Long before the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) propelled women’s basketball into the spotlight, a team from Queens College was receiving unprecedented media attention, setting new records, and breaking ground for women’s athletics across the nation.

The QC women’s basketball team from 1968 to 1981 enjoyed a period of extraordinary success, with one member going on to compete for the U.S. Olympic Team and many playing professionally for the Women’s Professional Basketball League (WBL), the forerunner of today’s WNBA. On Saturday, January 17, the group held a reunion, bringing together former superstars and coaches to commemorate this important era. The team during these years included some 83 players, coaches, and managers, about half of whom were present for the celebration, including head coach Lucille Kyvallos. The event was held in FitzGerald Gym during halftime of a game between the current QC women’s basketball team and C. W. Post College.

“This reunion marks a culmination, an acknowledgment of this era,” said Gail Marquis ’77, the Olympic Silver Medal winner who officiated at the ceremony. “The years 1968 to 1981 were not only the glory days for women’s basketball continued on page 2

School Psychology Hosts 40th Annual Conference

The subject was serious, but the mood was upbeat at the 40th Annual School Psychology Conference, held January 23 in the Student Union. Hosted by the Graduate Program in School Psychology, the conference has become a familiar event in the metropolitan area, attended by school psychologists, students, teachers, and QC graduates and retirees.

This year’s program, entitled Competence in Therapeutic Interventions: Cultural & Clinical Considerations, consisted of lectures and workshops on working with today’s multicultural population. In particular, it addressed ethnocentrism in psychology’s dominant assumptions and practices. Opening remarks were made by Marian Fish (ECP), who coordinated the conference, Jesse Vazquez (ECP; Puerto Rican Studies), and Education Dean Penny Hammrich. President Muyskens spoke on the unusual diversity of Queens College. “Thinking critically is far easier to do when you’re in an environment with people from all over the world,” he noted.

Keynote speaker Derald Wing Sue of Teachers College, an authority on counseling nonwhite, non-Western clients, pointed out that by 2050, the majority of the U.S. population will be people of color. “None of us can avoid encountering people who will differ from us in terms of race, culture, or ethnicity,” he said. Yet few in the helping professions are trained for diversity. His talk centered on key ethnocentric, “monocultural” biases in psychology, with suggestions for alternative approaches.

Also on hand were Albert Angrilli (ECP) and Bernard Leibman (Emeritus, ECP), founders of the School Psychology program in 1961. According to Leibman, the idea for the continued on page 6
Admissions director VINNY ANGRISANI was featured in a January 22 Newsday article about colleges becoming more demanding about the students they admit. He noted that students who are accepted into the CUNY Honors College have a minimum SAT score of 1,300 and an average of at least 94. Two photos taken at the Admissions Office were also included in the article... ALICE ARTZT (SEYS) was featured on WNBC’s 5 pm news on December 22 in a segment highlighting the TIME 2000 program... ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology) wrote in the December 12 Gotham Gazette about the five most surprising facts he found in recently released data from the New York Housing and Vacancy Survey... Armstrong House and Archives director MICHAEL COGSWELL was cited by Newsday in its Thanksgiving issue as one of the people who make New York a better place to live. Cogswell was also featured on Voice of America radio on December 3. The Armstrong House was included in a video of special NYC tourist attractions in January shown in guest rooms in nearly 70 leading NYC hotels... MARIA FOSCO (Calandra Center) is featured in Alfred Lubrano’s book Limbo: Blue-Collar Roots, White-Collar Dreams (Wiley). She talks about how daughters of Italian American families were not expected to go to college... MADHUHLIKA KHANDEWAL (Asian/American Center) was the subject of an extensive interview in the December 25 Queens Tribune. She was also quoted in a December 27 Newsday article on the connection between prayer and health, which she sees as a common thread in most religions... Newsday spoke with FRANCOIS PIERRE-LOUIS (Political Science) in a January 17 article about Haitian-American Catholics who were celebrating the bicentennial of Haiti. Pierre-Louis is involved with several relief groups there... BARBARA RITCHIN (Continuing Education) was quoted in the Queens Tribune and Queens Chronicle about how the programs offered by the new CUNY Extension Center will serve the needs of Rushing’s immigrant population... The December 14 issue of the Daily News ran PETER SCHMIDT’S (Center for Environmental Studies) list of 10 things parents should know before allowing their children to go on overnight trips... Poetry by STEPHEN STEPANCHEV (Emeritus, English), the first poet laureate of the borough of Queens, was quoted in a December 10 Newsday editorial about the search for a new laureate. The Queens Tribune and Queens Gazette also ran articles about the search... The January 14 Queens Courier profiled MARIA TERRONE (Communications), focusing on her work in poetry and her first book of poetry, The Bodies We Were Loaned... The Queens Gazette and Times-Ledger both ran photos of the college’s WELCOME CENTER on the occasion of its receiving an award from the Queens Chamber of Commerce for the best rehabilitation of a building interior... The Godwin-Ternbach Museum’s exhibit The Light of Infinite Wisdom continued to receive extensive press coverage, with articles in the Queens Courier, Queens Tribune, Times-Ledger, New York Sun, and New India-Times. Museum director AMY WINTER was the subject of a Newsday profile on December 2.
NEW FACULTY PROFILE

