

ELMIRA COLLEGE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

BE IT EVER SO

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A Message from the President

The 2022-2023 year proved to be one of transition and learning for the Elmira College community. While the pandemic has finally ended, these continue to be challenging times for colleges and universities. A decline in the number of traditional college-age students, increasing skepticism among parents and students about the value of a college degree, and the impact of online education have all contributed some uncertainty to the current higher education landscape.

Higher education must be creative and adopt a more student-focused approach to education. Institutions need to offer differentiated academic programs for a diverse student body, which engage them in meaningful learning experiences both in and outside the classroom. Programs need to be flexible in delivery method and offer students a direct link to a career or graduate studies.

This shift harkens back to Elmira College's founding when the institution pioneered a course of study for women that was equal in rigor to the best men's colleges. The ability to innovate has defined Elmira College throughout its 168-year history and is why we view the present challenges facing higher education as an opportunity to transform EC in order to serve a new generation of students. Several new opportunities, including a one-of-its-kind six-year accelerated BS to DO program, were introduced this past year and are highlighted in the pages that follow.

The College received approval of its five-year financial plan from the State Charities Bureau and is finalizing its five-year strategic plan, which was affirmed by the Board of Trustees this past June. Thank you to those who participated in the surveys and focus groups this past winter. Your feedback provided important input about the College and its future. Major themes from the draft strategic plan include:

- Ensuring strong enrollment
- Strengthening the College's financial position
- Increasing philanthropic support to the College
- Improving institutional sustainability and effectiveness
- Supporting faculty and student research, creative work, and knowledge generation
- Increasing the diversity of faculty, staff, and student populations
- Providing resources to support mental and physical well-being amongst students and employees

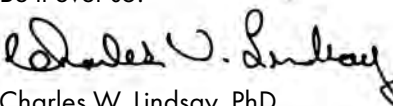
But this journey to a stronger, bolder Elmira College can't happen without you. The financial plan shows us our destination: We know where we need to go. The Strategic Plan lays the path: We have a way to get there. Your support is the light that keeps us on the path and is crucial to ensuring we reach our destination.

And that support comes in many forms. The most immediate, and perhaps most critical, are your financial gifts. In the coming months, we'll share information about the specific ways you can contribute your time, talent, and treasure toward specific projects outlined in an upcoming capital campaign.

And finally, as we begin this challenging yet exciting journey, I challenge each of you to mobilize your EC networks and find new ways to share your EC stories with friends, family, and colleagues. Share how Elmira College is your place - a place where you discovered who you are and what your passion is. A place that provided the opportunity to immerse yourself in everything the campus has to offer and a place where you learned to lead. A place with a strong sense of community and a robust alumni network that continues throughout your adult years.

Thank you for your hard work, continued support, and enthusiasm. We're looking forward to a stronger, bolder future.

Be it ever so!



Charles W. Lindsay, PhD
President





NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS ADD ACADEMIC EXPERTISE, CAREER FOCUS

"Part of our strategy is to be responsive to students' interests and help them prepare for careers. These additional programs build on existing and well-respected programs, leverage expertise among our faculty, and, where applicable, take a cross-disciplinary approach."

- Dr. Patricia Ireland, Provost

As Elmira College continues its strategic initiatives to bring a liberal arts education together with professional programs, several new academic programs launched in 2022-2023.

Data Analytics Minor: Designed to pair well with other academic majors, the Data Analytics minor builds the problem-solving, mathematical modeling, computer programming, and statistics skills necessary to analyze and visualize data effectively. These are high-demand skills that can apply to nearly every profession. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, data scientist roles are expected to grow by 36% between 2021-2031.

Forensic Science Minor: This program is for students who are passionate about science, analytics, and methodology. It adds to the Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Clinical Lab Science, and Environmental Science programs, providing students with a professional pathway to an exciting and high-demand career. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, between 2021-2031, Forensic Lab Technician roles are expected to grow by 11%.

IT Management Concentration: Leveraging the business basics taught in the Business Administration major, this program addresses the increasing reliance on technology among business professionals. Students will learn how to leverage technology solutions to solve complex business problems and improve operations. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a career in the field of information technology management is projected to remain in high demand with 16% growth from 2021 - 2031.

Sports Management Concentration: This program is ideal for students interested in management and sports. They will learn the foundations of and graduate with a Business Administration degree while being introduced to the management and leadership techniques specifically needed to manage the business side of sports, from youth activities to amateur sports to collegiate and professional teams. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment of entertainment and sports occupations will grow 22% between 2021 - 2031.

Health Science Offerings Expand with New Programs



Post-Baccalaureate Clinical Lab Science

Designed for students with a bachelor of science (BS) in Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, or another health-related field interested in becoming a Clinical Lab Scientist (CLS). The program helps students gain a competitive advantage when applying to graduate programs and gives them the skills necessary to work in a laboratory setting.

"We are so excited to offer this new program!" exclaimed Dr. Elisabeth Paulson, Assistant Professor of Biology. "The field of clinical laboratory science is perfect for individuals with a strong interest in health and disease and who love working in the lab."

Students can easily tailor the Post-Baccalaureate CLS program and only choose the courses they need to supplement their BS. They do not need to retake courses.

This critical work is in demand, particularly in the greater Elmira region. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth in this field will grow 7% between 2021 and 2031. However, entering this field requires admission to a highly competitive clinical laboratory training program.

