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Leisure Notes

Greetings from the Chair!

Another busy and productive year has passed for the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies (RPLS) Department. This issue of *Leisure Notes* is packed with stories and updates to both inform and inspire you to strengthen your ties to your alma mater.

We are constantly reminded that the best indicator of the success of our program is our alumni. By taking our mission, values and vision to heart (*see page 3*), the RPLS Department has worked diligently to prepare you to become engaged citizens and effective professionals. Your contributions to local communities and society at large have not gone unnoticed. Every day you are making a difference and changing the world.... You simply amaze us! Thanks for being you!



Dr. Sharon Todd

If you're searching for ways to impact future professionals in our field, there are several ways for you to get involved with the department. This fall's 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference will be truly inspiring ("*Spark Your Inspiration with Recreation*" - *see page 2*). Whether you choose to attend as a presenter or to further your own professional growth by networking with students and other professionals, we encourage you to come!

A second way to become involved is to mentor students in the field. Before embarking on their capstone internship experiences, all students in the RPLS Department are required to accumulate a minimum of 160 hours of professional experience. By volunteering or working at a minimum of three different types of agencies in our field, students gain valuable experience and exposure to best practices. Several stories in this newsletter highlight service learning opportunities we've built into our coursework (*see pages 10-13*), some of which are supervised by local alumni. We also encourage students to volunteer and/or seek summer jobs in the field. Perhaps you have the perfect opportunity to offer!

A third method is to create an in-depth learning opportunity for our students by offering a 14-week capstone internship. Please read the article on page 9 by Dr. Vicki Wilkins, Internship Coordinator, on how you can get involved. We feel very strongly that some of the best internship learning experiences have been supervised by alumni like you who know our program best and have a vested interest in giving back to society.

A fourth means of making a difference in our students' education is to donate resources. See page 14 for items you can donate as well as information on the new "Hearts of Gold Endowments for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies." In these economic times, your donations make quite an impact on what we can do for our students.

As always, this newsletter is only able to share a slice of all the things happening in the department. The list of highlights on page 3 summarize many of the main points from the RPLS Department's

Annual Report. Please feel free to contact me for more details, or better yet, give us a visit! We would sincerely welcome you at any time. You can also "Like" us on Facebook (*Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies, SUNY Cortland*) to keep in touch!



We are green!

This issue of the Alumni Newsletter will not be sent as a print version. We have strived to create a format that is dynamic, accessible, and usable for all our readers while reducing our environmental impact. If you do need a print copy, please contact the RPLS Office (rpls@cortland.edu) to request one.





The 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference:

“Spark Your Inspiration with Recreation”

By Kelsey Persons, Senior, B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation

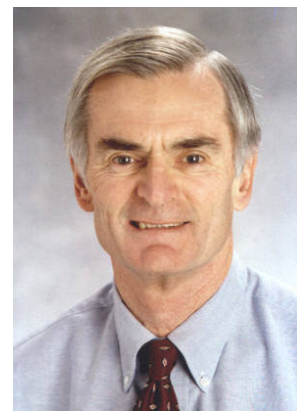
It's that time of year again for the 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference! We've added a few exciting changes to make this conference the best one yet, including collaborating with RegOnline to facilitate a fast and easy on-line registration process.

The dates for the conference are **November 8 and 9, 2012**, the same weekend as the Cortaca Jug football game, hosted by SUNY Cortland on November 10. That's two exciting back-to-back events to draw you home to Cortland! A third reason to return to campus is to attend a memorial service to celebrate and remember the life of Dr. Marcia Carlson (*see page 4*). Because we know she profoundly influenced so many of you, the service will be held in conjunction with the Conference.

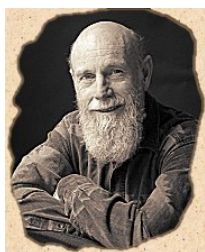
This year's conference theme, “*Spark Your Inspiration with Recreation*,” will inspire one and all to be motivated to pursue goals, positively change day-to-day behaviors, and encourage others to do the same through recreation. Our theme expands on the idea that recreation can help the mind and body during daily activities and throughout everyday life. At this year's conference, come and see what kind of “inspiration” we can “spark” in you!

Our Metcalf Endowed Keynote Speaker is **Dr. John L. Crompton**, who holds the rank of University Distinguished Professor of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences, and is both a Regents Professor and a Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence at Texas A&M University. Dr. Crompton has conducted hundreds of workshops on marketing and/or financing leisure services, has lectured or conducted workshops in a number of foreign countries, and has delivered keynote addresses at the World Leisure Congress and at Annual National Park and Recreation Conferences in Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States. In addition to serving as a Board member of the National Recreation Foundation, Dr. Crompton was a member of the NRPA's Board of Trustees for nine years and is a past president of four professional bodies: the Texas Recreation and Parks Society, the American Academy of Park and Recreation Administration, the Society of Park and Recreation Educators, and the Academy of Leisure Sciences.

Dr. Crompton's Keynote address is entitled “Getting past the labels: What business are we in?” His talk highlights that too many people associate this field with the inherent triviality of recreation activities, rather than with the profound personal and community benefits that they deliver. The presentation will speak to those benefits and suggest how they can be communicated more effectively to taxpayers and elected officials. We are excited and privileged to have Dr. Crompton join us at our 62nd Annual Recreation Conference!



Dr. John L. Crompton



Lee Stetson

The conference will also highlight **Lee Stetson** as a special speaker/performer. Best known for his portrayal of John Muir in Ken Burn's critically acclaimed PBS series “National Parks – America's Best Idea,” Stetson's productions have been presented in Yosemite National Park since 1983 to more than a quarter of a million visitors. Additionally, the Muir shows have toured throughout the country to universities, parks, museums, wilderness and environmental organizations from Washington D.C. to Hawaii. Mr. Stetson lectures on the arts and the environment and spends a considerable portion of his time promoting the performing arts in the national parks.

This year's conference committee has continued to work with faculty and our on-campus technology services to develop a functioning website (www.cortland.edu/reconf/) where the conference brochure, schedule, registration forms, and other important information can be readily obtained. We urge you to take advantage of our newest service: on-line registration! We are also on Facebook at “Annual Cortland Recreation Conference,” www.facebook.com/pages/Annual-Cortland-Recreation-Conference/308541732538526.



Come join us this year at the 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference for great networking, professional development, and a wonderful opportunity to get “inspired!”

62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference
“Spark Your Inspiration with Recreation”
November 8 and 9, 2012

Phone: (607) 753-4904
Email: reconf@cortland.edu
Website Link: www.cortland.edu/reconf/

RPLS Department Mission

Through learning, teaching, scholarship, and service, we promote the value of play, leisure, recreation, and parks for individuals, society, and the environment, enabling and inspiring students to become engaged citizens and effective professionals.



Values

- FREEDOM and self-determination, striving for balance and quality of life
- POSITIVE HUMANISM, celebrating diversity and equity for all people
- RESPECT for the field of recreation, parks and leisure studies
- GROWTH, quality and excellence in our work; this is a calling
- Love of and appreciation for LEARNING
- GLOBAL perspective
- CARING for each other and the environment; social and environmental responsibility
- INTEGRITY and authenticity
- We are, and we educate students to be, AGENTS OF CHANGE

Vision

We make a difference in the world. Our alumni continue to be outstanding leaders in the field of parks, recreation and leisure services. We have bright, passionate, and diverse students who think critically and are motivated to join our alumni ranks and contribute to the field and to their communities. We are a model at the national, state, and local level for excellence in teaching, research, and service in the recreation, parks and leisure studies field, and we are leaders in effecting positive social change and sustainable living. We are essential to the future of the profession and the mission of the college.



Department Highlights from Annual Report

Asterisked items () are featured in this newsletter. See related stories.*

Personnel:

- Dr. Brooke Burk joins RPLS faculty
- Dr. Lynn Anderson earns rank of SUNY Distinguished Service Professor*
- Dr. Susan Wilson serves as Interim Associate Dean for the School of Education

Curriculum:

- Faculty revise internship credits, all four degree programs, and TR graduate program

Student Certification Initiatives:

- CTRS scores continue upward trend
- RPLS Department serves as a pilot program for CPRP



Continued High Scholarship and Service:

- Over \$117,000 in grant activity
- Faculty and students collaborate on research studies on many topics

- IRRC continues to impact inclusive recreation across the state*
- Coalition for Education in the Outdoors publishes two issues of *Taproot* and hosts Research Symposium
- Strong leadership in the field and on campus from RPLS faculty
- Students earn many distinctions and honors*



Transformational Education and Well-Being:

- Costa Rica expeditionary learning special topics course
- League 56/Club 45 theory-based after-school program*
- RPLS continues to provide high numbers of hours of civic engagement*
- Students complete internships at a variety of agencies across the US*
- Students host successful 61st Annual Cortland Recreation Conference
- RPLS continues to provide leadership role in Community Bike Project*
- Cortland Outdoor Opportunities Program continues to offer adventure

Maximizing Resources:

- Public-private partnerships
- Strong connections with alumni*



Meet an Unusual Member of This Year's Conference Committee!

My name is Meaghan Stadlander and I am a sophomore inclusive special education major here at SUNY Cortland. As an elective this past semester, I took REC 427: *Special Events Planning I*. The students that are enrolled in this class are responsible for planning the 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference that will take place this fall. I chose to take this course because I have always considered

working in the special events planning field and have enjoyed planning events as a hobby, so I thought this class would be a great experience for me. Little did I know that I would get so much more out of this class than I thought was possible.

Prior to this semester, I am embarrassed to say that I knew next to nothing about the diverse field of recreation. All I knew was that I thought it sounded fun and that it probably involved being outside a lot. However, as all alumni of this department know, and as I very well know now, recreation is so much more than that.

I am one of eight students in the conference planning class this year. All of us are working hard to make this year's conference better than ever. We have gotten to know each other and also work together really well. I think that it is safe to say that they are passionate about their major, because they all tell me every single day that I should switch my major over to recreation. I think that this alone is a great testament to the excellent recreation program at SUNY Cortland.

While I am going to continue to pursue my degree in special education, I am a firm believer that any type of experience can only help me and shape me into a well-rounded person. I feel that I can carry over many of the things that I have learned about the field of recreation, especially therapeutic recreation, into my classroom when I eventually teach. In return, I also feel that I have been able to add a unique perspective to the class as a non-rec major.

I am looking forward to taking the second part of this class in the fall. I know that through this class I will continue to learn and grow, work hard, be responsible, form friendships and perhaps most importantly, have fun!

Remembering Dr. Marcia Carlson

With great sadness we report the passing on June 12, 2012, of Dr. Marcia K. Carlson, professor emerita of the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department. Dr. Carlson, who was born in Tionesta, PA, on October 8, 1925, was 86 years old at the time of her death.

Dr. Carlson's contributions to the field of outdoor education are numerous and varied. Her career began in the public schools, with 12 years of infusing outdoor education in the physical education and general curriculum. By 1952, she had started school camping programs in Pittsburgh. Concurrently, she was active in the outdoor programs of the 4-H, Boy Scouts, Settlement Houses, and American Camping Association.

After teaching physical education in the public schools, Dr. Carlson began her college career at Keuka College in 1960. She joined the SUNY Cortland faculty in 1962, retiring from the College in 1988. Although she spent the majority of her 26 years of teaching in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, she initially was hired by the Department of Physical Education.

