



Herkimer
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Connections

SPRING 2019

Herkimer's
Got your Back



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ON THE COVER:

President McColgin and Joseph C. Storch, associate counsel in the SUNY Office of General Counsel and the principal investigator for the SUNY's Got Your Back Program, led students and staff in packing 2,000 comfort kits at Herkimer College on February 26th. SUNY's Got Your Back program provides various personal necessities to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Once filled, the bags are boxed and collected from all the participating colleges throughout the SUNY system, then distributed to various groups that deal with victims of violence — including hospitals, law enforcement agencies and domestic violence shelters — all over the state.

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Editor

Rebecca J. Ruffing

Contributors

Erin Bailey '98
 Maria Hughes
 Anne Whiting '10

Art Direction and Design

Cynthia Courtney

College President

Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Foundation

Robert Fowler

Foundation President

Frank J. Kapusta '83

Connections is a publication of Herkimer College and the Herkimer County College Foundation. It is published twice per year and distributed to alumni and friends of the College. Send feedback to: Rebecca Ruffing, Director of PR, Herkimer College, 100 Reservoir Rd, Herkimer, NY 13350 or rebecca.ruffing@herkimer.edu.

Ways to give to Herkimer College

Donations to the Herkimer County College Foundation help us provide scholarships for deserving students and advance the College's most important goals. We depend on the generosity of our alumni and friends to improve the quality of the Herkimer College experience.

There are many ways you can support Herkimer College.

Contact Us

For more information or to suggest another way you'd like to support the Foundation, please contact Rob Fowler, Executive Director, Herkimer County College Foundation, at 315-574-4015.

A MESSAGE FROM THE President

DR. CATHLEEN C. MCCOLGIN

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Throughout the country, all sectors of higher education, and especially community colleges, are experiencing challenging times due to shifting economic, demographic and cultural trends. While the rules of the game seem to be changing ever so quickly, our priorities remain the same—to maintain Herkimer County Community College as a viable institution, fulfilling our mission to prepare students through quality academics and a rich, well-rounded college experience.

Herkimer College continues to play a critical educational, social and economic development role in the Mohawk Valley region. With more than 40 career and transfer degree and certificate programs, a leading online educational program, and a variety of workforce development programs and partnerships, we are making a significant impact in the lives of the students and community members we serve.

In this issue of *Connections*, you will read about many successful alumni and new college initiatives, including a new Police Basic Training certificate program which has been a resounding success. Several new programs, including Communication & Media; Electrical Technology; Health Professions; and Supply Chain Management, are pending approval by the State Education Department. Additionally, a proposal for an Art Education degree program has been submitted to SUNY, and a Pre-Employment Corrections certificate program is in development.

Our Middle States self-study process is continuing and making great strides. The steering committee conducted a student forum which was incredibly engaging and informative. We were able to immediately respond to some short-term issues, and are planning other initiatives as a result of the input. Our work groups continue to research, document and analyze their findings, and we plan to share a draft self-study report with the campus community later in the year.

I am very proud of the achievements of Herkimer College over the past year, and also those of our students and alumni. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff, a very sincere thank you to those who support our work through donations to the Foundation and attendance at campus events. We appreciate your generosity, support and friendship.

Sincerely,

Cathleen C. McColgin

Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D.
President

Senator James Seward and Assemblyman Robert Smullen recently visited Herkimer College to tour the campus and discuss state funding for community colleges with President Cathleen McColgin and Sr. Vice President Nicholas Laino. Pictured from left: Smullen, McColgin, Seward and Laino.





Photo: Kristoffer Juel Poulsen


ROBERT H. WOOD
Great Artists
SERIES

dreamers' circus

Friday, April 12, 2019 | 7:00 PM
Herkimer College's Sarkus-Busch Theater
Free and open to the public

Herkimer | FOUNDATION
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

27th ANNUAL



GENERALS OPEN

GOLF
Tournament

Monday, June 10, 2019
Stonebridge Golf and Country Club

Call 315-574-4015 for registration information.
www.herkimer.edu/golf

A MESSAGE FROM THE Foundation Director

ROBERT FOWLER

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The months are passing so quickly I can't believe it's time to issue another update, yet here I am, collecting my thoughts to share with you. I'm pleased to say the Foundation has been successful achieving several objectives in support of Herkimer College.

The Foundation was recently awarded a grant for \$96,000, courtesy of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, for the purchase of necessary equipment to support a proposed Electrical Technology program. Additionally, thanks to the support of the Excellus Corporation, a new scoreboard will soon be in place at the softball facility, home to our nationally-ranked softball program. And a big thank you goes out to the Cristman family, who played a significant role in assisting the Foundation with acquiring a new scoreboard and swim timing system for the Cristman Pool. These upgrades will help provide a terrific experience for the fans who support those programs, as well as for the various community and regional organizations that utilize the facilities.

I can't forget about the Herkimer Arts and Crafts Fair! Now in its 42nd year and serving as a fundraising event for the Foundation, the 2018 event was a huge success! We had a full show with 122 vendors occupying 140 spaces on campus. More than 3,400 people attended the two-day show, an increase of almost 400 from the previous year. The Foundation was pleased to welcome AmeriCU Credit Union as a major sponsor. We appreciate their support and look forward to continuing the partnership.

I've had the pleasure, over the past year, to meet with several visiting alumni, many of whom haven't been on campus since graduation. It's a real pleasure for me to have the opportunity to meet alumni in person, and I appreciate that they reach out to me when they find themselves in town for a visit. I've said before how impressed I am by the honest passion and admiration so many alumni have for Herkimer College.

As always, thank you for your dedication to Herkimer College and your support of the Herkimer County College Foundation.

Sincerely,



Rob Fowler, Executive Director
Herkimer County College Foundation



“ Besides marrying my wife, going to Herkimer College was

the best decision of my

THAT DECISION WORKED OUT FOR MICHAEL LACROSSE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. BESIDES EARNING A DEGREE IN GENERAL STUDIES, LACROSSE ALSO WAS PART OF THE TEAM THAT WON HERKIMER'S FIRST EVER NATIONAL LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP.

LaCrosse would win more accolades, including induction into his high school's hall of fame, and the 1988 team induction into Herkimer's Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also the National Junior College Player of the Year in 1988, scoring 95 goals and 24 assists, as well as All-American and East Coast Conference MVP the next year. Lacrosse was inducted into the NJCAA Men's Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2018.