[Click to read more online!](#)

Six-Year Accelerated BS to DO

The accelerated six-year BS to DO program expands EC's relationship with Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)-Elmira. The program reduces the time students spend in college, saving them money and allowing them to start their careers more quickly. Also, students entering this program will not need to take the MCAT or complete additional graduate school applications, removing the application stress and allowing them to focus on their academic success.

"This exciting and unique program is another chance for us to build on our strategy to pair a liberal arts education with career-focused programs. Thanks to the relationship between EC and LECOM that began in 2019, we have found ways to create hands-on learning experiences that add value for the students at both institutions."

- Dr. Charles Lindsay, Elmira College President

Students will complete their first two years at EC and be dual enrolled at EC and LECOM in their third year. Their final three years will be dedicated to earning their DO at LECOM. Unlike other accelerated programs, students in the EC-LECOM BS to DO program will meet all curriculum standards for both colleges, earning them both a BS in Biology from EC and the DO from LECOM.

"We are facing a critical shortage of physicians in the United States and especially here in Upstate New York," said Dr. Richard R. Terry, LECOM - Elmira Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. "This innovative program with Elmira College will impactfully expedite the production pipeline for future physicians and will go a long way to alleviating the disparity and limited access to health care in this region."

[Click here to check out the online news story for additional information.](#)





A Campus-Led Approach to Sustainability

Faculty, staff, and students came together this past year to focus on sustainability and energy efficiency on campus.

In addition to the sustainability and efficiency projects completed in 2022-2023, the Sustainability Leaders developed projects to help drive sustainability efforts.

Alexis Barnes '26, a Nursing major, organized a Move-Out Day Donation Drive at the end of the academic year to salvage clothing, furniture, and other small items that otherwise would have been thrown out as students packed up to leave campus. Barnes organized 20 donation sites around campus. Items collected were donated to The Salvation Army.

Ashton Craver '25, a Nursing Major, will implement his plan, a rain barrel at the Sustainability House, when he returns in August. While the Sustainability House provides an ideal location for the first barrel, Craver and the Sustainability Committee hope to approve more barrel placements and further reduce the College's water costs.

Grace Whiffen '24, an Environmental Science major, tracked energy use at the Sustainability House to get a baseline before testing efficiencies, such as swapping in LED lighting and motion detectors. She hopes to illustrate that, while these types of measures can require initial investments, the long-term energy savings compensate for more costly equipment. Her next steps involve purchasing lights and motion detectors to measure the energy savings while determining the best options for campus use.

Christian Zweirlien '23, a Biochemistry major, plans to collaborate with Derek Chalfant, Associate Professor of Art, to use reclaimed materials to create artistic sculptures and small benches to place around campus. He plans to upcycle wood from trees that were recently removed as part of an annual landscape management project.

[Click here to read more about their projects online!](#)

2022-2023 Sustainability & Energy Efficiency Projects

- Completed campus energy audit for baseline metrics
- Replaced campus lights with LEDs as they reached the end of their lifespan
- Saved 32 kwh per day due to installation of LEDs and proximity sensors at the MAC
- Gained 35% energy efficiency in the Campus Center due to the installation of new chiller
- 350+ students, staff, faculty, and community members attended the annual Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice hosted at EC in March 2023

Fostering a Diverse Campus Environment

Elmira College is dedicated to fostering an environment where diversity is valued, equitable opportunities are ensured, and inclusivity is fostered. The DEI program is focused on enriching the campus community and collaborating with staff and faculty to provide holistic support systems to students across disciplines.

Activities in the 2022-2023 academic year included:

- An Equity Committee, comprised of faculty and staff, was formed and the Committee administered an employee cultural awareness survey
- The Office of Human Resources engaged a vendor to help increase job posting reach to attract more diverse faculty and staff
- There were 17 campus events related to diversity and belonging ([Click to read more about EC's 2023 Black History Month activities](#))
- The I.D.E.A. Center opened in the Campus Center ([click here to learn more](#))
- Prayer Room in the Gannett-Tripp Library opened for the campus community

"We have all these events where we get to introduce the other people around us to learn about our culture. We just had a taste of home where we had a lot of students bring food from their cultures. It was a fun way for the faculty and the other students that joined to experience our culture."

- Syeda Neha Wajahat '25



Helping Students Excel, In and Out of the Classroom

To assist in recruitment and retention efforts, Elmira College is enhancing its academic and career support. The **Center for Academic and Professional Excellence (CAPE)** is centralizing student support and initiating new programs such as networking apps like Handshake, a Career Closet, and a proactive pilot program called Supplemental Instruction (SI).

The SI program identified courses in which students often struggle but are required to take as part of a major. Faculty then nominated students who had previously taken the course and performed well to serve as Supplemental Instruction leaders. Each student received training, learning facilitation strategies, collaborative learning techniques, and learning strategies. They then sat through the courses, modeling in-class behaviors, serving as resources to students in class, and organizing weekly group study sessions.

"An average of 58% (Term I) and 68% (Term II) of all students enrolled in courses served with SI attended at least one weekly session, and 45% (Term I) and 60% (Term II) of that same group of students attended more than once," said the program's director, Michaela Johnson '17, Manager of Student Success and Assistant Director of the Center for Academic and Professional Excellence (CAPE). "This far exceeded our initial goal of 25% attendance in study sessions."

