

# **Uniting Across Campuses Conference**

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**Advisors Networking for Student Success**

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**WNY Advising**

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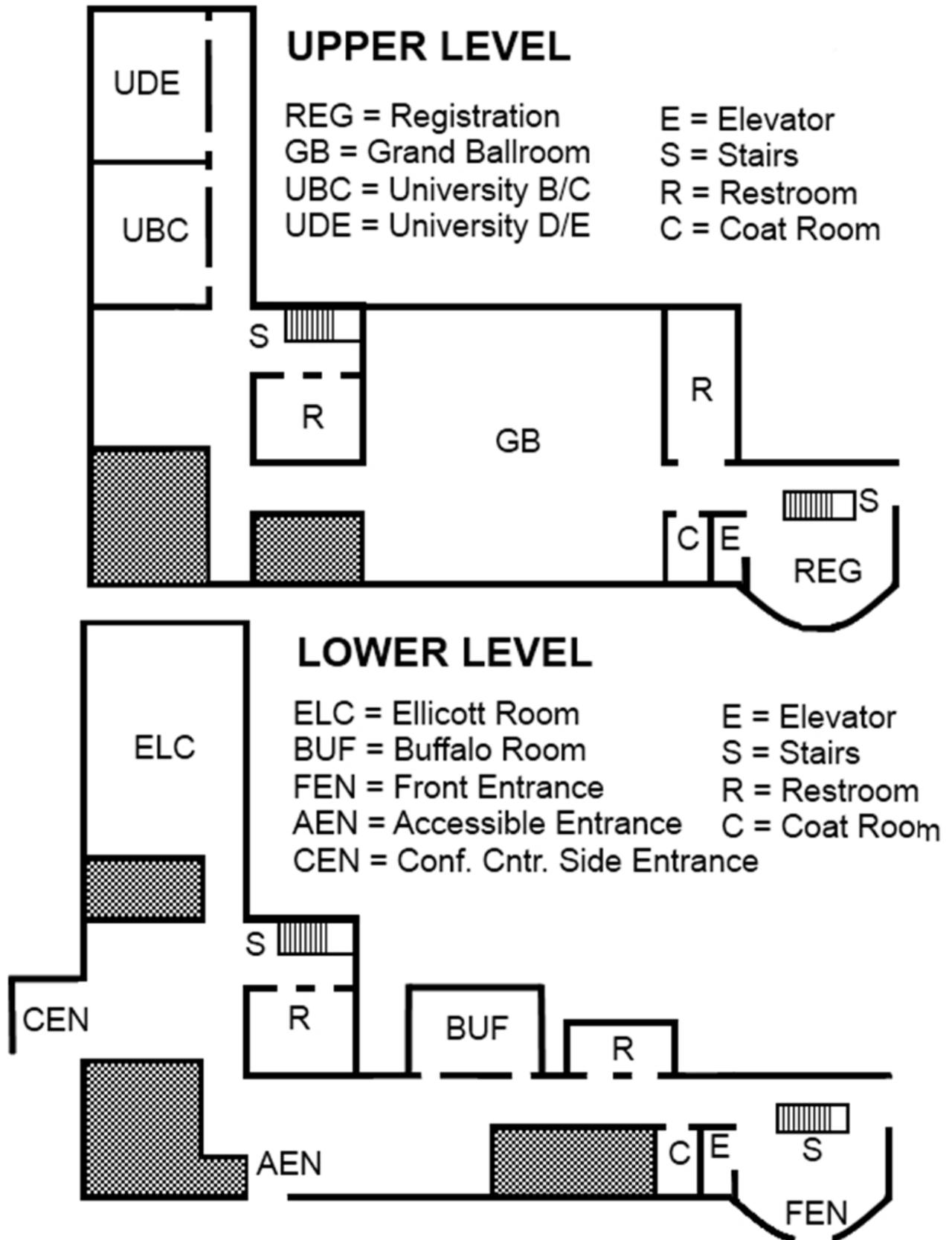
**The Ramada Hotel & Conference Center**  
2402 N. Forest Road  
Amherst, NY 14226

