Around the World in More than 80 Days

Have passport, will travel—and teach, study, or conduct research. That’s becoming the norm at QC, which saw impressive numbers of faculty, staff, and students head overseas in the spring and summer.

First at the airport was Fred Gardaphé (English/Italian American Studies), who spent the spring semester at the University of Salerno in Italy thanks to a Fulbright teaching fellowship. Conducted in English, his course—which covered American humor from Benjamin Franklin to Chris Rock—simultaneously acquainted students with American academic practices. “I made my students write papers, but when I first asked them to do so, they looked at me like I was crazy,” observes Gardaphé. “I use the Socratic method and I expected them to challenge me. That didn’t happen.” In addition to his 42 hours of class time, Gardaphé toured around the country, giving 25 lectures, several in Italian. The educational process operated in both directions. “I learned so much by living day to day in another culture,” he says.

Grand finale for Year of China

QC’s spring semester had just ended when 14 faculty and staff—selected through a professional development program connected to the Year of China initiative—regrouped in Chengdu, the capital of southwestern China’s Sichuan Province, for a two-week trip led by Marleen Kassel (Institutional Advancement/History) with the assistance of Mohamed Tabrani (Education Abroad). During their week in Chengdu, the QC team met with counterparts at Sichuan University, developing professional bonds in areas such as English/foreign language instruction (Donna Gruber, Jacqueline Davis, and Eva Fernandez), educational leadership (Nathalis Wamba), drama (Susan Einhorn, Marlene Kassel), history (John T. McPherson), and economic development (Cecilia Corripio, Mohammad Tabrani). In addition to meeting counterparts at Sichuan University, members of the Year of China team saw iconic ancient carvings and contemporary pandas.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Qc’s Rock Collection Finds a Home at American Museum of Natural History

Back in the 1960s and 1970s, Eugene Alexandrov, then a professor of economic geology at QC, regularly led student field trips to mines and rock quarries throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe, where they collected mineral and ore samples. Before retiring in the early 1980s, Alexandrov meticulously numbered, labeled, and cataloged the specimens—more than 5,000 in all—and assembled them into.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
Recognition Day

(Top to bottom) Leo Chalupa ’66 was honored as Doctor of Science honorary causa at Commencement 2011, while two students happily waited for receipt of their degrees. Anita Sonawane, who plans a career seeking to address social issues through more enlightened economic policy, gave the Graduate Address. Economic empowerment was also the theme of this year’s Commencement Address provided by John Hope Bryant, CEO of Operation Hope.

“a spectacular collection,” according to Allan Ludman, chair of QC’s School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (SEES). “Gold, silver, copper, platinum, chromium, asbestos, trace elements of rare metals, one-of-a-kind crystals—you name it, the collection had it.”

But last year, with storage space in desperate short supply, Ludman and his colleagues faced a hard decision: The collection would have to go.

“We had no choice,” Ludman says. “But there was no way we would discard or break the collection up. We needed to find a new home for it.” With mining activity in the U.S. today a shadow of what it was a generation ago, he adds, “this is a collection that can’t be duplicated.”

So, last fall, SEES reached out to the American Museum of Natural History and asked if it was interested in acquiring the collection. A few months later, the museum’s curator of mineralogy came to the school, looked over the holdings, and said yes.

The transfer took place in the first week of August; in terms of complexity, the logistics and advance planning requirements lie somewhere between those for an estate sale and a moon launch.

“This was an intricate operation,” Ludman says. “The rocks are stored in 15 metal cabinets, each weighing at least a ton and essentially unmovable.” So nine workers from a moving company emptied drawers from the cabinets, carefully labeling, wrapping, and boxing each specimen. The preparations lightened the cabinets enough to move them onto a truck for the trip to a temporary site in Brooklyn; later they’ll be taken to the museum for research and display.

“We all worked with Eugene,” says Ludman. “We want to make sure this is done right.” Once it is settled in its new home, the collection will initially be used for research. If it is placed on exhibit, it will be labeled, “Eugene Alexandrov Mineral Collection: Queens College of the City University of New York,” per an agreement between QC and the museum.

The transfer of the collection frees much needed storage space. But it marks a bittersweet transition for Ludman and others with warm memories of Alexandrov, now in his 90s.

“Eugene is a big, gruff, Russian bear with a heart of gold,” says Ludman, who has taught at QC since 1975. “Generations of students accompanied him on his field trips and he remains a beloved figure to this day. His collection was a true labor of love and we’re sad to see it go. But we’re happy that it’s going to a good home.”

Former QC geology professor Eugene Alexandrov and a specimen of tourmaline crystals in pegmatite from the vast rock and mineral collection he assembled.
Searching for “a fish with crocodilian tendencies”

John Waldman (Biology) and Peishi Wang (ECP) also traveled to Asia this summer to continue projects initiated in previous visits. Waldman went to Mongolia to study taimen, which he describes as “a fish with crocodilian tendencies.” A threatened member of the salmon and trout family, the taimen eats small mammals and can weigh more than 100 pounds. Waldman, who was accompanied by QC biology major Ivana Roman ’12, documented his trip on CUNY’s Decade of Science blog, which features dispatches from CUNY scientists on expeditions to the far ends of the earth. Meanwhile, Wang returned to the Beijing Wucailu Children’s Center (BWCC), a school for children with autism and other developmental disabilities, with five interns—QC grad students in special education. From July 1 to August 8, they transformed two classes at BWCC, which has a partnership with QC: They incorporated evidence-based interventions into the curriculum, rearranged personnel so parents wouldn’t assist their own children, and decorated the rooms with visual support materials. “Needless to say, BWCC was extremely pleased with the outcome of this internship,” says Wang.

At roughly the same time, six QC students were selected to travel to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, as interns in an English as a foreign language program hosted by the South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization. The interns co-taught classes to children ranging in age from 7 to 15 and had opportunities to tour the city and other attractions. “This was a pilot paid international internship out of Queens College, a joint effort of the Provost’s Office and ELI,” reports Donna Gruber (ELI), who was delighted with the results.

From the Black Sea to Ghana

In Asia Minor, Joel Allen (History) got a head start on the 2011-12 “Year of” program, concentrating on Turkey, by leading an Education Abroad course there during the month of July. “East and West in Istanbul,” new this year, attracted six students, two of whom arranged to leave after a few days to join Alexander Bauer (Anthropology) in an archeological project along the Turkish Black Sea coast at Sinop. The remaining participants learned about the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires, visited Roman ruins on the Aegean Coast, and in the fourth week, attended lectures at QC’s partner institution, Bahcesehir University. The students’ ethnicities—they or their families came from Greece, Albania, Kosovo, and territory contested by Pakistan and India—“made for interesting perspectives in a lecture on cosmopolitanism,” notes Allen, a scholar whose work focuses on the provinces of the Roman Empire. “The trip opened new perspectives in my own work, too.”