In the data collected about the program, one supplemental instruction leader said, "I am proud of the environment we have fostered because it is so welcoming and collaborative. This positive atmosphere offers students a unique opportunity to learn the material we have covered in lectures in a different way. Participants agree that Supplemental Instruction has given them a deeper understanding of the material because they get the opportunity to discuss the material with peers, which allows them to hear different perspectives of the material."

Take a deeper dive with online content!
Career Closet
Supplemental Instruction Program
Community Engagement Fair



"Attending SI Sessions has helped me grasp Med Surg tremendously. I've learned better study methods from how the SI leader presents the information to us and I apply the same method when I'm alone. I find it helpful for me when I review lectures with others. This is my first time doing this well in a Nursing Course."

- Program Participant

Student Success Facts:

- Since its launch in October 2022, 137 appointments scheduled through the career connection app **Handshake**
- **100+** students attended 2022 Community Engagement Fair
- Internship hosts gave high ratings to EC students for their Critical Thinking, Communication, Teamwork, Professionalism, and Career Management skills with an **average overall rating of 4.75/5.00**
- **35% increase in users** of EC's networking app, AlumniFire, between July 2022-June 2023

Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Award Recipients

Annual Academic Awards

Algernon DeWaters Gorman Prize
Devon Parente '24

Cantrill-van den Blink Scholarship
Hailey Clancy '24 & Lauryn Kobbe '24

Board of Trustees Prizes
Madison Brown-Bloom '23 & Lauren Woodcock '23

Class of 2000 Prize
Alyssa Russell '26 & Tamra Thomson '26

Corning Section of the American Chemical Society Award
Emma Guthrie '26

CRC Basic Chemistry Prize
Randall Wright '26

Daniel J. Lipson Prize
Emma Gentry '25

Dr. Ryland Hugh Hewitt, Jr. Award
Kristen Aasheim '24

First-Year Writing Prize
Emma Henault '25

Helen Bosworth Beers '24 Prizes
Madison Morton '24

Helen Hitchcock Bjorvand Drawing Prize
Anastasia Wolkwitz '25

Hypatia Mathematics Prize
Lindsey Smith '24

International Student Prize
Syeda Neha Wajahat '25

Iris Leadership Prize
Allisandra Scalessa '25 & Lindsey Smith '24

Margaret Locke Community Service Prize
Rianna Passino '23

Mary Lou Parrella '65 Prize
Hollis Berry '25

Mildred Whittlesey McGraw Attainment Prizes
Kaitlyn Belmont '24 & Sarah Wagner '24

Nurse Education Faculty Recognition for Excellence in Nursing
Amayia Giscombe '23

Professional Nurses of the Twin Tiers Award
Alejandra Nakamura '24

Rho Gamma Scholarship Award
Kari Jensen '23



Commencement Prizes

The Kathryn Jenkins Education Prize
Maria Lei Antonio '23

The Barbara H. Palmer '67 Prize in History
Jeremiah M. Czyz '24

The Hal Roach, Litt.D. '88 Theatre Prize
Jadde Elisa DiDonato-White '23

The Kathlene Arnett Watters '65 Prize
Victoria L. Lamphere '23

The 1917 Prize
Sarah M. McGrain '23

The Elizabeth Anne Graham '42 Prize
Sarah M. McGrain '23 & Alexander J. Taylor '23

The Abraham Shabanowitz Mathematics Prize
James Matthew Rayos Blair '23

The Dr. Louise Frances Potter Prize
Kathryn G. Kielbasinski '23 & Annabelle Rose Schmitte '23

The Carmine John Parker '79 Prize
Colin Vincent McLaughlin '22

The Bruce Beaty Memorial Prize
Oscar Rafael Muñoz Trinidad '23 & Rachel Olivia Nagy '24

The Dr. Kathleen Sward Nursing Excellence Prize
Theresa Elizabeth Seton '23

The Sharon Cosloy-Blank '66 Science Prize
Paige Noel Stilts '23

Leading the Way...

As students make Elmira College *Their Place*, they're finding ways to lead and excel in their creative, scientific, and professional pursuits.



A total of 21 students graduated from the inaugural year of the **Soaring Higher Leadership Program**. Offered Term I and Term II, students applied for a limited number of spots and were selected by a committee to participate in the program. The content for the program is based on the book, "The Student Leadership Challenge: Five Practices For Becoming an Exemplary Leader," by James Kouzes and Barry Posner.

Congratulations to this year's graduates: **Marc Artuz '24**, **Victoria Behun '26**, **Patricia Bohannon '26**, **Hailey Clancy '24**, **Colin Conklin '23**, **Leslie Monterrosa '24**, **Rachel Nagy '24**, **Rianna Passino '23**, **Alyssa Russell '26**, **Annabelle Schmitte '23**, **Paige Stilts '23**, **Syeda Neha Wajahat '25**, **Linda Avery '25**, **Sophia Compeau '25**, **Megan Fuchs '26**, **Madison Morton '24**, **Olivia Nittinger '26**, **Nathan Romano '25**, **Lillian Sensinger '26**, **Gabriella Swift '26**, and **Miranda Waterman '25**.

[Learn More About Each Term's Cohort Online: Term I 2022](#) | [Term II 2023](#)



Hoxie Gorge Review selected a short story by **Leslie Monterrosa '24** for the fall 2023 edition. The publication includes innovative poetry, fiction, and nonfiction and is based at the State University of New York College at Cortland.



