It is only fitting in this Olympic year that one of QC’s own Olympians, basketball great Gail Marquis ’80, will be invoking the Olympic spirit of commitment, preparation, and teamwork as she addresses the 2008 graduating class at Queens College’s 84th Commencement on May 29.

The former Lady Knight, who received a silver medal as a member of the U.S. women’s basketball team at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, will be joined on stage by two other QC alums, Alice Artzt ’68 & ’73 and Russell Artzt ’68, who will receive medals from President James Muyskens acknowledging their contributions to Queens College over the years.

Alice (Secondary Education) is well known for TIME 2000, her innovative program for prospective secondary education math teachers. Her husband, Russell, co-founded Computer Associates (now CA) and has been a longtime advocate for the college through his work with the Queens College Foundation. Alice and Russell met while students at QC.

This year’s Commencement student speaker is Macaulay Honors College student Lauren Talerman. An Orthodox Jew, she made local media headlines two years ago with her decision to use her David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship to study Arabic in Egypt. A member of the President’s Strategic Planning Council, Talerman has also been an eloquent voice on campus affairs as executive editor of the Knight News (see page 2).

Miriam Ginzberg will be the student speaker for the Baccalaureate Convocation. Last year she won a Goldwater Scholarship, which recognizes outstanding math, science, and engineering sophomores and juniors (see page 6 for this year’s winner). Ginzberg has also interned at the Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research and received a Rockefeller University Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

A distinguished career in science will be honored with the presentation of the

continued on page 2
degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, to Adam Heller of the University of Texas, Austin, for his significant contributions in the fields of chemistry and chemical engineering. Following the ceremony, Heller will present a special seminar, “Electrochemistry of Diabetes Management: Lessening the Pain and Worry.”

This year’s Chief Marshal is the world-renowned translator Gregory Rabassa (European Langs.), who has just retired after four decades of service to the college. The Chief Marshal officially opens the ceremony. As is traditional, Rabassa will carry the QC mace and wear a chain-of-office. President Muyskens will be wearing a new presidential chain-of-office, donated by past chief marshals. The chain displays the names of all QC presidents, beginning with Paul Klapper.

This is the twenty-first time Joe Brostek (Exec. Dir. Events Planning) has run Commencement. Planning for the event—which typically brings 10,000 people (including 2000 graduates) to the Quad and requires the cooperation of several QC departments and city agencies—begins six months prior, says Brostek. If you watch closely during this year’s event, you may notice him occasionally speaking to himself. Actually, he explains, he’s making notes for future reference, using a tiny handheld tape recorder.

Brostek notes that after all these years he still receives queries from participants asking when rehearsal will take place. His patented response is: “We only do it once, and we always get it right the first time.”

**Reading the Q Card**

The ID card issued to QC students is undergoing an identity change. The first phase starts on June 2, with the launch of a campuswide print management system designed to reduce the consumption of paper and ink. Students enrolled in Summer Session 1 will have to use their Q Card to make printouts at campus computer labs; no charges will apply. Summer Session 2 will mark the introduction of fees: 10 cents a page for black-and-white printing and 25 cents for color will be deducted from the $10 loaded into a print account accessed through the student’s ID. Users will be able to refill accounts at their own expense.

Stay tuned for this fall, when more college functions—including some for faculty—will be added to the cards.

**Some Notable Grads**

Writing for the *Knight News* taught Executive Editor Lauren Talerman to recognize biases and strive for objectivity. That’s why Talerman, a Hebrew-speaking yeshiva graduate with a long-standing interest in the Middle East, immersed herself in Arabic.

“It made sense to acquire the other dominant language,” she explains. On a David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship, she went to Egypt to study Arabic. Then she continued her training on two trips to Morocco funded through the Macaulay Honors College.

When she wasn’t traveling, Talerman kept busy at QC. A double major in anthropology and political science and this year’s Commencement student speaker, she was co-editor of the 2006 *Journal of Jewish Studies* and a member of the QC Strategic Planning Committee and Working Group. She also served on former Governor Eliot Spitzer’s Commission on Higher Education.

Next year, in return for her Boren scholarship, Talerman will work for the government. “I’m using that as a sort of break between college and graduate school, in my case, probably law school,” she says, noting that she sees herself eventually working in international disputes, perhaps maritime and international law.

Joseph Hirsh says the only limits he ever encountered in his pursuit of knowledge were his own. They were few, if any.

