

SPI Report

Siena College
Summer 2019



SPI (Siena Project Incubator) is a partnership between
The Center for Academic Community Engagement
and The Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

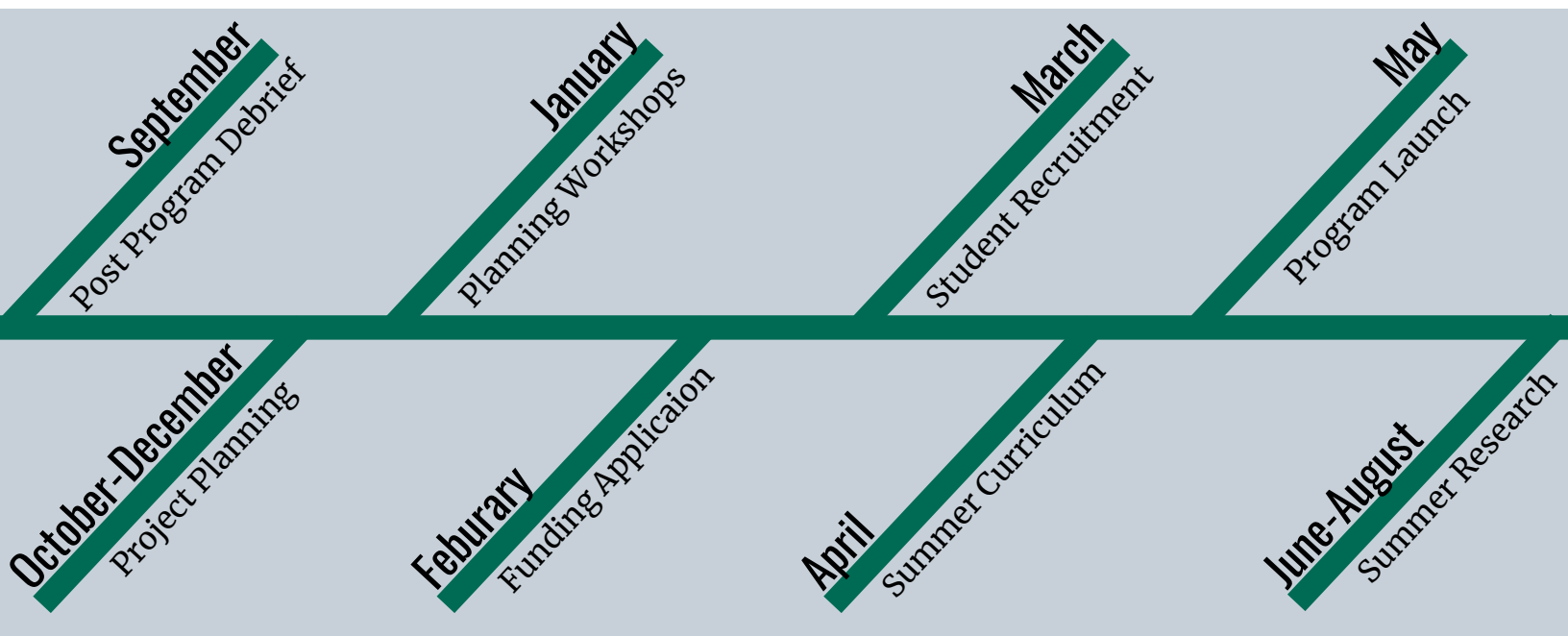
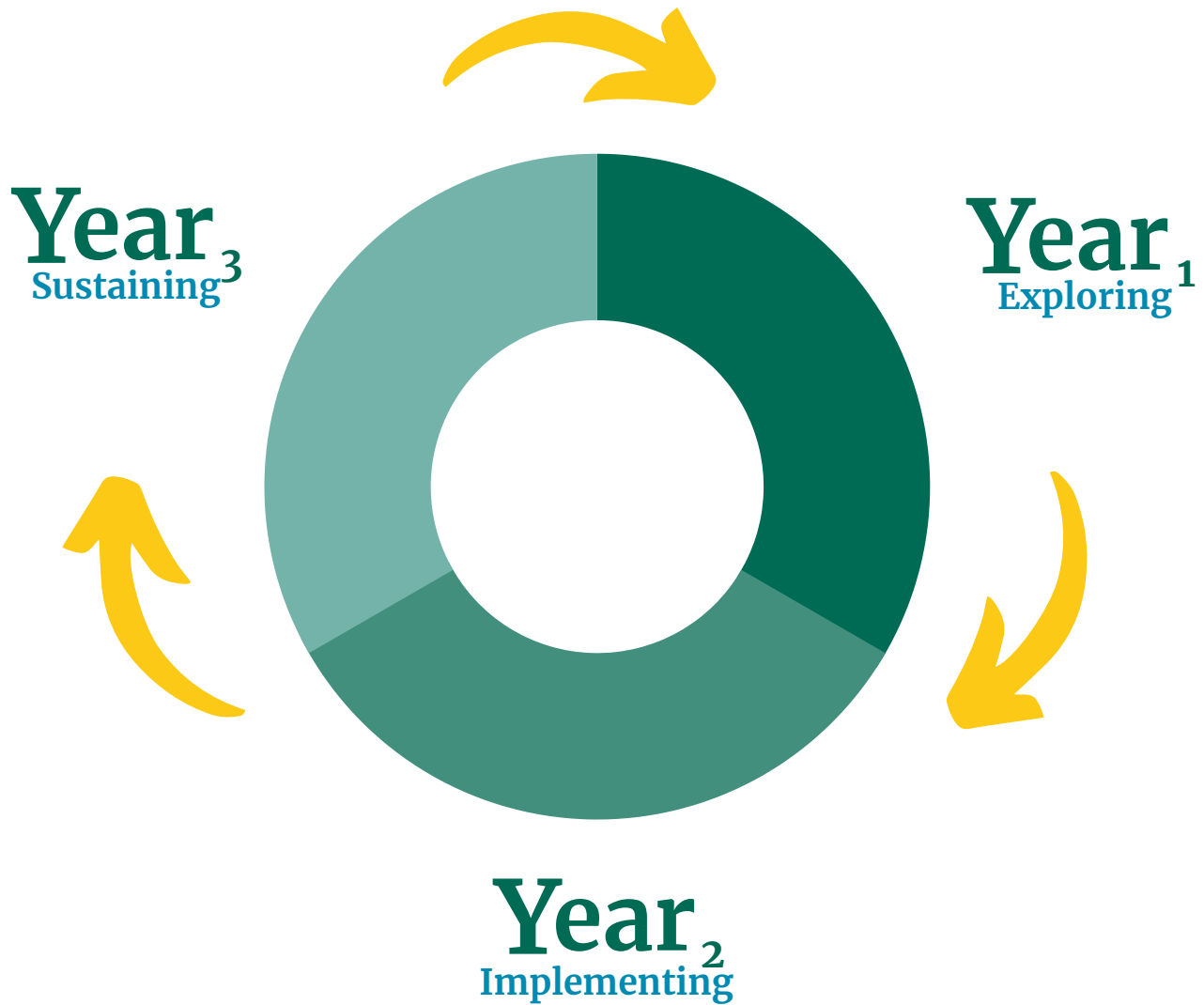
SPIn Overview