Leila Tevlin '25, a Sociology and Anthropology major at Elmira College, had a life-changing road trip that was part of a documentary program called Roadtrip Nation. The program often airs on Public Broadcast Stations across the country, and will premiere on August 7, 2023. [Click to read more online.](#)



Carolyn Phillips '25, a Political Science major at Elmira College, along with **Dr. Jim Twombly**, Professor of Political Science, and **Autumn Walden**, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, presented their paper, *The Conch Republic and Beyond: Local Secession Movements in Law and American Politics*, New York State Political Science Association (NYSPSA) Annual Meeting in Staten Island, NY. [Click to read more online.](#)



The 13th Annual Student Research Conference showcased 18 research projects involving 26 students. Students presented projects from the natural and social sciences, delving into soil erosion, international student difficulties, genetics of neurodevelopmental disabilities, classroom teacher practices, and more. A panel of faculty judges evaluated the quality, organization, content, and clarity of the presentations, awarding prizes to: Best Research Talk to **Julia Ambrose '23**; Best Social Sciences and Liberal Arts Poster Presentation to **Isabella DeAmelia '24** and **Lindsey Smith '24**; Best Natural Sciences Poster Research Project to **Paige Stilts '23**; and Best Natural Sciences Poster Presentation to **Christian Zwielerlein '24**. [Click to read more online.](#)

And Leaving Their Mark



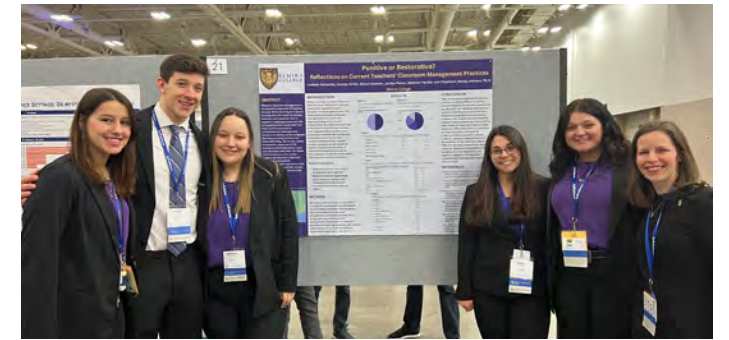
James Blair '23, Psychology and Math double major, and **Dr. Kelly Kane**, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Elmira College, presented their research about the effect of visual prompts in getting people to adopt helpful behavior at the Eastern Psychological Association conference in Boston. [Click to read more online.](#)



Maria Lei Antonio '23, education major, published her second children's book titled "If Dreams Could Fly." Antonio's first book, "Field Day For Eugene," was published in 2021. [Click to read more online.](#)



The Term II play, *One Slight Hitch*, by Lewis Black included Elmira College students acting alongside community members. It was directed by **Jadde DiDonato-White '23**, a Psychology major who was also the Costume Designer and Props Master. [Click to read more online.](#)



Lindsey Smith '24, **Jordan Peiser '24**, **Madison Pelchar '24**, **Isabella DeAmelia '24**, **Allison Stermer '24**, and **Dr. Stephanie Johnson** presented research titled "Punitive or Restorative? Reflections on Current Teachers' Classroom Management Practices," at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) conference in Louisville, Kentucky. [Click to read more online.](#)



Destiny Fitzgerald '23 received the John C. Johnson Award at the Regional Northeast District 3 TriBeta Research Conference, held at St. John Fisher University in Rochester, New York. [Click to read more online.](#)



8 | ELMIRA COLLEGE



Pitch Competition Brings Students, Faculty, & Industry Professionals Together

Elmira College students participated in the inaugural year of the 607 Soaring Southern Tier Startup Collegiate Competition, organized by IncubatorWorks and hosted by EC. Each team worked with a faculty advisor and an industry business professional to develop their pitches. Six EC teams and two SUNY Corning Community College (CCC) teams pitched their business ideas to a panel of judges, or “investors.” The judges viewed a recorded presentation outlining each team’s business plan and then asked the teams questions about their creative ideas and market research.

[Click here to take a deeper dive into the competition and the EC team projects online!](#)

2023 Elmira College 607 Soaring Teams

Fashionable Foundations

Linda Avery '25, Business Administration major; Will Mu Htoo '24, Psychology and Criminal Justice double major; and Mihret Haile '26, Nursing major

Pitch: Building material that combines textiles/clothing from landfills with concrete for use in construction, reducing amount of clothing waste in landfills.

Mentors: Dr. Jeffrey Alves, EC Instructor of Management, and Jennifer Burns, Director, Business Insight Center, the Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County

Bioplastic Collective (3rd Place)

Victoria Behun '26, Biochemistry major; MacKenzie Brown '26, Biochemistry major; Michael Conner '26, Chemistry major; and Owen Mascaro '26, Environmental Science major

Pitch: Biodegradable plastic straw that breaks down hours after use without affecting the flavor of the beverage.

Mentors: Dr. Michael Selig, EC Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and Dr. Robert Craig, Market Assessment Manager for Corning Incorporated

WoofPurradise

Rediet Fekade '25, Biochemistry major; Het Patel '25, Business Administration major; and Syeda Neha Wajahat '25, Accounting major

Pitch: An App that has all pet-care needs in one place, including veterinary services and pet supply delivery services.