Hirsh, who graduated summa cum laude in December from the Macaulay Honors College with a BA in pure mathematics, is the recipient of the Molly Weinstein Memorial Award, presented annually by the QC Foundation to graduating seniors with a distinguished record of scholarship who intend to pursue a career in college teaching. He also received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship; past recipients include two Nobel Prize winners and one of the founders of Google.

Hirsh says he’s grateful to the Honors College and QC for giving him the opportunity to take advantage of experiences such as spending a summer living with a Chinese family in Beijing while studying Mandarin Chinese. He was also able to pursue doctoral courses and seminars across all seven senior CUNY colleges and, thanks to his professors, attended Moduli Spaces: a Winter School and Conference at the Max Planck Institute.
Institute for Mathematics in Bonn.

In turn, Hirsh has helped his peers. During his first semester at QC, he convinced the Mathematics Department to offer an honors section of linear algebra that eventually included him and two other students. He also recruited 15 students for an advanced course in algebraic topology, a course that had not been taught at the college for over 10 years. In his sophomore and junior years, Hirsh worked as a math tutor, specializing in more abstract subjects, including graduate-level algebra and topology. His incentive, he says, was the great pleasure he received in helping promising students—many with full-time jobs and no money for private tutoring—succeed in mathematics.

Hirsh turned down U.C. Berkeley to accept a prestigious Robert E. Gilleece Fellowship to pursue doctoral studies at the CUNY Graduate Center. This summer, thanks to an invitation from professors Kefeng Liu (UCLA) and Shing Tung Yau (Harvard), he will visit the Center for Mathematical Sciences at Zhejiang University in China to study differential geometry, new developments in Ricci flow, and physics.

Few students can claim that Tarzan is responsible for their decision to go to college. But Shawn Garnier—a dancer who has performed at Radio City Music Hall and in Las Vegas and a choreographer who has worked with the New York Knicks’ City Dancers—was auditioning for the Broadway musical based on the famous ape man when he realized it was time to make a change. “The callback process was two years, it was grueling,” recalls Garnier.

Three years ago, while majoring in theatre and dance and minoring in comparative literature, Garnier formed the QC Dance Team. Membership has since grown from seven to 17 members. Last summer, in its first competition, the team placed first in the Northeast regional dance competition, and subsequently 24th in the semi-finals. In January they went on to compete against 359 teams at the 2008 NCAA-certified College Dance Team National Championships at Walt Disney World. Wearing Garnier-designed costumes and dancing a two-minute routine he choreographed, the team finished nineteenth.

This summer Garnier will be working on a new cabaret act in Manhattan (he has already performed it at the Slipper Room in the East Village) before going on to graduate studies in fine arts at SUNY Purchase in the fall.

When Kimberly Lupton asked her mother to describe what she had been like as a child growing up in Manila, her mother told her she was an “eager beaver,” always volunteering in school activities and festivals. Lupton’s family came to the U.S. in 1994, and today Lupton remains an eager beaver, pursuing a career in early childhood education—despite being legally blind.

Lupton credits two of her teachers, one of whom was also legally blind, with inspiring her direction. “I never let my disability get in the way of pursuing my goal of becoming an educator,” says Lupton, who has participated in several organizations that accommodate individuals with disabilities, such as the Lighthouse, Vacation Camp for the Blind, and the Jewish Guild for the Blind. She was a mentor for the latter group and assisted in its Early Intervention Program, working with disabled children. She has also worked for the Early Intervention Program of the Flushing YMCA.

On her resume Lupton states as her career objective: “A challenging position in Early & Elementary Childhood Education teaching children, especially those who have vision impairment. I have great passion for teaching children and I believe that I can fully utilize my experience, skills, and abilities for their benefit.”

This was evident in her very first teaching practicum at PS 011 in Woodside. When it ended, the students and cooperating teacher gave her a surprise farewell party. “We actually had a moment of tears on my last day,” says Lupton.

Born in New York City and raised in Port au Prince, Haiti, Adjani Papillon is a product of two nations. But her many campus activities—such as serving as a QC delegate in the CUNY Student Senate, a member of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and publicity coordinator of the Peer Counseling Program—expanded her horizons even further.

“One of my greatest experiences at Queens College was being a peer counselor,” says Papillon. A psychology major who minored in Business and Liberal Arts and student personnel and counseling, Papillon found satisfaction in helping other students cope with serious issues. She also enjoyed learning about unfamiliar cultures. “It’s good to compare and different situations, see how people deal with different ideas,” she says.

