

Welcome back from Multicultural Life and Diversity Office (MLDO)



MLDO is excited to welcome new and returning Red Dragons to campus as we begin the 2017-2018 academic year. These past couple of months have been difficult and challenging, given the outrageous display of anti-Semitism, racism, and bigotry that occurred at Charlottesville, the uncertainty of deportation DACA recipients and their loved ones face, and the review of Obama-era sexual assault guidance on college campuses. It's a reminder that we have to continue to directly confront and counter systemic oppression and individual discrimination. Many of us have heavy hearts so we encourage you to take time to heal and come together to support one another. It is now more than ever that we must continue to push diversity, equity and inclusion as a top priority not only on our campus but as a society.

Our office encourages you to get involved with the many trainings and programs we offer to help facilitate conversations that focus on the need for every person at

SUNY Cortland to hold themselves responsible for diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as create a climate where every person feels valued and welcome.

Inclusion, equity, and access are matters of cultural wellness and we are committed to building and maintaining a well community. Students are always welcome to call or stop in with any questions or concerns they may have, or just to say hi. We can be reached at 607-753-2336 or you can come to Corey Union, room 407-A. MLDO secretary, Dana Smith, is always excited to meet new faces.

Welcome back Red Dragons and we hope you have a great semester.

AnnaMaria Cirrincione, Director
 Lima Maria Stafford, Assistant Director

Follow MLDO on Social Media:

Facebook @Diversity Cortland
 Twitter @SunyCrtDiverse
 Instagram @SunyCrtMLDO

Multicultural Life and Diversity Office (MLDO)

The Multicultural Life and Diversity Office believes diversity is an essential part of the pursuit of academic excellence and it enriches and strengthens the community. Sharing diverse perspectives aids in the creation and sustaining of an inclusive campus community of engaged scholars and global citizens.

Diversity consists of understanding and accepting our individual differences and searching for what we have in common. Diversity work is about the exploration of these differences in a brave, positive, and nurturing environment. It is respecting each other, struggling together and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity.

Meet the Staff



AnnaMaria Cirrincione
 Director



Lima Maria Stafford
 Assistant Director



Dana Smith
 Secretary



Christina Papaleo
 Residence Life Liaison

Student Interns

- Mouath Abufarah**– Diversity Retreat Coordinator & Promotions
- Kendra Arcos**- Diversity Retreat Coordinator
- Mariah Asencio**– NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program- NUFPP fellow
- Megan Astor**- Diversity Retreat Coordinator
- Chelsea Campbell**– Work Study
- Christina Christie**– Work Study
- Jerell Decaille**– NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program- NUFPP fellow
- Tori Duger**– 5-0-4Inclusion Dialogue Intern
- Tiffany Garzon**– Work Study
- Eryn Griep**- NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program- NUFPP fellow
- Shai'an Irving**– Student Diversity Conference Co-Chair
- William McNeill** - Race Project Coordinator
- Jason Niehr**- Video/photo production Intern
- Christopher Venant**- Public Relations and Design Intern
- Jacob Wright**– Peer-to-Peer Mentor Program Coordinator & NUFPP fellow
- Toni Yancey**– Peer-to-Peer Mentor Program Coordinator & NUFPP fellow

Fall 2017 Annual Diversity Retreat



On September 1, 2017, a diverse group of 40 students and four staff members including AnnaMaria Cirrincione, Lima Maria Stafford, Brandon Manning and Michael Baker, came together to attend a weekend long retreat at Raquette Lake, NY. We would like to thank Brandon and Michael for assisting to facilitate and chaperone this trip. The retreat focused on helping students gain an understanding of their leadership style, the role of diversity in leadership, the value of diversity, equity, civility, access, and inclusion in their educational experience, the value of teambuilding and teamwork in leadership development, and the value of working with people different than themselves as a key to achieving goals.

Participants experienced workshops and activities such as high and low ropes courses, the social identity experience, the True Color activity, the LGBTQAIP Star Activity, the Diversity Challenge, etc. It was amazing to see the level at which our students bonded and the willingness they expressed to learn from each other's lived experiences. The retreat coordinators shared the following on what they took away from the retreat and why it is important:



“The diversity retreat is important because we spend a whole day learning to trust people we may or may not have known already with our safety on the ropes course and spend that night trusting those same people with our secrets and feelings. They are people you may have just met and seen for the first time, they may be people you have known for a majority of your Cortland experience or they may be people you have seen around campus but have never had the chance to talk to. You may have assumed things about these people but when you talk to them and learn more about them, it really

puts your assumptions to shame. It shows that even though you may think you are inclusive, there is always room to grow, new things to learn, and privileges you may have that you never even thought of.”