SPIn is an intensive summer program that connects faculty, students, and community organizations in multi-year participatory action research projects. SPIn starts with the assumption that our region's most entrenched problems should be addressed through interdisciplinary and collective impact processes and that meaningful change requires a long-term approach. SPIn's three-year model allows for projects to grow over time. In year one we explore issues, develop relationships, and celebrate small wins; in year two, we develop and support student and community leadership in implementing a targeted intervention; and in year three, we work collaboratively to ensure sustainable action.



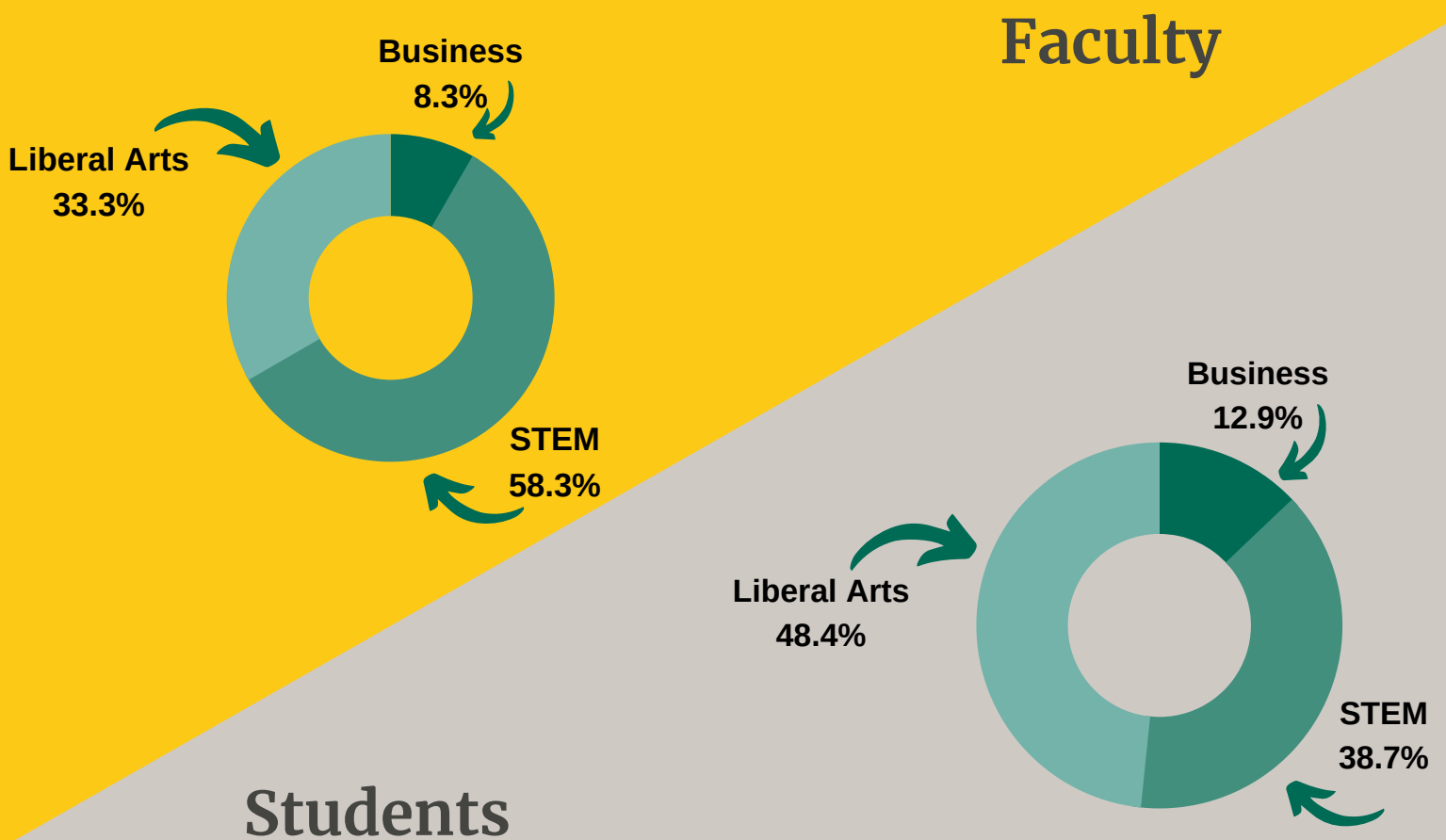
We are very proud of the partnerships and collaborative work in which our students, faculty, and partners participated over the summer. In the following report, we highlight these SPIn 2019 projects. While we focus on the summer, each project continues throughout the academic year as independent studies, community-engaged classes, and internships. Those involved in these projects spend their fall, winter, and spring publishing results, developing the research, and planning for the following summer. This is truly a year-round program that is fueled by focused summer work.