Dr. Carlson was nationally recognized as a pioneer and noted authority in the field of outdoor education. She was an active leader in numerous professional organizations for many years, including the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) national as well as statewide and regional chapters, and the New York State Outdoor Education Association, of which she was a charter member. She served as a camping consultant and was a popular presenter for many groups and organizations throughout her career.

Dr. Carlson was the recipient of many national and statewide awards in recognition of her extensive work in the field of outdoor education. Among them, in 1984 she was the recipient of the Outstanding College/University Teacher of the Year Award, given by Eastern District Association, AAHPERD. In 1986, Dr. Carlson received the Julian W. Smith Award, the most prestigious national honor bestowed by the National Council on Outdoor Education. In 1992, she was awarded the Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Award, by the New York State Outdoor Education Association, for her significant contributions to the field. Upon her retirement, the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department established an award in Dr. Carlson's name to carry on her legacy.

| Recipients of The Marcia Carlson Award | |
|---|------|
| Victor Werany '89 | 1989 |
| April Taylor '90 | 1990 |
| Tanya Mullin Carpenter '91 | 1991 |
| Greg Sherman '93 | 1992 |
| Todd Nichols '92 | 1993 |
| Yukako Nakamura Masuda '94 | 1994 |
| Carol Zimmerman '95 | 1995 |
| Kristie Oliver '97 | 1996 |
| Joan Smith Miller | 1997 |
| Christine Leskovec '99 | 1998 |
| Adam Crocker '99 | 1999 |
| Jennifer Schubert '01 | 2000 |
| Jeffrey Mendel '01 | 2001 |
| Dayna Wright '02 | 2002 |
| Kelly Christensen '04 | 2003 |
| James Decker '04 | 2004 |
| Shana Sztulwark '05 | 2005 |
| Joseph Carlson '06 | 2006 |
| Benjamin Hale '07 | 2007 |
| Joshua Paulson '08 | 2008 |
| Jeffrey Radcliffe '09 | 2009 |
| Annelise Tasker '10 | 2010 |
| Ashley Sherlock '11 | 2011 |
| Natasha Roseboom | 2012 |

Dr. Carlson was a dynamic educator whose passion for outdoor education knew no limits. She worked with countless organizations, including the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, instilling a love and respect for the outdoors wherever she went. She developed and then supervised the department's Outdoor Education Practicum at Camp Huntington for sixteen years, a program which remains a model for current Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies majors. She also spearheaded the creation of the interdisciplinary minor in outdoor education at SUNY Cortland. Dr. Carlson's strong commitment to Camp Huntington and outdoor education led to the naming of a new classroom at the Raquette Lake facility, the Marcia K. Carlson Classroom, in 2000.

Dr. Carlson was known for her generosity, good humor, and "can-do" attitude. She was a tireless advocate for curriculum-based outdoor education, the Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake, and for keeping Antlers Camp as part of the Outdoor Education Center. Dr. Carlson attended the Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Retreat at Raquette Lake for several years to support the growth of the Metcalf Endowment and spent hours speaking individually with students who needed guidance as they navigated life. She actively attended the Annual Cortland Recreation Conference luncheons and keynote lectures as well as the annual RPLS Department banquet each year. She also loved SUNY Cortland sports and for a number of years served on the C-Club board.

Friendships were of great importance to Dr. Carlson, and she deeply valued all of her friends both within and outside the SUNY Cortland community. She will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched.

Dr. Carlson's funeral service was held June 18, 2012, at Cortland's Interfaith Center. Dr. Anderson Young gave a touching remembrance, highlighted by many stories and quotes provided by friends, colleagues, and alumni. A second memorial service is being planned in conjunction with the 62nd Annual Cortland Recreation Conference at SUNY Cortland, which will be held November 8 and 9. Details will be forthcoming and will be posted on the RPLS Department's Facebook page.

Memorial contributions in Dr. Carlson's name may be directed to Cortland College Foundation, Inc., for the enrichment of the Dr. Marcia K. Carlson Classroom, Brockway Hall, SUNY Cortland PO Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045 (see related article on the "Hearts of Gold Endowments for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies" on page 14).



Yaple Enjoying Adirondack Adventure

By Dr. Charles Yaple M.S. Ed. '72, Professor Emeritus



Six years ago, Charles Yaple M.S. Ed. '72, professor emeritus of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies, thought he was simply going on a three-day kayaking trip in the Adirondacks. As it turns out, he got totally immersed in researching and writing about an Adirondack character of the early 1900s. His book, *Foxye Brown: A Story Of An Adirondack Outlaw, Hermit and Guide As He Might Have Told It*, is a new historical novel that has become an Adirondack best-seller, and Yaple is very busy doing speaking/story telling presentations related to his work.

Foxye Brown... is a fact-based story of railroad worker and college student David Brennan who, convinced he had killed a man in a Boston barroom brawl, fled to the Adirondack Mountain wilderness in 1890. Changing his name to David Brown, he became known as a crafty (foxye) woodsman and popular guide until a hunting trip tragedy led to the largest manhunt in Adirondack history.

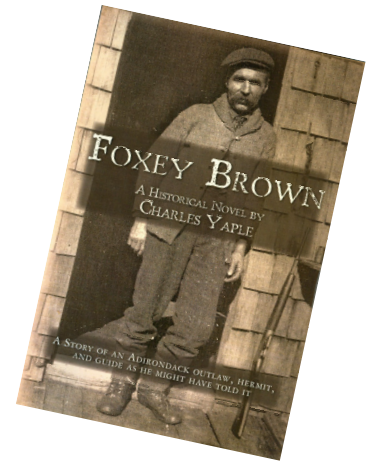
Living through the beginning of the American conservation movement, working class people like Foxye Brown tried to cope with increasingly strict state conservation laws and private parks as traditional ways of life (subsistence farming and hunting/gathering) disappeared causing some individuals to resort to thievery, poaching, setting forest fires, and murder.

More than a history and mystery, *Foxye Brown...* is about human resilience and the transformation of a man's outlook and approach to life. Despite having taken place nearly a century ago, Brown's experience has messages for modern people.

Yaple's work has earned five-star reviews on amazon.com and high praise from many experts including Adirondack historian, newspaper columnist, and author Don Williams. Williams says:

While researching for a new book it has been said, "If you live with your character long enough, you begin to think like he does." FOXEY BROWN is a compelling story based on bits of vivid information on Foxye's life. It is a solid Adirondack novel – a welcomed addition to the body of Adirondack literature. It is the kind of narrative that captures readers and holds them fast; be wary, it is a book that is hard to put down once you start reading. As Foxye's life unfolds, exciting and unexpected events, tied to Adirondack history, tell the tale of life in a remote forest cabin. Add to this, a well-told analysis of the bond between the Adirondack guide and his client.

The historical novel based on the life of Adirondack hermit, Foxye Brown, is more than a biography. Those who love Adirondack stories will enjoy reading about the historic events of the past century and their connections to the lives of the Adirondack settlers. Known Adirondack characters such as French Louie, Floyd Ferris Lobb, Charles and Julia Preston, among others, have lives intertwined with Foxye Brown. We can but admire the extensive research carried out by author Charles Yaple that was required to flesh out the story of a somewhat little-known Adirondack character of yesteryears.



Bruce Matthews '77, Executive Director, North Country Trails Association wrote,

Author Charles Yaple masterfully paints a picture of nearly-forgotten Adirondack personalities interwoven with his own fascinating journey of discovery....of Foxye Brown's lost homestead in the Adirondack wilds and cold-trailing Foxye's story through the crumbling records and remains of that bygone era of legendary guides and their 'Sports.' Yaple finds much in his search to inform us today as Adirondackers seek to balance the preservation of both local culture and the natural resources giving rise to it. The story of both Yaple's deciphering of the Foxye Brown mystery as well as his re-creation of it in the words of Foxye is an extraordinary accomplishment and contribution to the lure and lore of the Adirondacks--a region well-known for yielding up its mysteries only grudgingly, if at all. And it's a whopping good tale, timeless with its themes of enduring friendship, heartbreak and redemption.

Foxye Brown... is available at Amazon.com, at bookstores throughout the Adirondacks, in Cortland at the Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture, SUNY Cortland Bookstore, and elsewhere in New York's southern tier.

After 35 years, Yaple continues to teach environmental and outdoor education courses for the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department at SUNY Cortland. He is also director of the Coalition for Education in the Outdoors and editor of *Taproot*, the organization's journal of outdoor education. Charles was the co-founder, first board president, and long-time director (1997-2007) of the Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture in Cortland, New York. It has been his great pleasure during a 44-year teaching career to help students see, understand, and love the land.

New Updates from the Director of CEOE

By Rob Rubendall, Director of the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education



Rob Rubendall



Antlers

Exciting changes are underway at the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education (CEOE), which operates the four outdoor centers owned by SUNY Cortland – Huntington Memorial Camp, Antlers, Brauer Education Center, and Hoxie Gorge Nature Preserve.

In the Fall of 2010, a task force was appointed by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mark Prus, to review the current status of the Center and propose recommendations for the future. Chaired by the new Director, Rob Rubendall, the task force proposed 50 ideas for helping the College continue and expand its commitment to instilling a solid conservation ethic and lifelong appreciation for the outdoors among its graduates.

The first order of business was to reconstitute the Advisory Council, which had disbanded over the past ten years with the demise of a proposed Environmental Studies major. Each academic department currently active at one of the outdoor centers, several student activities offices, alumni, and the local community are represented on the board, including Dr. Sharon Todd for RPLS. The group meets twice a semester and is charged with promoting the growth and development of diverse student uses of CEOE.

The task force also recommended the transfer of the Antlers property from the Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC) to the Cortland College Foundation, with a triple net lease back to the College. This shift will allow more state funds to be used to rebuild the infrastructure of this 120-year-old facility on Raquette Lake, including the ability to expand operations to three seasons. With a longer operating season and improved amenities to serve students and adults, CEOE hopes to increase the opportunities for the College community to experience the magic of the Adirondacks.

The plan is to make the transfer final in early fall and use \$1 million of state critical maintenance money beginning in the Fall of 2013 to upgrade the Main Lodge, Casino Building, and the water system. In addition,

“After two years here at SUNY Cortland, I have made countless friends and been inspired by the legacy of famed recreation educators like Harlan Metcalf and Marcia Carlson.”

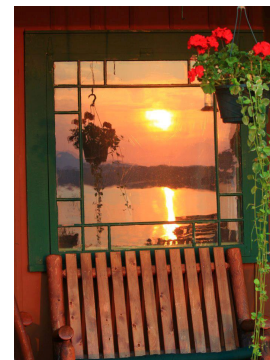
tion, a \$1.5 million campaign is underway to create an Access and Program Endowment that will defray the cost of transportation and new programs at both Antlers and Camp Huntington. See “Educating Champions” on the SUNY Cortland website for participation details.

Finally, a long overdue First Year Outdoor Program (FYOP) will be launched in the Fall of 2013. FYOP will be a joint partnership between the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education and Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies for the first couple years of operation. After that, it will be transferred to the Outdoor Pursuits

program that is planned for the new Student Life Center. The collaboration will leverage the experience of decades of programming at Raquette Lake and the Adirondacks to provide incoming students with a fun, challenging way to transition from high school or community college life into the community at SUNY Cortland.

FYOP programs are now offered at over 200 colleges and universities across the country and have been proven to increase student involvement in campus life, improve retention, and even raise grade point averages in participants. Activities will include canoeing, camping, hiking, a ropes course, and a chance for incoming students to interact informally with upperclassmen and faculty.

