

# GENESEO

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



## Access Opportunity Programs

# We Are AOP

College is a challenging time.

It is during these times that we must remember the mission of AOP. We look for students ready to seize their future. Students just like you. AOP is academically talented students and staff who add their own unique qualities to the fabric of the Geneseo community.

Our AOP family strives for academic excellence, ethnic and cultural diversity, and to make the Geneseo population a microcosm of the population of New York State and beyond. We foster an environment of individuality, personal responsibility, initiative, determination and effort from our students in all of the academic and personal endeavors.

Today we must stay connected and focused. Strive to perform at your maximum potential. Challenge yourself to attain more than you thought you could. Utilize the services of AOP to help you be your best. Your counselor, our tutors, and the learning center, are here to help you overcome all obstacles and attain success.

Best of luck with your finals. Enjoy your summer and we look forward to seeing you again in the fall!

Sincerely,

Ms. DeBose



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AND...

**3-0 Superstars**





## MEET MRS. STEPHENS

On February 9, 2017, Flossie Stephens joined the AOP staff. Mrs. Stephens became the new TOP counselor.

Mrs. Stephens is a Geneseo alumni. She graduated with a history degree with secondary certification in 2005. Mrs. Stephens later obtained her master's degree from Buffalo State. Prior to returning to Geneseo as a professional, Mrs. Stephens was an admissions counselor at Alfred State.

Originally from the Syracuse area, Mrs. Stephens is thrilled to be back at Geneseo. She states, "I am very excited to be back at Geneseo, and I am especially excited to be part of the AOP family".

Mrs. Stephens currently lives in Hornell, NY (about 50 minutes south of Geneseo) with her husband, and two daughters, Leona (age 5) and Maggie (age 2). Mrs. Stephens also has a dog and a cat. She enjoys reading, camping, taking walks with her dog, and spending time with family. (cont'd below – left)

In her free time, Mrs. Stephens likes to bake, work in her garden, and work on craft projects with her kids. An interesting fact about Mrs. Stephens is that as a teenager she worked as a printing apprentice at a Renaissance Fair outside Oswego, NY during the summer.

Welcome Mrs. Stephens!

*"I am very excited to be back at Geneseo, and I am especially excited to be part of the AOP family"*

### 3.0 Super Stars

Mina Abdelmalik  
 Lauren Acker  
 Sufan Ahmad  
 David Akanonu  
 Christina Alli  
 Yomira Almanzar  
 Daniel Alohan  
 Alberto Alonso  
 Sana Ansari  
 Tariq Arbab  
 Andrew Arce  
 Lydia Asante  
 Alexis Bachiller  
 Xiao Bai Guo  
 Diego Barcacer Pena  
 Alpha Barry  
 TiAnthony Burgois  
 Vanessa Calle

## MARIE BURLEY

There's a new friendly face in the AOP front office. On February 9, 2017 Marie Burley joined the AOP family. Marie has been with Geneseo for quite some time and is very excited to have more contact with students.

Marie has been at Geneseo for 13 years. Yes, that is a 1 and a 3 making up 13 years! Before joining AOP, Marie was working in the accounting office. She has also worked in mail services, health services, and sports and recreation.

Marie's favorite part about her time at Geneseo has been working with students. Good thing she came to AOP!

Marie lives just south of Geneseo in Dansville, NY. She loves spending time with her family, especially her grandson. She is an avid softball player and enjoys a good round of golf. Marie has been very happy that the weather is warming up because she likes to spend as much time outside as possible.

Welcome Marie!







Summer Program 2016

## SUMMER PEER MENTORS



### Congratulations to the 2017 Summer Peer Mentors

- Theresa Robert**—Senior Peer Mentor (pictured left)
- Ashley Hernandez**—Senior Peer Tutor (pictured below)
- Michelle Soria**—Community Organizer/Floor Supervisor
- Sebastian Jimenez**—Office Assistant/Floor Supervisor
- Karilyn Nieves**—College 101/Floor Supervisor
- Yaskairy De La Cruz**—INTD 170 Tutor

- Camila De Vasconcelos**—INTD 170 Tutor
- Megan Grant**—INTD 170 Tutor
- Michael Disla**—INTD 170 Tutor
- Selennah Gonzalez**—INTD 170 Tutor
- Bukuric Huseinovic**—INTD 170 Tutor
- Maurys Flery**—CALC Tutor



- Tomas Cesar**—CALC Tutor
- Lexus Lam**—CHEM Tutor
- Chalia Orellana**—CHEM Tutor
- Dimitri Wing-Paul**—STATS Tutor
- Randall Lombardi**—STATS Tutor



Summer 2015 Peer Mentors

### 3.0 Stars Cont'd

- Kevin Carrera
- Alexandra Casado
- Yaskairy Castillo de la Cruz
- Tomas Cesar
- Alice Chen
- Andy Chen
- Lisa Chen
- Lisa Chen
- Leah Chin
- Albert Choi
- Gabrielle Cicio
- Jennipher Colas
- Matthew Cook
- Sydney Cooke
- Rachel Coons
- John Cordova
- Gil Cruz
- Jesus Cruz Gonzalez
- Caitlyn Davies
- Jhennelle Davis
- Camila De Vasconcelos
- Natasha Diaz
- Naysha Diaz
- Alea Dixon
- Danelle Dryden
- Daniel Duran
- Shourik Dutta
- Stanley Egbuchulam
- Avery Elgin
- Fatima Elmarakbi
- Caitlin Epperson
- Jannsen Espinal
- Ashley Fallen
- Carolina Fernandez
- Carem Fisher Olvera
- Audreanne Foster

