



Higher Education Connections

A Summary of Survey
Results

April 2008

Presented to the Western New
York Consortium of Higher
Education

Prepared by:

 **Regional Institute**
University at Buffalo *The State University of New York*



In what ways do Western New York's colleges and universities work together to attract local high school students, meet their academic interests, arm them with the education and training sought by local businesses and enhance their quality of life in the region?

In an effort to shed light on these issues, the Regional Institute surveyed the 22 members of the Western New York Consortium of Higher Education (WNYCHE).*

The survey solicited information on four types of connections:

- (1) Academic programs offered jointly with another institution of higher education**
- (2) Formal connections or agreements with area high schools**
- (3) Formal connections or agreements with area businesses**
- (4) Formal community-focused connections or partnerships**

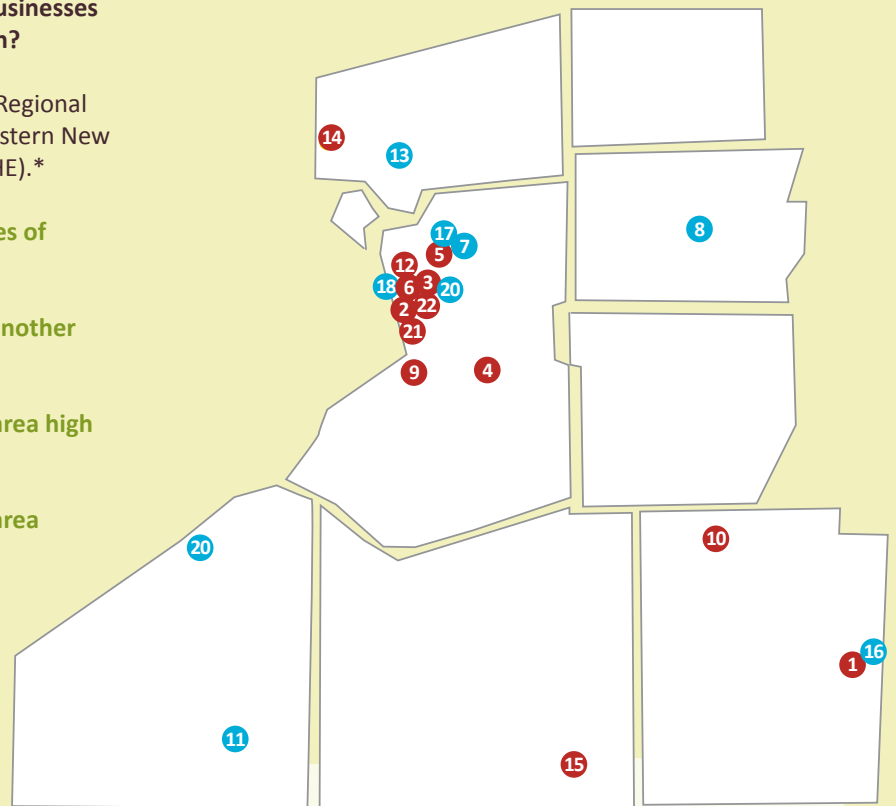
Findings suggest that these four types of connections exist between and among members. Although member-to-member academic connections represent the largest area in which WNYCHE members collaborate regionally, few member-to-member connections exist with regional businesses, high schools and the community. Additionally, the WNYCHE has not engaged in any consortium-wide initiatives outside the academic realm.

Additionally, although many WNYCHE members reported multiple connections across academic, business, high school and community sectors, survey responses suggest that these are representative of a range of connections and not an exhaustive list. Thus, the following summaries should be read as establishing a baseline of connections and partnerships within Western New York's higher education industry.

The following pages highlight the range of connections and partnerships identified by survey respondents. These data will help WNYCHE members enhance existing connections and target potential opportunities for future collaboration.

***As of this printing, 21 members completed and returned the survey, representing a 95% response rate.**

- **Public Institutions**
- **Private Institutions**



Members of the Western New York Consortium of Higher Education

- 1 Alfred University
- 2 Bryant and Stratton College Buffalo Campus
- 3 Canisius College
- 4 Christ the King Seminary
- 5 Daemen College
- 6 D'Youville College
- 7 Erie Community College
- 8 Genesee Community College
- 9 Hilbert College
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- 14 Niagara University
- 15 Saint Bonaventure University
- 16 SUNY College of Technology at Alfred
- 17 SUNY at Buffalo
- 18 SUNY College at Buffalo
- 19 SUNY at Fredonia
- 20 SUNY Empire State College - Niagara Frontier
- 21 Trocaire College
- 22 Villa Maria College Buffalo

