Eighty-Seventh Commencement Will Be Held June 2

Befitting a school whose mascot is a Knight, a clarion-like trumpet call will herald the beginning of Queens College’s 87th Commencement exercises.

According to the event’s co-directors John Andrejack (Student Life) and Wendy Lee (Events), this new sonic flourish has been introduced at the behest of the president and provost, who felt that the arrival of the graduating students at the ceremony after everyone else had been seated always seemed somewhat anticlimactic.

“We thought wouldn’t it be nice to—POW!—do something to signify that the program has really started,” says Andrejack.

Once assembled, the gathering will receive the invocation from Rabbi Moshe Shur, the director of Hillel who is retiring after 35 years at the college. Affectionately known as QC’s “Rockin’ Rabbi,” he may provide a musical flourish of his own.

Andrejack and Lee also happily note that the college will use a new stage this year with a more open design, allowing a better view of speakers, the surrounding campus, and the city skyline. “It just looks so much nicer,” notes Andrejack, who says it was first employed for last year’s Welcome Day ceremony. “We test-piloted it there, and the president really seemed to like it.”

The gospel of economic self-empowerment—which is the message of Commencement speaker John Hope Bryant—may be just what graduates facing a moribund job market need to hear. Raised poor in the gang-ridden California communities of Compton and South Central Los Angeles, Bryant spent at least six months of his early life homeless. Nonetheless, in 2008 he was appointed vice chairman of President George W. Bush’s newly formed Advisory Council on Financial Literacy, largely in recognition of his work helping others escape poverty by educating them in the fundamentals of personal finance.

Operation HOPE, the nonprofit organization Bryant founded in 1992 in the wake of the riots that followed the Rodney King verdict, gave rise to a national “silver rights movement.” Hundreds of thousands of high school students have benefited from its five-session course, “Banking on Our Future.” Last October President Barack Obama tapped Bryant to become a member of the President’s Advisory Council on Financial Capability.

A commitment to activism on behalf of community will also be the theme of this...
As is customary, the Baccalaureate ceremony will take place two days prior to Commencement. Especially significant in a year in which we will observe the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks is the awarding of the first Salman Hamdani Award, which honors the memory of the QC chemistry graduate and pre-med student who died while volunteering medical service at the World Trade Center. Anam Ahmed will receive this new honor, which is given to a student who has been accepted to medical school. Like Hamdani, Ahmed is Pakistani and has devoted considerable energy to volunteer work, offering her services at Beth Israel Hospital and a school in Bangkok, Thailand.

Gala Gathering
This year’s QC Gala was a glittering Park Avenue affair that honored three distinguished alumni seen here with President James Muyskens and Vice President Sue Henderson. Left to right are: Muyskens, Henderson, novelist Susan Isaacs ’65, art historian Georgia R. de Havenon ’93, and financial industry executive Michael Minikes ’65.

Outstanding Students from the Class Of 2011
Anita Sonawane
Seeking Economic Solutions
Anita Sonawane's path to becoming student speaker for this year's Commencement has included stops in some interesting places: the office of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Brookings Institution, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and the inauguration of President Barack Obama.

The last experience—made possible when she won a CUNY-wide lottery—proved pivotal, says the Macaulay Honors student. “After going to the inauguration, I wanted to explore the city more, so I applied to intern at any think tank in D.C. I was incredibly lucky to get a position right where I wanted.”

That was the Brookings Institution, where she landed in the office of senior fellow Alice Rivlin, whose remarkable career includes being founding director of the Congressional Budget Office and vice chair of the Federal Reserve. For Sonawane, who aspires to a career formulating economic policy in the public arena, there could be no better inspiration. "She's an incredible woman,” she says, “and I learned so much about the federal budget from her.”

Sonawane’s initial interest upon arriving at QC was psychology, which led her to the lab of Joshua Brumberg. “I would be working on lab-related stuff, and we would talk about politics. It really changed my perspective. Prof. Brumberg was the first one who gave me the idea that behavioral economics was something I could explore.”

Sonawane’s senior thesis carries that interest forward. “It’s about the over-extension in mortgage-to-income ratios among minorities prior to the housing crisis,” she explains of a factor that significantly contributed to the spike in foreclosures.

This concern also played out in “Think Impact,” a project she organized two years ago as president of the QC chapter of the Roosevelt Institute Campus Network, a nationwide student public-policy think tank. It sought to evaluate the role of state and federal policies in addressing the foreclosure crisis in southeastern Queens.

“At Commencement I want to talk about the civil rights era activists at Queens, about how that relates to now;” Sonawane says, citing the activism of today’s students on behalf of issues such...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
OLIVIER NOEL:
Determined to Help and Heal

When his plans to enroll in a medical school in Mexico unexpectedly unraveled, Port-au-Prince native Olivier Noel followed the advice of his New York relatives to take advantage of the affordable educational opportunities available from the city’s many public colleges. Noel began his studies at Queensborough, but within a year transferred to QC—a process made easier by his excellent performance in class and on the soccer field. Noel began research in Holtzman’s lab, studying the development of the embryonic heart. “Olivier used drug treatments to reduce or remove the endocardium and looked to see how the shape of the heart was affected. This project will ultimately help us understand how these two layers of the heart ‘talk’ to each other to make the right shape heart.”

“I was always interested in biology and chemistry and the human body,” says Noel, recalling Saturdays spent in the company of his mother’s sister, a pediatrician for the national hospital in Port-au-Prince. “She exposed me to the field and I really grew to like it.”

Despite demands in the lab and on the playing field, where he captained the soccer team, Noel is committed to helping others, regularly tutoring students in French, Spanish, biology, and chemistry. He also traveled to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans as a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, and recently returned to the hospital environment as a volunteer at the Queens Hospital Center Emergency Room.

A regular on the dean’s list, Noel has garnered several awards, including an American Heart Association Summer Research Fellowship, an NIH MARC U-Start Fellowship Award, CUNY International Student Essay Competition Award, and Region 15 Excellence in Sports and Academics Award.

His many efforts were recently rewarded with his admission with a full scholarship to Macaulay Honors advisor Pamela Degoard’s computer science program at Queens College.

“Olivier is an example of what CUNY stands for,” says Holtzman. “He was working three jobs and going to school full time; everything was a struggle, but he did his best to take everything in stride.”

Biology Professor Nathalia Holtzman recalls Noel’s arrival: “He was working three jobs and going to school full time; everything was a struggle, but he did his best to take everything in stride.”

Sonawane’s theme is no surprise to Macaulay Honors advisor Pamela Degoard, who observes, “Anita’s passion for political causes is inspirational. She has encouraged her fellow students to become involved in the Roosevelt Campus Network at both the local and national levels. In my opinion, Anita best represents Macaulay Honors, because Queesns College produces.”

As gay rights, immigrants’ rights, and threatened increases in tuition.

An outstanding student, Noel has been recognized with the Excellence in Sports and Academics Award, Region 15 Essay Competition Award, and CUNY International Student Essay Competition Award, and Region 15 Excellence in Sports and Academics Award.

