



SUMMER BULLETIN

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State University of New York College at Cortland

A publication for the campus community

Seth Asumah Promoted to Rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor

Seth N. Asumah, an 18-year member of the Political Science Department, was awarded the title of distinguished teaching professor by the SUNY Board of Trustees at its May 31 meeting in Albany, N.Y.

Asumah becomes the 31st SUNY Cortland faculty member to be honored with a distinguished, distinguished teaching or distinguished service professor title since SUNY began awarding the recognition in 1973.

The distinguished teaching professor, a rank above that of full professor, is conferred for outstanding teaching at the graduate, undergraduate or professional levels.

Teaching mastery must be demonstrated for at least 10 years at a SUNY institution.

A native of Ghana, Asumah is chair of the African American Studies Department,

which will become the Africana Studies Department in the fall. He is a renowned scholar of African regimes and national development as well as multicultural issues in America. A prolific author, he has co-edited or co-written seven books, 16 book chapters and 14 scholarly articles.

In course evaluations, students have described Asumah as an exemplary teacher who stimulates thought-provoking discussions on complex issues. Asumah, who has been listed in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, has taught numerous courses ranging from Politics of Developing Nation-States to Soccer: Politics, Law and Culture.

"Dr. Asumah challenged me like no other professor that I encountered while at Cortland," one former student wrote. "When he assigned a text, he encouraged

the class to exhaust the information. He challenged us to produce scholarly material worthy of publication. He set very high standards for his students and demanded that we meet those standards — and we did. Now that I am an educator, I try to challenge my students in the same way."

Asumah's instructional approach, including small-group work, class projects, various kinds of writing assignments and collaborative learning activities, is designed to help his students develop a love for learning. Describing his teaching philosophy, Asumah said he incorporates what he calls "lecture-discussions" that are "aimed at using the student's learning style to enhance his or her acquisition of knowledge." In his courses, he arranges his classroom in either a circle or horseshoe, depending on the class size, to encourage conversation and interactive learning.

"Every student is capable of learning if given a chance to do so," Asumah said. "The student is key to education, so the learner comes first, not the subject matter per se."

While at SUNY Cortland, Asumah won four teaching awards, including the Rozanne Brooks Dedicated Teacher Award. He also has received \$46,000 in grants for projects such as helping develop and direct the Summer Institute for Infusing Diversity into the Curriculum, which has been held annually at the College since 2004.

Asumah also worked on a four-year project funded by a \$120,000 grant from

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Kathleen Beney Will Direct Field Placement Office

Kathleen M. Beney of Syracuse, N.Y., was named director of the Field Placement Office, effective on July 16.

Reporting to the new dean of the School of Education, Gerald Porter, Beney will replace Rita Rosenberg-Barber, who is retiring, having served as director since 2004 and as interim director from 2003-04.

Beney will oversee the department that places the College's students in pre-kindergarten through high school classrooms for field experience and student teaching. She will share information with the school districts, canvassing them for placement opportunities and providing support to field coordinators and supervisors. She will establish partnerships with schools, ensure compliance with the mandates of New York State, the State University of New York and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Beney will coordinate clinical internship experiences for the health science and recreation and leisure studies programs.

"Ms. Beney brings to the Field Placement Office a wealth of educational experiences, as a public school teacher, a college faculty member, a health practitioner and department chair," Rosenberg-Barber said. "These diverse professional experiences are similar to the positions of the many individuals she will be interfacing with on a daily basis. I believe that this speaks highly to the level of credibility that she will bring to this leadership position."

Since 2000, Beney has chaired the Department of Arts and Sciences at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, and holds a joint appointment in the university's Department of Respiratory Therapy Education. The Arts and Sciences Department supports both required and elective liberal arts courses for students in eight health professional departments in the College of Health Professions and the College of Nursing. She also has served as the university's coordinator of institutional assessment since 2001.

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Bitterbaum Will Serve On NCAA Committee

President Erik J. Bitterbaum has been selected to serve on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III Financial Aid Committee. His appointment is effective immediately and will last through the close of the 2010 NCAA Convention.

The NCAA Division III Financial Aid Committee is responsible for the review and consideration of the Division III bylaws that govern financial aid and oversee the annual financial aid reporting process. The committee consists of 12 members, including financial aid administrators, presidents and other school administrators, and reports to the NCAA Management Council on a regular basis.

Bitterbaum's commitment includes two or three in-person, two-day meetings and approximately eight conference calls per year.

Joe Baldarotta Appointed Men's Ice Hockey Coach

Joe Baldarotta has been named the men's ice hockey head coach. He replaces Tom Cranfield, who stepped down in April after six seasons to accept the assistant director of athletics (compliance/scheduling) position at the College.

Baldarotta brings 16 years of collegiate head coaching experience to Cortland, all at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He posted the most wins in Wisconsin-Stevens Point history. His 265 wins rank 21st all-time among Division III coaches. Baldarotta led the Pointers to the 1993 NCAA Division III national championship, earning American Hockey Coaches Association national coach of the year honors. The program also finished as national runner-up in 1992 and 1998 and captured three Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) regular-season titles and two playoff crowns under Baldarotta, who was a four-time NCHA Coach of the Year.

