Oneonta Speakers Bureau Program

The Oneonta Speakers Bureau (OSB) program provides high schools, community colleges, or University Colleges of Technology (UCT) access to interactive presentations by College employees who have expressed interest in sharing their expertise. Modeled after a similar program offered by the New York Council on the Humanities, this program encourages these institutions to contact the College at Oneonta for speakers at no cost to them. Speakers receive a modest stipend and mileage reimbursement at standard rates.

Rationale

This program seeks to cement a strong relationship between the surrounding high schools, University Colleges of Technology (UCT), and Community Colleges with the College at Oneonta by facilitating members of the UUP bargaining unit to make presentations in the “greater Oneonta” region. The OSB will maintain a “speakers list with presentation topic listed” for inviting institutions to peruse. The program is completely voluntary to the inviting institution and the College employee.

Presenters

- Presenters may be UUP Academic or Professional employees, full-time or part-time.
- Each applicant to the OSBC will be required to present a synopsis of the presentation and meet with the committee. Acceptance, conditional acceptance, or denial of listing is at the prerogative of the OSBC. (Please see the attached solicitation evaluation.)
- Each applicant agrees to make a thirty-minute presentation with questions and answers if their topic is requested by a high school or community college.
- Each participant can be compensated for no more than two (2) presentations a year. There is a $100 stipend per presentation and mileage reimbursement up to 150 miles round-trip.

Inviting Institutions

- The inviting institution must request a presentation through the contact information provided by the OSBC.
- The inviting institution cannot provide a stipend, honorarium, or mileage re-imbursement.
- The inviting institution agrees to allow pictures of the presentation for the College at Oneonta’s publicity purposes.
- The inviting institution cannot invite more than three speakers in each two year cycle, beginning with the second year. During the first year of the program, the inviting institution cannot invite more than three speakers to the campus.

Evaluation and Comments

- At the conclusion of the first year and every three years thereafter, the OSBC will hold a luncheon of all stakeholders to obtain feedback for the continuation and improvement of the program.
• At the luncheon, a presentation about SUNY Oneonta will occur.
• At the luncheons, awards and evaluations materials will be provided.
• The OSBC will provide both the presenter and the audience with evaluative material each time the speaker makes a presentation.

Focus and Types of Presentations

The presentations focus on careers and substantive topics related to the vocations of both faculty and professionals. As such, the explicit requirement of the presentation is that it must be accessible and that it provides an eye-opening and horizon-expanding experience for the audience. Examples of presentations may include topics such as:

• “How and why I decided on a career in _____”
• “What’s it like in the day-to-day work life of a Facilities Professional
• “The Challenge of Finding Balance as a Part Time Faculty”
• “The Life of Anthropological Field Work”
• “Invading Biological Species in an Era of Globalization”
• “Democratic Governance in an Increasingly Conflict Ridden World”
• “The Impact of Ethnic Minorities on US Foreign Policy”
• “The Work of a College Athletics Coach”
• “How I Infused Diversity into My Curriculum”
• “What’s great about a career as a College Professor?”

Oneonta Speakers’ Bureau Committee*

• The Committee will assess the presentation to be placed on the speakers’ list. The criteria for presentation will include accessibility of presentation, manner of presentation to include interactive media, and the topic selected. Primary consideration will be the value of an accessible presentation to the audience.
• The Committee will contact high school guidance counselors and community college career development centers to solicit their input in the creation and selection of the speakers’ list.
• The Committee will develop the website that provides programmatic details and publicity of the speakers and their topics.
• The Committee will meet as needed to assess the program developments and to explore improvement needs.
• Utilize/develop a publicity release form and other paperwork as needed for the administration of the program.

*The OSB program is funded by a grant from the New York State/United University Professions Joint Labor Management Committees with a 40% match by the College at Oneonta. The OSBC consists of equal representation from the Administration and UUP. At the end of the grant period, the College may open up the OSB list of presenters to include other members of the college community. Presently the committee members consist of Ms. Lisa Wenck, Senior Executive Employee Services Officer and Dr. Julie Freeman, Interim Dean, Science and Social Science and Information Services and Dr. Hanfu Mi, UUP Oneonta Membership Development Officer and Dr. Robert Compton, UUP Oneonta Vice President for Academics.