**February 26, 2014**  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



**PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR NAME BADGES WHEN YOU LEAVE**

# Map



# Agenda at a Glance

- 8:30–9:00 a.m. Registration/Breakfast, Ballroom**
- 9:00–9:15 a.m. Welcome from the Conference Chair, Ballroom**  
Dr. John P. Sauter, Jr., Niagara University
- 9:15–10:00 a.m. Keynote Address, Ballroom**  
Dr. Thomas McCully, Niagara County Community College
- 10:15–11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions I (choose one)**
- Lower Level  
Ellicott (ELC) Military Life vs Student Life  
Buffalo (BUF) Operation Engage: Effective Social Media Marketing for Higher Education Professionals
- Upper Level  
Univ B/C (UBC) It Takes a Village: Achieving Student Success Through Mentoring  
Univ D/E (UDE) Thinking About Obtaining a PhD: Everything You Want to Know About Applying to and Graduating from a PhD Program
- 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Lunch & Networking, Ballroom**  
**11:50–12:30 p.m. Optional Networking Sessions**  
***Networking attendees will be given priority access to the buffet***
- Upper Level  
Univ B/C (UBC) Retaining First Year Students  
Univ D/E (UDE) Student Advocacy, Promoting Self-Reliance
- 12:45–2:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions II (choose one)**
- Lower Level  
Ellicott (ELC) The Disabled Student Experience: Strategically Supporting Access  
Buffalo (BUF) Anticipating Freshmen Fears and What Institutions of Higher Education Can Expect: Recommendations for Transitions from High School
- Upper Level  
Univ B/C (UBC) How Low-Income Students Succeed at College  
Univ D/E (UDE) A Deeper Look at Culture Shock and Its Impact on the Student Experience
- 2:15–3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions III (choose one)**
- Lower Level  
Ellicott (ELC) Wait! Don't We All Want the Same Thing Here? From Helicopter to Lawn Mower Parents: Collaborating to Enhance the Advising Experience  
Buffalo (BUF) Neurodiversity: How a Better Understanding of the Autism Spectrum Can Help Enable Success for All Students
- Upper Level  
Univ B/C (UBC) Academic Skill Issues Facing College Students That All Advisors Should Know  
Univ D/E (UDE) 'Nothing Interests Me': Helping Students Overcome Negative Thoughts for Future Success
- 3:30–4:30 p.m. Photos, Raffle, Networking, Wrap-Up, Ballroom**  
Free head shots will be taken for professional/social media use  
Drawings for donated prizes (you must be present to win)

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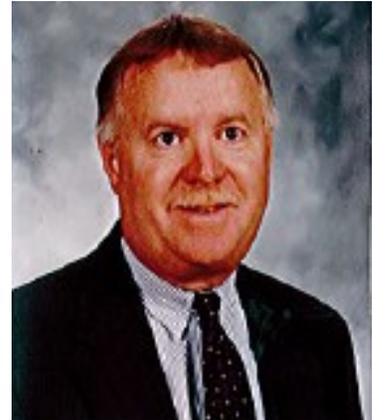
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# Keynote 9:00-10:00 a.m.

## Keynote: Dr. Thomas McCully

Professor of Childhood Education  
Niagara County Community College



### ***7 Habits of Highly Effective People***

Dr. McCully will be discussing Stephen R. Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. He will highlight how we can use them as administrators in our work and personal lives as well as how to instill the concepts in our students.

### **About Dr. Thomas McCully:**

Dr. McCully has been a professional educator for forty-three years. He received his doctorate in education from the University at Buffalo in 1979. He was an elementary school teacher in the Amherst Central School District from 1969 to 1984. He served as an administrator in the Kenmore-Tonawanda School District from 1984 to 1989 and was the principal of Heim Elementary School in the Williamsville Central School District from 1989 to 2002. He has permanent New York State certification as an elementary school teacher and as a school administrator and supervisor. He was a professor and coordinator of the education program at Niagara County Community College from 2002-2012, and now continues his work at the college on a part-time basis. During his career, Dr. McCully had the opportunity to work with and supervise outstanding educators and to develop educational programs that meet current learning standards and the needs of students. He has also taught teacher candidates at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Recently, Dr. McCully became involved in leading an initiative at Niagara County Community College based on the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. He is certified to facilitate several *7 Habits* workshops. During the past year he taught workshops to high school and college students as well as to faculty and staff at Niagara County Community College. He also taught a workshop for military families. He found these experiences to be both exciting and rewarding and hopes to continue to make a difference in the lives of others through teaching these workshops in the future.