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For Jonathan Alexandratos, his graduation this June with an MFA in playwriting has more to do with fueling an obsession than completing required coursework.

Despite the fact he’s been writing plays since the sixth grade, Alexandratos never imagined he could pursue

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Alexandratos has already had several plays produced. In 2009 his play Death in Mozambique was produced at the Cherry Lane Theater in Manhattan and another play, Red Christmas, was produced as part of the In a New York Minute Festival.

In addition to his work as a playwright, Alexandratos also has a passion for education. He teaches English at QC as well as helps to coordinate the school’s MFA in art and MFA in writing project. “Teaching is the best job I’ve ever had,” he says, calling QC’s student body both diverse and smart. “I’m always excited to work with students from other cultures and countries.”

As for his future plans, Alexandratos says he’ll continue to write plays as well as explore teaching and tutoring wherever there might be a need. “I don’t want foreign students to be afraid of English classes,” he says. “I want to help bring foreign and ESL students into the educational process.”

ERICA RODRIGUEZ
An Athletic Researcher

Whether in the swimming pool or laboratory, Erica Rodriguez moves with strong, sure strokes. “I am very determined,” she says. “I want to be good at everything.”

Recently accepted to Duke University’s PhD neurobiology program with full tuition and a substantial stipend, Rodriguez is realizing the dreams her parents, immigrants from El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, have always had for her.

“Erica has been a consistent mainstay of my laboratory,” says Carolyn Pytte (Psychology), whose studies of neurogenesis and memory in songbirds may lead to a better understanding of human memory. “From early on in her research, I have treated her like a graduate student and she has always exceeded my expectations. She is a big picture thinker who sees the forest as well as the trees.”

“My work in research at Queens College granted me a number of stupendous opportunities for further research,” says Rodriguez who through QC’s MARC U-STAR (Minority Access to Research Careers) program landed a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at Rockefeller University in the lab of renowned neurologist Fernando Nottebohm, assisting his investigation into the biology of vocal learning and nerve replacement in songbirds.

Despite the obvious demands of her double major in biology/neuroscience and psychology, this Macaulay Honors College student found time for her other passion: swimming. The captain of this year’s women’s swim team, she earned her team’s Most-Improved Swimmer award. In 2009 and 2010 she earned all-Metropolitan Swimming Conference honors. She also gave swimming lessons to children enrolled in QC’s aquatics program.

In addition to his work as a playwright, Alexandratos—who wrote short stories, movie reviews, and even a “Star Trek” spoof early on—recently co-founded a nonprofit theatre company, Playsmiths, that includes an actor, a producer, and a director. “We found that companies in NYC lacked a comprehensive view of theatre and we tried to correct that,” he said. “It’s been so much fun.”

He credits QC with helping him to write and truly involve himself in his work. “Queens helped me to focus and target my writing better,” he says.

Alexandratos couldn’t let it go. “He also admits that during this time he became more and more “obsessed” with his three years as a paralegal in a midtown law firm. “I remembered working until 2 am and thinking why? I thought law would be my thing but I just couldn’t go through with it.”

As part of his playwriting obsession, Alexandratos—who wrote short stories, movie reviews, and even a “Star Trek” spoof early on—recently co-founded a nonprofit theatre company, Playsmiths, that includes an actor, a producer, and a director. “We found that companies in NYC lacked a comprehensive view of theatre and we tried to correct that,” he said. “It’s been so much fun.”

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Kapsis Organizes Film Retrospective at MoMA

“Bob Kapsis is truly passionate about the cinema, and what is wonderful is his willingness and desire to share his knowledge and insights.” That’s what Laurence Kardish, senior curator in the department of film at the Museum of Modern Art, said about Robert Kapsis (Sociology and Film Studies).

Kapsis, along with curator Charles Silver of MoMA’s department of film, co-organized Charles Burnett: The Power to Endure, which took place in April at the museum. This film exhibition was the first major career retrospective on Burnett, whom Kapsis describes in his recently released book Charles Burnett: Interviews (University Press of Mississippi) as “a groundbreaking African American filmmaker and one of this country’s greatest directors, yet he remains largely unknown. His films, most notably Killer of Sheep (1977) and To Sleep with Anger (1990), are considered classics, yet few filmgoers have seen them or heard of Burnett.”

The exhibition presented 20 of Burnett’s films, including feature films, student shorts, made-for-television movies, and documentaries, all of which explore some aspect of the African-American experience in America. Among them were The Annihilation of Fish (1999), Namibia: The Struggle for Liberation (2007), and Burnett’s first studio-produced feature film, The Glass Shield (1994).

Kapsis’ book served as the impetus for the exhibition. “I approached MoMA with this idea to coincide the exhibition with my book and they liked it,” says Kapsis. They more than liked it. Curator Silver said, “Bob brought us the manuscript and I thought this was a great idea. Bob is extremely knowledgeable and certainly knows his subject. He also comes at it from a sociological perspective, which we can’t always incorporate, but we hope he is happy with the way the exhibition has evolved.” One of the opening events was a book signing with both Kapsis and Burnett.

Kapsis says that the book, along with this collaboration with MoMA, is “a labor of love.” His interest in Burnett came about as a result of his research in creating a new film course comparing how African-American communities in New York and Los Angeles were represented on film. Burnett was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, but has lived for years in Los Angeles, where many of his films take place.

Kapsis came upon the films of Burnett and could not believe that he had not heard of this master filmmaker. “I was amazed. His work is a reaction to the stereotyped representation of African Americans, especially films in the 1970s that were filled with drug dealers, prostitutes, and pimps. Burnett was never interested in commercial success but in making films that were true to his experience. His work is a reaction against what he found around him.”

This exhibition is not the first that Kapsis has been involved in with MoMA. In 1998 he received a grant from MoMA to complete Multimedia Hitchcock, a public computer kiosk, which the museum included in its 1999 Hitchcock centenary.
**Field Studies in Development**

With the help of the Office of Institutional Advancement, QC students have the chance to meet alumni at their workplaces and learn about career options.

On March 11, Susan Macmillan (Media Studies), about a dozen of her students, and Laurie Dorf and David D’Amato (Institutional Advancement) went to Madison Square Garden as the guests of Gerard Passaro ’79, senior vice president of network operations and distribution at MSG. Everyone was thrilled to get a behind-the-scenes look at the famous sports and entertainment venue; the itinerary included stops at the control room, several studios, and much more. Afterward, Passaro and his MSG colleague Jackie Lyons ’83, senior coordinator for high school and college sports, talked about the evolution of the media business. They discussed opportunities within the industry, focusing on network operations and live broadcasting. They also encouraged students to gain as much general experience as possible, and provided tips for graduating seniors about to enter the workforce.

