

Congratulations to our 2009 graduates!!

Spring 2009, Issue 7  
May 4, 2009

●  
*Don't forget to sign up for the Non-Traditional Students' Picnic on Thursday, May 14! Send RSVP to [ntso@cortland.edu](mailto:ntso@cortland.edu).*

## The Spotlight is On...



*Editor's Note: Alpha Sigma Lambda is the honor society for adult students.*

I would like to take a moment to comment on one particular aspect of our Honor Society, Alpha Sigma Lambda that I find particularly important. The  $\Lambda$ , or Lambda represents leadership to our society. I find this aspect of being a non-traditional student to be significantly overlooked, and deserving of some further discussion.

Like many of you, I returned to college to earn a degree that will lead to a career. I went to class, read my books, and took the tests. I was doing what I had to do to finish because my goals were the only reason I was here. But recently I realized that I play a role here on campus beyond just the role of student.

We may not realize it, but being a non-traditional, or adult student, has the responsibility of being a leader. Because of our outside experiences, we often have a greater wealth of knowledge, and therefore more to bring to a class setting. This can lead to a variety of results: We can take over the class; we know all the answers and hold extended conversations with the professors as if no one else is there (maybe because it seems like no one else is), we can separate ourselves from the class; sitting back, feeling like there is nothing for us to learn because we already know the material, or, we can choose to lead the class.

What do I mean by lead the class? Although there are times that we are the oldest person in the room, we are still students. As a part of the student body, we can choose to use our experiences, not to belittle those of our fellow students, but to connect with them and guide them. When a younger student makes a valid point, make sure to show them recognition. If a less experienced student is struggling to get out a piece of information that you understand, offer guidance with the idea after class.

The most important way I have found to support your fellow students is to make connections with them and promote their learning. Have relaxed conversations with them outside of class. If you have time; join a club with younger students, or play a recreational sport. Make yourself available to the less experienced for consultation about homework, projects, or life issues. Your experiences in life can help others learn. You may have more to offer them than that 101 class, but if they don't feel comfortable talking to you; they will never gain from your experience.

I want you to remember that you will always be looked up to for your choice to attend college, and that when you are here on campus, you are a leader. Most of you remember Spider-man prior to the theatrical releases of the past few years. Spider-man's motto was this: "With great power, comes great responsibility". I agree, and would like to add: with experience comes knowledge, and with knowledge comes power. The responsibility is yours.

S. Jacob Colwell, senior physical education major

**Congratulations to Rodrigo Rodriguez** on receiving the 2009 Chancellor's Award for Excellence! He is a senior political science major.

## Dates & Deadlines

**May 6 & 7**  
Study Days

**May 8—May 13**  
Final Exam Period

**Summer Session 1**  
May 20-June 24

**Summer Session 2**  
June 29-July 30

## Study Days and Final Exam Week

Even though the lounge is not a quiet lounge, I am asking that special consideration is made during Study Days (Wednesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 7) and during Final Exam Week (Friday, May 8 through Wednesday, May 13). The lounge will be open weekdays during these times. Please be considerate and respectful of others as they are finishing projects, reports, and preparing for finals.

# Calendar of Events

Thursday, May 14

**End-of-the-Year Picnic**, 5:30-8 p.m., Suggett Park, Cortland. RSVP to [ntso@cortland.edu](mailto:ntso@cortland.edu) by May 7.

## ASL Inducts 37 New Members



On Thursday, April 23, Alpha Sigma Lambda, the National Honor Society for Adult Students, inducted thirty-seven new adult student members from SUNY Cortland. In order to be eligible for induction, one had to be at least 24 years of age, have 24 hours completed at SUNY Cortland, have at least a 3.2 GPA, and be in the top ten percent of this group. This year's top ten percent has a minimum of at least a 3.7 GPA. The highest GPA is 4.18. Congratulations!

Alexander Rachel  
Anjeski, Nicole  
Arold, Jane  
Brewer, Diana  
Campbell, Jr., David  
Castle, Robert  
Cobb, Jennifer  
Colwell, S. Jacob  
Denka, Marleiah  
Eaves, Robert  
Euler, Christopher  
Farley, Leila  
Garcias, Jennifer

Goodwin, Caitlin  
Killian, Troy  
McChesney, Julie  
Merry, Krista  
Newton, Jason  
Oddo, Andrea  
Owens, Patricia  
Phelps, Andrea  
Plourde, Todd  
Rea, Jennifer  
Ricklefs, Theresa  
Roach, Tracy  
Shumaker, Katharine

Smith, Erica  
Snyder, Chea  
Snyder, Jeromy  
Sternberg, Lindsey  
Towner, Gary  
Tutko, Joseph  
Vendryes, Matthew  
Vermilyea, Ammie  
Vincent, Mary  
Wear, Leland  
Willson, Jessica

## Questionnaire for Non-Trads

Please take time to fill out the spring 2009 questionnaire for non-traditional/adult students. Feedback will be used to build up the support for non-traditional students. Your personal information will be kept confidential. Thank you.

<http://tinyurl.com/d8ltv9>

## Computers in the Non-Trad Lounge

Good news! Two new computers will be installed in the Non-Traditional Students' Lounge before you return for the fall semester to replace two old computers. In addition to the new computers, the other three remaining computers will be upgraded to the Office 2007 package.



**Check out the website for non-traditional students:**  
<http://www.cortland.edu/advisement/nontrad/default.asp>

### Non-Traditional Students Organization

[ntso@cortland.edu](mailto:ntso@cortland.edu)

President: Sherry Hicks

Vice-President: Danielle Rumsey

Treasurer: Linda Eastman

Secretary: Ami Ingrahm

SGA Representative: Jennifer Cobb

SGA Representative: Kerry Linden

### Non-Traditional Student Support

**Cheryl Hines, Coordinator**

**Advisement and Transition**

**Memorial Library, Room A-111**

**607-753-4726**

**[cheryl.hines@cortland.edu](mailto:cheryl.hines@cortland.edu)**

### Non-Traditional Students' Lounge

The "Non-Trad Lounge" is located in Corey Union, Rooms 201-203. During the semester the lounge will be open Monday-Thursday, 6:30 am—9:00 pm and on Fridays, 6:30 am—4:00 pm. The lounge will be closed this summer.

This lounge has couches, desks, a coffee pot, microwave and refrigerator for your use.

Please note: This space is designated to be a lounge, not a quiet study area. Please be considerate of those around you. Thanks.