PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

sunypoly.edu
The State University of New York Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly) invites applications and nominations of candidates to serve as the next President of one of the nation’s most unique and innovative institutions. SUNY Poly seeks a fierce advocate for the University at the local, state, and national level who is committed to raising the resources to carry out the strategic plan and keep the institution focused on outcomes and impact. The next President should be a highly accomplished leader who can embrace the University’s mission of combining academic excellence, world-class research, and economic development to continue SUNY Poly’s reputation of being a catalyst for creative and innovative education.
OVERVIEW:

SUNY Poly is New York’s globally recognized, high-tech educational and research ecosystem, formed from the merger of the SUNY Institute of Technology and the SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering. As a polytechnic institution, SUNY Poly offers a robust and diverse range of professional, technical, and liberal arts programs, combining theory and practice to prepare graduates for rewarding careers that will enable them to be contributing members of society. With more than 3,000 students currently enrolled, SUNY Poly recognizes that a strong, student-centered educational program is the foundation for baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral education. SUNY Poly serves as a worldwide resource for pioneering education, research and development, technology deployment, and commercialization, working collaboratively with the international micro and nanoelectronics industry and anchored by two academic locations in Utica and Albany, New York. SUNY Poly offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in the emerging disciplines of nanoscience and nanoengineering, as well as cutting-edge nanobioscience programs at its Albany campus, and undergraduate and graduate degrees in technology, including engineering, cybersecurity, computer science, and the engineering technologies; professional studies, including business, communication, and nursing; and arts and sciences, including natural sciences, mathematics, humanities, and social sciences at its Utica campus; thriving athletic, recreational, and cultural programs, events, and activities complement the campus experience.

Currently, there are 100 faculty, staff, and graduate assistants employed at SUNY Poly’s Albany campus, and 350 faculty, staff, and student assistants at SUNY Poly’s Utica campus. SUNY Poly is home to a number of accredited programs, including nursing, electrical and computer engineering, and civil engineering, as well as business, with a number of other programs currently being reviewed for expected accreditation.
President Barack Obama visited SUNY Poly’s Albany campus in 2012, telling a crowd of government, technology, and business leaders, scientists, researchers, and students, “You’ve got an outstanding university. Now I want what’s happening in Albany to happen across the country.”

ACCOLADES AND RANKINGS

SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s year-over-year rankings by U.S. News & World Report continue to soar. The institution has been named 12th in its “Best Regional Universities-North” ranking, moving ahead six positions from its 2019 ranking. SUNY Poly was also ranked 2nd in “Best Value Colleges” for Regional Universities-North, advancing nine positions from its 2019 ranking of 11th. SUNY Poly climbed one position to 2nd for the “Top Public Schools” Regional Universities-North ranking.

SUNY Poly’s Utica campus is in close proximity to both the Air Force Research Laboratory’s Information Directorate in Rome, New York, and the U.S. Army’s Fort Drum military reservation, reasons why SUNY Poly is also proud to be ranked 6th in “Best Colleges for Veterans,” up two positions from the institution’s 2019 rankings in the Regional Universities-North category.

Additionally, SUNY Poly’s online Accountancy program (Non-MBA) ranked in the top half of listed institutions at 60th out of 150 colleges; its online MBA program ranked in the top 30% of ranked institutions at 82nd out of 285 colleges; and its online Graduate Nursing program ranked 88th out of 170 ranked college programs—advancing 30 spots from 2018.

HISTORY

SUNY Polytechnic Institute was formed on March 19, 2014 when the State University of New York Board of Trustees unanimously approved SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher’s recommendation to merge the SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) in Albany and the SUNY Institute of Technology (SUNYIT) in Utica.

The transformative merger was the product of New York State’s effort to create an entity rooted in academia and capable of driving significant and sustained industrial and economic growth across the State of New York. As a result, SUNY Poly has emerged as the most dynamic and unique institution in the State University System.

SUNY Poly represents a new and necessary paradigm for public and affordable higher education, one that is cognizant and respectful of the customary academic enterprise while fostering and enabling the fast-evolving culture of discovery and innovation in today’s knowledge-driven global economy.
MISSION

SUNY Polytechnic Institute serves as an intellectually vibrant, creative, and stimulating environment for innovation, education, and outreach that prepares its students to apply basic and applied knowledge to challenges, complexities, and opportunities to advance our modern technological society. SUNY Poly:

• Provides an affordable, comprehensive, and integrated range of undergraduate and graduate educational and research programs of the highest quality;
• Provides students with a well-rounded education to prepare them as future leaders in a dynamic and diverse world by demonstrating the interconnectedness of knowledge and cultures and emphasizing the importance of continuous learning;
• Engages in the formulation and dissemination of new discoveries, exciting innovations, stimulating research endeavors, and fundamental and applied knowledge through research and creative inquiry;
• Fosters economic development and creates educational opportunities within New York, the nation, and beyond and promotes responsibility and commitment to public service; and
• Serves as a leader for innovation throughout its educational program, from theoretical principles to practical applications.

