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Biographical History

State University of New York at Cortland

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DR. DONOVAN CLIFFORD MOFFETT 1900-1963

FIFTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE (1960-1963)

Dr. Donovan C. Moffett began teaching at Cortland in 1946. He was chairman of the Physical Education Department and later was named head of the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Division of the college.

In 1959, he became acting president and on September 15, 1960, was inaugurated as president of the school. He was the first state college president to be named from the ranks of the college itself. Prior to becoming president, he was dean of the college for five years.

Dr. Moffett graduated from DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., received his M.A. from the college and his Ph.D. in education from Iowa State University. He was athletic director and a professor of physical education at DePauw prior to moving to Cortland.

Dr. Moffett was a World War II veteran. He served in the Air Force from 1942 to 1945, with the rank of major, and was active as a Lt.Col. in the Air Force reserve until the time of his illness.

He was an elder and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church, Cortland, and was active in several professional organizations including the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Association of University Professors and the evaluation teams of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

To quote Dr. Joseph Mack, then mayor of Cortland, ".... Under his leadership as president and dean, the college has shown great progress...."