After two years here at SUNY Cortland, I have made countless friends and been inspired by the legacy of famed recreation educators like Harlan Metcalf and Marcia Carlson. Current faculty and students arrive here at Raquette Lake with the same enthusiasm and love of the outdoors as their predecessors, and it a pleasure to work with such a talented team to continue the tradition of learning in the outdoors. I have many ideas to promote with the new council and College leadership and look forward to implementing them over the coming years.



Sunset Reflection at Antlers

(photo by Dr. Steve Broyles, Biology)



My Outdoor Education Practicum (OEP) Experience

By Ariene Balbach, Senior, B.S. in Outdoor Recreation with a concentration in Outdoor Leadership

OEP was an experience like no other for me. I had an amazing time at Raquette Lake, and there was not one thing that was better than something else. The entire program, the people, staff, activities, trip, EVERYTHING, was absolutely amazing. The things that I learned through this experience were definitely life changing for me and had such a positive impact on me in numerous ways. It opened up doors for my future insight and gave me a confident feel that I am where I want to be. When I picked recreation as my major, I only picked it because I enjoyed some of the classes that I had taken and I really couldn't see myself in anything else; but the truth was, I wasn't even sure if recreation was what I wanted either. After going through OEP, I have no more questions, no more doubts about this field. I am 100% positive that this is where I belong; I knew I couldn't see myself in any other major, and now I know why.

I believe that a person learns the most about themselves when challenged in nature. We were challenged as students, as group members, leaders, friends, and mindful inhabitants of the outdoors while up at Raquette Lake. The two weeks I spent up there I learned so much about myself and about other people, specifically my trip group. I had a great time bonding with my trip people over ridiculous things, common things, different things, funny things, and not so funny things. We faced and overcame challenges together and formed a bond that was special to our group, as each group did. The challenges we faced were not always easy, but even the hard and frustrating times weren't enough to take away from the experience because they helped to make it what it was.

I loved my time up at Raquette Lake for countless reasons. I love the outdoors in general, and Raquette and Camp Huntington is a beautiful area. SUNY Cortland is extremely lucky to own this "keepsake." Besides that, I loved learning the different skills we would need throughout the two weeks, all of the activities that were set up each day for us to do, the delicious food, and the people. The people, including the students and staff, really make it what it is. I went in to OEP not knowing half of the people I was going to be spending the two weeks with, and like most people I pre-judged them. Going through OEP I realized that every person had something unique to offer to the experience; and you have to be willing, accepting, and open to see that.

Throughout the two weeks I knew I was really enjoying myself and making great memories; so good, that it was almost surreal when it had to come to an end. I knew at the closing ceremony that this experience was like no other, and I was really going to miss it. I'm excited to get a different take on the experience as student staff this summer, and I'm really looking forward to helping make other students' experiences as meaningful as mine was.





Geoffrey C. Godbey '64

Alumni Advisory Committee

Raul 'Rocci' Aguirre '95

Graduate Student, Antioch University, NH, and Project Manager, Monadnock Conservancy

Celeste Bernardo-Dunn '85

Superintendent, Lowell National Historic Park, National Park Service

Karen Caccese Matson '99

Special Events Planner, Manhattan, NY

Melanie Canna '13

President, SUNY Cortland Recreation Association

Jessica Hatfield Daily '01

Activities Director, Walden Place

Ike Kuzio '00

Recreation Specialist, Westchester County Department of Parks

Gary Lopez '96

Recreation Supervisor, Onondaga County Parks

Timothy O'Connell '90

Associate Professor & Chair, Dept. of Recreation and Leisure Studies, Brock University

Ellen Lupia O'Sullivan '70

Professor Emeritus, Southern State Connecticut University

Lauren Penney McGee '99

Executive Director, Booker T. Washington Community Center, Auburn, NY

David Peppel '97

Director of Operations, Mohawk Valley and Huchings Psychiatric Centers

John Silsby '69, M '70 (Chair)

Retired Director of Parks and Recreation, Groton, CT, Parks and Recreation Department

Carol Zimmerman '95

St. Lawrence County Health Initiative, Adventure Education Specialist

William Zimmerman '76

Recreation Director, City of New Rochelle Recreation

Emeritus Members:

Dr. Tom Goodale '61

Dr. Geoffrey Godbey '64

Godbey '64 Receives Honorary Degree from SUNY Cortland

[Portions from a SUNY Cortland Press Release]

Geoffrey C. Godbey '64, a SUNY Cortland distinguished alumnus and one of the world's leading authorities on leisure, recreation, public parks and tourism, received an honorary doctoral degree from the State University of New York during SUNY Cortland's Undergraduate Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 12.

Godbey, whose research revolutionized the way leisure time is perceived and continues to influence both public policy and private development, delivered the Commencement address at both undergraduate ceremonies.

Two of Godbey's former students, Dr. Sharon Todd and Dr. Vicki Wilkins, escorted their mentor at the morning and afternoon ceremonies, respectively. "Geof served on my doctoral dissertation committee at Penn State, and Vicki and I both took a phenomenal history and philosophy class with him," remembered Todd. "It was such an honor and privilege for us to spend time with Geof and his family at this year's graduation."

Several current RPLS students also had the opportunity to meet Godbey, who shared a special luncheon with them and department faculty. The occasion was made even more memorable by the presence of professor emerita Dr. Marcia Carlson, who simply glowed while catching up with Godbey, her former student. A highlight of the luncheon was hearing Godbey candidly answer students' questions. His appreciation and respect for SUNY Cortland's RPLS Department, both past and present, came through loud and clear.

"When we say SUNY Cortland educates champions, Geoffrey Godbey is the type of insightful and influential professional we have in mind," President Erik J. Bitterbaum said. "His work has helped make the world a healthier and more enjoyable place for millions of people, regardless of age, culture or income level."

Godbey, who earned a degree in recreation from SUNY Cortland, went on to serve in leadership roles at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, and at Pennsylvania State University, where he earned his doctorate and spent most of his career. Godbey was a founding member and past president of the Academy of Leisure Sciences and a representative to the United Nations' World Leisure Organization.

His research, conducted over a span of more than 40 years, illuminates how people use their time and has added significantly to the academic study of leisure and recreation. He is the author of 10 books and more than 100 articles on issues that include time-use, aging, tourism, health, and the future of recreation. Godbey was a co-founder of Venture Publishing, which produces titles related to those topics.

Godbey's focus on the relationship between leisure activities, health, and the barriers faced by individual ethnic or age groups has helped guide policy makers at the local, state, and federal level, as well as leaders in China and Brazil. He has testified before committees of the U.S. Senate and a presidential commission and has given presentations in more than two dozen countries. Godbey served as a consultant for the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Department of the Interior. His research clients include the American Association for Retired Persons and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The SUNY Cortland Alumni Association in 1987 recognized Godbey as a Distinguished Alumnus, its highest honor. He delivered the keynote address at the College's annual Scholars' Day event in 1998 and delivered the prestigious Metcalf Lecture during the 50th Annual Cortland Recreation Conference in 2000.

Most recently, SUNY decided to award him the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. "Dr. Godbey exemplifies the College's institutional priorities of academic excellence, transformational education, well-being and sustainable resource use," President Bitterbaum said. "His experience and insight should be very inspirational to SUNY Cortland's 2012 graduating class."



Your Help Is Requested!

Involving Alumni in the Capstone Internship

By Dr. Vicki Wilkins, Professor and Internship Coordinator



As you may recall, the full-time (35-40 hours per week), 14-week, capstone internship has always been an important part of the RPLS program. Many changes have occurred over the years, but the overall purpose and the intended outcomes have remained the same. As indicated in the REC 475: *Internship in Recreation and Leisure* course outline, the goals for the internship are as follows:

For the student:

- To achieve integration between theory and practice (i.e., to recognize an experience or an observation as an instance of some broader theory or concept); to contextualize knowledge
- To apply previously acquired knowledge and to learn new knowledge
- To acquire skills and competencies needed for practice in recreation and leisure services (the skills and competencies will vary, depending on one's major; see certification requirements for CPRP and/or CTRS to ensure that all necessary competencies are being addressed)
- To discover one's strengths and limitations within the field of recreation and leisure services in order to begin to develop a lifelong professional development commitment
- To develop an awareness of the total range of the field of practice (i.e., methods, activities, settings) and gain a better understanding of the day-to-day operations of a specific agency

For SUNY Cortland:

- To provide the student with opportunities for practical experiences in recreation and leisure services with professional supervision and guidance
- To improve the educational process and enlarge the scope of the curriculum
- To foster close working and learning relationships with practitioners
- To provide a means of assessing and monitoring the relevance of the academic program at the University in terms of community needs

For the internship site/agency:

- To provide the agency the opportunity to assist in the education of future professionals
- To provide the opportunity to recruit trained professionals and to evaluate prospective staff candidates for later employment
- To provide the opportunity for exchange of ideas between professionals and students
- To foster close working relationships with SUNY Cortland

REC 470: *Senior Seminar* is a 3-credit course taken the semester prior to the internship. The first part of this course takes the students through a process designed to facilitate the selecting and securing of an internship. The process begins with self-assessment (e.g., personality traits, professional skills, personal philosophy, attitude toward work and learning). The information gathered in this first step is critical and foundational as students develop internship goals, craft cover letters and resumes, and prepare for their interview. The search begins with a short list of 5-8 sites. Their task is to then reduce this list to 2-3 sites which they will then thoroughly research. Students research the site (i.e., type of programs/services offered, type of facilities available, general characteristics of participants); the supervisor (i.e., academic preparation, employment history, professional development and affiliations); and the internship itself (i.e., type of student desired, typical duties and responsibilities). Once students complete their research, they are ready to send out cover letters and résumés and request interviews.

Students tell me that the process works; that if they honestly and rigorously work at each piece of the process, it does, more often than not, result in a really good fit. Sometimes that is a ranch in Utah; sometimes it is the youth bureau in Cortland. Sometimes it is the internship that the student always imagined for himself or herself; sometimes it comes as a bit of a surprise! As the REC 470 professor and Internship Coordinator, it is almost always fun to watch!

Over the years, we have developed a database of internship sites previously used by our students; this is often where their search begins. The database is currently in need of updating, and **this is where you come in!** As students chat with us about the kinds of internships they think they might enjoy, we know that there are alumni out there with the exact opportunity.

As we rebuild our database, we want to focus on those of you out there who have opportunities available and are interested in mentoring a new professional (i.e., an intern). All you need to do to get the ball rolling is fill out the **Alumni Profile form on the last two pages of this newsletter or contact me directly with the following three pieces of information:**

- (1) agency name and address (website, if available);
- (2) type of agency/internship (e.g., therapeutic recreation, outdoor recreation, recreation management, etc.); and
- (3) the name and contact information for the person most likely to supervise the intern (if this is not you, then please also provide us with your name and contact information).

Eventually we will need the résumé of the person most likely to supervise the intern as well as more information about the agency and the internship itself, but for now just let me know that you are out there and would love to become part of our internship program. Please send information and/or questions via email (vicki.wilkins@cortland.edu) or regular mail (Dr. Vicki Wilkins, SUNY Cortland, RPLS Department, POB 2000, Cortland, NY 13045).

