

The Coby Co-Curricular

Newsletter by the Division of Student Development

May 2025 *Special Edition* Recognizing Student Achievements

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

Greetings! This special edition of the Division of Student Development's *Coby Co-Curricular* is dedicated to honoring the outstanding achievements of our students. At SUNY Cobleskill, we believe that learning extends far beyond the classroom, and this issue highlights the leadership, service, scholarship, and engagement that define our student community. Please join me in celebrating the individuals and groups who exemplify the very best of what it means to be a Coby student. Warmly, Dr. Anne

CASE Award

Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

Each year, SUNY campuses are invited to nominate graduating students who have demonstrated **exceptional academic performance** and the integration of **SUNY excellence** within many aspects of their lives. Areas of focus for achievements and accomplishments considered for this year included:



- Academics
- Leadership
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice
- Campus Involvement, Civics & Service
- Research & Development
- Arts (Creative or Performing)



The SUNY Cobleskill CASE committee reviewed the applications of six student nominees and made recommendations to President Terenzio, who submitted two students for CASE consideration. Congratulations to both *John Christopher* and *Cristian Gilces*, the recipients of the 2025 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, who were awarded this honor during the April 29th ceremony held at The Egg, Albany.



John Christopher, graduating with a 4.00 GPA while earning a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Aquaculture and an Associate's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Technology.



Cristian Gilces, a dedicated student leader who will earn a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. Cristian founded and led the SUNY Cobleskill Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) chapter.

Norman R. McConney, Jr. Award for Student Excellence



SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr and Corey Cherizard

Norman R. McConney, Jr. Award for Student Excellence
Named in honor of a graduate of the University of Albany, former assistant dean for special programs at SUNY, and the co-creator of SUNY's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), the Norman R. McConney, Jr. Award for Student Excellence recognizes **outstanding EOP students** in the SUNY system, celebrating their achievements, **courage, perseverance, and leadership** qualities. Graduating EOP and Honor student *Corey Cherizard*, has been honored with this award for demonstrating ambition to learn while balancing internships and serving as an Admissions Ambassador. Corey, who earned an Associate's degree in Diesel Technology in 2023, will earn his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture Equipment Technology this May. Thank you Corey for advocating for current and future EOP students.

ESLA Awards

SUNY Cobleskill's Excellence in Student Leadership Awards

At the 12th Annual Excellence in Student Leadership ceremony, held on April 8 in Upper Champlin, twenty-four outstanding students were honored with a certificate and pin to be worn with their graduation regalia. These awards recognize students for their **exemplary leadership, meaningful contributions to student life** and the campus community, and **sustained involvement** through activities, clubs, service, athletics, and program development.



Congratulations ESLA recipients! *Rene Alloko, Hannah Case, Corey Cherizard, Olivia DeMott, Wendy Diaz, Makayla DiPasqua, Errona Edwards, Cristian Gilces, Alyssa Healy, Saro Karageozian, Estelle Rose Kotlowicz, Charlotte Lezama, William Manning, Taylor Meacham, Daniel Moore, Madelynn Orosz, Isabella O'Toole, Hannah Richards, Hailey Tullar.* Not pictured: *Alex Empet, Briana Haass, Paisley Nudd, Kai Owosu, Shakira Shakur*

In addition, the ESLA Committee selected several students for special recognition, as highlighted below.

*Madelynn Orosz, **Emerging Student Leader***

*Cristian Gilces and Charlotte Lezama, **Agents of Change***

*Corey Cherizard and Hannah Richards, **The Perseverance Award***

*Taylor Meacham and Hannah Case, **Distinguished Student Leaders***

*Wendy Diaz, **Student Leader of the Year***

Student Club & Organization Awards

New this year! Office of Student Leadership's Club & Organization Awards

On April 22, 2025, the Office of Student Leadership rolled out the red carpet to celebrate the **incredible impact of our student organizations and their dedicated advisors**. With more than 50 active clubs and organizations, our campus is buzzing with opportunities for students to explore their passions, connect with others, and grow into confident, capable leaders beyond the classroom.



New Club/Student Organization of the Year honors a newly established student organization that has made a significant impact within its first year. This group has demonstrated strong leadership, growth, and the ability to engage and inspire the campus community. *MANRRS—Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences*



Greek Organization of the Year is awarded to a fraternity or sorority that has shown exemplary leadership, academic achievement, service, and commitment to its values. This organization actively contributes to the campus community, promotes positive Greek life, and fosters a culture of brotherhood/sisterhood and service. *Iota Kappa Sigma Multicultural Sorority Inc.*



Community Impact Award acknowledges a student organization program that has made a meaningful impact in the areas of community service, diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging (DEIB), or sustainability. This award highlights initiatives that addresses social challenges, foster inclusivity, or promotes environmental stewardship. *Collegiate Farm Bureau/ Professional Agricultural Students*



