

ELMIRA COLLEGE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



BE IT EVER SO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Letter	1
Strategic Initiatives	
Success with the Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School Program	2
New Program Explores Media Studies	3
Art Program Expands With Career-Focused Concentrations	4
Incorporating Sustainability Into the Campus Community	5
Initial Steps in a Diversity Journey	6
Center for Academic & Professional Excellence One-Stop Shop for Student Success	7
Academics	
Academic Awards & Commencement Prizes	8, 9
Student Research	10
Department News	11, 12
Athletics News	13
Advancement	
Elmira College Opened Doors for Alumna, So She Gave Back	14
Thanks to Your Support, 2021-2022 Giving Goals Surpassed	15
Financials	16

WELCOME SIMEON!

The Soaring Eagle has been the official Elmira College mascot since the early 1970s. It was chosen in tribute to the Elmira area's distinction as the "Soaring Capital of America," with its hills and valleys that naturally suit the region for glider flight.

This year, more than 930 students, faculty, staff, and alumni voted on a new name for the Soaring Eagle Mascot, which President Charles Lindsay revealed during a Soaring Eagle Happy Hour event on the Campus Center Portico. We are grateful to everyone who helped give our beloved mascot a new name!





President's Letter

After nearly two years of COVID-19 pandemic disruptions, we were thankful for a return to in-person classes and a robust campus life during the 2021-2022 academic year. By the end of the year, we lifted all of the pandemic restrictions on events while maintaining a safe and secure campus environment. I enjoyed seeing the rebound in student life, as sports, leadership, and other extra-curricular activities are integral to the Elmira College experience. I'm grateful to the staff and faculty for their flexibility and professionalism as we put the darker days of the pandemic behind us, hopefully for good, and continue to steer a safe course through this brighter, yet still uncharted, territory.

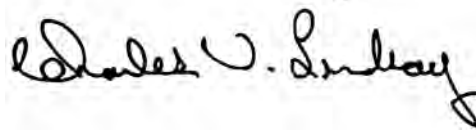
As we look ahead, we're excited by a promising increase in applications and how pairing a liberal arts education with professional programs has drawn interest. The Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School has received global attention for the business administration program and increased visibility and brand recognition for the College. Other new programs added to the curriculum include a Media Studies, Communications, and Design major and the Art program added four career-centered concentrations. We also took big steps in creating a campus that is inviting to today's students by incorporating Sustainability and Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) best practices into our strategic plans. Quick highlights include the formation of a Sustainability Committee, participation in the World-Wide Climate Teach-In, and hiring our first Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)/ Title IX Coordinator. You can read more about these initiatives in this report.

Also, our optimism for the College's financial stability continues to grow. Prior to the coronavirus pandemic,

I shared that the College was in the process of developing a plan to renew itself and build a bridge from our traditional liberal arts programs to one that more fully blends the liberal arts, professional programs, and our history of hands-on, immersive learning. Over the past two years, we have worked with the appropriate state agencies to secure the funding needed to implement this plan, move us through the downturn in enrollment, and navigate the economic upheaval caused by the coronavirus. That process is nearing completion and I anticipate being able to share more in the coming weeks.

While I am buoyed by the progress we have made this past year, support from alumni and friends remains critical for the College's future vitality. Together we can help students find their place in the world by first finding their place at Elmira College.

Yours,



Charles W. Lindsay, PhD
President



Strategic Initiatives

SUCCESS WITH TOMMY HILFIGER FASHION BUSINESS SCHOOL

The first announcement introducing the Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School (THFBS) was in April 2021. Since then, we've shared significant updates about the program.

On October 22, 2021, Elmira College representatives and Hilfiger family members held [an event to introduce the Tommy Hilfiger Gallery](#), located in Hamilton Hall. Although not directly related to the program, the Gallery honors the Hilfiger family's connection and pride in their hometown of Elmira, New York, and will serve as a source of inspiration to students and visitors. Select memorabilia and fashion items, special awards, rock and roll artifacts, special photos, and pieces from the family's history are on display in the Gallery.



In January of this year, the Hilfiger family, including Tommy Hilfiger and his siblings Andy and Betsy, [announced a \\$5,000 scholarship](#) to help cover internship costs completed in the final year of the three-year accelerated program. To apply, students in the THFBS program must have at least a 3.5-grade point average, demonstrate a strong desire to succeed in a diverse and inclusive industry, and exhibit leadership qualities, including involvement on committees and/or volunteering in the local community.

Then, in March, Elmira College and the [Fashion Institute of Technology \(FIT\)](#), a college of the State University of New York, [announced a new agreement](#) that broadens the educational opportunities for students while helping to build a pipeline of future leaders in the fashion industry. The new partnership provides graduates of Elmira College's Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School with an opportunity to apply to FIT's Global Fashion Management (GFM) Master's in Professional Studies (MPS) program.

The agreement between Elmira and FIT will promote engagement and transdisciplinary interactions between the institutions. For example, students of the Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School will be invited to attend select FIT GFM lectures. The agreement also encourages interactions between the faculty and administrators of each institution. Also, students who successfully complete a bachelor of arts degree in Business with a minor or concentration in Fashion Merchandising or Fashion Marketing will be encouraged to apply to FIT's MPS program if they meet additional admission criteria.

The program announcements received attention locally, nationally, and internationally including articles in prominent publications like Women's Wear Daily, Fashion United, and Bloomberg.

