Deadline Approaching to Submit Nominations for President’s Awards and Grants

There is still time to make nominations for the President’s Awards and Grants for 2003–04. Supported by the Queens College Foundation and awarded by the President in consultation with faculty committees, these awards and grants recognize and foster excellence in teaching. Recipients will include full-time and adjunct faculty as well as graduate students.

The teaching awards will be decided by a nomination process reviewed by a faculty committee appointed by President Muyskens. Any member of the College community may submit a letter nominating faculty and graduate students whose teaching they believe deserves recognition (self-nominations are not accepted). Upon receipt of those letters, the committee will gather supporting information on nominees and then make final recommendations to the President.

Three types of teaching awards will be made:

- The President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by Full-time Faculty: Recognizes outstanding teaching in the classroom by any full-time faculty member (provided he or she has not received such an award in the past five years). Up to four awards, each of $3,000, will be made.

- The President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by Adjunct Faculty: Honors exceptional teaching by any adjunct faculty who have taught at least one course at the College in the 2002–03 academic year and in at least three of the preceding four years. Up to two awards, each of $3,000, will be made.

- The President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students: Recognizes the excellent teaching of a graduate student who has taught at least two years at the College, including this academic year. Up to two awards, each of $2,500, will be made.

Letters of nomination and applications for the President’s Awards and Grants are due by Monday, March 17. Letters, which should be as specific as possible about the reasons for nominating the candidate, should be sent to the 2003 Evaluation Committee for [Name of Award], Office of the President, Kiely Hall 1200, Attn.: Sandra Mew.

In addition, the President’s Grants for Innovative Teaching Projects will be awarded to promote excellence in the classroom. All full-time faculty are eligible to apply (if they applied previously, they cannot apply again for a three-year period). Candidates may request up to $4,000 to pursue strategies to enliven a course. Although the grants may not be used for faculty development or release time, adjunct replacement costs, or resources already available at the College, they are otherwise open-ended. Applicants are encouraged to range freely and imaginatively in their proposals. Application forms are available from the Office of the President. The deadline for submitting these is March 17.

Recipients will be introduced at the Fall Faculty and Staff Assembly.

Maria Terrone to Head Public Relations

President Muyskens has announced the appointment of Maria Terrone as director of public relations for the College. In addition to serving as media spokesperson, Terrone will play a key role in coordinating and developing strategic Collegewide communications intended for both internal and external audiences.

Before coming to Queens, Terrone spent 12 years as head of public relations for Hunter College. Prior to this, she held manager-level communications and public relations positions at Avon Products and Bristol-Myers; was editor at two monthly consumer magazines; worked as a newspaper journalist; and published feature articles in national publications, including the New York Times.

A lifelong resident of Queens, Terrone holds a B.A. degree in English from Fordham University. In addition, she has published a book of poetry, The Bodies We Were Loaned (The Word Works, 2002).
POW Photographs of WW II

During World War II Angelo Spinelli, an Italian American from New York, was captured and held in a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany. While there, he managed to take clandestine photographs of life inside the camp, which will be on display in an exhibition entitled Behind the Barbed Wire: Angelo Spinelli’s Photo-Documentation on Life & Culture in a POW Stalag Camp. Sponsored by the Italian American Museum and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Behind the Barbed Wire will run from March 17 to May 16 at the Calandra Institute (25 West 43rd Street in Manhattan), Monday–Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm or by appointment (212-642-2020). In addition, a virtual tour of the exhibition, including supporting documents and curriculum and lesson plans, can be viewed at www.qc.edu/calandra and www.italianamericanmuseum.org.

Presidential Honor Roll

On February 27 President Muyskens presented certificates to over 70 students on the Presidential Achievers Honor Roll. The students were recognized for outstanding achievement during their freshman year, having earned a cumulative grade-point average of 3.75 or higher. A reception for the students and their families followed the awards ceremony in LeFrak Concert Hall.

