Syracuse University Welcomes Kent Syverud ~12th Chancellor & President~

Abbreviated biography from the Syracuse University website:

Chancellor Syverud came to SU from Washington University in St. Louis, where he served as Dean and Ethan A.H. Shepley Distinguished University Professor since 2006. Prior to that, he served eight years as Dean at Vanderbilt Law School. During his tenure at Washington University, he led efforts to create university-wide programs in Washington, D.C., in partnership with the Brookings Institution and in New York in partnership with the Olin School. He also advanced efforts to expand online education opportunities, including development of an innovative online master’s degree program.

After earning a Juris Doctor and an M.A. in Economics, Chancellor Syverud went on to serve as a Law Clerk for Judge Louis Oberdorfer of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. He practiced law in the fields of litigation and insurance at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, D.C., from 1985 to 1987. From 1987 to 1997, he served on the faculty of the University of Michigan Law School, earning tenure in 1992 and advancing to Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in 1995. He has been a Visiting Professor at the Cornell Law School, the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and the University of Tokyo Faculty of Law and Politics (http://chancellor.syr.edu/biography/index.html).

From the Chancellor’s Inaugural Address
April 11, 2014

By definition in our very Constitution, then, we are an unentitled nation, and this school, I am deeply proud to say, has long been and hopefully forever will be, a University that attracts unentitled people. We are a university that opens its doors to those who are hungry for knowledge and advancement, whether they be middle class or rich or poor, and whether they be American, Native American, or from abroad. This is a university for those who are willing to work hard to know the truth. This is not, and never has been, a school for those who view higher education as an accessory, a fashion statement, or a way to define one’s social status. This is a university where, when we are at our best, we are about knowledge and becoming the best.

~Kent Syverud

Chancellor Kent Syverud and interim Dean of the School of Education, Joanna Masingila, visiting with students and staff of the Office of Supportive Services.
OSS congratulates SSS senior Brysan Brown who was chosen as a 2014-2015 New York City Urban Fellow. The Urban Fellows Program is a highly selective, nine-month fellowship which combines work in mayoral offices and city agencies with an intensive seminar series that explores current urban issues impacting public policy.

As a double major in Political Science and Communications and Rhetorical Studies, Brysan brings an impressive amount of experience to the fellowship. He interned with NYS Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and participated in Maxwell’s Semester in DC, where he was a press intern for the Center for American Progress. This past summer, Brysan participated in the prestigious Public Policy International Affairs (PPIA) Program at the University of Michigan. And most recently, Brysan won first place for the Mary E. Earle Prize, an award for top undergraduate research papers from the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies for his paper, “Defending the Emancipation Proclamation and Laying the Groundwork for Gettysburgh: Abraham Lincoln’s Letter to James C. Conkling.” Brysan will graduate Magna Cum Laude from Syracuse University and OSS is very proud to have witnessed the success of such an outstanding young man with such a promising future.

~Amy Maye, SSS Counselor

Congratulations to SSS Senior Janessa Bonti chosen as a 2013-2014 Remembrance Scholar. Janessa is a Nutrition Science major in the David B Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics. As a pre-med student, Janessa participated in the Northeast Regional Alliance MedPrep Scholars Program and was a research assistant for the Nutrition department. She has also been active on campus as an orientation leader, CSTEP ambassador, and president of the Church of Pentecost Student Association. Janessa has always been driven to help others and her community service includes tutoring in the Syracuse City School District and volunteering at Crouse Hospital. This past semester, Janessa was featured in the Fall/Winter 2013 Issue of SU Magazine in the article “Driven to Succeed.” We are proud to have another Remembrance Scholar from OSS and wish Janessa the best in her future endeavors!

~Amy Maye, SSS Counselor

My future goals are to continue to gain experience in the finance and accounting industry with my work at Ernst & Young. I eventually would like to become partner there or at a private firm. After that I would like to become an accountant or financial advisor in the entertainment business. After I become financially stable and have acquired some wealth, I want to give back to OSS and help out future students and children in my community. After I retire, I would like to obtain my own talk show either on TV or the radio (if radio is not dead by then).

My time at OSS and SU has been positive. Academically I have done well, and I am proud of the things I have accomplished. I have enjoyed my time here at SU and with HEOP. I know without the program I probably wouldn’t have the opportunity afforded to me to attend such a great school. It is because of HEOP and the family like culture, that I have gained some really close friends I will have for life. This program gave me the opportunities I didn’t think possible and allowed me to build a career I will be proud of.