LaCrosse's sports career started in high school, breaking records in both lacrosse and football. His high school coach, John Johnson – a hall of fame coach – took an interest in him. “He met Coach Paul Wehrum at a lacrosse clinic in Pennsylvania and told him that he might be interested in me. My parents and I drove up to meet Coach Wehrum during the summer. He showed us over the fields and what not. Before we got on the Thruway to go home, we – my parents and I – all knew that this was the right choice. Coach Wehrum is totally the reason I went to Herkimer College.”

Wehrum and LaCrosse have remained in contact through the

years. “His success has continued – on the field and then in business. He's a great dad; a great business person; a great friend. I couldn't be prouder. He is a well-deserving individual,” says Wehrum.

Another professor that had a profound impact on LaCrosse was Raymond Lenarcic. “He was very active with the Vietnam vets in the area. He took us with him, and we got to know some of them. We learned that we were lucky to be in an era without a draft. He made me think about other people and their problems. I grew up without these kinds of issues. These guys were hurting still years after the war. He was a really good guy; a really good professor, and he cared about other people and taught us to do the same.”

Fellow teammates also inspired and supported LaCrosse. “There were so many great guys there; so many deserving of this honor. We all knew the quality of the team; we didn't talk about it, but we all knew it. There was a vast array of kids on the team from different economic backgrounds and regions along with different education levels; it



vy life.”

Michael LaCrosse '88



pretty much represented a cross section of the US at that time. But we connected somehow and made a great team.” When the team reunited in 2015 to be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, “we picked up like it was before – just great guys, great teammates – the bond between the players was still strong.”

After Herkimer, LaCrosse received a full athletic scholarship to Hofstra University. His first year at the college was, in his own words, “fantastic.” “We had a big win against the University of Virginia. I set the record for most single-game goals – I scored 10 goals. I was in *Sports Illustrated* and I got to try out for the US World Team that year.” But his second year didn’t fare as well, as he injured his knee during the first game of the season. “That was pretty much the end of my sports career.”

Even in high school, LaCrosse knew he was going to be in sales. “That’s what my dad was. He started a company in 1973, E.F. LaCrosse Sales, Inc. We serve

the automotive industry, OEM, and large Tier 1 industries.” The firm connects companies selling highly engineered metal and alloy products to the companies that need those raw or processed materials, such as Delphi and General Motors. “They basically hire E.F. LaCrosse Sales to run their sales and marketing divisions,” said LaCrosse.

LaCrosse graduated from Hofstra University with a degree in Business Administration, but his father suggested he not jump directly into the family business. “It was a smart move on my dad’s part,” he says. “I worked for other bosses, other people, for about eight years.” LaCrosse is now President of E.F. LaCrosse Sales.

“If there’s one thing I want to get across in this interview,” LaCrosse concludes, “it’s that if there’s any high school student, or anyone for that matter, who doesn’t know what they want to do after high school, they should try Herkimer College. I know it was the best decision I made. They will learn to live on their own, to study, and

start to grow up a little bit. I think of my time at Herkimer and my teammates and Coach Wehrum often. It’s been over 30 years since I graduated and I know still that I made the right choice. It’s just a special place.”





BRITTANY VARIN '10

fashion degree

BRITTANY VARIN CONSIDERED SEVERAL SCHOOLS, INCLUDING THE FASHION INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK. "I DECIDED TO GO THE 'SMALL-TOWN GIRL' ROUTE," SHE SAYS. "I'M SO GLAD I CHOSE HERKIMER COLLEGE."

In 2009, Varin received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence for her academic performance and campus involvement, including her work with the Fashion Club.

After completing her associate degree, she went on to earn her bachelor's in Fashion Merchandising at Cazenovia College. Varin then worked at a bridal shop near her hometown of Chazy Lake, New York. "I loved the position," she recalls. "I love the realm of bridal – the extravagance. I could make the design bold. There's no defining lines in bridal because each bride is different." One of her favorite parts of the job was attending the fashion shows as a purchasing agent.

Varin also personally sold the dresses to brides-to-be. "You have to make the bride feel like a friend. You have to meet her on a personal level. She is buying a dress that she is never going to wear again. Sometimes, as women, we're so hard on ourselves – we don't like our arms or our bellies or whatever. So we

have to be reassuring; to let them know that they are beautiful and they will be beautiful on their wedding day."

Varin interned in New York City, via a reference from Erin Kavatchitch Frias, another Herkimer College graduate. "There is a stereotype about working in fashion, but it wasn't true in this company. Everyone was helping each other and they were so kind." The company offered Varin a job, but she chose to enroll at the London College of Fashion to pursue a master's degree in Fashion Entrepreneurship.

After returning to the states, Varin began working at a scarf company in upstate New York. "I learned a lot, however, the environment just wasn't right for me," she explains. "I couldn't wait to get out. But I thought, 'The job market is tough right now.' So I thought I would teach abroad, have an adventure. My recruiter told me about a position in Huizhou University [in southeastern China] teaching fashion."

BRITTANY VARIN HAS TAKEN HER FASHION DEGREE ACROSS THE WORLD – MOST RECENTLY TO CHINA, WHERE SHE IS A FASHION LECTURER AT HUIZHOU UNIVERSITY.

LEADS TO WORLDWIDE ADVENTURES

Ironically, the first class Varin was asked to teach was the History of Fashion – one of her favorite classes at Herkimer. Feeling a bit overwhelmed to be teaching on the college level, Varin reached out to her former professor, Janice Jenny, for help with lesson plans and other practical aspects of teaching fashion.

The challenge of teaching at Huizhou University is real, but Varin is loving it. “The first day, the students were just sort of looking at me like, ‘We don’t know what you’re saying,’” she recalls. The textbook was in Chinese, so they were a bit surprised to learn that the lectures were in English.” Varin restructured her lesson plans and worked with her translator between sessions to make sure the students would get the most out of the lectures. “We’ve made great strides,” she says proudly. “The students are understanding the material. We’re doing ok, now.”

Another major challenge of living in China is the language barrier. “Huizhou City is a smaller city. I can get the culture ok. But I can’t read the characters. It’s not like being in, say, Italy, where you can at least read the word [even if you don’t understand it]. It tests my English, too – I have to make sure I use the right tense and spell the word right, or my students may not understand what I’m saying.”