Stephen Pekar

Stephen Pekar (EES) graduated from Queens College in 1986 with a degree in education and returned this fall as an assistant professor of geology. But he took the long way back. In between, he taught in primary schools in and around New York City, earned a PhD in geology from Rutgers, and traveled in roughly 40 countries. He worked on an archaeological dig in France and in a factory in the Netherlands; was a dishwasher and pianist in Israel and a film extra in China; picked oranges in Greece and worked on a wine harvest in Germany, living in a castle as the guest of a local baron.

Pekar’s research in paleoceanography and stratigraphy concerns oceanographic and climatic changes of the late Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras (the past 90-or-so million years). After his doctoral research produced a new method for determining the history of global sea-level change, he continued his postdoctoral research at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University.

Pekar hopes his work will expand our knowledge of the causes and effects of global climate change, both past and present. With colleagues at Lamont-Doherty, along with Cecilia McHugh (EES), he has been studying evidence of climate change in the Hudson River region from the past 7,000 years as well as the New York Bight back to when dinosaurs roamed New Jersey. This February he leaves for New Zealand where, working with a team of geologists, astronomers, and anthropologists, he will investigate what appears to be the impact crater of a small asteroid and evidence of a mega-tsunami.

Recently, Pekar was selected for the site survey committee for ANDRILL, the multinational drilling program that will use new technology to retrieve cores from Antarctica (rather than relying on proxy data from warmer locations). “Everything’s more difficult there,” he explains. “Scientists have been waiting years for this opportunity.” Despite the dangers, he hopes to go out on the sea ice himself to conduct seismic surveys.

In Memoriam

STANLEY HIRSHSON

Stanley Hirshson (History) passed away on December 26 after a brief illness. A member of the faculty since 1963, he was an authority on nineteenth-century U.S. history and military biography. According to History Chair Frank Warren, “He was one of our very top scholars. Probably more students wrote their MA theses under him than anybody else in the department.”

Hirshson earned his AB at Rutgers and MA and PhD at Columbia. Over the years his research was supported by a variety of grants and fellowships, including from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations.

In an October 2002 profile of Hirshson in Newsday, reporter John Hanc observed, “He is that rare resident of the Ivory Tower—an academic whose writing can also be appreciated by popular audiences. [In his classes,] Hirshson . . . is a wonderful, enthusiastic storyteller.”

Hirshson was originally a specialist in the Civil War and Reconstruction periods, but as his interest in military biography grew, he wrote The White Tecumseh: A Biography of General William T. Sherman (1997), and then his acclaimed study of Patton. At the time of his death, he was working on a biography of General George Marshall. He is survived by his wife and a son.

Donations in Hirshson’s memory may be sent to the Patient-Family Assistance Fund at the Cancer Center at Hackensack Hospital, ATTN: JoAnn Lawrence, 20 Prospect Ave., Hackensack, NJ 07601.

ARTHUR L. COLWIN

Professor Emeritus Arthur L. Colwin (Biology), a longtime faculty member who, with his wife, Laura Hunter Colwin, helped uncover the process that occurs when a sperm cell and an egg cell merge to form a fertilized egg, died on November 1 at his home in Key Biscayne, FL. He was 92.

Colwin received his BS and PhD in biology from McGill University in Montreal. He joined the college in 1940, retiring in 1973. Colwin Hall was named for the Colwins in 1993.

