

The Coby Co-Curricular

Newsletter by the Division of Student Development

October 2025 Issue #5

From the Desk of Dr. Anne Hopkins Gross, Vice President for Student Development

This semester brings a spirit of connection, reflection, and renewal across campus. From the Meditation Room in the library and expansion of mindfulness programs to the launch of the NCAA “It’s On Us Playbook” initiative led by our Fighting Tiger student-athletes, our community continues to grow stronger through shared purpose and care. The Office of Community Standards & Advocacy, formerly Student Conduct, reflects our ongoing commitment to education and support. We are also enhancing engagement for our commuter students through dedicated programs and communication designed to ensure every student feels part of “One Coby.” Thank you for helping us create a campus where well-being and belonging thrive. Read on for more initiatives!



During a training specifically for Resident Assistants (RAs), a team of SUNY Cobleskill staff certified in Mindfulness for Emerging Adults (MIEA) guided students through mindful techniques including breathing and walking.

The Meditation Room: Your Space for Mindfulness

Meditation is a practice that involves training the mind to achieve a state of mental clarity, focus and inner peace. Through meditation, we can learn to non-judgmentally accept our thoughts, reduce stress and cultivate mindfulness. Meditation offers numerous benefits, including stress reduction, improved focus, emotional regulation, and enhanced physical health, such as lower blood pressure and better sleep.



The Meditation Room, located in Van Wagenen Library, is open for all students, faculty, and staff, paralleling the library schedule, Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Check Coby Engage for guided meditation sessions and educational workshops to be offered throughout the semester, including an Intro to Mindfulness, a Four-week Journey to Resilience.

Have questions about the Meditation Room? Please contact Leah Johnson, Educational Learning and Development Specialist, johnsolj@cobleskill.edu

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New Name! From Student Conduct to the Office of Community Standards & Advocacy

Student Community Standards policies are often misunderstood as purely punitive—something that “happens after the fact,” a penalty rather than a process. But truthfully, our approach is rooted in our commitment to student growth, community learning, and campus safety. When policy violations occur, the goal isn’t simply to punish, but to help students understand the impact of their actions, to restore trust, and to create an environment where all feel safe and respected. Conduct matters because it shapes our shared community; it is part of education, not separate from it.

That’s why it’s so important for faculty and staff to feel empowered to report policy violations—not out of fear or resentment, but out of concern for student well-being and campus integrity. Whether it’s disruptive behavior, organizational misconduct, or more serious issues like harassment or Title IX violations, addressing concerns early can prevent harm, miscommunication, or escalation. Reporting is not “tattling”—it’s caring for the community. It allows Student Development and related offices to intervene in ways that are fair, transparent, and consistent with our values.

If you ever observe a concern, SUNY Cobleskill offers clear avenues for [reporting](#).

There’s a Community Standards Allegation form for general misconduct. For issues of Sexual Misconduct (Title IX) there’s a dedicated reporting form. Please note, Jill Basile is no longer a Deputy Title IX coordinator. There are also paths for reporting Students of Concern (for non-urgent or behavioral issues), Bias Incidents, or for academic concerns when needed. All reports are handled with discretion. In doing so, we can collectively help ensure a campus that’s inclusive, safe, and oriented toward learning.

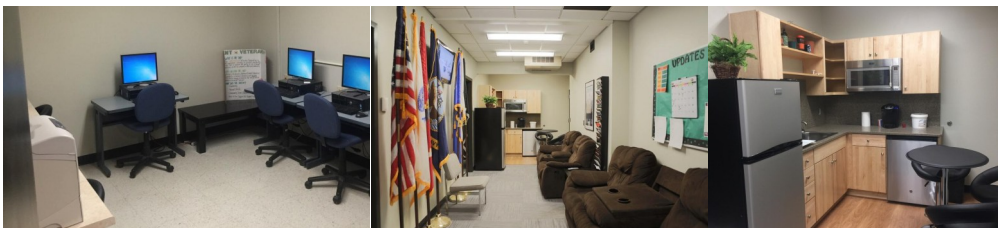
Questions? Contact, Jill Basile, Director of Community Standards & Advocacy
basilejl@cobleskill.edu

Providing Space and Resources for Student Veterans and Military Affiliated

Located in Warner Hall, the Student Veteran Resource Center (SVRC) is open to all student Veterans, active duty, national guard, reserves, and their dependents, guests or visitors, as a meeting space, conducive for academics with six computer workstations, printer, scan and fax machine, and as a social gathering space with a lounge and kitchen area.