Her favorite part of living in China is exploring the culture and the food. “There’s no General Tso chicken, or sesame chicken, or egg rolls, or anything you would find at a Chinese restaurant in New York,” she says. “It’s very different. But it’s very good. It’s better, really.”



For Varin, Herkimer College was the beginning of her adventures. “Herkimer holds a special place in my heart,” she says. Those adventures currently have her in China, and she looks forward to where it will take her in the future.

{ For Varin, Herkimer College was the beginning of her adventures. “Herkimer holds a special place in my heart,” she says.

DR. KEVIN M. KRESS, PT, DPT

FROM THE TIME HE STARTED COLLEGE, KEVIN KRESS' GOAL WAS TO BECOME A PHYSICAL THERAPIST. "IN HIGH SCHOOL, I WAS VERY INVOLVED IN ATHLETICS AND HAD A LOVE FOR SPORTS," HE EXPLAINS. "HOWEVER, I KNEW BEING A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE WAS NOT A REALISTIC CAREER CHOICE FOR ME."



Kress considered careers that allowed him to stay active and work with athletes. A family friend took him to the Little Falls Hospital rehab department, and he discovered physical therapy. "I immediately fell in love with the profession," he recalls. "I was amazed at everything you could do to help people who were injured or in pain, and help guide them back to normal life."

Grad Realizes Dream of Career as a Physical Therapist; Gives Back *to his* Community



Kress earned his associate degree in science in 2000, followed by another in PTA in 2002. With more than enough transfer credits, and the practical hands-on experience from the PTA program, he enrolled at Utica College to pursue his bachelor's and doctorate degrees in physical therapy. While at Utica College, he worked for Function Better Physical Therapy as a PTA, where he continued working for eight more years as a clinical manager after earning his doctorate degree in 2009.

During this time, he also taught classes at Herkimer College. "We often act as educators to help [patients] understand their condition and how we will help them. Sometimes you have to break it down to terms to help them understand what's going on without using too much medical terminology. I used this same approach with my students when they were struggling with a topic. I absolutely loved the teaching aspect and sharing my knowledge with students who were enthused to join the profession and start helping others."

While Kress enjoys teaching, his passion is in the clinic treating patients. In February 2018, Kress opened his own clinic, Kress Physical Therapy, in his hometown of Little Falls, NY. "I was already well-established in the area, and it felt natural to serve the community where we live," said Kress, who finds himself getting more involved in the community now through organizations such as Rotary, the Elks Club, youth sports programs, and local schools.

Kress Physical Therapy treats all conditions with a focus on orthopedics (shoulders, knees and spine), and patients range from three months to 95 years old. The clinic also provides concussion treatment, as Kress is certified in concussion management,

allowing him to provide services to local schools and sporting events. Kress' staff includes himself and another doctor of physical therapy, two physical therapist assistants (both are Herkimer College alumni), and an office manager.



Though he's not currently teaching classes, Kress hosts PTA students as interns at his clinic, and he also delivers guest lectures on occasion. While students have an opportunity to gain practical hands-on experience, Kress sees it as an opportunity to learn as well. "It helps to keep me sharp," he admits. He finds himself thinking more critically when he has to explain things to a student. "When teaching somebody, I get a lot out of it, too."

Kress is grateful for the opportunities he's had with Herkimer College, and is particularly proud of the PTA program, which has had a 100 percent job placement rate for the past three years. "I think it's one of the best two-year degrees available."



Dr. Doran Larson began prison work in 2006 by leading a writing workshop inside Attica Correctional Facility – an endeavor that led to his founding of a two-year college degree program inside Attica in 2011. The following year, the Hamilton College professor initiated conversations with the superintendent of the Mohawk Correctional Facility, Paul Gonyea, and representatives of other colleges in the region, as well as a private funding source. Dr. Larson's collaboration led to the establishment of the College-in-Prison program.

The College-in-Prison program at Mohawk Correctional allows inmates who qualify to enroll in college courses in pursuit of an associate degree.

The first class of eight graduates completed their degree requirements with Herkimer College this past fall. A graduation ceremony was held on December 19, 2018 at the correctional facility, with about 70 people in attendance, including six graduates—two of the eight had previously been released.

The pride and the emotion in the visitor center was palpable. There were beaming smiles and there were tears, not only from the graduates themselves, but from their families, their faculty, and others who helped make this day possible. Nine inmates currently in the program were selected to attend the ceremony in hopes that they would be inspired to continue their studies.

In his keynote address, Larson said, “You will be proof that this is what education is about: It grows the world around you. It’s about feeling the rewards of wrestling with ideas that feel too big and complex to fit inside your mind, and then discovering that your mind has expanded to encompass them. And the students who follow you will know that you did this on a campus generously furnished with bells and commands, food lines, noise, involuntary

housemates, and all the other inevitable challenges of life in a correctional facility.”

They may not have had the conveniences of a traditional college campus, but what these men did have was a desire to learn and a commitment to succeed. And succeed they did. The average grade point average of the class was 3.88, with two of the eight students earning perfect 4.0’s.

“As a group, we rose above the common practice of ‘doing time’ by challenging ourselves and each other throughout the stages of our experience,” said Kenneth Markle, who delivered the student speech. “We learned to accept each other’s opinions without forcing our own upon them. When one faltered, we joined together and realized this was not a competition, but a shared experience that we would look back upon fondly for the rest of our lives,” he added.

The graduates’ appreciation for their faculty and all those who made the college program possible was evident. “Please do not consider in the least that this graduation was our accomplishment, and ours alone... Without the professors and educators who put aside expected anxiety



and realized we are thinking minds and more than just a DIN number, we would not be here right now,” said Markle.

There are many who oppose the idea of inmates getting a college education, and these men certainly are aware of that. From

the beginning, Superintendent Gonyea encouraged them to prove to everyone that this program is valuable. If their academic efforts and conduct while in the program are any indication of their future achievements, these men are certainly on their way to proving that.

Markle concluded his speech with a message for his fellow graduates. “We cannot squander this gift given to us. We cannot be complacent and trivially recognize this accomplishment as simply a plaque on the wall. We cannot go back to our old ways of thinking. To do so would mar such efforts for all involved. Use

this as a stepping stone to better someone else’s condition, whether he or she be the drug addict, the thief, the actor of violence or any one of what is considered society’s downcast. Pay it forward gentleman, and we can personally guarantee a better society.”