Summary of Higher Education Connections

Connection Type

Consortium Initiatives

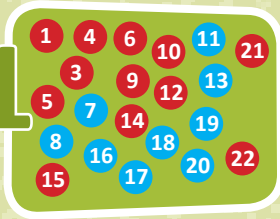
Consortium Members with Member-to-Member Connections

Consortium Members with Connections

Academic

1 

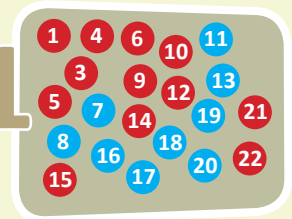
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About the member-to-member connections

- Transfer agreements between community colleges and 4-year schools
- Program-specific articulation agreements
- Dual enrollment programs
- Cross-course offerings

21



Business Sector

0

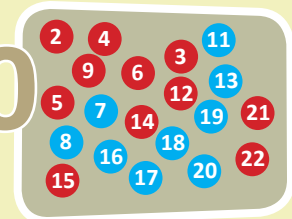
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About the member-to-member connections

- 1 Vocational training

20



High School

0

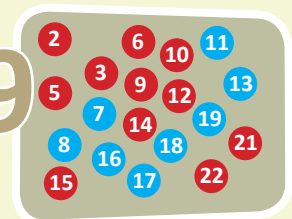
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About the member-to-member connections

- 1 college preparation program

19



Community-Focused

0

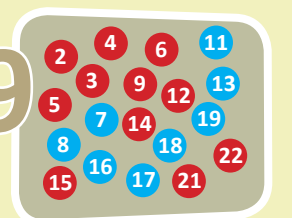
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About the member-to-member connections

- 1 community engagement
- 2 health/medical research

19



Academic Connections

CONSORTIUM INITIATIVES

1 WNYCHE Initiative
Established for approximately 40 years, the WNYCHE is a not-for-profit organization that focuses on issues of common interest.

CONSORTIUM CONNECTIONS

21 WNYCHE members have at least one identified academic partnership with another institution of higher education. The mix includes transfer agreements between community colleges and 4-year schools, program-specific articulation agreements, cross course offerings and dual enrollment programs.

CONSORTIUM MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CONNECTIONS

21 WNYCHE members are partnering with at least one other consortium member to offer an academic program.

EXAMPLES

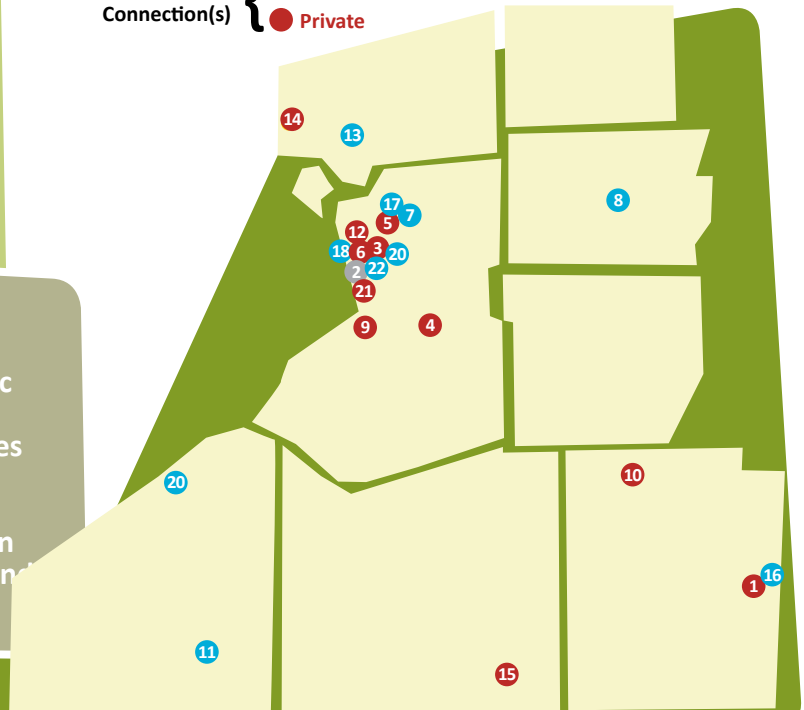
Transfer agreements between community colleges and 4-year schools: **Jamestown Community College** has transfer agreements with about three dozen 4-year schools including 11 WNYCHE members.

Program-specific articulation agreement: **Trocaire, NCC** and **Daemen** partner to offer students a 1+2+1 Bachelor of Science in Nursing program where students earn an associate's degree at their choice of 2-year college and a bachelor's degree from Daemen.

