

# WOMEN, GENDER & LEADERSHIP

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & GOALS

*The Women, Gender, and Leadership program is designed to provide an opportunity for SUNY Potsdam students to explore, discuss, and reflect on a wide variety of topics and issues related to women, gender, and leadership at SUNY Potsdam and beyond. A special feature of this program is the opportunity for students to network with, and be mentored by, a successful SUNY Potsdam alum. The program includes two components.*

1. **Workshop Series:** During the Fall 2017 semester, 4 workshops will be presented by outstanding SUNY Potsdam faculty, staff, alumni, and special guests. The goal of the workshop series is to explore a wide variety of topics and issues related to women, gender, and leadership at SUNY Potsdam and beyond.

2. **Women, Gender, & Leadership Alumni Mentoring Program:** Students who attend all 4 of the Fall workshops will have the exciting opportunity to be mentored by a SUNY Potsdam alum for the Spring 2018 semester.\* Every effort will be made to find a career-related match whenever possible. Mentors will provide students invaluable insights and advice on how to achieve success personally and professionally in the future. In addition to on-going contact with their Mentors, student participants will meet 3 to 4 times as a group with the Director of Campus Life to share personal reflections and gain insights on how to maximize their experience within the program. There will be a reception at the conclusion of the semester where students and Mentors (if they are available) will gather to celebrate and share their experiences. All participants will be presented with a certificate recognizing their accomplishments.

## FALL 2018 - SPRING 2019 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

*Women, Gender, and Leadership Workshop Series, Fall 2018*

*All workshops will take place*

*Thursdays at 6pm in the Knowles MPR, 2nd floor*

**9/14:** *Women, Gender, & Leadership Program Kick-Off Featuring Spoken Word Artist, Ashlee Haze*

The program kick-off serves as a welcome to all participants and includes a performance by spoken word artist, Kiera "Ashlee Haze" Nelson. Ashlee is from Atlanta by way of Chicago. Earning the nickname "Big 30" because of her consistency in getting a perfect score, she is one of the most auspicious poets in the sport of slam. She has performed everywhere from small coffee shops to the Apollo Theater. She is the current Slam Mistress of Java Monkey Slam Team, Southeast Regional Slam Champions. Ashlee is a two-time Women of the World Poetry Slam finalist. She appears in "3-Minute Activists: The Soul of Slam" a feature-length documentary that examines the lives and work of some of Atlanta's premier Spoken Word Artists. You may have seen her poems on Youtube, Huffington Post, For Harriet and many other media platforms. After hearing one of her poems, Missy Elliot surprised Ashlee by coming to her house. Ashlee's poetry is funny, heart wrenching, and most importantly, unapologetic. ([www.ashleehaze.com/](http://www.ashleehaze.com/))

**9/21:** *Addressing Discrimination in the Workplace - Dr. Bernadette Tiapo, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (moderator); Stacey Basford, Title IX, Affirmative Action, & Compliance; Dr. Deb Conrad, School of Education and Professional Studies; Dr. Christine Doran, Women's and Gender Studies; and Dr. Lydia Rodriguez, Anthropology:*

This workshop will provide an overview on important issues students should be aware of regarding workplace discrimination. A panel discussion will follow where faculty and staff will discuss personal experiences and offer their best advice and tips for success.

**9/28:** *Managing Your Money -*

This workshop allows students to select 2 of 4 mini-sessions to attend that best meet their current personal/professional goals. The session titles and presenters include:

- Developing Good Credit  
Understanding Your Credit Score:  
Amanda Prescott, Business Affairs
- Educational Borrowing:  
Susan Godreau, Financial Aid
- Basic Tax Principles:  
Carolyn Corcoran, Financial Aid
- Understanding Benefit Packages for Your First Job:  
Sheila Scott, Human Resources

**10/12:** *How to Work a Room: Effective Networking at Receptions & Beyond - Amy Kellogg, '99, Member of the Potsdam Foundation Board; Past President of the SUNY Potsdam Alumni Board of Trustees; and Partner, Harter Secrest & Emery:*

This highly interactive session will teach participants effective networking strategies in a reception environment and beyond. A special feature will be the opportunity to practice networking skills with invited SUNY Potsdam faculty, staff and alumni during which you can make real connections to aid in your professional development.



Students who attend all 4 of the workshops offered in the Fall, will have the opportunity to be paired with a SUNY Potsdam alum in their career field for the Spring 2019 semester.\* During the Fall semester, students will complete an information sheet regarding their career and personal interests. This information will help the program find an appropriate Mentor for each student. Please note that our goal is to match students as closely as possible with Mentors who have a career field that matches their interests. In the rare case that a direct match cannot be found, students will be matched with a Mentor who the program believes will provide valuable general career and overall mentoring. Throughout the semester, students and Mentors will be encouraged to communicate regularly through mutually agreed upon methods, which can include electronic media, phone, and/or face-to-face interaction, if possible.



**Students will be expected to attend three to four, one-hour group meetings with the Director of Campus Life throughout the semester as outlined below:**

1. First Meeting: Explain program goals, offer insights and advice on how students can get the most from the program and provide Mentor assignments.
2. Second Meeting: Provide an opportunity for participants to share and reflect upon their experiences.
3. Third Meeting: Participants will provide final reflections and offer feedback on how to continue to improve the program for the future.
4. A Fourth Meeting will be scheduled only if needed.

Note: Meetings will be scheduled late in Fall 2017 once student academic schedules for Spring 2018 are set.

In addition, students will attend a final reception (date/time TBA) along with their Mentors (if available) at the close of the semester.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**Students:** Students wishing to participate should plan to attend all of the Fall 2017 workshops (see schedule on front). The Director of Campus Life will ask all students who have attended all of the required workshops to complete an information sheet at the end of the Fall semester which will be used to find an appropriate Mentor for each student.

**Alumni Mentors:** Alumni who wish to participate may contact Ruth Policella or Mona Ouimet Vroman '85 - see contact information below.

**Ruth Policella, Director of Campus Life, Student Union 208, 315-267-2818, [policera@potsdam.edu](mailto:policera@potsdam.edu)**

**Mona Ouimet Vroman '85, Director of Alumni Relations, Raymond 618, 315-267-2088, [vromanmo@potsdam.edu](mailto:vromanmo@potsdam.edu)**



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\*Please Note: If the number of students eligible for Mentoring exceeds 45, a group of students (who are not graduating seniors) will participate in Mentoring in Fall 2018 to ensure that all students have the best possible experience.