One more thing. As an internship supervisor, you will have responsibilities prior to and during the internship. Prior to the internship, (i.e., during the search and research phase) you may be asked to answer questions as the students complete their rather detailed research; and as mentioned, you will need to provide us with a recent résumé of the person most likely to supervise the intern. Once your agency becomes one of a student's top two choices, you may also be asked to conduct an interview either in person or on the phone. And finally, if you are chosen as an internship site, there will be paperwork! In general, it is the intern's paperwork that you will then review and forward on to the campus supervisor. This happens initially with the Learning Agreement and then throughout the internship with Weekly Reports. In addition, you will complete a mid-semester and final evaluation form. In-state agencies will be visited by the campus supervisor generally during the second half of the internship. That's about it; I welcome your questions.

We know there are alumni out there, all over the world, doing wonderful things, and believe it would be nearly perfect to match you up with a new SUNY Cortland recreation, parks and leisure services professional. Thanks for all you do!

Focus on Service Learning

Before embarking on their capstone internship experiences, all students in the RPLS Department are required to accumulate a minimum of 160 hours of professional experience. By volunteering or working at a minimum of three different types of agencies in our field, not only do students gain valuable experience and exposure to best practices across the field, but they also are able to make wiser choices when matching their interests and career goals with internship sites. At least half of these hours are built as service learning opportunities in recreation core and specialty major courses. Stories on the next three pages highlight some of our students' most recent experiences.

Therapeutic Recreation Students Immersed in Practice

By Dr. Lynn Anderson, Professor and Instructor for the "Super TR" Courses

REC 4/530: *Therapeutic Recreation Process* and REC 4/535: *Therapeutic Recreation Interventions* are affectionately called "The Super TR Courses" in our curriculum. These two courses are linked together, and embedded in the courses is an intense service learning clinical experience. The two courses focus on assessment, planning, implementation, documentation, and evaluation, as well as the myriad of interventions used in therapeutic recreation practice. Though the courses themselves have ample lab sessions where the students practice the skills and knowledge they are gaining, the clinical experience is what really brings things to life.

This year I had the great pleasure to work with the JM Murray Center to provide a high quality clinical experience to the students. Deanna Moore, an AmeriCorps member with the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center, worked as a teaching assistant with the clinical experience, providing weekly feedback to the students as they progressed through their experience. On site at the JM Murray Center, Roberta Gabriel '89, M '10 and Molly Riley '79, seasoned professionals, provided exceptional clinical supervision with all 19 students. *(See related story on page 11.)* I cannot thank them enough for giving back to their alma mater so generously and helping us shape the next generation of therapeutic recreation specialists. Not only did Molly and Roberta problem solve with the students daily as they implemented their newly learned TR competencies, they also helped the students research new ideas for interventions, secure resources to do a variety of interventions, and provided evaluation feedback, among a hundred other tasks.



The experience culminated in an open house where the students showcased their work with a poster session and leading interventions. It was also a chance for them to say goodbye to the participants with whom they had worked for the semester. Was this an effective learning experience? Listen to what the students had to say:

Andrea Colucci: "I learned that no matter the disability, that each individual is capable of achieving goals and learning something new. I really enjoyed my time at JM Murray and seeing the hard work that is put into helping these individuals have fun, learn new skills, and live their lives to the fullest!"

Kim Zehr: "I would say that this whole experience has really helped me tie in what we have learned in class to the real world and the real practice. By actually taking the tools used in class and really using them with our participants helped me really learn about the field and why we do the things we do."

Michel Humphries: "My favorite thing about doing my hours was being able to spend time with a person you wouldn't normally spend time with that helps you gain more experience in the TR field."

Anthony Maggio: "My experience at the JM Murray Center has definitely been positive. I have gained a lot of insight as to how you can change people's days with the therapies that we learn in class. My favorite thing about my hours has been the people that I have met. In all I know that I will take a great deal of knowledge away from my experience at the JM Murray Center and appreciate the opportunity to help there."

Kelsey Persons: "My favorite thing about doing my hours at the J.M. Murray Center was seeing the participants grow and change throughout the semester. I also learned that the most simple things in life can bring someone joy, which can help them throughout their entire life."



A Clinical Supervisor's Perspective

By Roberta Gabriel '89, M '10,
JM Murray Center

Having Dr. Lynn Anderson's and Teaching Assistant Deanna Moore's Therapeutic Recreation (TR) Process and Intervention classes here to obtain their clinical experience both at and out of the JM Murray (JMM) Center facility was a very pleasant and challenging experience for all.

Molly Riley '79 and Roberta Gabriel '89, M '10, both SUNY Cortland alumni in therapeutic recreation, were the clinical supervisors for 19 students from these classes. Besides going through an intense, 5-hour training and an extensive tour of the facility, the students were tortured by having to attain two PPD shots from SUNY Cortland campus nurse, Connie Biviano.



Roberta Gabriel '89 M '10 and Molly Riley '79

This lively bunch of mainly juniors and a few grad students brought their unique creativity and knowledge of TR to our participants while enhancing their daily program at JMM Day Habilitation.

Many students were a bit apprehensive upon their first direct contact with assigned partici-

pants. Throughout the semester, students became more comfortable and confident in their abilities and knowledge. Many began to incorporate humor, sensitivity, and unique therapeutic interventions into their daily interactions with participants. As time went on, strong bonds were formed between participants and the students. Participants started to inquire about the arrival of "their students" daily, even if it wasn't their scheduled day.

The TR students' final days at JMM Day Habilitation were occupied with presentations of their therapeutic recreation interventions, with the grand finale being an open house to present their interventions to all interested staff, participants, and community members.

Dancing, music, sports, Tai chi, relaxation/meditation therapy, horticulture, nature therapy, I-cam, Snoozlen, adapted games, and humor therapy were just some of the interventions presented by the students. It was a bittersweet, fun-filled day for all students, staff, and most importantly, participants!

Riding for Sustainability

By Jennifer Miller '12, M.S. in Recreation
with a concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education



Since its inception into the campus community in 2004, the Community Bike Project (CBP) has proven to be an integral part of enhancing the lives of the SUNY Cortland community by increasing personal wellbeing through the use of the yellow and red bike share system. Through a strong core of volunteers (including all students in Dr. Brooke Burk's REC 495: *Administration in Recreation* course who each provide 5 hours of service learning to help administer the program) and other supporters, the CBP has grown exponentially because of the many improvements that have been established over the past six years. The check-in/check-out process and the mandatory use of bicycle locks have made students more responsible for the yellow and rental bikes, thus reducing the number of damaged and stolen bicycles; providing helmets to participants promotes their safety on campus while riding; and the CBP now has representation on the Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Bus Safety team to increase bicycle education and promote bicycle safety on campus.

To continue with its mission of providing alternative transportation, reducing SUNY Cortland's carbon footprint, and promoting physical activity on campus, the CBP established a Group Bicycle Fleet. The administrators of the CBP noticed the increase in requests by student groups and other campus members to sign-out group bicycles to go on rides. For example, coaches have worked with the CBP to set aside bicycles for cross-training purposes; alumni groups are requesting use of the bicycles during reunion weekend; and students are using these bicycles for cycling courses. The CBP wants to advertise this Group Bicycle Fleet across campus to increase group cycling and exercise because it promotes wellbeing. Because CBP's yellow bikes are of lower quality and are usually signed out throughout the semester, we do not always have well-maintained bicycles available to these groups. The CBP sees that by investing into higher quality group bicycles, we are investing into the health and wellbeing of our campus community.

Most recently, the Community Bike Project applied for the Bicycle Friendly University designation through the League of American Bicyclists. Because of the many supporters and continued growth of the bike program, SUNY Cortland received an honorable mention. With the excellent feedback received from the League, SUNY Cortland wants to move forward to develop a more bicycle-friendly atmosphere within the campus community. President Bitterbaum and other supporters feel that many of the suggestions made by the League of American Bicyclists to become designated as a Bicycle Friendly University could be obtained within the next academic year! These improvements would help SUNY Cortland take great strides in becoming a more sustainable campus.

Focus on Service Learning (cont.)

The REC 280: *Programming in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services* and REC 380: *Leadership in Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services* classes have been designing and leading an after-school program for the past several years, providing 30 hours of service learning experiences for each college student.

This theory-based resiliency program was created for the purposes of reducing bullying and raising academic grades for the children of a local elementary school. Since the start of the after-school program, its success has been measured through several research studies.

The program is taught in two segments targeting specific goals. The first segment, aimed at increasing resiliency, is taught through organized games. The games are both cooperative and competitive, and each week they target a specific trait. These traits have been shown to help reduce aggressive behaviors and promote healthy and safe ways for children to deal with various situations. The second segment is homework help, which provides additional tutoring and mentoring by matching elementary students with college students.

Dr. Eddie Hill initially implemented the program during recess time at Barry Elementary School with the REC 380 class. The following year, he and Dr. Sharon Todd collaborated to offer the program as an after-school program for 5th and 6th graders (dubbed League 56 Academy), linking REC 280 with REC 380.

This past fall, when Dr. Hill left SUNY Cortland to return to Old Dominion University, Dr. Brooke Burk stepped in to teach REC 380, and in the spring, Dr. Todd handed the reins of REC 280 to Dr. Amy Shellman. Brooke and Amy expanded the program at the request of a second local school, Randall Elementary. RPLS students now offer an after-school program for 4th and 5th graders (Club 45) at Randall while simultaneously implementing Barry's League 56.

The following two stories are written by students who have experienced the program from several perspectives.



roughly 55 elementary students. The addition of a new school came with the excitement of a new after-school program, and enrollment is incredibly high. This made the student to leader ratio skyrocket.

I spent most of my time this spring working at Randall Elementary. Although it was a new environment, my role was essentially the same as my co-TA, Jessica Andrianos. I strove to organize a successful program. I made sure RPLS students were constantly improving at their leadership skills and aided them whenever necessary.

Being a TA has been one of the most fulfilling actions as a college student. I find that the time I spend at Randall helps build my skills as both a program leader and facilitator. The move to a new school has also helped me grow skills of learning how to create nearly identical programs at multiple facilities.

The work at Club 45 has been a great experience. I'm glad the program has expanded and offered continuing opportunities for leadership growth for me as well as other students.

League 56

By Jessica Andrianos, Junior, B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation

League 56 Academy is an after-school program where SUNY Cortland students teach seven resiliency traits (independence, initiative, creativity, values orientation, relationships, humor, and insight) to 5th and 6th graders at Barry Elementary School through various recreational games and activities. Not only do the elementary students learn the resiliency traits, they also receive assistance with their homework. When the 5th and 6th graders at Barry Elementary were taught these traits through recreational activities, they showed a significant improvement in their grades and behavior in school.

My first semester in assisting with the League 56 Academy was a great experience and helped me realize how to work with children more effectively. Many of the children just needed someone to be there for them and help them through struggles in their lives. Every Tuesday and Thursday gave us the opportunity to get to know all of the elementary students and assist them in growing into the individuals they will become in the future. Each week a new resiliency trait was taught to the students, which included games and activities that the SUNY Cortland students selected for an activity plan based on their trait.

Through the League 56 Academy, I have formed better relationships with staff and gained valuable skills to later secure other recreational positions.

This semester I was asked to be a field supervisor as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for the program. As part of the TA position, I assisted other students as they prepared and led the program by demonstrating the proper ways to handle certain situations and lead activities with children.

Seeing the program from all different angles was a great experience. Being a TA for the program came with a lot more responsibility, which I really enjoyed. It was also wonderful to assist other students through the same program and struggles that I had previously experienced. I am proud to see that the program has also expanded to Randall Elementary, and I know the program will continue to grow every semester.