# Session 1: 10:15-11:30 a.m.

## Ellicott Room (1st Floor)

### **Military Life vs. Student Life**

Presenter: **Mr. Tommie L. Babbs**, *Senior Academic Advisor & Military Credit Evaluator, University at Buffalo; 31 years of military experience, Retired Master Sergeant, US Air Force*

The goal of this presentation is to alert the advising community of the characteristics and behavior of the military student that they will advise, to gain a greater understanding of the post 9/11 student. It is our hope that we will eliminate stereotypes and create a greater sensitivity towards our veteran students. The influx of military students into higher education necessitates the creation of an academic advising /learning environment that is aware of and sensitive to their special needs. The transition from a value system shaped by the military into an environment that invites creativity and critical thinking can result in a high level of dissonance and dropout rates. Veterans introduce an entirely new perspective, bringing with them not just functional disabilities and psychological issues grounded in experience from active military services, but also unique life experiences that are vastly different from the norm in higher education. This session will focus specifically on advising veteran students and discuss the need to employ more collaborative approaches that will promote academic success.

## Buffalo Room (1st Floor)

### **Operation Engage: Effective Social Media Marketing for Higher Education Professionals**

Presenters: **Jillian Reading**, *Academic Advisor, University at Buffalo School of Public Health & Health Professions*; **Tim Matthews**, *Assistant Director, University at Buffalo Honors College*

This presentation is for those who are familiar with social media and actively using it within their office. We will discuss ways to write effective posts that will engage your target audience (students, staff, faculty, alums) and reach a large audience. We will also discuss methods that can be used to measure social media influence and other data collection mechanisms. We will discuss how to effectively use the most popular forms of social media...effective posts, giveaways/contests, meetings, promoting special events. Audience members will learn how to write effective social media posts using Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and Instagram. Audience members will understand how to measure their social influence using platforms such as Klout. Participants will be able to construct effective posts using various social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Instagram). Participants will better understand ways to measure their social media influence and provide basic usage data to monitor their efforts.

# Session 1: 10:15-11:30 a.m.

## University B/C (2nd Floor)

### **It Takes a Village: Achieving Student Success Through Mentoring**

Presenters: **Lisa Black, MA**, Assistant Director, Medaille College; **Tiffany Hamilton, MS**, Student Success Advocate, Medaille College; **Amanda Sauter, LMSW, MS**, Student Success Advocate, TRiO Student Support Services, Medaille College

This session will provide participants with an overview of successful mentoring initiatives that support underrepresented college students at a small private college in WNY. Presenters will share strategies that they have used in the development and implementation of an effective, three-pronged mentoring network that includes professional program mentors, peer mentors, and alumni mentors. In addition to providing practical advice, presenters will also offer student testimonials and some unexpected benefits to the college at large that result from mentoring partnerships.

## University D/E (2nd Floor)

### **Thinking About Obtaining a Ph.D.: Everything You Want to Know About Applying to and Graduating from a Ph.D. Program**

Presenters: **Dr. Ramelli Choates**, Director of ACE/Acker Advising, Peer Mentor Coordinator, University at Buffalo; **Dr. Danielle Johnson**, Academic Advisor/Coordinator, Acker Scholars Program, University at Buffalo; **Dr. Tara Jabbaar-Gyambrah**, Director of Multicultural Affairs, Hilbert College

Obtaining jobs in today's economy is becoming increasingly competitive. Many higher education professionals are feeling the pressure to do more work with less staff and with no monetary increase. Other professionals are feeling the need to obtain additional educational credentials such as a Ph.D. to compete for limited higher education positions. According to the Council of Graduate Schools (2010), 40-60% of students enrolled in doctoral studies do not complete the dissertation which is a phenomenon commonly known as All But Dissertation or (ABD). Given these statistics one might wonder if they should pursue the doctorate. As such, this presentation is designed to assist individuals who are thinking about applying to a doctoral program or who have recently applied to graduate study. The purpose of this presentation is to share our experiences applying to and graduating from Ph.D. programs while working full-time and raising families. Participants will learn about the process of selecting a program of study, choosing a committee, completing coursework, studying for the comprehensive exam and writing the proposal. Since a large percentage of students complete the coursework and not the dissertation, we will also discuss developing a timeline for successful completion and the importance of sticking to a schedule.