Mentors: Dr. Alexis Rittenberger, Assistant Professor, Director of Graduate and Professional Studies, and Dr. James Grochocinski (Jim Graw), Program Director, EnvironmentalTechnologies, of Corning Incorporated

The 6 Hats (Viewer's Choice)

Alessandro Lancia '26, Finance major; Daraab Khan '25, Psychology major; Marc Artuz '24, Psychology major; Pietro Gallina '25, Business Administration major; Henry Wylie '23, Business Administration major; and Horacio Vicioso '25, Business Administration major

Pitch: Acropolis, an entertainment location that offers advanced gaming and food, located close to a college in the Southern Tier.

Mentors: Dr. Jeffrey Alves, EC Instructor of Management and Barry Nicholson, local businessman and President of Barr Yann, Inc.

Holiday Nonstop

David Lee '26, Fashion Marketing; Jazmine Elliott '26, Business Administration major; James Mehlek '24, Human Services major; Mackenzie Budine '26, Accounting major; and Mariyah Casados '26, Business Administration major

Pitch: Holiday decoration service that ships decorations to individuals and businesses and then the customers ship them back.

Mentors: Dr. Jeffrey Alves, EC Instructor of Management and Barry Nicholson, local businessman and President of Barr Yann, Inc.

Save The Children Now (STCN)

Deanna Hathway '24, Business Administration and Legal Studies double major; Calli Vocke '23, Speech and Hearing major; Cassidy Ryan '24, Business Administration and Art double major; and Samantha Garry '25, Human Services major.

Pitch: A GPS chip called Indigo that is embedded in a bracelet for children that will help parents track their child’s location.

Mentors: Mark Abdalla, EC Assistant Professor of Finance, and Lee Jiang, Co-Founder & Chief Business Officer of Lo Bio and Entrepreneur in Residence at REV Ithaca

Faculty News

The Elmira College faculty are an important distinguisher for Elmira College, combining academic professionalism with dedication to student instruction and support.

Business & Economics



John Savash, Associate Professor of Accounting, was recently elected Vice President of the Executive Board of the New York Government Finance Officer's Association (NYGFOA).

Dr. Alexis Rittenberger, Director of Graduate and Professional Studies and Assistant Professor of Business, authored the chapter, “Social Construction of Leadership,” published in “Sage Business Foundations.”

Creative Arts & Humanities



Chris Longwell, Associate Professor of Art, was the 2023 recipient of the Elmira College Joseph Stein Award that honors a relatively new member of the Elmira College faculty who has performed with distinction.

Derek Chalfant, Associate Professor of Art, designed and produced a sculpture for the Elmira City Council that resides in Riverfront Park near the Main Street bridge in downtown Elmira. It features seven local fish carved onto a bluestone rock.

Jan Kather, Media Artist, was one of 28 artists included in a Cornell University exhibit at the Mann Library Gallery called “Threading the Needle: Weaving Traditions into Contemporary Textile Art.” She also judged the 33rd Annual Photo Competition sponsored by the State of the Art Gallery Ithaca.

Dr. Annaliese Hoehling, Assistant Professor of English and Director of Academic Writing, had an article called “Surplus Women and Trafficked Women: Tropes of White Womanhood,” published on the June Print Plus platform of Modernism/modernity.

“What I love most about the academic programs at Elmira College is that you can immediately tell the professors care about you. If you have an off day, the professors know you well enough to see it right away and will do whatever is needed to help you. That level of caring differs greatly from my experiences at other colleges. I don’t know where I’d be without the professors at Elmira.”

- Christian Zwierlein '24, Biochemistry major

Dr. Mark Pitner, Associate Professor of Asian History, contributed the chapter, “Accounting for the Disabled in Early China: A Review of the Terminology Used to Describe and Define Disability,” in the publication, Other Bodies: Disability in Early China. He also presented, “From Pufferfish to Camels: Reading the Hermeneutical Tradition Associated with the Shijing for Insights Into Perceptions of Aging in Early China,” at the “Symposium on Chinese Poetry and Philology” at Arizona State University.

Dr. Matthew Seybold, Associate Professor of American Literature and Mark Twain Studies, made many presentations and published several scholarly chapters and essays related to Mark Twain and the political economy of mass media. He appeared on MSNBC’s “Banned Book Club” with Ali Velshi to discuss Mark Twain’s “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,” and the podcast he produces, “The American Vandal,” was among the top 10% most shared and downloaded globally in 2022, according to Spotify.

Dr. Mary J. Mahoney, Associate Professor of English, Director of Medical Humanities, published a memoir essay, “Papergirls for Social Justice,” in Hoxie Gorge Review. In the past academic year, she published 21 blog posts with tips for writing essays for medical school and five blog articles on topics related to Higher Education for Accepted.com.



Rebecca Rich, Associate Professor of Theatre and Director of Theatre, led a workshop during the 2023 National Congress of Acting Teachers hosted by The National Alliance of Acting Teachers. She taught the method she used to create an original play with EC students. Rich also presented a workshop, “Chekhov and Devising Theatre,” at the 2023 International Michael Chekhov Workshop, Connecticut College.

Mathematics & Natural Sciences

Dr. Todd Egan, Professor of Biology, shared his expertise on intercropping and sustainable agriculture with attendees of the "Dr. Muhammad Ajmal Khan Memorial International Conference on Food Security."