Club 45

By Brian Skeats, Senior, B.S. in Recreation Management

I have been a Teaching Assistant (TA) for the programming and leadership after-school programs for two semesters now, and the semester before that I was in the classes. I have had a chance to see the program from three vastly different angles: from the perspective of the student, the TA, and most importantly, as a facilitator through the expansion to Randall Elementary.

The movement to two schools has changed the program from the way it originally existed. During my first two semesters involved in the program, the number of leaders to elementary students was nearly double the ratio it is now. The program once had seven groups of approximately four college students each working with a total of approximately 25 elementary students. Now, the program has six groups of four leaders to

roughly 55 elementary students. The addition of a new school came with the excitement of a new after-school program, and enrollment is incredibly high. This made the student to leader ratio skyrocket.

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The work at Club 45 has been a great experience. I'm glad the program has expanded and offered continuing opportunities for leadership growth for me as well as other students.

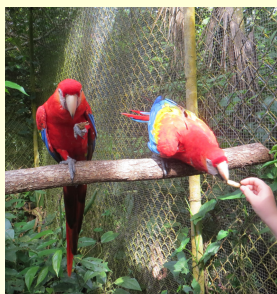
Focus on
Service Learning (cont.)



You'd Better BELIZE It!

By Vicki Wilkins, Professor

Yes, it's true. SUNY Cortland has made yet another connection with Belize, specifically The Belize Zoo (TBZ), also known as the "Best Little Zoo in the World." Dr. Lynn Anderson, and Dr. Vicki Wilkins, and her son George can attest to that fact.



As is often the case with "the best," the folks at The Belize Zoo, under the leadership of Sharon Matola, wanted to make the zoo

even better. They decided that the zoo should be genuinely available to all people; i.e., they decided to make it accessible. They contacted the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center, housed in the RPLS Department, for some guidance, and the conversation began. I am sure that it comes as no surprise to any of you that the very first conversation culminated in the creation of an opportunity for our students to spend time at the zoo!



Lynn, Vicki, and George traveled to Belize and spent a week with the staff and the wonderful animals – all, two-legged and four-legged, truly amazing creatures! The zoo is beautifully carved out of the jungle providing native wildlife with comfortable and natural homes.

None of the animals have been captured and brought to the zoo; all of the animals either needed a home, care and nutrition, or needed to stay out of trouble! The plan is to make about a mile of the trail through the zoo accessible, and although the mile will not cover the entire zoo and all of the animals, it will provide the opportunity to encounter each type of animal living at The Belize Zoo. As with most outdoor facilities, attention will be given to the trail surface, access to boardwalks, and places to rest and/or view the animals. The transformation will also result in a new entrance to the main building, gift shop, and expanded restaurant as well as into the zoo.

We were treated like royalty! Everyone at the zoo knew who we were and why we were there, and many excellent conversations took place about the possibilities. It was so refreshing to have the "how can we do this" conversations rather than the "why do we have to do this" conversations. We are truly honored to be even a small part of the process.

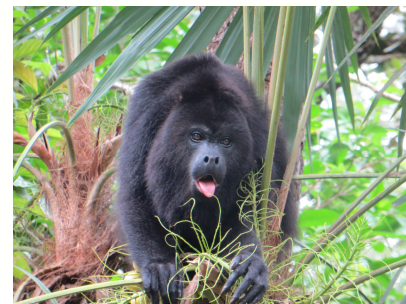
Here's the plan for the students. Although much of the accessibility work will be completed this fall, the parking lot and the route of travel from the parking lot to the building entrance are being saved for our students! We have been asked to raise the funds and then come down in March during our spring break and do the work. I will be working closely with TBZ staff this coming fall to put the exact plan together, and we are trying to get a couple of TBZ staff on campus this fall to talk with our students about the project and help us with some fundraising. During Spring 2013, I will teach a 3-credit class that will feature a week of service learning at TBZ, actually making the parking lot and route of travel to the entrance accessible. Prior to the trip, the students will

complete the full-day Inclusion U training and read *The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw: One Women's Fight to Save the World's Most Beautiful Bird* to learn more about Sharon Matola and The Belize Zoo.



I can't wait for the students to see this zoo – and to eat refried beans and coconut rice and stewed chicken, and to feed Junior Buddy and the beautiful scarlet macaws –

but most of all, to meet the incredible people who, day to day, make this place the "Best Little Zoo in the World." Thank you Sharon, Tony, Jamal, and Umberto for including us as you transform The Belize Zoo into a nature destination accessible to ALL the people of Belize and beyond. See you soon!



Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department Wish List



In order to implement our many service learning opportunities, the RPLS Department continues to be in dire need of a 12-passenger van. We also need van(s) to transport students and equipment for our outdoor recreation courses, activity courses, and Outdoor Education Practicum, as well as to transport members of our active student club, SUNY Cortland Recreation Association (SCRA), and other students to service projects, events, and professional development experiences such as state conferences (*see related article on page 15*). If you or a group of alumni would like to work to procure a large van for the department, we would be extremely grateful!

We are also in need of many other items. If you would like to make a donation to the department, please contact Dr. Sharon Todd, Department Chair, to make arrangements. Your generosity would be greatly appreciated and would make an immediate impact on the students and their learning.

- Passenger van (2009 or newer)
- Trailer for transporting gear and equipment (boats, windsurfers, etc.)
- GPS units
- Kayaks, canoes, and windsurfers in good condition
- Adaptive recreation equipment and sport wheelchairs
- Items from countries around the world related to play, recreation, leisure, or culture (toys, games, etc.)
- Bicycles for the Community Bike Project
- Outdoor education supplies

The Hearts of Gold Endowments for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies

The Metcalf Endowment Board held a special meeting in January 2012 to discuss fundraising for its endowment goal. The group voted to create a new family of endowments, titled *The Hearts of Gold Endowments for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies*, to support the mission and programs of the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department.

This family of endowments creates an umbrella under which eight existing endowments and initiatives that currently support the department, plus a named building, are grouped (*see below*); this concept also provides opportunities for other donors to create additional endowments, initiatives, gifts, or bequests to benefit the department as desired. As a result, this family of endowments will expand the spirit and resources of the original Metcalf Endowment.

By 2020, the group hopes to reach a target of raising \$500,000 total among these various funds. The estimated sum of the existing endowments currently exceeds \$250,000, an excellent beginning point for the fundraising campaign.

For more information on what you can do to make a difference, contact Peter VanderWoude, Manager, Planned Gifts, SUNY Cortland & Cortland College Foundation, Inc. at (607)758-5309, peter.vanderwoude@cortland.edu, or visit www.cortland.edu/giftplanning.

Existing funds in the family of endowments,

Hearts of Gold Endowments for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies

The Metcalf Endowment – supports the intellectual and professional development of students in the Department of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies at SUNY Cortland by bringing scholars and leading professionals to campus, funding student travel to professional conferences, and supporting student leadership in OEP at Raquette Lake.

The John MacPhee Scholarship – recognizes academic excellence and professional promise, providing support of internships and attendance at major national conferences.

The NYS Federation of Home Bureaus Scholarship in Honor of Phyllis Doe – recognizes excellence in therapeutic recreation.

The Joyce A. Gaus '60 Scholarship – for freshmen majoring in the area of recreation, outdoor education, or a closely related field who demonstrate high academic achievement and leadership ability and has financial need.

The John B. Knox Memorial Scholarship – for an admitted freshman or transfer student who resides permanently in Hamilton County with an interest in recreation studies and outdoor education who demonstrates high academic achievement, leadership qualities outside the classroom, and has financial need. Secondary consideration is given to permanent residents of the Adirondack Park.

The Thomas L. Goodale '61 Community Service Scholarship – awarded to a continuing freshman or transfer student majoring in the area of recreation who has demonstrated a strong record of community or school service activities and high academic achievement. Financial need may also be considered.

The Jay '66 and Bettie Lee Yerka Award for Excellence in Recreation and Leisure Studies – awarded to a therapeutic recreation student with high academic achievement, leadership and service; preference for nontraditional students.

The Robert B. Ditton '64 OEP Award – for students with high financial need to attend the OEP at Raquette Lake.

The Marcia Carlson Classroom at Camp Huntington, Raquette Lake – funded by gifts from students, colleagues, and friends of Dr. Carlson, the classroom provides multipurpose year-round instructional and meeting space for programs and classes.

SCRA: Winding Down Another Great Year!

*By Melanie Canna, Junior, B.S. in Outdoor Recreation
with a concentration in Outdoor Leadership
and SCRA President*



Andy Young, Vicki Wilkins, Sharon Todd, Lynn Anderson, Amy Shellman, and Brooke Burk

The SUNY Cortland Recreation Association (SCRA) finished another fantastic year! With seven outstanding club officers, two fantastic club advisors, and a very long list of club members, we were able to offer a lot of good events and sponsor some great fundraisers as well. Weekly meetings were held for the majority of the year. Each meeting started with a fun game led by a club officer, club member, or anyone who wanted to lead a game! This way we could all share our ideas and play, just like recreation majors love to do.

One of my personal highlights was a Penny Wars fundraiser we implemented in the fall semester. Students put money into jars in order to bid for their professors to do something crazy! This could only end in one thing, Vicki Wilkins winning (or losing?) and having to partially shave her head, ending up with a Mohawk. Yes that's right, a real Mohawk! Many other professors surprised us by showing up at our annual holiday party in their suggested attire: Andy Young in a toga, Lynn Anderson as gothic, Brook Burke with purple hair, Amy Shellman in full '70s attire, and Sharon Todd as batgirl. Overall we raised \$300 in order to buy Christmas presents for a local family in need. I think they had a really great Christmas!

SCRA also put on several great outings known as "Sunday Fundays" throughout the year including hikes, trail cleanups, kanjam days, and climbing trips, just to name a few. We volunteered with Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture for some of their programs and maintenance days. Many club members also helped out at the Walden Place Assisted Living Community Halloween party right here in Cortland. Local children were also very excited to see SCRA members at the Cortland YMCA family fun nights.

With one year wrapping up and another one coming in fast, there is no telling what could happen next year, but every year we have new and exciting ways for SUNY Cortland Recreation students to get involved and have fun!

EXPLORE AND RESTORE: Turning Vision Into Action

*By Cameron Johnson '11 and Melanie Canna, Junior, B.S. in Outdoor Recreation
with a concentration in Outdoor Leadership*



*Mel and Cam in
Colorado...*

SUNY Cortland student, Melanie Canna, and recent SUNY Cortland graduate, Cameron Johnson '11 embarked on a unique adventure this summer:

We traveled for 10 weeks across the country and volunteered at non-profit nature centers. During this time, we offered a target goal of 400 person hours of our time, effort, and knowledge, nearly all of which was gained here at SUNY Cortland in the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Program. Projects included stream restoration, trail building and interpretive signage, invasive species removal, and teaching a two- to three-day backcountry skills seminar.

In order for us to make it to the eight specific nature centers that we selectively chose, we will need to reach a fair budget. As of April, we still needed 70% of our targeted budget and were reaching out every direction we could. Please consider supporting our endeavors; your donation could go a long way. Please visit www.exploreandrestore.org for more information, including pictures of our journey showing how we made a true impact on each of these places.