SPI by the Year(s)



SPIIn by the Numbers

- 31 Students engaged in community projects
- 6 Team-based community projects
- 20 Majors represented
- 12 Faculty mentors
- 13 Community partners



Vibrant Communities: The South End

Y₁ Community Partners
AVillage
The South End Community Collaborative



"The best part of the summer was being able to go into the community and learn what the community needs are by doing pop-up focus groups and handing out free smoothies to residents who were willing to talk to us about community concerns related to food."

-Ivory Moore '20

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Traditional and pop-up focus groups to inform a long term food justice initiative

NEXT STEPS:

The launch of the South End Night Market in the Summer of 2020

Summer Learning Loss

Y₁ Community Partner
NYS Network for Youth Success
Wildwood Programs



“SPIn gave me the opportunity to work with students from different majors and colleges to work in a certain issue area while also growing relationships with community partners and peers.”

- Kyle Creech '20

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Infrastructure for a searchable database on summer learning programs and resources

NEXT STEPS:

Working in collaboration with Siena's Urban Scholars Program

Photovoice in the Hamilton Hill Community

Y₁ Community Partners
Electric City Barn
Hamilton Hill Art Center



"Looking back now I realize that while our intentions were good, it wasn't until we started to go into the community and talk with people that we really started to get a taste of the neighborhood dynamics."

-Taylor Disco '19

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Photovoice exhibit showcasing the community's perspective of the Hamilton Hill neighborhood

NEXT STEPS:

Bring photovoice methodology to Albany's West Hill neighborhood

Opioid Research for Cultural Competence in Pain Management

Y₁ Community Partner
Albany College of Pharmacy
and Health Studies (ACPHS)



"Our work accelerated research into addressing the need for culturally competent communication in the medical system as our country is becoming increasingly diverse."
-Kevin Bigansky '20

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Procedural guide for ACPHS to become a Naloxone site and background research on culturally competent pain management information to inform a fall 2019 grant proposal

NEXT STEPS:

Focus the research on the potential of value-based payer insurance

Living History Project

Y₂

Community Partners

Underground Railroad History Project

Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate New York



"I really enjoyed working in this interdisciplinary team and getting to know the Black Theatre Troupe. Seeing our hard work performed live in the community was amazing."

-Hunter & Heather Frederick '20

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Nine performances of a play that was written by the year one team and the creation of augmented reality and virtual reality products

NEXT STEPS:

Bring this methodology to the historic Cherry Hill Mansion in Albany's South End

Housing and Homelessness

Y₃ Community Partners

CARES Inc.

Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless

Joseph's House

Dutchess County DSS



"Some of the best parts of this project included the interdisciplinary nature of our team and the ways that our projects built upon one another."

-Nicole Alex '19

PROJECT DELIVERABLE:

Curriculum for culturally competent and trauma-informed intake processes in shelters and a comprehensive analysis of data focusing on HUD performance indicators and racial disparities

NEXT STEPS:

This project was completed with a partner's hiring of one of the student researchers to do this work full-time

Looking forward to 2020

Y₁

Youth Climate Justice:
Radix Ecological Sustainability Center

Y₁

Refugee Voice Project:
Refugee Welcome Center

Y₂

Vibrant Communities:
South End Night Market with AVillage

Y₂

**Value-Based Payer
(The Next Generation of Insurance):**
Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Studies

Y₃

Living History Project:
Historic Cherry Hill Mansion



Thank you to our Funders

Albany County Legislature
The Corporation for National
and Community Service
Dutchess County
Electric City Barn
New York State Network for
Youth Success



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