One cannot help but wonder what’s next for these men. But one thing is for certain. They are much more prepared for what they face when they are released. More prepared for employment, more prepared to do right by their families and their communities, and more prepared to never end up back in prison.

Project SEARCH Class Achieves 100% Job Placement

Career Connections, a division of Arc Herkimer, and Herkimer County Community College earned a national job placement award for the Project SEARCH program. The award, presented at the annual Project SEARCH Conference in Savannah, GA honored the organizations for their collaboration to secure 100 percent placement for the first class of interns at jobs in the community earning at least minimum wage. The program is in its third year of collaboration between the nonprofit and the college.

Project SEARCH is a 40-week intern program for young adults with disabilities, ages 18 to 34, with a sole objective and intensive focus on achieving competitive employment and maximum independence for each participant. Interns, supported by Career Connections and college staff, participate in daily classroom instruction and gain hands-on work experience by rotating among three unique, unpaid internships at various sites at Herkimer College throughout the academic year.





INAUGURAL Police Training Class



Students in Herkimer College's inaugural class of the Pre-Employment Police Basic Training program are working hard. The class started in August 2018 with 26 students, many with military or EMT backgrounds, and those who successfully complete the program will graduate on June 1, 2019.

The program is designed by the Bureau of Municipal Police Training Council with oversight and standards under the direction of the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS oversees all basic police training courses across the

state with the exception of the New York State Police.

The course instructional material at Herkimer is the same as all police academies and the instructors are the same instructors providing training at traditional academies. Herkimer's program is sponsored by the Little Falls Police Academy under the direction of Michael Masi who has administered and trained hundreds of police officers across New York State since 1997. Masi recently retired as chief of the Little Falls Police Department after 25 years of service.

“We are committed to there only being one standard of training for the men and women that attend our course. We are confident our reputation will demonstrate this as our students enter the law enforcement field in the future.”

Michael Masi,
Director of the Pre-Employment
Police Basic Training Program



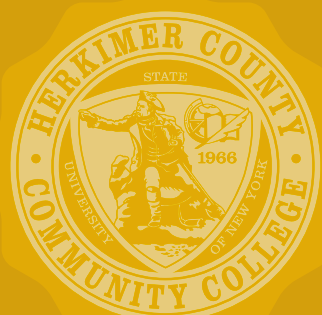


Michael Stalteri Joins Board of Trustees

Michael Stalteri of Herkimer, NY, has been appointed by the Herkimer County Legislature to the Herkimer County Community College Board of Trustees.

Stalteri has served as principal for the Frankfort Schuyler High School since 2015. Previously, he was assistant principal at Strough Middle School in Rome, principal at Staley Upper Elementary School in Rome, and assistant principal at Rome Free Academy. He also has extensive experience as a school social worker and counselor, and has taught college-level psychology courses.

Stalteri holds a Certificate of Advanced Study in School Administration from SUNY Cortland, Masters of Social Work from Syracuse University and Bachelor of Arts in psychology from St. John Fisher College.



IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO The Nature Trail

Funded with a \$4,500 grant from Herkimer County HealthNet and \$4,500 in matching funds from the Herkimer County College Foundation, the nature trail has three new picnic table areas, as well as signage placed at various entrance points. Additional 'trail head' signs are planned, as well as directional signs pointing trail users to various sections of the trail system.

A portion of the trail was washed away and the pedestrian bridge destroyed in a flood in 2017, blocking access to portions of the trail system. The Foundation funded a rehabilitation to

build an engineered bridge and return the area to its condition prior to the flooding. The project was designed by LA Group from Saratoga and constructed by Horender Construction of the Little Falls area.

The nature trail, located just beyond Wehrum Stadium, is used for instructional purposes by the College and local schools. Community members also enjoy walking, hiking, running, nature watching, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, bicycling, photography, bird watching, and more.



From left: Nicholas Laino, Sr. Vice President for Administration and Finance, Herkimer College; Julie Lewis, Director of Business & Finance, HCC Foundation; Tom Stock, Assistant Director of Facilities, Herkimer College; Dr. Thomas Curnow, Executive Director, Herkimer County HealthNet; Elyse Enea, Program Coordinator, Herkimer County HealthNet; Rob Fowler, Executive Director, HCC Foundation; Bob Woudenberg, Director of Facilities Operations, Herkimer College.

1994 Men's Soccer Team

Inducted into NJCAA Men's Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame



Pictured from left:
Dr. Cathleen McColgin, Herkimer College President; Perry Nizzi; Mike Fornino; and Gary Broadhurst, NJCAA Region 3 Men's Director.

The Herkimer College 1994 men's soccer team was inducted into the NJCAA Men's Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame on Wednesday, November 7 at the Delta Hotels by Marriott in Utica, NY. Accepting the award on behalf of Herkimer's first-ever men's soccer national championship team was Perry Nizzi, head coach from 1981-1998, and Mike Fornino, captain of the 1994 team.

The 1994 team achieved a perfect 25-0 record and the program's first ever national championship. The Generals defeated three teams in four days in the national tournament at Mercer Community College in Trenton, NJ. The final victory over Nassau County Community College couldn't have been closer or more evenly played--the final score was 1-0.

Prior to the newly formed two-division NJCAA soccer structure in 1994, Herkimer had yet to appear in a national championship game. After the 1994 team's resounding success, the Herkimer men's soccer program appeared in 15 title games in 20 years. The Generals won 10 national championships in that span, including twice winning three consecutive titles in 1994-1996 and again in 2011-2013.

“The 1994 season was an incredible one for Herkimer's soccer program,” said Herkimer College Athletic Director Don Dutcher. With only three goals scored on the Generals, the Generals tied the national record for least goals allowed in a season. Herkimer also set national records with most wins in a season (25) and most single season shutouts (22).

“With a season like that, it seems only fitting that the national title was added to this team's list of accomplishments and achievements. The 1994 team will always be looked at in Herkimer's history as the team that started the program's championship legacy,” said Dutcher.

The 1994 team also was recognized with the Region III Sportsmanship Award that year. In 2017, the team was inducted into the Herkimer College Athletic Hall of Fame.

