

Thank you for attending the SUNY Excels session on Thursday (8/13/15). I am sure that many of you are still concerned as to what this entails and how we will have time to proceed with the funding requests. First, I too, was concerned when I learned about SUNY Excels when I arrived in July. Second, we have no choice regarding the submission of our performance-based funding planning. We must submit our plan by September 30, 2015, even if we do not apply for the SUNY Excels funding. However, after hearing about the excellent work we are doing across the campus, I feel more confident that we can submit a white paper by the end of August.

So, to be clear about SUNY Excels;

1. We must submit our performance plan by September 30, 2015, and address the questions that we shared with the community.
2. We are eligible to submit a white paper by August 28, 2015, to request additional funds. The white paper will not contain the specific details of the programs, but will be more of a broad brush proposal which includes the areas of interest and how they align with one or more of the Power of SUNY initiatives.

The major issue that was facing me in July was how to get enough input across the community to perform both requests. My initial communication with the community was to be at Convocation where I was going to unveil a transition plan document through which I and the community would work towards our vision and plans for Cobleskill. While I still plan to do so, we must turn our attention to SUNY Excels. Yes, this was not the most opportune time or project for a new president, but here we are and we plan to be a player.

As promised, the senior staff and I reviewed the excellent suggestions that folks provided at the meeting and we identified three major (overarching areas). A detailed sheet with all of the suggestions received is also attached.

The three themes are:

1. Applied Learning, which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Construction Fund as capital support for outside labs
 - b. 4 H Cornell Cooperative Extension (food safety, etc.)
 - c. The proposed wetlands lab
 - d. The archeological site
2. Internationalizing the campus and attending to diversity, which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Residence Hall work with RAs and international students
 - b. Providing more advanced opportunities for veterans
 - c. American Language Academy
 - d. COIL
 - e. Outreach to other countries

3. Enrollment diversification:
- a. Providing on line (extension) learning for farmers
 - b. Education and training of more medical and allied health professionals
 - c. Early college programs and high school students
 - d. STEM summer camps
 - e. Work force training with an online cyber security program
 - f. PACE initiatives
 - g. Inner city kids and the Farm On project

Themes	SUNY Excels Worksheet Categories				
	Access	Completion	Success	Inquiry	Engagement
Applied Learning					
Internationalizing the campus culture					
Enrollment diversification					

The project should also identify one or more of the Power of SUNY Initiatives

Cradle to Career
 Open SUNY
 Degree works
 SUNY Works
 Start Up NY

SUNY Smart Track
 SUNY Serves
 Seamless Transfer
 EOP
 SUNY V.E.T.S.

SUNY Metro
 Cultural Competency
 Diversity Task Force

SUNY Excels: Cobleskill Style:

Potential Projects (Based on the SUNY Excels 8/13/15 Workshop)

Applied Learning: is one of the hallmarks of a SUNY Cobleskill education. We are the exemplary applied learning program in SUNY and we are interested in sustaining and extending the scope of these opportunities.

SUNY Excels category

Power of SUNY categories

Internationalizing the campus: We think that SUNY Cobleskill's programs are highly aligned with international student interest and we want our domestic students to gain the invaluable insights that come from exposure to different cultures and ways of thinking. This approach would then lead to strategic partnerships with agencies and educational institutions with a possible presence in other countries.

To do this, we must first create a campus culture that embraces diversity and effectively utilizes this resource in the learning paradigm. The program would include a multi-phased orientation to prepare students to either study abroad, engage in a cultural immersion program, and/or do a senior-level project (research, internship, creative work, etc.) that focuses on diversity.

Phase one may include

1. Working with the Residence Hall staff, particularly in the international residence hall, to create a model for exchange of...
2. Completing the MOU for the American Language Academy and connect them with designated programs on campus
3. Exploring the integration of the COIL program into academic and co-curricular programs

SUNY Excels category

Power of SUNY categories

Enrollment Diversification: As is true with our desire to create a commitment to a sustainable culture that values diversity, we are interested in extending our scope of program offerings that align well with extending the educational opportunities for

- Professionals in health and allied health care settings. Reaching out to Bassett Hospital and other health care providers to determine need and types of programming

- Farmers who may need assistance in the use of technology or other techniques that would enhance productivity and provide opportunities for other types of farming enterprises
- Students from urban centers who would benefit from exposure to programs that focus on sustainability and eco-friendly practices prior to the start of full-time study on campus, but with college credit. This might lead to an extension of the applied learning paradigm and include partners such as Green Mountain and Cazenovia Colleges
- Service dog and equine therapy training and other types of intervention programs that provide quality of life to people
- Veterans who may be able to convert their service into “credit from prior learning”

SUNY Excels category

Power of SUNY categories

NEXT STEPS

1. We will submit the 1-2 PAGE white paper on our big ideas by August 28, 2015
 - a. We will follow the guidelines noted on pages 4-5 in the SUNY Excels document
 - b. The Cabinet will gather suggestions from the specific departments regarding the focus of the white paper and draft a proposal that will be vetted through an expedited shared governance review
2. As we wait to see if we were selected to prepare a full RFP, we will prepare our SUNY Excels Performance Improvement Plan, which must be submitted by September 30, 2015
3. If our white paper is approved for a full review, we will need to submit the RFP by September 30, 2015, along with the performance plan