The projects Rikki Asher (SEYS) pursues have a signature flattened perspective: She’s a muralist. This year, she and three fellow members of Brooklyn-based Artmakers Inc. made individual presentations at Ghana’s second Kumasi Biennial Symposium, a three-week event that’s concerned with the gap among contempo...
rary African artists, the international artist community, and rural areas. In connection with the symposium, Artmakers created a site-specific piece for rustic Abetenim Village, where Asher and her colleagues adorned three walls of a new multipurpose building with a mural and stencils.

Alluding to the demonstrations that rocked Athens over the summer, Alexiou observes, “Our students have witnessed some memorable social movements, and responded to all this extremely well.”

Sarajevo, where Julie George (Political Science) went to do preliminary fieldwork on Bosnia, was comparably calm. But with its dual systems for the majority Muslim population and the Serbian enclave within it, the country is a logistical nightmare. “It’s stunning to realize just how complicated and difficult the politics are when former enemies are forced to collaborate,” says George, who studies ethnic conflict and state building in former Communist countries; she’s about to go to Georgia for her sabbatical. One of her students, Emily Monaco ’12, joined her in Sarajevo, and found it eye-opening to enter discussions on topics ranging from politics to food.

Elsewhere in former Yugoslavian territory, Vice President Sue Henderson and administrators from other U.S. schools went to Croatia to assist executives at the University of Rijeka. “We worked with administrators there to help them develop a good strategic plan,” says Henderson. “Like all institutions, Rijeka has to deal with change and help its departments deal with change as it moves forward. As at Queens, it’s important for Rijeka to build on its institutional strengths.”

A country that remains steadfastly Communist will be the subject of the latest global educational initiatives, at QC and off. This fall, Cuban scholar Carlos Alzugaray Treto is visiting the campus as a guest lecturer. And in January, Study Abroad is planning to offer “Cuba: The History and Culture of an Island Nation.” The location: Havana.
Two ACE Fellows Return to QC with Lessons Learned

While QC’s two recent American Council on Education (ACE) fellows were absorbing lessons at schools in Texas, Pennsylvania, and South Africa that could enhance their skills as future college presidents, they were also gleaning information they could use immediately on their return to Queens. Joe Bertolino (VP Student Affairs) discovered ideas that would help in fulfilling his new role as director of enrollment services; Betsy Hendrey (Dean, Social Sciences) found ways to help develop QC’s new strategic plan.

In pursuing his fellowship, Bertolino elected to spend a semester each shadowing presidents of two colleges in Texas. During the fall 2010 semester he was at the University of Houston under the mentorship of President Renu Khator, who is also chancellor of the University of Houston system. Bertolino returned to QC in spring 2011, but spent one week a month at the University of Texas, Brownsville, where his mentor was President Juliet Garcia.

“They were two very different institutions with very different presidents with very different styles: two amazing women,” observes Bertolino. “I learned a lot.”

At Houston’s 40,000-student campus, observes Bertolino, he learned about issues related to enrollment management and student and academic affairs. He also took away a belief that less emphasis needs to be placed on the manner in which we process students applying to QC and more on how we counsel them.

Brownsville offered a great contrast to Houston. While Houston’s Khator was very much “the boss,” says Bertolino, Brownsville’s Garcia was “the mom.” Born in Brownsville and educated in Texas, Garcia has led Brownsville for 18 of its 20 years. Selected by Time magazine as one of the country’s 10 best college presidents, she served on President Obama’s transition team. Yet, says Bertolino, she found time to take a deep interest in the welfare of individual students. At Brownsville’s 13,000-student school right on the Mexican border, he learned much about issues related to students who are undocumented immigrants.

“And I really learned something about the importance of fit,” says Bertolino. “Neither of these women could do the other’s job.”

With only a semester available to be away from QC, Hendrey, who wanted to study strategic planning at a school well along in the implementation process, followed advice to pursue her fellowship at a smaller college (“but not too small”) where she could quickly find her way around. She chose Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, where her mentors were President Alice Gast and Provost Patrick Farrell. “They have a strategic plan in place and a very methodical way to implement it. I thought that would be interesting to observe and participate in.”

Always active in meetings at QC, Hendrey often found herself a silent observer at Lehigh meetings. “It was a strange feeling, but it was surprisingly useful.”

She also used her fellowship to visit campuses in South Africa with two other ACE fellows. “It was fascinating,” she says, “something I’d hoped I could fit in and it proved very worthwhile.”

In Pretoria they visited the equivalent of QC’s ACE program, Higher Education South Africa, and UNISA, a 300,000-student distance-learning program that serves students all over the African continent. Additionally, they visited the University of Capetown, University of the Western Cape, and Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

“We were looking,” she says, “at how a university functions after a huge, huge change in society,” the change in this case being the end of apartheid.

“And, South Africa has huge amounts of poverty,” she says, “so we were interested in how they work with these students; how do they get them the resources they need.”

Hendrey hopes the contacts she made will prove helpful when QC pursues the Year of South Africa.

Recent Grad Receives Prestigious Art Award

Kimberly Sheridan ’11 is one of only 15 winners of a $15,000 Joan Mitchell Foundation MFA grant. Artists graduating from MFA programs are eligible for the awards, which are designed to help painters and sculptors advance in their artistic careers and make the transition from academic to professional studio work.

“I am excited, grateful and thankful for this award,” says Sheridan, an art teacher at Richmond Hill High School. “As artists, we make art because we have to—regardless of whether we receive recognition—so to have this validation is significant and deeply inspiring.”

A resident of Rego Park, Sheridan is motivated by the sights she sees during her daily commute, when “art and life merge seamlessly.” In particular, her work has come to reflect the city’s street furniture. On walks home along Queens Boulevard in Forest Hills, especially on rainy nights, she finds inspiration in the dark form of garbage cans grouped together with a lone object, such as an umbrella, protruding from it. A series on antiquated fire alarm call boxes draws on her interest in New York City relics and pays tribute to her father’s 47 years of service as a volunteer fireman.

Sheridan has exhibited her work at Flushing Town Hall; Fountain Art Fair at Pier 66 in New York City; Dorsky Gallery Curatorial Programs in Queens; and, most recently, at FIGMENT on Governors Island, an annual event and exhibition for emerging artists across several disciplines. Through the Joan Mitchell Foundation grant, Sheridan will participate in 2012 in a group exhibition of grant recipients’ work.

Artist imitates daily life: Joan Mitchell grant winner Kimberly Sheridan makes pieces inspired by city street furniture.
College Focuses on Being Greener

Henceforth, when people think of B&G, in addition to Buildings & Grounds, B&G Chief Administrative Superintendent Sidney Grimes would like them to think of something else: Being Green. That’s because Grimes’s office is taking the lead in QC Being Green, a campus-wide effort to help the college comply with the goals of Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s CUNY Sustainability Project, which aims to reduce CUNY’s carbon footprint by 30 percent in 10 years.