VISION

SUNY Polytechnic Institute is a vibrant community engaged in the pursuit of scholarship, public service, and intellectual and creative endeavors. SUNY Poly is a premier polytechnic institution dedicated to improving society by advancing knowledge—and its application—and promoting entrepreneurship and economic development.

VALUES

• Academic Excellence through intellectual achievement, collaboration, accomplishment in teaching, research, discovery, and scholarship, and innovative pedagogy both in the classroom and online;
• Inclusiveness and Diversity through respect, accessibility, and actions to embrace difference, experience and thought;
• Transformational Experience through student-centered curricula, strong co-curricular environment, and support of personal and professional growth;
• Integrity by celebrating academic freedom, sustaining academic responsibility, and developing an ethical citizenry;
• Civic Responsibility;
• Student Success; and
• Faculty, Staff, and Student Lifelong Relationships.

With numerous community and educational outreach events each year, SUNY Poly serves more than 25,000 individuals, including 9,000+ students, as part of its annual commitment to community outreach.
LOCATIONS

UTICA
Utica is in the geographic center of New York State, in the Mohawk Valley—a region that serves as a natural gateway to the Adirondack Mountains and Thousand Islands. The city is home to the internationally recognized Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, the Utica Symphony Orchestra, Broadway Theater League, and the Stanley Performing Arts Center.

SUNY Poly’s 400-acre Utica campus, with its bucolic rolling hills and expansive meadow grasslands, provides easy access to extensive recreational opportunities in the nearby six million acre Adirondack Park, as well as diverse urban amenities in historic Utica and Rome. Among Utica’s varied cultural jewels is its world-class mid-century modern art museum designed by renowned Architect, Philip Johnson.

Within the city limits are more than 900 acres of parks, the Utica Zoo, a municipal ski facility and youth recreation center, along with facilities for ice skating, golf, tennis, swimming, hiking and other recreational activities.

Additional recreation and entertainment attractions are a short drive from SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s Utica campus, including ski resorts, lakes, parks, campgrounds, hiking trails, and scenic views.

ALBANY
The Albany Nanotech Complex provides a unique setting for students and businesses looking to grow in the heart of New York State’s multi-billion dollar high-tech corridor. SUNY Poly’s College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering is at the site of a fully integrated research, development, prototyping and test-based integration facility that provides support for onsite corporate partners, from IBM, Samsung, and Applied Materials to Tokyo Electron, ASML, and Lam Research. Here, SUNY Poly offers relevant, world-class undergraduate and graduate studies, engaging community outreach activities and events, as well as technology acceleration and business incubation.

The regions offer employment possibilities and burgeoning industries such as nanotechnology and astronautics, among others. We are within moderate travel times to major international destinations such as New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto.
LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY)
The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive university system in the United States. The impact in New York State and across the globe begins with its 64 institutions, including research universities, academic medical centers, liberal arts colleges, community colleges, colleges of technology and an online learning network. We serve nearly 1.3 million students, including nearly 600,000 in credit bearing courses and programs and more than 700,000 through continuing education and community outreach programs. The nearly 3 million SUNY alumni are located around the globe, each making their own unique impact.

SUNY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The Board of Trustees is the governing body of the State University of New York. It consists of 18 members, 15 of whom are appointed by the Governor, by and with consent of the New York State Senate. In addition, the president of the Student Assembly serves as student trustee and the presidents of the University Faculty Senate and Faculty Council of Community Colleges serve as ex-officio trustees.

SUNY CHANCELLOR
Dr. Kristina M. Johnson is The State University of New York's 13th Chancellor, serving since September 2017. Previously, Dr. Johnson was co-founder and CEO of Cube Hydro Partners, LLC, a clean energy infrastructure company focused on building and operating hydropower plants in North America, expanding the company from one to 19 plants in five states. She has also served as Under Secretary of Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy, and served as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Johns Hopkins University, as well as Dean of the Pratt School of Engineering at Duke University.

SUNY POLY COLLEGE COUNCIL
Each campus of the State University of New York is advised by a 10-member council. Nine members are appointed by the governor; the tenth member is a student elected annually by the student body on each campus. The College Council is entrusted with broad powers of advice and counsel; members are also responsible for developing and fostering strong relationships between their institution and local communities.
ACADEMICS

SUNY Poly provides a vibrant, creative, and stimulating environment for innovation, education, and outreach that prepares our students to use basic and applied knowledge to solve challenges, address complexities and seize the opportunities in our modern technological society. SUNY Poly offers an affordable range of undergraduate and graduate educational and research programs of the highest quality. Students receive a well-rounded education preparing them to be future leaders in a dynamic and diverse world by demonstrating the interplay of knowledge and culture, thus emphasizing the importance of continuous learning.

The institution values and encourages academic and intellectual achievement at the highest levels and seeks broad access by persons motivated to pursue a college experience that employs the breadth and depth provided by a sound and comprehensive liberal arts education and the technical competencies inherent to the applied disciplines. SUNY Poly is committed to the integration of these elements in a coherent program of higher learning. Serving as a leader for innovation, SUNY Poly strives to provide a challenging, culturally diverse, and supportive educational environment that fosters and encourages active student participation in residential life and student organizations, athletics, recreation, cultural, and social events.