A week later, Jianbo Liu (Chemistry & Biochemistry), three QC students, and Anne Dalgish Koestner (Institutional Advancement) traveled to Pall Corporation at the invitation of Barry Gotlinsky ’78. A $2.4-billion company headquartered in Port Washington, New York, Pall Corporation filters, purifies, and separates fluids for clients in many sectors. As vice president of scientific and laboratory services for Pall’s industrial division, Gotlinsky oversees the laboratory facilities. Eager to show his visitors the practical applications of their chemistry classes, he led the group on a tour that illustrated the difference between academic and industrial laboratories and highlighted the filtration technologies Pall uses in new, green markets. Then, over lunch, he answered questions about his education and the career he started at QC with mentors like Robert Engel (Chemistry & Biochemistry).

**College Receives Three Major Gifts**

The Office of Development recently announced that the college has received three major gifts.

QC’s new graduate program in risk management is in receipt of a substantial in-kind gift from the company Barrie and Hibbert. The company has donated 25 licenses in perpetuity for its economic scenario-generating software that will permit graduate students to do risk analysis and other functions necessary for them to receive their degrees. The generous gift, valued at $5.6 million, represents something of an investment on the part of Barrie and Hibbert, explains program director Diane Coogan-Pushner (Economics).

“We use the Barrie & Hibbert software in the classroom to give our students some hands-on experience with asset-liability management and derivatives pricing,” says Coogan-Pushner. “We are graduating cohorts of students with this experience and who can be immediately productive in an asset-liability function that makes use of the software. This helps promote their product over competing economic scenario generators. Already we have had recruiters approach us looking for graduates with Barrie & Hibbert experience.”

The news that a gift of $1.6 million had been made to the Aaron Copland School of Music by a fan of the college’s concerts was music to the ears of Director Edward Smaldone.

“Mrs. Beatrice Schacher-Myers was a Queens resident and music lover who attended many concerts and performances at Colden Center and LeFrak Hall,” he says. “She decided to express her love for music and Queens College by leaving 80 percent of her estate to the Aaron Copland School of Music for the sole purpose of awarding scholarships to students studying here.”

Schacher-Myers lived in Forest Hills and had no heirs. It took three years for her will to clear probate; the first scholarships will be awarded next fall.

With obvious relish, Smaldone notes that “Mrs. Schacher-Myers decided that there was only one other institution of musical learning that was worth leaving money to: She left the other 20 percent of her estate to Juilliard.”

Particularly gratifying was the gift of $1 million to Urban Studies from Amy Hagedorn ’73 (MSEd) via her Hagedorn Foundation. $750,000 will endow a professorship to teach poverty and affluence; $250,000 will go for scholarships and stipends for students.

Urban Studies Chair Leonard Rodberg says Hagedorn is interested in issues of inequality, the environment, and ser-
Wired for Fun

Technologically, we're all very much alike, even at a school noted for its diversity. That's the conclusion of a tech survey conducted in spring 2010 by Eva Fernandez and Michelle Fraboni (Center for Teaching and Learning). About 8 percent of QC's student body, or 1700 people, completed the 30-minute online questionnaire, a participation rate only slightly lower than the 13 percent reported by the Educause Center for Applied Research (ECAR), which collects and analyzes data every year from a national set of universities.

Like their peers elsewhere, QC students thoroughly embrace technology in their personal lives: 99 percent own either a laptop or desktop computer; 93 percent have high-speed Internet access at home, and more than 99 percent have electronic gadgets such as smart phones, iPods, and gaming devices. “They're beeping, buzzing, and texting,” says Fraboni. Surprisingly, though, “they like only moderate amounts of technology in their classes,” she continues. These responses are pretty consistent across categories. “There are teeny differences between women and men, and slight differences among majors,” adds Fernandez, who notes that she and Fraboni haven’t had a chance to look at socioeconomic indicators, such as where respondents live, with whom, and how they get to school.

The two professors conducted a second QC survey this spring, with some new questions. In November they will go to the University of California at Berkeley to make a presentation at the Ubiquitous Learning Conference—an annual event that addresses the educational uses of technology. Their long-term goals include helping faculty figure out ways to use technology effectively in the classroom and determining what computer-related skills students should master before they graduate.

“Students are strong in word processing,” observes Fernandez. “But they need other skills, too. For example, our accounting graduates are telling their professors that in their jobs, they have to know how to use pivot tables. Ultimately, this could point the way to a tech literacy requirement for graduation.”

Like their counterparts across the country, QC students share an affinity for high-tech gadgets.

CAMPUS GIFTS - from page 6

vice learning. “We're certainly the only department on campus focused on those three elements. The issue of inequality, in particular, has been the theme of the department since it was founded in 1971. The course that would normally be called Introduction to Urban Studies, in our department it’s called Urban Poverty and Affluence.”

Assistant Vice President of Development Laurie Dorf affirms, “This gift addresses a core theme of Queens College: teaching and researching issues of poverty and justice.”

“Also,” continues Rodberg, “our department is so young we don’t have alumni who are seriously retired or seriously wealthy. They tend to go into government, public service, or various nonprofits. “This is quite nice because generally our contributions run in the range of $100. A million-dollar endowment is going to change a lot in the department.”

STAFF PROFILE

Thomas Emberley

Thomas Emberley recently became the college’s sports media director and NCAA compliance assistant director. He is responsible for promoting and publicizing Queens’s 19 varsity sports as well as assisting Associate Athletics Director Merlin Thompson in ensuring compliance with the 354-page rule book of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, which covers issues ranging from recruitment to the number of hours of practice and play allowed each week to marketing.

 Emberley maintains Queens’s athletics website and photo archives, compiles sports statistics, and produces promotional materials. Queens is the only CUNY college competing at the NCAA Division II level, with particularly strong men’s and women’s tennis, basketball, and soccer teams.

Still, it’s not easy attracting news coverage, so Emberley tries to find out what makes each of QC’s 250 varsity athletes unique, both on and off the field. Tennis champion Laura Mocodeanu, for example, serves underhand, something extremely rare at her level. Top swimmer Erica Rodriguez just received a full scholarship for a PhD program in neurobiology at Duke University (see p. 4).

 Emberley played football in high school and college. Before coming to Queens, he spent over a year at the CUNY Athletic Conference and two years at the East Coast Conference. “The business aspects of sports management always appealed to me,” says Emberley. He is currently finishing an MBA program this month at Dowling College.
Queens College Goes to India

The relationship that Rikki Asher (SEYS) fostered between Queens College and a unique vocational program for school-age girls in India in 2007 was renewed last January when students in QC’s first education abroad program in that country spent three days in a service-learning project at the Pardada Pardadi School in Anupshahr.

“I was hired with the understanding and the hope that we would start an India program,” says Sara Lizzul, associate director of education abroad. Lizzul had previously studied and lived in India for almost two years and speaks Hindi. In her first week at QC in fall 2009 she attended a dinner with Asher, Vice President Sue Henderson, and Sam Singh, the founder of Pardada Pardadi, to discuss how the school could become an element in a QC course in India.

The program finally launched on New Year’s Day 2011 when 13 students from New York City colleges—including six from QC—flew to Mumbai to inaugurate Mother India: Birth of a Modern Nation, a 3-credit course taught by Helen Gaudette (History). Why a winter course? “India’s not the kind of place you want to go to in the summer,” notes Lizzul.