“Everybody talks about going green,” says Grimes. “But Being Green means that we’re already there and we’re going to maintain that standard in everything we do.”

Communicating what they’ve done and plan to do is an essential part of B&G’s Being Green effort. Grimes cites the example of this summer’s Peak Load Management (PLM) program, which helped the college avoid possible electrical brownouts by strategically reducing power consumption on extremely hot days. Via email messages, posters, and digital signage, the campus community was alerted to why, how, and when PLM events would occur.

“And very important: We’ve got a site,” Grimes says, referring to the Being Green website supervised by Project and Energy Manager Staci Hope Cohen. Visitors can learn about QC and CUNY sustainability efforts here, in addition to finding information to help their own green efforts. “The site,” says Grimes, “is going to be migrated from the MyQC Intranet to an Internet site so more people will be aware of what we’re doing.”

Future plans include solar-powered chargers for cell phones and laptops; renovated bathrooms with technologies that minimize hot water usage and paper towel consumption (so far 40% of the college’s 380 bathrooms have been renovated); white roofs to diminish the effects of intense summer sunlight; and an e-recycling effort for cell phones and laptops people wish to discard, which would then be given to organizations that refurbish and send them to countries that need them. “Later this fall you’ll be seeing bins where they can be dropped off,” says Grimes.

He also mentions plans to enlist students to both beautify QC and improve its carbon footprint by planting more trees. “There’s so many things that we can do, and we want to make sure that the students have some input into them.”

Wherever feasible, recycling is a consideration, Grimes emphasizes. “For example, we’re recycling light posts from the reconstruction of the Kupferberg Center into the main campus, which is saving some $65,000. We’ve been very successful with our campus recycling efforts, overall. This year we’ve collected about 15,000 tons in scrap metal and maybe 11,000 tons of paper.”

QC Wins Green Infrastructure Grant

Queens College is among 15 groups who will share some $3.8 million in funds to build green infrastructure projects to reduce sewer overflows and improve water quality in New York Harbor. The announcement of the award was made in June by the NYC Department of Environmental Protection.

The college is receiving $375,000 to retrofit three areas on campus to manage over 707,000 gallons of storm water per year through the use of permeable pavers and rain gardens that will infiltrate and retain water using native plants and trees. This will help mitigate storm water overflows that ultimately result in more sewage flowing into Flushing Creek. The Queens College Alumni Fund will provide $75,000 in matching funds for this project.

“It is an exciting time to be at Queens College,” notes Dave Gosine (Director, Facilities Design, Construction & Management). “And when we align our capital projects to incorporate sustainable design principles, the results are a better quality of life experience for our students. At the same time, working to improve the environment benefits us all.”

The plaza area at the rear of Kieley Hall and the space between Rosenthal Library and the parking deck will see changes that constitute both ecological and aesthetic improvements, thanks to NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection grants.
South Asian Partnership

QC has won a coveted slot in an initiative designed to promote academic partnerships between the United States and India. College staffers will receive training through the International Academic Partnership Program (IAPP), which is run by the nonprofit Institute of International Education. Early next year participants will travel to India—which will be the focus of the college’s 2012-13 “Year of” initiative—to meet counterparts at campuses that seem like promising matches. The other U.S. schools chosen for the program are Fort Hays State University; George Mason University; Northern Illinois University; Rollins College; Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; Suffolk University; Thomas College; the University of Kentucky; and the University of Oregon. Each of these institutions is expected to form a campus-wide task force to work on prospective partnerships, conduct an institution-wide inventory of activities pertaining to India, and develop a strategic plan focused on partnership with India. Activities may include joint programs, student exchanges, and faculty linkages for collaborative research and teaching.

Visiting Professorship and Museum Website Enrich QC’s Middle Eastern Offerings

Two substantial gifts will help QC expand its offerings in Middle Eastern studies, building on existing classes in languages, history, and culture. Nasser Khalili ’74, co-founder and chairman of the Mai-monides Foundation—a London-based organization that promotes peace and understanding among Jews, Christians, and Muslims—has donated $200,000 to support a visiting professorship in art history, with an emphasis on Islamic art. The Iranian-born alum is an expert in the field: He has assembled the world’s largest private collection of Islamic art.

“The Nasser D. Khalili Professorship will allow us to attract a major scholar as the college, with Dr. Khalili’s assistance, moves toward establishing a chair in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies,” says President James Muyskens. “We are very grateful to Professor Khalili for his generosity and his pursuit of peace among people of different ethnic and religious backgrounds, which aligns perfectly with the college’s priorities.”

Meanwhile, the Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation—established by the husband-and-wife team behind the Rubin Museum of Art—has contributed a 21st-century gift: a website devoted to the arts of the Islamic world. Filled with images from the Khalili Collections, this virtual, interactive museum was transferred to QC to further the study of Islamic arts. But the relationship with the Rubins is already fostering scholarship in other areas. This fall Gopal Sukhu (CMAL) will teach a course on East Asian civilization at the Rubin Museum, a Manhattan institution that focuses on the Himalayas.

Colorful Handiwork

“A calligraphic composition in the form of a lion is among the images of objects from the Islamic art collection of Nasser D. Khalili ’74 to be found at www.artsoftheislamicworld.org

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CBNS Moves to Campus

Thirty years after moving to QC, the Center for the Biology of Natural Systems (CBNS) has set up shop in Flushing. Since April, this research institute—which specializes in environmental and occupational health—has been housed on the third floor of Remsen Hall. “We’re thrilled to be here,” says CBNS Director Steven Markowitz, who plans to hold an open house early this semester. “We anticipate a closer relationship with students and faculty.”

Steve Markowitz is pleased to have on-campus accommodations for the Center for the Biology of Natural Systems.

Of course, the research institute’s work isn’t limited to Queens. In collaboration with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, it conducts the New York City Community Air Survey, which measures pollutants at about 150 sites in the five boroughs. Now CBNS is venturing into a high-profile neighborhood. IBM, which began celebrating its centennial in September with four weeks of lectures, films, and exhibits at Lincoln Center, asked CBNS to operate a real-time pollution-monitoring station at the event as an example of what technology can do. “The air pollution monitor will provide real-time analysis of what people are breathing at that location,” Markowitz says. “It’s a chance to showcase our unprecedented street-level monitoring of some of the most important pollutants.”

Meanwhile, with passage of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, CBNS is partnering with North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System to provide health monitoring and care for those who worked at the sites of the terrorist attacks. In addition, the Zadroga legislation covers people who lived or worked in the vicinity of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and students who were attending schools in the area on that date. CBNS was a likely candidate for the project.

