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Graduate Studies

State University of New York College at Cortland

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Record Group:
Graduate Studies

Overview of the Collection

Title:	Graduate Studies
Inclusive Dates:	1951-2012 (Inclusive)
Extent:	1.25 Linear Feet
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

Graduate Studies programs at SUNY Cortland were a reflection on the changing curriculum and requirements within New York State. In 1942, Governor Herbert Lehman signed a bill authorizing normal schools to award bachelor's degrees and become four-year institutions. This shift is reflected in the name change from the Cortland Normal School to the Cortland State Teachers College of New York.

By the 1940s, teacher candidates were also expected to also enter graduate programs in order to be eligible for teaching jobs, or keep the ones they already had. With this growing pressure for a more formal education, the State Education Department authorized state colleges, like Cortland, to incorporate graduate programs into the curriculum. Traditionally, these graduate programs were initially only offered during summer sessions or through extension centers in public schools nearby during the year, meaning they were not held on campus.

A group of Cortland staff members worked to create a proposal of four different master's programs to submit to the State Education Department. The four programs they submitted were: Elementary Education, Physical Education, Health Education, and Recreation Education. This group of Cortland staff members had submitted their proposal in September of 1947, but their readiness surprised the State Education Department, and they were unable to respond right away. It was until October that they sent out a set of minimum standards for fifth year programs for the staff members to follow that they were able to establish their own guidelines. The committee then worked for a year to establish said guidelines by conducting surveys of teacher's needs,

consulting with faculty members, and designing the curriculum that was to be offered. The first graduate courses would begin to be offered in 1948. In the first summer 32 students signed up, and in the first school year 70 students enrolled through the extension buildings in that same year. As a result of the popularity, SUNY Cortland was allowed to award its first master's degrees in 1950.

Cortland drastically increased its graduate presence after the success of the first four. From 2013-2019 Cortland created an off-site location for graduate studies titled Mohawk Valley Graduate Center (Utica, NY). This created access to distance students interested in teacher education. The program enrolled roughly 150-students each year. The site was officially retired from use in 2019. As of 2021, SUNY Cortland offers over 20-discipline based programs that include Certificates of Advanced Study as well.

Scope and Content

The materials in this record group include annual reports (dating back to the establishment of graduate studies), by-laws, information non the graduate faculty committee, Mohawk Valley Graduate Center, memorandums, newsletters, connections, and course catalogs.

Related Materials

Other archival records include: School of Education, School of Arts & Sciences, School of Professional Studies, Faculty Records, and Enrollment Management Office.

No archival related information includes:

Graduate Admissions Office

<https://www2.cortland.edu/admissions/graduate/index.dot>

Mohawk Valley Graduate Center

<https://www2.cortland.edu/admissions/graduate/mvgc.dot>

Access

No special restrictions for access.

Preferred Citation

Graduate Studies. SUNY Cortland College Archives, Memorial Library, State University of New York College at Cortland, Cortland, NY.

Processing Information

This record is fully processed.

Finding Aid Information

Created by Kayla Bellan, Spring 2021

Arrangement

The materials are arranged by the record group, then by sub-group, then series. Records are processed to the folder level. There are 3 sub-groups: Divisional Business, Mohawk Valley Graduate Center, and Center for Lifelong Learning.

Inventory

Sub-Group 1: Divisional Business

Series 1: Governance

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 222	Folder 1	By-Laws	1972-1973
Box 222	Folder 2	By-Laws	1972-1973

Series 2: Reports

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 222	Folder 3	RRP Reports	1995
Box 222	Folder 4	Annual Reports	1948-1954
Box 222	Folder 5	Annual Reports	1965-1969
Box 222	Folder 6	Annual Reports	1970-1972
Box 222	Folder 7	Annual Reports	1973-1974

Series 3: Graduate Faculty Committee

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 223	Folder 1	Meeting Agendas	1972-1974
Box 223	Folder 2	Nominations	1973-1974
Box 223	Folder 3	Membership Lists	1973-1974
Box 223	Folder 4	Graduate Curriculum Matters	1972-1973
Box 223	Folder 5	Questionnaire on Graduate Faculty	1972
Box 223	Folder 6	Press Releases	1972-1973
Box 223	Folder 7	Credentials Committee	1972-1974
Box 223	Folder 8	Student Affairs Documents	1973-1974
Box 223	Folder 9	Evaluations of Graduate Programs	1973-1974
Box 224	Folder 1	Faculty Affairs	1973-1974
Box 224	Folder 2	Steering Committee	1973-1974
Box 224	Folder 3	Minutes	1950-1976
Box 224	Folder 4	Correspondences with Andrew Banse	1972-1973
Box 224	Folder 5	Memorandums	1972-1973
Box 224	Folder 6	Memorandums	1973-1974

Series 4: Publicity

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 225	Folder 2	Sponsored Program & research Newsletters	1970-1974
Box 225	Folder 3	Graduate Student Newsletters	1996-2000
Box 225	Folder 4	Graduate Studies Newsletters	2004-2008
Box 225	Folder 5	Graduate Connections	2010-2012

Sub-Group 2: Mohawk Valley Graduate Center

Series 1: Publicity

Container 1	Container 2	Title	Date
Box 225	Folder 6	Clippings	2004

Sub-Group 3: Center for Lifelong Learning

Series 1: Publicity

Container 1	Container 2	Title	
Box 226	Folder 1	Course Catalogs	1991-2001
Box 226	Folder 2	Community Roundtable	1995-2012
Box 226	Folder 3	Assorted Programs	1950-2002
Box 226	Folder 4	Lifelong Learning Activity News	1981-1986
Box 226	Folder 5	Extension Program	1951-1965
Box 226	Folder 6	Seminars, Public Forums	1974-1990