

## **SUNY DELHI'S NEW HONORS PROGRAM ESTABLISHES FREE TUITION FOR BEST LOCAL GRADUATES**

**DELHI, NY ...** SUNY Delhi officials recently announced a new initiative designed to recognize, reward and inspire the best and brightest high school graduates from the local area. Called the Presidential Scholars Program, it will ensure Delaware and Otsego County students with strong academic credentials free tuition if they attend SUNY Delhi.

“This new honors program reflects our priority of attracting the best students from the region,” said President Candace S. Vancko. “By making SUNY Delhi their college of choice, they’ll receive an exceptional education, close to home, at an affordable price.”

According to Enrollment Services Dean Larry Barrett, the Presidential Scholars Program is a natural extension of the college’s expanding mission to offer two- and four-year programs of the highest caliber. “We know that many of our academic programs are attractive to local students due to our increasing enrollment numbers in engineering, science, liberal arts and information technology, for example. We want this program to be the ultimate recognition for outstanding students who come from local schools and want to earn their education in their own region.”

The Presidential Scholars Program will be open to an elite group of 10 students from Delaware and Otsego Counties. They will study under the direction of SUNY Delhi’s leading scholars, which include a Pulitzer Prize nominee and faculty awarded the State University’s highest awards for teaching and scholarly research.

To be considered for the program, a student must be nominated by their local high school superintendent and must rank in the top 25 percent of his or her high school graduating class.

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Students are also required to earn a Regents Diploma with a minimum average of 85 percent, and need to complete a 350 to 500 word essay highlighting their extracurricular activities and achievements that would distinguish them as scholarship candidates.

Nominations are currently being solicited from area schools and recipients will be notified by July 10 to attend the Fall 2003 semester at SUNY Delhi.

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