“The '94 team was more than national champions—they did it with style and class—winning 25 straight games, giving up only three goals all season, and topping it off with being honored with the team sportsmanship award. It was a very special team in many ways,” said Perry Nizzi.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sarah George: 2018 United Soccer Coaches National Scholar Player of the Year

Sarah George (Dolgeville, NY) was named the 2018 United Soccer Coaches National Scholar Player of the Year for NJCAA Division III Women's Soccer. Sarah accepted the award at the United Soccer Coaches Convention in Chicago, Illinois in January.

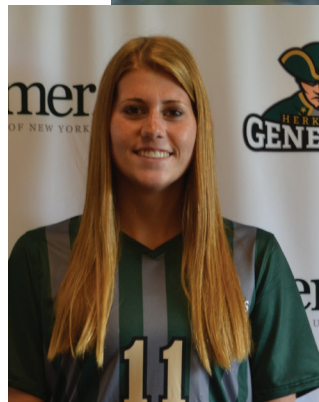
In 2016-2017, George scored 19 goals and 16 assists as she led the Generals to a record of 18-2 and a berth in the NJCAA Division III national championship game. That year, she also earned All-Tournament honors in the regional and national championship tournaments.

In 2017-2018, George tallied 25 goals and 16 assists as the Generals won the Region III championship for the second year in a row and ended the year with a fifth place finish in the national tournament.

George was named First Team All-Region and All-Conference in both her freshman and sophomore years. During George's two seasons at Herkimer, the Generals achieved a record of 32-6-1.

George also excelled academically at Herkimer College. Coach Jason Palkovic said, "I am extremely happy for Sarah to get this tremendous recognition among all junior college players in the country. Sarah exemplifies what it means to be a student athlete. She has performed at a high level on the field and in the classroom. It has been an honor and a privilege to have had Sarah be a part of our family here at Herkimer. I can't say enough about how proud we are of her and this is just another reflection on the team we had this year."

This is the second consecutive year Herkimer College had a student athlete honored by the United Soccer Coaches with the National Scholar Player of the Year award.



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ATHLETICS

MEN'S SOCCER

Two Named Scholar All-Americans

“Chris and Andre have worked so hard on the field and in the classroom. .. they exemplify what a true student athlete should be, excelling in both environments.” ~COACH PEPE ARAGON



The Generals finished the season with a record of 15-2 and a final national ranking of #6 in the NJCAA Division III Men's Soccer National Poll. The season ended prematurely with a second place finish at Regionals ending the program's 26 year run as regional champions.

Chris Capaldo (Smithtown, NY) and **Andre Blanco** (Cape Coral, Florida) were named to the 2018 United Soccer Coaches Junior College Men's Scholar All-American Team. Capaldo, a forward, recorded 12 goals and four assists for 28 points on the season and was named to the first team. He was also named first team All-Region III, Mountain Valley Conference and named to the All-Tournament team in the Region III play-offs. Blanco was part of a defense that allowed only nine goals and had 12 shutouts on the season and was named to the second team. He had three assists on the season.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S

CROSS COUNTRY

Competes at Nationals

After a great season, the Herkimer Generals men's and women's cross country teams closed out their season with a good performance at the NJCAA Division III cross-country national championship meet.

The women's team had some season's best performances and captured 14th place overall. **Claire**

Connolly (Little Falls/Little Falls, NY) and **Malerie Belles** (Cicero-North Syracuse/Clay, NY) were the top finishers for the Lady Generals.

The men's squad, after a disappointing race at regionals, came back with a 16th place finish in the national race, fourth best among the Region III teams, and six points ahead of rival Mohawk Valley Community College.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Champions

The men's basketball team won their third consecutive Region III championship, and sixth in the last seven years, by withstanding a furious rally and holding off the Mohawk Valley Community College Hawks by a score of 71-66. The win raised the Generals' record to 28-1 and propelled them on to the 2019 NJCAA Division III National Tournament Rochester, Minnesota where they are the #2 seed and ranked #2 in the country. (The results of Nationals were not yet known as of press time.)



WOMEN'S SOCCER Completes Stellar Season



The women's soccer team won their fourth Region III championship in five years, and placed six athletes on the 2018 All-Region and All-Mountain Valley Conference teams. The regional win sent the Generals to the NJCAA Division III national championship tournament at Rock Valley Community College (IL).

After a disappointing national quarterfinal loss to Brookdale, the Generals bounced back and ended the season with a 6-0 win over Holyoke CC (MA) in a consolation game. The win gave the Generals a final record of 14-4-1 in Jason Palkovic's third season as head coach.

Palkovic was awarded the Mountain Valley Conference Coach of the Year award and five players placed on the First Team All-Conference. Making the team were Maddie Renshaw (Herkimer NY), Caira Miles (Little Falls, NY), Sarah George (Dolgeville, NY), Ashley Capron (Burnt Hills, NY) and goalie Rachel Todd (McGraw, NY). Senior Rachael Gross (Dolgeville, NY) joined George, Todd, and Renshaw on the 2018 First Team All-Region III. Capron earned Second Team All-Region honors. Caira Miles (Little Falls, NY) made the National All-Tournament team.

Dan Carey '04 Named GM and VP of Lacrosse Operations of Expansion Knighthawks Franchise

Dan Carey was recently named General Manager and Vice President of Lacrosse Operations of the Rochester/NLL 2019-20 expansion franchise. Carey will manage and oversee all aspects of lacrosse operations, including team services, player acquisitions and contracts, and personnel development.

Carey was general manager of the NLL's Colorado Mammoth for two years, and prior to that, he was the team's director of player personnel since 2015. He originally joined the organization as the team's eastern scout following a stellar five seasons with Colorado. He was named an NLL All-Star in each of his first three seasons in the league, and as a rookie, was instrumental in Colorado winning the Champion's Cup.

Carey spent one season playing collegiate lacrosse at Canisius College, after two years at Herkimer County Community College where he led the Generals to an NJCAA national championship in 2003 and a national runner-up finish in 2004. Carey graduated from Herkimer in 2004 with an associate in arts degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences: General Studies.

BELLWETHER NOMINATION

The Athletic Department was nominated for the 2019 Bellwether Award, a prestigious award recognizing outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges. The Bellwether Awards are co-sponsored by the National Council of Instructional Administrators, National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, and the National Council for Continuing Education and Training. The Bellwether Awards are competitive and prestigious, indicating recognition from peers.