-Megan Astor, Diversity Retreat Coordinator



Multicultural Life and Diversity Office

Fall 2017 Annual Diversity Retreat continued

MLDO Fall 2017 Important Dates

Intergroup Dialogue Information Sessions

Thursday, Sept. 14 from Noon-1 p.m.
Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge

Peer Diversity Training

Thursday, Sept. 14 from 4-7 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

SafeZone Train the Trainer

Thursday, Sept. 21 from 4-7 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

Becoming Superhuman: Using your advantage for good

With Health Promotions Office
Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 6 p.m.
Corey Union Exhibition Lounge

Student SafeZone Training

Tuesday, Oct. 3 from 3-6 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

Faculty/Staff/Alumni SafeZone Training

Wednesday, Oct. 18 from 4-7 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

Intergroup Dialogue Information Sessions

Thursday, Oct. 19 from 4-5 p.m.
Old Main Colloquium Room

Re-thinking Abilities Training

Friday, Oct. 27 from 3-6 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

Understanding and Advocating for Racial Justice Training

Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 4-7 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

Intergroup Dialogue Information Sessions

Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 3-4 p.m.
Corey Union Fireplace Lounge

“The retreat is important because it is a great opportunity to unite student leaders around campus. We discuss and share ideas with each other while also creating a safe space to learn and grow together. The clubs and organizations that are represented at the retreat are able to teach and learn from each other while also creating friendships that last long after the retreat is over. Because of the retreat I was able to meet and network with a lot of different clubs, organizations and students on campus. I made good friends with people who I otherwise would have never met. Most importantly I have learned how to become a more inclusive and accepting person to those around me because of the things I have learned during the diversity retreat.”

-Kendra Arcos, Diversity Retreat Coordinator



“This is my second year attending the Diversity Retreat and having the opportunity to be a student coordinator made my experience so much better. Great vibes, amazing people, and beautiful scenery can really bring the best out of people. We are all learners and we all learned from one another. We learned how to work as a team, to always support one another, make each other comfortable and get outside of our comfort zones. We participated in many difficult challenges that we overcame and surpassed such as the ropes course and even discussions. Can't wait to apply again next year!”

-Mouath Abufarah, Diversity Retreat Coordinator



Multicultural Life and Diversity Office

Education Opportunity Program Summer Institute

By Judy Stoddard

Voice Office

Weekly Meeting Times:

Black Student Union (BSU):

Mondays at 6 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Caribbean Student Association (CSA):

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Hillel:

Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

La Familia Latina (LFL):

Tuesdays at 6p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Men of Value and Excellence (MOVE):

Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Pan-African Student Association (PASA):

Mondays at 7 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Spectrum:

Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Women of Color (WOC):

Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Corey Union Voice Office

Voice Office Instagram

BSU: @cortlandbsu

PASA: @cortlandpasa

LFL: @lafamilialatina

MOVE: @cortlandmove

Hillel: @cortlandhillel

CSA: @cortlandcsa

WOC: @_womenofcolor

Spectrum: @cortlandspectrum

The 2017 Educational Opportunity Program Summer Institute has thirty-three incoming first year students that benefitted from the rigors of a full course load, one-on-one academic support, and a model healthful schedule. Students took classes in writing, college mathematics, college preparation, offered by EOP's senior counselors Amy Dahlman and Judy Studdard, and our unique course designed for SUNY Cortland: The Value of Education. This is an interdisciplinary exploration of what it means to be liberally educated, and the value of it in creating informed citizens, an inclusive community and overcoming social injustice. Serving as an introduction to the notion of the disciplines featured at Cortland, students emerge better prepared for what lies ahead. This course is team taught by AnnaMaria Cirrincione and Dr. Lewis Rosengarten. The Institute is proud to assemble a staff and faculty of mostly SUNY Cortland professionals who establish trusting supportive relationships with the students that can then continue throughout the academic year.