### 3.0 SUPERSTARS

Nikko Garmendiz  
Diana Genao  
Connor Gioffe  
Taylor Goddard  
Selennah Gonzalez  
Dinetra Gowdie  
Allison Gramy  
Jason Guisao  
Dayner Hackshaw  
Eunice Han  
Brianna Hart  
Matthew Hepburn  
Olivia Hermit  
Sarah Hernandez  
Nicole Hong  
Ethan Irby  
Taylor Jackson  
Dejia James  
Kelly Jaramillo  
Michealia Jennings  
Jose Jimenez  
Juan Jimenez  
Nathalie Kalumbwe  
Jamie Keel  
Gnire Kone  
Sofia Kostrinsky  
Lexus Lam  
Kristian Lau  
Carol Lavelle  
Andy Lee  
Jason Lee  
Cindy Lin  
Angelina Linsalato  
Jennifer Liriano  
Frederick Liu

## MEET ASPIRE

ASPIRE is a new AOP student group. The name stands for AOP Students Increasing Resilience in Education. Couldn't we all use a little more progress and resilience?

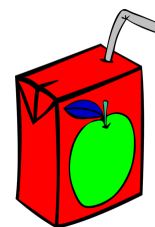
The mission of this group is to support an atmosphere where young women and men in AOP can thrive through a commitment to their intellectual, social and interpersonal development.

The group serves as a social support to ease the college transition process after the Summer Scholar Program. Additionally this group celebrates the interconnections of women and men, striving to promote a future of mutually assured empowerment for all genders. Pretty cool!

Don't believe us? Here is why this group

exists. We all bond during the summer program. We become family. At the end of the summer program, students wanted to find a way to continue that sense of community and family. Thus ASPIRE was born.

The group meets once a month and is facilitated by Ms. DeBose.



*Sip and Paint (juice people, we drank juice!)*

## M.I.L.E.S (MEN INCOPORATING LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT AND SERVICE)

M.I.L.E.S. welcomes and encourages participation of any person, at SUNY Geneseo, which concern itself with the professional growth of its members. We go about this through several different activities and planned events.

In the past, the M.I.L.E.S leadership team has had Access Opportunity Program (AOP) advisors, such as Gabriel Iturbides, present to M.I.L.E.S members on the importance of interview etiquette when applying for internships, jobs, etc. In addition, the team plans activities that engage members to express their opinion. The team's *Barbershop Talks* is a segment where topics are chosen to be discussed amongst members in a "chat-style", this is done in order to give members a medium in which they can express their opinion as well as encourage open-mindedness of other opinions. Also, in previous years the MILES leadership team has coordinated a trip for its members during the spring semester to Canada. This trip serves as an unwinding of the semester for our members. The leadership team frequently participates in Geneseo's club fair in order to rally new members and possible future club leaders.

"So far, being on the M.I.L.E.S leadership team has allowed me to offer new Geneseo students a sense of belonging in an environment that may feel foreign/new to them. With that goal in mind, I participate in the brainstorming of ideas along with other club leaders to produce our weekly M.I.L.E.S meetings. Discussions with Sam, Brandon, and Jared concerning the club's activities has taught me many new concepts that I wouldn't know otherwise about group-planning, research, and networking. This aspect as well as the actual meetings, has contributed to my growth in knowledge outside of the classroom. The M.I.L.E.S leadership team hopes to pass on and contribute to this culmination of ideas with its members."





## WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (WLI)

As the 2016-2017 academic year comes to a close, so, too, does another successful year for the Women's Leadership Institute (WLI).

This year saw new developments as we continued to grow the program. For those of you who are not yet familiar with WLI, it is a student-run organization supported by the AOP department. At the most basic level, WLI aims to support the development of women in leadership roles.

The organization was created in 2007 by former EOP Counselor Patricia Gonzalez as a way to prepare women to obtain leadership roles and to support those women currently in leadership roles on campus. In the last ten years, it has served hundreds of women at SUNY Geneseo and has taught them how to be leaders in the classroom, on campus and in their communities.



*The events are centered around the “Five Pearls” or principals of WLI - Leadership, Support, Networking, Service, and Advocacy*

The Program Development team, which consists of six student leaders who were past WLI participants, guides students through this year-long program. Interested students apply in September. Once accepted, participants are expected to actively engage in a variety of events throughout the year in order to receive a Certificate of Completion.

The events are centered around the “Five Pearls” or principals of WLI – leadership, support, networking, service and advocacy. Each semester, participants must attend at least three Woman to Woman sessions. During Woman to Woman, the Program Development team facilitates discussion on a variety of topics. These sessions were created as a form of support and to foster a sense of community within the organization. Participants also must attend one Professional Development session per month. Professional Development sessions cover topics including how to network, types of leadership, professionalism, goal setting, etc.

