Professional Applied and Computational Mathematics, (M.S.)

Buffalo State offers a wide variety of programs at the graduate level, and some are not fully appreciated or understood. The Professional Applied and Computational Mathematics (PACM) program is a unique and innovative way for students to attain a Professional Science Master’s degree—a unique degree offering great opportunities. The program requires 27 credits, made up of 9 credit hours in analytical mathematical modeling, 9 credit hours in statistical data analysis, 9 credit hours in business communication, project management, and operations management, and a 3 credit master’s project including an internship involving data collection, analysis, and synthesis into an analytical mathematical model. One of the best traits of this program is its 100% job placement for graduates who complete the program. Graduates seek employment in many emerging fields such as risk analyst, trend analyst, high new worth lending analyst, etc. For more information about the PACM program, visit: [http://pacm.buffalostate.edu](http://pacm.buffalostate.edu)

Creative Studies MOOC

In alignment with the Year of the Innovator, SUNY Buffalo State is following the theme by developing the first Massive Open Online Course, or MOOC, to be offered in Western New York. This course entitled “Ignite Your Everyday Creativity”, was created by John F. Cabra, Associate Professor and Cyndi Burnett, Assistant Professor, both at Buffalo State’s International Center for Studies in Creativity. Their MOOC is an altered version of the Creative Studies introductory course that Buffalo State has offered for years. In line with many MOOCs across the nation, 96 percent of students who signed up did not complete the entire course. Because MOOCs are generally free and credit is not earned, students usually complete only sections of the course. In Buffalo State’s MOOC, however, over 6,000 students were very active and watched all the videos after three weeks. Institutions offer courses such as these because the non-traditional, older age student population is increasing. MOOCs seem to be a course on the rise that institutions may even start providing credit for. For more information visit: [creativity.buffalostate.edu/everyday](http://creativity.buffalostate.edu/everyday)
Message from Dean Kevin Railey

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE—NEW PRESIDENT, NEW PROVOST, NEW PROGRAMS!

The Graduate School was honored to welcome President Katherine Conway-Turner to our annual awards ceremony on April 24th. We look forward to working closely with the new provost, Dr. Melanie Perrault, when she starts on July 20th. And, we look forward to the approval and completion of new degree programs in Urban Education, Public Relations, and Data Analytics.

- Thanks to Kathy Wood, Wendy Paterson and all who worked on the Urban Education degree program.
- Thanks to Deb Silverman for all her work on the PR program.
- And thanks to Joaquin Carbonara for bringing together people from three departments, two SUNY campuses, and various businesses.

The Inspirational Dr. Katherine Conway-Turner

Serving as the ninth president of Buffalo State, Dr. Conway-Turner was inaugurated on October 21, 2014. The event was memorable and her speech was stimulating and impactful! Here are some highlighted quotes from her Inaugural Address:

“I accept the trust and responsibility that the chancellor, the SUNY Board of Trustees, the Buffalo State College Council, and the Buffalo State community have granted to me as the ninth president of Buffalo State.”

“The road to accomplishment and distinction is not always a straight or smooth path. Our students come to us from small towns and large cities, from around the corner, and from across the world; however, regardless of how they arrive on campus, our mission brings unquestionable support for all students as they move toward their goals.”

President Conway-Turner also has her own blog in which she writes posts about her thoughts and experiences at Buffalo State. This is one of her many ways of connecting to the Buffalo State community. About a month ago she created a post titled, Changes in the Neighborhood, which is about the Richardson Olmsted Complex located across campus. This former psychiatric center is 140 years old and will soon be renovated into Hotel Henry Urban Resort Conference Center. Some exciting news for SUNY Buffalo State’s Hospitality and Tourism majors is that there are hopes for opportunities for students to get some hands-on experience at the future hotel and hone their skills. Dr. Conway-Turner is highly interested in interacting with students and her blog is one of the many ways she does so nowadays. Visit our president’s blog at: Kateconwayturner.tumblr.com

"At Buffalo State, I believe we can fly. I believe we can touch the sky. Buffalo State College is ready to build on its successes and manifest leadership in engagement, excellence, and social responsibility. We are ready to touch the stars.”

"Today we stand together as a campus that is ready to build on the tremendous foundation of the past while we move toward the future. “
**Student Spotlight:**

Originally from Colorado Springs, CO, Danielle is an avid Denver Broncos fan. Being in Buffalo for 11 years, she has made quite an impact on the community and campus in many ways. Danielle’s motivation is that she has an insatiable desire to attain more knowledge. Danielle is extensively involved in volunteering within the community whether it is labor intensive volunteer projects (i.e. planting trees, street cleanup) or indoor events (i.e. sitting at an information table, clean-up crew). She regularly coordinates and organizes groups for volunteer activities. Danielle is part of a volunteer gardening group that maintains the gardens in front of City Hall and even helps in her neighborhood by maintaining the street side flower planters.

