As always, the American Democracy Project is committed to student involvement in the community and in politics. We would like to feature many events and updates that encourage civic involvement of students, faculty and staff. Please take note of the many events that SUNY Cortland and the American Democracy Project has to offer!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Alumni Judges Day Oct 31st: Student leaders will have the opportunity to meet with seven alumni judges from SUNY Cortland. The American Democracy Project is sponsoring a forum in which students will be able to talk about life on campus, political activism, and working within the legal system. This event will be hosted by Richard Kendrick and will take place in the Exhibition Lounge in Corey Union. Afterward, the judges will be holding a public presentation, entitled “From Cortland to the Judiciary—Perspectives on Public Service and Judicial Careers from Seven Cortland Alumni Judges.” This event is moderated by Jerry O’Callaghan and is being held at 4:25 in the Exhibition Lounge of Corey Union.

Amy Goodman Nov 2nd: Award-winning journalist, Amy Goodman, is visiting SUNY Cortland! Goodman is a news anchor for the radio show Democracy Now! This radio show is a national, daily, independent news program airing on over 350 stations in North America. Goodman’s reporting has included extensive analysis of the War on Terror and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, grassroots activism, domestic policy, and has featured commentary from peace activists, artists, academics and independent analysts. Be sure to attend this highly anticipated event on November 2nd in the Brown Auditorium promptly at 6:00 pm.

NYPIRG’s Higher Education Awareness Week Oct 31st-Nov 4th: NYPIRG is kicking off its Higher Education Awareness Week! Starting on Monday, October 31st, NYPIRG will be getting students to sign letters to Governor Pataki urging him not to raise tuition or cut financial aid. NYPIRG is mobilizing and educating students about an anticipated tuition hike and financial aid cut in the New York State budget proposal due in January. Encourage your students to stop by 215 Corey Union or to visit one of the many tables NYPIRG has stationed around campus and sign a letter to the Governor.

Election Day Nov. 8th: Election Day is near! ADP, NYPIRG, and Democracy Matters are encouraging students to get out to vote in local elections this year. NYPIRG will be at several polling sites making sure that student’s and community member’s rights are protected during Election Day. If students have any questions about the upcoming elections, direct them to NYPIRG in 215 Corey Union or call them at x4815.

"Women and People of Color in Politics—Coming Together for a Fair Chance" Nov. 9th: Democracy Matters is hosting a lively discussion about a Fair and Clean Elections system and how it positively affects women and people of color. Joan Mandle, the executive director of Democracy Matters, will be talking with students about how the current system of campaign contributions disenfranchises women and people of color from the political process. Joining Joan is Jessica Wisneski, the Clean Money/Clean Elections Campaign Director for Citizen Action New York. Jessica will be discussing the 2006 gubernatorial race and what it means for Fair and Clean elections. Join Democracy Matters at 7:30 in the Fireplace Lounge in Corey Union for what is promised to be an enlightening and empowering event.

Requiem: By the Photographers Who Died in Vietnam and Indochina
Between the height of the French Indochina War in the fifties and the fall of Phnom Penh and Saigon in 1975, 135 photographers from all sides of the conflict were recorded as missing or dead. This exhibition is a memorial to those men and women. In many cases it includes the last photographs they took. Horst Faas and Tim Page, two photographers who worked and were wounded in Vietnam, have gathered many thousands of pictures by those who were killed. The resulting sequence of photographs follows the course of the war and the transformation of the serene landscapes of Cambodia and Vietnam into scenes of nightmarish devastation. At the moments of intense battle one is reminded not only of the courage of the
photographers but of their compassion amid the brutality of war. The Dowd Fine Arts Gallery's exhibition includes 57, mostly black and white, photographs by 18 photographers from Cambodia, France, Japan, the United States, and North and South Vietnam plus photographic portraits of each photographer. The exhibition is divided, like the 336-page book of the same name, into five sections - A Distant War, Escalation, The Quagmire, Last Flight and Final Days. Organized by Horst Faas and Tim Page and toured by George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, Requiem is supported, in part, by SUNY Cortland's Cultural and Intellectual Climate Committee.

UPDATES:
Congratulations to Cortland’s chapter of Amnesty International. On Monday, October 24th, Student Government Association recognized Amnesty International. Amnesty International is one of the world’s largest Human Rights defenders. Cortland’s chapter has been working tirelessly on a variety of issues ranging from freeing prisoners of conscience, ending torture, and stopping violence against women. Students in Cortland Amnesty International deserve a large pat on the back for the wonderful and selfless work they have been doing. A special thanks goes out to Herb Haines for his undying support, humor, and advisement!

WEEKLY MEETINGS:
Student Government Association: Mondays @ 7:00 Corey Union Exhibition Lounge.

P.O.W.E.R (Planet of Women for Equality and Respect): Tuesdays @ 7:00 Corey Union 301

Democracy Matters: Wednesdays @ 7:00 Corey Union 204 www.democracymatters.org

NYPIRG: Thursdays @ 6:00 NYPIRG office (215 Corey Union) www.nypirg.org

If you are interested in advertising an event through the American Democracy Project Newsletter, send information to Richard Kendrick at kendrickr@cortland.edu or Lauren Caruso at caruso24@cortland.edu. Information can also be sent to the Sociology/Anthropology Office at Cornish D-311 attn: American Democracy Project. Thank you for your support!

Editor: Lauren Caruso