In addition to these events, each March, WLI works with the GOLD program to host the Women in Leadership Conference. This conference consists of GOLD workshops throughout the day and ends with a dinner where participants practice networking with

alumni, faculty and staff and enjoy an inspiring keynote speaker. This year, the keynote speaker for the dinner was Rev. Dr. Iris Banister. She delivered an incredibly empowering message about creating your own vision of the world then going out and seizing it. The WLI program concludes with a closing ceremony in April where we celebrate participants' achievements and honor members.

WLI prides itself on the comradery formed between the participants and the relationships it helps foster with the larger campus and alumni. It is a great way not only to learn important leadership skills but also to meet a variety of different people and to get comfortable networking and advocating for yourself. We would be happy for you to join our organization in September!



### 3.0 SUPERSTARS

Tiffany Loo  
 Elinol Lopez  
 Karla Lora  
 Denis Mazariegos  
 Sean McPhillips  
 Cynthia Medina  
 Sabrina Medina  
 Valerie Medina  
 Leinni Mejia  
 Ruben Mercado  
 Samantha Meyers  
 Sasha Miller

Geoffrey Moore  
 Keara Morrison-Doyle  
 Ayesha Mukhyer  
 Hershley Nelson  
 Dung Nguyen  
 Meghan Nguyen  
 Gladys Ninson  
 Cesar Nunez  
 Stella Oduro  
 Eghosa Okungbowa  
 Chalia Orellana Herrera  
 Raelynn Ortega  
 Krystal Osei  
 Candace Pedraza  
 Jenna Perez  
 Michelle Perez  
 Chaukim Peters  
 Gianna Petti  
 Rob Piascik  
 Yanitz Piedra  
 William Planeta  
 Alexis Quinones

### 3.0 SUPERSTARS CONT'D

Brandon Ramrattan  
Christopher Ramsay  
Shekiqua Reid  
Genesis Reyes  
Alexander Richman  
Christopher Roback  
Theresa Robert  
Evelyn Rodrigues  
Lorenzo Rodriguez  
Michelle Rodriguez  
Leslie Rosales  
Christopher Ruiz  
Samira Salha  
Carol Sanchez  
Arlenis Santana  
Pema Sherpa  
Teisha Sherpa  
Ravneet Singh  
Raysa Sosa  
Mark Soto  
Melissa Tang  
Jorge Terrero  
Milton Tran  
Rubab Ume  
Lesly Urena Reyes  
Shenea Walker  
Aiesha Williams  
Savannah Williams  
Takiyah Williams  
Yvette Williams  
Dimitri Wing-Paul  
Megan Wong  
Sandy Wu  
Fuko Yano  
Yikai Ye  
Wilson Zhang

## TUTORING

Dear Tutee,

I wanted to write to you about the AOP Tutoring Services. Is tutee a real word? According to my quick review, yes, it's a word. It's a noun for a student of the tutor, but I can't help picturing a dancer in a tutu (Tutu, Tutee). One may receive tutoring in Dance 100, but AOP tutees are not required to wear tutus.

Enough sound and word play for this brief commentary. I hope that you continue to read, because success is our goal within the AOP programs. As one of the tutor coordinators, I aim to communicate to the tutees (and to the tutors) about the need to believe in their talents, to be self-advocates, and to dedicate time to a disciplined weekly study plan. We first recommend that students visit professors during office hours. Wear a tutu to gain attention, if needed. Seriously, it is your right to ask questions and to be an active learner on campus. Consider a few tips to prepare for the visit. Let's prevent feeling forgetful, speechless, or compelled to dart to the nearest exit. Write your questions out in advance. If you can't formulate a question, present your rewritten notes and identify missing information. Take notes during the conversation with your professor. Here's a challenge. Visit your professors once a week. Set a goal for best communication with them.



Attending all classes is the grand plie' of tips for tutees. Rewriting your notes, immediately after classes, and creating an outline format is another tip. Take your outlined notes to the professor for additional reviews. Alert! What information in your notes is most difficult or confusing? This is where you need to pay close attention as areas of uncertainty lead to a poor outcome. You may wish to be the best student dancer in

Dance 100 or in a jazz class, but you must practice, observe good planning, and use all of your supportive resources for the best result. Your AOP tutor is an additional layer of commitment to excellence within your study routines!

Moving on to baseball...Baseball? What is happening with the strike policy? You know, three strikes and you're out. Well in AOP, we don't want students to get anywhere near three strikes! If you do receive a strike email and want to talk about it, please see me or Miss Santos. Strikes are emailed to tutees when a session is missed. Receiving a strike email raises your awareness ("Who me?"). The tutoring service is costly and involves multiple student schedules. The strikes promote communication between AOP Advisors, tutors, and tutees. We honor your rationale for missing sessions, but if we find that you are not committed to the tutoring, then we suggest a change. Make an appointment and be heard. We care.

In support of your success at SUNY Geneseo,

Beverly Lofquist

TOP Counselor



# Thank you Tutors and Tutees!