For three weeks the students immersed themselves in the history and culture of the world’s second most populous nation, traveling to Mumbai, Shimla, Delhi, Agra, and Amritsar. On January 23, with studies completed, they were given the option of returning to New York or going to the Pardada Pardadi School for three days. Only one student, who had a prior commitment, returned home.

During her earlier visits, Asher had facilitated the creation and exchange of quilts between eighth-grade students at the Bronx Academy for the Future in New York and the students at Pardada Pardadi, who are taught to do fine needlework. The new arrivals from New York, which included several art majors, also elected to pursue an artistic project.

“We conceived of a mural in their big auditorium near the kitchen where the girls will see it every day,” says Lizzul. The mural represents the growth experienced by girls in the Pardada Pardadi program. It also includes over the doorways inspirational quotes from famous women, both Indian and non-Indian.

“After learning about the needlework done by the girls, we got to travel with them by bus to their homes to meet their families,” recounts Lizzul. “It was so wonderful to see how the girls and their families were transformed by the experience of the girls going to the school.

“The school actually gave out prizes to the families of the eight or nine girls who came to school every single day. It’s a big sacrifice for a family to have a girl go to school every day when they could use an extra pair of hands at home. The school recognizes that it’s a family effort.”

The culmination of the experience, says Lizzul, coincided with India’s Republic Day on January 26, which commemorates the founding of the modern Indian state in 1950. “There was a celebration in which the girls’ parents came to the school and everyone sang songs—including the QC students who danced and sang Jay-Z’s “Empire State of Mind.””

Moving Messages
Thirteen dances by students in the Drama, Theatre and Dance Department were presented at Boundless: 2011 Student Choreography Showcase. The works were inspired by topics including a painting by Cuban artist Amelia Pelaez, homelessness, the death of a friend due to drunk driving, exploding fireworks, and more.
Jeffrey Rosenstock, who joined the college as an institutional development and major gifts officer, spent the past 22 years heading Queens Theatre in the Park, turning it into the borough’s premier performing arts center and adding initiatives—like the Immigrant Voices Project, a new play development program, and the annual Latino Cultural Festival—to widen its reach beyond the traditional theatre-going public.

He was hired on the basis of a vision statement he prepared for President James Muyskens on how to make QC the best all-round arts center for the borough. His statement has two main components: centralize and increase fundraising to support all the arts on campus, and bring the arts into the neighborhoods where QC students and their families live and work through partnerships with community centers, faith-based organizations, libraries, schools, and other arts organizations. “We need to realize that not everyone can come to the campus,” Rosenstock says. In addition, such outreach provides “lots of opportunities to build an identity for the college throughout the borough and for experiential learning for our students.”

His new job has three main areas of focus: implementing the arts vision statement and raising funds to support its mission; lobbying the city, state, and federal governments; and managing efforts to expand programs and services of the Schutzman Center for Entrepreneurship.

He will also be doing fundraising among alumni in the entertainment industry in California.

STAFF PROFILE

Jeffrey Rosenstock

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Linda Greenhouse (center) recently spoke on campus about her nearly three decades covering the Supreme Court for the New York Times. With her are husband Eugene Fidell ’65, COO Sue Henderson, and President James Muyskens.

April Event Honors Journalist

ID Card with a High IQ

It opens secured doors. It may be used to purchase food on meal plans. Loaded with cash, it can even serve as a debit card. The QCard, which debuted earlier this semester, is QC’s smartest, most versatile identification card to date.

To create the enhanced QCard, the college affiliated itself with the National Association of Campus Card Users (NACCU). A nonprofit educational association founded in 1993, NACCU provides learning and networking opportunities for campus ID card and card industry professionals.

Smart ID cards represent tremendous convenience for students. At QC, new matriculants receive their cards after registration. Complete details about getting and using the QCard are available online at www.qc.cuny.edu/StudentLife/services/online/qcard/Pages/default.aspx

Users can add funds and more at QCard stations that are strategically located around campus.
South African Connections

Larissa Swedell (Anthropology) has been spending the spring in Cape Town, South Africa, where she went on sabbatical. Nonetheless, she has maintained a virtual presence on the QC campus this semester, teaching her first online course, Introduction to the Primates.

“Adapting my course for online instruction has been both challenging and fun,” says Swedell, who has 20 students in her class. “Rather than lecturing, I play much more of a facilitator role, providing students with both traditional readings and audiovisual resources via our course website and directing them to online resources for self-discovery.” To help students distinguish between good and dubious sources, she began the semester by talking about online research and how to determine a website’s reliability, or lack of it.

“The main advantage of online teaching has been the fact that all of us can participate on our own time, from our own homes or wherever we may be,” notes Swedell. “This helps everyone to overcome the challenges imposed by geography, family, and lifestyles.” The main disadvantage: the lack of face-to-face discussion. In the future, she hopes to teach virtual classes that involve live video feeds from field locations.

For now, Swedell uses the Blackboard discussion forum to replicate the classroom experience. “I post questions or topics for students to respond to, and we all submit posts in various discussion threads over the course of the week,” she explains. “We usually have several threads going on simultaneously. Students who are hesitant to participate actively in a traditional classroom are much more inclined to ask questions and voice their opinions when they can do so in the low-pressure, less personal online format.”

Which is not to suggest that Swedell intends to abandon the classroom. In fact, she’s developing a new course, The Human-Primate Interface, which she hopes to teach as part of a study abroad program QC is setting up with the University of Cape Town (UCT). Scheduled to launch during winter session 2012, the program may also include a course being designed by Jason Tougaw (English).

“Tougaw, who visited Cape Town this year and drew inspiration from its gorgeous countryside as well as from landmarks like Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was incarcerated. “Cape Town is such a culturally mixed city, like Queens, but with different cultures,” observes Tougaw. “QC students will have the chance to meet and mix with UCT students from all over Africa. It will be eye-opening for them.”
**Tennis and Basketball Teams Wind Up Winning Seasons**

Both the women’s and men’s tennis teams capped off strong seasons with appearances in the NCAA Division II Championships Round of 16 in Altamonte Springs, Florida.

 Ranked first in the East Region and No. 25 nationally in the Campbell’s/Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) poll, the women’s team saw their season come to a close May 11, dropping a 5–0 decision to No. 12 Clayton State in the NCAA Division II Championships’ Round of 16. The men’s tennis team, ranked second in the East and No. 25 in the ITA national poll, lost 5–1 to No. 2 Valdosta State on May 11.

The women finished the season 19–2, winning all 12 of their home games and 7 of 8 contests on the road. They also bid adieu to three of their strongest players who are graduating: Laura Mocodeanu, Maria Mendes, and Maria Perevezentseva. The men were 20–6 (including four conference victories) for the season: 5–2 in home games and a very strong 11–3 in away games.

While both the men’s and women’s basketball teams made it into the post-season, both ultimately fell victim to squads from C.W. Post.