For the 2019-2020 academic year, SUNY Poly enrolled 3,002 undergraduate and graduate students in 48 different programs throughout its five Colleges.

SUNY Polytechnic Institute is SUNY’s first four-year/graduate polytechnic institution.

At the undergraduate level, SUNY Poly is dedicated to the idea that a baccalaureate degree should not only prepare students to enter the work force, but also to take part fully in today’s society. SUNY Poly strongly believes that its graduates should be aware of life’s complex nature in the 21st century. Students should have sufficient understanding of current major issues and problems, so they may make informed choices in politics, professional pursuits, and personal endeavors.

At the graduate level, SUNY Poly offers top tier academic programs, including Ph.D., MBA, MS, and certificates for advanced studies programs for some of the most in-demand career sectors. The University provides next-generation curricula taught by accomplished faculty in extraordinary facilities where students and faculty can even connect with on-site industry research partners.

RANKINGS

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT (2020)

- #2 Top Public Schools
  Regional Universities North
- #2 Best Value Schools
  Regional Universities North
- #6 Best Colleges for Veterans
  Regional Universities North
- #12 Best Regional Universities North
SUNY POLY
FAST FACTS

3,000 Students

2,200 Undergraduate Students

800 Graduate Students

26 Undergraduate Programs

900+ Residential Students

13:1 Student to Faculty Ratio

18 Average Class Size

$7,070 In-State Undergraduate Tuition

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
The College of Arts and Sciences supports the education of every SUNY Poly student, regardless of major because of its commitment to general education. The College also offers the most extensive array of majors and minors at SUNY Poly. Faculty members in the College publish in leading journals and present their work in national and international conferences. Their research and scholarship have broad and lasting societal impact across a variety of fields. Faculty members have received international recognition, such as Fulbright Awards, and serve on editorial boards of leading national and international scholarly journals and organizations. In addition, a number of faculty members have received the SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching, and for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
The College of Business Management is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and strives to provide life-transforming opportunities for students to pursue business education in innovative and technology-rich environments. Experiential learning components are integrated in the programs, and engagement opportunities are provided for students to experience the practice of business.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
The College of Engineering is comprised of four departments that include Engineering, Engineering Technology, Computer Science, and Network & Computer Security. M.S. level degrees are granted in computer science and network and computer security with leading edge programs in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and cybersecurity. B.S. level degrees are granted in all four departments over a total of eleven different academic programs along with a B.S./M.S. degree in Computer and Information Science. The M.S. program in Network & Computer Security is offered both in-class and fully online. The College prides itself on providing students with a combination of foundational coursework and hands-on practical experiences that allow them to succeed in the workplace or in graduate school. Given this foundation, students design and complete interdisciplinary projects, obtain internship opportunities, become involved in extracurricular activities, form tailored independent studies, and participate in a variety of research initiatives that culminate with a senior Capstone project. The programs in electrical and computer engineering, civil engineering, mechanical engineering, mechanical engineering technology, civil engineering technology, electrical engineering technology and computer engineering technology are accredited by ABET. The College is also active in forming industrial partnerships and collaborations as well as maintaining a strong interaction with the AFRL-Information Directorate, headquartered in nearby Rome, NY. The industrial outreach is strategically built on the backbone of the Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing (CGAM) which enables a rich educational and research environment that allows for continuous improvement of the programs within the College.

COLLEGE OF NANOSCALE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
The College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) was the first college in the world solely dedicated to providing students with a nanotechnology-focused education.
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ADDITIONAL EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Preparing students for a wide-range of opportunities, SUNY Poly boasts a number of exciting hands-on programs that allow students to learn advanced skills earlier than they might at most other institutions. For example, the summer undergraduate research program (SURP) provides a unique opportunity for qualified SUNY Poly undergraduate students to conduct research at either of SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s Albany or Utica campuses. This opportunity provides innovative hands-on experience by working closely with SUNY Poly's world-class faculty. This 10-week summer program allows students to work on actual research projects for 40 hours a week alongside fellow students, faculty members, and industry partners.

At the graduate level, SUNY Poly offers top tier academic programs, including Ph.D., MBA, MS, and CAS (certificates for advanced studies) in some of the most in-demand career sectors. The University provides next-generation curricula taught by accomplished faculty in extraordinary facilities.

The Utica campus offers a robust array of graduate programs in both traditional in-person and online formats serving approximately 720 enrolled students. Diverse pedagogy include “flipped classrooms” as well as experiential and applied learning through industry partnerships and community-based initiatives such as InnovationChallenge New York (ICNY).

Two of the online graduate programs, the MBA in Technology Management and the MS in Accountancy, boast top 100 national rankings from U.S. News & World Report. Also, Registerednursing.org has recognized the Family and Nurse Practitioner as a top eight program and the MS in Nursing Education as a top ten program. The Utica campus offers diverse and broad graduate degrees as follows: Accountancy; Advanced Technology; Computer & Information Science; Data Analysis; Family Nurse Practitioner; Forensic Accounting & Valuation; Information Design & Technology; Network & Computer Security; Nursing Education; Systems Engineering; Technology Management; Telecommunications; and Transformational Leadership Nursing. As of Fall 2019, over 65% of SUNY Poly’s graduate students are enrolled in its four largest programs: Family Nurse Practitioner (205 students), Technology Management (120 students), Computer & Information Science (105 students), and Accountancy (101). Currently the College of Health Sciences is finalizing plans to offer a Doctorate of Nurse Practitioner program in Psychiatric Mental Health; the first doctoral program on the Utica campus, which is planned to start during Fall 2020.

