

March 2013

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President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll Member With Distinction



Carnegie Foundation Elective Classification in Community Engagement



President's Community Service Honor Roll

SUNY Cortland earned a spot on the 2013 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. It is our seventh consecutive year (and our third year in a row With Distinction). We have been on the Honor Roll every year since its inception. This year's application, highlighting accomplishments for the 2011-2012 academic year, documented over 180,000 hours of service by our students through volunteering, service-learning, and internships. We highlighted six projects through which SUNY

Cortland is connected to its surrounding communities, including SUNY Cortland AmeriCorps, Migrant Education Opportunity Program, Emergency Medical Squad, Authentic Service-Learning Connection to Whitney Point, Children's Museum, and Literacy Master's Program. This is an institutional award for the work our campus does collectively across all divisions, schools, departments and programs. We appreciate the campus' continued support of our civic engagement activities.

Diversity, Equity and Social Justice Student Conference

SUNY Cortland's Institute for Civic Engagement is pleased to announce its participation in the 4th annual SUNY Cortland Student Conference on Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice. The conference, organized by SUNY Cortland's Office of Multicultural Life and Diversity, will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

around educational policy, race theory, and hip hop culture.

This student-led conference allows individuals to both research and present from a wide range of disciplines that embody the core values of diversity, equity, and social justice.

Dr. Paula Ioanide is also an assistant professor at the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity at Ithaca College. She teaches courses that focus on comparative race and ethnicity studies, race and sexual politics, immigration, prisons, and social justice movements. Her research focuses on ways cultural representations, policies, and practices cultivate public fantasies and feelings that favor gendered racism in the post-civil rights era.

In addition to the student and faculty presentations, there will be two keynote speakers; Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell and Dr. Paula Ioanide.

The Institute for Civic Engagement is excited to be facilitating three workshops as part of the leadership track of the conference. The presentations will focus on leadership development using the Social Change Model of leadership.

Dr. Sean Eversley Bradwell is an assistant professor at Ithaca College and co-coordinator for the African Diaspora Studies minor in the Center for the Study of Culture, Race and Ethnicity. His research and teaching interests revolve

If you would like more information, please go to SUNY Cortland's Multicultural Student Diversity Office's Web site: <http://www2.cortland.edu/offices/multicultural/student-diversity-conference.dot>

New President's Recognitions for Engaged Learning Endorsed by Faculty Senate

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013, the faculty senate endorsed two proposals for creating President's Recognitions for Engaged Learning and Leadership in Service-Learning and in Undergraduate Research.

The Recognition in Service-Learning is designed to help students "live" the college's mission statement through a sequence of progressively more complex and challenging community projects that help students identify, clarify, and practice civic values. Any student, regardless of major, may apply for the program.

The President's Recognition for Engaged Learning and Leadership designation in Service-Learning will be administered by the Institute for Civic Engagement's Office of Service-learning. The Office of Service-Learning will work with an advisory committee and a group of faculty mentors to recruit qualified students for participation in the program and to

provide participating students with support and guidance for completing the program.

The President's Recognition for Engaged Learning and Leadership designation in Undergraduate Research will be administered by the Undergraduate Research Council. The council will work with a group of faculty mentors to identify qualified students who are interested in participating in the program and to provide participating students with support and guidance for completing the program.

Those students who have successfully achieved the designations in *Service-Learning* or *Undergraduate Research* will have those designations added to their official college transcript. Those who earn the Service-Learning designation will be recognized at the annual Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards and Scholarships event. Those students who earn the Undergraduate Research designation may be recognized at the annual Honor's Convocation.

Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards Nominations

The Institute for Civic Engagement is still accepting nominations for this year's Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards.

SUNY Cortland students, faculty, staff, and people in the greater Cortland community can nominate another person, a group, or themselves. Last year, twenty-five students, two student groups, three community members, and five members of the faculty and staff received the Leadership in Civic Engagement Award.

To nominate someone or yourself for the Leadership in Civic Engagement award, fill out the nomination form found on our website: www.cortland.edu/get-involved.

The deadline to make nominations is Friday, March 15, 2013.

The Leadership in Civic Engagement Award ceremony will be held Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in Jacobus Lounge (Brockway Hall).

If you have any questions about the nomination process you can e-mail getinvolved@cortland.edu or call 753-2298.

League 56 Academy Expands

Bullying's effects, according to a study published this February in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, can persist ten years after the bullying ended (<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/02/20>). To help minimize those effects, students in *Programming: Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies* (REC 280) and *Leadership in Programming: Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies* (REC 380) participate in a growing program that helps reduce bullying.



The pilot program began in spring 2009, after administrators at Barry Elementary School asked Assistant Professor Amy Shellman and former faculty member Eddie Hill for help in reducing some students' disruptive behavior. The program, called *League 56*, helps 5th- and 6th-graders promote positive youth development through character- and social skills-development programming.

Professor Shellman says that REC 280 and REC 380 students are “the front-line people: They plan and facilitate activities, working toward the specific outcomes of trust and effective communication in the children.” Working in groups of two or three, students develop and practice themed activities that are based on one of seven resiliency traits.

As they do so, students refine their programming and leadership skills, and they build their confidence in their ability to create and conduct effective programs. They do so through activities such as bi-weekly reflective essays and end-of-semester focus groups in which they assess their application of course content to the after-school program.

Shellman notes that “students are surprised at how much they enjoyed working on the program. The children, especially, win the students over.” Each week, the children enthusiastically welcome their college friends. At the end of the semester, the students present each child with an award that is tailored to him or her.

REC 280 and 380 students now partner with 4th- and 5th-graders at Parker (P.L.A.Y.) and Randall Elementary Schools (Club 45). The program has grown to incorporate skills such as problem solving, cooperation, and resolving conflict in a positive way.



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Since the launch of this set of programs, 215 students have devoted 30 hours in each of the two courses, for a total of 6,450 service-learning hours. More importantly, about 300 children have benefitted from the programs.

Bolstered by strong positive feedback from teachers, parents, and children, the program continues to evolve. In the fall 2012 semester, for example, Barry Elementary School's principal asked that her 6th-grade students have the opportunity to visit the SUNY Cortland campus. The SUNY Cortland Recreation Association Club and the Institute for Civic Engagement supported this event, called "A Day in the Life of a College Student."

REC students arranged the event, which included a scavenger hunt, eating lunch at Neubig, a mini-lecture and Coca Cola experiment at Sperry Hall, and a visit to Memorial Library. While at Lusk Field House, students asked children what they would like to do; the children replied,

"Meet your principal!" They did: President Bitterbaum chatted with the 45 children.



As a result of this event (which will now be a regular part of the program), the REC students received letters of thanks from the students. One indication of the program's success is in a child's letter. He wrote, "Before, I wasn't thinking about college, but now I really want to go!"



Sunday, April 21: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cortland Blooms, a Community Festival and Green Fair, will feature; exhibits from local businesses, groups, and organizations, musicians, artists, a spring craft & gift bazaar, farmers' market, children's activities, an alternative energy fair, and more.

Location: The County Office Building gymnasium and the Cortland Corset Building.

For more information go to:
sustainablecortland.org
or Facebook/CortlandBlooms

Upcoming Events

**Monday, March 25 and Tuesday, March 26
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

End-of-Semester Reflections on Civic Engagement
(Exhibition Lounge)

Sunday, April 14: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The 4th Annual Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice Student Conference

Thursday, April 18, 4:30-5:30 pm:

Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards
(Jacobus Lounge)