“Since 2002, we have conducted a health program for workers involved in WTC cleanup,” explains Markowitz. Queens will continue to provide monitoring and treatment to about 2500 World Trade Center workers, although the clinic, currently at 163-03 Horace Harding, will relocate to another address by early 2012. Markowitz’s expertise in this topic makes him a sought-after speaker on the tenth anniversary of 9/11. On September 16 he participated in Protecting Worker and Community Health: Are We Prepared for the Next 9/11, a conference presented by the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health. On October 13, he and others are organizing a major scientific conference, Health Impact of 9/11: The First Decade, co-sponsored by Queens College, the Fire Department of New York, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Never to Be Forgotten

Muslim Chaplain Dr. Ali Mermer and Rabbi Moshe Shur participated in QC’s ceremony in observance of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. The Student Association provided over 3,000 flags representing the victims of the 9/11 attacks; they were displayed on the Quad in the shapes of the World Trade Center towers.

The Queens College campus will be smoke- and tobacco-free starting January 1, 2012. Learn more at: www.cuny.edu/about/resources/tobacco-policy.html
China Jude Appointed Assistant VP of Athletics

Early on, China Jude was focused on a very specific goal in broadcast journalism: “I wanted to take Robin Roberts’s place at ESPN,” she says of the well-known sportscaster who also co-anchors ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

That never happened, but some years and a few other career experiences later, Jude has arrived at Queens College, succeeding Rick Wettan as Assistant VP of Athletics. And even though she’s never met her predecessor, who retired last year, Jude says she admires what he accomplished in taking the QC athletics program from NCAA Division III to Division II.

“In Division II we put the student first and the athlete second,” explains Jude, who spent the last four years as athletic director at Division II Cheyney University in Pennsylvania. “We also give them the opportunity to tap into community service projects. We appreciate those students; we know that they’re going to be well-rounded and go out into the world and make a difference—and, hopefully, come back and be great alumni.”

Jude was a standout athlete in her native Alabama, winning an athletic scholarship at age 16 to play volleyball at Alabama State University. She earned Southwestern Athletic Conference (All-SWAC) honors and later competed in the Midwest Volleyball Professionals.

Earning a BA in broadcast journalism at Alabama, Jude initially sought work in that field: “One thing led to another and I started getting into entertainment, and I became a radio disc jockey. That led to television, some infomercials, talent show emceeing, nightclubs, and things like that.”

Her continued interest in athletics, however, eventually drew her to the United States Sports Academy in Alabama, where in 1996 she earned a master’s degree in sports management and began a series of sports administration positions that led to her first athletics director appointment in 2007 at Cheyney, the county’s oldest historic black college.

In four years, Jude moved the university past a three-year NCAA probationary period, restored the athletics program to a competitive state, and strengthened the booster club through successful fundraising. Under her leadership, she had two Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Basketball Coaches of the Year, 30 All-PSAC athletes, eight PSAC Championships, two Academic All-Americans, and other regional and national honors. The department also earned a 2010 NCAA Division II Game Environment Award. (The United States Sports Academy recently acknowledged her accomplishments by selecting her to receive its 2012 Alumna of the Year Award.)

“Queens College has an excellent reputation for its accomplished scholar-athletes—the cornerstone of Division II athletics,” says Vice President Sue Henderson. “China’s proven experience building effective athletics programs is exactly what’s needed to build on our strengths and more fully incorporate athletics into campus life. We are delighted that China has joined the team.”

Jude, who runs 5K races, has kept her own competitive skills sharp in Tuesday night volleyball leagues. A certified strength coach, she was honorably discharged in 1994 from the U.S. Naval Reserve and has worked for 10 years at the U.S. Naval Academy’s Summer Camps.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10
Athletes Team Up for Community Service

Late one April evening this year, some 15 QC athletes piled into a van and drove into Manhattan, where they made frequent stops to hand out sandwiches and clothes to homeless men and women. The relief effort, organized by the Midnight Run program, was one of many community service activities in which all QC athletic teams took part throughout the academic year.

Members of different teams, these QC athletes are bringing the same fervor to a variety of community service projects that they bring to their individual sports.

“QC’s teams compete within division II of the NCAA, which adopted its ‘Life in the Balance’ mission in 2005,” says Jennifer Robbins, coordinator of student services and assistant coach on the women’s basketball team. In this context, she explains, “balance involves community service as well as academics and sports.” QC athletes have long engaged in community service, but participation—and enthusiasm—this year were at an all-time high. “Some of the athletes were initially hesitant about committing the time,” Robbins says. “But afterwards, their reaction was always the same: ‘This was great—when can we do it again?’”

This year’s volunteer activities ranged from park cleanups to fundraising for medical research. Highlights include:

**Raising Funds and Awareness**—QC’s lacrosse team turned its April 9 game into a fundraiser for the Lax-4-Life suicide-prevention program. The men’s and women’s basketball teams participated in the Pink Zone to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research.

**Playing for a Cure**—For the second year in a row, the women’s softball team raised money for epidermolysis bullosa and Parkinson’s disease. Robbie Twible, son of QC’s assistant director of athletics, suffers from EB; assistant softball coach Anthony Coladonato was recently diagnosed with Parkinson’s.

**Eat to Educate**—Members of the cross country and track team participated in the Eat to Educate program, which fosters global understanding through exposure to the foods and mealtime customs of other cultures.

**Basketball Buddies**—For the third year in a row, the women’s basketball team taught basketball fundamentals to children with autistic spectrum disorders as part of the Basketball Buddies program at the Samuel Field “Y” in Little Neck.

**Kick for a Cure**—Men’s and women’s soccer players had a key role in Kick for a Cure, from page 9

“I don’t want anyone to think that I’m sitting in an office and I don’t understand athletes—because I really do,” she says. “I still live the life myself. I just made the decision to be an athletic director and I love every second of it.””

She’s also proud to be among the country’s very select group of black female athletic directors. “There are 1200 NCAA institutions and there are probably fewer than 12 black female athletic female directors in the entire country. And less than a handful of those are at traditional institutions, as opposed the historic black colleges or universities,” she observes. “As females we’re already a minority in a male-dominated field, but when you zero in on black females, we’re a minority within a minority. We have to show that we know what we’re doing.”

A participant in Harvard University’s Management Leadership Education Program, Jude is pursuing her EdD in athletic administration at Northern Arizona University in Prescott, AZ.

She says she initially plans to spend a lot of time talking to QC’s athletes, coaches, and officials. “To everyone who wants to share, I keep an open mind, an open heart, and definitely an open ear. I want to see what’s out there, see where I can contribute, and continue strengthening this brand—and it’s a wonderful brand.”

**Faculty Scholars Create Scholarships**

Not content with limiting their contributions to the classroom, two QC professors have endowed scholarships in their respective fields.