~ Latanya Blassingame-Hall~
The Martin J. Whitman School of Management
Finance & Accounting
Class of 2014
A lot can happen in a year...As I sit down to write this reflection, I look back at how things have changed since I stepped on the campus of Syracuse University. After being notified of my acceptance to the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) at Syracuse University I immediately knew it was going to be the opportunity of a life time. I was a senior at East Side Community High School submitting college applications; now I am in my senior year at Syracuse University getting ready to step out into the world. The Office of Student Services (OSS) and HEOP have provided me with endless opportunities. I had the experience of a lifetime traveling across Europe while studying in London for a semester. In addition, I was able to intern with the NBC Olympics this year, which was an unforgettable. The faculty at the Newhouse School instilled in me the importance of telling compelling stories, while the students at CitrusTV taught me the ins and outs of television production. From issues like financial aid and academic tutoring, to planning a semester abroad, the staff in HEOP have gone out of their way to make sure students like me succeed. I am writing this reflection not to promote what I've done on and off campus of but to show everyone that services like the HEOP and SSS do work.

Besides the endless hours of studying at Bird Library, I devoted my time to honing my craft in the field of television production. I was able to do that right from the start at CitrusTV, which provided content for OTN (Orange Television Network) At CitrusTV, I worked alongside students who were as passionate about broadcasting as I was. We learned from each other and shared our passion for production. At Newhouse I not only learned from the best communication professors, but I was able to take advantage of strong networking opportunities. The networking lead me to interning with WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) for two summers, an internship with the NBC Sochi Winter Olympics, another internship with the NBC Sports Network, and, beginning this summer, an internship with MTV Viacom. All this was made possible because of the help from Newhouse and HEOP.

Four years ago, I entered Syracuse University with minimal experience in broadcasting, and now I have gained more experience than I thought I ever could have. In the fall of my senior year I took advantage of an opportunity to participate in the Syracuse University study abroad program in London; which was without a doubt the most significant part of my time here at Syracuse University. If I had to sum up my entire abroad experience it would be: perspective. The student who boarded the plane back in New York at the start of the semester is not the same one sitting here writing this reflection. I have a broader understanding and perspective about the world, and I have a better understanding of society, humanity, and life as a whole. I have been able to travel to many amazing cities across Europe such as Amsterdam, Stockholm, Budapest, Prague, and Vienna. While I had the time of my life, I knew that it would not have been possible without the advice and support of HEOP.

I give Dave Peterson and Brad Ellis all the credit for guiding me and making me the person I am today. They are both my mentors and the advice they have given me helped me succeed at Syracuse University. If there is one thing I want you all to take away from reading this reflection it is to take advantage of every opportunity that is put in front of you while you are in college. You only have four years, it will be the best four years of your life, don’t take it for granted. I am proud to be a Syracuse University student but I am even prouder to be a member of HEOP.

~ Jose A. Moreno Jr. ~
S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications
Broadcast and Digital Journalism
Class of 2014
OSS Bids Marian Cappelletti a Fond Farewell

After many years of counseling and advising students Marian Cappelletti and her husband, professor of history, Scott Strickland, are retiring and moving to Arizona. Marian’s contributions to Syracuse University, the students and our office are simply too numerous to cite. Her work with Robert Wilson, director of Student Support Services, to develop and maintain the “Advising Practitioners Forum” has helped to foster beneficial collaborations across our campus as well as provide opportunities to explore best practices in college advising. She, along with other members of APF, has presented at national conferences on advising. Her interest in fostering community and creativity amongst students lead her to develop an annual publication called “Bridges: A Literary Collection Highlighting Cultural Awareness and Acceptance”. Marian received a B.S. in political science from SUNY Fredonia in 1976 and an M.A. in Art History from Syracuse in 1998. Her work has always focused on supporting students from her position as Director of Orientation Programs ('87 - '89) to her time as Assistant Dean for Student Services in VPA ('89 - '92) and Director of Career Exploration Services in the College of Arts and Sciences ('92 - '94). It was in 2002 that she found her true passion as she took an academic advising position with Arts & Sciences ('02 - '06) before joining the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program within the Office of Supportive services. Her care, dedication and mentoring skills have assisted hundreds of students to complete their degrees and go on to graduate programs and/or become established professionals.

It is always difficult to have one of the Supportive Services team move on because our positions here rarely seem like a job but rather a commitment. Marian is one of those people who made it her life’s work while she was a staff member with HEOP. She consistently contributed in ways that included both professional and personal to me and to all of the professional staff. I could feel bad about this departure but after visiting Arizona recently all I can do is wish her luck, be a bit jealous, and know that I know someone who will enjoy the sun daily!! Good Luck Marian and thank you.