The Albany site offers in-person graduate programs for over 70 students. These highly desired and specialized niche degrees include the following: Medicine & Nanoscale Engineering (Ph.D.); Medicine & Nanoscale Science (Ph.D.); Nanobioscience (Ph.D.); Nanoscale Engineering (MS & Ph.D.); and Nanoscale Science (MS & Ph.D.).

FACULTY

At the core of SUNY Poly’s success and achievements are highly qualified and dedicated faculty members. Since the merger that led to the creation of SUNY Poly, the institution has attracted a significant number of teacher scholars who are dedicated to student success and are active researchers in their fields. To serve their needs in terms of resources, facilities, and support, SUNY Poly is strengthening its sponsored research office, technology support functions, and faculty development programs. Concurrently, faculty presence on campus is strong and expectations for tenure and promotion are high.

SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s annual sponsored program expenditures for the cumulative fiscal year ending 6/30/19 totaled $352M. SUNY Poly received 136 awards during this period and boasted 47 distinct project principal investigators, with federal, state, and private funds supporting nearly 200 organized research projects and everything from fellowships to public service and training.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT FACULTY RECOGNITION INCLUDE:

- SUNY Poly Professor of Nanoscale Engineering Dr. Ji Ung Lee Awarded $6.25 Million by Naval Research Laboratory for Advanced Electronic Devices and AI-Specific Hardware Development
- SUNY Poly Professor Dr. Woongje Sung Awarded $2,078,000 U.S. Army Research Laboratory Grant to Manufacture Ultra-High Voltage Power Electronics Chips for Next-Gen Military and Commercial Applications
- College of Arts & Sciences Dean Andrew Russell was the Principal Investigator for a $198,000 award from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for a project that explores the significance of maintenance, infrastructure, and repair in contemporary society.
- SUNY Poly Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering, Dr. Zhanjie Li, was awarded $75,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for Advanced High-Strength Steels Research.
- Dr. Nate Cady Awarded $1.7M from the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory for Next-Gen Computer Systems Research and Development
- Dr. Janet Paluh Received $970,000 from New York State Health Department to Address Spinal Cord Injury with Nanotechnology
- A SUNY Poly Research Team Received $900,000 from the Air Force Research Laboratory to Advance Quantum Technologies for Next-Generation Computing Systems
- NIH-NIEHS Grant for $446,000 Supports Colon Cancer Research by Professor Michael Fasullo
- Dr. Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik Received $360,000 for Advanced Batteries Research
- SUNY Poly professors, Dr. Michael Reale, Dr. Andrea Dziubek, and Dr. Edmond Rusjan received a grant from the Slocum Dickson Foundation for research into blindness in collaboration with researchers at the University of Missouri and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

SUNY Poly has been very active in establishing public-private partnerships; technology transfer agreements; and partnerships with industry to support faculty research, academic programs, and enhance the student experience.

The next President will play an active role in sustaining current partnerships and creating new ones, while working with industry, community partners, and government leaders to continue SUNY Poly’s role as a driving force in economic development in the region.

In February 2019, it was announced that IBM, a long-time anchor tenant at the Albany campus, plans to invest over $2 billion to grow its high-tech footprint at the site and throughout New York State. This includes the establishment of an “AI Hardware Center” for artificial intelligence-focused computer chip research, development, prototyping, testing, and simulation. Once established, the AI Hardware Center will be the nucleus of a new ecosystem of research and commercial partners and further solidify the Capital Region’s position as a global hub for innovative R&D.

Empire State Development (ESD) and SUNY, with SUNY Poly, announced that Applied Materials Inc., is partnering with New York State to establish the Materials Engineering Technology Accelerator (META Center) on the Albany campus. ESD will provide a five-year, $250 million capital grant for the Research Foundation for SUNY to purchase and install tools in an advanced research and development facility that will further position the Capital Region to be a global materials engineering research hub. Applied Materials will bring in $600 million in investments through the META Center. Additional high-tech partners are also expected to locate at the META Center.

In September 2019, Cree, the global leader in silicon carbide technology, announced it will be investing $1 billion over six years to construct and equip a new, state-of-the-art, highly automated, 200 mm silicon carbide wafer fabrication facility. This public-private partnership will provide 430 million dollars in research and development and plans to create 600 full-time highly skilled technician and engineering positions at the Marcy Nanocenter on SUNY Poly’s campus Utica campus, which will provide internship and career opportunities for students and alumni.
IBM, GlobalFoundries, and Samsung produced the most advanced computer chip in the world inside the cleanrooms at the Albany campus, with transistors that are only 5 nanometers in width, enabling a computer chip the size of one's fingernail to consist of up to 30 billion transistors for improved performance, power, and economy.
SUNY Poly boasts two campuses, in Albany and Utica, New York. SUNY Poly’s thriving Utica campus has welcomed nearly $100 million in renovation projects since 2011, including a field house, student center, and residence hall complex that complement the traditional academic buildings, dorms, and library located on campus.