Last December Frances Curcio (SEYS) made a gift of $25,000 to sponsor the TIME 2000 Graduate Scholarship Award. The prize is earmarked for a graduating TIME 2000 senior who has applied to and been accepted by QC’s graduate program in secondary mathematics education. The rest of the criteria are top grades (math GPA of 3.5, education GPA of 3.75) and a record of service to the TIME 2000 program.

“For all the things that Queens has done for me, I wanted to give something back to the students,” says Curcio.

About half a year later, Alexander Kouguell (Music, emeritus)—a cellist who combined an active performance schedule with teaching at the college for more than 40 years—donated $25,000 to establish the Alexander and Florence Kouguell Cello Award. The scholarship is for a junior or senior undergraduate cellist who has demonstrated excellence in solo performance, orchestral playing, and chamber music, and has good grades in academic music courses. The other requirement: He or she must have studied at Queens College for several semesters.

“I wanted to do something good for the college—it’s been good to me,” says Kouguell, adding that he hopes the first recipient will be chosen soon.

Kouguell
Once again, the Princeton Review has named QC one of the country’s top undergraduate institutions. The renowned education services company features Queens in the 2012 edition of its annual college guide, The Best 376 Colleges, and in its 2012 Best in the Northeast. In a nod to our extraordinarily diverse learning environment, the college ranked 11th in the United States for “Lots of Race/Class Interaction.” This category reflects how frequently and easily students from different class and ethnic backgrounds interact with one another.

QC saw improvement in our Quality of Life rating, outperforming Fordham University, St. John’s University, Hofstra, Cooper Union, Bard College, and all the SUNY colleges. That’s no mean feat, given our consistent top-20 finish in three other categories: “Got Milk?,” which lists campuses where beer is scarce; “Scotch and Soda, Hold the Scotch” (no hard liquor); and “Stone-Cold Sober Schools,” which is “based on a combination of survey questions concerning the use of alcohol and drugs, hours of study each day, and the popularity of the Greek system.”

Meanwhile, a report by the Education Trust, a research and advocacy group, identified QC as one of only five U.S. schools that do a good job of serving low-income students. The group evaluated 1,186 four-year colleges, looking for institutions where tuition does not exceed $4,600 a year after factoring in all grants for undergraduates from households earning up to $30,000 a year. In addition, half or more of the students have to graduate within six years, and at least 30 percent of the enrollees have to be on Pell Grants.

Baruch College, CUNY made the cut; so did the Fullerton and Long Beach branches of California State University, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

ATHLETES TEAM UP - from page 10

“Faced with the reality of limited research opportunities at my college, I looked for ways to actively engage students and develop meaningful connections outside of the classroom. I joined the Queens volleyball team in the fall of my freshman year, which has given me not only a sense of community and belonging, but also access to opportunities to engage in research and work with community-based organizations,” says Robbie Robbins, a junior chemistry major.

A former QC basketball player herself, Robbins says that one of the great rewards of community service is “the opportunity to use our skills not just competitively, but to benefit others.” Swimmer/diver Brittany Schuler, one of five QC athletes taking part in College Dream Day at the Adam Clayton Powell Elementary School’s College, says the experience of speaking to the students about going to college and pursuing their dreams was motivating and heart-warming.

“The kids were grateful to us for coming,” she says. “If I could visit every Friday, I would.”

Cure, an East Coast Conference fundraising initiative for disease research.

Sharing Stories—Members of the men’s tennis team were frequent visitors to the college’s daycare center, where they read books to the children.

Earth Day—The women’s tennis team spent Earth Day assisting in the Spring Cleanup at the Queens Botanical Gardens.

Make-a-Wish—The men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams and the men's water polo team hosted a novice swim meet to raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

Dig Pink—Women’s volleyball team members took part in Dig Pink to support breast cancer research and services for patients and their families.

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Tarry Hum (Urban Studies) goes beyond service-learning in her classes, giving students the opportunity to work with community-based organizations. Through this partnership, her students have researched some important challenges facing their neighborhoods.

Last semester two of Hum’s urban studies classes joined with the nonprofit MinKwon Center for Community Action to study planning efforts to revitalize Flushing’s waterfront. Their resulting report examined the plans of the city and the Flushing–Willits Point–Corona Local Development Corporation to revive the area, as well as residents’ suggestions.

Coupled with in-class sessions based on reading, discussions, and lectures, the students—all but one undergraduates—were involved in research, meetings, data-gathering, surveys, and other fieldwork designed to assess the needs and concerns of the community and the opportunities and challenges for a revitalized waterfront. The students and MinKwon Center surveyed over 150 Flushing residents and 100 small businesses. The results were highlighted in a 38-page PowerPoint presentation the students gave at the Flushing Library last May.

“These rich educational experiences are invaluable. . . . My students learned so much by going outside the classroom, collaborating with great community organizations like the MinKwon Center, and speaking to Queens residents,” says Hum.

Building on this work with the center, Hum is preparing an Environmental Justice Community Impact grant application for the New York State Department on Environmental Conservation. She is proposing another class next spring that will engage QC students and Flushing youth in studying the environmental risks to downtown Flushing.
Students Respond to Disasters

As they have on the occasions of other major disasters, QC students responded generously when northern Japan was devastated last March by an earthquake and tsunami.

Mari Fujimoto (CMAL), who teaches Japanese language, says that about a week after the event she received a request from the Science Fiction and Anime Club she serves as faculty supervisor. “It’s a pretty big club with about 100 members and a great president, Marco Ynoa. They asked me if they could do a bake sale to raise funds, and I said ‘Go for it.’”

Fujimoto obtained baked goods from Costco for the members to sell. “They also baked cakes, cookies, and flan, and did a really good job.” The club collected over $1270 from the bake sale and a Game Night, which they sent to the Japan Society in New York. “They were the closest group and didn’t take any money for it.”

Noting the long-term aftereffects of the disaster—especially around the devastated Fukushima nuclear plant—Fujimoto says it is likely that additional fundraisers will take place this semester.

Emanuel Avila, QC’s Coordinator of Judicial Affairs and Service-Learning, cites another continuing effort to raise funds for the quake and tsunami victims: Japanese Hope Cards. Inscribed with a message of hope in Japanese against a rising sun background, these can be purchased for a donation at the Student Life office, bookstore, and Corner Pocket in the Dining Hall.

“The buyers write a message on the back and we display them on a wall opposite Starbucks in the Student Union,” says Avila. “We’re still collecting money and plan to send it to the Japanese Red Cross.

“We also launched a Haiti relief effort that consisted of several projects,” he says, referring to last year’s quake that devastated the Caribbean island nation. “We collected clothes and canned food and gave at least 1,000 items to Haitian American Care, Inc. We also participated in a CUNYwide fundraising show with Hunter and City College students at City College.”