EMPLOYEES



Lisa Elwood-Farber

Professor of English

Education: Ph.D. Indiana University of Pennsylvania (in-progress), MA New Mexico State University, BA Marymount College

Professional Affiliations: American Literature Association, Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Nineteenth Century Studies Association, Northeast Modern Language Association, College English Association, Kate Chopin Society, Catherine Sedgewick Society

What makes the educational experience at Herkimer unique? The community of faculty and staff make me extremely proud to work here because they help to make each and every student's educational path easier. Everything we do on our campus is for the benefit of our students. We listen when students make requests, ask questions, or need help; we are committed to their success.

What do you enjoy most about teaching at Herkimer College? I enjoy the familial atmosphere where we know our students on a personal, as well as a professional, level. Faculty attend athletic events, participate in student activities, and encourage student engagement with community relations. Most of us live and work in this community, so it is great to see current and former students around the local towns and villages. We can see what an education at Herkimer can do in the lives of our community members.

What do students need to know in order to succeed in college? Students should know that we are here to see them succeed in whatever their endeavor is. They may want to transfer to a four-year college or university or they may want to get a job right out of our programs; whatever their reason, we are here to help them do it.

What interests you most about the subject area in which you teach? I teach literature and writing courses because I believe both reading and writing can reform the world. In teaching reading, I hope to give students the tools for sharper critical thinking skills and for greater ability to analyze a text. With writing, my interest is helping to give students a voice. When students learn to express themselves by communicating clearly and effectively, great things can happen!

What inspired you to become an educator? Other educators inspired me. I wanted to offer the opportunity to open minds to new ideas and new ways of thinking about the world the way my teachers did for me.

MEET OUR

Faculty

RECENT FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Amy Getman was recently promoted from assistant professor to associate professor. Getman became an adjunct instructor in 2001, and was appointed to a full-time Learning Center math specialist in 2003, to mathematics instructor in 2005, and to assistant professor of mathematics in 2008. Getman was granted tenure in 2010 and appointed assistant professor for accounting in 2015. She holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics/business from the College of Saint Rose, a bachelor's degree in accounting from SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome; and a master's degree in accounting from SUNY Institute of Technology.

Eileen Hart has been promoted from assistant professor to associate professor, English. Eileen was hired as an instructor in 2011, promoted to assistant professor in 2013, and was granted tenure in 2016. Hart holds a bachelor's degree in rhetoric and communications from SUNY Albany; a master's degree in English from the University of South Carolina, Columbia; and a master's degree in educational psychology from the College of Saint Rose.

Congratulations!

David Higgins

Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Education: J.D. Western New England College School of Law, B.P.S. (Criminal Justice) SUNY Utica/Rome, A.A.S Cayuga Community College, Auburn, NY

Professional Affiliations: Attorney in NYS. Admitted Appellate Division Fourth Judicial Department, January 1988

Honors & Awards: 2018 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

What is something unique or important about your program? I believe that the thing that makes our CJ program unique is that all of our full-time faculty have both strong academic backgrounds and experience working in the field of CJ. In other CJ programs, practitioners only work as adjunct instructors and full-time faculty are more focused on theory and research.

What do you enjoy most about teaching at Herkimer College? I find the students here very interesting to work with. They come from a variety of backgrounds, urban, rural, etc. Most of them have a general interest in the subject matter. I teach mainly the law courses in the program such as Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Criminal Evidence. Many students find it difficult at first with difficult reading and odd Latin phrases to sort through. It is rewarding watching them improve as the semester progresses. In other words, watching the light bulb come on. I started at a community college many years ago. Neither one of my parents attended college. I definitely see parts of my earlier life in these students.

The other part of teaching here that I really appreciate is my colleagues. They are all dedicated to the success of the students and will go the extra mile if students are putting forward the effort. They are not only good professors, but they are good people as well. I have worked in other professional environments, but this one is the most supportive. You can easily pick their brains for ideas about teaching and classroom management. Also, when I have had difficult times in my life, they have been there for me and that's something that I will never take for granted. My associate dean has been very supportive as well.

What do students need to know in order to succeed in college? I tell my students quite often (They get tired of me saying it, undoubtedly!) that College is supposed to be challenging. However, I also tell them not to make it harder than it is. I emphasize that in a college course you are getting the course as interpreted through the professor. In other words, if you read the assigned material, attend class, pay attention, review and see the professor for help if needed, chances are that you will succeed in that professor's class.



What are your hobbies or interests outside of work? I enjoy day hiking, working out, reading (nonfiction), family history, politics, etc. In the summer I travel both domestically and internationally. I follow SU Football and Basketball. My colleagues are aware that I am a huge baseball fan, namely a long suffering fan of the Cincinnati Reds. It's a bad addiction but perhaps it has helped me develop the patience needed for teaching!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO OUR NEWEST RETIREES

Deborah Annatone, Technical Assistant, Children's Center

Nora Dusseault, Associate Professor, Information Systems

Paul Dusseault, Professor, Business

Gale Farley, Professor, Photographic Technology

Joseph Mezzanini, Technical Assistant, Computer & Criminal Justice Labs

Karen Nagle, Associate Professor, Business

Robert Neary, Purchasing Agent

William Pelz, Professor, Social Science/ Instructional Designer for Online Learning

Gary Saunders, Building Maintenance Helper

Linda Windecker, Part-Time Clerical, Library

Emeritus Recognition

Granted to Recent Retirees

Emeritus status is an honor granted by the Board of Trustees to retired professional, academic and administrative staff members who have demonstrated excellence and commitment to making Herkimer College the exceptional institution it is today.



Nora Dusseault joined the campus community in 1980 and was promoted through the ranks to associate professor of information systems in 2001. Dusseault

served on several standing campus committees, including the Academic Computer Committee and Academic Affairs Committee, as well as the steering committee for the Middle States Self Study.



Paul Dusseault, J.D. was appointed in 1981 as an instructor of business, and was promoted through the ranks, ultimately to professor in 2010. He served on several

standing campus committees, including the Library Committee, Scholarship and Writing to Learn Committee, the Paralegal Advisory Board and SUNY Learning Network Experiences Committee. He is also the New York State Teachers' Retirement delegate for Herkimer College.



Karen Nagle joined the business faculty in 1984 and retired as an associate professor. Her service included Phi Beta Lambda chapter co-advisor,

Enrollment Management Committee co-chair, and membership on the Library and Chancellor's award committees. Nagle also served as president of the Professional Association, the bargaining unit for faculty and professional staff.