Richard Peck Rescheduled

Richard Peck, the Newbery-Award-winning author of A Year Down Yonder, has been rescheduled to appear at the College on Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 pm in Rosenthal Library, Room 230. He will be the guest of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies in their Motivation for Children and Young Adults class. Attendance is free but space is limited. Peck asks that attendees read at least one of his works, if possible, and he will autograph books after the talk. For more information, contact Mary K. Chelton (GSLIS) at 3667.

From the Provost Policy on Course Withdrawals

Undergraduate: During the open withdrawal period, students may withdraw from courses through the web or phone registration system without faculty evaluation, so that the only record appearing on their transcript is W. This open withdrawal period extends through the end of the 8th week of the semester in the Spring, through the end of the first five days of classes for Intersession, and through the end of the 3rd week of classes for Summer Session.

While it is not required, instructors can help students make informed decisions on withdrawals by returning graded work before the end of the open withdrawal period. This provides students information on their progress and enables them to drop, without evaluation, courses for which they are ill-suited or unprepared.

After the open withdrawal period, permission to withdraw may be granted only by the Undergraduate Scholastic Standards Committee (B Building 201). Instructors cannot grant students such permission. The USSC may grant withdrawals from courses after the 8th week “only for the most pressing and urgent reasons” (see the Undergraduate Bulletin and the Academic Senate Policies handbook). The Academic Senate requires, further, that the student’s reasons for withdrawing be documented to the USSC. The expectation of a low or failing grade is not an acceptable reason for the USSC to consider a withdrawal. The instructor will be asked to indicate on a Course Withdrawal Evaluation Form what the student’s level of performance has been up to their last date of attendance. Signing this form does not give the student permission to withdraw; it merely helps the USSC, if it decides to grant a withdrawal, to assign a grade of W or WF (Withdrawn Failing).

Graduate: Withdrawals during the first 8 weeks of the semester are considered program adjustments and no special approval is required. Beginning with the first day of the 9th week, students must complete a Request for Permission to Withdraw from a Course Form, which may be obtained at the Registrar’s Office (Jefferson, 1st floor) or Graduate Studies (Kiely 809). The form must be signed by the course instructor and by the Graduate Adviser of the student’s program. Beginning with the 14th week, approval of the Dean of Research and Graduate Studies is also required. In both cases, the instructor must indicate whether the student is passing or failing. An indication of failure results in the grade of WF, which has the same effect on the student’s GPA as an F grade. Withdrawals are permitted up to the last day of class.

Resolving Absent and Incomplete Grades

Undergraduate: Absent (ABS) is a temporary grade indicating that the student missed the final exam, but completed all other work. This grade may be assigned, by and at the discretion of the instructor, if there is a reasonable expectation that the student will be able to achieve a passing grade by taking a make-up exam, and the student is absent only from the scheduled final exam. The grade of Incomplete (INC), also a temporary grade, must be requested by the student and may be given by the instructor to indicate that a student has a satisfactory record in course work but for a valid reason is unable to complete the course. ABS and INC must be resolved through a make-up exam or through completion of the outstanding work during the next semester (Fall or Spring), even if the student is not in residence or has been academically dismissed. If not resolved on time, grades of ABS or INC are converted to FAB or FIV, respectively, by the Registrar. This conversion may be appealed to the USSC.

The College grading policy interprets the submission of a grade of ABS or INC as an implied obligation or agreement to assist the student in re-
solving the grade. Accordingly, instructors who will not be available to receive outstanding course work or administer a make-up exam should not submit grades of ABS or INC. Instead, they should submit a letter grade calculated without the missing work. However, even if they will not be available to administer a make-up exam, instructors may submit a grade of ABS if they believe the grade is appropriate and if the department is willing to administer a make-up exam.

To resolve ABS grades, students should obtain from the Registrar’s Office one Make-up Exam Form for each ABS received. A fee of $15 is charged for the first final make-up exam and each additional exam incurs a $5 fee. ABS and INC grades cannot be resolved through a second registration or repetition of the course.