As the newly elected president of the college’s student government, Papillon will come back to QC this summer to begin courses for a master’s in elementary education. She notes that her mother, who operates a school in Port-au-Prince, hopes her daughter will return one day to help run the school. But for now she has her eye on law school. “It’s been my passion for a long time to be an immigration attorney,” says Papillon, who speaks English, French, Spanish, and Creole.
it constructs and manages this facility.”

Financed by $72 million in tax-exempt bonds issued by the New York City Housing Development Corporation, the Summit at Queens College represents a win-win deal for all parties. The bonds were enhanced by a Letter of Credit issued by RBS Citizens National Association and were underwritten by RBC Capital Markets. The bonds and Letter of Credit are entirely secured by project revenues; no public funds are involved. Capstone—an Alabama firm that has developed over 31,000 beds of on-campus housing and manages about half that many—will hold a ground lease on the residence hall. When the lease expires, QC will own the building.

In keeping with the college’s commitment to sustainability, the Summit is expected to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) requirements for Silver certification. The LEED rating system is overseen by the United States Green Building Council, which awards Silver, Gold, and Platinum certification to structures that prevent waste and conserve energy. Sustainable furniture and carpeting and a highly efficient heating and air conditioning system are important elements in the building’s application for Silver status.

Information on rentals will be available to the college community this summer from the Capstone leasing office, which will be located in the main cafeteria building. Sample residence hall furniture, facility renderings, and scale models will be on display.

After completing the residence hall, Capstone will manage it in consultation with QC. “Student Life will be hiring and working closely with staff for the hall, and planning activities,” says Henderson. “Given the extensive residential experience that Joe Bertolino and Adam Rockman bring to the project, we’re confident of success. Capstone will also continue to work with our security staff as well as our facilities to keep a clean environment.”

Monthly rates at the Summit will vary, ranging from $920 for accommodations in a shared room to $1,150 for a single. Each bedroom will be in a suite that includes a kitchenette, a common living area, and a bath. Since the residence hall will not have a separate dining room, students will use the current dining hall, which will offer expanded services.

Affirming Campus Diversity

While students were taking midterm exams, QC was facing a test of its own: The college was audited by the CUNY University Affirmative Action Committee.

“CUNY conducts audits of campus affirmative action compliance and diversity programs on a regular basis,” says Cynthia Rountree, Director of Affirmative Action Compliance and Diversity Programs at QC. The audits involve a review of Affirmative Action records, as well as interviews with members of the faculty, staff, and administration. “We got excellent evaluations,” notes Rountree, an attorney with extensive experience in human rights and employment discrimination law. “Our records were found to be well-maintained and in order.”

She is equally enthusiastic about QC’s efforts to increase diversity in its workforce. “Equal employment opportunity is presumed when you conduct a search,” explains Rountree. “Affirmative action is a step further.” To that end, her staff is creating and sponsoring new training programs for managers, directors, department chairs, and search committee chairs. In the fall, she will meet with individual departments to discuss affirmative action and diversity issues and recruitment strategies.

Rountree’s office is preparing to roll out its own Web page on QC’s portal. The Web site will ultimately include a directory of the staff of the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance and Diversity Program, members of the Sexual Harassment Awareness and Intake Committee, and members of the college-wide Affirmative Action Committee. “People will be able to get information on the Web that used to be provided over the phone,” she says.

Another one of Rountree’s tasks is to find new ways to reach potential employees and encourage them to apply for jobs at the college. She is compiling an Applicant Resource Directory that committees can use to broaden their searches, and has enlisted QC designers to develop recruitment banners for display at professional conferences, meetings, and conventions. “This is a global college,” concludes Rountree. “I don’t think anybody wants to work in an environment where everyone is the same. We need to get the word out that we’re receptive.”
QC BY THE NUMBERS: WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Faculty and staff often wonder where college funds come from and how they are allocated. To keep everyone informed, FYI will occasionally publish financial charts. Here we break down revenues for the past five years. The second and third charts examine fiscal 2006–2007 in greater detail.