JOSEPH HERSHENOV

Professor Emeritus Joseph Hershenov (Mathematics) died on January 19. After earning a PhD in mathematics from MIT in 1961, he came to the college in 1962, serving as chair of the department from 1969 through 1980. His NSF grant led to the establishment of the mathematics lab that is dedicated in his name.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, February 23, at 12 noon in Kiely 508. The Joseph Hershenov Memorial Award, being established in his memory, will be awarded annually to the most effective mathematics lab tutor. Contributions may be sent to the Development Office, with checks made payable to the QC Foundation/Joseph Hershenov Memorial Fund.

NEW DEAN FOR ARTS AND HUMANITIES

After a nationwide search, TAMARA EVANS, a longtime member of the Department of European Languages and Literatures, has been named Dean of the Division of Arts and Humanities. Prof. Evans has been Acting Dean since Feb. ’01. More on the appointment in the March issue of FYI.
Open House on Polymers Attracts 500 High School Students

On December 15 the college hosted some 500 students from 16 high schools around Queens and Nassau County. They were here for the Garcia Center’s Open House, a one-day introduction to polymer science with surprisingly blockbuster appeal. The Garcia Center, based at SUNY Stony Brook and supported by the National Science Foundation, involves several colleges.

Students met Queens faculty from chemistry, physics, and computer science, as well as faculty from Stony Brook, Polytechnic, and the College of Staten Island. Along with their science teachers, students—headed by guides from Townsend Harris High School—heard talks and participated in lively, imaginative lab demonstrations.

This seventh annual event acquaints students with polymer science while they are still young and forming college and career goals. Students are also offered the opportunity to join a Summer Research Scholar Program in which they receive mentoring, participate in the Garcia Center’s ongoing research by faculty and graduate and undergraduate students, and learn how to contribute to that research. Though some students enter from underserved schools, many go on to win prestigious science awards.

Polymers, a ubiquitous class of chemical compound, have wide application and research possibilities. “Polymers touch every branch of science and engineering,” says Steven Schwarz (Physics). “Students don’t hear about polymers in high school, but polymers are all around them.”

In Schwarz’s view, collegial relationships between faculty and students are a unique aspect of the summer program. “Education and outreach are important components of the center, as important as the research,” he says. “In our program, high school students help advance our research goals.”

Schwarz co-founded the center with former QC faculty Miriam Rafailovich and Jonathan Sokolov (both now at Stony Brook) under the guidance of Narciso Garcia, who taught physics at Queens. Following Garcia’s death at age 55, the center was named in his honor.

STUDENT PROFILE
Khamranie Bhagroo ’05

Khamranie Bhagroo has always been a high achiever, having graduated in the top five percent of her class from the prestigious Bronx High School of Science. At Queens, she is in the Honors College, majoring in chemistry with a minor in honors in the humanities, and pursuing the BA/MD pathway, which positions her for early admission to SUNY Downstate.

Yet, like many students, she wants more from college than the fast track. Since coming to Queens, she has become involved with many groups and activities outside the lab. The Honors College is a close-knit group and for Khamranie, a native of Guyana, the Guyanese Club provides lively social events. When time permits, she enjoys writing film and drama reviews for the Knight News.

“I haven’t changed my goals, but college has made me more active and outgoing,” says Khamranie. One group she is involved in is Future Healers of America which, she says, helped confirm her decision to become a doctor. This year she began tutoring her fellow students in chemistry and volunteering in the cardiac ward of a local hospital. She also works with Project Sunshine, which visits hospitalized children.

Khamranie’s classes start at 10 am and often go until 9 pm. Last winter she joined the Honors College’s six-week trip to the Galapagos in part because she couldn’t spare time for a lengthy study-abroad program.

With the cost of medical school in her future, the tuition-free Honors College was an important draw for Khamranie. Freed from the need to hold down an after-school job, she has been able to focus on her studies. In the past year she has received a Presidential Achiever Award, been inaugurated into the Golden Key and Chemistry Honor Societies, and become a New York Life Scholar. She also has assumed new roles as president of the Future Healers of America, treasurer of the CUNY Honors College Club at Queens College, and secretary of the Chemistry Honor Society.

For Khamranie, Queens has supported her academic interests while also helping her develop leadership skills and interests outside her career path. As she says of her minor in humanities, “You can’t do chemistry and physics all the time!”

Khamranie Bhagroo (front, far left) and friends during their trip to the Galapagos.

Lev Deych (Physics) demonstrates standing wave patterns on a vibrating plate – an illustration of quantum mechanics – to visiting high school students.
More news of the Campus Dining Club is upcoming in FYI.

STAYING IN TOUCH: ONLINE DIRECTORY AND CAMPUS EMAIL

New faculty and staff or anyone who has recently changed offices should contact Telephone Services (5686) to have your updated information put in the online directory.