Instructors who are asked by former students to resolve an ABS or INC grade which has been converted to FAB or FIN should direct the student to the USSC to file an appeal before making arrangements for a make-up exam or receipt of outstanding course work. If the appeal is granted, the USSC will ask the instructor, who has the final authority in these matters, to determine if the student may be permitted to resolve the course. If the appeal is denied, the grade will remain FIN or FAB.

Graduate: The grade of Absent (ABS) is a temporary grade indicating that the student missed the final exam, but completed all other work in the course. The instructor may give this grade if there is a reasonable expectation that the student will be able to achieve a passing grade in the course by taking a make-up exam. A graduate student receiving this grade is required, with the permission of the department chair, to take a make-up final exam by the end of the next two regular semesters in attendance. A fee of $15 is charged. Absent grades must be resolved; students may not graduate with this grade on their record.

The grade of Incomplete (INC), also a temporary grade, must be requested by the student and may be given by the instructor to indicate a student has a satisfactory record in course work, but for a valid reason is unable to complete the course during the regular time period. A graduate student receiving this grade must complete the work of the course by the end of the next two regular semesters.

Requests for extensions of time must be addressed to the Dean of Research and Graduate Studies. If the course work is not completed, the Incomplete grade remains on the record without penalty.

Details on all policies and procedures are given in the Bulletin. The USSC website at www.qc.edu/USSC also provides helpful information, as does the QC Graduate Studies Handbook 2002.

If you have questions, call Charles Lloyd (4487) regarding undergraduate policy, or Robert Engel (5191) regarding graduate policy.

_Evangelos J. Gizis_

**QC Voluntary Giving Campaign Results**

President James Muysskens offered his “sincere thanks to the members of the college community who participated in the CUNY Voluntary Giving Campaign. Many will benefit from your generosity.” Campaign manager Bob Wellers (Assistant to the Provost) reports that College giving reached $11,081. Many contributors marked the Queens College Foundation to receive their donations. While the campaign has officially ended, Wellers says it is never too late to sign up or send a check.

**A Talk on the Literary Life**

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The grade of Incomplete (INC), also a temporary grade, must be requested by the student and may be given by the instructor to indicate a student has a satisfactory record in course work, but for a valid reason is unable to complete the course during the regular time period. A graduate student receiving this grade must complete the work of the course by the end of the next two regular semesters. Requests for extensions of time must be addressed to the Dean of Research and Graduate Studies. If the course work is not completed, the Incomplete grade remains on the record without penalty.

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**A Talk on the Literary Life**

In Wednesday, March 19, at 1 pm, Jeffery B. Allen (English) will discuss “A Sitdown with the Imagination.” Allen, author of Rails Under my Back and recipient of the 2002 Whiting Award, will discuss how he reconciles being a teacher, novelist, and poet. The lecture, sponsored by the Friends of the QC Library, will be held in the President’s Conference Room #2 on the 5th floor of Rosenthal Library.

**Annual Kyrkostas Concert**

The Anthropology Museum of the People of New York will present its annual Mark Kyrkostas Remember Me with Music birthday recital on Sunday, March 9, at 3:15 pm in the Choral Room of the Copland School. The program will include a performance of Kyrkostas’ musical Generations: A Greek Musical Saga, and will feature pianist Ivy Adrian, a graduate student at the College. In addition, the Hicksville Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Youth Dance Ensemble will perform ancient Greek folk dances. A $5 donation includes a reception following the performance. For tickets call 428-5650.

**Women’s Studies Lecture**

The Women’s Studies Program will sponsor a lecture by Mandana Limbert (Anthropology) regarding “Gender, Piety, and Religious Knowledge in an Omani Town” on Wednesday, March 12. Limbert’s research focuses on religion, gender, and modernity in the Persian Gulf. The lecture will be held in the Student Union VIP Room, Union Grill, from 12 noon–2 pm. Complimentary lunch will be served. Students earn 1 CLIQ point for attending.