...and in Montana

Editor's note: *RPLS faculty couldn't help but feel extremely proud of Mel and Cam, who have taken service learning one step further! We also thought it fitting that both were recipients of scholarships honoring two of our prestigious alumni: Melanie was selected for "The Thomas L. Goodale '61 Community Service Scholarship" (see page 16), and Cam received the first "Robert Ditton OEP Award" in 2010. Mel and Cam couldn't have chosen a better way to thank Tom and honor Bob's memory.*

2011-2012 Award and Scholarship Winners in the RPLS Department



The Alumni OEP Award, established by a generous alumna of 2001, is used to support the fee for the Outdoor Education Practicum at Raquette Lake. Preference is given to non-traditional students with financial need. This year's recipient is **Kathryn Townsend** from Cortland, NY.

The Marcia Carlson Award, in honor of professor emeritus Dr. Marcia Carlson, longtime faculty member at SUNY Cortland, recognizes a student who has made a significant contribution to the areas of outdoor education. This year's recipient is **Natasha Roseboom** from Milford, NY.

The NYS Federation of Home Bureaus Phyllis Doe Scholarship is awarded to a student in therapeutic recreation for high academic achievement and leadership. This year's recipient is **Karsyn Lieber** from Preble, NY.

The Robert Ditton '64 OEP Award, established in honor of Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Bob Ditton, is given to a student with high academic achievement and promise in the field to help offset costs of attending OEP at Raquette Lake. This year's recipient is **Amelia Galek** from Wolcott, NY.

The Joyce A. Gaus '60 Scholarship is given to an admitted freshman who demonstrates high academic achievement and leadership ability. **Clara Pittleman** of Derwood, MD, returns as this year's recipient.

The Thomas L. Goodale '61 Community Service Scholarship, established by Distinguished Alumnus Tom Goodale, is awarded to a recreation student who has demonstrated a strong record of community or school service activities and high academic achievement. This year's recipient is **Melanie Canna** from Farmington, NY.



The John B. Knox Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Hamilton County residents with an interest in outdoor education who demonstrate high academic achievement and leadership qualities outside the classroom. This year's recipients are **Ty Abel** from Frankfort, NY, and **Hunter Aldridge** of Tupper Lake, NY.

The Ralph S. Mauro Award honors Ralph Mauro, who was a student in the RPLS Department in the 1970s. Ralph demonstrated a high degree of enthusiasm and dedication to helping others with disabilities and was an individual with a physical disability himself. When he died in 1978, Ralph was actively involved in several community organizations that support individuals with disabilities. This year's recipient is **Benjamin Banker** from Morrisville, NY.

The Harlan "Gold" Metcalf Award honors the founder of the RPLS Department, Harlan "Gold" Metcalf, and recognizes a student who exemplifies Dr. Metcalf's qualities of good scholarship, interest in many activities, high moral and ethical character, and dedication to serving people. This year's recipient is **Benjamin Banker** from Morrisville, NY.

The John MacPhee Scholarship is given each semester to a recreation major who shows academic achievement, professional promise, and clear educational goals. It honors John A. MacPhee, one of the founding faculty members of the RPLS Department. This year's recipients are **Christina DiLallo** from Randolph, NY, and **Benjamin Banker** from Morrisville, NY.

The John "Jack" MacPhee Award is given each year to a recreation major who shows academic achievement and is a scholar/athlete. This year's recipient is **Erin Carrino** from Baldwinsville, NY.

The Jay '66 and Bettie Lee Yerka Award for Excellence in Recreation and Leisure Studies recognizes a student who is majoring in recreation, demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and leadership, and has high moral and ethical character. In addition, the award is preferably given to a non-traditional student in therapeutic recreation. This year's recipient is **Sharon Spencer** from Cortland, NY.

The Outstanding Senior Recreation Major Award was given to **Benjamin Banker** from Morrisville, NY, who was selected by his peers.

Additional Awards ...

- **New York State Recreation and Parks Society Friends Foundation Scholarships** are awarded to NYS residents majoring in the recreation, parks and leisure services field at accredited colleges in the state. Applicants are judged on their academic records, leadership, activities, resourcefulness, personal philosophy, professional affiliations, and involvement. **Melanie Canna**, a senior outdoor recreation major from Farmington, NY, was a recipient of this year's scholarship.
- **The Central New York Recreation and Parks Society "Fran Tokar" Scholarship** honors one of the founders of CNYRPS, Francis Tokar. This region-wide award recognizes a recreation student who has excelled in leadership, volunteerism, or participation in his/her community/school or intern assignment. **Erin Carrino**, senior with a double major in recreation and fitness development from Baldwinsville, NY, was this year's recipient.
- **Alpha Delta Junior Scholarships** are awarded to a select number of SUNY Cortland students who exhibit leadership, professional promise, participation in community, and responsibility. Only those students in the top 10% of the whole junior class can apply. This year, **Melanie Canna** from Farmington, NY, was a recipient of this prestigious award.
- SUNY Cortland's Institute for Civic Engagement presented **Jessica Andrianos**, junior with a major in therapeutic recreation from Camillus, NY, with three awards this spring: **Cortland Area Chapter of the Alumni Association's Community Service Award**, **Borg Warner Morse TEC Civic Engagement Scholarship**, and **Leadership in Civic Engagement Award**.

Rho Phi Lambda at SUNY Cortland

Rho Phi Lambda is the national honorary society for Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Services (see www.rhophilambda.org/). The SUNY Cortland Chapter is **Alpha Eta**. SUNY Cortland's Rho Phi Lambda advisor is currently Dr. Lynn Anderson and in the past, Dr. Wayne Stormann served as advisor.

In the Rho Phi Lambda emblem, the 18 chain links represent 18 existing charter chapters. The triangle's two base corners represent scholarship and leadership, while the apex represents service. The Greek letters $\text{P}\Phi\Lambda$ in the triangle represent recreation, park, and leisure. The olive branches half circling the letters represent honor and success.

To achieve the honor of membership in Rho Phi Lambda, a student must show evidence of academic excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service to campus or community. Undergraduate students must have completed 45 credit hours (at least 9 in the major) and be in the upper 15% of their class or have a minimum GPA of 3.2 in professional courses. Graduate students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and completed 9 credit hours of professional courses.

Listed below are this year's inductees to Rho Phi Lambda. These 11 students join the 82 other members that have been inducted into SUNY Cortland's Alpha Eta Chapter since its inception in 2004. These students embody the significance and spirit of excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

We would like to feature one Rho Phi Lambda this year, May Faulk, a graduate student working on her M.S. in Recreation with a concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education (see side story).

2012 Rho Phi Lambda Inductees

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Undergraduates:</u> | <u>Graduate Students:</u> |
| Ariene Balbach | Raena Blumenthal |
| Karsyn Lieber | May Faulk |
| Kevin Morris | Tyler Merriam |
| Robyn Perez | Nicholas Prechel |
| Kelsey Persons | |
| Clara Pittleman | |
| Natasha Roseboom | |



Meet May Faulk, Rho Phi Lambda Inductee

Throughout my life, I have believed each person can make a positive impact on society. I have volunteered for multiple environmental, educational, and archeological organizations. My initial involvement in volunteering and program development started as an undergraduate at the University of Montana. My desire to help the local Humane Society led to initiating a successful fundraising campaign that involved the cooperation of pet food owners, the Humane Society, and dog food companies. The dog food company chose to replicate this program in other communities throughout Washington and California.

Two events in my past have shaped my life and helped teach me the importance of communication and adaptability and influenced my professional and volunteer career: working as a Medical Specialist in the United States Army and traveling on an economic budget throughout South America and Indonesia. Both of these experiences showed me individuals may have different perspectives and cultures, but the key to success in any project is finding common ground.

Returning to the University of Montana, I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology and then used the knowledge gained from both life experiences and education in different recreational and educational settings: museums, zoos, parks, and schools. As a Student Conservation Associate, I volunteered at Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument and then worked as an archeologist for the federal government at the Statue of Liberty National Park and the Northeast Cultural Resource Division in Lowell, MA. After a few years of working in the field and in museums, I decided to change careers and become more involved in the lives of children and teenagers and work toward enacting positive change in communities.



I decided to enter the educational field and worked at BOCES in the Columbus Learning Center in Binghamton, NY. Becoming a teen advocate and mentor enabled me to teach social responsibility and to initiate and organize school and community projects where teens were encouraged to become involved in making a positive difference. By contacting local businesses and community members and inviting individuals to present their programs, students became involved in multiple projects according to their personal interests. These programs helped the teens have empathy for others and become less self-absorbed, thereby helping them learn invaluable social skills. I've found that I've been able to use my teaching skills to meet the needs of all students, whether as an intern for Rogers Environmental Education Center, an AmeriCorps Volunteer for Rockland Lake, or as a Recreation and Environmental Specialist at Chenango Valley State Park.

This year I will complete my Master's degree in Recreation with a concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education, and I shall continue to mentor and instruct teenagers about social responsibility. My most recent endeavor has been creating a sustainability table at SUNY Cortland to instruct students about the importance of purchasing recycled products. Next, I worked with the maintenance facility to gather information I incorporated into a presentation to the Student Government Association. My goal is to influence the campus bookstore manager to sell recycled products on campus as we are becoming more sustainable in all sectors from energy to food service.



My life has involved and continues to involve becoming a positive role model in both educational and recreational settings and encouraging youth to become involved in socially responsible projects they find interesting. Ultimately, this will enact positive change at the local, national, and global levels.

Dr. Lynn Anderson Promoted for Distinguished Service

[From a SUNY Cortland press release published 5/11/12]

SUNY Cortland Professor Lynn Anderson, a nationally recognized expert in the fields of outdoor, therapeutic, and inclusive recreation, has been promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor, one of the highest academic ranks in the SUNY system. The SUNY Board of Trustees promoted Anderson during its May 10 meeting in Albany, N.Y.

Anderson, as a distinguished service professor, is honored and recognized for her extraordinary service not only at the campus and within SUNY, but also at the community, regional, state, and national levels. She was among 21 SUNY faculty promoted to 'distinguished' this year and brings to six the number of distinguished service professors currently serving at SUNY Cortland.

A highly successful grant writer, Anderson has obtained more than \$700,000 in external funding, including an ongoing multi-year grant from the New York State Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities. The grant was used to establish a statewide inclusive recreation resource center that is housed at SUNY Cortland. The mission of the center is to identify Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parks and recreational sites throughout New York with the goal of ultimately providing outdoor recreation opportunities for all state residents.

"Frankly, I cannot think of a single academic in the field who has done as much to make a difference in the lives of persons with disabilities, which has had a ripple effect on their partners, families, friends, and communities," wrote Charles Sylvester, chair of the Department of Physical Education, Health and Recreation at Western Washington University. "When I pause to think of the thousands of students, practitioners, and fellow educators Dr. Anderson's research has informed, inspired, and empowered, well, you cannot help but get the picture of her massive impact."

Anderson, who has served the College since 1998 and was promoted to professor in 2002, currently serves on the New York State Therapeutic Recreation Association State Licensure Committee. She has collaborated with the New York State Recreation and Park Society and the National Recreation and Park Association National Certification Board to ensure student access to the national exam to become a certified park and recreation professional. Through her grant work, Anderson also has collaborated with the I Love New York Tourism Division and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

From 1998 to 2001, Anderson served on the committee that reviews national credentialing standards in the field of therapeutic recreation. For this and her many other contributions to her profession, Anderson was named the recipient of the New York State Therapeutic Recreation Society 2011 Member of the Year Award.