Revenues: Fiscal Years 2003-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES</td>
<td>166,796,164</td>
<td>175,000,879</td>
<td>175,474,671</td>
<td>175,109,749</td>
<td>212,492,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **State Appropriations**: $77,903,000
- **Tuition & Fees**: $81,500,000
- **Other Sources**: $1,600,000

Revenues: Fiscal Year 2006-2007

Expenditures: Fiscal Year 2006-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Institution</td>
<td>84,501,290</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Institutional Support</td>
<td>29,987,004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Operating &amp; Maintenance of Plant</td>
<td>25,771,043</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Student Services</td>
<td>123,133,816</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Scholarships and Fellowships [Grants after deducting discounts &amp; allowances]</td>
<td>91,227,688</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Research</td>
<td>10,972,566</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Other Operating Expenses &amp; Deductions</td>
<td>3,512,730</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Academic Support</td>
<td>8,646,674</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Queens College Foundation</td>
<td>3,172,424</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Other Non-operating Expenses &amp; Deductions</td>
<td>5,553,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Public Service</td>
<td>2,712,282</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. Auxiliary Enterprises</td>
<td>1,848,329</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Depreciation</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>212,492,580</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff Profile: Laurie Dorf
Assistant V.P., Institutional Advancement

After a decade of development positions at professional and graduate institutions, Laurie Dorf has returned to college: She’s the new assistant vice president for institutional advancement at QC, where she is responsible for expanding and implementing fund-raising efforts. “I’m a big believer in public education and I wanted to work at the undergraduate level,” says Dorf. “The need is greater here. The mission is even more powerful.”

A public school product herself, Dorf grew up in Flatbush, Brooklyn, and graduated from Midwood High School. She continued her education at the College of Staten Island CUNY, majoring in sociology. Subsequently, she earned a master’s in public administration at New York University. She has been employed in the nonprofit sector ever since. “I have three passions: health care, youth, and education,” notes Dorf, whose resume encompasses all of them.

She spent the first phase of her career as a unit manager at Brookdale Hospital and as an assistant administrator at Long Island Jewish Hillside Medical Center. Leaving medical institutions for a job at the West Side YMCA, Dorf eventually segued into fund-raising for 19 New York Ys, an experience she recalls as terrific. Her campaigns succeeded in rebranding the Y for the public. “We got over thinking of it as gym and swim, and instead had people thinking of it as a place that takes care of our kids,” she explains.

In 1997 Dorf became director of alumni affairs and special events at New York Law School. Her achievements there included raising scholarship money for students planning to practice in the public sector. Six-and-a-half years later, Dorf moved to Columbia University as executive director of development at Teachers College, where she led annual fund and capital campaigns and oversaw the renaming of the library. “I learned a lot,” she says. “It was a great opportunity to be part of a big development operation.”

Now Dorf is putting that knowledge to use here. She hopes to raise significant dollars for the capital campaign, increase the endowment, and raise awareness of the need for unrestricted support. She also wants to bring in more money for professorships, scholarships, and fellowships. To achieve these goals, Dorf will try to broaden the QC donor pool. “We have a whole host of exciting naming opportunities,” she observes. “My biggest challenge is to find new prospects among alums, friends of the college, and friends of higher education.”

As a resident of Manhattan’s Upper East Side, Dorf enjoys a 20-minute commute. Admittedly, she spends much of her day in meetings off campus. An athletic sort who loves tennis, aerobics, and going to the beach, she expressed only one regret in an interview earlier this semester: She hasn’t had a chance to explore the offerings at FitzGerald Gym.
Goldwater Scholarships Becoming a QC Tradition

To say Yehoshua Laker maintains a full schedule would be an understatement. Mornings he studies Talmud at the Yeshiva B’nei Torah near his home in Far Rockaway. He spends afternoons tackling a heavy pre-med course load and conducting cancer research. He also writes a technology column and edits copy for the Knight News and is a member of the track team. A biology/English major and math and natural sciences honor student, Laker is a 2008 recipient of the Goldwater Scholarship awarded annually to outstanding students who intend to pursue research careers in the sciences. (Goldwaters are becoming something of a QC tradition: Miriam Ginzberg, an honors chemistry major, received one last year, and Rachel Schnur, a biology major, received one in 2006.)

For the last three semesters Laker has worked in the cell biology research lab of Karl Fath and the cancer research lab of biochemistry professor Wilma Saffran. Currently, he’s helping Saffran analyze DNA repair mechanisms in yeast that are resistant to the damaging effects of carcinogens—research that could have profound implications for cancer prevention and survival.

