

The slide features a dark blue diagonal banner across the top and middle. The text is white and bold. Below the banner, there is a light blue background with a white diagonal line and an orange horizontal bar at the bottom.

# **ESF Board of Trustees Meeting**

**May 8, 2020**



*From left: Vanessa Rojas (assistant professor), Samantha Oliveras (instructional support associate), Greg Vaverchak (assistant professor), Mariann Johnston (professor and future director), Tim O'Mara (resident hall director), Michael Bridgen (professor and director), Jeremy Thompson (instructor), and James Savage (professor)*

# President's Report

David Amberg

# COVID-19 and Effects on College – Timeline; Pro-active Decision Making

- 1/30 - First campus communication on COVID-19
- 3/7 - Governor declares state of emergency, we cancel international spring break trips and limit international travel
- 3/10 - SU announces going to online instruction 3/13
- 3/12 - We announce ESF going to online instruction 3/23, told Centennial Hall residents they could stay if they did not travel during spring break
- 3/15 - started to depopulate the campus
- 3/19 - Announced reducing workforce to only essential employees and closed all buildings; research put in hibernation
- 3/22 - Governor issues NY Pause plan, encouraged students to stay home and began to depopulate Centennial Hall
- 3/23 - Classes resume online
- 3/26 - Announced that Commencement is postponed

# COVID-19 and Effects on College – The Ranger School Story

As spring break approached, we gave the students a choice: skip spring break and power through while maintaining isolation or go to distance learning after spring break.

Students unanimously decided to stay and power through with instruction 6 days a week to finish three weeks early.

4/17 - Fifty-three students at the Ranger School graduated **in residence**. The ceremony was LIVE streamed to parents/families. It was only 1 of 2 in person graduation ceremonies, the largest number of female graduates in history (17), and the first trans graduate of The Ranger School.



# COVID-19 and Effects on College - Challenges

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=REWeBzGuzCc>
- Making decisions in an uncertain and highly dynamic state
- Academic success and the fallout from a rapid conversion to distance learning and disparate instruction styles and quality
- Family finances and ability to afford ESF impacting enrollment
- Angst over fall instruction; many students may choose to skip fall semester
- Costs of refunded dormitory costs, fees, etc. and impact to the ESF College Foundation
- Ability of international students to get VISAs
- Draconian budget requirements damaging our programs
- Faculty burnout
- Research competitiveness

## COVID-19 and Effects on College - Opportunities

- Enrollment numbers thus far are at pace with last year—largest international class in history. Imperative the Feds resolve VISA issues
- Hands-on, experiential learning will be a huge selling point for us; need to keep messaging that our plan is to resume resident instruction in fall 2020
- Ability to add creative online approaches to courses going forward as supplements to resident instruction
- Faculty now much more familiar with online instruction and should be able to develop a number of high-revenue online degree programs (MPS's)
- Double down on our Community College articulation agreements

## COVID-19 and Effects on College – Our Priorities: Being the Best Environmental College in a “New Normal”

- College finances– hard decisions without compromising our future
- Planning for resident instruction Fall 2020 in a “New Normal”
- Planning for safe occupation of Centennial Hall
- Supporting the important field work of our faculty over the summer
- Getting research labs back up and running

## COVID-19 and Effects on College - GRADUATION

- 5/9 – Commencement will be a LIVE streaming broadcast from the Gateway Center. Only individuals speaking will be present adhering to social distancing guidelines. [www.youtube.com/esftv](http://www.youtube.com/esftv)



## COVID-19 and Effects on College - GRADUATION

### Eligible graduates for April, May, and August 2020

- ▶ PhD – 24
- ▶ MLA – 3
- ▶ MS – 31
- ▶ MS/MLA Intra-concurrent – 1
- ▶ MPS – 9
- ▶ Master of Forestry – 1
- ▶ BLA – 15
- ▶ BS - 355
- ▶ AAS - 51

**Total  
490**

## COVID-19 and Effects on College – Recent Research Awards

- \$5.75M DEC grant forming the NYS Center for Sustainable Materials Management at ESF
- \$629K USDA NIFA grant to Drs. Tim Volk and Tristan Brown for AFRI Sustainable Agriculture Systems
- \$1M from Ag and Markets to CAFRI (Climate and Applied Forestry Research Institute) to Dr. Colin Beier
- \$124,408 grant from National Grid for the “make-ready” costs of installing state-of-the-art/next generation EV vehicle-charging stations
- \$5K grant from NYS Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling to provide reusable menstrual cups and pads

# SUNY ESF Day/Earth Day – April 22

April 22, 2020 – The City of Syracuse and Onondaga County will recognize the 50th anniversary of Earth Day by recognizing the contributions that the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry have made to the local, state, and national environmental and sustainability efforts. Toward that goal, the City and County have proclaimed that all future Earth Days in the City of Syracuse and Onondaga County will also be known as **SUNY ESF Day**.