In addition, more than 1,400 outdoor recreation practitioners nationwide have been trained in ways to enhance the quality of life for individuals with all types of disabilities through "Inclusion U," an innovative program established by Anderson through ongoing funding from the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.



Anderson served as chair of SUNY Cortland's Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department for her first 12 years at the College. As chair, she led strategic planning and successful accreditation visits.

As a teacher, Anderson has few peers. She was recognized for her superior teaching with the 2003 Teaching Award at SUNY Cortland for Incorporation of Service Learning and with the 1998 McDermott Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award at the University of North Dakota.

Anderson is the published author of two books, 22 journal articles and book sections on therapeutic and inclusive recreation that were published in refereed journals. She also wrote 55 articles in non-refereed journals.



"Frankly, I cannot think of a single academic in the field who has done as much to make a difference in the lives of persons with disabilities, which has had a ripple effect on their partners, families, friends, and communities."

- Dr. Charles Sylvester

Anderson's 2011 book, *Inclusivity Assessment Tool and User Guide*, is already considered a seminal work within the recreation and leisure studies discipline. Her most recent manuscript, a co-authored book currently in press called *Therapeutic Recreation Practice: A Strengths Approach*, is a much-anticipated addition to the profession.

Anderson serves on the editorial boards of several prestigious journals in her field and has shared her expertise in presentations at national, state, and local conferences. In 2011, she was an invited keynote speaker at both the Canadian Congress for Leisure Research and the Colorado Therapeutic Recreation Association Conference.

"Dr. Anderson's work is resulting in extending the theoretical base of the profession as well as serving as a national model and resource for communities and states to create and manage inclusive opportunities," said Marcia Carter, professor of recreation, park and tourism administration at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities.

Candace Ashton, professor and coordinator of recreation therapy at University of North Carolina, Wilmington, commended Anderson for her leadership and service on the national task force on therapeutic recreation curriculum accreditation, which drafted the standards and student learning outcomes for the profession.

"She is committed to making sure therapeutic recreation students from every university in the nation are provided with the best learning experiences possible as they become our future recreation therapists and have an impact on the lives of people with disabilities," Ashton stated.

Of major significance to the College in the past two years was Anderson's willingness to serve as faculty co-chair for the SUNY Cortland 2012 Middle States Decennial Self-Study and Site Visit. She played a key role in drafting the self-study and educating the campus about the Middle States initiative.


Richard Kendrick, director of SUNY Cortland's Institute for Civic Engagement, said Anderson has an extraordinary ability to integrate service with learning throughout the undergraduate and graduate courses she teaches.

"Dr. Anderson has for many years involved her students in real-world research projects that have assisted numerous community agencies in program evaluation and assessment," Kendrick wrote. "By integrating teaching, service, and scholarship, Dr. Anderson extends the value that she places on service to her students and prepares the next generation for citizenship."

She is active in recreation opportunities within the greater Cortland community and has conducted needs assessment analyses for many local agencies. She has established numerous student internships and volunteer opportunities at the nearby Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture and with Greek Peak Adaptive Snowsports.

She volunteers frequently at sustainability events and for three years has spearheaded the Community Bike Program on campus, which provides free use of bicycles to students, faculty, and staff on campus.


[Originally a SUNY Cortland press release published 8/3/12]

 U.S. Olympians in London who are worried about paying their bills are depending on SUNY Cortland graduate student Angel Bovee, a retired women's boxing champion who once lived out of her car to make ends meet.

The 40-year-old recreation major works with the Team USA Career Program as a specialist for Adecco, a global human resources company that supplies temporary workers to business clients. Adecco partners with the U.S. Olympic Committee for a simple reason: to provide the country's Olympic and Paralympic competitors — both current and retired — with career services and job prospects.

Bovee's full-time work has taken her from a Colorado Springs office to the London Olympics, where she kept a video blog of the career program's success stories. She seems to be the perfect ambassador for Adecco's "Better Work, Better Life" campaign, simply because she understands first-hand the need for it.


"Athletes are competing longer and longer because of the advances in sports medicine," said Bovee, speaking from London. "So a lot of times, when they retire from a sport, they're at least eight years behind their peers as far as career experience goes."

 "It's hard enough to make that transition from the Olympic or Paralympic world to the business world. Then if you don't have any career experience on top of it, it can make that transition even more difficult."

The athletes that Bovee helps aren't the ones on Wheaties boxes. They come from teams that compete at the Winter and Summer Games in nearly every non-marquee sport — from archery to women's ice hockey. She works with people who make their earnings outside of sports, both team captains and competitors who might never stand on the medal winner's podium. Even an Olympian

who competed at the 1972 Summer Games in Munich has used Adecco's services.

"I can't rattle off a specific number (of athletes served), but I always say that for every Michael Phelps, there's probably 100 athletes training that you're never going to hear about," Bovee said. "Everybody thinks if you're an Olympian that you're on a cereal box, and it's just not the case."

 Bovee knows that well; the goal during her boxing career was never an endorsement deal, just a ticket to the first-ever Olympics for her sport.

"(Boxing) was the hardest thing I had done in my life, and I loved the challenge," said Bovee, who started boxing in 1998 and won a national title without a coach at the 2000 U.S. National Golden Gloves Championship. "One day, I walked into this dirty, dingy boxing gym and I never wanted to leave."

She paid her own way to fly herself to fights and managed to find stand-in trainers for her corner of the ring. She won many bouts early on, but rules prevent amateur Olympic-style women's boxers from collecting money winnings. That made it all the more risky when Bovee decided in 2002 to quit a cozy job producing television commercials and take out a \$15,000 loan for living expenses so she could chase her Olympic dream.

Women's boxing, however, had yet to be added to the Olympic program.


For six months in 2002, she lived out of her Plymouth Sundance at a Poughkeepsie train station while she commuted nearly every day to Brooklyn, a prime training destination for boxers. Purchasing train tickets, paying for gym time, and attempting to eat a healthy diet on-the-go added up, but she eventually found work as a personal trainer and an apartment to share.

"That's why I'm so passionate about this program," Bovee said of her work with Adecco. "If I had a Team

USA Career Program that I could have accessed back then — I had the skills and the experience — but it's really hard to find a job where you can disappear for three weeks and go to a training camp in Russia or wherever you have to go for competition."

As it pertains to her success in the ring, the gamble paid off. Bovee's boxing résumé stretches a mile long, highlighted by three national titles and trips to the first two world championships for women's boxing. She's boxed in arenas from Istanbul to Madison Square Garden and even served as a national team captain for the second world competition.

But it wasn't all golden. Rules prevent female boxers from competing internationally after they turn 35 years old, so Bovee's Olympic dream evaporated after the International Olympic Committee rejected the inclusion of women's boxing in the 2004 and 2008 Summer Games. Until this year, when women's boxing made its Olympic debut in London, boxing had been the only Olympic sport without a women's program.

 At 35 and nationally ranked No. 1 in her weight class, Angel Bovee retired in 2008.

The Norwich, N.Y., native received a scholarship to pursue a master's degree in recreation at SUNY Cortland. She settled in Central New York in 2009, her competitive boxing career behind her, and kept herself busy as a graduate assistant with the College's Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department and as an AmeriCorps volunteer at the Lime Hollow Center for Environment and Culture.

"I just tried to keep myself super busy," Bovee said. "In making that transition from being an elite athlete to being back in the world



Angel Bovee won three national titles and made trips to the first two world championships for women's boxing. Today, she works with the Team USA Career Program as a specialist for Adecco, a global human resources company.

again, I think Cortland did me a lot of good."

She submitted her master's thesis on the challenges faced by American female boxers and is currently waiting for its final approval. She also serves on the USA Boxing Board of Directors, a seat she's held since 2006.

In that role, she won one of the most important fights of her life by earning a spot for women's boxing at the London 2012 Olympics.

"For me, it's bittersweet," said Bovee, who celebrated her 40th birthday in London on August 7. "I'm really proud for the sport and I'm a little sad I couldn't compete. But as we all do, I had to redefine my dream and change it."

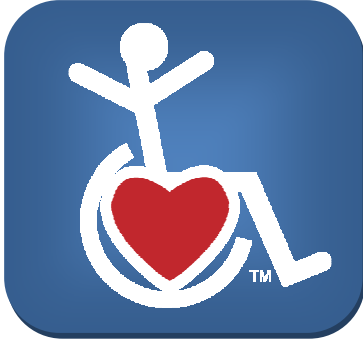
"In a way, it's almost fitting that I'm here today in this capacity."

Angel Bovee, finally, made it to the Olympics.



The Growth and Development of the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center at SUNY Cortland: Looking to a Bright Future

By Dr. Lynn Anderson, CTRS, CPRP, Professor and IRRC Director



In late 2006, the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center (IRRC) was launched at SUNY Cortland with funding from the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC). Under the leadership of Dr. Lynn Anderson, CTRS, CPRP, the Center began its work by hiring staff and graduate assistants, as the development of a state-wide resource center to promote inclusive recreation was a significant task. We were fortunate, in January, to hire Laurie Penney McGee '99, CTRS as a coordinator and Jackie Johnston '08 and Melissa Roeder '07 as graduate assistants.

In our first year, we worked very hard to develop the activities of the Center, based on research and best practices. We conducted focus groups across the state, reviewed the research literature from the past several years, and conducted pilot studies. By the end of our first year, we had developed the *Inclusivity Assessment Tool* and the first version of Inclusion U, the training for foundations of inclusion and the *Inclusivity Assessment Tool*. In that first year, we also developed the Recreation Referral Service, a more individualized service for people with disabilities, and our evaluation and research plans for all our services and activities. We formed our State Advisory Committee and began forming many regional advisory committees, all with the intention of having an ongoing communication channel with those in the state who most need assistance with inclusive recreation. We developed many partnerships around the state that we sustain today.

In our second year, we developed and launched our well-received website, loaded with resources to promote inclusive recreation. Our most important resource, the online recreation database, was launched in 2009. The ever-growing database contains the recreation inclusion information collected by numerous trained *Certified Inclusivity Assessors* around the state and provides accurate, specific, and descriptive information about recreation inclusion to people with disabilities and their families. Dr. Vicki Wilkins, CPRP, a professor in the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department, joined the Center in our second year, along with graduate assistant Whitney Mayer. We continued to develop partnerships with new colleges and universities that offer degree programs in parks, recreation and therapeutic recreation, including Erie Community College, Ithaca College, Kingsborough Community College, Lehman College, Onondaga Community College, Paul Smiths College, St. Joseph's College, SUNY



Cortland, and Tompkins Cortland Community College. Presently, nine colleges statewide have incorporated Inclusion U into their recreation degree programs. We continue to forge more partnerships with universities, with the goal of having every college student entering the parks and recreation field as a *Certified Inclusivity Assessor*, ready to promote accessibility and inclusion in their parks, community centers, sports programs, gyms, and the like.

In our third year, we welcomed graduate assistant Brandi Crowe '10. We continued to refine all our activities, grow the database, and train an ever growing army of *Certified Inclusivity Assessors*. We continued to work with more universities and other partners, including the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Office Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, I Love New York Tourism, the New York State Recreation and Park Society, and the New York State Therapeutic Recreation Association.

