

# TOP UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER



## Overview: TUP @ The University of Rochester

Directed by John Barker, Senior Associate Dean of the Faculty in AS&E and Beth Olivares, Dean for Diversity in AS&E, TUP@Rochester, a gap year program for highly qualified Chinese students, began July 2019 with a first cohort of thirteen students. TUP Programs are partnerships between The Great One®, Inc. and several American universities including Rutgers and Tufts, with a mission of preparing international students for competitive application to American universities, by enrolling them in a program that includes both non-credit and for-credit courses and participation in a university's campus community. Hundreds of former TUP students are enrolled in prestigious universities across the US, including at Rochester. TUP@Rochester is unique in several aspects, including being housed in the David T. Kearns Center, and providing coursework in research methods and some exposure to undergraduate research. The immersive English language reading, writing and speaking instruction upon which this program rests focuses on an in-depth study of three Rochester icons: Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony and George Eastman.

TUP students spend approximately eleven months at Rochester, beginning each July, living in the Staybridge Hotel, with full time chaperones. During the summer and academic year, students participate in the learning activities associated with Kearns Center's Upward Bound college preparation programs for students from the RCSD, and are connected to the Kearns Center's advisors and programming. Additional TUP@Rochester instruction focuses on presentation and communication, critical thinking, public speaking, American culture, and language acquisition.





## The Semester At A Glance: Spring 2020

During the spring semester, students will take existing undergraduate courses to more fully prepare them for American higher education and academic expectations, while enhancing their transferable skills of global citizenship. In the spring of 2020, TUP students are enrolled in courses including calculus, introductory psychology, introductory linguistics and music theory, in addition to an eight-credit intensive writing course. TUP students are eligible to apply to Rochester for admission; however, admission is not guaranteed and applicants must meet UR's usual standards for admission.



### Students Are Taking A Variety Of The Following Courses Spring 2020

WRT 101: EAPP Communication Across Contexts  
 WRT 103: College Writing  
 MTH 161: Calculus IA  
 LIN 110: Introduction to Linguistics Analysis  
 PSY 161: Social Psychology and Individual Differences  
 FMS 131: Introduction to Media Studies  
 EES 119: Energy and Society  
 HIS 144: Bruce Lee and Me: A History of Chinese Americans  
 PSC 102: Introduction to International Political Economy  
 PHL 110: Introductory Logic  
 MUR 110: Introduction to Music Theory

### A Special Thanks To Our Faculty Labs!

Professor Dragny Fu - Biology  
 Professor Mark Buckley - Biomedical Engineering  
 Professor & Chair Diane Dalecki - Biomedical Engineering  
 Professor Ellen Matson - Chemistry  
 Professor Tom Howard - Electrical and Computer Engineering & Mechanical Engineering  
 Professor Laura Smoller - History  
 Professor Jaime Cardenas - Optics  
 Professor Dan Watson - Physics  
 Professor Joshua Dubler - Religion and Classics

# MEET THE TUP DIRECTORS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER



## Background Information - John Barker

John Barker '09W (PhD) says his goals for higher education have always included three tenets: "access, equity, and social justice for all." As of March 1, 2018 he is fulfilling those missions at Rochester. The TUP program is near and dear to John's heart. His interests in broadening the educational pipeline globally is evident in his program involvement with TUP.

### **A special message from John Barker:**

"I want to thank all of this year's TUP @ Rochester students for setting a wonderful example of what a new program can offer to a university. We understand that you were the first cohort to participate in our program at Rochester, despite a few early challenges, we could not have asked for a better group of students and ambassadors for the launch our new partnership and program. I hope that you are moving to your next educational endeavor with a sense of accomplishment, preparation, and the realization that you are ready for whatever your new school has to offer. It has been a pleasure getting to know you as a group and as individuals. Please do not forget that "no one gets anywhere alone" and that we at Rochester are only a WeChat away from helping as you move to your next exciting opportunity."

*John Barker*

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## Background Information - Beth Olivares

In her role, Beth Olivares is concerned with issues of equity and climate, and seeks to improve diversity in all the different domains of the University, including students, staff, and faculty. In 2002, she was named executive director of the David T. Kearns Center, a position she still holds. Olivares and her staff have greatly expanded the Kearns Center and developed educational pipeline programs for students from middle school through the doctoral degree. The success of each TUP student is of great importance to her.

### **A special message from Beth:**

"Launching a new program is always an exciting moment for me. Often that excitement is also mixed with some anxiety. But with TUP @Rochester I needn't have worried. When we entered into the agreement that brought TUP@Rochester into existence, I could not have imagined the profoundly positive impact that the program, and its first cohort of students, would have on the university, the College, the Kearns Center and me personally. The program has been a tremendous success.

Certainly, we have learned a lot as we moved through this year, and we have had to be nimble and flexible in order to deal with the unexpected. But the teamwork, friendship, and strength of our first cohort of students always shone through, and your successes have made me very proud to be part of this program.

We wish our students the very best in the future. As we say in Kearns, you are part of our family now, and that relationship does not end just because the program has reached its conclusion! We expect to keep in touch with you and are always here for you as you continue your educational journeys. To take our love and support with you wherever you go."

*Beth Olivares*

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR TUP STUDENTS

Congratulations to the 2020 graduating class of the Top University Preparatory Program at The University of Rochester. We will miss you all and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

David T. Kearns Center Staff



Congratulations TUP students! It has been a pleasure getting to know you over the past year. I will miss playing UNO and other card games with you all!

-Amanda Johnson

I loved working with you this past year. I wish you luck as you continue on your collegiate journey.

-Danielle Daniels

It was a pleasure meeting everyone and presenting my Intercultural Communication workshop to you this year. Wishing you the best in your future endeavors.

-Jessica Guzman-Rea

It was a pleasure to work with you all on your personal statements and college applications. I quickly learned how hard-working, respectful, and dedicated each of you are. From the love of badminton to sneakers, building models to Taylor Swift sing-alongs, I will remember our times together fondly. Congratulations on your many accomplishments and I wish you all of the best in your futures. You have beautiful aspirations to make this world a more intelligent and thoughtful place. The University of Rochester is better because of your time spent here and I am better for having known each of you.

-Katherine Forney



Much success to all of you! You put in the work and it shows! Congrats and remember work hard now and play hard later! Special shout out to my favorite ladies, Lilly and Ying! I'm sorry we couldn't perform our rendition of 'Blank Space' by Taylor Swift. Keep practicing the words though I'm sure our paths will cross again.

-Kyvaughn Henry

