, February 24th
From 2:00-4:00 PM
Eagles Lookout (Tuttle)
Looking for answers to your questions regarding XAE? 
Look no further… here are your answers!!!

What Is XAE?
- The Chi Alpha Epsilon(XAE) Epsilon Rho Chapter is an Honor Society at The College at Brockport that was chartered in 2008

What Is XAE's purpose? XAE's purpose is to...
- Promote continued high academic standards
- Foster increased communication among its members
- Honor academic excellence achieved by those students
- To promote civic engagement through community involvement

Why should I become a member of XAE?
- To have your outstanding academic achievements formally recognized and honored
- To motivate current and future EOP students to strive for high academic goals

How can I become a part of XAE?
- Students are eligible for this membership if they have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher for the last two consecutive semesters

Who can I talk to if I have further questions about XAE?
- Feel free to contact Amber McAninch, XAE Co-Advisor at: (585) 395-5643 or amcaninc@brockport.edu

ALSO...
We encourage you to visit the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society website at www.xaeonor.com to learn information about this organization.

Now that you have answers to your questions regarding this awesome honor society, We challenge you to strive for academic excellence AND...
We are looking for more active involvement from our EOP students!!!
Spotlight Students

Olubunmi Gbajumo

**Major:** Political Science & Communication  
**Status:** Senior

Olubunmi Gbajumo is a native from Brooklyn, NY and is one semester away from graduating. Olubunmi has completed three internships relative to his area of study, along with a full time schedule and a part time job. Olubunmi is also founder of the Men of Color Organization at The College at Brockport where his responsibilities are to coordinate events, oversee the board members and promote the organization across campus. Olubunmi is also interested in pursuing a Master’s Degree in hopes of expanding his education. His ultimate goal is to get into law school to become a judge.

Emmanuel Kobi

**Major:** Finance  
**Status:** Junior

Emmanuel is from Bronx, NY and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. Before Brockport, Emmanuel received an Associate of Arts in Accounting from Alfred State College. Emmanuel overcomes challenges by setting goals; one of them was to earn at least a 3.0 GPA. This past semester, Emmanuel achieved a GPA of 3.23 – the highest he has earned at Brockport and surpassing his goal. He persevered through the adversity and came up on top. Tentatively, Emmanuel wants to pursue a Master degree in Accounting or Finance. He enjoys working out or playing basketball.
The Educational Opportunity Program

Presents:

The 38th Annual Honors and Recognition Banquet

Saturday April 8, 2017
from 6-9pm
in the
Seymour Union Ballroom

Tickets: $18.50
*Free for all Honorees*