What Is the SUNY Oneonta Faculty Fellows Program?

- **Bilingual Education**
- **Library Special Researcher Program**
- **Internship Opportunities**
- **Interdisciplinary Courses**
- **Faculty Retention**
- **Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)**
- **Applied Learning**

*2021-23 Faculty Fellows Projects*

- **Maria Cristina Montoya** (Foreign Languages and Literatures)
- **Brendan Aucoin** (Milne Library)
- **Leigh M. Fall** (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)
- **Jacqueline (Bruscella) Bishop** (Communication and Media)
What Is the SUNY Oneonta Faculty Fellows Program?

The Faculty Fellows Program is a pilot program in Academic Affairs that addresses faculty leadership, institutional needs, and collaboration.

The projects are addressing SUNY Oneonta's mission critical goals in experiential learning, student engagement and retention, and inclusivity/diversity.

The faculty fellows are an interdisciplinary team that strengthen the roles and offices of the academic deans and library director by integrating the academic schools/units.

https://suny.oneonta.edu/academic-affairs-office-provost/faculty-fellows
Brendan Aucoin
Milne Library, Library Director Darren Chase
Supporting Scholarship in the Library

In support of the library mission to **create an inviting and stimulating intellectual center as the foundation of teaching, learning and research activities**, Brendan is working on three projects designed to embed scholarship into the physical spaces of Milne Library.

**Library Special Researches** program will support student researchers by providing them with private spaces to research and opportunities to present their research. Launching Fall '22.

A new **large screen display** in the library will be used to showcase research from across the campus. Initially it will feature presentations from Life of the Mind, with the collection expanding to include other campus scholarship.

Following up on the success of the Leap of Faith installation, the Library will use 102A as a **configurable showcase space** for scholarship on campus.
Research has found that over 80% of career success depends on what are deemed **essential competencies**: e.g., skills in critical thinking, interpersonal communication, media literacy, problem solving, creativity and innovation, team/group collaboration, ethical decision making, and intercultural awareness. A well-rounded approach to education, one that focuses on developing these competencies, is at the core of a liberal arts education. Importantly, employers recognize this, and are hiring college graduates based on applicants’ proven demonstration of these competencies. However, making the connection between “theory and practice” isn’t always easy for students.

That said, **my work over the next year and a half will focus on engaging students and faculty in conversations about making connections between the competencies we are developing in our classes and students' career preparedness**. To do this, I am focusing on three separate, but related, applied learning endeavors:

1. **Strengthen career-readiness programming for students in the School of Liberal Arts & Business**
2. **Increase student access to on- and off-campus internship opportunities**
3. **Improve the student, faculty, and site-supervisor user experience of Handshake**

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According to LinkedIn’s 2019 Global Talent Trends Report:

- **It’s more important to hire for:**
  - 30% Soft skills
  - 62% Soft and hard skills
  - 92% say soft skills matter as much or more than hard skills
  - 8% Hard skills
Leigh M. Fall (Earth and Atmospheric Sciences)  
School of Sciences, Dean Tracy Allen

Areas of Need to Foster Engagement and Retention

Interdisciplinarity

- To identify barriers that prevent interdisciplinary teaching and collaborations
- To explore mechanisms that foster interdisciplinary teaching and collaborations
- To propose solutions

Applied Learning

- Increase applied learning opportunities for students
- Suggest improvements to streamline processes for students and faculty
- Advertise applied opportunities to students
- Revisit the College's applied learning plan submitted to SUNY

Interdisciplinarity in the sciences

To collate information on past programs and incentives that worked and did not work
1. Internationalization of SEHES

To develop faculty leadership in international affairs and to strengthen relationships abroad.

To disseminate, train and assist faculty with COIL partnerships around the world.

To design and establish a sustained international faculty exchange by allowing faculty to connect and develop interdisciplinary curricula.

To institute the Fulbright Scholar exchange by hosting world awardees and supporting SUNY Oneonta faculty in Fulbright missions.

2. Bilingual Education Program

Grant writing
- To write a new grant for the department of education to continue the implementation of the BECP.
- To propose institutionalization of the program at SUNY-Oneonta, so that eventually will run without the state grant.

Program Operation
- To have a permanent coordination of the program (teaching, advisement, and scheduling) in the division of education and a permanent cohort of teaching faculty for the BECP.

Future
- To explore the possibilities of proposing the BECP to become a master's degree program housed between the departments of Elementary and Secondary education and the Foreign Languages and Literatures.

3. Faculty retention, a support model for new faculty

Leadership collaboration
Support by established faculty mentors
Assess and implement annually
Check in surveys, needs and progress
New Faculty Retention

Critical Thinking
Interactive Across Cultures
Solve Problems
Authentic Communicative collaboration

Employability Skills
Global Careers

Acknowledgment of interculturalism
SUNY’s Applied Learning (APL)
Students learn by engaging in direct application of skills, theories, and models.

SUNY - Faculty Connects Students to the World
Structured Virtual Exchange Program

Reflection
COIL