While he’s still weighing his professional options, Laker is strongly considering an MD/PhD degree that would allow him to combine medicine with research in cellular biology or biochemistry. “I derive great pleasure from applying science to my life and would like to discover new ideas and innovations in healing that would make this a better, healthier world,” he says. Last summer, Laker volunteered in Nyack Hospital’s emergency room. When asked what drives him, he answers matter-of-factly that he seeks “to gain wisdom and grow my mind, body, and soul.”

Ross Radusky, who is majoring in chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry, received an honorable mention in this year’s Goldwater Scholarship competition. A member of the Macaulay Honors College and a math and natural sciences honors student, Radusky is interested in orthopedic surgery and plans to attend medical school. He has applied to the summer undergraduate program in musculoskeletal research—a field in which he hopes to specialize—at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases. Radusky supplements his coursework by interning at WCBS-TV as a medical news contributor. In addition, he volunteers at North Shore Long Island Jewish Hospital.

Pursuing Science, from California to Korea and Antarctica

Growing up on the San Andreas Fault in a town that refers to itself as “the earthquake capital of the world,” it was only natural that Andrea Balbas would develop an interest in the Earth and a healthy respect for the forces that govern it. She recalls preparing for a volleyball meet in her high school gymnasium in Hollister, CA, in 1989 when the devastating Loma Prieta quake struck. In horror, she watched as an enormous space heater suspended from the ceiling shook loose and narrowly missed crushing one of her teammates.

It was years before Balbas, 35, felt she could afford college, but she is now enthusiastically engaged (she has a 3.97 GPA) in pursuit of her BS in geology, which she anticipates receiving in fall 2009. Her graduation, however, will be delayed a semester because this fall she is joining Steve Pekar (Earth & Environmental Sciences) on part of an NSF-funded study. Balbas’s participation on the panel is the result of her receiving a fellowship for minority students (she’s of Mexican ancestry) from the Minority Strengthening and Pursuing Higher Degrees of Success in Earth System Science Professional Development program. Balbas readily admits she’s come a long way from the California farmlands of her youth. A talented writer and recipient of the Queens College Writing Award in 2007, she will no doubt generate some fascinating tales based on her experiences as a QC student.
CUNY Leadership Award Winners

One of two QC students receiving 2008 CUNY Leadership Awards, Randall Clarke became the President of the QC Black Student Union in fall 2005 and served two terms. During his presidency he brought to campus such guests as Cedza Dlamini (grandson of Nelson Mandela), Def Jam poet Wil “Da Real One,” and Ophelia Devore, among others. He also organized United Black Leaders, a committee to help strengthen the efforts of African American organizations on campus.

Clarke was one of the student representatives who served on President James Muyskens’ Strategic Planning Committee last year. In November he conducted a panel discussion at the TIME 2000 annual conference, Celebrating Mathematics Teaching. He has also been an acting assistant in Vice President Joe Bertolino’s Fundamentals of Leadership class.

Clarke is a leader off campus as well. In 2006 Elmont Online (www.elmont.org) acknowledged his work with the 21st Assembly District Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Citation for young adult community service. At their request, he has participated for the last two years in the Elmont Community Black History Round Table as its young adult panelist. In addition, Clarke has worked as a youth leader in his church and as community liaison for the office of Assemblyman Thomas Alfano.

There’s a political office waiting somewhere in the future for Jonathan Gilad, QC’s other CUNY Leadership Award winner. Since transferring to QC in 2004, the New Rochelle resident has been all politics all the time.

As president of the Political Science Club, Gilad dramatically increased membership and coordinated over 120 events, including academic symposia on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and an annual series entitled War On Hate, which examines issues such as racism, bigotry, and homophobia. (He also inaugurated an annual student panel discussion on homophobia.) Gilad was instrumental in creating a new student government party, the Democratic Student Alliance, which has won significant legislative victories, such as putting elections online. He was also elected deputy holder of the chair of the QC Academic Senate—despite being chair of the minority party.

Gilad also established the Model United Nations Club, which has received an honorable mention in the last two International Conferences. This past year he secured a grant from the QC Foundation to start the DREAM mentorship program for high school immigrant youth. The program pairs first-generation immigrant youth with college mentors who guide them through the college admissions process. It also provides them with SAT prep as well as leadership training in the hope that they will become leaders in their communities.

A member the President’s Strategic Planning Committee, Gilad also served on the Freshman Steering Committee. In 2006 he was inducted into the Golden Key Honor Society and served as president of the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society chapter. He participated in the prestigious Rogowsky Washington, DC Internship program in summer 2007, and elected to intern with New York Senator Charles Schumer. He has also interned for the New Rochelle City Court Criminal Department throughout his four years at Queens College.