Avila notes QC students have also been part of relief efforts that involve contributions of service instead of funds. “Students participated in two programs for New York Cares last year. They helped in the restoration of a local school, and more than 20 students helped one day a week to clean up Flushing Meadow Park.”

Additionally, students have made three trips to New Orleans to work with Habitat for Humanity, helping restore homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. And closer to home: “When we had the tornado, we sent students to help NYC Service plant trees in a local park in Queens.

“These volunteer efforts on campus,” Avila says, “are all part of our continuing effort to make service-learning a central component of the Queens College experience.”
QC Venues: A Space for Every Need

What had more or less been an ad hoc approach to making Queens College facilities available for rental by outside groups has become considerably more formalized this past summer with the establishment of QC Venues.

Wendy Lee (Events, Facilities Requests, and Space Reservations) indicates that more outside groups have been finding their way to the campus for purposes ranging from trade show to religious services. “This past summer we had the Montessori group and St. Giles, so we really had a full house over at The Summit,” she says, referring to a teacher education program and English language immersion program that made use of both classrooms and residential facilities.

In the case of the Montessori program, administered through Professional and Continuing Studies, one of the dining halls was converted into mock Montessori classrooms. “They really had a successful experience here,” says Lee.

She thanks QC’s Marketing Director Steve Whalen for helping to market the concept of “QC Venues: A Space for Every Need” via websites such as Cvent.com and, soon, New York & Company’s nyego.com. Additionally, a Venue Rentals page is now part of the QC website (www.qc.cuny.edu/about/business/rental), offering photos and descriptions of rental options, including athletic facilities, performance spaces, and lecture halls.

“I’ve gotten requests to do major trade shows, which I direct towards the gym on any weekend or day that works for the athletics department,” says Lee. “Brian DeMasters has told me we’ve had days with 5,000 people circulating there. And corporate programs are interested in renting our computer training labs on a one-day basis.”

Friday, when many classrooms are vacant, is a particularly good day for conferences: “I can put a keynote speaker in some place like Rosenthal 230 and then have breakout sessions in classroom spaces,” says Lee.

QC’s unique Campbell Dome is a popular request, she notes. “Another space that’s been fun to put meetings in is the Flex Space by The Summit.”

The Student Union’s fourth floor ballroom—which can be subdivided into three spaces—is also popular. “In fact, just this morning,” says Lee, “I was working with a local synagogue who were considering using the space for the high holy days.”

When the major part of campus construction is finished this fall, Lee plans to host an open house: “I’d like event planners to come here and tour the campus.”

In the meantime, not losing sight of the basics, she says, “We’re encouraging all our professors to recommend our campus for academic conferences.”
Batya Septimus has translated works by Israeli poets Yehuda Amichai and Ronny Someck; she read one of her efforts at last spring’s Phi Beta Kappa ceremony.

Batya Septimus ’12 took a practical word-for-word approach to her first attempt at literary translation. “In a project for an English class, we had to look at one topic explored by different poets,” she recalls. “The professor said I could use Israeli poems if I translated them.” Eventually, Septimus became more ambitious. “I wanted to analyze the alliteration, and realized that I had to recreate it,” she says.

Roger Sedarat (English), her teacher in several classes, encouraged her to continue her efforts. Then, after QC created the Gregory Rabassa Prize in Literary Translation, he urged Septimus to apply. “The prize originated out of our unique MFA program, which offers a track in literary translation,” says Sedarat. “Though we primarily focus on graduate students, we seek to mine the obvious pedagogical benefits of literary translation as well as our incredibly linguistic-diverse students at the undergraduate level. This prize speaks to our mission of using literary translation to cross cultures and languages through literature at QC.”

Applicants had to submit five pages of poetry or 10 pages of fiction, nonfiction, or drama in English, accompanied by a note summarizing the author’s biography, the significance of the translated work, and the particular challenges of putting it into English. Septimus was awarded the prize for her lyrically phrased rendition of three poems by Yehuda Amichai and Ronny Someck. At last spring’s Phi Beta Kappa ceremony, she had the opportunity to read one of the poems to her fellow inductees, an experience that was both scary and rewarding. “Even though it’s a translation, it’s my own work,” she observes. “It’s a collaboration, and part of it is mine.”

“I plan to continue translating poetry for fun,” concludes Septimus, an English major who will add a Middle Eastern Studies major to her resume once it officially becomes a major. She has studied Arabic and is now studying Farsi. “Each country that I study, I like to read its poetry,” she adds. “It’s an essential part of the culture and enriches my understanding of politics and history.”

Student Explores the First English-Language Koran

In 1649 an Anglican brother named Alexander Ross enjoyed the distinction of producing the first English-language Koran; unfamiliar with Arabic, he translated from a French version. Now QC history graduate student Ilker Ucaner is turning Ross’ volume into modern English, and in the process, exploring a theory about the medieval monk’s view of Islam.

Ross had supplemented his edition with letters he wrote to the French translator, discrediting Islamic beliefs and Turkish culture. In a twist reminiscent of *The Da Vinci Code*, Ucaner suspects that the monk’s project put him at risk of blasphemy charges, and that the letters served as a preemptive cover-up.

Ucaner has had the luxury of relying on original source material: A Ross Koran—one of only seven in existence—has been loaned him by an archival librarian who found it in her in-laws’ belongings. His QC advisors, including Kristina Richardson (History), an Islamic scholar who is fluent in both French and Arabic, have encouraged him to use this Koran as a basis for his PhD dissertation. He hopes to publish his translation of the sacred text and Ross’ letters, along with his explanation of their function.

A Timely Proposal

QC alum Yitchak Lockerman ’09 and his betrothed, QC student Rachel M. Stern ’12, smile from the stairway of the library clocktower minutes after she accepted his marriage proposal. They met at the college three years ago and Lockerman managed to convince campus officials that the clocktower, a place that always fascinated them, was the perfect location for the event. They agreed and assisted in a ruse to help lure her there for his surprise June 30 proposal.
Turkey is a country with a rich and diverse history, people, and environment. Throughout the 2011-2012 academic year, the college will present lectures, live performances, and art exhibits that will explore the many facets of Turkey: its politics, society, economy, ethnicity, art, literature, music, and film.

**Music Library Presents Three Exhibits**

This year, instead of mounting a single exhibition, the Music Library is presenting three smaller ones on unrelated subjects: musical and artistic sketches; important events in the history of the Aaron Copland School of Music; and Louis Armstrong. In her curatorial debut, librarian Rebecca Hyams assembled all the shows, conceiving two of them herself.

“*Sketches: A Musician’s Hand* came about because I wanted to pick a theme that was both intellectually and visually interesting,” says Hyams. “*The Music Building at 20 and Other Milestones* came about when I realized that ACSM had several anniversaries in 2011-12.” The third topic was suggested by head music librarian Jennifer Oates, who had put together the library’s inaugural display last year.

