Passing the Torch

Many times throughout my college career I felt like I did not have a voice; like my challenges were falling on deaf ears. Don’t get me wrong, I always had EOP, but I also needed an outlet to express myself creatively because creativity maintains my sanity. This newsletter should be used as an outlet for you to maintain your own.

As a graduating senior I will not be able to reap the rewards of this newsletter, but I hope that many of you will. I envision it growing; having an E-board with an editorial staff, and then it being a must read for not only the EOP community, but the student body as a whole. It is up to you to make this happen. It is up to you to take ownership of your voice.

In my four years here I have been involved in many organizations: I was the Vice President of the EOP Student Opportunities Committee, I was the News Editor for the State Times, I participated in the Political Science club, I had my own radio show on WONY, I was a Resident Assistant, and many other things. Now it is time for me to pass the torch. Which one of you will accept the challenge? Which one of you will represent EOP in a productive fashion? Which one of you will choose to never settle for anything less than perfection? My hope is that all of you will carry the torch, and that all of you will do things that I never did here at SUNY Oneonta.

This is a challenge to everyone reading this article. Step up, be a leader, capitalize on your full potential and remember that you always have a medium to express yourself: the EOP Voice.

~Guillermo Reyes

“Continuous effort—not strength or intelligence—is the key to unlocking our potential.”

~Black Elk

Who Are We?
The EOP Voice is:
Guillermo Reyes
Jessica Oliveira
Cheryl Peeters
JoAnne Murphy

We are always looking for interested, creative students to work on the newsletter. If you would like to participate, or submit an article, poem, artwork, etc. please email us at: EOPVOICE

Or contact us at:
607-436-2407
607-436-2471
332B Netzer Admin.
115 Alumni Hall
Simply put, the EOP department exists to help every EOP student reap the rewards of opportunity. From my perspective, this is the theme of Guillermo’s featured article. All around the campus community as well as in the EOP Voice, students have the opportunity to express themselves through prose, poetry, and art and to improve the environment through participation and action. I echo Guillermo’s challenge to each of you to take full advantage of every opportunity in order to capitalize on your full potential.

It’s a safe bet that life will present all of us with new challenges almost continuously. If we embrace these challenges we will find that opportunity will also continuously present itself and we will learn how to best reap the rewards.

Meet Jeremiah Griswold:

Jeremiah Griswold is the second-term President of the Beta Eta Chapter of Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society and a senior majoring in Communication Studies. Throughout his years as a student, Jeremiah has taken seriously his responsibility to excel academically, engage in personal development and participate in community service. As president, he represented the Beta Eta Chapter at the spring 2008 XAE National Conference, and spearheaded an active 2008-09 executive board that has accomplished successful fundraisers as well as service projects for local charities. He currently enjoys serving as the Fitness Facilities Supervisor, and among many other activities has been a Campus Tour Guide, a Student Disabilities Services Intern, Vice President of his Sophomore Class, a Student Association Senator, and began as a freshman Public Relations Officer for the EOP Student Opportunities Committee.

As a scholar, Jeremiah has earned recognition by achieving Honor Scroll status as well as the Office of Special Programs Academic Achievement Award. He was also awarded the EOP Perseverance Award for his many achievements in reaching graduation from the College at Oneonta.

When you see Jeremiah, congratulate him on a record of excellence!

The EOP Alumni Committee invites graduates to return to campus to interact with students during Summer Academy in July and Homecoming Weekend in October. The EOP Alumni Steering Committee, consisting of five alumni, is dedicated to encouraging more alumni to give and help their fellow EOP brothers and sisters. Each year, generous donations have allowed us to award deserving students with the EOP Alumni Scholarship. Past recipients include: Karl Meier ‘04, Joselyn Brito ‘05, Linda Yau ‘06, Shane Mayers ‘07, Hasanai Badar ‘08, Wen Ting Zheng ‘09, and Wilkin Cabrera ‘10.

When I first came to Oneonta, I was very concerned about being able to handle the pressures of college, and when I say pressures, I mean the hard work professors give to their students. I applied for a tutor through the EOP Program. EOP’s tutorial services helped me become a better student and enhanced my confidence as well. ~Corey Richardson

My tutor was very helpful and a pleasant person to be with. He broke things down for me in a way I could relate to and understand better. I was never afraid to ask for help because he was always willing to explain everything! ~Heilen Nolasco

One of the requirements for my INTD class was to see a tutor six times a semester. I was really frustrated by this because I felt like I did not need help in any class and it was unnecessary. However, when finals week came and I needed help studying and memorizing some material, my tutor helped me a lot. If it wasn't for her I do not think I would have done as well. Although I do not have any class that requires me to meet with a tutor, I still do it anyways. It is a very helpful program that I think all students should take advantage of. ~Jessica Oliveira
Creative Corner

Intellectual Warfare
By Rilwan Ameen

It's More than a Game It's an Artform
How The Pieces Conform at One's Command
Attack Defend Maneuver Your Position
At One’s Disposition

The Mind contained with 64 Squares how does it appear
Within these very boxes tells the story of a life lived

Chess
Also known as intellectual Warfare

What a game.
Complex, difficult, demanding and time consuming
Sometimes it has been a Challenge
An escape
A distraction
But mostly a passion.

There is Beauty in this game.
The coordination of pieces
Their Individual movement and power
The Precision of a checkmate
Or the fierceness of a long battle
To the very last piece

And the people I’ve played across the board
The opponents
Few were enemies

The game being the door to many Friendships
Drawn to each other by the basic Passion
Of a delicate game.

That symbolizes competition, friendship and mutual respect
You learn just as much from your opponent
As you do the game.

The power of leading
Forces you act upon
Thinking
As you play you are always seeking

The perfect move
The nice plot
The better position

To win despite the dangerous Schemes
Exist many different Equations

WHAT’S GOING ON:

May 6: Last Day of Classes
May 7: Finals Begin
EOP Laptops due back
May 13: Finals End
May 16: Commencement
May 26: Summer Session I begins

EOP Mission & Vision

Vision: Through unity of purpose, a diverse and supportive environment will be created
that challenges and empowers students to excel academically and to be successful,
life-long learners in a global society.

Mission: The mission of the Educational Opportunity Program at Oneonta is to
provide leadership, guidance, support, and services that present opportunities and
options encouraging and promoting holistic, and individual development for students and
campus constituencies along with an ongoing commitment to program advocacy.