



**SUNY Cortland**  
Student Government  
Association

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**RESOLUTION 2021-07**

**TO: Members of the Faculty Senate**  
**FROM: The Student Government Association**  
**Executive Board & Cabinet**  
**DATE: December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**SUBJECT: Support for University-Wide Pacing Days**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

That the Faculty Senate of the State University of New York College at Cortland support the efforts of the SUNY Cortland Student Government Association to advocate for the implementation of university-wide pacing days during the spring 2021 semester.

**RESOLUTION**

We recommend that the Faculty Senate of the State University of New York College at Cortland adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the lack of breaks during the Fall 2020 semester contributed to student feelings of burnout, isolation and frustration<sup>1</sup>; and,

Whereas, the elimination of spring break as prescribed by Chancellor Malatras and the SUNY system includes provision for the inclusion of 'reading days' throughout the semester<sup>2</sup> and the Chancellor himself has spoken publicly about such "Wellness days" being implemented<sup>3</sup>; and,

Whereas, academic research has demonstrated the negative mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on college students, with many experiencing increased levels of stress and anxiety<sup>4</sup>; therefore be it,

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<sup>1</sup> See appended student testimonials

<sup>2</sup> "Academic Continuity and the Health and Safety of Students, Faculty, and Staff Policy for Winter and Spring Terms 2021", <https://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/healthaffairs/Spring-2021-Reopening-Guidance-Final.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> "How has Student Testing Gone around the SUNY System" <https://www.localsyr.com/health/coronavirus/how-has-student-testing-gone-around-the-suny-system/> at 5:25

<sup>4</sup> Son, C., Hegde, S., Smith, A., Wang, X., & Sasangohar, F. (2020). Effects of COVID-19 on College Students' Mental Health in the United States: Interview Survey Study. *Journal of medical Internet research*, 22(9), e21279. <https://doi.org/10.2196/21279>

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate affirms their support for the efforts of the SUNY Cortland Student Government Association to advocate for the implementation of university-wide pacing days during the spring 2021 semester: and, be it further,

Resolved, that the discussion and implementation of such days occur with the adequate inclusion and input of students and faculty, including the Student Government Association and the Faculty Senate.