SUNY Poly’s Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing (CGAM) opened its doors in 2017 to offer students hands-on research, training, and operational and technical experience for a variety of manufacturing processes. The $11 million investment from New York State includes a 3D printing lab, machine tooling and injection molding, CGAM also houses the Hage Family Robotics Lab that enables experiential learning opportunities for students and robotics teams.

The campus is also home to the Marcy NanoCenter, a 300-acre, shovel-ready site upon which North Carolina-based company, Cree Inc., announced it will build a $1 billion silicon carbide manufacturing site through a partnership with New York State. Cree will bring an estimated 600 full-time jobs to the Mohawk Valley and will provide SUNY Poly students with internship and employment opportunities.

SUNY Poly’s Albany campus is focused on education and exciting research, development, and deployment opportunities, especially related to nanoelectronics and nanotechnology-based innovations, as well as nanobiotechnology. The 1.65 million-square-foot Albany NanoTech Complex is home to SUNY Poly’s Albany campus and billions in high-tech investments, 136,000 square feet of cleanroom space for next-generation computer chip R&D and manufacturing (including a state-of-the-art 300mm silicon wafer fabrication facility), and many industry-leading partners with on-site operations, including IBM, Tokyo Electron, Samsung, and Applied Materials, among others. These partners provide unique hands-on educational opportunities and internships, as well as employment opportunities for students and advanced research capabilities for faculty.

SUNY Poly and the Albany NanoTech Complex are also involved with several centers and programs that aim to bridge the gap between university research opportunities and manufacturing implementation:

- The Materials Engineering Technology Center (META Center) is a hub for groundbreaking materials research, with $600 million investments in the campus by Applied Materials with a $250 million capital grant for the SUNY Research Foundation to purchase and install tools in the facility.
- In 2019, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced a $2 billion commitment by IBM to create a global research hub to develop next-gen artificial intelligence hardware at Albany campus.
- AIM Photonics
- Center for Advanced Technology in Nanomaterials and Nanoelectronices (CATN2)
- Center for Semiconductor Research (CSR)
- Center for Excellence in Nanoelectronics and Nanotechnology (CENN)
- TEL Technology Center, America R&D Center

PARTNERSHIPS

At the institutional level, SUNY Poly has several highly productive partnerships and Innovation Centers that comprise the burgeoning “Nanotech Corridor.” One goal is to bolster and expand partnerships with academic institutions, expand partnerships with national laboratories and research centers, and forge partnerships with regional institutions of higher education to enable opportunities across both the Capital Region and Mohawk Valley, in addition to driving advances for New York State and the nation.

SUNY Poly has a strong relationship with national laboratories and institutes, such as NIST and with several institutes at the National Institutes of Health (NCI, NIDCR, NIDCD, NIOSH, etc.). The academic centers at Utica and Albany provide access both to state-of-the-art scientific and applied research equipment and to faculty and students studying technological subjects. The Albany complex focuses on nanotechnology and engages several thousand staff and corporate engineers and scientists. The Utica site supports advanced manufacturing through its SMARTT laboratory complex and scientific and manufacturing equipment in automation and robotics. Educational initiatives such as the Tech Valley High School and the FIRST robotics initiatives are important outreach activities supporting the STEM pipeline.

SUNY Poly also plays an important economic development role in the City of Utica and the Mohawk Valley Region. The University has partnerships with research centers and organizations like the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate, the Masonic Medical Research Institute, the ThINCubator, and the Cyber Research Institute (CRI) at Griffiss Institute. The University also has diverse partnerships with community organizations like:

- Sculpture Space
- Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute (MWPAI)
- View Arts
- Central Adirondack Partnership for the 21st Century (CAP 21)
- Central Adirondack Association (CAA)
- Town of Web (TOW) School System
- Enchanted Forest Water Safari
- Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties
- NYSTEC
- Capraro Technologies
- Mohawk Valley Small Business Development Center
- Collins Aerospace
- Eastern Air Defense Sector
- ANDRO Aerospace
- NIST
- Masonic Medical Research Institute
- STEAMworks Ability Lab
- Midtown Utica Community Center
- The Genesis Group of the Mohawk Valley Region
Construction is currently underway on SUNY Polytechnic Institute’s Hilltop Residence Hall, which is expected to open in fall 2020. The residence hall will be “zero-net, carbon certified,” meaning in addition to exceeding existing energy codes, the infrastructure to add future on-site renewable energy production systems will be in place. Once these systems are installed, the building will use equal to or less than the energy annually it can produce on-site through renewable resources. This will be the first building of its kind on a SUNY campus.

