

SUNY College Cortland

## Digital Commons @ Cortland

---

Archival Finding Aids

College Archives

---

2021

### Student Strike

State University of New York College at Cortland

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.cortland.edu/findingaid>

---

**Record Group:**  
Student Strike

**Overview of the Collection**

Title:	Student Strike
Inclusive Dates:	1968-1991 (Inclusive)
Extent:	0.4 Linear Feet
Language:	English
Repository:	SUNY Cortland College Archives Memorial Library 81 Prospect Terrace Cortland, NY 13045 <a href="https://cortland.libguides.com/c.php?g=354291">https://cortland.libguides.com/c.php?g=354291</a>

**Biographical History**

The Student Strike of SUNY Cortland occurred in May of 1970 as local response to national events surrounding the Vietnam War, oppression of the Black Panthers, and the Kent State Killings. The House of Delegates voted to endorse a student strike on campus. Approximately 3,000 students demonstrated peacefully outside of Old Main and Miller. The following day, students occupied the Miller building. The situation never escalated to involve legal authorities to dismantle the protest or occupation, though the idea was considered at one point. The faculty did vote to accept the student strike 130 to 75.

As a result, for safety, President Richard Jones declared the Miller Building closed and would eventually give students two options. They could either accept the current grade they had earned (throughout the semester) and leave campus or stay and complete their work for a final grade. 65% of the student population chose to end the semester early, but a large amount stayed to continue local activism. The strike officially ended a day later.

**Scope and Content Note**

The materials in this record group include policies, reports, and audio recordings of faculty meetings. There is also information on resolutions and publicity generated by students, and information on some of those involved in the strike, including personal accounts. The material ranges in date from 1968-1991.

**Related Materials**

Student Newspaper Records and Yearbooks.

## Access

No special restrictions for access. Some of the audio recordings, while they are being preserved. They have not been converted into digital files, and are therefore unavailable.

## Preferred Citation

Student Strike. SUNY Cortland College Archives, Memorial Library, State University of New York College at Cortland, Cortland, NY.

## Processing Information

This record is currently fully processed, which means that it has been rehoused.

## Finding Aid Information

Created by Kayla Bellan, Spring 2021

## Arrangement

The materials are arranged by the record group, then by sub-group, then series. Said materials are equally processed to the folder and item level materials. There is a singular sub-group included titled "Causation and Response." After the sub-group, there are three series: College Response, Audio Recordings, and Strikers and Collected Writings. The series are arranged in chronological order, dependent on the year.

## Inventory

### Record Group: Student Strike

#### Sub-Group 1: Causation and Response

##### Series 1: College Response

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 107	Folder 1	College Policies and Planning	1968-1970
Box 107	Folder 2	Resolutions	1969-1970
Box 107	Folder 4	Publicity	1970
Box 107	Item	The Academy in Turmoil: First Report of the – Temporary Commission to Study the Causes – of Campus Unrest	February 1970
Box 107	Item	The Academy in Turmoil: First Report of- the Temporary Commission to Study the Causes – of Campus Unrest. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Printing.	September 1, 1970

##### Series 2: Audio Recordings

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 107	Item	Audio Recording, "Rhetoric of the Strike" – By H.E. Hudson	May 1970
Box 107	Item	Audio Recording, Faculty Meeting	May 5, 1970
Box 107	Item	Audio Recording, Faculty Meeting Side 1	May 7, 1970
Box 107	Item	Audio Recording, Faculty Meeting Side 1 & 2	May 7, 1970

##### Series 3: Strikers and Collected Writings

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
-------------	-------------	-------	------

Box 107	Folder 3	Strikers and Vietnam	1969-1970
Box 107	Item	“The Spring of Our Discontent” by Jean A. Santoro	June 1972
Box 107	Item	“The Spring of Their Discontent” by Michael Hunt	May 1990
Box 107	Folder 5	Frances J. Miller Personal Account	1991