These high-profile media spotlights may have helped increased number of applications to our Business Administration program, of which the THFBS is a part. Applications to Business Administration increased by 40% compared to the previous year. This fall, the first cohort of students will enter the program, starting with foundational business courses and then specializing in fashion marketing or fashion merchandising in their second and third years.

NEW PROGRAM EXPLORES MEDIA STUDIES

Elmira College introduced a program that brings a professional focus to a broad set of liberal arts pursuits. [The Media Studies, Communications, and Design program](#) can be taken as a major or minor. Courses in the program focus on the production and analysis of different types of media, from print to streaming, legacy to start-up, social media, podcasting, and more. Students will learn to analyze and engage with content, looking at how it was produced and distributed across multiple platforms. These techniques and skills are important to advertising, broadcasting, graphic design, internal and external communications, marketing, publishing, telecommunications, and more.

“Employers increasingly demand communications skills beyond writing and speaking,” said Dr. Matt Seybold, Associate Professor of American Literature & Mark Twain Studies, who will serve as the major’s founding director. “Our students will be prepared to deliver projects in many popular mediums of the present day. But, as importantly, they will understand how to evaluate the production, distribution, consumption, and reception of content, so that they can expand and adapt their skills to our rapidly changing media environment. Some of our incoming students will likely go on to design messaging in augmented reality or in the metaverse.”



The Media Studies, Communications, and Design program takes a cross-disciplinary approach and complements other fields of study including Art, Business Administration, English, Fashion Marketing, Fashion Merchandising, History, Medical Humanities, Sociology, Sustainability, or Women’s & Gender Studies.

“This program is rooted in Elmira College’s broader commitment to flexibility and an interdisciplinary education,” said Seybold. “I expect many students will pair Media Studies with dual majors or minors. By doing so, they take advantage of both Elmira College’s strong foundation in the liberal arts and develop professional skills, which are in constant demand.”



The broad scope and flexible nature of this program give students an opportunity to tailor their career pursuits to their specific interests. Typical career pathways include communications or public relations managers, marketing and advertising specialists, editors and publishers, graphic designers and social media managers. The broad set of analytical and communications skills developed in the program remain in high demand among employers in every field. A 2018 study by what is now Burning Glass Technologies, found people with media studies & communications majors had lower rates of underemployment than every discipline except engineering, computer science, and information science. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in media and communication occupations is projected to grow 14 percent from 2020 to 2030, faster than the average for all occupations, and will result in about 151,500 new jobs. This demand is driven from an expectation that companies will need to create, edit, translate, and disseminate information through a variety of different platforms.

ART PROGRAM EXPANDS WITH CAREER-FOCUSED CONCENTRATIONS

Elmira College recently expanded its Art program to include four concentrations designed to help students channel their creative voices into successful careers. Beginning this fall, students interested in an Art major can choose to concentrate in Art Therapy, Digital Art and Graphic Design, Digital Art and Product Design, and Studio Art.

“Our faculty of leading artists and designers work directly with students building skills and professional networks while developing new ways to make learning productive and foster close classroom communities,” said Derek Chalfant, Associate Professor of Art. “Students and faculty often work together one-on-one, which gives faculty the opportunity to customize their instruction and guidance, and students receive their mentors’ undivided attention. Our smaller classes give students more time to share their ideas, express their opinions, and describe their perspectives, which are important skills in the professional world.”

Each concentration focuses on a different professional path.

Art Therapy: This field of study explores how therapists can help their patients express their emotions through non-verbal forms of communication. Art skills are not required and the program pairs well with students interested in Art and Psychology. According to Recruiter.com, demand for art therapists is expected to grow 27% over the next few years with an expected 26,660 new jobs filled by 2029.



Digital Art and Graphic Design: In this program, students will combine their creative thinking with technical skills to create attention-getting designs that communicate strong, clear, and accessible messages. These visual communication skills are in demand

in marketing, advertising, social media, theatrical production, and online publishing careers. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, graphic designers earn above the median wage for all occupations. Students can also choose to take this as a minor.

Digital Art and Product Design: Students will incorporate artistic elements into designing products that are beautiful, functional, and convey a strong brand. This program can lead to roles within industrial design. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, industrial designers earn a median salary well above the national average wage.



Studio Art: For students interested in pursuing a career in fine art, this program introduces and deepens their skills in drawing, ceramics, painting, printmaking, photography, and sculpture. Students gain experience in curating and mounting exhibits. Designed to pair well with other programs, graduates can go on to become teachers, professional artists, illustrators, art handlers, gallery managers, curators, and more.

“Employers today are looking for self-directed problem solvers,” said Chris Longwell, Assistant Professor of Art. “Art students engage in critical thinking and problem solving through their experiences with different materials and processes. In ways that are different from other academic programs, art encourages students to come up with their own solutions to problems and tasks. This process of learning can create a strong sense of personal identity and foster the kind of innovative thinking that will translate to many career paths.”

Additional details can be found on the [Elmira College Art program](#) website.

INCORPORATING SUSTAINABILITY INTO THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

As communities around the globe work to address climate change by finding sustainable ways to reduce their carbon footprints, Elmira College has put this topic front and center by making it a strategic initiative to incorporate sustainability into every aspect of the campus.