The Office of **Veterans Affairs** has expanded its process for identifying military affiliated students on campus. With an emphasis on increasing awareness of in-person services, Veterans Affairs has developed a Brightspace resource page, and an engagement plan for Veterans & Military Affiliates. VA Work Study (VAWS), veteran-to-veteran mentoring and support, educational benefit assistance, and a student-led Chapter of Student Veterans of America National Association are resources available through SVRC.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Nelson, Veterans Affairs Campus Coordinator
nelsoncm@cobleskill.edu



Computer work stations, lounge, and kitchen area at the SVRC.

SUNY Cobleskill

VETERANS APPRECIATION DINNER

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

SUNY Cobleskill Bouck Hall - Dine In
and
Suffolk Circle - Take Out

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
(Until food runs out)

\$7 per person / Free for Veterans

Proceeds raised will benefit the Veterans Miracle Center:
(Presented by the SUNY Cobleskill Culinary Arts Program, Veteran Services,
CAS, Residential Life, and the Student Veterans Association.)

Thank you to our Veterans for their service!



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Fighting Tiger Male Athletes Commit to “It’s On Us Playbook”

Fighting Tiger male student-athletes are proud to join the national “It’s On Us Playbook for Male Athletes” initiative, taking an active role in preventing sexual assault and fostering a culture of respect, safety, and accountability. Through workshops, team discussions, and campus events, participants will learn to challenge harmful behaviors, support survivors, and model positive actions for their peers.



“This program empowers our athletes to lead by example, both on and off the field,” said Marie Curran, Athletics Director. “It reflects our commitment to developing student-athletes who exemplify respect, accountability, and responsibility.” Participation of male student athletes demonstrates that preventing sexual violence is not solely a women’s issue—it is a collective responsibility.

Summer Orientation: Creating Excitement for Campus Engagement

The experience students have during Orientation builds the foundation for their engagement through their first semester and beyond. Students surveyed prior to, and after attending an Orientation session described how comfortable or prepared they felt for the start of the semester as follows:

Summer Orientation Attendance	2024	2025
Families	265	283
Students (session 1)	171	136
Students (session 2)	221	158
Students (session 3)	240	191
Students (session 4-one day session)	0 *did not track	139
Total Students attending Orientation	632	624
% of New Students	79%	87%
New registered	805	719

	BEFORE	AFTER
Not at all:	5%	0%
Not too comfortable and prepared:	26%	3%
Somewhat comfortable and prepared:	58%	58%
Very comfortable and prepared:	11%	39%

Participation in all events, including bus trips, and programs offered through the Office of Student Leadership, Office of Residential Life, and Campus Engagement Board continues to grow. In the first six weeks of the semester, there were 1429 unique attendees to events tracked through [Coby Engage](#).

CAS Offering Something for Every Craving & Every Schedule

Cobleskill Auxiliary Services, CAS, campus retail food locations are here to keep you fueled with fresh, convenient options. From exciting new menu items to quick grab-and-go selections, we’ve got something for every craving and every schedule. New at Twisted Whiskers, Footlong Friday, get a footlong sub between 1pm and 3pm every Friday. At Brickyard Brewhouse, check out the new array of fresh Danish served daily, and new on the menu at Farm Fresh Cafe, French Dip on our very popular ciabatta roll. At Champlin Hall, don’t miss the recently unveiled Barilla Pasta area. And check out the Carriage House for pastries, coffee, ice cream, new retail items and expanded Saturday hours. Stop by, try what’s new, and make this semester a delicious one!

2025 Best Campus Food

Placed in the TOP 20%
of food/dining on Campuses in the Country!

SUNY Cobleskill

Ranked #21
In New York State
4-Year Colleges in Dining!!

Twisted Whiskers

Friday Special

Foot-long Friday

One Meal Swipe

Foot-long Sub 1 - 3pm

Special Fall SATURDAY HOURS

OCTOBER 4 (REOPENING/HOMECOMING)	8:30AM - 3:30PM
OCTOBER 11	8:30AM - 1:00PM
OCTOBER 18	8:30AM - 1:00PM
OCTOBER 25 (OPEN HOUSE)	8:30AM - 3:30PM
NOVEMBER 1	8:30AM - 1:00PM
NOVEMBER 8	8:30AM - 1:00PM
NOVEMBER 15 (OPEN HOUSE)	8:30AM - 3:30PM

CARRIAGE HOUSE CAFE AND GENERAL STORE



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The Coby Co-Curricular



The Weekly Commute: Connecting with Commuter Students

Connecting with commuter students can be challenging, so outreach initiatives through the Office of Student Leadership are designed to keep them engaged, supported, and connected to campus life. From interactive forums and social mixers to parking lot pop-up “Coffee with Commuters,” we create opportunities that foster a true sense of belonging. In addition to the Weekly Events Blast, an electronic message “The Weekly Commute”, is sent to commuters every Wednesday, with information about resources and upcoming events. Select issues will feature a “Commuter Student of the Month” con-

necting commuters through peer to peer recognition and advice. Students are encouraged to participate in the Commuter Student Organization (CSO), whose purpose is to provide the opportunity to address common concerns and engagement opportunities tailored for the commuter student population. Check Coby Engage and the webpage, [Commuter Student Services](#), for additional resources and FAQs. When commuter students, are asked “what is the most important letter in the word Commuter?” They often reply “not sure” and we respond it is “U!”

