## **Geneseo Photography Collection**

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**University**: SUNY Geneseo

Academic Field: Communications; Concentration in Journalism

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**Presentation Type:** Visual art (15 minute interpretive presentation with slides including Q&A)

**Special Equipment**: Projector & screen to show slides

**Keywords**: Geneseo Photography Collection, photography, archive, alumni, art department

**Title**: Geneseo Photography Collection

## Abstract:

Professor Michael Teres has been teaching at Geneseo since 1966. He was a professor of studio art, photography, graphic design, as well as several other classes amongst the late Geneseo Art Department. Over the course of this time, Teres has collected his student's photography, a collection of about fifty years of Geneseo's alumni work. It started off as simply a means to provide examples of outstanding photography to future students, but Teres soon realized he had created a personal archive of student's work. Teres has accumulated a collection of over 3,000 photographs, each one documenting a unique perspective from the eyes of individual students. The goal for Teres has become that of sharing this characteristic part of the SUNY Geneseo history with the local community and the rest of the public eye. Teres has recently received a grant to pursue this goal of archiving the collection of photography, and we have been working

together to get in contact with alumni whose photography is a part of the collection. We have also been experimenting with graphic designs to create a logo or potential company brand to distinguish this particular collection. Plans for a website are in the making to document the photos as well, and to provide a fast and easy way to maneuver through the array of photographs. However, several photos remain anonymous due to the fact that the student chose this route, never signing their name. This does not take away from the obvious sentiment that these photos have inspired. They were artistically thought out and developed by students with a passion for photography. With the loss of the Art Department, it means a great deal now, more than ever, to archive these photographs and allow them to be seen, heard, and felt again.