The goal is to position Elmira College as a leader in sustainability in the Southern Tier, serving as a model of how to identify, develop, and implement sustainability best practices. In 2021, the College began this work by introducing a Sustainability minor in collaboration with Dr. Meg Lowman, a renowned conservationist, National Geographic Explorer, and Elmira, New York native.

While building an academic program is an important step, the College also recognizes it can do more to reduce its carbon footprint and many in the campus community have embraced this mission and are eager to help.

A group of energetic leaders comprised of faculty, staff, and students formed a Sustainability Committee. The Committee members serve as advisors to the campus and will provide feedback and support as the College implements its sustainability initiatives.

COMMITTEE'S INITIAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Reviewed the College's energy portfolio and began to identify changes the campus can make in the short and long term. The committee has helped identify greener technologies to adopt over time and is investigating grant opportunities to help fund these significant investments.
- Identified opportunities for incorporating environmental awareness and sustainability in the curriculum. For example:
- With the help of a \$3,000 grant, the College set aside space for use as a community garden, and several faculty leveraged it as a teaching aid in their Spring 2022 Term III courses. The garden played an essential role for the first-year students who chose to be part of the [Sustainable Living and Environmental Justice](#) Learning Living Community (LLC). Also, in November, Corning Incorporated

Foundation granted Elmira College \$25,000 to purchase equipment that will enhance the College's Environmental Science program.

- Coordinated the College's participation in the [March 30 Worldwide Climate Teach-In](#) along with hundreds of colleges, universities, K-12 schools, and faith organizations. More than 400 EC students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members attended panel sessions on various sustainability-related topics, including an evening panel with the College's senior leadership. Attendees could also rummage through clothing and other items left by previous students during the Upcycle Flea Market.
- Launched the [Sustainability Scholarship](#) program where students can apply to become an Elmira College Sustainability Leader. There will be one leader per class year and the leader receives a \$1,000 award applied to their annual tuition.



"The past academic year brought several milestones for Elmira College's commitment to sustainability: a highly successful Climate Teach-In that we hope to make an annual tradition, the creation of a presidential committee of faculty, staff, and students to help guide our mission toward regional leadership in sustainability, and new academic programs in Environmental Science and Sustainability to prepare students for new careers and areas of advocacy," said Dr. Doc Billingsley, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and member of the Sustainability Committee. "This century promises to be defined by humanity's response to a changing environment, and the Elmira College community is stepping forward to meet these challenges and forge new opportunities for our students and our region."

INITIAL STEPS IN A DIVERSITY JOURNEY

Larry Parker, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)/Title IX Coordinator, has spent the past seven months diligently and purposefully working with students, faculty, and staff to implement cultural awareness and inclusive best practices that will enrich the campus community. His three-tiered approach focuses on supporting students, improving cultural awareness campus-wide, and influencing strategies at an institutional level.

“We are early in our DEI journey but I am excited by the openness I have received from everyone on campus including students, staff, and faculty,” said Parker.

Parker has spent much of his time advising the student clubs on how to enrich their opportunities and make sure they can express themselves in an effective way. He gave the Black Student Union advice as they planned their annual banquet, coached the International Club as they planned a Cinco De Mayo celebration, and gave a hand to the Brothers And Sisters In Christ (BASIC) club while they prepared a prayer vigil for the people of Ukraine. Additionally, Parker saw an opportunity to start a new club focused on the sizable EC athletic community.



“We started the Intercultural Student-Athlete Alliance,” said Parker. “This is important to me because a large group like this could have a big impact on the campus.”

The new club brings together student-athletes from different teams, representing different genders and cultural backgrounds.

Another initiative includes renovating the Multicultural Center, located on the first floor of the Campus Center. The soon-to-be-called IDEA (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Access) Center will have new flooring and furniture and will become a place for the student clubs, their members, and the rest of the student body to meet, hang out, and hold events. Additionally, the



College will open a prayer room in the Gannett-Tripp Library for students of any religion to privately worship at their discretion. Also, Parker partnered with the dining services team to help celebrate different cultures through food. Titled “Culinary Cultures,” the dining hall will celebrate and feature foods from a different culture each month.

Parker’s campus-wide initiatives include collaborating with a nearby college to bring students completing a social work practicum to Elmira, giving Elmira College students additional emotional support opportunities. Also, Parker is acquiring training to provide enrollment support, programming, and other services to international students. Finally, he plans to invite prominent DEI speakers to share their stories with the EC Community annually. This year, Parker invited Hala Tala, host of the Young and Profiting podcast and Founder and Chief Executive Officer of YAP Media, to speak.

“I’m targeting people that the students might know and who the students may admire professionally,” said Parker.

Institutionally, Parker is working to influence policies and procedures while encouraging faculty, staff, and administrators to increase their awareness of how to make the campus more student-focused. He worked with Human Resources to incorporate language in job descriptions that will encourage more professionals of color to apply and began a collaborative book reading where employees can read the same DEI-related text and then discuss takeaways and ideas.

“The energy from the book read has been inspiring,” said Parker. “We had a lot of participants and there was general recognition that we can and should do more to make ourselves a student-ready college.”

CENTER FOR ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE ONE-STOP SHOP FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

To help the College provide a more collaborative and supportive environment for students, this spring several academic support offices were combined under one banner, the [Center for Academic & Professional Excellence \(CAPE\)](#).

