Come for an Education. Leave with a Career

While students come to SUNY Canton for an education, they leave with a career. SUNY Canton faculty and staff take pride in that fact. It’s a point of distinction for the college and sets us apart from other schools. At SUNY Canton, we offer a hands-on education, often with labs and internships, which prepare our students to meet and exceed the requirements of their profession.

“A SUNY Canton diploma signifies more than just a degree,” says SUNY Canton President Joseph L. Kennedy. “It’s a document that indicates a readiness to begin a career or further advance an existing career.”

SUNY Canton students are predisposed to excel after graduation because our majors are geared toward in-demand careers, especially our new bachelor’s degrees such as Alternative and Renewable Energy Application and Emergency and Disaster Management.

SUNY Canton’s “ladder curriculum” allows for a wide range of choices from four-year bachelor’s to one-year certificates as well as two-year associates and even master’s degrees.

The college’s proactive approach has recently created a dozen outstanding new four-year programs on the cutting edge of innovative, high-demand career paths.

Far from being satisfied with the current success of the college, the college is progressing with plans to add even more options.

“We intend to maintain our focus on current and future technologies for which there is industry employment demand,” states Kennedy. “Adjusting the mix of majors and developing new majors will allow us to continue to respond to new opportunities.”

Other progressive changes include the furthered growth of online classes, an increased number of Winterterm and Summer offerings, and future articulation agreements with other colleges and universities.

Spring Open Houses
March 24th & April 21st

Admitted Student Days
March 15th & April 3rd

Spring 2007 Important Dates

Residence Halls Reopen: Sunday, January 21, Noon
Classes Begin: Monday, January 22
Winter Break - No Classes: Saturday Feb. 17—Sunday, Feb. 25
Spring Break: Saturday, April 7—Sunday, April 15
Honors Convocation: Wednesday, May 2
Springfest: Friday, May 11
Final Exam Week: Monday, May 14—Friday, May 18
Graduation: Saturday, May 19, 10:30 am

Four-Year Athletics and New Facilities On The Way

Four-year athletics are coming to SUNY Canton. And so are a new $18 million athletic and convocation center and a new $1.8 million all-weather, lighted synthetic turf field.

The SUNY Canton Athletic Department has applied for membership to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), with plans to implement a four-year athletic program beginning in Fall 2007. The move will include adding men’s and women’s cross country and eventually women’s hockey.

The shift to four-year athletics comes shortly after announcements regarding major facility projects, including the new $1.8 million all-weather, lighted synthetic turf field that will be ready next fall and an $18 million athletic and convocation center scheduled for completion in Fall 2008 or 2009.

“The timing of this conversion coincides perfectly with our new facilities,” said President Joseph L. Kennedy. “Top-level student athletes will be attracted to SUNY Canton knowing they’ll receive a great four-year education and be able to play sports for four years in our brand new state-of-the-art facilities.”

SUNY Canton has applied to join the NAIA’s Sunrise Conference which includes Fisher College in Boston; College of St. Joseph in Rutland, Vt.; nearby Paul Smith’s College; University of Maine at Fort Kent; University of Maine at Machias; and Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vt.
It’s easy for me to say that choosing SUNY Canton was one of the best choices I’ve ever made. My name is Jamie Burgess, and I am a Liberal Arts major. Since I’m originally from 20 miles away in Ogdensburg, SUNY Canton was not instinctively my first choice. However, when my parents encouraged me to sit down and think it through, I had a change of heart. Thank goodness for scholarships.

When I discovered that SUNY Canton offered a number of scholarships to incoming students, I immediately applied. Fortunately, I received two awards which provided me with the ability to attend college reasonably and not be burdened afterwards with expensive student loans. I was also amazed at how helpful the staff was in assisting me with all of the necessary preparations, especially after dealing with other colleges who were not nearly as helpful. Scholarships are not just awarded to incoming freshmen. Almost every major and every class year have specific scholarships for a variety of students.

Don’t be nervous! Everyone has apprehensions about heading off to college. Walking on to campus for my first day of classes was like walking into high school for the first time. To my pleasant surprise, each of my professors welcomed their freshmen students with open arms. They give you their office hours and phone numbers in case you ever have any questions, and they always are willing to lend a helping hand, which is critical to your academic well being.

Tutoring Helps! Tutoring centers are also incredibly helpful. The tutors are always able to help with homework, labs, and studying techniques. It’s another major advantage of attending SUNY Canton. For me, chemistry has always been a challenge. I visited the science tutoring center many times and always walked out feeling more confident, and having a better understanding of the material. It helped me greatly.

Get Involved. My next piece of advice is to get involved! SUNY Canton offers a number of exciting, fun, and challenging programs and clubs that anyone can join. Hallways and doorways are full of posters publicizing various clubs. These activities enable you to meet new people, and encourage you to get out into the community and enjoy different experiences. And if you are looking to improve a resume, this is a great way to show prospective employers that you are active, involved, and interesting.

Computers for commuters! I’d also like to take a moment to talk about commuting to and from SUNY Canton. This college has worked hard to accommodate its many commuter students and make them feel welcome on campus. In the Payson Hall, room 217, there is a lounge for commuters to sit and relax. It is equipped with comfortable furniture, lockers, a microwave, and a refrigerator. This is a place where you can do homework, drink a cup of coffee, or simply chat with friends.

