



CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

BUFFALO STATE • The State University of New York

RISE UP!

The RISE Up – Restaurants Ignite Skills and Education program completed its inaugural run with all participants well trained and hired into positions in community.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

It is with great pleasure we share our inaugural newsletter! Within Continuing Professional Studies, we see our role as taking the extensive and rich academic experience of SUNY Buffalo State and creating learning opportunities that increase the campus's reach across our greater community and across the lifespan of our learners. The learning landscape is changing so rapidly that the need for reskilling and upskilling has become critical. We pride ourselves on nimble responsiveness to industry need and providing educational experiences that meet the specific and varied needs of our audience.

In this issue, read how we fostered new career opportunities within the hospitality industry; how fifty high school freshmen have already begun their collegiate journey; how we are empowering young citizens to facilitate change. The college campus can provide so much more than college degrees.

We look forward to being your partner in learning innovation.

Kristin E. Fields, M.S.

“We pride ourselves on nimble responsiveness to industry need and providing educational experiences that meet the specific and varied needs of our audience.”

SIGNATURE PROGRAM - BSC/CHARTER SCHOOL FOR APPLIED TECHNOLOGIES GRANT FUNDED SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM

Continuing Professional Studies partnered with the Charter School for Applied Technologies (CSAT) to offer CSAT students the opportunity to earn college credit over a 6 week "summer bridge" program during which the participants will complete UNC 100. Over the course of the program, which will continue to run through the regular academic year, participants will be able to earn as many as 55 credits toward a college degree prior to their high school graduation - at NO CHARGE!

The Early College and Career Pathways (ECCP) is a partnership of BSC, SUNY Erie and CSAT. Funded by The Cullen Foundation and M&T Bank, ECCP kicks off this summer at Buff State, with 50 rising freshmen participating in a [Summer Bridge program](#). Here, they will earn college credit as well as an introduction to various majors and the overall college experience. It is the goal of the program that every summer, a new cohort of students are added, until all grade levels are represented.



Work Based Learning is a great add-on to your teaching degree!

Contact Us

Continuing Professional Studies

CLEV 210

1300 Elmwood Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14222

cps@buffalostate.edu

Website:

continuingstudies@buffalostate.edu

WORK BASED LEARNING CREDENTIAL

CPS offers programming for current teachers looking to increase their marketability. Work-based learning (WBL) is the “umbrella” name used to identify activities which collaboratively engage employers and schools in providing structured learning experiences for students. These experiences focus on assisting students develop broad, transferable skills for postsecondary education and the workplace. A quality WBL program can make school-based learning more relevant by providing students with the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to real world situations.

The [Work Based Learning](#) program allows already certified teachers to take two courses (6 credits), at either the undergraduate or graduate levels, to earn the credential. In 2021 alone, 71 individuals are working through the program.

For more information about this program, please visit our website. If you're ready to enroll, please contact Jen Kinder, cps@buffalostate.edu, for application instructions.

TEACH TO LEAD

This program, and its 18 current participants, is new to CPS, and managed in conjunction with the Career and Tech Ed. Department. The mission of the program is “to provide resources, facilitate stakeholder consultation, and encourage professional collaborations to develop and amplify the work of teacher leaders.” To learn more about the program, please visit [Teach to Lead](#).

SIGNATURE PROGRAM – MIDDLE EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL (MECHS)

This unique program is a rarity, in that a high school is partnered with an institution of higher education to provide up to two years of college credits to participants. Students successfully completing this rigorous course of study are ready to start their junior year in college immediately upon graduation from high school. Throughout the program, students are provided with multiple types of guidance and support services, with classes taken both at the home institution and actually on the college campus. By the completion of their high school studies, they are prepared not just for college level work, but have a solid understanding of how to navigate college life.

Tristin Salter, [MECHS](#) program coordinator, has been with the program since its inception in 2015. While the MECHS program is affiliated with a national entity, it could potentially be duplicated at the local level. If you are interested in more information about this programming, please contact Tristin at saltertj@buffalostate.edu to discuss how your district might implement similar programming for your students. The MECHS program is also supported by Naomi Hall; Naomi adds that she is “enjoying supporting the students, and the tutors, in any way I can. Sometimes they just need an ear, and we're all here to listen and make them feel comfortable in our tutoring center.”