The building’s design revolves around sustainability and energy efficiency and includes hotel-style student rooms with adjacent lounges, kitchens, study, and laundry areas, as well as a multi-purpose room, game room, and a bike storage area. It will also include many outdoor green spaces such as a courtyard and trellised area with outdoor grills and incorporate a bioretention/rain garden to detain storm water runoff and remove contaminants from the water. In addition, the residence hall will include connections to a future photovoltaic/solar power system.
ATHLETICS

SUNY Poly is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA Division III), and a new member of the North Atlantic Conference for the 2020-2021 season. In its previous conference, the Wildcats won the President’s Cup for the best overall sports program four times and 75 Wildcats were named as conference scholar-athletes. The current roster of SUNY Poly sports includes baseball, softball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s volleyball, and men’s and women’s lacrosse.

The college recently completed construction of a $20 million field house and lighted turf field. The field house is the new home for the Wildcat athletic programs and the campus intramural and recreation programs and features a state-of-the-art fitness center, two full-sized basketball courts and four volleyball courts, indoor practice facilities for all Wildcat teams, a running track, an expansive training room, team rooms, and offices for the athletics department’s administrative staff and coaches. With seating for 3,500, the field house also accommodates commencement and other large events. Additionally, a new baseball field and improvements to the existing softball field were included in the construction project.

As a NCAA Division III program, SUNY Poly ensures that student-athletes excel in and out of the classroom by implementing strategic support programs. Through these efforts, a record number of student-athletes were honored for their academic success this past year:

✓ The overall average fall term GPA was 3.01
✓ 17 student athletes made the President’s Excellence List (GPA 3.80+)
✓ 27 student athletes made the President’s Achievement List (GPA 3.60-3.79)
✓ 62 student athletes made the Dean’s List (GPA 3.20-3.59)
✓ 121 student athletes (more than half) had higher than a 3.00 GPA; and the four-year graduation rate is 70% for the 2013 cohort.
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Career services at SUNY Poly provides the resources and strategies to students and alumni for choosing a college major and developing a career plan, workshops, creating a resume, finding internships and full-time jobs, and making a successful career transition. Additionally, Career Services provided the following to support and enhance SUNY Poly’s academic experience:

- Over 30 career development and success workshops, which included employer information sessions;
- Twelve campus-wide events such as SUNY Poly’s first ever Fall Career & Internship Fair that drew over 50 employers from the CNY region and beyond;
- Two diversity weeks (fall and spring) with organizations seeking to provide internships and career preparation opportunities to underrepresented students;
- “Mock Interview Day,” providing students an opportunity to enhance their interviewing skills, resulting in two hires from the event and over 40 participants;
- A Career Week program at SUNY Poly’s Albany campus that included employer information sessions, workshops, and a career-networking mixer for students and employers.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Diversity and access to education are critical factors in the mission of SUNY overall and of particular importance to SUNY Poly. The development of a campus culture and academic programs that embrace diversity is essential to SUNY Poly’s mission. Occupational choice involves a complex set of decisions, people, skills, and timing. Decisions to enter STEM and healthcare fields can be easier for students when they have accurate expectations, are familiar with the rewards, and have frequent and positive contact with role models. SUNY Poly provides a hands-on environment with small class sizes, low faculty-student ratios, and a welcoming atmosphere where students from varied backgrounds have the opportunity for this kind of contact and experience.

The SUNY System’s Promoting Recruitment, Opportunity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Growth (PRODiG) initiative aims to increase the representation of historically underrepresented faculty at SUNY including underrepresented minority (“URM”) faculty in general, and women faculty of all races in STEM fields (“WSTEM”). This is consistent with SUNY’s role in creating pathways to social and economic opportunity for all our students, as well as personal and intellectual fulfilment. To support this initiative, SUNY POLY has developed committees tasked with increasing diversity among faculty and students at the University. Several goals and recommendations have been developed as part of SUNY Poly’s strategic planning process. The next President of SUNY Poly will embrace and champion the System’s and University’s goal to increase diversity among faculty, staff, and students, and be devoted to fostering a diverse, welcoming, and inclusive campus community.
Opportunities and Challenges

Vision for a Sustainable Future

SUNY Poly is a thriving institution highlighted by a truly committed community of administrators, faculty, staff, and students; a highly distinctive and student-centered academic model; thriving enrollments, state-of-the-art facilities, and groundbreaking research that is making a noticeable economic impact on the regions and beyond. The next President will have the opportunity to implement a shared vision toward building innovative academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels, advancing research opportunities, establishing a welcoming, inclusive, and empowering culture throughout the University, and establishing strategies to identify revenue streams to support key initiatives.

Building Financial Capacity

The University has a solid foundation for future growth and expansion to make an even greater impact, but this will require sustaining current, and developing new, revenue streams, supporting research, and enhancing fundraising efforts at the University. The president will be a strong financial manager, knowledgeable about academic business models, keenly aware of the broader higher education landscape, innovative regarding forging new revenue streams, and capable of adjusting the business plan to maintain and improve the University’s financial security. The next President will also be expected to work successfully with SUNY System leadership and government leaders in Albany to effectively advocate for resources and support for programs at SUNY Poly. There will also be an opportunity to advance fundraising efforts at the University to actively engage alumni throughout the country and identify and cultivate major donors. To be successful in these efforts, the next President should bring creative ideas for program development, embrace the research mission of SUNY Poly, and have the savvy to effectively advocate for the University to key external stakeholders.