“Bringing these academic support services together streamlines student access and strengthens what we are able to offer students across all areas of their academic and professional development,” said Redmond, Director of the Center for Academic and Professional Excellence and Director of Career Services.

“The highly collaborative professional CAPE staff and faculty bring a diversity of expertise and knowledge to optimize and customize the learning experience for each student, from their first college experience through graduation and beyond into a fulfilling career or graduate studies,” said Patricia Ireland, Provost.



ABOUT EACH SERVICE:

George L. Howell Tutoring Center: Students receive course-specific walk-in tutoring, group study, and one-on-one tutoring. Beyond course or topic-specific aid, the tutoring center helps students - at all academic performance levels - learn skills like time management and note-taking as well as how to address test anxiety.

“As an alumna, I want to see every student find the success that I did here at Elmira, and that is why I am so excited to be a part of CAPE. Alongside our faculty, peer tutors play a crucial role in helping their classmates achieve their academic goals, and I’m honored to lead them in that endeavor,” said Michaela Johnson ’17, Assistant Director of the Center for Academic and Professional Excellence and Manager of Student Success.

Writing Center: Provides writing support to students across all of the academic disciplines through one-on-one consultations and workshops.

“We are excited by the opportunity to better collaborate across our services and teams of tutors,” said Annaliese Hoehling, director of Academic Writing and Assistant Professor of English. “In the short time that we’ve begun working under the CAPE umbrella, we’ve already begun to see benefits. Our teams are energized, and we have a centralized identity and set of resources. This translates to more effective tutoring, new programs, and a more holistic approach to helping students that still provides specialty-area expertise.”

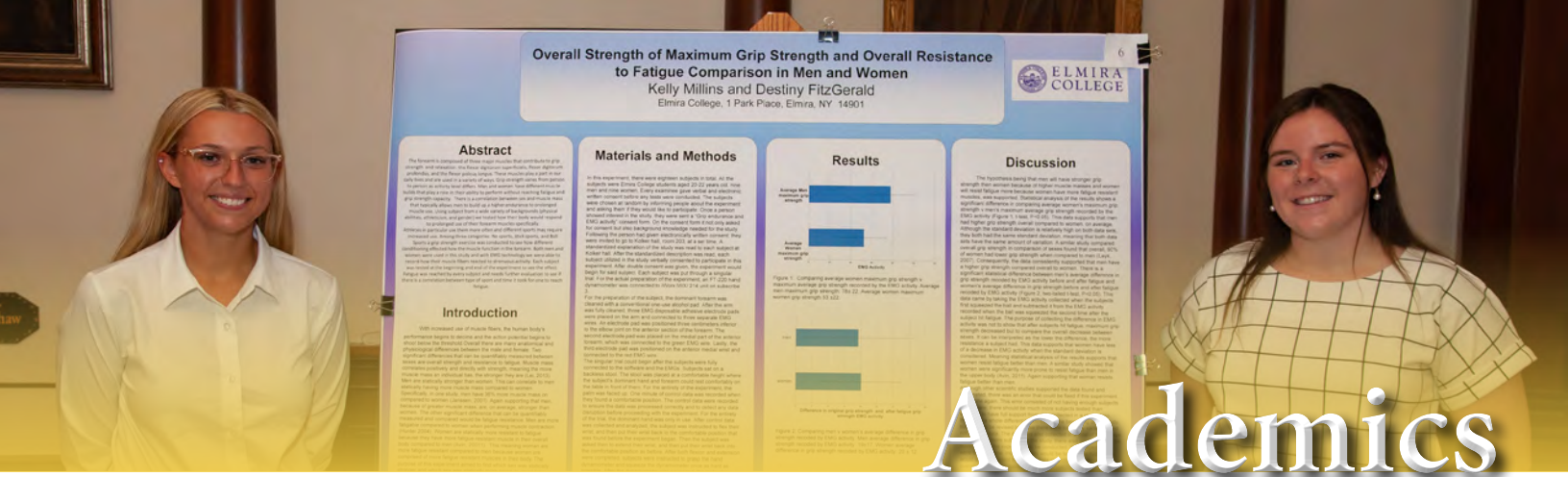
Accessibility Services: Coordinates accommodations and services for students with qualifying documented disabilities that are designed to match the individual student’s identified needs, such as testing modifications.

“As Elmira College students with learning or other disabilities practice self-advocacy in identifying and managing their disability, the resources available within the CAPE group will be invaluable,” said Carolyn Draht, Academic Accommodations Coordinator and Associate Registrar.

“As we continue to make effective changes in the Elmira College community, especially for English Language Learners and students with academic accommodations, CAPE services will help ensure that EC students can always find a place of mentorship and support in pursuit of their academic goals,” said Anthony Affissio, Academic Support Specialist, Student Accessibility, and ELL Student Services.

Carol and Robert Morris Career Services Center: Provides current students and alumni with resources to help them in their career pursuits, including self-assessments, aid in finding internships, networking, resume building, and career-prep seminars.

“The professional world is constantly changing and the experiential learning and development opportunities both in and out of the classroom at Elmira College are continuing to adapt to ensure that our students and alumni are equipped to reach their professional goals,” said Redmond.