Gale Farley joined the campus community in 1995 as instructor of photographic technology. He was promoted through the ranks, ultimately to professor in 2015.

Farley has served as curator for the Cogar Gallery and as an advisor to the Photography Club.



William Pelz, the longest serving faculty member at Herkimer College, retired with 50 years of service. He joined the faculty in 1968 as instructor of social

science, and was promoted through the ranks to professor in 1980. As chairperson of the Humanities/Social Science Division, Pelz founded the first computer-based college learning center. He also has served in the roles of director of learning systems technology, distance learning coordinator, and webmaster. Pelz was a leader in the implementation of the Internet Academy and has served as instructional designer for online learning since 1999. As lead trainer for the SUNY Learning Network (SLN) from 2000 until 2010, Pelz facilitated workshops and provided training to nearly 3,000 new SLN professors. Pelz served as associate editor and content contributor for the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) project. In 2013, Pelz was named a Sloan Consortium (Sloan-C) Fellow for Excellence in Online Teaching. He received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1994 and the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities in 2006.

Alumni Updates

WERCing Woman of Achievement Award Honoree Theresa Hamilton '16

After an honorable discharge from the Air Force followed by years of home-schooling her daughters, Theresa Hamilton found herself going through a divorce and needing a full-time income. With a desire to pursue a career she enrolled at Herkimer College. While here, she worked part-time as a home health aide, and on campus in the Registrar's Office.

Hamilton completed a certificate in medical coding and transcription in 2014 and an associate degree in health services management in 2016. After college, she received job search assistance through the Career Services office as well as Working Solutions in Herkimer. She took every opportunity to develop herself professionally and reached out to the Women's Employment and Resource Center (WERC) for additional assistance. There, Hamilton enrolled in a five-week WERC to Work class where she was able to improve her computer and job interview skills, develop a new level of self-confidence, and soon after, land a position as an office assistant at the Mid-State Correctional Facility. But this was not Theresa's 'dream job' and this past fall, she secured a position in the Registrar's Office at SUNY Poly.

In presenting the award, WERC Executive Director Stephanie Eghigian said "...for her tenacity, her strength of spirit, and her determination to move forward despite setbacks and unexpected life changes, we are proud to present Theresa Hamilton with the 2018 WERCing Woman of Achievement Award."

Pictured: Suzanne Paddock, Herkimer College career counselor and Theresa Hamilton.



In Memoriam

Herkimer College extends its sincere sympathy to the families of deceased alumni and members of the Herkimer College family.



Mr. Anthony Baggetta, 94, of Herkimer, passed away Saturday, December 29, 2018. In 1972, Baggetta asked the Village of Herkimer to put in a park on the vacant lot on the corner of West Smith and William Streets, where there had previously been an old building. Baggetta and his neighbors would gather in the park on summer evenings, and they took care of the park for many years, including lighting the park at Christmas time. The effort grew, and each year, Baggetta would check the

lights and change out the ones that didn't work. He would paint benches and rake leaves. He conducted letter writing drives to raise money to support the park. In the 1990's, Herkimer College took up the cause and began helping Baggetta. Student clubs and athletic teams conducted park clean ups and helped maintain and display the lights. The College continues to play a major role in planning and preparing for the Festival of Lights, a much anticipated annual village event during which the park lights are turned on and Santa arrives on a fire truck. Mr. Baggetta will be greatly missed by many college employees and students who had the opportunity to know and work alongside Mr. Baggetta throughout the years.

Mr. Robert VanDusen, of Frankfort, NY, passed away on January 30, 2019. Mr. VanDusen was honored as a Torchbearer "for his insightful guidance, financial stewardship, and uncompromising support of Herkimer College. In his capacity as Herkimer County legislator, Robert VanDusen took a lead role in the development of the College over the course of more than thirty years, referring to the College as 'the best asset that Herkimer County has.' He used his financial expertise to guide the financial growth of the College in its early years, and as Chairman of the legislature's Education Committee, Mr. VanDusen introduced and promoted numerous resolutions to secure funding and request bonding and transfers for the creation and expansion of the College's campus and facilities. His direct actions with the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District and the Herkimer County Industrial Development Agency, as well as with the State of New York, resulted in over ten million dollars being dedicated to Herkimer College for its infrastructure, academic and benevolent needs."

Karen L. Hamer '70

Kathy Bernadette Lewis '80

Karen L. Hutton '87

Jamie Shaffer '89

Donna Pulver '96

Alum Honored with Joseph R. Carucci Legacy Award

Carmen Sonia Martinez '80 is among a distinguished group of community leaders who received the honor of the Joseph R. Carucci Legacy Award at the Genesis Group's annual meeting held in November at the Yahnundasis.



Martinez is the executive director of the Mohawk Valley Latino Association. She also serves on many boards including the Herkimer County College Foundation Board of Directors.

Fritz's Polka Band

Fred Scherz '90 and **Gabe Vaccaro '74** are long-time members of the Fritz Polka Band (FPB) of Verona, NY. FPB's 2018 recording, *Hey!*, which features all original FPB songs, was nominated in the "Best Other Styles" category for a Syracuse-Area Music Award (SAMMY). It was the band's 19th recording and features 12 original tunes of which over half are polka and waltz, yet also includes other styles. FPB made history in 1999 by becoming the first polka band to play at a Woodstock Festival. FPB appears on *The Manchurian Candidate* DVD, released in 2004. In 2011, FPB had two songs ('Grandparent's Polka' and 'Here Is Fritz's Polka Band') included in two episodes of the TV show, *Breaking Bad*. In 2013, FPB released their 18th recording, a double live CD entitled, *The WSKG Sessions*. In August 2018, FPB and each band member were again nominated for national awards by the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame. Fritz Scherz said, "While we didn't win any awards in Cleveland, we had a blast playing as Grammy winners, Joey Miskulin and Walter Ostanek, jammed with us on the Friday night of our Cleveland weekend. We started off the Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame Awards show by performing two songs ("Hey!" and "Grandparent's Polka"), the latter being one of our songs featured on *Breaking Bad* during season four. We also played Saturday night in the Grand Ballroom at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center. Truly this was a special weekend as it's not every gig when Grammy winners sit in and perform with us!"



For more information on Fritz's Polka Band, view the band's website: www.fritzpolkaband.com

Pictured from left: Fritz Scherz, Gabe Vaccaro, Mike Faraino and Frank Nelson.