# Lunch 11:30-12:45 p.m.

Ballroom (2nd Floor)

## *Optional Networking 11:50-12:30 p.m.*

We are pleased to bring you two options for lunch this year.

**Initial access to the buffet will be prioritized for the first 15 minutes, to assure that those who wish to attend the moderated networking sessions have time to eat their lunch.**

### **1) Regular Lunch & Networking in the Ballroom**

- This is the same luncheon that you have come to expect from our past conferences. You can relax, enjoy your meal, and mingle freely with your colleagues from different institutions.

### **2) Optional Moderated Networking Sessions**

- You may drop into the following discussions anytime between 11:50 and 12:30 p.m.
- Bring any questions or ideas you might wish to discuss.

University B/C (2nd Floor)

#### **Retaining First Year Students**

Moderator: *Amie Pistrin-Faust, Counselor / Conference Chair Elect, Erie Community College*

University D/E (2nd Floor)

#### **Student Advocacy, Promoting Self-Reliance**

Moderator: *Tina Michalowski, Academic Advisor / ADA Coordinator, Bryant & Stratton College*

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# Session 2: 12:45-2:00 p.m.

## Ellicott Room (1st Floor)

### **The Disabled Student Experience: Strategically Supporting Access**

Presenter: **Alissa Shugats Cummings**, Program Administrator, Student Development, Niagara County Community College

During this session the expectation is that participants will experience a paradigm shift relative to the experience of disabled students in college and identify tools that are helpful in providing meaningful, practical services to this population while supporting the students' academic success. Most student services practitioners never learn about disabled students as part of their academic programs and have limited exposure in the field. Often when faced with a disabled student, the issue of disability is not addressed, due to prevalent social constructs. The purpose of this presentation is to provide a framework for examining the disabled student experience. Participants will be made aware of challenges that disabled students face, and how issues and situations that would be a minor inconvenience for other students may create a discouraging barrier to the success of disabled students.

## Buffalo Room (1st Floor)

### **Anticipating Freshmen Fears and What Institutions of Higher Education can Expect: Recommendations for Transitions from High School**

Presenters: **Bruce A. Shields, Ph.D.**, Associate Education Professor and Principal Investigator, Daemen College; **Michael Berta, Ed.D.**, Director of the Experimental Classroom and Investigator, Daemen College; **Taylor C. Miller**, Upper-Classman Education Student and Investigator, Daemen College

First year students entering Daemen College for the fall 2013 semester were canvassed about what their concerns are as they transitioned from high school to college during freshmen orientation. We will present our findings and we will discuss the implications and recommendations. By the end of the session, the participants will be able to list the various stages of career/secondary developmental stages; discuss the q-methodology/top four fears (and non-fears) of incoming college freshmen into an IHE; identify implications and recommendations of addressing the fears of freshmen.

# Session 2: 12:45-2:00 p.m.

## University B/C (2nd Floor)

### **How Low-Income Students Succeed at College**

Presenter: **James Louis Ramsey, Ph.D.**, *Senior Counselor, University at Buffalo*

In the context of sub-par academic achievement and degree attainment, escalating college costs, declining financial aid, and mounting student loan debt, this interactive lecture-style workshop presentation, based on a qualitative research study, examines the struggles and triumphs of first-year low-income students at a public flagship institution. Conference participants can expect to become familiarized with the primary obstacles to success for 21st century low-income students, as well as the various ways students and institutions confront these obstacles on the road to academic and vocational success. The workshop presentation will identify reforms necessary to improve the performance of low-income students in higher education.

