



March 5, 2019

To SUNY Poly Faculty, Staff, and Students:

As you may know, SUNY Poly will host the 2019 Central New York Regional *For Inspiration & Recognition of Science & Technology* (FIRST) Robotics Competition (FRC) in the Wildcat Field House on our Utica campus from Thursday, March 14 through Saturday, March 16. As part of our continued commitment to supporting this event and the FIRST robotics teams which are comprised of students from around the world, I am thrilled that our faculty, staff, and students are once again helping to foster science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. In addition, this fun competition is a powerful platform for showcasing SUNY Poly's vibrant campus and a number of our unique educational opportunities.

More than 3,000 people are expected to attend this FRC event at SUNY Poly, where teams of high school students will compete on a special playing field with robots they have designed, built, and programmed. This includes one team of high school students that is hosted by SUNY Poly—FRC Team 5030 The Second Mouse. They are mentored by past and present SUNY Poly students and were part of last year's winning alliance, later competing in the international FIRST Championships in Michigan. Their story is a testament to how SUNY Poly can help open up a world of possibilities.

To make this event as successful as possible, I would like to invite everyone who is part of our SUNY Poly community to experience it first-hand and see how it motivates these young students; student involvement in FRC engagements has been proven to lead to better grades in school, along with increased attendance in college.

I also strongly encourage you to consider volunteering as a judge, game announcer, official scorer, robot inspector, or in any other supportive role ([full list here](#)) as we collaboratively ensure an excellent competition and experience for the estimated 3,000 people who plan to attend. Please complete the brief registration process [here](#) by selecting the *Central New York FIRST Regional Event*. For more information about volunteering, please [click here](#) or email martinjs@sunypoly.edu.

Thank you for your efforts that will make the 2019 CNY FIRST Robotics Competition memorable for each of our guests, as we highlight our community's strength and share our dedication to STEM-focused learning at SUNY Poly.

Sincerely,

Dr. Grace Wang
Interim President
SUNY Polytechnic Institute