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Thank you to all who generously donated to the Herkimer County College Foundation in 2017-2018.

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CURRENT AS OF NOVEMBER 26, 2018

& figures facts



FROM 22 FOREIGN COUNTRIES

ENROLLMENT: FALL 2017 (including College Now)

Total headcount	2,800
Full-time	58%
Part-time	42%

Gender

Male	42%
Female	58%

Age

24 and under	79%
Over 24	21%

Residency

In-state	93%
Out-of-state	3%
International	4%

On-Campus/Online/Concurrent Enrollment

Herkimer	54%
Internet Academy	20%
College Now	24%
P-Tech	2%
Mohawk Correctional Facility	1%

Race/Ethnicity

American Indian or Alaska Native	0.3%
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1.7%
Black or African American	12.4%
Hispanic/Latino	6.6%
Non-Resident Alien	3.9%
Two or More Races	1.2%
Unreported	5.1%
White	68.9%

2017-18 Graduates

Degrees	415
Certificates	21

Faculty & Staff (Fall 2017)

Full-Time Faculty/Staff	178
Part-Time Faculty/Staff (excluding College Now)	119

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campus-based sources. (Fall 2017)

reports financial

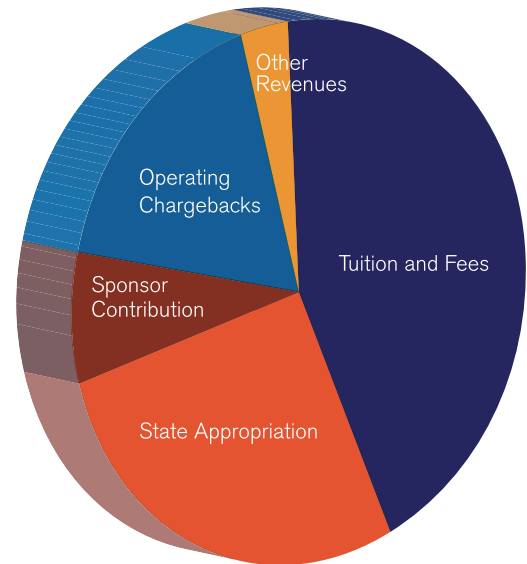
PLEASE NOTE: The numbers shown are from the Unrestricted Fund only.

As of August 31, 2018.

ACTUAL REVENUES

Tuition and Fees	\$ 9,976,940
State Appropriation	\$ 6,179,083
Sponsor Contribution	\$ 1,730,612
Operating Chargebacks	\$ 3,914,992
Other Revenues	\$ 702,656

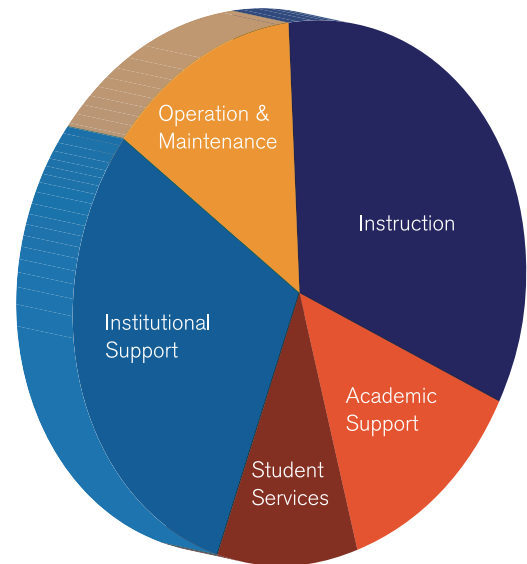
TOTAL \$ 22,504,283



EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION

Instruction	\$ 7,204,457
Academic Support	\$ 2,761,006
Student Services	\$ 2,128,340
Institutional Support	\$ 6,431,218
Operation & Maintenance	\$ 2,805,843

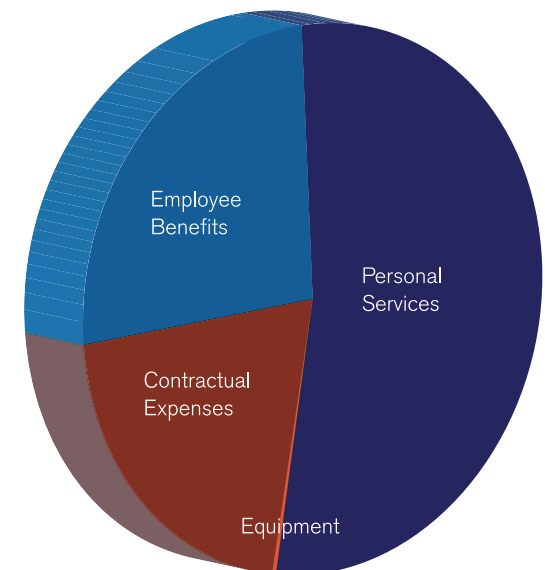
TOTAL \$ 21,330,864



EXPENDITURES BY OBJECT

Personal Services	\$ 11,403,863
Equipment	\$ 54,330
Contractual Expenses	\$ 4,444,679
Employee Benefits	\$ 5,427,992

TOTAL \$21,330,864



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The 2018 women's soccer team was well represented at the United Soccer Coaches Convention, held in Chicago, Illinois. Sarah George was named Junior College Scholar National Player of the Year, the program's first, and 1st Team Scholar All-American. Maddie Renshaw was named 1st Team All-American; Ashley Capron was 2nd Team All-American; and Rachel Todd was named 2nd Team Scholar All-American. Also receiving awards were Caira Miles and Rachael Gross who were named to the Scholar East All-Region Team. Head coach Jason Palkovic was named North Region Staff of the Year for the second consecutive year. Pictured from left: Jason Palkovic, Maddie Renshaw, Sarah George, Ashley Capron and Rachel Todd.

Coming Events | www.herkimer.edu/events

College Open House

Saturday, April 6, 10 am–12 pm

www.herkimer.edu/openhouse

Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series: Dreamer's Circus

Friday, April 12, 7 pm | Sarkus-Busch Theater

www.herkimer.edu/greatartists

Commencement

Friday, May 17, 4 pm | Gymnasium

www.herkimer.edu/commencement

27th Annual Generals Open Golf Tournament

Monday, June 10, 10 am | Stonebridge Golf and Country Club

www.herkimer.edu/golf | 315 574-4015