Research and Innovation

SUNY Poly has made significant investments in its growth of research activities, while also strengthening the University’s commitment to high-quality teaching. SUNY Poly’s distinctive academic focus provides abundant opportunities for the advancement of research by leveraging its world-class faculty members, cutting-edge research centers, and state-of-the-art equipment to strengthen its position as a leading public university. The next president will support and advance research activities through partnerships, sponsorships, and grants so the University can continue to attract and retain outstanding research faculty and scientists with formidable research agendas. She or he will also increase the number of opportunities for students to engage in research at the graduate and undergraduate levels by sustaining and enhancing SUNY Poly’s essential partnerships with industry. The next president has the opportunity to leverage the University’s well recognized name in the STEM fields and its unique academic approach to further distinguish SUNY Poly from other universities.
Strengthening Diversity and Global Perspective

In alignment with SUNY’s strategic initiatives around diversity, inclusion, and equity, SUNY Poly is committed to fostering a world-class and diverse faculty, staff, and student population and sustaining an inclusive and welcoming learning and working environment. To help students succeed in the global arena, the University lays claim to successful global partnerships and study abroad programs and holds numerous events on campus that celebrate diversity in all of its dimensions. SUNY Poly has made diversifying its student body, faculty, and staff a top priority and has implemented infrastructure to ensure diverse talents are welcomed and supported at the University. Further progress in these areas will require sustained and vigorous commitment from the entire community. SUNY Poly’s next President will have the opportunity to further this goal by supporting and working collaboratively with University and System leadership in developing University-wide awareness of matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion and increasing campus impact toward achieving these strategic goals. The next President will advance this strategic priority by enhancing an inclusive environment and ensuring the effective recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, staff, and students, maintaining SUNY Poly’s welcoming and inclusive ethos, and effectively growing the University’s global footprint.

Strategic Enrollment Management

SUNY Poly has an ongoing commitment to building graduate programs in high-demand areas, advancing research initiatives, exploring opportunities for online or distance learning, and strategically expanding its recruitment pipelines for domestic and international students in response to declining regional high school demographics and increased competition for students. Introducing new strategic enrollment management initiatives will be essential for SUNY Poly to fulfill its mission of providing a world-class and affordable education. The University’s unique approach to the student experience has led to very successful retention and placement rates. The next president will lead continued growth and expansion at SUNY Poly and will have a firm understanding of enrollment management and the ever-growing challenges surrounding admissions and retention at public, residential institutions. She or he has the opportunity to foster new and innovative ideas and approaches to lead this continued growth of SUNY Poly and continually attract top students from around the world to participate in solving real-world problems.

Building Community and Engagement

The new president will be visible and maintain a presence with students, faculty, and staff; attend student events; visit departments; and engage with external stakeholders of the University. Their capacity to ask thoughtful questions, listen carefully, shape discourse, lead the campuses through possible points of conflict, and foster collegiality will be of paramount importance. Supporting faculty and staff while honoring their central and significant contributions to the University will be crucial. Modeling and encouraging transparent decision-making will also promote trust and nourish the spirit of mutual respect that is fundamental to SUNY Poly’s identity. Moreover, the new President’s ability to increase collaboration and build ever-stronger relationships and partnerships with Utica and Albany, the state of New York, and the nation will be critical. The next President should have the leadership and personal abilities to become a key player in the State capital of Albany to ensure continued state support of the institution, but also to celebrate the performance and success at SUNY Poly to continue the University’s role as a driver of STEM education and economic development in New York.
The Next President of SUNY Polytechnic Institute

The Position

At a crucial moment in the history of SUNY Poly, the University seeks an accomplished leader who can embrace the distinctive attributes of a student-centered polytechnic education to effectively advance the mission of one of the most dynamic academic enterprises in the country. With increasing enrollments; world-class facilities, educators, and scientists; leading-edge research opportunities for students; and essential partnerships with global leaders in industry, SUNY Poly is poised to be a game-changing institution in the dynamic landscape of higher education. The next President will have the opportunity to capitalize on the University’s momentum to continue raising the bar in the areas of affordable and high-quality education, experiential education, economic development throughout the state, and impactful and cutting-edge research.

The next President of SUNY Poly will have the opportunity to develop a shared vision that embraces and aligns with SUNY’s strategic priorities:

- Individualized learning
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Sustainability
- Partnerships with organizations that can provide students with internships and applied learning experiences.