Working on a limited budget, Hyams browsed the archives of QC and the Louis Armstrong House Museum and borrowed items from the personal collections of music faculty members. The process involved months of sleuthing. “My search for materials led me all around campus,” she recalls. Some things, such as photos from ACSM’s dedication ceremony, have yet to be unearthed. “There was a lot of ‘I think I have a few photos,’ followed by, ‘I thought I had photos, but I can’t find them anywhere,’” Hyams notes. “When the images do surface, I’m sure they’ll show up in a future exhibit.”

In the meantime, she has gained new insight into herself. “I learned a lot about the history of ACSM,” says Hyams. “I did my BA and MA in the school, but there was much I didn’t know, starting with the name of the sculpture that is outside our building: *Ode to Tatlin.*”

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12**
Music Building, Room 226, 12:15 pm
**LECTURE–PERFORMANCE**
*Turks and Turkish Influence in Bach’s World*, a free illustrated lecture by QC Professor Emeritus Raymond Erickson, followed by a performance of Bach’s *Coffee Cantata*, led by Professor Emerita Drora Pershing.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 17**
Campbell Dome, 5–6:30 pm
**A Conversation with Students**
Nobel Prize-winning author Orhan Pamuk. Moderated by Professor Gloria Fisk.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26**
Campbell Dome, 12:15 pm
**Windows into Turkey Lecture**
Lawrence Kaye will address Turkey’s cultural heritage.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2**
Powdermaker Hall, Room 156, 12:15 pm
**Windows into Turkey Discussion**
The Turks: From Empire to Nation-State—A Journey through History.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9**
Powdermaker Hall, Room 156, 12:15 pm
**Windows into Turkey Discussion**
The Role of Turkey in Today’s Political World.

**OCTOBER 12**
Powdermaker Hall, Room 156, 12:15 pm
**Windows into Turkey Discussion**
*What Is Sufism and Why Is Rumi So Popular?*
Presentation and discussion by Professor Mark Pettigrew.

**EXHIBITS**
THROUGH DECEMBER 16
Benjamin Rosenthal Library
*A Panorama of Art in Turkey: Documents of Visual Culture in the Queens College Libraries.*

**NOVEMBER 19–JANUARY 19, 2012**
Flushing Town Hall
137-35 Northern Boulevard
*Ceramics Material and Material Culture.* Curated by Professor Sin-ying Ho.

**Visit** www.qc.cuny.edu/YearOfTurkey

**TURKISH AIRLINES**
Official Airline of Year of Turkey: Exploring Past, Present, Future
Evangelical megachurches tend to be conservative in their theology and politics. Nonetheless, some of these institutions are getting involved in sustained social welfare projects in their communities, initiatives previously associated with progressives. OMRI ELISHA (Anthropology) examines this trend in Moral Ambition: Mobilization and Social Outreach in Evangelical Megachurches (University of California Press). Over 16 months of extensive fieldwork in Knoxville, Tennessee, he studied the efforts of two pseudonymous suburban churches—stately, historic Marble Valley, and the younger, less formal Eternal Vine—to develop social ministries backed by their congregations. As a regular observer of outreach activities, Elisha often ended up participating in them himself, feeding the homeless, making repairs at a shelter for victims of domestic violence, and driving a church van of teenagers around poor neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. His ethnographic account highlights the dilemmas and contradictions that arise in churches where multiple religious and social ideals collide.

Lots of inner-city Americans play the numbers. The equivalent in Rio de Janeiro is jogo do bicho (animal game), a lottery that emerged just after the founding of the Brazilian republic and persists today, despite its illegal status. In Laws of Chance: Brazil’s Clandestine Lottery and the Making of Urban Public Life (Duke University Press), AMY CHAZKEL traces jogo di bicho’s origins from a late-19th-century zoo raffle—each day’s ticket buyers were automatically entered in a drawing for cash prizes—to a widespread operation that anticipated Latin America’s lively informal economy. Ultimately consolidated, like the drug trade, in the hands of a few kingpins, the animal game has its darker sides, corrupting police officers and politicians even as its proceeds subsidize day-care centers, soccer clubs, and lavish Carnival celebrations. Chazkel looks at all sides of Brazil’s clandestine lottery, examining it as both work and play, both a crime and a game.

In researching his landmark series “Jazz” for public TV, filmmaker Ken Burns came to the inescapable conclusion that Louis Armstrong was the most important figure in the development of America’s indigenous art form. If anyone else remains to be persuaded, they need only read RICKY RICCARDI’S (Louis Armstrong House Museum) wonderfully readable account of the last 25 years of the musical icon’s career, What a Wonderful World: The Magic of Louis Armstrong’s Later Years (Pantheon). A jazz historian and archivist, Riccardi reconstructed Satchmo’s life from 1946 to his death in 1971. For jazz fans this book offers details about performances, recording sessions, and Armstrong’s relationships with musicians and personalities of the day. For anyone eager to learn more about one of the 20th century’s larger-than-life figures, Riccardi presents a portrait of the man that is lively and candid. And for some there will be surprises in learning the extent of Armstrong’s feelings about the injustices suffered by African Americans and the lengths to which he—often unrecognized—went to address them.
AMMIEL ALCALAY (CMAL) gave a reading at the Gloucester Writers Center that included excerpts from his two most recent books, the novel Islanders and a collection of writings and photographs, neither with nor gold. . .

TOM BIRD (ELL) was a faculty member in the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Summer Institute America Engages Russia: Studies, Teaching, and Resources, held at Columbia University in June. . .

JOE BERTOLINO (VP, Enrollment Management) was honored in June by his alma mater, the University of Scranton, with the 2011 Frank J. O’Hara Alumni Award in Education. It is the highest honor bestowed jointly by the university and Alumni Society for outstanding achievement in a particular field or endeavor. . .

STEPHANE BOISSINOT (Biology) was one of several co-authors of the paper “The genome of the green anole lizard and a comparative analysis with birds and mammals,” which was accepted for publication in Nature. Several of his co-authors hail from Harvard, Stanford, and MIT. . .

ANNMARIE S. DRURY (English) received a 2011 PEN Translation Fund grant for a collection of poems by Tanzanian poet Euphrase Kezilahab, an acclaimed Swahili writer whose work is now becoming widely available to other readers. Drury was one of 11 winners from a field of over 130 applicants.

JOSEPH GROSSO (Calandra Institute) published his seventh edition of Il Giornalino. The journal highlights the writings of New York City students studying Italian at the college and high school levels.

HEATHER HENDERSHOT (Media Studies) spoke about her new book What’s Fair on the Air?: Cold War Right-Wing Broadcasting and the Public Interest (Univ. Chicago Press) at the NYU Bookstore on Sept. 23.

JENNIFER JARVIS (Student Life) was named one of 2011’s Top Women in Business by the Queens Courier .