Dr. Veronica Moorman, Associate Professor of Chemistry, presented, "Investigating Flavonoid Production and Grinding: Filling in Missing Data," at the December 2022 meeting of the Corning Section of the American Chemical Society.



Dr. Corey Stilts, Associate Professor of Chemistry, was the 2023 recipient of the Catharine McGraw Rock Award that is presented to a senior member of the Elmira College faculty.

Professional Programs

Dr. James Baer, Associate Professor of Communication Sciences and Director of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and EC student, Rianna Passino '23, a Speech and Hearing major, co-authored a book chapter about pure tone audiometric assessment and masking procedures for the eBook publication, "Clinical Audiology Concepts with SmartVS."

Dr. Deborah Owens, Associate Professor of Literacy Education, published a peer-reviewed article in the Reading in Virginia Journal, Volume XLIV, a journal of the Virginia State Literacy Association. The article, "Mentor Texts: Mirrors, Windows, and Models for Adolescent Literacy Learners," examines the use of mentor texts as models of excellent writing and as a means for students to explore their identities and social issues.

Dr. Stephanie Johnson, Director of Teacher Education and Assistant Professor of Inclusive Special Education, recently completed research that investigated the factors affecting teachers' ability to implement inclusive education in their classrooms. Her results are published in the "Journal of School Leadership," a Sage Publication.



The Nursing faculty were recognized for providing additional support to students preparing for the National Council, Licensure Examination (NCLEX). The Class of 2022 cohort had a 91.4% pass rate on their first exam attempt. According to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), the national pass rate for U.S.-educated students taking the exam for the first time in 2022 was 79.9%.

Social & Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Jim Twombly, Professor of Political Science, published his fifth book, "Directing the Whirlwind: Deconstruction, Distrust, and the Future of American Democracy." It was co-authored with Dr. Lisa K. Parshall, Professor of Political Science at Daemen University in Amherst, New York.

Dr. Martha Easton, Associate Professor of Sociology, presented a plenary paper, "Assessing experiential learning," at the Midwest Sociological Society meetings in Minneapolis. Also, Easton, provided the keynote address, "The intersecting pressures in the Public and private spheres," at University of Texas at San Antonio art show, "We Are Overwhelmed."

Dr. Ping Zheng, Associate Professor of Psychology, was invited to write entries for the authoritative reference text, "The SAGE Encyclopedia of Mood and Anxiety Disorders," edited by Dara G. Friedman-Wheeler and Amy E. Wenzel.

Dr. Christopher Terry, Associate Professor of Psychology, co-authored a paper published in "The Journal of American College Health," titled "Vaccine Hesitancy Among College Students and Individuals Seeking Healthcare: A Social Norms Perspective."

Follow EC student and faculty achievements throughout the year under the "News" section on the EC website: elmira.edu/news.

Shining On the Court and Off

Elmira College student-athletes perform well on and off the sports field. EC's close-knit community of coaches, faculty, and staff provide the support needed to help student-athletes succeed and meet the challenges and complexities of today's world.



Elmira College men's volleyball team member, Oscar Munoz Trinidad '23, was named the 2022-23 Empire 8 Co-Male Senior Scholar Athlete of the Year, based on a vote by the conference Faculty Athletic Representatives (FARs). The award honors male student-athletes who best exemplify what it means to be dedicated scholars and athletes over the course of their collegiate careers.

A native of Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic, Munoz Trinidad graduated in June 2023 with his bachelor's degree in Human Services and Sociology & Anthropology, while carrying a 3.9 cumulative grade-point average. He was a five-time member of the Empire 8 President's List for student-athletes with GPAs of 3.75. Beyond his good grades, Munoz Trinidad earned EC's Male Athlete of the Year award and Elmira's International Student of the Year Award in 2022. He then notched EC's Male Outstanding Career Achievement award in 2023.

On the court, Munoz Trinidad was a two-time United Volleyball Conference (Honorable Mention, Second Team) and Empire 8 All-Conference First Team selection. He wrapped up his Soaring Eagle career as one of the most decorated players in program history and led EC to an AVCA Division III National Top-15 ranking. He was named the Empire 8 Torchbearer Award Winner for Men's Volleyball Academic Excellence in 2023 and was named a College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic At-Large All-District selection. In 2023 the team had one of its finest seasons.

In addition, Munoz Trinidad served as a team captain for the men's volleyball program and was a volunteer assistant coach with the EC women's volleyball team in 2022.

"Oscar Munoz Trinidad is a very special individual," said Ryan McDonough '19, Head Coach for EC men's volleyball. "When Oscar first arrived at Elmira, he was very shy, spoke little English, but always approached every situation and adversity with a smile. Oscar was the driving force behind much of the success of the men's volleyball program and is an example of a perfect student-athlete."

[Click here to explore more student-athlete achievements on and off the court!](#)

70% of all active student-athletes have 3.0 and above cumulative grade point averages

87 student-athletes with GPAs above 3.7 earned Empire 8 Spring 2023 President's List honors

50% of all active student-athletes have 3.4 and above cumulative grade point averages

16 Soaring Eagles earned Academic All-District honors from College Sports Communicators



Learning Beyond the Classroom Walls

When **Judith Trask Smith '62** recalls her time at Elmira College she remembers her studies, but mostly she remembers EC as a chance to grow outside the classroom in experiences and friendships. "I received a good, well-rounded education, and had the opportunity to study abroad. The friends I made I still have today."

