

September 2017
Volume 11, Issue 1

Individual Highlights

Hustle For Houston	2
Humans of Engagement	3
Campus Food Pantry Update	3
Meet the Staff	4

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



Carnegie Foundation Elective Classification in Community Engagement



Timothy Dulaune



Robert Spitzer

SUNY Cortland will celebrate the US Constitution’s 230th anniversary with two presentations.

Professor Timothy Delaune will explore the constitutionality of issues such as the extent of a president’s pardon power and the meaning and effects of the Emoluments Clause. Join us for his speech on Thursday, September 14th at 4:30 pm in Corey Union’s Exhibition Lounge.

Rocking for Registration



On September 26th, SUNY Cortland students will perform songs and showcase talents in a unique concert aimed at encouraging voter registration.

The event – “Cortland Bandstand” – is part of SUNY Cortland’s *National Voter Registration Day* events. It is a collaboration between on-campus clubs and the Institute for Civic Engagement. Event organizers plan to register as many eligible individuals as possible.

During the concert, performers will encourage listeners to register to vote. Trained volunteers will help students properly complete the paperwork.

Two Lectures Planned to Honor Constitution Day

On September 18, Distinguished Service Professor Robert Spitzer will discuss the legal and political bases of impeachment, how it has operated in the past, and how it might or might not apply to the Trump presidency. Spitzer’s lecture will be in Corey Union’s Exhibition Lounge at 4:30 pm.

Both presentations will feature a question and answer session, and they are free and open to the public.

Staff Update

In May 2017, the Institute’s director, Mary McGuire returned full-time to her position as a Political Science Professor after the conclusion of her two-year appointment at the Institute. John Suarez, coordinator of the Office of Service-Learning since 2005, is the new director- *see page 4 for more!*

According to Times Union, New York has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the US, coming in at 41st. This is one step toward remedying this situation.

Selected performers will be able to play multiple songs of any genre, and they will encourage students to register to vote. This event, like our other voter registration events, is non-partisan.

If you are a student or group who wishes to perform, upload a short audition by visiting tinyurl.com/cortlandbandstand. Submissions are due by September 15th.

Hustle For Houston

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

14– Constitution Day Presentation.

Uncharte(r)ed Territory: The Constitution in the Age of Trump. 4:30 pm, Exhibition Lounge.

18– Constitution Day Presentation.

Impeachment: Plausible or Improbable. 4:30 pm, Exhibition Lounge.

21– Sandwich Seminar:

SUNY Cortland’s Civic Action Plan: Applying Applied Learning to Maximize Resources. 12 pm, Jacobus Lounge.

26–*Cortland Bandstand.* Voter Registration. *Corey Union steps.*

OCTOBER

1– *Hustle For Houston.* Lusk Field House. 1 p.m.

19– Sandwich Seminar: *I Learned By Doing.* Brockway Hall’s Jacobus Lounge. 12 p.m.

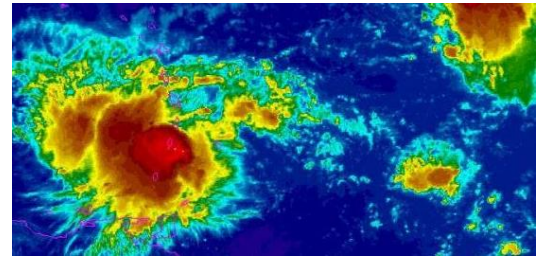
SUNY Cortland students will have an opportunity to help victims of Hurricane Harvey by walking laps in Lusk Field House during a “Hustle for Houston” fundraiser sponsored by the College’s Student Government Association.

The event will take place between 1 and 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1.

Money raised will be donated to organizations involved in rescue and recovery efforts related to what scientists are calling the worst rainfall disaster in United States history.

"Everyone is watching this on TV, and as much as I wanted to help, I knew everyone on campus would want the opportunity to step up and help the victims of Hurricane Harvey," said SGA President Aristotle Arkayasa.

Members of the SUNY Cortland Community can participate by soliciting donations or donating themselves, either individually or as teams.



SGA will track team donations, and expects Red Dragon competitive spirit will provide an extra incentive for giving.

Participants can register their team and get more information about the event by sending an email to: hustleforhouston@gmail.com.

"We wanted to do something to bring our community together," said Zachary Curtis, SGA’s chief financial officer.

"Our country has been divided recently, and we know that our community is stronger than our divisions. We had to help." Courtesy of SGA

Applied Learning Coalition

The Institute’s director, John Suarez, partnered with Linda Drake, director of SUNY Oneonta’s Center for Social Responsibility and Community, to form a new professional organization: The North/South Central NY Applied Learning Coalition.

