



CANINE INITIATIVES

ADDITION TO EXISTING FACILITY & INCREASED PROGRAMMING

MANY SUNY COBLESKILL ANIMAL SCIENCE STUDENTS CHOOSE TO SPECIALIZE IN CANINE STUDIES, taking courses such as Canine Management, Care and Training of the Working Dog, Behavior Problems in Companion Animals, Small Animal Management, Domestic Animal Behavior, and Canine Training, as well as embarking on canine-focused special projects.

The college is making strides to become a leader in New York State in canine studies and programming for both the campus and community. A kennel addition to the existing Canine Facility seeks to accommodate canine studies by providing a permanent location for dogs to remain on campus year-round, while continuing to service the community by allowing local dogs to participate in training programs with their owners.

Proposed features of the kennel addition include:

- 19-20 heated runs will permanently house ten campus-owned dogs, with the rest serving the local community. These runs will be attached to the current facility, which contains an open obedience room, an area for introductory drills with search dogs, and office and storage areas.

The addition, will allow the College to...

- Heighten the ability for consistent training techniques.
- Provide “model dogs” to balance the local participants in daytime training programs to set a standard for community training efforts and to allow for local dog-owners to practice their new skills.
- Ensure that canine studies on campus will be able to further expand and thrive.

Faculty

- Stephen Mackenzie holds a Doctorate in the genetics of behavior (Animal Breeding) from Cornell University. He is a court recognized expert in the behavior of animals and has served as an expert witness in both criminal and civil court cases. A frequent consultant to working dog trainers, he specializes in working dogs with behavior and training issues.

Alumni:

- Amanda Tripple '07—K9 Handler at United States Department of Homeland Security
- Rebecca Cooper '12—Kennel Manager and Dog Trainer at Hero Dogs
- Ashley Pierce '07—Agriculture Educator at Cornell Cooperative Extension

Students in our program would learn and develop basic entry level skills for jobs in the following:

- Rescue shelters
- Boarding/day care facilities
- Dog sitting/walking
- Grooming
- Breeding facilities
- AKC Staff
- Professional show handler
- Show Superintendent company staff
- Research colonies – feed company research
- Cancer detection, research
- Epilepsy – seizure warning dogs
- Canine Behavior Consultant

Training facilities/organizations for the following:

- Law enforcement
 - Civilian security agencies
 - Search and rescue – trailing, area search, human remains
 - Wildlife population studies – scat detectors
 - Wildlife pest control – Everglades
 - Hunting
 - Sport/Competition
 - Guide Dogs
 - Assistance Dogs
 - Termite Detection
 - Writer/authors – AKC Gazette, Dog World, Dog Sports, Police K9 Magazine, and many more.
 - Illustrators
 - Pet Accessories Companies – management and sales
 - Pet Supply Stores – management and sales (Note: Pet Supply Stores often offer obedience classes)
 - Pet Food Companies – management, sales, research
- A.A.S. students would be prepared for entry level positions.

B.T. students would be prepared for assistant manager or assistant trainer type positions.

B.S. students would be prepared for transfer to appropriate graduate schools.