Trampush Receives AFP Award

Joey Trampush, a neuropsychology PhD student working under the supervision of Jeffrey Halperin (Psychology), received a 2008 American Psychological Foundation (APF) Elizabeth Munsterberg Koppitz travel stipend in the amount of $4000. The award will allow him to attend the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston this summer. At the convention, Trampush will present research findings on how genetic factors influence neuropsychological functioning in individuals diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).
Women’s Studies Conference Features Athletes on Top of Their Game

The underlying theme of Women & Sports, this year’s Virginia Frese Palmer Conference, was “equal work, equal play.” At the March 31 event, supported by the generosity of Palmer, a 1942 grad, four women with experience as professional athletes or collegiate coaches shared the dais with four of QC’s top female athletes.

First up, after an introduction by Women’s Studies Director Joyce Warren, was QC swimming and water polo coach Alicia Lampasso-Dillon, who cited the long-term benefits of participating in team sports: “Lifetime fitness, respect for others, and feeling good about yourself.” Former WNBA center Kym Hampton credited basketball with transforming her from a shy, too-tall teen into a confident public figure, and proved it by singing the end of the “Star-Spangled Banner,” which she performs at stadiums.

Donna Lopiano—who coached three college sports before spending 15 years as chief executive of the Women’s Sports Foundation—summarized the progress brought about by the national educational amendment known as Title IX, and called for additional change. So did WNBA president and QC basketball legend Donna Orender ’78. “Women do it for love and men do it for money,” she said, alluding to gender-based disparities in salary. “Why can’t women do it for love and money?”

Then QC students took turns at the microphone. Swim team captain Rachel Walter ’08, her arm in a sling from a water polo injury, described the challenge of juggling school, daily practices, and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee responsibilities—she was the first woman and swimmer to serve as president. Basketball co-captain Brittany Faherty ’09 marveled at her fellow speakers. “Sharing a panel with WNBA people is surreal,” she observed.

Soccer star Diana Redman, a grad student in fine arts, talked about touring with Israel’s national team—and feeling shortchanged in a country without a Title IX. Finally, Jessica Franklin ’09 explained her commitment to tennis in terms that everyone understood. “Success is waking up every morning loving what you do and wanting to do it better and better,” she said.

QC swimming and water polo coach Alicia Lampasso-Dillon looks on as former WNBA player Kym Hampton makes a point.
QC PEOPLE

MAGNUS O. BASSEY (SEYS) presented a paper entitled “Foundational Studies Approach to School Activism: A Service-Learning Angle” at the 37th Annual Meeting of the New York State Foundations of Education Association held April 4–5 at Nazareth College, Rochester, NY.

MARIO CARUSO (Grad. Admissions) has joined the editorial board of wRAP UP, the ADSEC (Admissions Section) newsletter published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators. He also presented a paper, “International Evaluations and its Providers,” March 18 at a conference of the New Jersey-New York Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers held at Long Island University (Brooklyn Campus). On Feb. 18 he gave a talk at the Lakeridge (NJ) Community Center on “The Rescue of Italian Jews in Nazi Occupied Italy: 1943-1945”.

NICK COCH (EES) received the 2008 John Moss Award from the National Association of GeoScience Teachers, Eastern Section. This award is presented annually for excellence in college teaching. He received a plaque and certificate at their annual meeting May 3 in Orangeburg, NY.

NIA DAVIS (Armstrong House Museum) was awarded a fellowship from the development and membership committee of the American Association of Museums (AAM). The fellowship underwrote her expenses for attending the AAM annual meeting in Denver on April 27–May 1.

SUSAN EINHORN (Drama) directed the world premiere of a play by Rebecca Schull, On Naked Soil: Imagining Anna Akhmatova. It ran April 12 to May 4 at Theater for the New City.

DUNCAN FAHERTY (English) gave a lecture entitled “The Problem of Poe: Edgar Allan Poe, Jacksonian Democracy, and the American Literary Tradition” April 9 at New York University Law School’s Furman Hall.

SUJATHA FERNANDES (Sociology) and VINOD MENON (Physics) won the 2008 Feliks Gross Award for the Humanities and Sciences from the CUNY Academy. The award is “presented each year to an assistant professor in recognition of outstanding research, or potential for such, in the humanities or sciences.”