The residential staff was headed by Timothy Thompson and assisted by Hillary Alvarez, Margarita Harper-Ottoy, Mouath Abufarah, Travis Caldwell, and Sujayliz Alfred. They helped ensure a dedication to the schedule and a welcoming environment at the ready to respond to any concerns or doubts. They had the opportunity to have a lovely dinner and pool party at the home of President Erik Bitterbaum and Ellen Burton. With each step into the new semester, the students are seeing the value of the SI and are eager to apply their emerging skills. The students also look forward to meeting their fellow EOP classmates across the classes, at the Fall Gathering September 22 at 4 p.m. in Corey Union Fireplace Lounge. EOP continues to be thrilled by the support of the President and of our division leader, Vice-President Greg Sharer. Please join all of us in welcoming our newest, exuberant group!



The 9th Annual Student Conference on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Corey Union Function Room, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

This student-led conference seeks to promote open-mindedness, celebrate diversity, and promote awareness of divergent views on our college campus and within our communities.

This conference allows participants to problematize, conceptualize, research, and present across a wide range of disciplines.

Please join us for this amazing conference, facilitated by the student conference committee, under the leadership of Residence Hall Director, Christina Papaleo and student conference chair, Shai'an Irving, here at SUNY Cortland. For more information please email multicultural.life@cortland.edu

Early Bird Registration and Call for Proposal

Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2018

Submission Possibilities

Presentations can be submitted in one of three formats: *research sessions; panel sessions; or creative arts/performance/poster sessions.*

MLDO welcomes our new Residence Life Liaison Christina Papaleo



Christina was born and raised in Utica, NY until making her way to SUNY Cortland as an undergraduate in 2010. During her time at Cortland, Christina studied Inclusive Special Education but ended up focusing her last semester on disability advocacy.

Recently, Christina graduated with her Master's degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration at SUNY Buffalo State in Buffalo, NY. She is thrilled to be back "home" in Cortland as a Residence Hall Director, as well as working with the MLDO this year. As she begins her professional career in student affairs, Christina hopes to empower students to acknowledge their own "blind side" as a way to create inclusive and equitable experiences that celebrate authentic lived experiences.

Voice Office

Upcoming Events:

CSA Rep Your Flag

Friday, Sept. 15 at 11 p.m.
Moffett Gym

MOVE & WOC

Battle of the students

Saturday, Sept. 30 at 1 p.m.
Moffett Lawn

PASA Taste of Africa

Sunday, Oct. 8 at 6 p.m.
Port Watson Center

BSU Black Out for Justice March

Monday, Oct. 9 at 5 p.m.
Corey Union Steps

Spectrum and SOGIE National Coming Out Day

Wednesday, Oct. 11
Student Life Center

WOC Breast Cancer Walk

Sunday, Oct. 22 at 12 p.m.
Corey Union Steps

MOVE Halloween Bash

Friday, Oct. 27 at 11 p.m.
Corey Union Function Room

CSA Spooksville

Children's Festival

Saturday, Oct. 28 at 4 p.m.
Corey Union Function Room

CSA Music 4 the Cause Show

Saturday, Nov. 4 at 5:30 p.m.
Corey Union Function Room

MOVE Celebration of Men

Sunday, Nov. 19 at Noon
Corey Union Exhibition Lounge

WOC Friendsgiving

Sunday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m.
Location TBA

Improving Intergroup Relations through Dialogue

The Multicultural Life and Diversity Office has teamed up with our Chief Diversity Officer, James Felton, to bring Intergroup Dialogue to the SUNY Cortland campus. This session will provide an overview on Intergroup Dialogue—an innovative strategy to enhance participants awareness, knowledge, and skills in relating to people from different social identity groups that have a history of conflict or potential conflict.

Dialogues assist participants in enhancing their skills in the area of multicultural competency, cross-cultural communications, problem solving, teamwork and collaboration. Participants will learn about Intergroup Dialogue (IGD) initiatives at SUNY Cortland and explore opportunities to become dialogue facilitators.

Intergroup Dialogue Information Sessions

Thursday, Sept. 14 from noon-1 p.m. in Brockway Hall Jacobus Lounge

Thursday, Oct. 19 from 4-5 p.m. in Old Main Colloquium Room

Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 3-4 p.m. in Corey Union Fireplace Lounge



If you would like to contribute to the MLDO Newsletter, please email lima.stafford@cortland.edu with submissions.

Submissions in any language will be accepted.

www.cortland.edu/multicultural