On the second floor of the Wicks Hall, there is a computer lab open to students all day. It’s great to pop up there and do some work, fine tune an assignment, or catch up on the web.

A Comfortable Environment. Always looking out for its students, the faculty and staff at SUNY Canton strive to make us as comfortable as possible. It’s the people here that really make the difference. I can’t say enough about it. I know that years from now, I will look back on my experience here and be able to say with pride, “That’s my SUNY Canton.”
Clubs and Organizations

What is there to do at SUNY Canton? What are you interested in? What do you enjoy?

SUNY Canton has more than 50 student-driven clubs and organizations, making a wide variety of opportunities to get involved or share interests.

“If you have an interest, there is a good chance that there are other students to share it with,” states Director of Student Activities Scott Quinell.

Student Government: The Student Cooperative Alliance (SCA) allows students to learn more about the democratic process. Decisions made by the SCA drive portions of the college’s growth and determine what finances are granted to student organizations. The student-elected officials directly advise the college administrators about issues that concern students.

Career Interests: Academics drive college life, and there are a number of clubs specific to individual programs, including the Veterinary Technician Association, the Nursing Club, and the Criminal Investigation Club. “Our Steel Bridge Team finished second in the nation last year,” Quinell said, “and this year we’ll have a Solar Boat Team that will also compete nationally.”

Media Fun: The SUNY Canton Paysonian yearbook and the Tribune student newspaper offer venues for writers and photographers. Other clubs include:
— Afro-Latin Society
— Bridge Team
— College Union Board
— Computer Club
— Commuter Club
— Big Brothers/Big Sisters
— Gospel Choir
— Greek Council
— Habitat for Humanity
— HACKERS (Heating and Air Conditioning Club)
— Common Grounds (Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Alliance)
— Mortuary Science Association
— Motorsports Club
— NAO (Native American Organization)
— Nursing Club
— Omega Alpha Club (commuter students)
— Outing Club
— Zen-Do Kai Karate Club

Online, On Campus

Whether you’re surfing, instant messaging, researching, or downloading, at SUNY Canton you have options. Students can access the internet in their rooms or on-the-go with SUNY Canton’s wireless and hard-wired web connections. Information Services (IS) professionals have worked to ensure that everyone remains connected. Residences are equipped with Time Warner’s digital high-speed internet connections and wireless access points are available in various on-campus locations.

College IS professionals point out that the new high-speed wired access offers students a higher-quality internet connection than ever before.

Laptops are everywhere! It’s common to see students enjoying lunch at one of the many eateries and cafés on campus while surfing the web on a laptop computer or handheld device. Wireless “hot spots” are found throughout the campus including most of the academic areas. If a student doesn’t own a laptop, the Southworth Library has a number available for student use.

Free Windows. The SUNY Canton IS Department offers free, licensed copies of Microsoft Windows XP Pro and Microsoft Office 2003 to all students. Students also receive a college email address and server space to store their college-related projects.

Additional pointers:
— Floppy disks are out, thumb drives are in. Consider using a Universal Serial Buss (USB) storage device. Almost every campus computer has an easily-accessible USB port and a thumb drive can make transporting homework to and from class quick and easy.
— Help is here! Whether you are loading your free copy of Microsoft Office or cleaning up a PC virus, the student-staffed Help Desk will assist you with your computer-related problem.
— Tune in with a pair of headphones. Headphones are the most convenient way to listen without driving nearby computer users crazy.
It’s Not Too Late for Financial Aid

Students eligible for financial aid should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. The priority deadline is March 15. It allows us to determine your basic aid eligibility. You have to file in order for financial aid to be considered or applied to your bill.

What is the fastest way to complete the necessary forms? The answer is ONLINE! The first thing you need to do is get a personal identification number (PIN). Once you have your PIN, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and complete the FAFSA and submit it. If you have signed it electronically with your PIN(s) we should get the form in as little as five days!

If you have already completed your FAFSA, please make sure you keep on top of any requests for additional documentation or signatures to prevent any delays in processing. Also, let us know if you receive outside scholarships so we can incorporate them into your award package.

Questions? Please feel free to call the SUNY Canton Student Service Center at 1-800-388-7123 or (315) 386-7616. Our friendly staff is always ready to help.

From Bronco Busting to Comedy Concerts

Students clung to a computer-controlled mechanical bull for bragging rights, punched their roommates with over-sized padded boxing gloves, and flipped their bodies onto a Velcro wall just for the sheer fun of it at a recent SUNY Canton Fun Fest.

Student-run and orchestrated events have reached new heights, according to Student Activities Director Scott Quinell. “I work closely with the Student Cooperative Alliance (SCA) and the College Union Board (CUB) to bring their chosen events to campus,” Quinell said. “The students get to choose what events they want to participate in or see.”

Katt Williams of Comedy Central, BET, and VH1; and Finesse Mitchell of Saturday Night Live helped take some stress out of college life with a hilarious night of laughter. The Centennial Comedy Concert may have been the first time a nationally recognized comedian uttered the words, “That’s My SUNY Canton!”

Students were crying, laughing, and gasping to catch their breath.

The events came during a semester of fantastic student activities, including SUNY Canton Idol, a local spin on the national TV hit “American Idol.” Appearances by Astronaut Alan Bean and BET’s Jeff Johnson were also among the numerous highlights.

The Student Activities Office continues the tradition of Golden Opportunity nights, which provide safe and fun late-night entertainment for the campus population.