Dual Enrollment: **St Bonaventure's** Franciscan Health Care Program partners with several schools, including **UB** and **Daemen** to allow exceptional high school seniors to be jointly admitted into St. Bonaventure and a partnering school.

Cross course enrollments: **SUNY Empire** partners with other SUNY schools to allow students to cross register at other area SUNY institutions.

Member-to-Member Connection(s) { ● Public ● Private



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Business-Sector Connections

TYPES OF CONNECTIONS REPORTED

- General workforce
- Small business
- Industry-specific
- Continuing ed
- Employment & career
- Corporate/employer

CONSORTIUM CONNECTIONS

20 WNYCHE members have at least one identified business-sector partnership aimed at helping area businesses meet their demand for educated and trained employees. These partnerships range from corporate training programs to small business development to general workforce development agreements with local chambers of commerce and industrial development agencies.

CONSORTIUM MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CONNECTIONS

2 WNYCHE members are engaged in a business-sector partnership with at least one other consortium member.

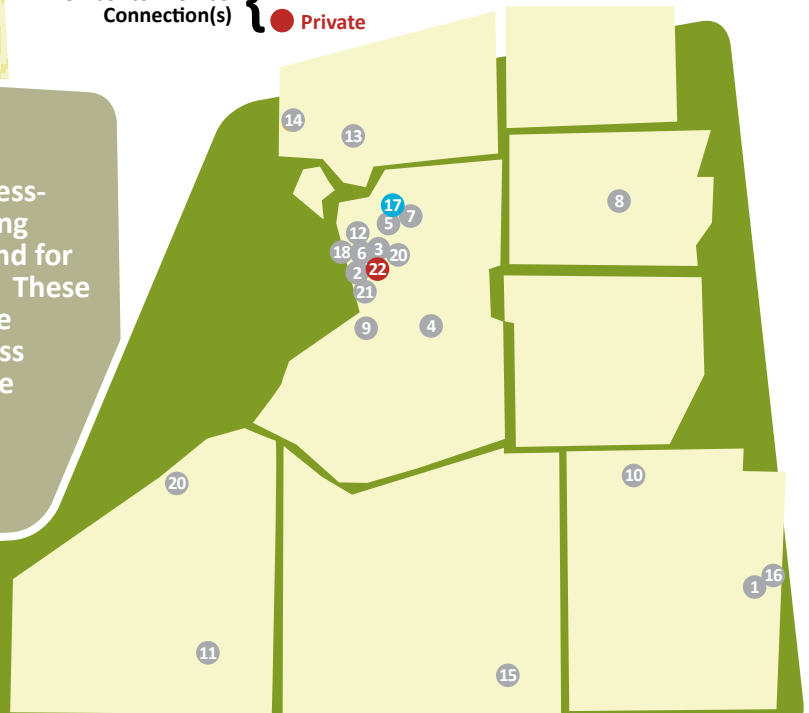
CASE STUDY

Educational Opportunity Center

Partnership Mission: to offer Buffalo's urban community with academic programs leading to higher education and vocational training leading to employment

WNYCHE Partners:
University at Buffalo and Villa Maria
Other Partners:
None reported

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High School Connections

TYPES OF CONNECTIONS REPORTED

- | | |
|--|---|
| College courses to High Schoolers at college | College courses online |
| College courses at High School | College preparation program |
| Accept AP | Admin support to HS |
| Grants for HS students | Agreement with international High Schools |
| Recognize GED | Other |

CONSORTIUM CONNECTIONS

19 WNYCHE members have at least one identified formal agreement or connection with an area high school. These agreements range from recognizing the GED to accepting AP credit as college credit to teaching college-level courses to high schoolers to providing administrative support at the high-school level for the administration of college grants.