Through continued funding from the DDPC, in our fourth and fifth year, we developed a new half-day training in collaboration with the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. This training, called Recreation Inclusion Tips and Tools (RITT), focuses on helping those who work in direct service with people with disabilities, like Medicaid Service Coordinators or case managers, facilitate inclusive recreation. A key focus has been to help people learn about the online recreation database and how it could help people with disabilities plan quality recreation in the most inclusive setting. In the last year, we have also begun offering Inclusion U on a contractual basis to outside organizations, which has been very successful. In our fourth year, we welcomed graduate assistant Amanda Lengauer '11, and in our fifth year, graduate assistant Katie Wryk. We "graduated" our 1,000th *Certified Inclusivity Assessor* from Inclusion U, and that number continues to grow. The Inclusive Recreation Resource Center said goodbye to Laurie Penney McGee '99,

who served for five years as a full-time project coordinator. Laurie was an important part of the growth and development of the Center - her cheerful, positive presence helped build a multitude of partnerships and contacts for the Center.

[Continued on page 21.]

IRRC *[Continued from page 20.]*

The Inclusive Recreation Resource Center is now in its sixth year. We welcomed Deanna Moore '11 as a full-time AmeriCorps member with the Center, and hope to add a second AmeriCorps member in the fall (*see related story from Deanna on this page about her experiences*). The IRRC has grown and developed from an idea to a thriving center. Through our evaluation data, we know that people learn more about inclusion and have a more positive attitude toward inclusion. We know that Inclusion U, the website, and the online database are regularly used, well received, and evaluated positively. We know that recreation agencies have made changes to become more open and inclusive to all. We continue to involve undergraduate and graduate students in our work and as a key focus of the Center. Hundreds of students have been impacted by our work.

We are now ready for the next phase of growth for the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center. Over the next year and half, we are developing Inclusion U as an online training. By having Inclusion U web-based, anyone anywhere will be able to complete the training, learn about inclusion, how to use the *Inclusivity Assessment Tool*, and become a *Certified Inclusivity Assessor*. We will be able to broaden our reach, make our work more accessible to a wider audience, and do so in a more sustainable manner. At the same time, we will continue to deliver Inclusion U in person for those who contract with us and will continue to work closely with colleges and universities. The database will become more populated, more automated, and hopefully, more useful to those who need it most.

As we move toward the future and the next phase of development, we plan to become more global, not just through Inclusion U Online, but also through work with other countries. We are in the planning phases of an exciting project and class with the Belize Zoo (*see related story on page 13*). Vicki Wilkins and Lynn Anderson traveled to Belize this summer to work with the staff on accessibility. Students will take a class in the spring to learn about and implement accessibility at the zoo.

The Inclusive Recreation Resource Center - truly helping all people play wherever they choose! Please visit our website at www.nysirrc.org.



AmeriCorps Member Helps the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center

By Deanna Moore '11



Having the opportunity to come back to SUNY Cortland to work with the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center has been a true honor. While taking classes to earn my Bachelor's Degree in Therapeutic Recreation, I did minimal work with the IRRC. However, the work I did and the information I learned through the trainings continued to impact every aspect of my life post-graduation. I frequently found myself striving even harder to create physically and socially inclusive environments. Maybe it's because I was going into the field of therapeutic recreation, but advocating for inclusion was always high on my priority list.

When I was contacted by Dr. Lynn Anderson that there was an AmeriCorps position available with the IRRC, there was no way I was going to turn it down. There is no better way to give back to a center that gave so much to me than to work on behalf of it and pass on the inclusive torch to others. The information provided in trainings and on the database is truly invaluable. These past few months, I have met amazing people and have heard some great stories. I am truly grateful to be able to come back and work with the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center as well as with everyone in the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department.



*AmeriCorps State and National provides grants to local and national organizations to recruit, place, and supervise AmeriCorps members. These organizations are located around the country and consist of community-based organizations, public agencies, institutions of higher education, and many more agencies. SUNY Cortland is presently supervising AmeriCorps members throughout the community and also on campus. The SUNY Cortland 2012 AmeriCorps term had a little over 40 members; 3 were associated with the RPLS Department (**Deanna Moore '11** with IRRC, **Adam Campbell '11** with Greek Peak Adaptive Snowsports, and **James Cantatore** with the Community Bike Project). Members are either working full-time, half-time, or quarter-time. Members who are working full-time are required to work a total of 1700 hours by completion of their term while receiving a modest living allowance. Half-time members work a total of 900 hours while quarter-time members complete 300 hours. Upon completing their AmeriCorps term, members receive an education award to pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans.*



Where Are They Now?



Sharon Spencer, senior, B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation, is completing her internship this summer at Cortland Regional Medical Center Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility. She and the Therapeutic Recreation Department staff — all SUNY Cortland therapeutic recreation alumni — participated in a 5K Corporate Challenge race together. “It was a great way to get to know the recreation department staff and build a team spirit!” wrote Sharon. Pictured from left: **Tanya Burnett '09**, **Amy Edwards McCracken '03**, Sharon Spencer (intern), **Jennifer Sylstra '06**.

Outward Bound's Rocky Mountain Program presented **Jonathan Wetzel '11** with the *Indefatigable Spirit Award* “for best attitude in the face of challenge” last August.

Shane Brown '09 has been working at JM Murray in Cortland as a Team Leader for the past four years. He was recently recognized with the *Shannon Hammond Award* for his team spirit. In particular, his supervisors noted his dedication to consumers, enthusiasm, motivation, eagerness, and professionalism. For example, when a situation caused staff to question a solution to a problem, Shane responded, “As long as you put the individual first, your decision will be a good one.” Incidentally, **Roberta Gabriel '89, M '10** was a runner-up for the award.

Gerry Tschinkel '85 is the new Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Hunter Mountain after working many years in the ski industry, including 23 years with one of the largest outdoor media and event marketing companies in the nation.



Rhonda Jacobs '01 is serving in her ninth year as SUNY Cortland's Assistant Director of the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education, residing at Antlers during the summer months.

Jeremy Norsen '11, a recreation programmer for Loudoun County, VA, is slowly getting used to the warmer weather of the south!

Anne Geary '02 continues to teach/coach at the middle and high school levels in Sherburne, NY.

Timothy O'Connell '90 was recently appointed Chair of the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Kristy Tapke Sullivan '92 M '03 is in the process of trying to convert an old sugar shanty on her farm property in Carthage, NY, into a small nature center. She's been finding it very challenging to navigate all the legal, zoning, and insurance aspects!

Jim Cashen '84 is the Director of Recreation for the Center for Discovery in Harris, NY. This summer he has been supervising intern **Megan Ellison**, senior, B.S. in Recreation.

Celeste Bernardo-Dunn '85 was recently appointed Superintendent of Lowell National Historic Park in Massachusetts. She also currently serves on the National Park Service Education Council. Since beginning her career with the National Park Service in 1986, she has worked at many sites, including Fire Island National Seashore (NY), Point Reyes National Seashore (CA), Independence National Historical Park (PA), San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park (CA), Golden Gate National Recreation Area (CA), Boston National Historical Park (MA), New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park (MA), and Sagamore Hill National Historic Site (NY).



Annette Havens '06, CTRS is employed by The Centers at St. Camillus in Syracuse, NY. She has been supervising intern **Hannah Galloway**, senior, B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation, this summer.

Barb Crosby '04 is also supervising an intern this summer: **Ethan Taylor**, senior, B.S. in Recreation Management. Barb is the Special Events Coordinator for Glenora Wine Cellars in Dundee, NY.

The Town of Dryden, NY, Recreation Department has two alumni at the helm. **Melissa Bianconi, M '11** is the recreation director, and **Andrew Pierce '97** is the recreation coordinator.

David Ellis '09 is serving as the Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Southport, NY. If that doesn't keep him busy enough, raising twins does!

Joe Halper '52, who matriculated at SUNY Cortland in 1948 as one of three original recreation majors under Harlan “Gold” Metcalf, recently coauthored his second recreation administration textbook. He credits both Gold and the college as establishing an ethical base for him in the book's dedication. This octogenarian was recently appointed to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission by the city's mayor.

Jessica Krueger Middleton '06 earned a master's degree in general and special education from St. John's Fisher College. After marrying a man from her hometown, she moved to Burlington, VT, and landed “an amazing job” as a special educator at the Sustainability Academy in the Burlington School District.

Zachary Cederstrom '12 is employed by Apex Mountain School in Avon, CO. He is actively seeking interns who want an opportunity to work and learn at this full-service mountaineering company, which offers guided activities, classes, corporate team building, and group events in all kinds of mountaineering disciplines.

Caleb VanSickle '10 has spent the last two years working in Utah after completing his internship there. Depending on the season, you can find him working on trails or instructing adaptive skiing and snowboarding. Caleb also did wilderness therapy for a season. He has returned to Camp Huntington the last two summers to staff OEP.

Chelsea Smith '12 landed her first job as the new Events Coordinator for Arbor Commercial Mortgage, LLC. After a month on the job, she wrote, “I already had my first event which was the Long Island Marcum Workplace Challenge, a race at Jones Beach. I have a few meetings coming up, I'm planning three holiday parties in different cities, and a Client Appreciation Vacation in Miami. And that's just in the next three months.” She recently completed her internship with **Karen Caccese Matson '99** of Company 20, Inc., in New York City.

In Memoriam

Chad Lundwall '06 died unexpectedly on November 27, 2011. He was a firefighter with the New York Fire Department, Truck 142, Queens; and a Jones Beach lifeguard for twelve years. A talented athlete, Chad will always be remembered for his positive outlook.

Kevin Pieluszcak passed away on October 3, 2011, following a four-year battle with sarcoma. He had a great love for many outdoor activities and had been pursuing a Master's degree in Recreation with a concentration in Environmental and Outdoor Education.

SUNY Cortland Recreation, Parks & Leisure Studies Alumni Profile

Please take a minute to complete the "Alumni Profile" form. Mail or email it back to us with a photo (if possible). We love hearing from you!

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|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Name: | | | Year Graduated: | |
| Degree: | <input type="checkbox"/> B.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> B.S. Ed. | <input type="checkbox"/> M.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> M.S. Ed. |
| Other Degrees Earned: | | | | |
| Date: | Degree: | Field: | Institution: | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Certifications: (check all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> CPRP | <input type="checkbox"/> CTRS | Others: | |
| Present/Most Recent Position (job title): | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time | | | | |
| Brief description of duties: | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Agency and Address: | | | Type of Agency (e.g., therapeutic recreation, outdoor recreation, recreation management, etc.): | |
| | | | | |
| First position after graduating from Cortland: | | | | |
| Title: | Agency: | Location: | | |
| | | | | |
| Other Positions: | | | | |
| Title: | Agency: | Location: | | |
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| Fondest memory of Cortland: |
| What the Cortland degree did for me: |
| A word of advice to current Cortland Recreation majors: |
| Topics on which you would be willing to be contacted by students: |

Note: The department assumes that, by completing this form, you are authorizing this information to be shared with current and prospective students and with others interested in our department and programs.

If you are also willing to have your name in a database of alumni and/or internship sites, which present students may contact, please provide as much of the following additional information you are willing to share.

Phone: (Work) (____) _____ (Home) (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Preferred means for students to contact you: _____

I am interested in mentoring an intern. Please have Dr. Vicki Wilkins contact me about the possibility of being part of the Internship Database.

Your responses and contributions to this newsletter are welcome. If you have news you'd like included in next year's newsletter, please include a hard copy of the information you'd like to share with this Profile.

Please return to: *(with a photo, if possible) (or email the form and photo to rpls@cortland.edu)*

**Department of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies
 SUNY Cortland, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045.
 Fax: 607/753-5982; Voice: 607/753-4941. Thank you!**