Student Organization Program of the Year recognizes a student-led program or event that has made a significant impact on campus or the community. The program demonstrates creativity, strong execution, and alignment with the organization's mission, fostering engagement and inclusivity. *Dairy Cattle Club*



Advisor of the Year honors an outstanding advisor who has provided exceptional guidance, support, and mentorship to a student organization. This individual goes above and beyond to empower student leaders, foster growth, and help the organization achieve its goals while promoting a positive and inclusive environment. *Eric B. Struening, Advisor of Ducks Unlimited*



Student Organization of the Year is awarded to a student organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and impact throughout the academic year. This organization consistently exemplifies excellence in programming, collaboration, and engagement, significantly enhancing campus life and fostering a sense of community. *The Agriculture Business/NAMA Club*

Athletics



SUNY Cobleskill Inducts Chi Alpha Sigma Honor Society Class of 2024-2025

The national college athlete honor society, Chi Alpha Sigma, honors **four-year student athletes** who have completed at least five full-time semesters, attained junior academic status or higher, and earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or above. Congratulations to the 17 Fighting Tiger student-athletes who were recognized for their academic and athletic excellence during an induction ceremony on April 8th, including: *Logan Firment, Dylan Schwam, Vladamire Sheehan, Alyse Bechtold, Olivia Griffiths, Madalynn Jurenko, Abigail Marino, Ceilia McFarland, Isabella Regels, Casey Van Nostrand, Zachary Grant, Kameron Cusmano, Chrischen Chung, Jessica Carney, Caleigh Chase, Dory Gosselin, and Amber NacNeil.*

The Athletics Department 2024-2025 Coby Awards

On May 1st President Terenzio, Athletics department administrative staff, and coaches recognized the contributions of student athletes with Team and Department Awards. Congratulations to the student athletes in each of the 18 team sports who were presented with either a *Team Fighting Tiger* or *Team Newcomer* Award. The Department further recognized specific athletes with the following awards:



- Saro Karageozian, Hugh D. Grace *Sportsmanship* Award
- Amber MacNeil, Steven A Warde *Sportswoman* Award
- Josh Sanches, *Male Rookie* of the Year
- Anneliese Klein & Gabriella Wendelken, *Female Rookies* of the Year
- Charles “Chuck” Agle, *Male Comeback Player* of the Year
- Aliyah Neeser, *Female Comeback Player* of the Year
- Josh House, *Male Performance of the Year*
- Taylor Meacham, *Female Performance of the Year* & Mary Danaher *Women’s Scholar Athlete*
- Logan Firment, Albert “Nick” Iorio *Men’s Scholar Athlete*
- Zach Ducorsky , *Male Athlete of the Year* & *The Stanley Nevins Outstanding Senior Male Athlete*
- Logan Thayne, *Female Athlete of the Year*

Athletics

The Athletics Department added a new award this year honoring the characteristics and leadership of SUNY Cobleskill Associate Athletic Director, the **Mary J. Irving TIGER Award**, will be presented annually to a student-athlete who demonstrates:

- **Tenacity** in the face of adversity, consistently striving for improvement, and never backing down from a challenge
- **Integrity** in all pursuits, holding themselves and their teammates to the highest ethical standards
- **Generosity** of spirit, time, and support, uplifting others, and fostering a sense of community
- **Excellence** in both academic and athletic arenas, serving as a standard-bearer for success
- **Resilience** through setbacks, showing strength, adaptability, and a positive outlook

The **TIGER Award** honors those who lead with heart, compete with purpose, and inspire with their actions—on the field, in the classroom, and throughout campus life. Congratulations to *Madelynn Orosz* recipient of the first TIGER Award!



Photo: Mary J Irving, Taylor Meacham, Madelynn Orosz, Saro Karageozian

Leadership

Recognizing Students and Staff for Leadership Skills



Photo: Daniel Moore, Shannan Breault, Danielle Reu, Lynn Ontl

The NSLS (National Society of Leadership & Success), the largest leadership honor society in the United States, honors students based on exemplary academic achievement. SUNY Cobleskill began its NSLS chapter in 2020 and has 437 members. During the May 1st ceremony, 13 new members were inducted to the NSLS. Congratulations Aislyn Weinstein, Alyssa Hodges, Aniya Spivey, Amara Lindsey-Paige, Kailynne Parker, Kai Owosu, Lauren Goodier, Kristi Horn, Mackenzie Wendelken, Myles Monroe, Olivia Chromczak, Shakira Shakur, and Zoe Hatrum. In addition, nine staff members were honored with the NSLS Impact Award, for making a significant contribution to the organization by fostering student leadership, and demonstrating a commitment to excellence, supporting students in developing their leadership skills, and promoting programs that build student leaders. This year's recipients are the following: Mary Irving, Megan Bowman, Lynn Ontl, Danielle Reu, Shannan Breault, Linda Hill, Travis Early, Ryan Herrmann, and LeAnn Pratt.