Academics

PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

ACADEMIC AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Algernon DeWaters Gorman Prize:** Julia Ambrose '23
- Board of Trustees Prizes:** Alexandra Brockhizen '22 and Felicity Brockhuizen '22
- Class of 1927 Prize:** Jacie Beebe '25
- Class of 2000 Prize:** Bryan Adams '25
- Helen Bosworth Beers '24 Prizes:** Annabelle Schmitte '23
- Helen Hitchcock Bjorvand Drawing Prize:** Anthony Colitti '24
- Hypatia Mathematics Prize:** Kaitlin Duffy '23
- International Student Prize:** Oscar Munoz Trinidad '23
- Iris Leadership Prize:** Marc Artuz '24 and James Blair '23
- Margaret Locke Community Service Prize:** Hannah Whittier '23
- Marian Ames Memorial Prize:** Ryan Hardy '23
- Mary Lou Parrella '65 Prize:** Cassidy Ryan '24
- Mildred Whittlesey McGraw Attainment Prizes:** Maria Antonio '23, Madison Brown-Bloom '23, and Ryan Hardy '23
- Corning Section American Chemical Society Award:** Alexa Sitzer '25
- CRC Basic Chemistry Prize:** Ryan Trenholm '25
- First-Year Writing Prize:** Kaitlyn Pruyne '25
- Nurse Education Faculty Recognition for Excellence in Nursing:** Erin Marafioti '22
- The Professional Nurses of the Twin Tiers Award:** Ashley Condame '21
- Rho Gamma Scholarship Award:** Rachel Carey '22





COMMENCEMENT PRIZE RECIPIENTS

The Barbara H. Palmer '67 Prize in History:
Jeffrey M. Andrews '21

The Elizabeth Anne Graham '42 Prize:
Jenna Grace Cowder '22

The Joseph Robinson Prize: Hailey Marissa Halse '22

The 1917 Prize: Yamille Moss '22

The Kathryn Jenkins Education Prize:
Cassidy Ellen Buchman '22

The Carmine John Parker '79 Prize:
Ryan W. Durkee '23

The Dr. Ryland Hugh Hewitt, Jr. Award:
Carly L. Eldridge '22

The Abraham Shabanowitz Mathematics Prize:
Tyra Holden '22

The Dr. Kathleen Sward Nursing Excellence Prize:
Erica Kay Jahn '22

The Emerson Liscum Diven Prize:
Sierra Imani Koktowski '22

The Bruce Beaty Memorial Prize:
Haile M. Rowsam '22

The Sharon Cosloy-Blank '66 Science Prize:
Catherine Marie Smugereski '22

The Hal Roach, Litt.D. '88 Theatre Prize:
Joshua E. Stuttle '22

The Kathlene Arnott Watters '65 Prize:
Spencer Jackson Whittle '22

Dr. Louise Frances Potter Prize: Kennedi A. Roman '22

Valedictorian: Jenna Cowder '22

Salutatorian: Carly Edlridge '22

Provost's Prize in Accounting: Brooke McArdle '22

Provost's Prize in Finance: Adam Eby '21

Provost's Prize in Business Administration:
Breanna Millard '22

Provost's Prize in Criminal Justice:
Alexandra Brockhuizen '22

Provost's Prize in Adolescence Education:
Alex Adelman '22

Provost's Prize in Psychology: Eliza Beaudin '22



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

During the year, students had opportunities to showcase their research.

STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On May 5, 14 students presented on eleven research projects. Topics included measuring grip strength in athletes, gender perception, anti-bullying initiatives, and DNA fingerprinting.

This annual event is sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs, and organized by faculty volunteers Dr. Amy Lyndaker, Dr. Kelly Kane, and Dr. Ping Zheng.

Presentation Talks:

- Special Presentation by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Huling Hummel. Hummel presented about her role as a research participant in Alzheimer's studies and her roles on several national research advisory committees.
- Emily Arrazola '23; Pursuing the American Dream: A Study of First Generation College Students
- Hannah Baxter '23 and Laura Kane '92; Live Like Ronin
- Jenna Cowder '22; Iranian American Perception and its Impact on Immigrants
- Felicity Brockhuizen '22; Inheritance and Molecular Genetics of Mucopolysaccharidosis in Humans

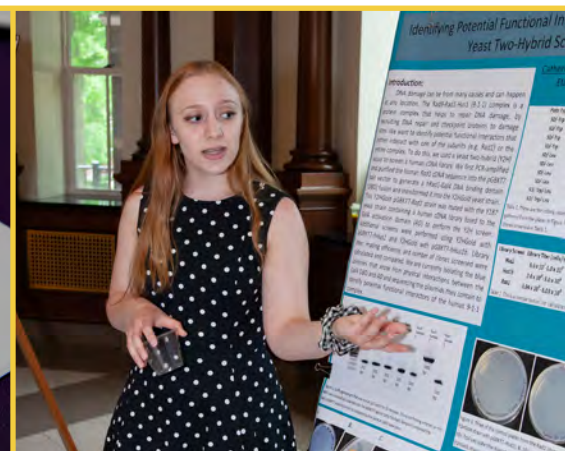
Poster Presentations:

- Alexis Wyckoff '23; The Culprit, D1-2, and the Whiskey Affairs
- Salem Jordan '23; Gender Perception; Challenging Normalcy
- Catherine Smugereski '22; Identifying Potential Functional Interactors of the Human 9-1-1 Complex through Yeast Two-Hybrid Screens of a Human cDNA Library
- Devon Parente '24 and Paige Stilts '23; On the Cutting Edge: Precise and Accurate Editing of the LacZ Gene in *Escherichia coli* via CRISPR-Cas9
- Ryan Hardy '23; The Search for Functional Partners of the Human Hus1 and Hus1b Proteins
- Destiny Fitzgerald '25 and Kelly Millins '23; Grip Strength

TRIBETA REGIONAL BIOLOGY RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The Elmira College Eta Sigma chapter of the Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) national biological sciences honor society hosted the 2022 annual district convention for the northeastern-1 (NE-1) region. Undergraduate students from colleges and universities across the northeastern United States presented their research, including three Elmira College students.

