

Always Ahead of the Curve State of the Campus 2023

Firsts: State School of Agriculture, est. 1906

- <u>First</u> post-secondary two-year college
- First state school of agriculture
- \$80,000 for the first building
- Five students in the first "recitation"



"I did not know there were so many inhabitants in all the North Country."

Always Community-Minded

- Two Programs:
 - Agriculture (men)
 - Domestic Science (women)
- Trainings for rural teachers
- Farmers' Week
- Old Lantern Coffee House & Practice House
- Short courses (1926) for working farmers
- "Regional Council" (like advisory board)



Consistently Overcoming Challenges

- Director Dr. Kerry C. Davis declared the school a failure in 1908
- New building was intended for completion in 1906 but wasn't finished until 1908
- Faced potential closure in 1934-35



Van C. Whittemore Persona non grata

Growth & Change

- First tech programs added in 1937: Industrial Chemistry & Technical Electricity
- School of Agriculture --> Agricultural & Technical Institute (ATI), 1948
- Evening courses: Electrical Construction
- New Practical Nursing program for women
- Approved to offer Associates Degrees in 1951
- Accredited by Middle States in 1962



SUNY System

- New York was one of the last states to create a state university system
- The State University of New York was created to counter the "highly discriminatory" nature of private institutions
- ATI was among the first to join SUNY



Moving On Up

- SUNY ATI → SUNY Agricultural and Technical College at Canton (SUNY ATC) ,1965
- Need for new campus
- Bamboozling the Governor



Final Name Change: SUNY College of Technology at Canton (1987)





Ahead of the Curve: Academics

- Bachelor's Degrees in 1997
 - Added 29 Bachelor's degrees in 22 years
- Online Education Pioneer in SUNY – 2005
 - 23 fully online degree programs in 15 years



Ahead of the Curve – Student Life

- First Varsity eSports Program in SUNY
 - Founders of SUNY eSports League
 - First all-women collegiate varsity esports match
- Nationally-recognized in online student inclusion
- Among the first to offer Pet Wing – and a new Dog Wing this fall!



Ahead of the Curve: Facilities & Finances

- State-of-the-art athletic facilities in the Roos House
- Major renovations in Dana Hall, French Hall (underway)
- Strong financial management → strong reserves



Ahead of the Curve: Foundation

- First College of Technology to create a College Foundation (1993)
- Centennial Campaign 2006
- Kennedy Hall (2011)
- New Campaign beginning



Into the Future

New Opportunities, New Challenges

New Opportunities with New Funding

- \$2.8M in New State Funding
 - \$940k Transformational Projects (non-recurring)
 - \$1.1M Operating Aid
 - \$33.9k Student Food Insecurity
 - \$250k Student Mental Health
 - \$250k Students with Disabilities
 - \$193.6k Internships



Transformation Investment Plan - \$940k

- Replicate CUNY's ACE/ASAP programs additional advising and financial resources for limited cohorts
- Expand our successful Jump Start program
- Increase number of microcredentials/non-credit courses
- Further develop Prior Learning Assessment program (PLA)



Support for Students with Disabilities - \$250k

- New positions: Assistant Director of Student Accessibility Services, Testing Coordinator
- Identify & upgrade additional space for the Office of Student Accessibility Services
- Implement Parents, Peers & Professionals Autism Transition Program



Support for Student Mental Health - \$250k

- New positions: Assistant Director of Counseling, Alcohol & Drug counselor, student assistants
- Additional programming to support mental health & wellbeing
- Professional development opportunities
- Mental health first aid training



Internship Enhancement Funds - \$193.6k

- New Internship Coordinator position
- Increase paid on-campus internships by 130%
- Provide funds for paid internships in public service and non-profit agencies
- Offer transportation to internship sites
- Add Uconnect (virtual career service for online students)



Addressing Food Insecurity - \$33.9k

• Changes include regular staffing of the Renzi Food Pantry and the addition of perishable foods (dairy, fruits, veggies)



Opportunity: Grants & Initiatives

- Office of Grants & Sponsored Programs is ready to help!
- Recent campus grant applications include NSF Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation Capacity (EPIIC) Grant - \$400k
 - Purpose: build research capacity & support on campus
 - Thanks to Dr. Michele Snyder, Dean of the School of Science, Health, & Criminal Justice for her leadership!



New Academic & Research Success

- Cybersecurity Program named NSA National Program of Excellence in 2023
- Faculty Excellence:
 - Dr. Kambiz Ghazinour has won several grants and business start-up competitions
 - Dr. Aksel Seitllari is capitalizing on his research to establish a new Center for Pavement Research



Opportunity: Entrepreneurship

- Upcoming Payson Hall renovation: Business programs & the on-campus Entrepreneurship Center
- Jubilee Plaza project moving forward 45 apartments, commercial space, & the off-campus Entrepreneurship Center
- Dr. Lenore VanderZee has been named Vice President for Strategic Relations & Communications



Opportunity: Academic Programs

- Goals: Increase enrollment & enhance programs & resources
- No one-size-fits-all model
- Use New Initiative Process to seek funding if needed
- Creativity encouraged!



Optimizing Program Success: Early Childhood

- Successful stackable Associate's → Bachelor's degree program
- Non-credit program in workforce development partnering with the SBDC, NYPA, IDA, and SLC Childcare Council
- \$2.3M SUNY funding received for new Childcare Center on campus
- Program Director Dr. Maureen Maiocco awarded SUNY Distinguished Professor Rank in 2023



Challenges

- Funding still insufficient to meet needs
- More competition for fewer graduates
- Meeting students where they are:
 - Programs/courses in formats and at times that meet student needs
 - Recruitment & retention of utmost importance



We have always had challenges. We have always been resilient. Keep. Moving. Forward.