CONSORTIUM MEMBER-TO-MEMBER PARTNERSHIPS

4 WNYCHE members are engaged in a high school partnership with at least one other consortium member.

CASE STUDIES

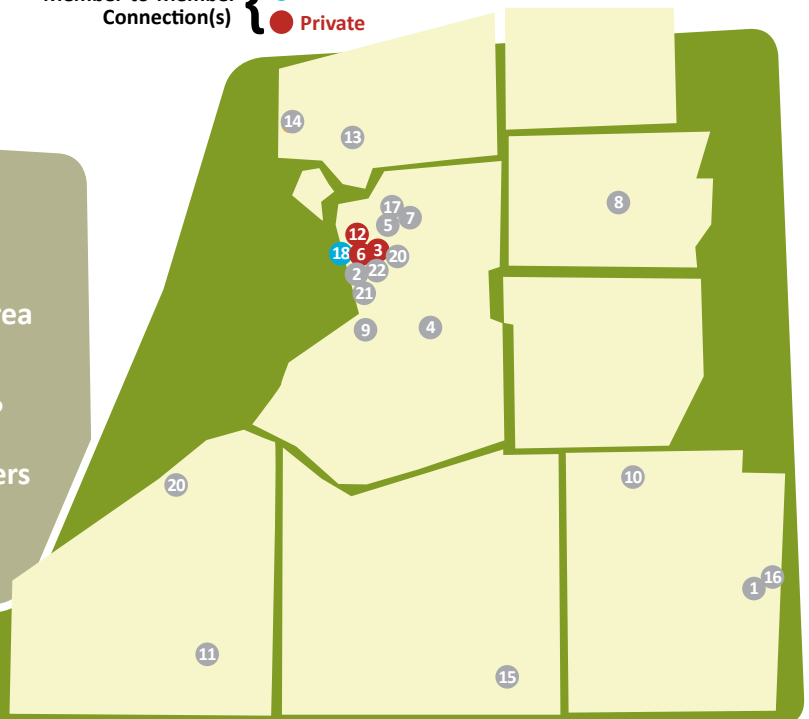
GEAR-UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs)

Partnership Mission: to increase the number of disadvantaged urban students who are prepared to attend college.

WNYCHE Partners:
Buffalo State, D'Youville, Canisius and Medaille

Other Partners:
Buffalo and Lackawanna city school districts

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Community-Focused Connections

TYPES OF CONNECTIONS REPORTED

Youth development	Arts
Community education	Shared facilities
Neighborhood	Other
Environment	
Health	

CONSORTIUM CONNECTIONS

19 WNYCHE members have at least one identified formal community-focused partnership. These run the gamut from neighborhood task groups to environmental study centers to elder scholars programs to college for kids and YMCA summer camps.

CONSORTIUM MEMBER-TO-MEMBER CONNECTIONS

9 WNYCHE members are engaged in a community-focused partnership with at least one other consortium member.

CASE STUDIES

Western New York Service Learning

Partnership Mission: to match college students seeking hands-on experience with identified community needs.

WNYCHE Partners:

Buffalo State, Canisius, Daemen, D'Youville, ECC, Medaille, Niagara University, Trocaire

Other Partners:

Dozens of community organizations

Heart Research

Partnership Mission: to study noninvasive imaging techniques for the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease.

WNYCHE Partners: Niagara University and University at Buffalo

Other Partners:

Heart Center of Niagara at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and GE Health Care

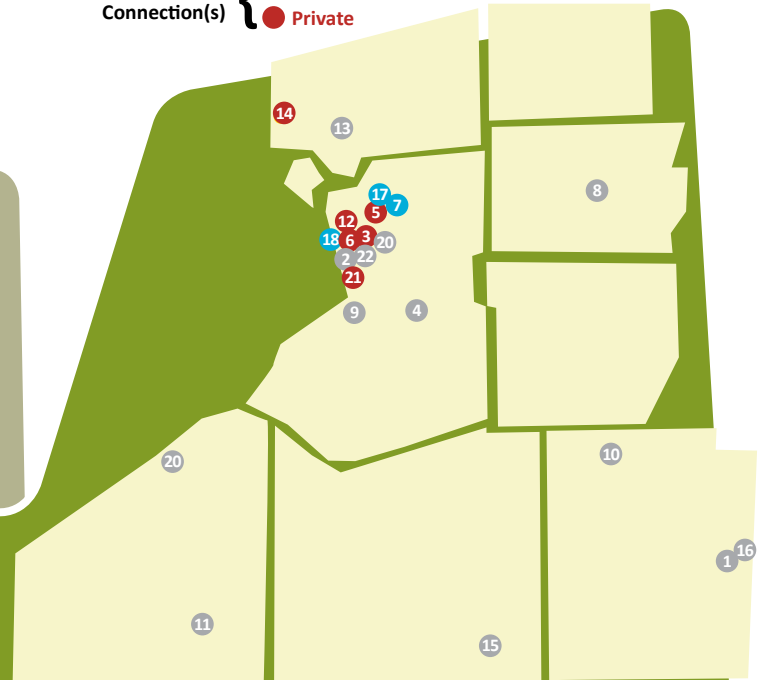
Medical Research

Partnership Mission: to study chronic and acute wound treatment

WNYCHE Partners: Daemen and University at Buffalo

Other Partners: Roswell Park Cancer Institute

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