

2014 Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards and Scholarships

May 2014

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



Carnegie Foundation
Elective Classification in
Community Engagement



On Thursday, April 24, twenty-six SUNY Cortland students, three community members, eight faculty and staff members, one community group, and the students of two campus classes received Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards. Also awarded were ten scholarships. In addition, the participants in the 2013-2014 Judson H. Taylor Leadership House program were recognized, as were the Learning (In) Deed learning community's top two students, each of whom won a Peter F. Eisenhardt First Year Learning Community Scholarship.

These college awards recognize exemplary service in support of community agencies, social change, and civic engagement by SUNY Cortland students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members.

Student recipients are involved with a wide variety of activities, including leadership roles in raising funds for the Wickwire Pool Project, Loaves and Fishes, and the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Others volunteer in local afterschool programs, at the Cortland Youth Bureau, and at the YWCA's Bridges for Kids program. Students tutor and mentor children by involving them in physical activities that improve health and help build self-esteem.

The vast majority of volunteer activity supports Cortland County residents, the public school system, and many human service organizations.

Student recipients were:

Michael Adams, Ryan Aldrich, Danielle Ben-Horin, Samantha Bindrim, Kelli



Public Relations Director Fred Pierce presents Boyan Cox with her Civic Engagement Award and Lavelle Scholarship.

Carsten, Crissana Christie, Boyan Cox, Courtney Crisci, Emily Diliberto, Michael Doris, Leah Gelblat, Lauren Guardino, Sylvia Hahn Berman, Melissa Howard, Elise Konikoff, Nicole LeFreniere, Jenna Mrozinski, Sarah Nickerson, Anthony Schiotis, Kayla Sheldrick, Amanda Sibbitts, Lorena Silva, Abigail Stewart, Nicholas Vachon, Jeffrey VanZant, and Patrick Viscome.

Faculty and Staff recipients were:

Connie Biviano, Registered Nurse; Philip Buckenmeyer, Associate Professor and Chair, Kinesiology; Dr. Devin Coppola, Physician; Karen Downey, Assistant Professor, Chemistry; Paula Giroux, Nurse Practitioner; Dr. Caroline Kaltefleiter, Associate Professor, Communications Studies, and Coordinator, Women's Studies; Catherine A. Smith, Health Educator, and Sandra Wohlleber, Assistant Director, Campus Activities and Greek Affairs.

Community member recipients were:

Heather Marzullo, a 5th Grade teacher at Hughes Elementary School, Syracuse, NY; Kirsten Parker, WIC/Family

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Service-Learning Vignettes: Emotional Development and Leadership Skills

Service-learning in physical education courses is producing exciting gains in students' emotional development and leadership skills.

For example, students in Professor Diane Craft's *Dance and Individuals with Physical Disabilities* (PED 305) course learn to overcome shyness and increase their self-confidence. One of her students wrote that a senior citizen whom she was helping had confessed that before the student's first visit, "I was shaking in my boots, not knowing" what to expect.

Students in PED 305 partner with the Madison/Cortland ARC, helping as many as fifty people each year. Students usually work in pairs with five adults at a time. They learn to work collaboratively as they individualize and conduct lessons, and as they supervise a Halloween dance at which about 40 adults with physical disabilities celebrate their improved mobility.

That PED 305 student's reflection described discussions during those events that helped change emotions and perceptions. Students and their partners learned about each other's lives, such as the music they enjoyed.

By the end of the semester, adults said that they were often looking out their windows, waiting for the students to arrive. The feeling was mutual: As one student wrote of her ARC partners, "I miss them."

Through PED 305 and other physical education service-learning courses, such as Motor Development (PED 201), students sharpen their leadership skills.

PED 201 students plan and conduct physical activity lessons for children, including those with disabilities, at the Cortland/Homer Afterschool

Mentorship Program. They also teach healthy eating habits and help with homework. This NYS-approved afterschool program serves kindergartners through 6th-grade, five days a week.

Professor Tim Davis says that a third course, the service-learning independent study "Project LEAPE" (Leadership and Education in Adapted PE), "is dedicated to providing leadership opportunities for students interested in Adapted PE careers." Leadership projects have included kayaking and canoeing, wheelchair softball, sign language workshops, Halloween Monster Mash Fitness Dance, and sled hockey.

Project LEAPE students give faculty and future students written recommendations for improving the program. As a result, Project LEAPE more effectively serves the community through redesigned fitness opportunities and revised scheduling for the Wheelchair Sports program.

PED 305 is one of six already-existing Physical Education service-learning courses that received the Registrar's SLRN (service-learning) attribute during the 2013-2014 academic year. The process for getting this attribute involves approval by department faculty and chair, as well as by the Office of Service-Learning.

Between September 2013 and May 2014, the number of courses with the SLRN attribute rose from 29 to 42, with the largest increase in the Physical Education Department, which now has 14 SLRN courses.

The number of SUNY Cortland service-learning courses, with or without the SLRN attribute, grew from 61 to 72.

For information regarding service-learning, contact John Suarez, coordinator of the Office of Service-Learning, at 753-4391 or at john.suarez@cortland.edu.