Three NYC high school students working under the supervision of QC physics faculty members were selected winners at the New York City Science and Engineering Fair. They were among five physics finalists and represented NYC at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Atlanta. Tinya Cheng and Nischav Kumar worked with VINOD MENON; Erin Zeqja worked with IGOR KUSKOVSKY.

HAROLD GOMES presented two talks in April, one at the Garden State Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at William Paterson University in NJ, the other at the Spuyten Duyvil Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at Manhattan College.

STUART LIEBMAN (Media Studies) has been named a fellow at the University of Connecticut’s Humanities Institute in Storrs, CT, for the 2008-09 academic year. His project is his book about the first decade of Holocaust representation in world cinema.

KATE MENKEN (Linguistics) received a grant from the NYC Department of Education, Office of English Language Learners, in the amount of $182,000. She will use it to develop, implement, and evaluate effective educational programs for long-term English language learners in city high schools.

PYONG GAP MIN (Sociology) has been selected by Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez to serve on the U.S. Census Bureau’s Advisory Committee on the Asian population.


This striking imagery is contained in a detail from a Peace Story Quilt created by students at a vocational school for girls in a remote area of India. It is part of a cultural exchange project initiated by Rikki Asher (SEYS) in which the girls created and exchanged quilts with eighth grade students from the Bronx Academy of the Future. The quilts will be on display with others as part of an exhibit called Power to the Peaceful opening December 15 at Godwin-Ternbach Museum.
ANDY BEVERIDGE (Sociology) was a guest April 3 on the WNYC Radio’s “Brian Lehrer Show” for a segment concerning rising incomes in Queens. He was also quoted April 10 in the TimesLedger for a story on the same subject . . . AYLISON COLE (Political Science) was interviewed about Barack Obama’s Philadelphia Speech for “Without Borders” (“Sem Fronteiras” in Portuguese), a weekly television show on the Brazilian Globo Network . . . An April 13 story in US News & World Report concerning an FCC proposal to loosen restrictions on media ownership quoted MARA EINSTEIN (Media Studies) . . . GEORGE HENDREY (EES) was quoted April 21 in the Albany Times Union in a story concerning global warming . . . A report HARRY LEVINE (Sociology) authored for the New York Civil Liberties Union on racial bias in marijuana arrests by NYC police was the subject of stories April 30 in the New York Times, the Daily News, Newsday, the Village Voice, and on WINS Radio. The Village Voice’s Nat Hentoff wrote about it in his column, and an AP version of the story was picked up by numerous outlets nationally . . . PREMLLA NADA-SSEN (Africana Studies) was interviewed for a women’s history month program on domestic service work that aired March 10 on WBAI’s “Building Bridges” . . . The Queens Chronicle featured a story March 27 about the new home in Little Italy of the Italian American Museum. Quoted was the museum’s president, JOE SCELSA (VP Outreach & Cultural Affairs) . . . STEPHEN STEINBERG (Urban Studies) was interviewed March 18 concerning Barack Obama’s speech on race on RadioLive, a talk radio service in New Zealand . . . An April 15 story in Scientific American concerning the 2008-09 edition of the Wildlife Conservation Society’s State of the Wild: A Global Portrait of Wildlife, Wildlands, and Oceans, quoted JOHN WALDMAN (Biology) . . . JOHN WALKER (Accounting) was quoted in an April 24 story in the Queens Courier about the participation of QC students in an IRS program on forensic accounting. The Korean-language World News carried a story April 12 . . . AMY WINTER (Godwin-Ternbach) was quoted in a March 27 Queens Chronicle story about the museum’s Crossing the BLVD exhibit . . . The April edition of Queensborough included a story (picked up from the Queens Courier) about the Feb. 26 QC Business Forum that featured Major Automotive CEO Bruce Bendell . . . The March 30 multimedia performance Crossing the BLVD at the Goldstein Theatre was featured March 25 in the “Faces & Places” column of the Daily News. The April 24 Fresh Meadows Times also carried a story . . . Student Pamela Sanchez was profiled Feb. 22 in the “CUNY Student of the Month” feature in El Correo de Queens . . . QC’s Going Green campaign was featured April 23 in the Daily News and in a report on NY1 News.

The New York Times

From p. 1 of the March 28 New York Times:


The details:

Camping on the sea ice in unheated tents, in 20-below-zero temperatures. Blinding whiteouts. The bathroom? A toilet seat over a hole in the ice.