**Scientists Finds Artistic Foothold**

For her latest project, marine biogeochemist and ecologist Gillian Stewart (SEES) worked with a novel lead institution: the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. She led a 1.5-mile barefoot walk through the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge on May 10 as part of *Intervals*, a brief exhibition organized by the international artists collective Futurefarmers.

“The theme of the show had to do with feet,” explains Stewart, who discussed the ecological footprint human beings have left on the bay, as well as options for preserving it. Other elements of *Intervals*, which ran May 4–14, included talks about the history of shoes and shoemaking, and events in which people “printed” type by walking on paper in shoes that had a letter and a stamp pad embedded in their soles.

Stewart got involved with the show on the recommendation of Albert Colman, a University of Chicago professor who had met her at a conference in 2009 and thought of her when his friends in Futurefarmers expressed interest in collaborating with an environmental scientist in New York City. Of her walk-on role, she says, “I enjoyed making connections between art and science.”
Douglas Mandart
Douglas Mandart, the new deputy chief administrative superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, is responsible for keeping the college’s 35 buildings and 77-acre campus running smoothly. It’s a big job on a “365-day-a-year campus,” he says. Recently, for example, part of the college was turned into a mock New Mexico prison for the shooting of a TV film for the USA network.

Mandart started his career with a temporary job cutting grass for the Port Authority of NY & NJ and stayed 15 years, rising through the ranks. After finishing a bachelor of science degree in management and communication at Adelphi University, he went on to 12 years as an aviation property and facility manager, working at each of the three major metropolitan airports.

A constant concern in his new job is energy conservation. For example, under the guidance of the NY Power Authority, Mandart and his college staff of 200 take steps to reduce energy use at the five classroom buildings that have electric air conditioning, a less-efficient system than the chilled water ventilation found at other buildings. On a half dozen of the hottest summer days, thermostats are raised from 75 to 78 degrees and corridor lighting is switched off.

In addition, “we have to stay in constant contact with the academic departments” to avoid disrupting classes when repairs or maintenance are needed, says Mandart. But working on a campus that has grown over the decades has its own rewards. Each building is different. “That’s what makes it exciting,” he says.
leading female artist active in the klezmer revival. Today she runs a business that books bands for events. Her recommendation for women who would like to work in music? “Be a soloist, be the boss, and make your own party.”

Corinne Michels (Biology) wasn’t looking for star billing in March, but she got it anyway as one of 31 individuals profiled in NYC Women: Make It Here, Make It Happen, a video series produced by the New York City Commission on Women’s Issues and NYC Media. Nominated by QC Special Counsel Meryl Kaynard, who serves on the commission, Michels was screened on the phone and then interviewed in December 2010 before a camera. In February she learned she was among the winners, a mixture of people from politics, medicine, business, and other fields.

Honorees were feted on March 1 at a ceremony in the Museum of Modern Art’s lobby. Michels’s entourage included four of her own guests plus CUNY Deputy General Counsel Jane Sovern and a QC contingent of President James Muyskens, Vice President Kathy Cobb, Education Dean Fran Peterman, AVP Maria Terrone (Communications), Kaynard and her mother, and Sandra Mew (Institutional Development). “I loved having all the people there,” recalls Michels. “They felt like my little support group.” The footage from December was edited into brief films about each woman and aired on Channel 25 at the rate of one per day. Michels’s video was shown on TV on March 19, but had a second life on screens in taxicabs.

On April 6 QC’s Women and Work program (www.qc.cuny.edu/womenandwork), directed by Carmella Marrone, garnered its share of attention with a press conference proclaiming its membership in the UN campaign Say NO—UNiTE to End Violence Against Women. Yolanda Jimenez, commissioner for the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence, addressed the crowd; six men on the stage—President Muyskens, CUNY Vice Chancellor Frank Sanchez, Calandra Dean Anthony Tamburri, Vice President Joe Bertolino, Athletics Interim Director Brian DeMasters, and QC alum Jon Jankus—took the pledge that committed them to the global White Ribbon Campaign: Men Working to End Men’s Violence Against Women. Another 60 people in the audience signed the White Ribbon petition, and 191 subsequently added their names online.

“Each of us has a role to play if we are to have a future without violence against women and girls,” says Marrone, whose Women and Work program is dedicated to helping women develop marketable skills and to building healthier families and stronger communities that are violence free. To lend your support to the White Ribbon Campaign, visit www.qc.cuny.edu/whiteribboncampaign.

Down to Earth
Queens College may have a symbolic mascot in the Knight, but it has a living, breathing and frequently soaring mascot in the redtail hawk. With the arrival of spring, our resident population of hawks can often be seen flying above campus. Every so often one touches down, either in search of prey or simply to stroll the grounds like any member of the campus community.

More Honors for Yin Mei
Yin Mei Critchell (Dance), a Guggenheim alum, continues her award-winning ways: As the recipient of a Fulbright Lecture Fellowship, she will teach at Hong Kong Baptist University. She’s also a 2011 grantee from the Multi-Arts Production Fund, or MAP, an organization underwritten by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. Critchell has landed on the MAP before—this grant, for her Antonioni in China project, is her third from the fund.
Mentoring Success

QC faculty mentors have helped students achieve some remarkable successes in recent months.

In February six QC undergraduates participated in the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, supervised by Christopher Hanusa (Mathematics). It’s an intense, four-day international mathematical competition in which teams of three students work together to analyze a real-world situation mathematically and write up their results.

The team of Xiuwen Lei, Amy Lee, and Ju Yi Shan modeled signal transmission over a large area; their paper was designated Meritorious, which placed it in the top 15 percent of the 2,775 teams participating. Moreover, their paper was one of the top 43 from teams in the United States. Another team consisting of Alice Brea, Pooja Sharma, and Esther Steier investigated the optimal shape of a snowboard course and received the designation of Successful Participant. This is the first year that QC students have participated in this competition.

Monica Martin, a violin student of Daniel Phillips (Music), was awarded third place in the 2011 Queens Symphony Orchestra Young Soloist Competition. Martin placed higher than several students from Juilliard and the New England Conservatory of Music in the March 6 event, which was presented as a recital at Taiwan Center in Flushing.

Four high school students mentored by Vinod Menon (Physics) won first place awards at the NYC Science and Engineering Fair held in March at the American Museum of Natural History. The students had the additional thrill of having their two projects selected to be among eight visited by President Barack Obama, who attended the fair as one of several stops he made that day in New York City. The largest high school research competition in the city, the fair is sponsored by the NYC Department of Education and CUNY. The students—Indroniel Roy, Tanmoy Shah, and Sunny Aggarwal from Francis Lewis, and Kevin Most from Townsend Harris—also won the privilege of representing the city at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles in May.
Chancellor Addresses the Challenges Ahead

Members of the Queens College community queued up for a rare opportunity to directly ask questions of CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, who visited April 13 as part of a CUNY-wide tour to address concerns about the effects of anticipated budget cutbacks and concurrent increases in tuition. The latter was the impetus for a demonstration by students who could be heard outside in the Student Union plaza. And, yes, he answered questions about CUNYfirst.