Prior to accepting the head coaching position at Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Baldarotta was an assistant for the Pointers for five seasons, helping the team to three straight Division III national titles. Before Wisconsin-Stevens Point, he served as an assistant coach and head coach at Madison West High School. As the team's head coach for four seasons, Baldarotta won the 1983 Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association State Championship, earning Wisconsin State High School Coach of the Year honors.

A highly regarded camp instructor, Baldarotta has been involved in numerous off-season camps and clinics and twice has been a member of the coaching staff for the U.S. Olympic Festival.

A native of Madison, Wis., Baldarotta competed in ice hockey at Wisconsin-Stevens Point and received his bachelor's degree from the University in 1989. Baldarotta and his wife, Cindy, have a son, Nicolo.

Summer Bulletin 2007 Schedule

Issue Date	Deadline
#3 Monday, July 2	Tuesday, June 26
#4 Monday, July 23	Tuesday, July 17



The *Summer Bulletin* is published by the Publications and Electronic Media Office at State University of New York College at Cortland and distributed to faculty, staff and students. The *Summer Bulletin* contains official College announcements, news reports and notices of campus events.

The *Summer Bulletin* may be viewed online at www.cortland.edu/images/bulletin.pdf. Information for the *Summer Bulletin* should be sent to Wendy Brooks, editor, Publications and Electronic Media Office, Brockway Hall, Room 207-F, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045.

The next *Summer Bulletin* will be published Monday, July 2. The copy deadline for that issue is 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26. All articles must be typewritten.

Articles of more than 50 words should be submitted in Microsoft Word format by e-mail to bulletin@cortland.edu.

Asumah Promoted to Distinguished Teaching Professor

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the U.S. State Department to develop a political science department at the University of Nis in Serbia and Montenegro. As the diversity pedagogy expert, Asumah lectured at the summer school in Nis on political science, ethnic struggle and diversity issues.

His most recent book, *Prisons and Punishment: Reconsidering Global Penalty*, an anthology co-edited with Mechthild Nagel, philosophy, was published this year. Other books he co-edited or co-wrote include: *Diversity, Multiculturalism and Social Justice* (2002); *The Africana Human Condition and Global Dimensions* (2002); *Educating the Black Child in the Black Independent School* (2001); *Issues in Africa and the African Diaspora in the 21st Century* (2001); and *Issues in Multiculturalism: Cross-National Perspectives* (1995), which was revised in 1999.

Asumah's scholarly reputation earned him a three-year term on the Editorial Board of SUNY Press. The appointment allowed him to continue to develop his scholarship as his responsibilities included reviewing books for the publisher.

An internationally licensed and recognized soccer referee, Asumah is now working on a book-length manuscript, *Kickers and Hooligans: Soccer, Hegemony, and Misogyny*, a project that has led him to travel widely to conduct his research.

Asumah grew up in Accra, Ghana, and Tottenham, England, and attended high schools in both countries. He came to the United States to attend SUNY Oneonta, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business economics and studio arts. He received a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in government and international relations from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa.

He began his teaching career in 1987 as an assistant professor of political science at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y. He joined the faculty at SUNY Cortland as an assistant professor in 1989, became an associate professor in 1995 and a professor in 2002.

Asumah lives in Cortlandville, N.Y. He has one daughter, Tasha, a graduate student in clinical psychology at Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey.

Learn How to Navigate the Online Academic Catalogs

The Publications and Electronic Media Office invites the campus community to attend a demonstration and information session that will highlight the features of the new, online academic catalogs.

The session will be approximately 20-30 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer period. Employees may choose to attend one of the following sessions:

Summer Sessions

- Monday, June 11, at 10:30 a.m. in Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge
- Wednesday, July 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the Park Center Hall of Fame Room

Fall Sessions

- Monday, Sept. 17, at 3:30 p.m. in the Park Center Hall of Fame Room
- Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 3:30 p.m. in Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge

To register for one of the sessions, contact the Publications and Electronic Media Office at ext. 2519 or at lundbergp@cortland.edu.

Faculty-Staff Activities

Michael Toggia, psychology, has been informed that his manuscript, "Veridial and False Pictorial Memory in Individuals With and Without Mental Retardation," has been accepted for publication in the *American Journal of Mental Retardation*. His co-authors are Michael Carlin, Allison Jakway and Kate Sullivan of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Yvonne Wakeford of Tufts University, and Lisa Hasel of Iowa State University.

News Briefs

Faculty Women's Association Plans Brunch for July 12

The Faculty Women's Association will hold its 40th annual summer brunch from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 12.

The brunch will be held in Bess Koval's garden, 11 Levysdale Park, which is located off Tompkins Street in Cortland.

All current or retired SUNY Cortland women faculty are invited, as well as spouses of current or retired male faculty and widows of former faculty members. New members are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Koval at (607) 753-8413 or at bkoyal@twcny.rr.com.