When Smith started at EC in the fall of 1958, she was a self-proclaimed quiet girl and "perhaps a bit shy." She appreciated EC for the opportunities it gave her, not only to receive a quality education but the learning beyond the classroom as well. Through clubs and activities, she gained friends and confidence. Smith participated in College Chorus, volunteered for a service organization called World Service University, and participated in class competitions.

"Several times a year there were competitions between classes, either musicals or plays. We were fortunate to have Kaye Feinberg Cummings in our class. She was able to write words to current music and was creative, along with the others, to create plays. Fumphets Forever was a lot of fun!"

In her junior year, Smith took a leap that would have been unthinkable before arriving at EC. A chance to study abroad became available and Smith decided to seize the opportunity.

With her family roots in England, she chose to study at the prominent University of Leicester in Leicester, United Kingdom. "There were about 1,200 co-ed students at Leicester, which was a big difference from 500 girls at Elmira!" Smith said. "The buildings were older and there wasn't a campus like Elmira. I moved into a dorm with single rooms about 1.5 miles from the University. I either walked, biked, or rode a bus [to classes] if the weather was bad."

In England, she grew both culturally and socially, gaining more independence. She strengthened her cross-cultural

"I didn't need to start a new project when this need was existing. Providing additional funding means more students can have the chance to do research without worrying about the expenses of room and board. I see that as an incredible opportunity."



communication skills and learned to be adaptable. Smith recalls the moment she realized how much older the country was than the US. "I remember walking on a Roman wall around the city of Chester and realizing that the wall and the buildings were older than any buildings in the US."

It was these beyond-the-classroom experiences and friendships that influenced her decision to include EC in her estate plans. "Travel is an opportunity to learn beyond the classroom walls. It's a chance to broaden your thinking. To see there are other ways of doing things," said Smith.

Smith's gift will help support students' education in and out of the classroom. It establishes a scholarship that provides critical funding to students who need it most. It also supports the Obler Summer Research Program, which gives students an opportunity to apply their classroom lessons and conduct research solutions for today's real-world problems. The program is funded with an endowed fund established through grants and personal gifts.

Today, Smith encourages other alumni to look back on their time at EC and the opportunities that allowed them to grow, both in and out of the classroom. "Find something that you're interested in and is important to you, and see how you can pay it forward."

Pratt Scholarships Provide for EC Students

Candice Terpolilli '23 grew up seeing Elmira College daily. She toured the grounds at Quarry Farm and the Mark Twain Study as a child. The rich history of the College excited her and drew her to it. So much so that when Terpolilli graduated from High School, she knew she wanted to make EC her place.

She also knew she wanted to become a nurse.

"My goal in life is simply to help people," she said. "My mom had numerous health issues and the nurses were amazing and made a bad day a little better. These nurses inspired me to want to become one!"

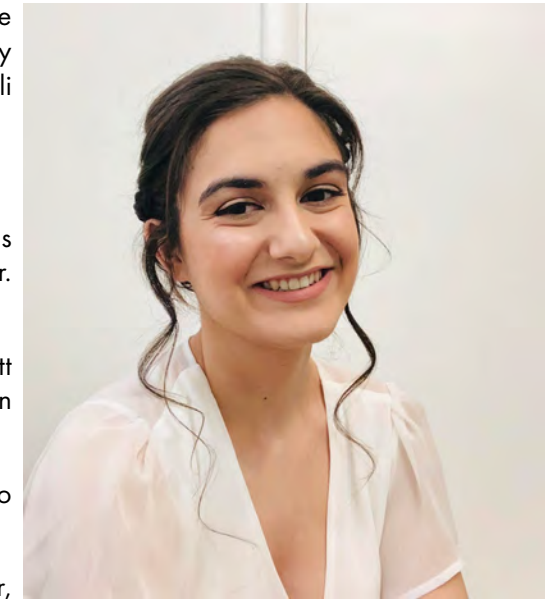
Terpolilli's dream was made possible with the support of the Alice Louise Pratt Memorial Scholarship, which is directed to provide financial aid to a student in EC's Nursing program.

In 2003, through the estate of Valentine B. Pratt, whose wife attended EC, two scholarships were created that provide support in perpetuity for future students.

The Alice Louise Pratt Memorial Scholarship honors Valentine Pratt's daughter, Alice Pratt, who became a registered nurse.

The Emma Louise Lathrop Pratt '34 Endowed Scholarship honors Valentine Pratt's wife, Emma Pratt, who held a special place in her heart for EC. She remained active with the Elmira Alumni Chapter throughout her life.

In the case of Terpolilli, it has meant fostering a committed community volunteer whose passion for giving back extends beyond nursing. She is a volunteer firefighter at West Elmira Fire Department, and recently earned certification to be a National EMT. Terpolilli also volunteers for Terps, which has a bus taking students to the local charter school, Finn Academy. She has built relationships with the students and hopes to inspire them to make EC their place.



Inspired by the stories of what EC students and faculty are doing?

