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### News Release: Young Resigns

State University of New York at Cortland

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*College at Cortland*

NEWS RELEASE

CORTLAND, N.Y. 13045

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FOR RELEASE:

Thursday  
August 15, 1968

CORTLAND--President Kenneth E. Young leaves the State University College at Cortland this month after one of the most significant periods of growth in the history of the College. He will begin a new position September 1 as vice president of the American College Testing Program and will organize ACT's office in Washington, D. C.

When Dr. Young took office in 1964, he was the youngest man ever to head the local institution. He is the sixth in a line of chief administrative officers at Cortland since its founding in 1968. 1969

The College observed its 100th anniversary during the recent academic year and the Centennial theme, "The Challenge of Change," relates closely to the new direction of the College since it embarked on its role as a college of arts and sciences in 1961.

Cortland had entered a period of transition at the time of Dr. Young's appointment. Founded as a normal school, Cortland was a teachers college from 1941 to 1959 when it became a college of education. Two years later, developments within SUNY turned Cortland's direction to arts and sciences. Although liberal arts subjects have been a part of the curriculum at Cortland for many years, Dr. Young was named President only one year after liberal arts was introduced as a major degree program.

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*CORTLAND: A Public College of Arts and Sciences in Central New York*

President Young

With a new focus on its aims and objectives, the College was launched into an intensive period of analysis of its own strengths and weaknesses to develop a blueprint for the future. President Young appointed a Faculty Committee on the Future of the College and after 18 months of work and more than 100 meetings, a long-range academic plan was forthcoming for Cortland in September, 1966.

In commenting on the development of the plan in an early address to faculty, President Young said: "In charting a course for this College, it is easier to suggest the roles that Cortland should not attempt. The College should not try to be all things to all men; it should not imitate the more notable private colleges; nor should it allow itself to become an exact reproduction of other units in State University. It is much more difficult to point the way, but I would make four obvious suggestions.

"First, the College should start with a recognition that it has a long, proud history--and a continuing commitment--in the field of teacher preparation. Secondly, the College must be prepared to deal with the opportunities and challenges involved in defining its broader role as a college of arts and sciences. Thirdly, the College should work toward taking greater advantage of its position as a unit of a statewide university system, thereby combining the advantages of a small college with the strengths of a large university

"Finally, the College should struggle to develop a unique character of its own--a summation of the kind of faculty, the kind of students, the kind of program that would stamp Cortland as being Cortland."

In President Young's judgment, the most important recommendation in the long-range plan proposes that the College encourage the development of

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President Young

self-directed study wherever practicable. "The prime objective of this approach is to assist students to develop the skills and attitudes to become independent learners," he said. "To do this, all students must be made increasingly responsible for their own education."

Toward this end, academic departments have been asked to reevaluate the scope of educational experiences they currently provide for their students and to consider developing plans that will place increasing responsibility on students as they move from their freshman to their senior year.

President Young believes that the College at Cortland has truly set for itself an ambitious task: "To create a first-rate college of arts and sciences, with a continuing commitment to professional education, and to establish the conditions which support such an undertaking--a good faculty, moderate enrollment, a residential setting, a stimulating campus and interaction with the wider educational community.

"But above everything else," according to the president, "the primary commitment of the College is to the individual student and to providing him with the intellectual experiences that best meet his needs, interests and talents."

President Young's administration and those administrations before him have provided the foundation for Cortland's future progress. Since President Young took office, the College's enrollment has increased from 2,800 to 3,600; faculty and staff have grown from 552 to 740; the operating budget has jumped from four million to eight million dollars; the campus has expanded to 145 acres, the Hoxie Gorge Natural Preserve south of Cortland had been obtained for educational use and the size of the Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake has grown to 400 acres.

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President Young

In terms of academic change under President Young, the College has developed a long range plan as noted earlier, the self-directed study concept has been introduced on a broad scale, study-abroad centers have been established at Neuchatel, Switzerland, and Salamanca, Spain, graduate programs have increased, and cooperative programs of several kinds have been launched with Syracuse University, State University at Binghamton, and the State University Colleges at Brockport, Geneseo, Oswego and Fredonia.

Changes have occurred in other areas too. The College's administrative structure has been completely reorganized; the roles of faculty and students have been strengthened in the decision-making process; the Learning Resources Center and the Office of Institutional Planning were developed; the scope and responsibilities of the Continuing Education Program, the Computer Center and the Public Relations Office have been enlarged.

President Young has also fostered the reorganization and growth of the Alumni Association, the Faculty-Student Association and the College Development Foundation.

As Dr. Young, his wife, Mae, and their son, Bruce, have undertaken preparation for the move to Washington, a number of receptions and dinners have been given in their honor. The College Council, the Cortland College Development Foundation, the Alumni Association, the faculty and administrative officers have sponsored such events in recent weeks.

Dr. Young's new employer, the American College Testing Program, is a national, non-profit corporation that develops and administers research, testing and evaluative programs, particularly tests related to college admissions.

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President Young

According to Dr. Young, ACT provides admissions and counseling data for approximately one million students. Test centers are administered on six continents, although the majority of such centers, 2500 in number, are in the United States.

In commenting on Dr. Young's decision to leave Cortland, State University Chancellor Samuel B. Gould said: "The College at Cortland has made remarkable progress under President Young's able leadership. He can take great pride in the many tangible evidences of achievements that have been recorded on the Cortland campus during his administration."

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