

NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS' ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION

Article I

This organization shall be called the SUNY Cortland “Nontraditional Students’ Organization”.

Article II

Purpose

- A. To promote awareness of the growing, vital part that nontraditional students play in the college community.
- B. To promote the academic development of nontraditional students attending SUNY College at Cortland by sponsoring events which highlight college resources and address the academic concerns and problems of the nontraditional student.
- C. To assist in the social and economic readjustment of nontraditional students to the academic community.
- D. To educate the academic community about the special needs on nontraditional students through special seminars, presentations and media.
- E. To support and promote legislation favorable to the academic development of nontraditional students.
- F. To promote unity and connection by providing family oriented activities.

Article III

Membership

- A. Eligibility Membership is open to all Mandatory Activity Fee paying students although, our goal is to serve those students who have experienced an interruption in their college education. We also encourage associate membership for all faculty, staff and community members. Associate members will not have voting privileges and will be expected to finance their membership in the organization except when waived by the SGA Financial Board.
- B. Qualifications The organization is open to any matriculated student at SUNY Cortland, but special consideration goes to those who are 24 years and older, OR who have a dependent child OR have had an interruption in their education.

Article IV

Officers

A. Titles President, Vice President, or Co-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary.

B. Duties of each office

President: Responsibilities include conducting and presiding over at least one meeting each semester and delegating responsibilities, as outlined in the constitution, for each office.

Vice President: Assists the President in duties and takes charge during absence of the president.

Co-Presidents: Those acting as Presidents may share the responsibilities under this title.

Treasurer: Will be responsible to the membership for the disbursing and accounting of all club funds. In addition the treasurer will:

1. Represent the club in all presentations before the SGA Financial Board.
2. Serve as the liaison between the club and the SGA treasurer.
3. Work with SGA treasurer and vice treasurer in developing a club budget.
4. Abide by all SGA financial policies as outlined in the SGA Treasurers Handbook and any updates from the SGA treasurer.

Secretary: Will be responsible for the minutes of all meetings and correspondence done by this club.

C. Qualifications for Office Any eligible member of the club who is a matriculated student at SUNY Cortland may fill the offices of this club, but special consideration goes to those who are 24 years and older, OR who have a dependent child OR have had an interruption in their education.

D. Method of Election

1. Elections will be held annually by May first of each year.
2. Officers will be elected by plurality of those voting. In the event of a vacancy, the executive committee will appoint a replacement until the next election.

Article V

Meetings

A. Regular: Regular meetings will be held at least once a semester.

B. Special: Special meetings will be called at the discretion of the executive board or by petition of the membership.

C. Quorum: Meetings will be conducted as long as at least three members are present.

Article VI Committees

A. Standing: The Executive Committee will consist of the club officers.

B. Special (ad hoc): Ad hoc committees will be formulated as necessary.

Article VII Advisor

A. How Selected: An advisor is selected by the executive committee in consultation with the membership by determining the extent of commitment to the statement of purpose of this constitution. The extent of availability to the membership as a whole will be a factor for consideration.

B. When Selected: An advisor will be selected by the end of the spring semester for the following academic calendar year.

C. Term of Office: Advisors will be requested for a term of one academic year.

D. Duties: Advisors will attend meetings, act as a liaison with appropriate agencies and provide guidance and support to the club.

Article VIII SGA Policies and Procedures

All policies and Procedures of the Student Government Association will be adhered to by this organization.

Article IX Parliamentary Procedures

Robert's Rules of Order will govern this organization in all issues to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of the special rules of this organization. Impeachment of an officer is accomplished through due process: notification of intent by the general body to the officer in question five days before the same meeting; copies of said notification will also be given to the other officers and the advisor/s at least five days before the same meeting. At the meeting, just cause must be shown, discussion entered into and then voting. Impeachment will be accomplished by a two-thirds vote of the membership present.

Article X
Amendments

Amendments may be proposed from the floor during any business meeting. A two-thirds vote of the members present is required to pass all such motions. Amendments will be made after voting.

Article XI
Ratification

This constitution will be ratified when appropriately approved by the organization, SGA Club Constitution Committee, and the Student Senate.

Record of Constitution Revision Dates

10/1996

3/2004 – Committee: Amy LaPlant, D’Ola Baptista, Brenda Tab, Meg Nowak–Advisor

2/2007 - Officers: Jennifer Miller, Susan Betit, Linda Eastman, Jennifer Labuz, and Cheryl Hines - Advisor