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Student Strike

State University of New York College at Cortland

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

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Record Group:
Student Strike

Overview of the Collection

Title:	Student Strike
Inclusive Dates:	1968-1991 (Inclusive)
Extent:	0.5 Linear Feet (1-box)
Language:	English
Repository:	SUNY Cortland College Archives Memorial Library 81 Prospect Terrace Cortland, NY 13045 https://cortland.libguides.com/c.php?g=354291

Biographical History

The Student Strike of SUNY Cortland occurred in May of 1970 as a local response to national events surrounding the Vietnam War, oppression of the Black Panthers, and the Kent State shootings. 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, 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 (including both primary and secondary sources).

Related Materials

Student newspapers and yearbooks would also be helpful to investigate further.

Access

The materials largely exist in physical format and have not been digitized. Some of the audio recordings are not accessible since they have not been transcribed or converted at this time.

Preferred Citation

Student Strike. SUNY Cortland College Archives & Special Collections, 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 arranged, rehoused, and described.

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

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	-	The Academy in Turmoil: First Report of the – Temporary Commission to Study the Causes – of Campus Unrest	February 1970
Box 107	-	The Academy in Turmoil: First Report of – the Temporary Commission to Study the Causes – of Campus Unrest. 2 nd Printing.	September 1, 1970

Series 2: Audio Recordings

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 107	-	Audio Recording, "Rhetoric of the Strike" – By H.E. Hudson	May 1970
Box 107	-	Audio Recording, Faculty Meeting	May 5, 1970
Box 107	-	Audio Recording, Faculty Meeting Side 1	May 7, 1970
Box 107	-	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	-	"The Spring of Our Discontent" by Jean A. Santoro	June 1972
Box 107	-	"The Spring of Their Discontent" by Michael Hunt	May 1990
Box 107	Folder 5	Frances J. Miller Personal Account	1991