**Rabbi Avi Weiss to Address Spiritual Activism**

On Wednesday, March 12, at 7:30 pm, Rabbi Avi Weiss will speak on “Spiritual Activism: I Am My Brother’s Keeper.” Rabbi Weiss, one of the foremost Jewish activists in the United States, is senior rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York and author of Women at Prayer: A Halakhic Analysis of Women’s Prayer Groups and Principles of Spiritual Activism (2002). The lecture, which will be held in LeFrak Concert Hall, is sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies and Continuing Education, and is open to the public. For more information on the Jewish Lecture Series, call 5730 or visit the website at www.qc.edu/Jewish_Studies.
Events

A complete listing of events for the semester is available on the College’s website at www.qc.edu

6 Thu  BMus Recital: Caitlin Erilhaum, soprano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

6 Thu  MA in Jazz Performance Recital: Raul Navarrette, trombone; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm.

7 Fri  Student Composition Recital: Michael Duffy and Friends; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 1 pm.

9 Sun  Concert: Tokyo String Quartet; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm ($34/$32 with discount).

10 Mon  Faculty Recital: Artist-in-Residence Gerald Robbins, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

10 Mon  Video Seminar: “Earth Faith,” Rev. Alan Bentz-Letts, moderator; Student Union 203, 12 noon–1 pm (for info, call 261-1550).

11 Tue  Chamber Music Live: Lyric Piano Quartet; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 10 am (subscription series – for info, call 997-3802).

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12 Wed  Africana Studies Lecture: Ali Jimale Ahmed (Comparative Literature); Student Union 301, 12 noon.


12 Wed  Faculty Lecture: “Aaron Copland & Bach,” Raymond Erickson; Music Bldg., Recital Hall (Rm. 226), 12 noon.


13 Thu  Faculty Recital: Cathy Callis, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

13 Thu  Academic Senate: Kiely 170, 3:35 pm.

14 Fri  Graduate Recital: Elena Rojas, violin; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 1 pm.

14 Fri MA in Performance Recital: Macarena Lopez, soprano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm.

14 Fri  Queens Philharmonic Orchestra: Tito Muñoz, director, “Music of Mozart,” with Daniel Phillips, violin, Jonathan Irving, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 7:30 pm.

16 Sun  KidsClassics: “Percussion”; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm ($11).

17 Mon  Guest Recital: You Ju Lee, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

17 Mon  Video Seminar: “Earth Faith,” Rev. Alan Bentz-Letts, moderator; Student Union 203, 12 noon–1 pm (for info, call 261-1550).

18 Tue  Chamber Music Live: “The Viola in Recital,” with pianist Morey Ritt & violist Jesse Levine; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 10 am (subscription series – for info, call 3802).


19 Wed  Chemistry & Biochemistry Colloquium: “Understanding Polarity in Room Temperature Ionic Liquids,” Mark Kobrak, Brooklyn College; Remsen 017, 12 noon.

19 Wed  QC Orchestra, Maurice Peress, director; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

19 Wed  Friends of the Library Lecture/Book Party: Rails under My Back, Jeffery R. Allen (English); Rosenthal, 5th flr., President’s Conference Rm. #2, 1–2 pm.


20 Thu  Guest Recital: Bruce Livingston, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 12 noon.

20 Thu  Guest Recital: Sharmila Daniel, soprano, Bill Woodruff and Andrew Saderman, piano; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm.

21 Fri  BMus Recital: Gerard Gordon, percussion; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 1 pm.

Exhibits

Louis Armstrong in Concert.
Through May 8, Louis Armstrong Archives, Rosenthal Library 332. Hours: Mon.–Fri., 10 am–5 pm (hours may vary); for info, call 3670.

Re: Connections by NÜTRÓ (a group of Russian-American artists). Through Apr. 15, QC Art Center, Rosenthal, 6th flr. Hours: Mon.–Thu., 9 am–8 pm; Fri., 9 am–5 pm; for info/weekend hours, call 3770.


To Our Readers Please submit items for FYI at least two weeks in advance to the Office of News and Information Services, Kiely Hall 1310, 5590. All submissions longer than one short paragraph in length should be submitted on disk or sent by e-mail to nis@qc.edu.