The Coalition is designed to be an informal and agile mutual-assistance organization. It has 32 members who represent 22 public and private institutions of higher education, from Canton to Binghamton to Stony Brook.

New York Campus Compact’s Executive Director, Laurie Worrall, created a listserv and Google Forum for the Coalition. Merissa McKasty, assistant to SUNY’s Director of Applied Learning, scheduled time and space for the Coalition’s second meeting at SUNY’s Applied Learning Conference in October.

Of Interest–More than 2,600 service-learning students devote about 184,000 hours of service– worth over \$5 million to the community annually.

Campus Food Pantry Update

Last February a team of students, faculty, staff and alumni, came together to start planning a food pantry for food insecure students.

This semester, the team is moving forward with choosing a location for the pantry.

Although a specific place has not been chosen yet, the team has toured two on-campus options and plan to reach a final decision soon.

Alex Cicero, the student coordinator for the project, says that she is excited to tackle the task of beginning a pantry.

“I’ve worked on hunger and homelessness issues with NYPIRG before, but the food pantry will be something different – something that is prolonged and concrete once we get it running. Getting it started is a lot of administrative work, and is different from what I’ve done before,” Cicero said.

With rising costs of higher education, students often struggle to afford food.

According to The Atlantic, two thirds of community-college students do not have enough to eat.

While on-campus students are required to purchase an unlimited meal plan, off-campus students can choose not to have a meal plan. Furthermore, President



Bitterbaum disclosed that, last year, about 300 SUNY Cortland students came from families who have an annual income of \$5,000 or less.

This financial strain can cause extreme hardship for students off-campus who need to purchase food.

When choosing a location for the pantry, the team considered issues of privacy, accessibility and safety.

Team members include students (including SGA members), Student Affairs, NYPIRG, Health Department faculty, Alumni board members, Campus Ministries, the Cortland College Foundation, Financial Aid, Counseling and Student Development, Facilities and Management, and the Institute for Civic Engagement.

Humans of Engagement

SUNY Cortland students do amazing things.

Whether students are volunteering in the community or encouraging peers to become registered voters, their civic engagement has an immeasurable positive effect that is felt both on and off campus.

The Office of Civic Engagement is excited to announce a social media series called ‘Humans of Engagement’

Modeled after the famous ‘Humans Of New York’, these posts will give raw insight into the thoughts and feelings of SUNY Cortland students who discuss why they choose to be civically engaged.

Weekly posts will be made once a week during the semester. If you are, or know, a student who would like to be featured, please contact: laura.barnstead@cortland.edu.

Meet the Staff

Contact Information

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In 1991, Suarez began using a service-learning approach in his English Composition courses. His goal was to interest students in the real-life importance of writing. He learned that this methodology

provided that, and many more benefits for students, including a greater dedication to civic life. He became coordinator of the Office of Service-Learning (part of the Institute for Civic Engagement) in 2005. He is a member of the President's Leadership Coalition on Applied Learning.

John Suarez
Director.
john.suarez@Cortland.edu



A graduate of SUNY Cortland, with a degree in English, Guy previously worked for ICE as the Community Innovation Coordinator at the Main Street office.

Back at ICE working part time, Guy will coordinate projects, and facilitate student volunteer activities in the community. She also manages social media, and marketing and promotional materials.

In addition to her work with ICE, Guy also serves on several boards and volunteers in the community.

Cyndi Guy
Community Outreach Coordinator
Cynthia.guy@cortland.edu



Laura Barnstead is a senior dual major in political science and professional writing from Elmira, NY.

Upon her arrival to SUNY Cortland, Barnstead searched for ways to get involved in the Cortland community. In 2015 she joined the service fraternity

Alpha Phi Omega, and has volunteered over 100 hours during her undergraduate career.

"When students push themselves to be involved and conscientious citizens, it helps them learn more about themselves and others," Barnstead said.

Barnstead is looking forward to helping the ICE with newsletters and promotions.

Laura Barnstead, Intern
Laura.barnstead@Cortland.edu



Alexandra Cicero is a communications and international studies with a concentration in global political systems major.

Cicero received an Admissions' *Civic Engagement Scholarship*.

The scholarship was awarded based off of her community service in high school.

Cicero encourages students to be civically engaged, because she believes it each person's right to effect community and national decisions.

This semester, Cicero is working on creating a campus food pantry.

Alexandra Cicero, Intern
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