Questions?



# Undergraduate, Open Academy and Graduate Admissions Update

David Newman

# Admissions Outcomes for 2020

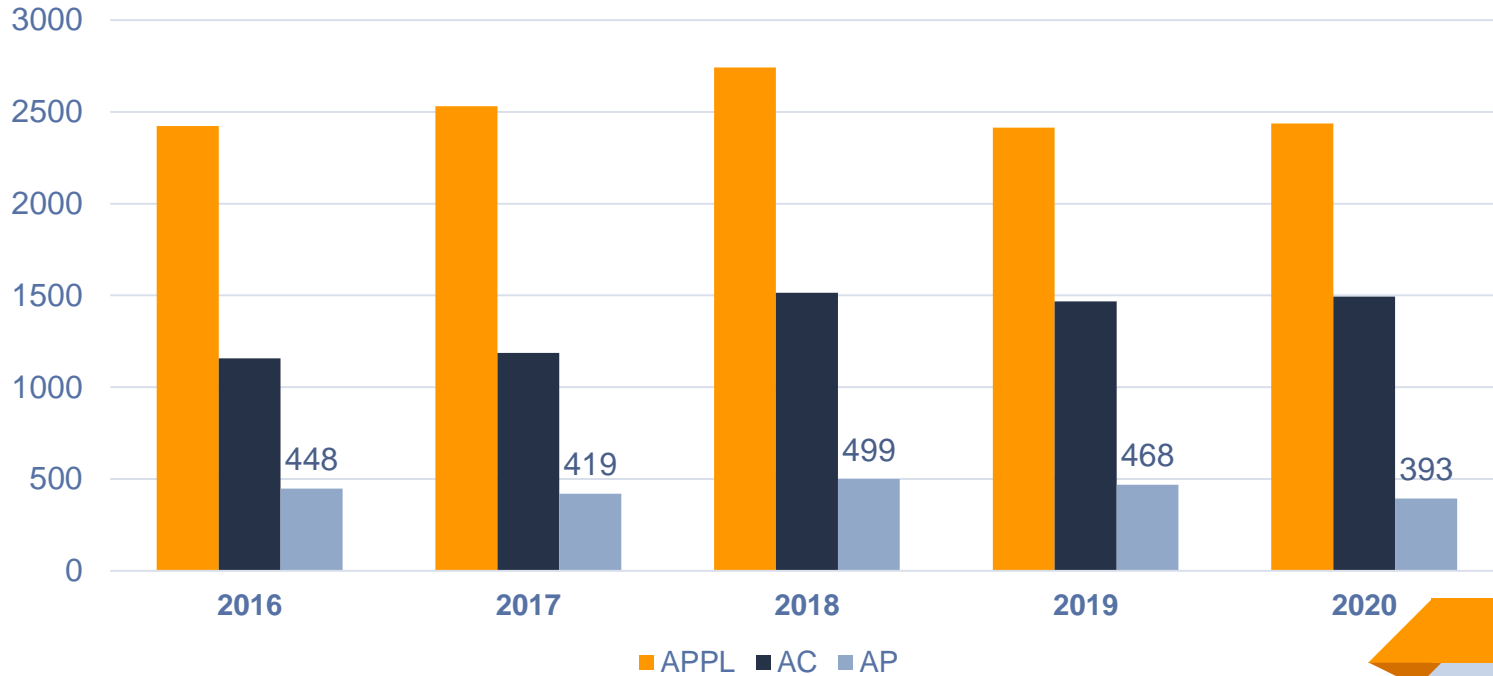
- Issues that we have been dealing with
- Undergraduate admission results
- Graduate admission results
- Looking at next year

## Issues Leading Up to Completing the Class of 2024

- *Slate, Banner, & Degree Works* implementation
- Difficulties in contacting students
- COVID-19 and planning
- Changing deadlines
- Bringing in the class

