



Origin of the Roo!

In the Fall of 2006, we began searching for a new college athletic nickname to coincide with our impending transition to a four-year athletic program. We wanted to adopt not just a better marketing image, but capture an essence of how the college has survived and now thrives; the boldness of moving forward to a four-year athletic program and the drastic change it represents; and characteristics that can be identified with athletic prowess and success.

Yes, it is true that you will never naturally see a Kangaroo in Canton, NY. But have you ever seen a Dolphin in Syracuse, a Gorilla in Pittsburgh, or a Camel in Connecticut? We chose Kangaroos for more meaningful reasons than something chosen simply because it is indicative to the area. It's representative of the college now and how we got here, it's unique, and it's fun!

Kangaroos never move backward...they are only a forward moving animal. This is also true of SUNY Canton over the past 12 years. The college has moved swiftly forward, without looking back. From a college that was nearly closed to an institution that is growing, thriving and strong. The college has taken giant leaps forward, surpassing competition, in areas such as distance education and global initiatives - Kangaroos are marveled for the distance they can cover in a single movement. Did you know we now reach six different countries on three different continents?

Kangaroos are fiercely competitive and aggressive animals, congregate in loyal mobs (teams), are a diversified animal having the ability to adapt to changing climates and environments, and they are respected for their strength and agility. We believed these were characteristics our student-athletes would identify with.