Danielle is completing her Master’s program with a multidisciplinary combination of Urban & Regional Planning classes from the University at Buffalo and Public Administration, Creative Studies, and Educational Technology from Buffalo State. Utilizing this combination, her master’s project is a public service announcement (four, ten-minute videos) and everyday crime prevention practices which includes: live footage, dramatic video, animation, and an interview with a local police chief.

Danielle intends to submit her videos to Buffalo’s Public Access Channel 20, with hopes that they will be aired and successful. She wants to prompt future opportunities to make more public service announcements and have them aired on Public Access. Danielle also intends to get her Ph.D. one day in the future.

**Faculty Spotlight: Kimberly Kline, Ph.D.**

**Associate Professor of Higher Education**

Dr. Kimberly Kline is the most recent winner of the ACPA’s Diamond Honoree, author of two books, and a paddle boarder. Those who are nominated to The Diamond Honoree Program are recognized for their outstanding and sustained contributions to Higher Education and Student Affairs. Dr. Kline was very humbled by this nomination as she stated, “My name is in the same category of some intelligent and talented people; it really is an honor or to be recognized”.

Dr. Kline has a passion for helping students reach their full potential, which is why she is an amazing advisor. She has administrative experience in Indiana University, John Hopkins University, George Mason University, SUNY Brockport, and of course SUNY Buffalo State in fields such as: academic support, residence life, student activities, Greek life, building management, etc. Overall, Dr. Kline is a huge asset to the Higher Education Department and The Graduate School would like to say Congratulations!

**Grad Commons Now Open in Library!**

Graduate students have specific needs — and E.H. Butler Library has taken a big step to help meet those needs. What was formerly known as the Creative Studies Balcony is now the Graduate Student Commons. This space is open to graduate students from 3 p.m. until the library’s closing Monday through Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday (when the library is open). This space is ideal for group or individual work, and is designed to accommodate busy grad students. This project came about after learning that grad students had an unmet need for a dedicated study and work space on campus. Many students in Buffalo State’s graduate programs are busy professionals who are balancing work, family, and academics. This space allows grad students to work together, socialize with their peers, and focus on their advanced studies. The Graduate Student Association has also moved their office into the Butler Library building, so go check out the resources available to you!
Important Dates

May 16th  Commencement
Undergraduate: 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. | Graduate: 6 p.m.

May 18th  First Day of Semester (Summer 2015)

May 21st  MAT Exam
2:30p.m. — 4:30p.m. | Butler Library 318

May 25th  Memorial Day

June 1st  Graduation Applications Due (August 2015)

June 18th  MAT Exam
2:30p.m. — 4:30p.m. | Butler Library 318

July 4th  Independence Day

August 8th  Degree Conferral Date (August 2015)

Because of Buffalo State...

Want to contribute to the Graduate School newsletter? Please email Marnie Letzelter at harrismt@buffalostate.edu

Deadlines:
Spring Newsletter: December 1st
Fall Newsletter: July 1st

Graduate Research Recognition

SUNY Research Presenters

On February 11th, three students traveled to Albany for the “Graduate Research: Making a Difference in New York Partnering with SUNY and CUNY” research symposium. Nominations for presentations were made by faculty across campus. These three finalists were chosen for the overall quality of their research and presentation.

Chelsey Nabozny, M.S.Ed. English Education
Adviser: Dr. James Cercone
Inquiry Based English Teaching and the (Re)Emergence of the Dialogic Classroom

Vanessa Ludwig, M.S.Ed. English Education
Adviser: Dr. James Cercone
Inquiry based Teaching in the Age of Top-Down Education Reform

Pavan Kumar Narayanan, Professional Applied & Computational Mathematics
Adviser: Dr. Lorena Mathien
Using Lagrangian Relaxation to Solve Ready Mixed Concrete Dispatch Problems

2015 Outstanding Master’s Project Awards

Tracy Fox, M.S.Ed. Art Education; Adviser: Dr. Shirley Hayes
A Cast Study Investigating How Art Education Fosters Collaboration in an Urban Environment Through the Lens of Public Pedagogy

Corrine E. Carter-Strader, Kimberly Farr, Liane Schaub, Jessica D. Washington, M.S.Ed. Literacy Specialist;
Adviser: Dr. Theresa Janczak
Using an Early Reading Intervention Program to Increase Phonological Awareness Skills in Pre-Kindergarten Students At-Risk of Reading Failure

2015 Outstanding Master’s Thesis Awards

Ashley Smith, M.S.Ed. Art Education; Adviser: Dr. Alice Pennisi
Artist Practice in Elementary Classroom: Redefining Art Teaching Through Artist-teacher Philosophy

April L. O’Brien, M.A. English; Adviser: Dr. Jennifer Ryan
“God Loves All Them Feelings”: Renegotiating Faith and Sexuality in The Color Purple and Angels in America

Timothy A. Collins, M.A. English; Adviser: Dr. Jennifer Ryan
Rap Aesthetics and the Postmodern Imaginary

Allyse M. Fischer, M.A. Biology; Adviser: Dr. Chris Pennuto
Effect of Round Goby Presence on Invertebrate and Microbial Communities in Decaying Leaf Matter of a Lake Erie Tributary System