Topics included the impacts of herbicides on microbial communities, RNA interference in both beetles and *C. elegans*, modulation of locomotion in tardigrades, and CRISPR-Cas9-mediated gene editing.



ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

EDUCATION

- Undergraduate and graduate Education faculty presented at the first annual Literacy Institute event, which was attended by more than 100 area teachers.
- Deborah Owens, Director of Education and Associate Professor of Education, was this year's recipient of the Catharine McGraw Rock award, which is given to a senior member of the Elmira College faculty.

MATHEMATICS

- Dr. Ryan McCulloch, Associate Professor of Mathematics, demonstrated "Blinking Lights Using Arduino" during the 2022 STEM Night at Horseheads Intermediate School. Attendees could change a few lines of code to make LED lights blink in different patterns.
- Dr. Adam Giambone, Associate Professor of Mathematics, was the 2022 recipient of the Josef Stein Award, which honors a relatively new member of the Elmira College faculty for performing with distinction.

NATURAL SCIENCES

- Elmira College graduate Emma Kelly '21 and Dr. Amy Lyndaker, Associate Professor of Biology, had their genetics research published in Feb. 8 edition of the journal e-Life.
- The Environmental Science program secured a \$25,000 grant from Corning Incorporated Foundation for program enhancements.

HUMANITIES

- In April, Breana Millard '22, Yamille Moss '22, and Josh Stuttle '22 performed in two Ellen Byron one-act plays: "Graceland" and "Asleep on the Wind."



- In May, Genevieve Elliot '25, Ana Marotti '23, and Alleney Klunk '25 performed in "Vanities: The Musical."
- Dr. Mitchell Lewis, Associate Professor of English and Creative Arts & Humanities Chair, was selected as the Georgia Harkness Professorship, a five-year, renewable term, granted to a senior faculty member in English Literature, Philosophy, Religion, or Theatre.



SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

- Dr. Jim Twombly, Professor of Political Science at Elmira College, was recently re-elected to a third consecutive term as Vice President of the New York State Political Science Association.



- Doc Billingsley, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, and T.C. Owens, Folk Arts Coordinator at the Arts Council led a free Community Documentation Workshop organized by the Arts Council and funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT NEWS CONTINUED...

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

- Elmira College (EC) and the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), a college of the State University of New York, partnered to broaden educational opportunities for students in the Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School.
- Elmira natives Tommy Hilfiger and his siblings Andy Hilfiger and Betsy Hilfiger created a \$5,000 scholarship for students attending the Tommy Hilfiger Fashion Business School (THFBS) program.
- In a feature story in April, Marcus Astesana '17, Adam Eby '20, and Martin Kapoian '22 shared how Elmira College professors steered and encouraged them into the exciting field of Finance.



ARTS

- Student artwork, including works by Alexander Taylor '23, Max Lundin '22, and Kenta Okumura '22 were on display in Elmira City Hall for a special show presented by Community Arts of Elmira and The City of Elmira with Second District Councilperson Brent Stermer.
- In May, Elmira College student artwork, including the works of Max Lundin '22, Sabrina Byrd '22, and Kenta Okumura '21 were featured in the Senior Art Major/Minor show.



- In November, Marc Artuz '24 and Kenta Okumura '21, were featured in The Fusion Arts Collective in the Community Arts Gallery at Community Arts of Elmira.

NURSING

- Tammy Bocek, Assistant Professor of Nurse Education, earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), in Educational Leadership from American Sentinel College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Post University.
- In an Elmira College feature story from December, Mary Grace Nichols '22 and Rachel McEvoy '14 shared how Elmira College's Nursing Program helped them develop the skills and confidence needed to excel in the workplace.



COMMUNICATIONS SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

- In an Elmira College feature story from February, Leeann Lawrence '23 and alumna Katrina Fulcher-Rood '07 shared how they got into the Communications Sciences and Disorders program to help people.

For more
information about
Academic and
Athletics News:
[linktr.ee/
ElmiraCollegeAR](https://linktr.ee/ElmiraCollegeAR)





Athletics News



Cheerleading captured third National Championship in program history (Small Coed Division).