Also, all faculty and staff should have a campus email address. More and more information is being delivered by email only, and without an email address, you may miss important information. If you need an address or are not sure if you have one, contact the Help Desk at 4444 or visit the Help Desk in I Building, Room 133.

COMPUTER CLASSROOMS AND LAB IN POWDERMAKER HALL

The OIT computer classrooms and “open lab” in Powdermaker Hall are now open for the spring semester. The lab in Room 210 will be available to all faculty, staff, and students. Hours will be Monday through Thursday, 9 am - 9:45 pm; Friday, 9 am - 1:45 pm. The open lab will be closed Saturdays and Sundays, but I Building labs are open on those days. Visit www.qc.cuny.edu/OIT/labhrs.php for more information.

SPRING 2004 WORKSHOPS

OIT and the Provost’s Office are pleased to announce the spring schedule of training classes for faculty and staff. Some of the classes offered include Introduction to Mac OS X, Keeping Your PC Secure, introductory sessions on PowerPoint, Blackboard, Dreamweaver, and Adobe Acrobat. Classes begin in early February. Complete details on class descriptions, times, and locations will be explained in the February edition of TechTalk which can be viewed at www.qc.cuny.edu/OIT/newsletter.php. To register continued on page 6
Search Is on for Phi Beta Kappa Candidates

Martin Pine (Emeritus, History) likes to say that “Phi Beta Kappa is the only honor society that gets mentioned in the New York Times.” But to many students, especially those from other countries, Phi Beta Kappa doesn’t ring a bell. Queens College, which is home to one of only 255 chapters, is hoping this will soon change.

Chapter president Raymond Erickson (Music) feels it is Phi Beta Kappa’s commitment to the liberal arts that sets it apart. “We want our faculty to encourage students to take advantage of opportunities for a liberal arts education,” he says. “We think this is the best preparation for responsible citizenship and professional success.”

Although many think membership in the society is based solely on grades, those are only part of the equation, according to Fern Sisser (Mathematics), chair of the selection committee. In February her committee reviews the transcripts of all students who have completed 90 credits of liberal arts courses with an overall 3.9 GPA (among seniors, a 3.7 GPA). The committee then recommends individuals for induction, and final decisions are made at a general membership meeting.

“Only a small fraction of those students with the minimum GPA are selected for Phi Beta Kappa,” says Sisser. The decisive criteria are breadth and depth of study in the liberal arts, and evidence of excellence in at least two disparate disciplines. Sisser believes that once more undergraduates are advised of the requirements for Phi Beta Kappa, especially the need for 90 liberal arts credits, the chapter may see a significant rise in its membership.

The college’s chapter was authorized in 1949. “It really says a lot for Queens College that it was given a chapter so early in its history,” says Erickson, as chapters must pass a stringent review. To Pine, who was an officer for 25 years, the Queens chapter is undergoing “a remarkable development” as the number of qualified students both grows and includes more immigrants and children of recent immigrants. “This shows both the heterogeneity of the school and the dedication and hard work of these students,” he reflects.

The chapter is open to any member of the Queens College community who has been elected to the society, whether at Queens or at any other college. It hosts visiting lecturers and, reports Erickson, “a large number of our members are involved in the current general education review at the college.”

This year’s induction ceremony will be held on May 20 in LeFrak Concert Hall. The Phi Beta Kappa address will be given by Daniel Fallon, chair of the education division of the Carnegie Corporation.

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for workshops, visit www.qc.cuny.edu/%7ELord/WorkshopRegistration/SignIn.html.

CARTT FORM NOW ONLINE
The Computer Account Request/Transfer/Termination (CARTT) form is now available online. This form, which replaces the old computer account request form, is used when an individual is being hired, transferred to another department, or terminated. Please print the online form, and then sign, and mail it to the OIT Help Desk in the I Building, Room 131. The form can be found on the Human Resources Web site www.qc.cuny.edu/hr/forms.php as well as the OIT Web site www.qc.cuny.edu/OIT/forms.php.