'Anastasia' to Be Performed June 22-24 in Lab Theatre

The Performing Arts Department will present the musical play "Anastasia" on June 22-24 in the Dowd Fine Arts Lab Theatre. Performances are at 7 p.m. on June 22 and 23 with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. on June 24.

Tickets will be on sale at the door and are \$5 for the general public and \$3 for students, senior citizens and children. The musical is appropriate for all ages and highly recommended for families.

This stage version of the popular 1997 animated musical film is about the Romanoff Princess Anastasia who does not remember her past and travels from Russia to Paris to seek her grandmother who can tell her the truth. The film's score by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens will be supplemented with new songs by Brian Franco, a Cortland High School graduate and SUNY Potsdam student. The production is co-directed by Susie Carr and Joshua Williams.

For more information, contact Williams at 279-4666.

New York-Bound Musical at Dowd Theatre on June 30

The new musical "Sunfish" is receiving a workshop production on Saturday, June 30, in the Dowd Fine Arts Theatre as part of its preparation for a New York opening.

The performance, at 7 p.m., is free and open to the public and is recommended for all the family.

The musical, with book and lyrics by Michael L. Cooper and book and music by Hyeyoung Kim, is based on a Korean folk tale in which a young woman goes to fantastic lengths to restore her blind father's sight. Her magical adventures take her to the bottom of the ocean and beyond. The musical has already won the distinguished Jonathan Larson Award and the authors have received both the Daryl Roth and the Daniel Marshall Multicultural Awards for Musical Theatre.

The workshop production at SUNY is directed by Darren Katz and produced by Eva Price, a New York producer who has presented "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" on Broadway and "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" off-Broadway.

For more information, contact Kevin Halpin, performing arts, at halpink@cortland.edu.

Admissions Open House 2007-08 Dates Announced

The Admissions Office has announced its 2007-08 Open House dates.

The Fall 2007 Open Houses will be held on Monday, Oct. 8, and Monday, Nov. 12. A Spring 2008 Open House will be held on Saturday, April 5.

For more information, contact the Admissions Office at ext. 4711.

Beney Named Director of Field Placement Office

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"My professional life has been devoted to teaching and learning and to supporting and improving the quality of teaching and learners for many different educational settings," said Beney, who first became acquainted with SUNY Cortland as an adjunct professor in the Health Education Department from 1988-92, when her primary responsibilities focused on supervising student teachers and teaching courses.

An assistant professor at Upstate Medical, Beney teaches courses in the areas of educational psychology, teaching methods, curriculum planning and research methods. She was honored by SUNY Upstate with its 2006 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Beney has chaired the Campus Assessment Committee since 2000 and serves on the College of Health Professions' John B. Henry Award Committee and the Colleges of Health Professions and Nursing Curriculum Committee.

Beney served from 2002-04 in a two-year, rotating appointment as the College of Health Professions' assistant dean, and also served the institution from 1991-1992 as an adjunct faculty member and from 1992-2000 as an assistant professor in the Department of Cardiorespiratory Sciences.

From 1996-2000, she was an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Respiratory Care at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, N.Y. She directed the Alcohol Drug Abuse Prevention Education Program for Onondaga-Cortland-Madison Board of Cooperative Educational Services in Syracuse from 1987-89.

Beney also served as a health educator in the Liverpool (N.Y.) and Lafayette (N.Y.) Central School Districts.

She is the author of numerous journal articles and abstracts and has delivered many presentations in her area of knowledge. Beney has served since 1999 on the New York State Society for Respiratory Care's Education Committee and since 1997 has judged the Eckerd Drug Quiz Show of the New York State Regional and Finals competitions.

A native of Niagara Falls, N.Y., Beney earned an associate's degree in respiratory therapy from SUNY Upstate Medical Center. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in health education from Syracuse University. Beney completed post-graduate studies in biology, embryology, physics and chemistry from SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse University and LeMoyne College. She is pursuing a doctorate from Syracuse University's School of Education.

Coming Events

Monday, June 11

Information Session: "Features of the New, Online Academic Catalogs," Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge, 10:30-11:30 a.m. To register, call ext. 2519 or send an e-mail to lundbergp@cortland.edu.

Workshop: "Basic Survey Development and Analysis," Merle Canfield, institutional research and assessment, Memorial Library Faculty Training Center, 1-4 p.m.

Friday, June 22

\$ Musical: "Anastasia," Dowd Fine Arts Lab Theatre. 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 23

\$ Musical: "Anastasia," Dowd Fine Arts Center Lab Theatre. 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 24

Musical: "Anastasia," Dowd Fine Arts Center Lab Theatre. 2 p.m.

Monday, June 25

Workshop: Assessment Web-Page Development, Merle Canfield, institutional research and assessment, Memorial Library Faculty Training Center, 1-3 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27

Workshop: Creating an Online Survey Using SurveySelect, Merle Canfield, institutional research and assessment, Memorial Library Faculty Training Center, 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, June 30

Musical: "Sunfish," Dowd Fine Arts Theatre, 7 p.m.



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