The Achiever March 2014

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FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Middle of the Road

Sometimes all I can say is Wow as the time speeds by! Its midterm and Spring Break has come and gone. Now we are heading for the home stretch towards the end of the Spring 2014 semester. Now I hope each and every one of you really have a tight control of your courses up to this point and you are really ready to put your best efforts forward, for the second half of the semester, to get the best grade possible.

Now there is some other business we have to take care of. This includes reminding you about completing your FAFSA for 2014 – 2015. By now you should have done so if not, remember, the later you do it, the later you will receive your Financial Aid Package for 2014 – 2015. Remember it is the goal of the program and it should be your goal also to have a completed financial aid package prior to the end of the semester. Now that just makes sense, right?

Also remember, each of you will be required to pre-register for Fall 2014. The only exceptions are those of you who are graduating and have submitted your graduation application.

Now on a lighter but a very important note, on April 12, 2014, we in EOP will celebrate our 45th Anniversary at The College at Brockport at the 35th Annual Honors & Recognition Banquet in the Seymour College Union Ballroom. It is my sincere hope that each of you will make sure you are present at the banquet to either receive your award and/or to celebrate those of your peers. It is very important that each of you is present at this awards banquet. So please I will look for you and I am sure you will be glad you did.
IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION FOR OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

Please make sure that you have a zero balance with the Office of Student Accounts. You want to graduate with a clean slate. If the college sends your delinquent account to the Attorney General’s office, it will have severe repercussions on your personal financial situation.

If you have taken out Federal Stafford, Perkins and/or Nursing loans while attending Brockport please make sure you complete an online exit counseling session. This is a federal requirement for all students separating from the college. You can go to The Financial Aid Loan Page for instructions or contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@brockport.edu or (585) 395-2501. The Financial Aid Office staff are willing to help you complete this process in their office.

You are obligated to pay back all outstanding student loans you have acquired. Once you leave school, your one-time six-month grace period starts for Federal Stafford Loans and your nine-month grace period for Federal Perkins and Nursing Loans begins. Federal student loans give you the option to consolidate your loans. Consolidation means that you can combine all of your federal loans into one loan. Your interest rate would become a fixed rate based on your outstanding loan amounts and the current interest rates of the loan(s) selected for consolidation. To complete the consolidation application, go to www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov or call 1-800-848-0979. If you have questions, consult with Direct Lending or the Financial Aid Office.

All of these steps are necessary to prevent negative consequences on your credit score and personal financial history due to missing payments of your student loans. Remember that there are no processing fees or penalties for prepayment. However, if you fail to repay your loans in a timely manner your account will become delinquent. If you continue to be delinquent you may go into default on your loans. You want to avoid going into default because you will be ineligible for further student loans. A negative history will prevent or delay you from developing good credit for the future. Always work with your loan servicer if you get into financial trouble.

Make sure that you have cleared up any holds on your record. They could delay your graduation and/or receiving your diploma.

Before you leave the College at Brockport, make sure you talk with your counselor about the graduate tuition waiver as well as graduate school financial aid options. Please remember that you will always be a part of the EOP family. We will need your support in helping the next generation achieve success as you have. As you progress through life, please consider contributing to the EOP family at the College at Brockport.
The Educational Opportunity Program Presents:
35th Annual Honors & Recognition Banquet

Saturday, April 12, 2014
Seymour College Union Ballroom
6:00pm-9:00pm

For More information Please Contact:
Daniel Askey, Senior Counselor@ 395-5438 in room G9C Rakov
Daneille Kruger, Graduate Counselor @ 395-5819 in room G20 Rakov
Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
EOP’s One-on-One Peer Tutoring Program provides students the opportunity to receive individualized tutorial support through being matched with a peer fellow who in many instances has had the same professor, and who has received a superlative grade in the specific subject content area in which the student requires additional help. This tutorial support program not only aids students in being academically successful, but also in acquiring and developing study skills, strategies and techniques to employ across subject content areas, throughout their academic experience and beyond.

The tutorial supports of this program are designed to address the academic needs of the student and tailored to accommodate both the schedules of the student and tutor, thus allowing for the student to meet their assigned tutor(s) as needed to maximize on their learning potential within the sessions and their academic success within their courses.

**Why are good grades important?** We live in a world with a highly competitive job market. Your grades can make the difference in your being selected for that job/career you are pursuing or being accepted for admittance into the graduate program and graduate school of your choice. You want to stand out and above the rest.

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**EOP NURSING SUPPORT GROUP**

Don’t settle for mediocrity. Get the supports you need to be all you can be academically. See your counselor, read and complete that tutoring form, submit it in person to your Academic Coordinator (Debra Joseph-McEwen).

**Wednesdays**
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
**Location: CSTEP/McNair Office, Rm C18**

**Meeting Schedule**

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This support group is designed to provide nursing intents and current students of the Nursing Program an opportunity to meet and build new relationships, meet some of the faculty of the Nursing Program gain and discuss information regarding the nursing program, discuss various careers in nursing and to share their experiences regarding issues in the field of nursing. Refreshments will be provided.

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

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**BE A MENTEE IN FALL 2014**

Are you serious about having a meaningful career after graduating from college? Is there a staff/faculty member that has spiked your interested in a specific career? If so, take advantage of the career opportunity of a lifetime. Build a lasting relationship with a knowledgeable faculty member who can help you better understand your desired career, share valuable insight about changes taking place in your career, and aid you in your growth and professional development. Sign up to become a mentee in the Educational Opportunity Program’s “G.P.S.” (Growth . . . Purpose . . . Success) mentoring program and learn from an expert. The number of spots is limited so don’t waste time in contacting Terrence Harris Program Coordinator, by phone at 395-5434 or by email at tharris@brockport.edu to set up an appointment. You can also speak
XAE NEWS!!!