AD CAMPAIGN CONTINUES
Two new ads featuring QC students debuted in targeted editions of the Queens Tribune, Queens Chronicle, and Times Ledger during the week of January 19. The ads highlight Julio Pena-gos, a future math teacher enrolled in the TIME 2000 program, and Elena Malykhina, a future journalist who interned at the Wall Street Journal Europe in Brussels last summer. The ads are a continuation of the student ad campaign begun last October. A new bus ad for the college was also recently launched, featuring the tag line “Global Education. Great Campus. Real Community.”
CUNY Honors QC Faculty

Eleven members of the faculty were included in the City University’s annual Salute to Scholars this past fall. They were cited as being “scholars and creative artists who have won prestigious national awards or who have been accorded national recognition.” The honorees and the awards or grants they received are as follows:

ROBERT BITTMAN (Chemistry and Biochemistry), NIH/Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Inhibition of Mycolic Acid Biosynthesis-M Tuberculosis, Research Grant, 2002–2003

ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology), National Science Foundation; A Digital Library Collection for Visually Exploring United States Demographic and Social Change, Collaborative Research, 2002–2004

RICHARD J. BODNAR (Psychology), Peptides, Elsevier Science Inc./Department of Psychology, University of New Orleans; Gayle A. Olson and Richard D. Olson Prize, 2003

JOSHUA BRUMBERG (Psychology), NIH/National Institute of Mental Health; Imaging Neural Networks in Mouse Somatosensory Cortex, Research Grant, 2003–2004

SOPHIA CATSAMBIS (Sociology), National Science Foundation/American Educational Research Association; Jeanne Griffith Fellowship, 2002–2003

BARRY COMMONER (Center for the Biology of Natural Systems), The Cornerstone Campaign; A Critical Challenge to the Genetic Engineering of Food, Grant, 2002–2003


ASHIMA K. KANT (Family, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences), NIH/Department of Health and Human Services; Dietary Pattern Indexes: Relation with CVD Risk Factors, Research Grant, 2002–2003

STUART LEIBMAN (Media Studies), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum/Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies; Research Fellowship, 2003–2004

STEVEN MARKOWITZ (Center for the Biology of Natural Systems), Mt. Sinai School of Medicine; World Trace Center/Volunteer Medical Screening Program, Grant, 2002–2003

JAMES M. SASLOW (Art), Monette/Horwitz Trust; Distinguished Achievement Award, 2003
FEBRUARY EVENTS

5 THURS
EXHIBIT OPENING: Discomfiture of Presence: A Multiple Piece by Olga Alexander; QC Art Center, Rosenthal, 6th flr., 9 am (through April 1).

GALLERY TALK/RECEPTION: Discomfiture of Presence: A Multiple Piece by Olga Alexander; QC Art Center, Rosenthal, 6th flr., 5-8 pm.

15 SUN
JEWISH STUDIES CINEMA ON SUNDAYS: Egoz (in Hebrew/Arabic with subtitles, Israel-1999); Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm ($4).

18 WED
EXHIBIT OPENING: Memory & History; Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper, 4th flr., 11 am (through June 4).

AFRICANA STUDIES LECTURE: “Civil Rights History: Why We Need It More Than Ever,” Brian Purnell, NYU PhD candidate; Student Union 301, 12 noon.

19 THU
BACH LECTURE SERIES: “Bach & the Ritual of the Hunt,” Raymond Erickson; Music Bldg., Recital Hall, Rm. 226, 12 noon.

OPERA CONCERT: Mozart’s The Magic Flute (concert version), Dong Hyun Kim, conductor; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 7:30 pm ($10 donation to the ACSM Scholarship Fund requested).

22 SUN
KIDSCLASSICS II: Follow the Beat; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 3 pm ($12).

24 TUE
QC EVENING READING: Author Norman Rush, with Leonard Lopate; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 7 pm ($10).

25 WED
EXHIBIT TOUR: Memory & History, conducted by Amy Winter; Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper, 4th flr., 12 noon.

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY COLLOQUIUM: “Central Processing of Taste,” Michael Barry (Biology); Science Bldg. E308, 4 pm.

29 SUN
CONCERT: Tafelmusik, Jeanne Limon, director; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 2 pm ($34, $32).

MARCH EVENTS

2 TUE
JEWISH LECTURE SERIES: “The Return of Anti-Semitism,” Gabriel Schoenfeld, senior editor of Commentary; Music Bldg., LeFrak Concert Hall, 7:30 pm.

3 WED
GALLERY TALK: Memory & History, artist Pauline Jakobsberg; Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Klapper, 4th flr., 12 noon.

EXHIBITS


FYI is published on the first Thursday of the month. Items should be submitted by the 12th of the preceding month to Maria Matteo, Kiely 1310, x 5590. Items longer than one paragraph must be submitted via e-mail to mmatteo@qc.edu