Meryl Kaynard

Meryl Kaynard comes to the position of QC’s new General Counsel to the President and Special Counsel for Labor/Management Relations with extensive experience and expertise in contract law, employment and labor law (including arbitration, mediation and litigation), employee relations, employment benefits, immigration, risk management, talent development, and diversity.

With a BS in biology from Cornell and a JD from Wayne State University School of Law, Kaynard spent 20 years with JP Morgan Chase, where she was Senior VP and Associate General Counsel and head of the Employment Law and Employee Benefits group. More recently, she was the Director of Diversity and Special Counsel at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

Throughout her career, Kaynard has worked with academic institutions, counseling universities and clients in both the private sector and as Assistant Corporation Counsel for New York City. She has also taught at Hofstra University School of Law.

A large part of the appeal of her new position, Kaynard says, is the chance to work in areas that align with her interest in and extensive work for not-for-profits. “I’m so fortunate to be able to take some of the things I’ve been so passionate about and make those into my day job.” She has served on the New York City Mayor’s Commission on Women’s Issues and on several university and not-for-profit advisory boards. She’s also an active member of the National Council for Research on Women and a board member at New Alternatives for Children.

Recently Kaynard had the opportunity to audit a course at QC that her mother had taken as a student in the college’s Adult Collegiate Education program. “My mother graduated from Queens College the same year I graduated from Cornell, so there’s some poetry or destiny at work here” she notes.

Kaynard, who lives with her husband (an architect and city planner) and two daughters in Port Washington, has more graduations on the horizon: One daughter just graduated from American University, and the other is a high school junior.

Poets Pay Tribute

Celebration of the 100th birthday of poet Elizabeth Bishop (1911–1979), a former Poet Laureate of the United States and one of the most important poets of the 20th century, was the occasion for a large gathering of poets, including two from QC. Top: Jean Valentine (left) and Marie Ponsot (English emerita). Bottom: Tina Chang (left) and Kimiko Hahn (English).
Teaching the Write Stuff

In the writing course Meredith Tax (Urban Studies) taught at the Joseph S. Murphy Labor Institute, students had no expectations of producing polished prose. Most were city employees from poor or working-class backgrounds; many were native Spanish speakers who had limited exposure to proper English.

“The biggest challenges were grammar and ESL [English as a Second Language] issues,” notes Tax, a novelist and political activist. “Nobody ever told them, ‘This is how you say this expression in English, this is how you say it in Spanish.’ They didn’t know what the parts of speech are. I spent an hour on grammar in every class.”

She also had the class read memoirs by James Baldwin, Audre Lorde, Dorothy Allison, Maxine Hong Kingston, and others. The goal: to prepare the students to craft personal essays that would, at the end of the course, be published in a paperback.

“I told everyone, ‘You have to learn what your story is and structure it,’” says Tax. The resulting book, Night School Voices [http://www.lulu.com/product/paperback/night-school-voices-2/15243647; downloadable version available at http://www.lulu.com/product/file-download/night-school-voices-2/15243648] makes for arresting reading. The pages are filled not only with pathography—the dark revelations one expects in this genre—but also with rich descriptions of the way the authors lived.

Here’s how Danley explains storm precautions on the Caribbean island where she grew up: “Hurricanes were a yearly event. Those of us who could not afford a generator prepared for a hurricane by purchasing tons of candles. We stocked up on canned goods that needed no refrigeration, and those of us who did not have a rain-water spout on their homes bought bottled water. . . . some people also stored buckets of water for use in their bathrooms and kitchens, just to be on the safe side.”

Decades after the fact, Nathasha takes evident pleasure in her family’s preparations for picnics at Coney Island: “Our tiny apartment filled with delicious smells as Nanny and Mommy seasoned and floured pieces of chicken, placing them as straight as soldiers in a cast iron frying pan filled with boiling hot lard. Aunt Flora made potato salad, sliced salty Virginia ham for sandwiches, and cut the lemon butter pound cake while she cussed about how the governor of Mississippi tried to block James Meredith, a black student, from attending ‘Ole Miss’ although the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that he could attend the college.”

Tax, who modeled her course on one her friend Mariella Sala, a Peruvian writer, led in Lima, values Night School Voices as an authentic outlet for working-class individuals who are generally excluded from the media. For the students, participation has had additional benefits. “Everybody said that they felt much more confident in their writing,” reports Tax. “A lot of people got noticed at work for their improved emails.”

Winning Words in Nobel Science Challenge

In February, Biology major Ioannis Demopoulos (above right with Math & Natural Sciences Dean Larry Liebovitch) was named one of 12 winners in the CUNY Nobel Science Challenge, earning first place in the physiology/medicine category for his essay “In Vitro Fertilization: The Gift of Life.” He received an iMac computer and a chance to win $3000.
HAIM AVITSUR (Music), an adjunct trombone instructor, received a glowing review in the North Carolina online journal CVNC for his performance last February as featured soloist with the Western Piedmont Symphony. He played both trombone and the shofar (ram’s horn) in a performance of *Tekeeyah*, a new work by composer Meira Warshauer . . . Graduate Admissions Director MARIO CARUSO has been elected to the International Admissions Committee of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. AACRAO is a nonprofit, voluntary, professional association that represents more than 2,600 institutions and agencies in the United States and 28 countries . . . Seattle Times columnist Jerry Large quoted ANDREW HACKER (Political Science) in a column about inter-racial marriage . . . CAROLINE KYUNGAH HONG (English) is co-managing editor for (and a founding member of) the peer-reviewed, online, and open-access *Journal of Transnational American Studies* (http://escholarship.org/uc/acgcc_jtas), which recently launched its third issue (for which she wrote the introduction) . . . MATT HUENERFAUTH (Computer Science) was selected as one of “40 Under 40” by the *Irish Echo*. He was honored with the other award recipients at a Feb. 24 dinner at Rosie O’Grady’s at the Manhattan Club . . . ASHAKI Rouff (SEES) has been named a 2011 Woodrow Wilson Foundation/Andrew Mellon Foundation Career Enhancement Fellow. The highly competitive national fellowship is given to only 20 researchers nationwide and is based on “outstanding scholarly and teaching qualifications” . . . GREGORY SHOLETTE (Art) gave a February 24 talk at the Carpenter Center in Cambridge, MA about his theory of artistic “dark matter,” the vast creative output produced by hobbyists and amateurs that will never grace the walls of a gallery. He also participated in *Make History Now*, a March 9 presentation/conversation at South Street Seaport with Jack Kuo Wei Tchen. An exhibition about the economic crisis, *It’s the Political Economy Stupid*, which he co-curated with artist Oliver Ressler, opened March 15 at Zentrum für Kunstprojekte in Vienna . . . ROLF SWENSEN (Library) presented a paper entitled “The Seekers of the Light: Christian Scientists in the United States, 1890–1910,” at the International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society February 16 in Chicago. It analyzed the occupations of almost 4,500 members and challenged the assumption that this was a predominantly middle- and upper-middle-class church . . . RICHARD VETERE (Media Studies) was an advisor/mentor to the Latino Oaxaca Screenplay Festival in Oaxaca, Mexico in March. His play *Last Day* will have its world premiere July 24 as part of Gloucester (MA) Stage’s summer season. It’s billed as “a dark, delicious and mysterious love story set in a Long Island cemetery where not all secrets are underground.”
Gumbo. Hoppin’ John. Barbecued ribs. Since colonial times, American cuisine has owed a huge debt to the palates and kitchen talents of African Americans. As Jessica Harris (SEEK, English) explains in High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America (Bloomsbury), the trend began aboard slave ships: Larders were stocked with ingredients familiar to the captives, who were considered valuable cargo and often ate better than crewmen. After they were purchased, slaves lived on subsistence diets, supplementing their rations with whatever they could raise or catch and turning discarded animal parts into delicacies. Food provided an avenue for advancement at every economic level. Slaves sold produce and homemade goods at markets, surrendering most of the proceeds back to their owners; caterers, both enslaved and freed, became anchors of their communities. High on the Hog tracks this complicated story through several hundred years, acquainting readers with individuals like George Washington’s chief cook and kitchen manager, Hercules—whose escape devastated the first president’s household—and Mary Ellen Pleasant, a 19th-century business owner Harris describes as the “most successful female African American culinary entrepreneur in the West.”