Denise Trionfero OSS

Marian’s passion for her work has been nothing short of remarkable. I have had the opportunity to watch Marian work over the past few years, and I realize that she truly cares about each of her students and is willing to do whatever it takes to ensure that they reach their goals. I have learned quite a bit from her, so much so that I consider her my twin that was separated at birth. I will be the next Marian Cappelletti.

Craig Tucker OSS

This university and office is losing a very special person. She is someone that you feel like you’ve known a lifetime. She has the ability to relate to individuals on a personal and genuine level. I will always remember our first meeting. I was interviewing for the counselor position with HEOP. Marian was on the search committee. Here I was in this plush office, being grilled by the committee. All of the sudden water is pouring inside the room, on top of me. Marian, being the ever caring, thoughtful individual, pulled me right next to her, like we were long lost pals and continued without skipping a beat. Best interview ever, as we laughed and joked the remainder of the time. As a colleague she is someone I’ll always admire, and miss greatly. Best of luck in your next chapter!

David Peterson OSS

I know it is a small thing, but some of my favorite times working with Marian have been when she and I worked together on various editing projects for the office. She always keeps herself so busy, but when we were editing we got to spend some time getting to know each other.

Brad Ellis OSS

Marian is the epitome of Appreciative Advising. She positively supports the aspirations of students and facilitates a pathway to their goals. The outcomes of her dedication and work with students are amazing and speak for themselves. Marian’s professionalism and devotion to the cause are demonstrable as she energetically gives of herself to students and projects on a daily basis. This is not easy work, but Marian has used her intellect, experience and sensitivity in helping to shape the progress and development of the wonderful young people assigned to us. Scott and Marian have made a massive contribution to our University and so many lives have been enriched by their presence here. So “how are you Dear” becomes “Farewell Dear” but the legacy remains in the lives so gently touched. “Thank you Dear.”

Robert Wilson OSS

Robert Frost wrote: “A poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom” and I think this is how many students might describe their relationship with Marian. Her passion for her work, her artistic sensibilities, and her thoughtful guidance has helped many grow and learn along their journey.

Christopher Weiss OSS

I admire Marian so much and I’m so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with her over the past eight years. All that she does comes from a simple, genuine desire to help students. Her love for this work is obvious and her ability to connect with students is remarkable. While at OSS, Marian has not only been my office neighbor, but my counselor, friend, sounding board, and one of my biggest supports at SU. I am very happy for Marian and Scott as they move on to Arizona, but I honestly don’t know what I’ll do without her!

Amy Maye OSS

Marian was one of the first advisors that I encountered when I started working at Syracuse University in 2005, and we have been colleagues and friends since then. I don’t feel that words are adequate to describe her dedication to her students and her fellow workmates. I know she has always had a laugh, a listening ear, and a shoulder to cry on for me and I will miss her presence on campus greatly.

Jennifer Jeffery Veterans Career Transition Program
After I earn my Bachelors in Psychology from SU, I aim to obtain a Masters in Inclusive Special Education. I want to give back to my community, and I feel as though teaching will be one of the most rewarding and enriching experiences. I would like to eventually move back to my hometown in New York City and work full time as a teacher, and then continue to move up in the education field. I want to be part of the change I’d like to witness in my community and I aspire to help others be the best they can be.

To say the least, the Higher Education Opportunity Program at SU became my family away from home throughout my undergraduate career. My academic counselor, Marian, has become part of my growing support system and always made sure I was updated with resources the campus had to offer. She has not only been an academic counselor, but has served as a confidant and friend when needed. She had an answer for each of my thousand questions, and found a way to lighten up my mood whenever I had a rough day. I am forever thankful to her and everyone in that office for their genuine and caring support. I have witnessed growth in myself that has enabled me to empower myself as a young Latina. I took the chance, went away to college as a first generation college student and embraced the opportunity to grow as an individual and learn to carry myself with pride and confidence. Attending SU through HEOP has been one of the most life changing decisions of my life. I cannot believe that my undergraduate career has come to an end and I will soon be alumna, however, I will forever cherish these experiences and will carry my orange pride forever.

Mariely Guzman
The College of Arts & Sciences
Psychology
With minor in Child & Family Studies

~ Celebrating our Seniors ~
HEOP & SSS Students Step Into The World