The College at Brockport’s Chi Alpha Epsilon (XAE) National Honor Society - Epsilon Rho Chapter, will be holding a private pinning and induction ceremony on Friday, April 4, 2014, to honor ten new inductees. These individuals have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or greater for two consecutive semesters.

Congratulations to the upcoming Spring 2014 XAE Inductees!

Alyshia McElroy  Bana Hagos  Christina Moraza
Destiny Morrison  Gudrinis Fernandez  Joel Alfredo Baque
Jonathan Samedy  Romina Owolewa  Samantha Rogers
Yan Cheng

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 Ebonesha Graham at (585) 395-5433.

EOP’s Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Program

EOP’s 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.

When: Mondays and Wednesdays
9:15pm – 11:15pm

Where: Drake Memorial Library (Keifer Room)

What subjects: MTH, BIO, CHM, PSH, all pre-requisite nursing courses and help with writing

For more information please contact Debra Joseph-McEwen, EOP Academic Coordinator at djose1@brockport.edu or 585-395-5411.

EOP Writing Workshop

Do you need help with improving your writing skills and technique? Having difficulty formulating a thesis statement or structuring papers?

When: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm (Cooper Hall, Rm C25-A)

Thursdays: 5:00-6:00pm (Rakov, EOP Conference Room)

For more information, please contact Debra Joseph-McEwen, EOP Academic Coordinator at djose1@brockport.edu or (585) 395-5411.
WOMEN’S SUPPORT GROUP!

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Are you interested in joining a group of supportive women and gaining a support system during these stressful times or looking to build positive relationships and have a place to come and discuss your frustrations? If so, please join the Women’s Support group!

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Student Spotlight

Name: Jennifer Banker  
Major: Environmental Science  
Hometown: Morrisville, NY  
Career Goal: Work with animals  
Counselor: Dan

We have an international jet setter in the family. Jennifer will be spending the spring break on San Salvador Island in the Bahamas studying Parrot fish. We’ll all be thinking of her in the warm tropical climate.
Michele Semple is completing her last semester at The College at Brockport by participating in an internship at Huther Doyle in Rochester, NY. Huther Doyle is an alcohol and substance abuse center providing treatment to users and their families. Michele works in the Intake unit and her responsibilities include, giving breathalyzer’s to clients, completing evaluations and assessments, helping clients to set up goals, discussing frequency of use with clients and writing letters for clients on probation and parole. Michele would describe her experience so far as follows, “on internship I have grown personally by taking on more challenges than I normally would. I am eager for an evaluation; I am building more confidence within myself each and every day. Personally I have grown into a more humble and mature person. I am realizing my true purpose in life and my reason for why I chose this field. I have become more appreciative of many things in my life especially when it comes to family and close friends around me.”

Colton Seeberg is completing his last semester at The College at Brockport by participating in an internship with the Rochester Knighthawks. The knighthawks are a professional lacrosse team in the National Lacrosse league (NLL). The knighthawks are back to back champions and going for a third championship. Some of Colton’s responsibilities include writing press releases for various knighthawks events, scheduling and attending anti-bullying events in the Rochester area, running the press box, and obtaining photos for social media accounts. Lastly, Colton is responsible for supervising a community program that plans to launch in the near future called, Healthy Hawks. Healthy Hawks is designed to show kids that living and eating healthy is important and also fun. “I designed and created every aspect of the program and I am really looking forward to getting out to schools and showing kids it is fun to live a healthy lifestyle.”

Name: Hugo Avalos
Major: Biological Sciences
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014

On his way to fulfilling his dream of becoming a doctor, Hugo has made many strides and accomplishments. He has participated in four national conferences. In summer of 2013 Hugo was awarded a summer research fellowship at the University of Rochester's School of Medicine and Dentistry where he worked alongside doctors doing actual research. He has also worked as an intern in the emergency department at Strong Memorial Hospital. In keeping pace with his career goals, Hugo has conducted research during his sophomore year with the McNair program and more recently with Dr. Nedergaard at the University of Rochester's Medical School. He also plans on doing research related to his career choice with Dr. Sia, in the institute for Engaged Learning. Hugo excels academically as he has been on the dean's list every semester at The College at Brockport. He is a member of Chi Alpha Epsilon and Beta Beta Beta (Biology Honor Society).

Along with his busy schedule and academic plans, Hugo spends time volunteering at a local women’s shelter called Mercy Center. He gives back to The College at Brockport by tutoring and volunteering various ways. For down time Hugo enjoys spending time with his friends and reading science literature such as, Michio Kaku's, The Physics of the Future and Siddhartha Mukherjee’s, Cancer: Emperor of All Maladies.

Hugo’s future goals include becoming a doctor of emergency medicine with a subspecialty in pediatrics. He plans on attending the University of Rochester or Albert Einstein Medical School in New York City. Once he has completed medical school and his residency training, Hugo plans to serve in the United States Navy.
The EOP Black History Celebration held on February 25, 2014, was full of friends, food and fun. Many joined us in the Seymour Union Gallery as we paid homage to great African Americans who have made notable contributions to the advancement and equality of the Black Community.