# Application/Accept/Deposit: Total as of 4/25/20

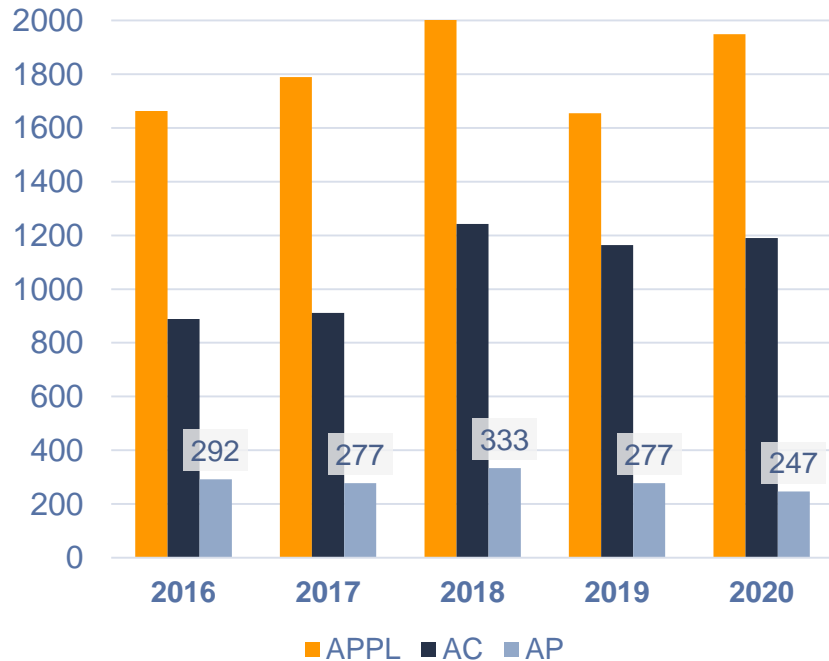
## Total Incoming Students



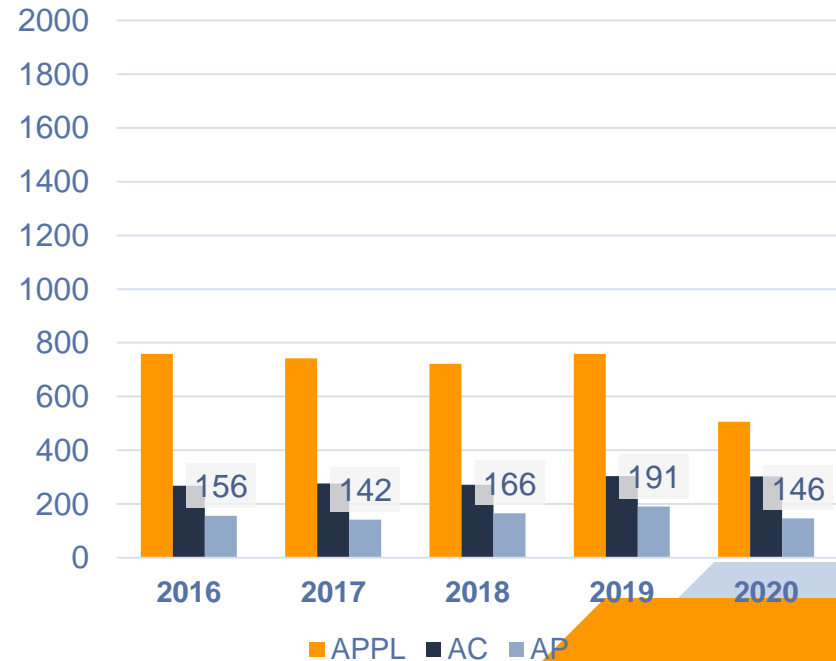


# Application/Accept/Deposit: 1<sup>st</sup> Year & Transfers

## First Year Students

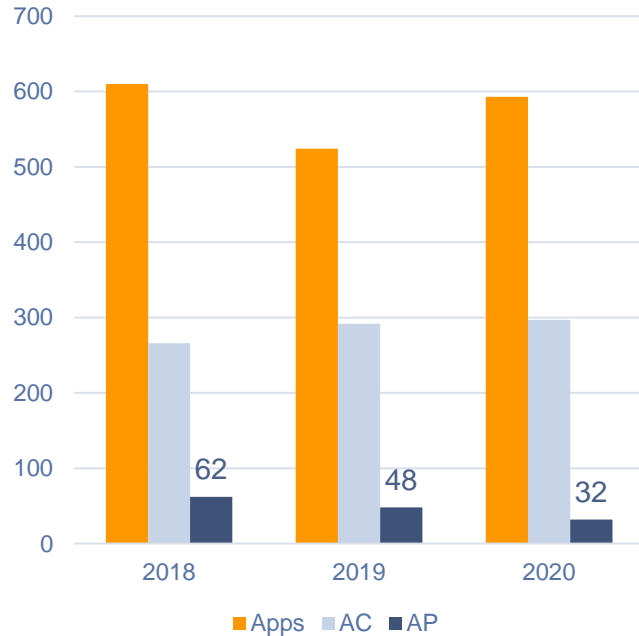


## Transfer Students

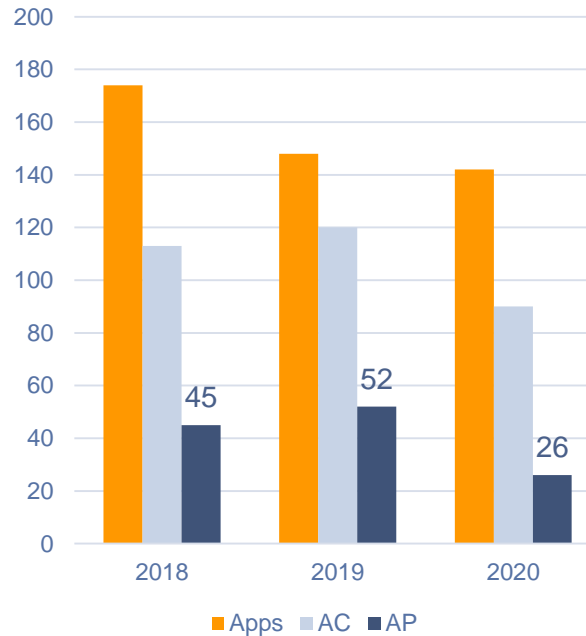


# Application/Accept/Deposit: 1<sup>st</sup> year Downstate & CNY

## NYC + Long Island



## CNY

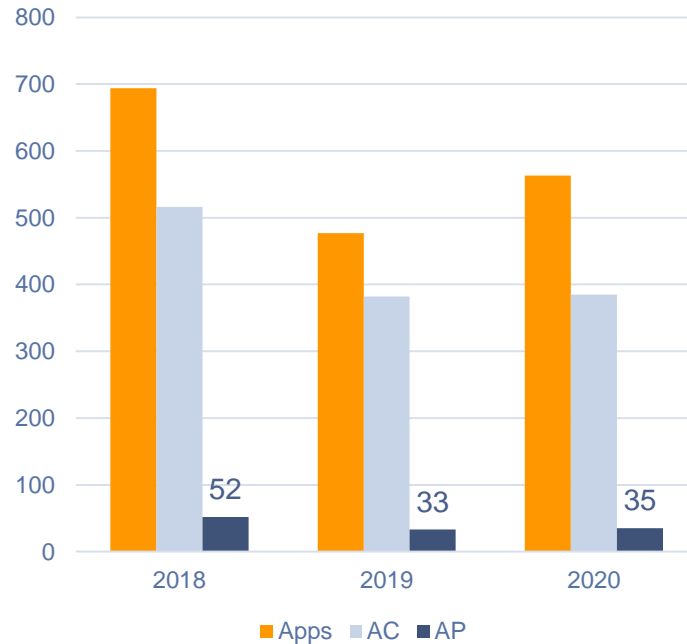


# Application/Accept/Deposit: 1<sup>st</sup> year NY State & OOS

## NY State



## Out of State



# 1<sup>st</sup> Year Student Deposit Dates

Date	2018	Date	2019	Date	2020
5/7/18	396	5/7/19	357	5/7/20	
5/6/18	396	5/6/19	356	5/6/20	
5/5/18	396	5/5/19	356	5/5/20	
5/4/18	396	5/4/19	356	5/4/20	
5/3/18	393	5/3/19	357	5/3/20	
5/2/18	392	5/2/19	356	5/2/20	
5/1/18	384	5/1/19	346	5/1/20	246
4/30/18	351	4/30/19	319	4/30/20	
4/29/18	343	4/29/19	300	4/29/20	233
4/28/18	333	4/28/19	291	4/28/20	233
4/27/18	321	4/27/19	277	4/27/20	233
4/26/18	308	4/26/19	271	4/26/20	
4/25/18	297	4/25/19	259	4/25/20	
4/24/18	283	4/24/19	255	4/24/20	
4/23/18	282	4/23/19	246	4/23/20	
4/22/18	280	4/22/19	235	4/22/20	
4/21/18	273	4/21/19	232	4/21/20	
4/20/18	271	4/20/19	231	4/20/20	205
4/19/18	265	4/19/19	225	4/19/20	
4/18/18	258	4/18/19	219	4/18/20	
4/17/18	250	4/17/19	215	4/17/20	
4/16/18	243	4/16/19	206	4/16/20	