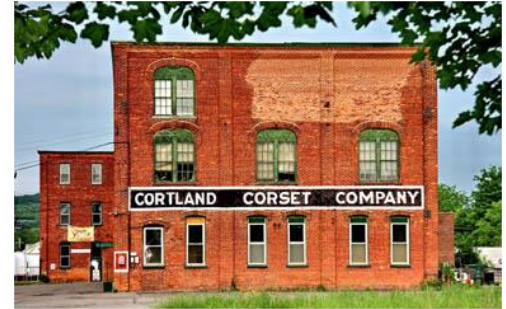
Students Get Practical Experience in Entrepreneurial Internship

Six SUNY Cortland students are working in an entrepreneurial internship, assisting local businesses with branding and marketing. Seniors Ray Zajac and Corey Weaver, Juniors Hayley Brennan and Nicole LaFreniere, and sophomore Carly Martin are working together to assist owner Peter Muehlbauer and tenant businesses located at the Cortland Corset building. The project is co-supervised by Dr. Kathleen Burke, Chair and Professor of Economics, and Co-Director of the Cortland Center for Economic Education, and by Cynthia Guy, Community Innovation Coordinator for SUNY Cortland's Institute for Civic Engagement.

Cortland Corset building is located at 75 East Court Street, just a few blocks from downtown Cortland. More than 100 years old, the familiar brick building holds a rich history, having housed several prominent businesses over the years, such as Cortland Line, Cortland Wagon Company, Crescent Corset Company, and Cortland Foundations.

The location currently houses several unique businesses, including MAGPIE Handcrafted Treasures and Curiosities, CINCH Art Space, Williams Photography, Pure and Simple Yoga, Heart's Content Healing, and The Exchange, a clothing resale and consignment shop. The building features several other small businesses. Cortland Foundations also still operates in the building, continuing the tradition of Cortland Corset by manufacturing woman's undergarments.

The students have researched the extensive history of the building, conducted interviews with the owner and businesses, and performed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis. They have met weekly to discuss common themes and



issues, and to develop ideas for tag lines and branding. Ultimately the group will present ideas for a new logo and a general marketing plan geared to attract new businesses to the building, as well as to increase business for current tenants.

Currently each of the businesses does some of its own marketing and promotions, but all agree that there would be a distinct advantage to marketing the building and its unique group of businesses as a single entity.

By partnering with local entrepreneurs through the Cortland Corset project, students strengthen their business skills while helping small businesses to thrive in Cortland County.

New Course: Introduction to Social Innovation and Change

A new course, Introduction to Social Innovation and Change, will be offered to SUNY Cortland students in fall 2014. Taught by Professor Gregory Phelan, the course focuses on how society addresses fundamental social problems in new and innovative ways.

Students will develop their own solutions to some of our most urgent social needs; in this way, they will understand some of the systemic barriers that complicate solutions.

Contact Information

Richard Kendrick: Director.
(607) 753-2481 or
Richard.Kendrick@cortland.edu

John Suarez: Office of Service
Learning Coordinator.
(607) 753-4391 or
John.Suarez@cortland.edu

Cynthia Guy: Community
Innovation Program
Coordinator.
(607) 753-4271 or
Cynthia.Guy@cortland.edu

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(Awards, continued from page 1)

Development Director for CAPCO, and Sara Watrous, former AmeriCorps Member, and Coordinator, Sustainable Cortland.

Group recipients were:

Sustainable Cortland; the students of COM 335, Issues in Digital Culture, and the students of COM 350, New Communication Media.

Molly and Hannah Haggerty won the Don M. Wilcox 2014 Civic Engagement Award for outstanding participation in the fight against poverty and hunger.

Ten students won scholarships that acknowledge outstanding commitment to community and exceptional academic achievement: **Emily Diliberto**, the BorgWarner Morse TEC Scholarship; **Jeffrey VanZant**, the Institute for Civic Engagement Scholarship; **Boyan Cox**, the Catherine McDermott Lavelle Scholarship for Student Leaders; **Michael Adams, Lauren Guardino**, and **Elise Konikoff** were all awarded the Judson Taylor Presidential Scholarship; **Nicole LeFreniere**, the Lambda Phi Delta Scholarship; **Amanda Sibbitts**, the James H. and Dorothy A. Sarvay Scholarship; **Courtney Crisci**, the Community Scholarship for Student Volunteers and Interns, and **Amanda Reyes**, the Anthony R. Moon Jr. '86 Internship and Field Work Study Scholarship.

Amber Lennon and Jaime Gannon were awarded Peter F. Eisenhardt First Year Learning Community Scholarships as the top two students in the Learning (In) Deed learning community.

Five students were recognized with the Vanguard Leader Award in recognition of their participation in the Judson H. Taylor Leadership House: Michael

Adams, Rachel Andrews, Banu Bozkurt, Anderson Briggs, and Michael McCarthy.

The Leadership in Civic Engagement Awards and Scholarships event is sponsored by the college's Institute for Civic Engagement, the Divisions of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Institutional Advancement, as well as the Cortland Foundation and the Cortland Fund.

(New Course, continued from page 3)

The course, **INT 229 (CRN93293)**, will be offered on Monday and Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m. in room B223 of Van Hoesen.

Students will learn about both existing and new approaches to important social problems. They will examine the differences and similarities between social and economic entrepreneurship, and they will gain an understanding of how context shapes our responses to social issues.

Issues that the community of Cortland is facing will be a focus of the course, too. Students will learn how others have identified and overcome obstacles, and they will learn to do so themselves.

This is a hands-on course in which students are encouraged to work collaboratively to practice the skills they are learning. The class will use local expertise from professionals in Cortland County's not-for-profit sector, so that students will also learn about specific organizations and agencies in our community. Students can expect to develop skills in the areas of creativity, communication, collaboration, and problem-solving, among others.

This course is open to all majors.