Like the graphic novel, science fiction is a literary category that’s getting increased academic attention. A recent entry in science fiction scholarship is Do Metaphors Dream of Literal Sleep?: A Science Fictional Theory of Representation (Harvard University Press) by Seo-Young Chu (English). Named in reference to a work by Philip Dick—whose novels provided the plots for such movies as Blade Runner and Minority Report—Chu’s book challenges the assumption that science fiction operates in a completely imaginary realm. Instead, examining its depictions of the globalized world, cyberspace, war trauma, and other subjects, she argues that the genre is a lyrical form of “high-intensity realism” especially suited to the present day. “This is bold and spirited work,” says Yale University professor Wai Chee Dimock. “Reversing the relation between realism and science fiction, Seo-Young Chu gives us a literary landscape as stunning as her analytic vocabulary.”

Innovative projects to enhance the undergraduate experience are cropping up throughout CUNY. So say co-editors Judith Summerfield (English, General Education) and Cheryl Smith, associate professor of English at Baruch College, in Making Teaching and Learning Matter: Transformative Spaces in Higher Education (Springer). Faculty and administrators from 13 CUNY colleges represent those vital spaces where reform is taking place. In the first section, Summerfield describes the university-wide projects she created as university dean for undergraduate education at 80th Street, including the General Education Project to reform the liberal arts requirements. From Queens, Sue Henderson (Institutional Advancement, Math) discusses assessment as a catalyst for building college community, and Ann Davison (English, FYI), Sue Lanz Goldhaber (English), and Eva Fernandez (Linguistics, CTL) argue for a curriculum that embraces our multilingual student body.

In astronomy, “dark matter” isn’t seen, but is presumed to exist because of its gravitational impact on the universe. Activist Gregory Sholette (Art) borrows the term for his latest book, Dark Matter: Art and Politics in the Age of Enterprise (Pluto Press), a meditation on work that doesn’t make its way into galleries and museums. While the overwhelming majority of artists have low visibility, Sholette argues that their efforts remain essential to the mainstream and form a kind of cultural surplus. The availability of affordable, high-tech networking tools allows this surplus to subvert the existing system and get creative activity in front of audiences around the world. Dark matter, Sholette insists, is getting brighter.

Postcard from Morocco

The QC Opera Studio presented three performances in February and March of Dominick Argento’s opera Postcard from Morocco, based on A Child’s Garden of Verses by Robert Louis Stevenson.
People in the Media

A Daily News story concerning the QC Civil Rights Archives’ acquisition of the James Forman library quoted BENJAMIN ALEXANDER (GSLIS) . . . ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology) was quoted in separate New York Times stories concerning the stability of the African-American population in East Elmhurst, the decline in numbers of non-Hispanic whites and blacks in the New York City region, and the insignificant increase in New York City’s overall population in the most recent census figures. He was cited as a source for information used in another Times story about how growing numbers of young Americans identify themselves as multi-racial, and he was quoted in the International Herald Tribune and Atlanta Journal-Constitution about the staggering decline in the population of Detroit. The Daily News reported Beveridge has been retained by Westchester County to analyze population shifts in the county’s legislative districts . . . WKDAF-TV in Dallas featured a story about a study led by CLAUDIA BRUMBAUGH (Psychology) that concluded insecure people make better daters. The study was also cited in a column in Daily Finance . . . KRISTIN CELELLO (History) participated in a roundtable discussion on marriage on “The State of Things,” a public affairs program of WUNC radio in Durham, NC . . . RYAN EDWARDS (Economics) was quoted in a USA Today story about the impact of veterans’ benefits on the federal budget . . . MARA EINSTEIN (Media Studies) was quoted in a Salt Lake Tribune story about how religious groups are employing advertising . . . JOSHUA FREEMAN (History) appeared on “The Brian Lehrer Show” on WNYC radio in connection with the 100th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire. Freeman also authored an article in the Nation about the event, a link to which was available at the WNYC.org website, and he was quoted in a New York Times column. He was also quoted in a Crain’s New York Business story about the lack of a strong labor presence in efforts to keep Walmart from locating in New York City, and in a New York magazine piece about New York City as the birthplace of Reaganesics . . . KIMIKO HAHN (English) discussed Japanese culture through literature on NPR’s “Talk of the Nation” . . . Reviews of JESSICA HARRIS’S (English) new book about African cooking, High on the Hog, appeared in the New York Times and Washington Post, and a story about Harris and her book appeared in the Daily News. Harris also authored a piece about African-American New Year’s food traditions for the New York Times . . . SAMUEL HEILMAN (Sociology) was quoted in a Washington Post story about matchmaking among Orthodox Jews . . . ROBERT KAPSI’S (Sociology/Film Studies) new book about highly regarded but little known African-American filmmaker Charles Burnett and the retrospective of Burnett’s films he mounted at the Museum of Modern Art received considerable attention, with stories in the Wall Street Journal, Moving Image Archive News, the Village Voice, the Great Neck Record, and at PopMatters.com and cinespect.com . . . Research by INAS KELLY (Economics) concerning the health benefits of bicycling was cited in a Wall Street Journal story about the controversies surrounding city bike lanes . . . HARRY LEVINE’S (Sociology) study demonstrating how black and Hispanic NYC residents are more likely than other ethnic groups to be arrested by police for marijuana possession continues to generate media interest, with stories appearing in Washington Square News, Metro, and at the “City Room” blog of the New York Times, GothamGazette.com, UPI.com, NYUNews.com, and IBTimes.com . . . QC student LILIETE LOPEZ, who is treasurer of the CUNY Coalition for Students with Disabilities and vice chair of Disabled Students Affairs of the University Student Senate, was featured as a “Rising Star Profile” in the Queens Courier . . . ALLAN LUDMAN (SEES) told listeners of WNYC’s “Brian Lehrer Show” there’s little chance of a significant earthquake in the New York City area . . . A New York Times story concerning women whose breast tissue became impregnated with particles of tungsten by a device used in a study of women with breast cancer quoted STEVEN MARKOWITZ (CBNS) . . . PYONG GAP MIN’S (Sociology) expertise on Korean culture in the U.S.—and particularly Korean greengrocers—led to his being quoted in articles in the Daily News and at City-Journal.org, hypermagazine.com, and DailyRecord.com. He also appeared on BBC News radio and WNYC’s “Brian Lehrer Show.” Additionally, he was mentioned in an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education about a new chair in Korean-American studies at UCLA . . . The Queens College Jazz Ensemble under the direction of MICHAEL MOSSMAN (Music) played in a live broadcast April 4 at the studios of radio station WBGO as part of its Jazz Appreciation Month Student Broadcast Festival . . . The New York Times published a letter from WILLIAM MURASKIN (Urban Studies) about Bill Gates and public health . . . PREMILLA NADASEN (History), who occasionally blogs for Ms. magazine, wrote one March 25 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire, one of the pivotal events in labor history . . . A New York Times story about ethnic differences in the use of plastic surgery quoted VICTORIA PITTS-TAYLOR (Sociology) . . . The blog “Jazz Lives” reported on the work of Louis Armstrong House Museum archivist RICKY RICCARDI and the special talks about “Louis Armstrong and Race” he would be giving during Black History Month . . . Rabbi MOSHE SHUR (Hillel) was profiled in the Queens Chronicle . . . STEPHEN STEINBERG (Urban Studies) published an article in Boston Review in response to Patricia Cohen’s front-page article in the New York Times on “The Comeback of the Culture of Poverty” . . . The website of the Guardian featured MEREDITH TAX’S (Urban Studies) account of getting working-class night school students to write about their lives for a book the class published . . . RICHARD VETERE (Media Studies) gave an interview that will appear in the July issue of American Theater about his experiences touring with his play Caravaggio in Rome, Porto Ercole, and Capri . . . JOHN WALDMAN (Biography) was quoted in a New York Times story concerning plans to expand JFK Airport and the ecological impact this could have on nearby Jamaica Bay.
Events in the Media