## University D/E (2nd Floor)

### **A Deeper Look at Culture Shock and Its Impact on the Student Experience**

Presenter: **Christina L. Giunta**, *Program Coordinator, Undergraduate Academies, University at Buffalo*

This presentation will examine the four stages of culture shock as related to the student experience with the purpose of promoting a deeper understanding of what students go through when they come to us from all across the globe. After the stages of culture shock are explained and examined in detail, we will look at Schlossberg's Transition Theory. Looking at this theory in conjunction with the stages of culture shock will bring to light a practical application of what we can do as advisors to better support students. During the presentation, a YouTube video will be shown and discussed by the group to demonstrate the importance of cultural sensitivity in our everyday social interactions. The overall goal of this presentation is to promote cultural competency as an ongoing process. Attendees will leave knowing the four stages of culture shock and the four S's in Schlossberg's Transition Theory along with practical applications for both.

# Session 3: 2:15-3:30 p.m.

## Ellicott Room (1st Floor)

### **Wait! Don't We All Want the Same Thing Here? From Helicopter to Lawn Mower Parents: Collaborating to Enhance the Advising Experience**

Presenters: *Kirkshinta Turnipseed, Senior Counselor, EOP, University at Buffalo; Sarah Piraino, Academic Advisor, ACE and Daniel Acker Scholar Program, University at Buffalo*

This presentation summarizes the research on parent involvement in advising and legal boundaries. Participants will review case studies that are drawn from real life scenarios from local advisors who have dealt with some very tricky parent/advisor situations and will provide feedback and insight through discussion. There will be time allotted to review interventions that will help to improve success in fostering advisor/parent connections that will enhance the advising process and ultimately lead to improved student success outcomes. This presentation will include recommendations for ways to incorporate parents into the advisement process beginning pre-admission (student orientation) and keeping them connected throughout the undergraduate advising process. Lastly, participants will gain a deeper level of understanding of the importance of forging alliances with parents, become familiarized with interventions that will help them in recognizing and defusing potentially combative situations with parents that will lead to enhanced student outcomes and improved student retention rates.

## Buffalo Room (1st Floor)

### **Embracing Neurodiversity: How a Better Understanding of the Autism Spectrum Can Help Enable Success for All Students**

Presenter: *Karen Moronski-Chapman, Data Analyst, Institutional Effectiveness and Title III, Daemen College*

Neurodiversity is a concept where neurological differences are to be recognized and respected as any other human variation. Embracing neurodiversity helps us to identify and value the contributions different perspectives bring to our society. If we accept somebody and work with their strengths we can help them to find ways of dealing with their challenges that work for them. In this workshop participants will learn about the Autism Spectrum and Asperger's. Strategies for working with students on the Spectrum will be discussed. Many of the strategies learned may be effective when assisting all students regardless of where they fall on the Autism Spectrum (everyone falls somewhere on the spectrum). Activities in this workshop will enable self-discovery and will aid participants in relating better to students who are neurologically diverse.

# Session 3: 2:15-3:30 p.m.

## University B/C (2nd Floor)

### **Academic Skills Issues Facing College Students That All Advisors Should Know**

Presenter: *Dr. Henry J. Durand, Senior Associate Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education, Executive Director, Cora P. Maloney College, Clinical Associate Professor, Educational Leadership & Policy, Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo*

This workshop will examine the student skills and study skills all advisors should know to help students successfully navigate the college classroom process. These skills are focused particularly on undergraduate first time students, but will benefit all students, including non-traditional students, first-generation students, graduate students and students from “at risk” backgrounds or circumstances. This workshop is unique in that it is presented from the combined perspectives of both a classroom professor and an academic advisor and advising administrator. The workshop will address both the essential study skills that can help any student enhance their academic performance, and possibly even more important, this session also covers critical academic and classroom interaction skills that influence students’ academic performance, grades and faculty/student relationships.