Leveraging Tech Tools for Community Building

The Office of Residential Life is leveraging its recently implemented housing software, Housing.cloud, to enhance the housing selection process. The platform allows students more housing freedom with more transparency. The efficiencies created through the use of this software allow staff to dedicate more time toward building relationships in the residential community, and supporting the development and delivery of student programs within the ORANGE curricular model (Open, Responsible, Achieve, Navigate, Global, Engage). Program dates, times, locations, and descriptions are posted on [Coby Engage](#). A few fall semester programs planned and led by Resident Assistants, include: “Color and Chat Suicide Prevention” at Alumni Commons, a lemonade stand distributing information about the food pantry sponsored by Parsons Hall, “Don’t Let Stress Bubble Up” discussion about navigating stress as a college student while enjoying free bubbles, hosted by Pearson Hall, and “Encourage Mints”, lifesaver mints with a message.



Developing Student-Centered Collaborations

Residents of the Draper Hall Council will be hosting an action-packed event to learn about Police K9 training, race Officer Reyes in a thrilling scavenger hunt, enjoy tasty snacks, and compete for a chance to win an exclusive Officer Reyes T-shirt! Strengthening connections with Academic Affairs, the Office of **Student Leadership** has formalized [the Co-Curricular Transcript](#) with assistance from instructors of the one-credit course, Foundation for College Success course (FFCS), required for all new, incoming students. Student Government Association (SGA) will work with the Cobleskill Mayor on student representation to increase town to gown relations. In addition to the Carriage House Café & General Store, [CAS Downtown Dollars](#) program has 15 off-campus retail participants allowing students to shop, dine, and utilize services in Cobleskill with their CobyCards. These initiatives highlight the collaborative spirit in the Division of Student Development across campus and into the community.



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Growing Peer Support, Health & Wellness Education

Over the past year, the Wellness Center and Unity Center launched **LINK, Listening Inspires New Knowledge**, a peer support mentoring program designed to help students navigate the challenges of college life. LINK's five Peer Support Specialists provide academic, personal, and social support through meaningful peer connections, while also guiding students to professional resources when needed. Located in Unity Center 204A, LINK mentors host regular office hours, with times and event participation posted on **Coby Engage**, so students can connect with others—even when attending events alone. To get involved, stop by during office hours, fill out the request form on Coby Engage, or email LINK@cobleskill.edu



The Wellness Center medical team is excited to introduce the **Sticker Club**—a creative new initiative aimed at building community for our students and delivering meaningful health education in a fun, engaging format. Students will have the opportunity to collect themed stickers during club meetings, while also taking part in interactive discussions with guest speakers and activities centered around key wellness topics.

The Wellness Center staff, in partnership with the Office of Residential Life, has expanded health education outreach by offering wellness programming directly into residence halls through interactive events, workshops, and peer discussions, making health information more accessible and engaging for students.



LINK Student Peer Support Specialists “in the field”

Emergency Supports for Students, Faculty, & Staff

Unreliable access to housing is a concern for college students of all ages, across the country. Lack of access to safe, reliable housing disrupts the day-to-day responsibilities of college study that require hard work, dedication, and focus. Our Homeless Liaison, LeAnn Pratt, works directly with SUNY Cobleskill students who may not have a safe or affordable place to live by providing support, conducting outreach, and connecting students with local resources in their time of need. Students are encouraged to fill out the [confidential form](#) on our website if they ever need housing assistance while enrolled at SUNY Cobleskill.

The Emergency Food Pantry, located in the lower level of Bouck Hall, is open to any student, faculty or staff who may need it. Dale Ano, Director of Residential Life is overseeing the operations of the food pantry.

Hours and updates can be viewed on Coby Engage. Ongoing [donations](#) of non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, or monetary contributions are welcomed. Please contact emergency-foodpantry@cobleskill.edu



SUNY Cobleskill Emergency Food Pantry

Location: Bouck Hall (down the hall from Mailroom and vending machines)

Monday	8:00am – 10:00am AND 3:00pm – 5:30pm
Tuesday	8:00am – 10:00am AND 3:00pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday	8:00am – 10:00am AND 3:00pm – 5:30pm
Thursday	1:00pm – 4:00pm AND 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Friday	8:00am – 10:00am AND 1:00pm – 5:30pm
Saturday	12:00pm – 2:00pm
Sunday	12:00pm – 2:00pm



You can e-mail us at
EmergencyFoodPantry@cobleskill.edu



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