



ALFRED, NY — Maeghen MacDonald, assistant dean of the Alfred University College of Professional Studies, has been recognized by a leading business publication as a top young professional in the region.

MacDonald has been named part of Buffalo Business First's inaugural 30 Under 30 class, which honors business professionals in Western New York under the age of 30 who are recognized as leaders in their field.

Nancy Evangelista, dean of the College of Professional Studies, credited MacDonald for helping the College develop programs that attract students to the University and engage them while they're here.

"Maeghen has brought energy and social media savvy to her position as assistant dean," Evangelista commented. "She has fresh ideas for program development, based on her understanding of what today's college students find important and interesting."

MacDonald, a native of Alexandria, VA, is a 2007 graduate of Alfred University with bachelor's degrees in political science and communications. She went on to earn a Master's of Business Administration from St. John's University in 2010.

She was appointed assistant dean of the AU College of Business in November 2010. The College of Business became the School of Business prior to the 2012-13 academic year, when it became part of the newly created College of Professional Studies. Other programs of study contained in the College of Professional Studies are: education, athletic training, and graduate programs in counseling and psychology.

Evangelista credits MacDonald with helping create programs that appeal to college students. She said MacDonald's connection to Alfred University has helped her relate to AU students and create programs aimed at helping them succeed there.

"Maeghen's strong connections with our students are a tremendous asset to our programs," Evangelista said. "Through her initiatives, we have launched new programs for engaging students and providing the supports and skills they need to be successful in the college environment."

MacDonald has pursued initiatives that promote the College and encourage student interaction by opening avenues of communication through the use of social media, has develop programs aimed at boosting student retention, and helps bring dynamic speakers to campus. She also directs the AU Summer Programs& Entrepreneurship Institute for High School Students.