SIGNATURE PROGRAM – RISE UP! RESTAURANTS IGNITE SKILLS AND EDUCATION

The inaugural run of [RISE Up!](#) concluded its two-week course in July. Eight participants received hands on training in all aspects of restaurant operations. Faculty in the Hospitality and Tourism Department, Kathleen O'Brien, and Don Schmitter, designed and implemented an intensive course covering all of the knowledge and skills essential to job performance in the restaurant industry, in which participants applied, practiced and strengthened what they learned.

Each participant achieved SERV Safe Food Handler Certification, in addition to communication skills and customer interaction training. All participants graduated the course and obtained immediate positions. Our community partners included the Buffalo State Small Business Development Center, Amherst Chamber of Commerce, Darian Bryan - Buffalo State alum, caterer to the NFL, and chef/owner of [The Plating Society](#), Steve Forman - Buffalo State alum and American Culinary Federation certified executive chef at the [Key Bank Center and Delaware North](#), Michael Ferraro - executive chef, [Saturn Club](#), Nick DelNuovo - Buffalo State alum and assistant general manager, [Delaware North](#), Dave Anastasi - Buffalo State alum, partner, [Lake Effect Sales and Marketing](#), Shetice Jackson - Buffalo State alum and graduate of the Culinary Arts Institute (Hyde Park), [Cake Crazy Bakery](#), Jillian Hughes - Buffalo State alum and banquet captain, Country Club of Buffalo, Nick Lozipone - Buffalo State alum, culinary arts educator, Global Concepts Charter School, Lori Seamans - Buffalo State alum, Delaware North, Richard Hamilton, and Chuck Mauro. Entities that interviewed program completers included [Lake Effect Sales and Marketing](#), [Cafe Godot](#), [Ristorante Lombardo](#) and [The Little Club](#), [Wegmans](#), [North Star Tavern](#), [The McGuire Group](#), [Lexington Co-op](#), [The Parkside Meadow](#), [Lloyd Products](#), and [The Phoenix at 269](#).

COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM – CLEP/MILLER ANALOGIES TEST - MAT

The office of Continuing Professional Studies is a designated CLEP testing site. Sessions are offered to the public about every other month (subject to Covid-19 restrictions), and we also provide testing to approximately 5-10 school districts/high schools, with up to 50 students per district participating, about four times per year. CLEP testing allows all participants to earn college credits based on their current knowledge, and, in the case of high school students, allows them to jump start their college careers through achieving credits that fulfill many types of curricular requirements. For more information, please email cps@buffalostate.edu.

The MAT test, often required of graduate level entrants, will begin to be offered in the near future. Please follow our website for the dates and times of all testing opportunities, as well as the directions for registering for testing.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – MECHS STUDENTS LEARNING COMMUNITY CENTERED AROUND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our 7th Cohort of Middle Early College High School Seniors are currently taking a full course load of 13 credit hours on Buffalo State's campus. Research shows that Learning Communities have multiple benefits such as having a higher GPA than their peers, a tight connection to the college and their classmates, retention at a higher rate, closeness to faculty, and a smoother transition to college. Considering that Middle Early students are getting a jump start on their college careers by obtaining credit hours while they are in high school, learning communities help ensure that their transition is more seamless. The students learn about topics such as inequities in education, the school to prison pipeline, redlining, missing & murdered Indigenous women, government run residential schools and police brutality. Having space to learn, discuss and process issues that affect their lives, and their community not only allows them the opportunity to make connections between what they are learning and the real world, but it also prepares them to become part of the necessary change. Our classroom environment falls in line with the institution's overall values such as experiencing a student-centered atmosphere and tapping into finding their own sense of social responsibility to develop a respect for diversity and our communal differences. We are happy to have such a diverse group of students that embody the community right in our backyard and look forward to developing more students to become great leaders and members of our Buffalo State community.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY – AMERICAN NEGOTIATION INSTITUTE

The Office of Continuing Professional Studies has partnered with the American Negotiation Institute to offer this unique and beneficial program. The program itself is freestanding, and you can complete it as your time and schedule permits over a six-month period - the notes and resources are yours to keep. Get all of the details and register here: [American Negotiation Institute](#). Those who register through our link receive a special discount.