# Transfer Student Deposit Dates

Date	2018	Date	2109	Date	Count
5/7/17	197	5/7/19	236	5/7/20	
5/6/17	196	5/6/19	232	5/6/20	
5/5/17	194	5/5/19	231	5/5/20	
5/4/17	191	5/4/19	230	5/4/20	
5/3/17	190	5/3/19	229	5/3/20	
5/2/17	186	5/2/19	226	5/2/20	
5/1/17	180	5/1/19	220	5/1/20	143
4/30/17	176	4/30/19	207	4/30/20	
4/29/17	170	4/29/19	201	4/29/20	139
4/28/17	166	4/28/19	196	4/28/20	133
4/27/17	159	4/27/19	191	4/27/20	129
4/26/17	144	4/26/19	187	4/26/20	
4/25/17	136	4/25/19	184	4/25/20	
4/24/17	128	4/24/19	178	4/24/20	
4/23/17	122	4/23/19	172	4/23/20	
4/22/17	119	4/22/19	156	4/22/20	
4/21/17	114	4/21/19	155	4/21/20	
4/20/17	112	4/20/19	154	4/20/20	118
4/19/17	107	4/19/19	147	4/19/20	
4/18/17	106	4/18/19	138	4/18/20	
4/17/17	103	4/17/19	133	4/17/20	
4/16/17	102	4/16/19	127	4/16/20	

# UG Admissions Discussion

- 3 new student information systems
  - ▶ Technolutions Slate – October 2019
    - ▶ Incredibly important this year
  - ▶ Ellucian Banner – Summer 2020
  - ▶ Degree Works – Summer 2020

# COVID-19 Adjustments

- Quick move to social media to maintain contacts
  - ▷ Weekly *Instagram Live* sessions
  - ▷ Twice weekly *Virtual Information* sessions
  - ▷ Departmental information sessions
  - ▷ 1-on-1 sessions with accepted students

## Fall 2020 Yield Activity Adjustments

- Rebuilt, from scratch accepted student webpage
- Delayed the deposit deadline from 5/1 to 6/1
- Follow up calls for those not making deposits
- Special outreach to accepted students in EOP
- Difficulty making predictions about the final composition for next year till June



# Open Academy Outcomes

## ■ Sustainability Management BS Degree

- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> Year (AY 19-20): 9 new courses
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> Year (AY 20-21): 10 new courses

## ■ Coursera - Solar Energy Course (1 of 4)

- ▶ 12,500 enrolled, 410 paid, 521 completions

## ■ Graduate Certificates: 2 in place, 2 in development

# Open Academy Outcomes

## Sustainability Management Bachelor's Completion Degree

	Applications	Accepted	Enrolled
Fall '19	15	8	6
Spring '20	21	11	8
Fall '20 (to date)	18	8	4

## Summer 2020 Session

**19** Courses – Enrollment as of 5/4/20: **129**

Summer 2019 Tuition Revenue: **\$236,572.20**

## Fall Graduate Admissions as of 4/29/20

<b>Decision type</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Accepted w/ funding	13	3	14	12	6
Accepted w/ no funding	2	5	6	36	17
Accepted w/ pos funding	75	51	49	83	30
Accepted /coming	88	82	77	47	96
Deferred	1	3	3	0	8
Rejected	136	98	87	64	82
Still under review	54	34	48	45	36
Acc/Withdrew	48	50	34	14	39
<b>Total Applications</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>314</b>

# Graduate Admissions Discussion

- Full transition to Slate with relatively few complaints
- 38 of the accepted students are international
  - ▶ Most are Chinese or Iranian
- Expecting an uptick over summer

# Discussion

- Retention concerns
- International student concerns
  - ▶ Both UG and Grad
- Financial aid
  - ▶ Greater need
  - ▶ Rising fees and OOS tuition
- Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

Questions?