Support their endeavors by [making a gift online today at **elmira.edu/give**](https://www.elmira.edu/give). Or, leave a legacy that will be remembered for generations. Establishing a scholarship through your estate allows you to make a life-changing gift to support promising students. You can establish a scholarship in your name—or in honor of a family member, like Valentine Pratt. Their gift has reached many students over the last two decades, such as Candice Terpolilli, and will continue to provide meaningful support to students and their futures.

If you are considering a lifetime legacy gift and would like to learn more, please contact:



Angela May, Director of Development
Click to email: amay@elmira.edu
(607) 735-1893

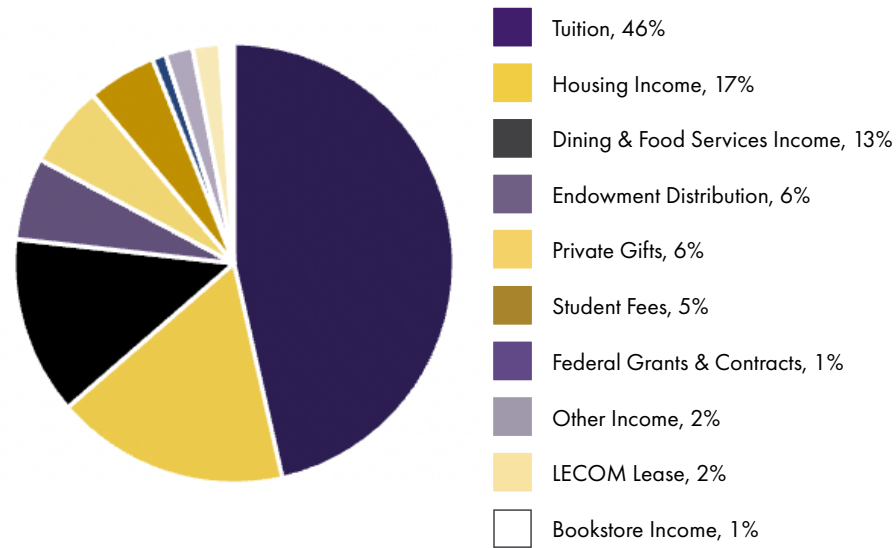


Financials

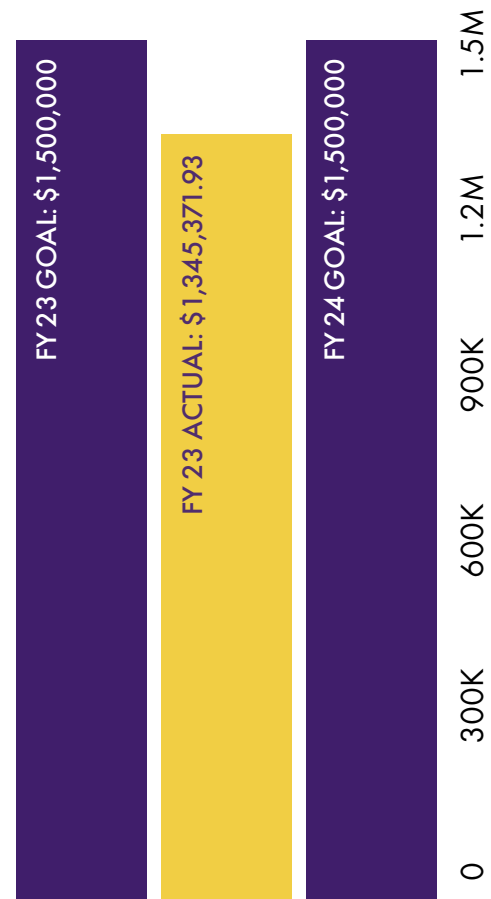
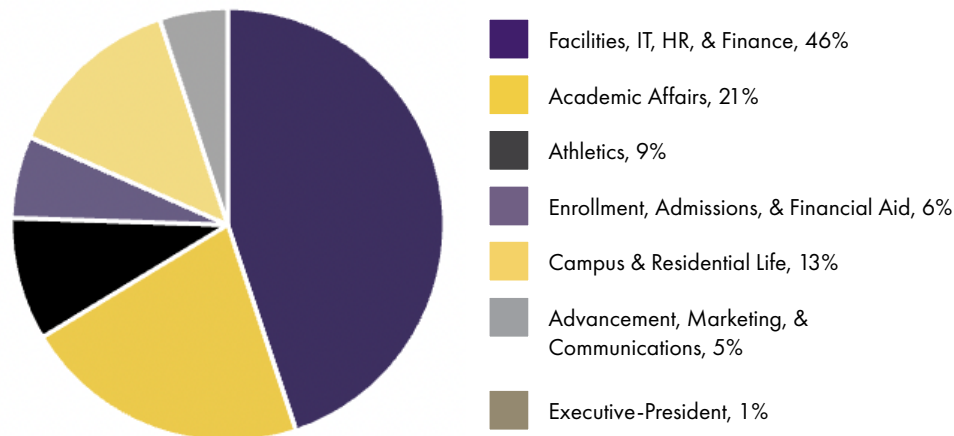


Members of the Board of Trustees joined Senior Leadership on the platform for Commencement 2023.

FY 23-24 REVENUE BUDGET



FY 23-24 EXPENSE BUDGET



ANNUAL GIVING
(Not Included: Endowed Funds and Endowed Restricted Bequests)

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Current and former Alumni Board members gathered during Reunion 2023.

2022-2023 ALUMNI BOARD

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
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