## University D/E (2nd Floor)

### **‘Nothing Interests Me’: Helping Students Overcome Negative Thoughts for Future Success**

Presenter: *Greg Rosenberg, Ed.S., NCC, Career Counselor, University at Buffalo*

Have you ever heard a student say something along the lines of, “I will never be able to choose a major,” or, “I won’t be able to make a good choice?” Negative thoughts like these can impede the process of decision-making and lead to increased anxiety in all areas of life. This session seeks to help advisors and counselors approach the topic of negative thinking with students and help them overcome the obstacles that prevent them from making decisions. Practical information will be provided from the Cognitive Information Processing Approach to Career Development: an evidence-based, theoretical framework applicable for all advisors and counselors that work with students and young adults. Participants will identify and understand negative career thoughts and their inhibiting effects on the career and academic decision-making of college students and young adults, recognize the verbal cues of negative thinking in students, understand how to help students identify, challenge, and reframe negative thoughts during and after advising or counseling sessions for improved academic and career-related decision-making, as well as gain a foundation in Cognitive Information Processing as a theoretical framework for Career Development.

# Photos, Raffle, Networking

3:30-4:30 p.m. Ballroom (2nd Floor)

## Professional Photographer:

Free head shots for Social Media

- First come, first served order
- Please sign-up in the rear of the ballroom
- Photos will be distributed via email

## Raffle for Donated Prizes

Turn in your name badge in the ballroom to be entered in the raffle

- You must be present to win

## Feedback (See Links On Next Page)

- Evaluate the Conference
- Join the 2015 Committee

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your  
**name badges**



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# Conference Committee

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- John Sauter, Ph.D. - Niagara University

## Conference Committee:

- Dalene Aylward - University at Buffalo
- Julia Braun - University at Buffalo
- Shannon Brown - University at Buffalo
- Samantha Calabrese - University at Buffalo
- Kate Doran - University at Buffalo (*UB UAC Representative*)
- Sabrina Fennell - Daemen College
- Heather Hagenbuch - University at Buffalo
- Nathan Hendrickson - Rochester Institute of Technology
- Jude Jayatilleke - Buffalo State College
- Heather Martin - Erie Community College
- Brandi McKnight - University at Buffalo
- Tina Michalowski - Bryant & Stratton College
- Carole Miller-Canestrari - Buffalo State College
- Mark A. Onesi - University at Buffalo
- Amber Packard - University at Buffalo
- Amie Pistrin-Faust - Erie Community College (*2015 Chair Elect*)
- Sara Reese - Bryant & Stratton College
- Sara Robinson - University at Buffalo
- Amanda Sauter - Medaille College
- Michelle Semski - Bryant & Stratton College
- Melanie Warren - Niagara County Community College
- Janeen Wilder - University at Buffalo

***A special THANKS to  
everyone who  
volunteered  
and assisted during  
the conference.***

## Post Conference Survey:

<http://wnyadvising.weebly.com/post-conference-survey.html>

## Join the 2015 Committee:

<http://wnyadvising.weebly.com/committee.html>

# WNY Advising

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## WNY Advising

WNY Advising is designed to foster collaboration and networking among advisors and higher education professionals in the greater Western New York (WNY) area. We encourage you to engage with us and connect with other advising professionals.

### Engage:

- Submit Blogs
- Submit Resources
- Submit Presentations
- Submit Archive Info
- Join a Discussion
- Take/Suggest Polls
- Submit a Job

### Conference:

- Updates
- Committee
- Archives

### Resources:

- Social Media
- Organizations
- Professional Development
- Careers
- Jobs

### Become a Contributor:

- Get recognized as a contributor by submitting multiple blogs, resources, or presentations.

## Conference Back-Channels

Connect with other attendees via social media, chat about the conference sessions, get updates...



**Facebook:** Like WNY Advising

- Tag "WNY Advising" in posts



**Twitter:** Follow @WNYAdvising

- Tag @WNYAdvising
- Use hashtag #WNYAdvising



**LinkedIn:** Join the "WNY Advising" group

- Join the 2014 Conference Discussion



**WNY Advising:** Visit Our Website

- Join the Conference Discussion
- <http://wnyadvising.weebly.com/discussions.html>

## Coming Soon

### Mini Summer Conference on Social Media & Technology

Be sure to check back at WNY Advising for more events & committee updates!