Stephen F. Pekar, a geology professor from Queens College, was selling Shakira Brown, a 29-year-old Harlem middle school science teacher, on his expedition.

Her response: I’m in.

Dr. Pekar had found just the person for his Antarctica team: a talented, intrepid African-American teacher to be a role model for minority science students.

Warhol Gift

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum has received 150 original Polaroid snapshots and gelatin silver prints by celebrated Pop artist Andy Warhol. To honor the 20th anniversary of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program has donated more than 28,000 original Warhol works—valued in excess of $28 million—to college and university art museums across the country. The gift to QC includes photos of celebrities and socialites such as Diane von Furstenberg, Wayne Gretzky, Halston, Lana Turner, and Pia Zadora. The photos are being catalogued and framed and will be on exhibit in the near future.

Andy Warhol (1928-1987)
Diane von Furstenberg, 1984. Polacolor ER
Gift of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc.
QC Community

QC Alums Perform for Seniors

Creative minds from QC are lending their talents to SM(Art): Seniors Meet the Arts, a new collaboration of New York City’s Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department for the Aging, and the New York City Council. Kupferberg Center Performances—one of 57 cultural organizations chosen to design arts programs for the city’s elderly—received a $5,000 grant to present four Sunday afternoon concerts in partnership with Sunnyside Community Services. These events involve current students and alumni of the Aaron Copland School of Music.

Jazz pianist Oscar Perez (MA, 2001) and his trio started the series in April with a lecture on Latin Jazz that got listeners into the music, literally: Audience members had the chance to participate in the rhythm section. The combo will make a repeat appearance in June. Award-winning clarinetist Asuka Yamamoto (BM, 2008) played up the classics in planning chamber music programs for April and May; the concert repertoire ranged from Mozart, Debussy, and Gershwin to popular Broadway songs.

Mellon Mays Fellows Meet

Current and future scholars gathered on campus April 11 when QC and Cornell co-hosted the New York regional conference of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program. Representatives of Hunter, Brooklyn, City College, Barnard, Columbia, Cornell, Queens, and the Mellon Foundation were in attendance as fellowship recipients presented papers on an engaging mix of topics. “Debased or Dignified?: The Minstrel Spirituals of James Bland and Sam Lucas and the Question of Authenticity” was the subject of research by Micah Wittmer of City College. QC’s Paola Gutierrez explored “Commodification and the Double Movement: A Study of the Indigenous People in Chiapas, Mexico from a Polanyian Perspective.” And Marbre Stahly-Butts of Columbia discussed “Unheard Voices: The Invisible Inscription of the West African Griotte.” During luncheon, faculty had their turn, when a roundtable that included Monica Miller (Barnard), Roopali Mukherjee (Queens), Johanna Fernandez (Baruch), and Eric Cheyfitz (Cornell) discussed the 2008 elections.

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program provides financial support and academic guidance for students of color—and others with a demonstrated commitment to eradicating racial disparities—who are interested in pursuing a PhD for a career in college teaching. QC is in its 18th year of administering the program; to date, 14 Queens graduates have completed their doctorates and 14 are enrolled in PhD programs.

More Awards for Knight News

The re-invigorated Knight News is continuing its winning ways with a raft of new accolades that include First Place with Special Merit Award, American Scholastic Press Association; Third Place, Best of Show Award, American Collegiate Press National College Media Conference; Best College Newspaper 2007–2008, American Scholastic Press Association; and Third Place for Best Front Page Design, Columbia University Scholastic Press Association. Previously, the paper was named a finalist for the Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker Award—the most prestigious honor in college journalism—and Best of Show at the National College Media convention.

QC Diplomats Win Again

Diplomacy was the name of the game at the National Model U.N. Conference, and QC students played it well. For the second year in a row, the college team came home with two awards from the competition, which drew about 2,500 participants, half of them from outside New York. QC was the only CUNY school to win a prize at this year’s conclave, held in Manhattan on March 18–22.

Under the leadership of Dewan Tarek, president of the college’s Model U.N. Club, the student ambassadors honed their skills through nearly two dozen classes and workshops. All the work paid off when the 27-person team was chosen Outstanding Delegation for its overall representation of Venezuela. The group also received an honorable mention for representing Venezuela in seven committees, including the General Assembly Plenary and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Twelve especially energetic club members held dual loyalties, speaking for Barbados in six Model U.N. committees.