

# Dean wins Red Cross award for saving choking colleague

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Dean of Liberal Arts Michael Kinney was recently honored at the American Red Cross Real Heroes Breakfast for helping save a choking colleague in January.

The Medical Award is presented to a medical professional, organization or ordinary citizen whose lifesaving action exemplifies the highest standards of their calling.

At a campus event on Jan. 29, Dr. Kinney was seated next to a visiting SUNY administrator from Albany, who convened the meeting by addressing various SUNY initiatives. While the convener was munching on some pretzels, she suddenly grabbed Dr. Kinney's arm and pointed to her throat. Dr. Kinney asked her if she was choking and she nodded yes.

Without hesitation, Dr. Kinney immediately stood up and grabbed the convener, beginning abdominal thrusts while asking if anyone in the room knew the Heimlich maneuver. No one else came forward who was able to assist. Dr. Kinney continued performing the Heimlich maneuver until the obstruction was dislodged.

Dr. Kinney had never performed the Heimlich maneuver before. He is a true hero who reacted quickly and decisively to a life-threatening situation without a second thought.

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