- Baseball captured most regular-season wins since 2017, qualifying for postseason play and winning its first Empire 8 Tournament game in program history.
- Softball posted its first winning season since 2014.
- Men's Ice Hockey finished the regular season undefeated at the Murray Athletic Center, qualifying for its first NCAA Tournament since 2012.
- Women's Ice Hockey had three All-Americans in Eliza Beaudin, Jenny Heath, and Leonie Kuehberger.
- Beaudin was named as a Laura Hurd Award Finalist, Tim Crowley earning National Coach of the Year finalist honors from CCM/USCHO.
- Adam Eby and Chris Janzen went on to play professional hockey for the Vermillion County Bobcats and Evansville Thunderbolts of the SPHL, respectively.
- Men's Volleyball qualified for the UVC Tournament for the first time since the 2018 season.
- Three Empire 8 Rookie's of the Year honorees (Bryan Adams (MBB), Alberto Mauricio (MVB), and Brett Warden (BASE)).
- Women's Ice Hockey captured the NEHC Regular Season and Tournament Championships en route to a Final 4 appearance.
- Women's Wrestling finished its inaugural season ranked in the final national poll.
- Men's soccer reached nine wins for just the second time in the last nine seasons under first-year head coach Lamine Balde.
- Women's Volleyball qualified for the Empire 8 Tournament, defeating Keuka in a first-round matchup.
- EC had 27 athletes earn postseason honors from their respective conferences (Empire 8, UVC, NEHC).
- Cody Griswold earned Twin Tiers Coach of the Year while Cheerleading earned Twin Tiers College Team of the Year.
- Eliza Beaudin earned Empire 8 Woman of the Year honors, the first Elmira recipient to receive the award.



We said farewell to women's ice hockey head coach Tim Crowley, the winningest coach in program history. We are grateful for his expertise and wish him continued coaching success.



Skylah Chakouian '25 earned All-American honors as Women's Wrestling sent three to the National Tournament.



Advancement

ELMIRA COLLEGE OPENED DOORS FOR ALUMNA, SO SHE GAVE BACK



Our lives are shaped by the places and people we encounter. For Barbara Corti Herrmann, Class of 1962, Elmira College was one of those places that helped shape her future and for that reason, Herrmann was inspired to give back to Elmira College through a planned gift.

Her determination served her well, graduating in 1962 with a degree in history. She credits the support system of the faculty for setting her on a path to have a fulfilling career and the independence to leave the region of her birth. "I just hope that people realize that small schools are valuable," she said. "You don't get lost in a small school. You can find a support system, without which, there is no point."

"The most important thing is to ensure Elmira College continues to impact the lives of students - the same as it did for me," said Herrmann.

After graduation, she moved with her husband to Indiana. There, she accepted her first job at Purdue University running the film library at night, but not without having to fight for it first. "I had heard they wouldn't hire a woman for the role," she said. "But I pursued it and got it!"

Originally from North Tonawanda, New York, Herrmann grew up in a place and time with limited options for young women. Only 10 percent of students from her high school went to college. It was common for women to marry and stay home, and those who pursued careers were expected to go into nursing, teaching, or become a secretary.

Herrmann and her husband later moved to Minnesota but throughout her adult life, she has been canny with her money. She managed the finances for her family and made sure to get a financial planner and set aside money toward retirement. "I always put 10% of my salary away for retirement and pretended like it wasn't there," she said.

But none of that fit Herrmann. After some research, she found Elmira College and liked its emphasis on providing a curriculum for women that was as rigorous as programs for men.

After her husband passed away, Herrmann decided that the best way to avoid paying a lot of taxes on the money would be to gift the money to the institutions that meant the most to her. Her children and grandchildren were already well provided for, so this meant she could give back to Elmira College, the institution that changed her life, with a planned gift.

"Attending Elmira College meant a lot to me," said Herrmann. "I never would have had the guts to get a job. It opened my eyes to other possibilities."

Herrmann said setting up the gift was easy with her financial planner. She also wanted to make sure that the gift didn't come with strings attached, so she left the planned gift unrestricted. "There is no way to know what the College will need," she said. "Why tie their hands?" Leaving it unrestricted allows the College to use it where they need it most."

Her time at Elmira College had its difficulties. She came from North Tonawanda, an area known as the Lumber Capital of the World. She didn't feel as prepared for the curriculum as other students, many of whom came from New York City and attended a preparatory school. But she was determined and persevered. "I learned to keep going at Elmira College," said Herrmann.

Planned gifts like Herrmann's go a long way to making sure students will find their place at Elmira College while preparing for the complexities and challenges of today's world - just like Herrmann did more than 50 years ago.

If you would like more information about setting up a planned gift - or another kind of gift, go to our [Bequest and Estate Planning](#) page or reach out to Angela May at amay@elmira.com.

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, 2021-2022 GIVING GOALS SURPASSED

This last year, the generosity of our donors was realized in a big way, exceeding our goal and providing over \$1.4 million in critical support. Some of our donors shared with us why they felt it was important to invest in the students, the community, and the future of Elmira College. We realize that greatness can only be achieved through the generosity of our EC community. For thisand for you, we are truly grateful.



TEAKIE HENRIQUES WELTY '56

"Elmira has always held a special place in my heart. As a new alumna, I felt it important to donate to the College so that other students could experience college life on a small, warm, inviting campus where the faculty interacted with the students on a daily basis. The more I got involved with the Alumni Association and the New Jersey Club, the more I felt privileged to donate as I watched the College morph from a small girl's college to a vibrant co-ed college emphasizing a liberal arts program and filling students' needs for new majors. It has kept its identity and provides an excellent environment and education for students who do not want to attend a large state university."

*Former EC Alumni Board
Retired Owner and President of Beauti-Quest Inc
Giving to EC for 40 years*



KAT SLYE-HERNANDEZ '12, PHD

"I thoroughly enjoyed my four years at Elmira College in and out of the classroom; the community environment was one of the biggest draws for me along with the small class sizes. I continue to support Elmira College yearly by giving to the scholarship program to help ensure future students can attend EC. I know without my scholarship I would not have been able to be a Soaring Eagle. I want to pay it forward by contributing to the scholarships of the Soaring Eagles of today and the future."

