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College of Engineering and Computer Science Nunan Research Day

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Syracuse University

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Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud
Delivered on Monday, April 19, 2015
Location: Hergenhan Auditorium
Remarks: Cuse Conference

The Chancellor was introduced by Student Director, Ignacio Nava

Thank you, Ignacio. I am pleased to join you today for the inaugural 'Cuse Conference at Syracuse University.

First, I want to thank the student leaders of the Student Association, the Graduate Student Organization, the Student Affairs Advisory Board, and the Residence Hall Association.

I also want to acknowledge the Undergraduate Student Association of SUNY-ESF, our long-time neighbor and partner in education.

I especially want to thank Boris Gresely (outgoing president of Student Association), Ignacio Nava (director of the Cuse Conference), and Patrick Neary (outgoing president of Graduate Student Association).

You have worked long, hard hours to coordinate this special conference, through meetings, discussions, open fora, workgroups, social media, and surveys.

You demonstrate the grit, and tenacity, that makes our University special. By your actions, you lead the way in setting examples we will not forget.

You demonstrate, with your careful planning, a deep commitment to this University, which we all love. We need that right now.

You have set high standards for the students who will come after you, who will walk the same Quad, and eat in the dining rooms, and sit in your seats.

Boris, thank you for inviting me and the Executive Team to this Conference.

I am excited to be here, to participate in discussions that generate new ideas, to help give students the best opportunities for education.

I also encouraged my leadership team to attend this conference, and to listen, and to join in open, honest dialogue. I asked them to pay attention to the innovative learning experiences that we can create for our community.

I believe in the good work we can do together.

I want to mention a few examples of the good work our students – your colleagues -- have accomplished this year to bring about change.

The Residence Hall Association (RHA), the governing body of the residence halls that provides advocacy, programming, and leadership opportunities for residents, was the recipient of the School of the Year Award at the 2015 North East Affiliate of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls Minis Conference.

Josh Keefe (Law student), Tom Caruso (Law student) and Professor Deborah Kenn (Law College) received funding (\$250,000) from the New York State Office of General Services to establish New York State's first comprehensive Veterans Legal Clinic.

The Clinic will benefit our veterans and community, and the opening was on January 8th.

The 21st Annual Vera House White Ribbon Campaign took place last month. This campaign encourages community members to end domestic and sexual violence, as well as raise awareness around these issues by wearing white bracelets or lapel pins.

Our efforts on campus to promote the White Ribbon Campaign included tabling at the Schine Student Center, organizing a team for the annual White Ribbon Campaign Kickoff Walk, and selling chocolates, bracelets and pins to benefit Vera House.

The annual Take Back the Night rally, march, and speak out took place on March 31st with support from numerous departments and organizations on campus.

The event began at Hendricks Chapel with a standing-room only crowd that listened to keynote Kim Williams. The support this year from the entire community was outstanding, with a record number of organizations sponsoring the event, and 40 groups signing onto the Take Back the Night Proclamation.

Recently, six current students were awarded the prestigious 2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program awards: Kelsey Carlson (Geography), Jacqueline Gerson (Environmental Engineering), Caitlin McDonough (Biology), Kristopher Murry (Biology), Sarah Platt (Archaeology), and Alanna Warner (Anthropology).

The Red Cup Project is a collaboration between Syracuse and ESF students. This interdisciplinary team designs public art installations by collecting red Solo cups off our city streets; these red cups are cleaned, and transformed into art displays that are installed in different spaces to provoke discussion about public art, waste, and consumerism.

These red cups are then donated to non-profit organizations through the upcycling company TerraCycle.

Students in the Sport Management Club, based in the Falk College, raised more than \$59,000 for Make-A-Wish of Central New York a few months ago through its 10th annual Charity Sports Auction. Nearly 100 students worked for months to make the event a success.

The club has raised more than \$250,000 for local charities during the past decade.

These are only a few examples of good work fueled by passionate students – that energy is what led to the genesis of this student-run, student-centered conference.

I am grateful for your continued dedication to making our University strong. I support you, and I support this conference. Count me in.

Thank you.

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