Reporting to the SUNY System Chancellor and working collaboratively with the SUNY Poly College Council, the President serves as the chief executive officer of the University. The President will primarily reside on the Utica campus, but will spend time at both campuses as needed. They will oversee the offices of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Research Advancement and Graduate Studies, Finance, and Technology and Innovation, while being an active and visible leader in both the Utica and Albany communities, the state of New York, and throughout the nation.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The president of SUNY Poly will:

- Engage the System, University, and College Council leadership in a productive dialogue to collaboratively determine the most beneficial strategy for defining and achieving the goals for the University;
- Engage all stakeholders to sharpen and refine a shared vision for the University which will inspire and compel the campus members, alumni, industry partners, and other key stakeholders to contribute sustainable intellectual and financial resources in order to assure a successful future for the institution;
- Work collaboratively with associated corporations, the SUNY System, and other partners to advance economic development initiatives;
- Embrace the academic, research, and economic development missions of SUNY Poly while modeling the University’s values to internal and external stakeholders;
- Communicate the distinctiveness, uniqueness, and relevance of SUNY Poly’s academic programs to a broad audience;
- Have overall financial, strategic, and operational responsibility for the University;
- Manage an effective senior team;
- Sustain and enhance a platform and strategies to attract the best and brightest diverse students, faculty, and staff while developing effective programs and supporting their retention and success;
- Support efforts to advance a diverse, inclusive, and equitable culture throughout the University;
- Engender the trust of all through collaboration, transparency, and shared values; and
- Be the external face and champion of SUNY Poly to regional, national, and global communities.
Qualifications and Characteristics

SUNY Poly seeks a dynamic leader who offers a demonstrated record of innovative and entrepreneurial leadership in an academic setting or similarly complex organization. Informed by wisdom and experience to be able to anticipate and identify areas of opportunity, this individual will provide thoughtful strategic direction. They will possess the skills to inspire the faculty, staff, and students to work collaboratively and will engender widespread private and public support for, and excitement about, the future of SUNY Poly.

The successful candidate will be a compelling advocate for the University’s goals to a variety of audiences and be able to leverage opportunities in the area of development and fundraising. The President will represent well the interests of the University and show deep commitments to teaching, research, entrepreneurship, and excellence at all levels of the institution. They will understand and appreciate the unique and closely held values of the University, while simultaneously advocating for a progressive strategy that will sustain SUNY Poly in the future.

Candidates must have an earned terminal degree from an accredited institution and credentials consistent with earning tenure in the appropriate academic unit at SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

Specifically, it is desired that the President will have the following experience, skill sets, and attributes:

- An entrepreneurial approach to advancing innovation and research, providing new ideas to move the institution forward, and leveraging the unique qualities of SUNY Poly to preserve and enhance its position as a leading polytechnic University;
- A strong record of aligning budgets with strategic goals, effective resource allocation, and setting financial priorities;
- A demonstrated commitment to and appreciation for the mission of SUNY Poly;
- The academic or equivalent background in teaching and scholarship to lead a complex and dynamic academic institution;
- An understanding and commitment to shared governance and the ability to engage multiple constituent groups in a shared and inclusive decision-making process;
- Demonstrated experience and leadership in fundraising across a diverse donor base and enhancing philanthropic giving;
- The ability to advance and support an innovative research agenda that will enhance SUNY Poly’s reputation and attract and retain high-quality faculty;
- Demonstrated success at progressive levels of leadership in higher education or a similarly complex organization;
- The commitment to sustaining the University’s accomplishments in high-quality teaching;
- Proven commitment to diversity and inclusion and broad experience with diverse students, faculty, and communities, with a proven capacity to embrace diversity in all aspects, including the capacity to recruit, welcome, retain, and build an integrated, inclusive, and diverse culture;
- Knowledge of student recruitment and retention and the issues that affect students both inside and outside the classroom;
- A demonstrated understanding and commitment to internationalization and globalization through support for international programs and international students;
- Evidence of successful interactions with governing boards;
- A global perspective and the ability and desire to help lead a discussion about the future of higher education in an evolving national context and an increasingly globalized society;
- The ability and experience to mentor the current leadership at the institution;
- The demonstrated capacity to form alliances and partnerships with industry;
- A clear sense for how to facilitate strategic growth through a collaborative process, demonstrating firm resolve and commitment to follow through;
- Superb communication skills and the ability to represent the University in a compelling manner to various constituencies locally, nationally, and internationally;
- The political acumen to champion the University and effectively advocate for resources at the state level;
- The ability to make strategic decisions in alignment with the goals of the University;
- Intellectual, analytical consensus-building skills and the ability to make decisions in a timely manner;
- Passion, optimism, flexibility, adaptability, and an abiding sense of humor;
- A personal style that balances confidence with humility; and
- Someone who is collegial, warm, approachable, and down to earth.
Review of candidates will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Application materials should include: a letter describing the candidate’s interest in and qualifications for the position in relation to the attributes described above and a curriculum vitae. The new president is expected to begin work on July 1, 2020. Background checks will be conducted on all finalists. Candidates from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. The search process will be confidential.

All nominations and applications can be sent in confidence to:

Steve Leo, Partner  
Brian Bustin, Senior Associate  
Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates LP  
SUNYPolyPresident@storbecksearch.com  
484-263-5534

As an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer, SUNY Polytechnic Institute will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicant’s race, creed, religion, color, citizenship, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, predisposing genetic characteristics, gender identification or expression, genetic information, familial status, marital status, pregnancy, status as a domestic violence victim, criminal conviction, disability, military status, disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, Armed Forces Service Medal veteran, active duty or wartime campaign badge veteran, or other characteristic as protected by law.