*Incoming EC Alumni Board Member
Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
Northeastern Retail Lumber Association, East Greenbush, NY
Giving to EC for 10 years*



JOHN D. GROOPMAN '74

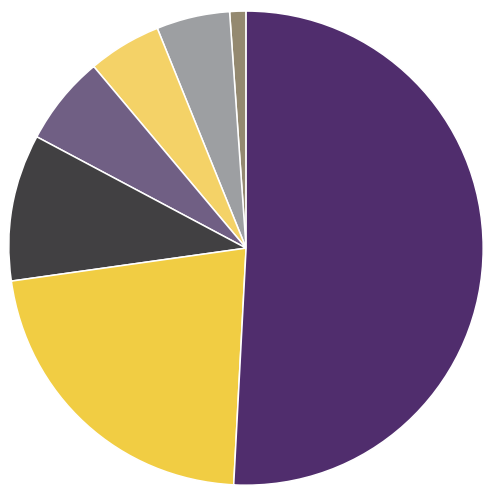
"Over the nearly 50 years since my graduation, I have worked with many collaborators in the US and across the world on the etiology, molecular principles, and prevention of liver cancer. These studies have been based in large biomedical research institutions such as Johns Hopkins, MIT, and the US National Cancer Institute that have the infrastructure and are resources for these international collaborations. Remarkably, a common reality is that almost all of the senior investigators I have or continue to work with graduated from liberal arts colleges, very similar to EC. This cannot be by chance and reflects how the core principals of the liberal arts are essential for building the cultural trust needed for these studies in highly diverse communities."

*Edyth H. Schoenrich Professor of Preventive Medicine
Department of Environmental Health and Engineering
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Associate Director for Population Sciences
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Giving to EC for 38 years*



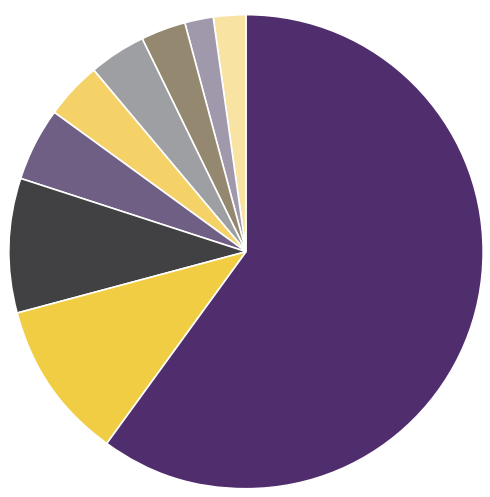
Financials

FY 22-23 EXPENSE BUDGET

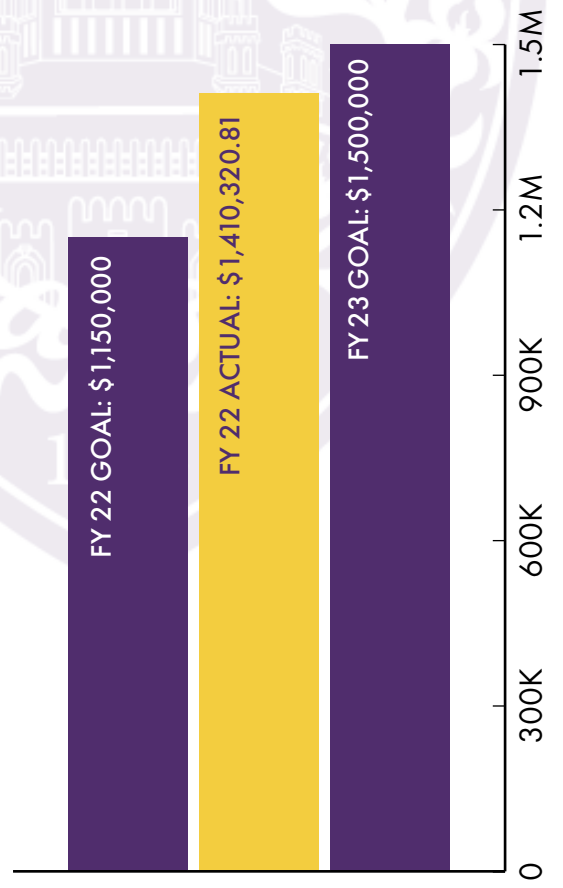


- Facilities, IT, HR, & Finance, 51%
- Academic Affairs, 22%
- Athletics, 10%
- Enrollment, Admissions, & Financial Aid, 6%
- Campus & Residential Life, 5%
- Advancement, Marketing, & Communications, 5%
- Executive-President, 1%

FY 22-23 REVENUE BUDGET



- Tuition, 60%
- Housing Income, 11%
- Dining & Food Services Income, 9%
- Endowment Distribution, 5%
- Private Gifts, 4%
- Student Fees, 4%
- Federal Grants & Contracts, 3%
- Other Income, 2%
- LECOM Lease, 2%
- Bookstore Income, 0%
- State Contracts & Appropriations, 0%



ANNUAL GIVING

(Not Included: Endowed Funds and Endowed Restricted Bequests)

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Current and former Alumni Board members gathered during Reunion 2022.



ELMIRA COLLEGE

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