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum exhibition, *Windows and Mirrors: Reflections on the War in Afghanistan* was reviewed by the Queens Chronicle and Queens Courier... QC’s receipt of a design award for its addition to Remsen Hall was the subject of stories in the Queens Chronicle, the Times Ledger, the Queens Tribune, and Queens Gazette... The Times Ledger reported on the Louis Armstrong House Museum’s plans to build a new visitors center... The QC Art Center exhibition of photographs, *Cheap Shots—Made in China: Bicyclists and Pedestrians*, was featured in the Queens Courier... A performance by students and faculty marking the Copland School of Music’s acquisition of several Balinese instruments in connection with its new course in Gamelan music was the subject of stories in the Daily News, Queens Gazette, Queens Courier, and Times Ledger... The Summit was featured in an article in Diverse: Issues in Higher Education about commuter schools building dormitories to improve retention rates... Queens: Multiple Visions, a collaborative exhibition between QC and the Queens Museum of Art that features works by the borough’s art teachers and their students, was the subject of stories in the Queens Courier and Queens Chronicle... A program in February in observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day that included survivors of genocide and educators was featured in the Queens Chronicle... Best-selling author Jonathan Franzen’s appearance as part of QC’s Evening Readings series was reported in the Daily News... The Queens Courier was on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new QCard Office... Photos of the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Hillel Center’s multimedia computer lab appeared in the Queens Tribune and Queens Examiner... Julian Bond’s Black History Month appearance at QC to speak about his late friend and fellow civil rights leader James Forman produced stories in the Queens Chronicle, New York Amsterdam News, Queens Courier, Queens Tribune, Times Ledger, the Gleaner Extra N.A, and Queens Chronicle. The Queens Chronicle also listed Black History Month Events at QC as part of a special section devoted to the role Queens played in the civil rights movement... The Queens Tribune and the Jazz Lives blog reported the announcement by the Louis Armstrong House Museum that its three largest collections are now accessible through its website. The Times Ledger offered a story about tours at the museum during Black History Month and Armstrong’s feelings about race... The QC Year of China event, Culture Blending in Ceramic Arts: Contemporary Ceramic Artwork, was featured in the Queens Tribune... Express+Local: NYC Aesthetics, the experimental work at the QC Art Center that involved 15 different artists, generated stories in the Daily News, Queens Tribune, Queens Ledger, and Metro... The Times Ledger and Queens Tribune reported on the forum organized by the Asian/American Center in response to the most recent census figures... The QC Business Forum, at which Queens leaders discussed the pace of development in the borough, was featured in the Queens Courier, Queens Tribune, Queens Chronicle, Queens Examiner, Times Ledger, and Queens Gazette... The QC Opera Studio production of Dominick Argento’s *Postcard from Morocco* was favorably mentioned in the blog for Opera News... QC’s Women’s History Month conference on Women in Music was featured in the Times Ledger... The recent event organized by the Women and Work program, “Men Working to End Men’s Violence Against Women,” was reported in the Queens Courier... The Daily News, Queens Courier, Times Ledger, and Queens Chronicle offered stories about Forgotten Borough: Writers Come to Terms with Queens, a book featuring pieces written by former and current QC faculty members.

Next Stop: Art

Sixteen artists in different media—including Anne Sherwood Pundyk (top) and Antonia Perez (bottom)—spent one-month residencies February, March, and April at the QC Art Center as part of EXPRESS+LOCAL: NYC Aesthetics, an experiment to see how their locale affects their art.

All-Stars: Louis Armstrong and clarinetist Jack Muranyi

Aesthetics, the experimental work at the QC Art Center that involved 15 different artists, generated stories in the Daily News, Queens Tribune, Queens Ledger, and Metro... The Times Ledger and Queens Tribune reported on the forum organized by the Asian/American Center in response to the most recent census figures... The QC Business Forum, at which Queens leaders discussed the pace of development in the borough, was featured in the Queens Courier, Queens Tribune, Queens Chronicle, Queens Examiner, Times Ledger, and Queens Gazette... The QC Opera Studio production of Dominick Argento’s *Postcard from Morocco* was favorably mentioned in the blog for Opera News... QC’s Women’s History Month conference on Women in Music was featured in the Times Ledger... The recent event organized by the Women and Work program, “Men Working to End Men’s Violence Against Women,” was reported in the Queens Courier... The Daily News, Queens Courier, Times Ledger, and Queens Chronicle offered stories about Forgotten Borough: Writers Come to Terms with Queens, a book featuring pieces written by former and current QC faculty members.