JUDITH KIMERLING (Political Science) received the 2011 Albertson Medal in Sustainable Development in August from Village Earth, an NGO that works for the empowerment of rural and indigenous communities. Kimerling was recognized for her defense of the Amazon rainforest and the human communities that depend on it for their culture and survival. A five-channel video installation, cedarliberty, by LESLIE MCCLEAVE (Media Studies) and Elena del Rivero is on view at the International Center of Photography in Manhattan through January 8 as part of its exhibit Remembering 9/11. It is also being exhibited concurrently at the New York State Museum in Albany. . .

PYONG Y ork State Museum in Albany . . .

Remembering 9/11. It is also

MUMM International Award was given to CHUXIANG YI (SEES) and 150 co-authors for their paper “Climate control of terrestrial carbon exchange across biomes and continents,” which was published in Environmental Research Letters (2010, Volume 5). The authors come from 116 academic institutes on six continents. Yi was senior author and conceptualizer of the paper, which examines relationships between climate and the carbon exchange of land-based ecosystems to predict future levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide. . .

JACK ZEVIN (SEYS) and MICHAEL KRA SNER (Political Science) published a special edition of the journal Social Studies in July, devoted to lessons that could be taught by classroom teachers in connecting with the tenth anniversary of 9/11. It included articles from several QC grads who are now teachers.

GAP MIN’S (Sociology) book Preserving Ethnicity through Religion in America: Korean Protestants and Indian Hindus across Generations won honorable mention in the 2011 Thomas and Znaniecki Best Book Award competition from the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association. The section formally recognized the winners of both the Best Book Award and the honorary mentions with plaques at the ASA’s annual meeting in August. . .

STEPHEN PEkar (SEES) participated in four panel discussions September 15 as part of Al Gore’s Global Climate Reality Live project, a 24-hour worldwide multimedia event. Additionally, he was selected by the Consortium for Ocean Leadership to be a distinguished lecturer for the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program. He will be traveling to eight universities and educational organizations in the course of the year; he is the first CUNY professor to be selected for this prestigious honor. . .

MIHAELA ROBLA (FNES) was invited to participate at the June United Nations Expert Group Meeting organized by the U.N. Division for Social Policy and Development on Assessing Family Policies: Confronting Family Poverty and Social Exclusion. She presented on “Assessing Family Policies across the World; A Focus on Eastern Europe”. . .

The Italian Academy has secured the opera rights to RICHARD VETERE’S (Media Studies) stage play Caravaggio for a presentation and production in Italy in 2012 and later in New York. A short film Vetere co-wrote and co-produced, You and Me, has appeared in over 10 international festivals.

Vetere directed Katalina Mustatea’s new play The Model, which opened at the Incubator Theater on August 18. His new 10-minute play The Kids Menu was a finalist at the Weathervane 8 x 10 Theatrefest in Akron, OH in mid-July. Another new play, Bird Brain, his first children’s play, was recently published by Dramatic Publishing . . .
Faculty Experts

GEORGE AREVALO (LAHM) was cited by brooklynagle.com for his expertise on Woody Guthrie—he organized the songwriter’s archives in Manhattan . . .

TESFYAE ASFAW (Career Development) commented on improved paid internship opportunities at QC in a Daily News story that reported a dearth of summer jobs for teens . . .

ABDURRAHMAN ATCIL (CMAL) explained Islamic burial practices to the Queens Chronicle following the death of Osama bin Laden . . .

ALEXANDER BAUER (Anthropology), who has studied Cleopatra’s Needle in Central Park, was quoted in a New York Times story about the maintenance and ownership of the monument . . .

ANDREW BEVERIDGE supplied the demographic information for a New York Times article about African Americans leaving New York for the South; yournabe.com asked him about the same subject. Salon.com cited him in an analysis of Westchester County’s compliance with a 2009 agreement to build affordable housing in affluent white neighborhoods. Beveridge was also quoted in a New York Times piece about the graying of Manhattan, a Queens Tribune story about the 2010 Census, and Jewish Week articles about the heated race for the 9th Congressional District Seat in Queens and Brooklyn. He also wrote an article about the census for the Gotham Gazette . . .

KRISTIN CELLELO (History) provided context for a New York Times article about the waiting period between getting a marriage license and completing the ceremony; she also participated in “Good Divorce,” a radio call-in show hosted on WUNC . . .

MELISSA CHECKER (Urban Studies) had shared credit on a Gotham Gazette piece about Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s Greener Greater New York plan and bylined separate stories about the city’s program for redeveloping brownfields and its history of turning former industrial sites into schools . . .

NANCY COMLEY (English) was cited in a Los Angeles Times essay about Ernest Hemingway on the 50th anniversary of his death . . .

NICOLE COOLEY (English) participated in a reading from the new anthology Forgotten Borough: Writers Come to Terms with Queens. Held at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, the reading was covered by the Daily News, Queens Chronicle, and Times Ledger . . .

SUSAN CROLL (Psychology), who received stellar reviews on Rate My Professors, was asked by Metro to explain what makes her a good teacher . . .

MARA EINSTEIN (Media Studies) was quoted in a Huffington Post piece about an ad campaign by the Church of Latter-Day Saints . . .

SUJATHA FERNANDES (Sociology) was featured in the Daily News for her new book on hip-hop around the world. She also published an op-ed piece in the New York Times on Cuban rap and its relation to the embargo . . .

JOSHUA FREEMAN (History) was quoted in a New York Times story about Governor Andrew Cuomo’s deal with the state’s public unions and in a Huffington Post item about the decline of organized labor in the United States . . .

HARRY GAFNEY (Chemistry) was cited in a story on YourNabe.com about a local entrepreneur’s plan to sell custom-blended ice cream that’s frozen on the spot with a device that uses liquid nitrogen . . .

ANDREW HACKER (Political Science) was the co-author, with Claudia Dreifus, of a column in the Chronicle of Higher Education about the response to their book, Higher Education? and an article in the Atlantic— paraphrased with enthusiasm by philly.com—about the rising debt crisis at colleges. Meanwhile, the Huffington Post quoted Hacker in a story about the value of attending college . . .

SAMUEL HEILMAN (Sociology) was quoted in a Jewish Week article about lawsuits filed against leaders of two Hasidic communities in upstate New York . . . Public radio station KSKA-FM interviewed MATT HUENERFAUTH (Computer Science) for a program called “Kids These Days.” He discussed his efforts to create software that animates American Sign Language on computer screens . . .

CHINA JUDE’S appointment as QC’s new assistant VP of athletics was reported by the Queens Ledger, Queens Courier, and NY1; . . .

KHANDELWAL (Urban Studies) was quoted in a New York Times piece about the growing political power of the city’s surging Asian population and was profiled in the Queens Chronicle . . .

MICHAEL KRASNER (Political Science) published . . .

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**FACULTY EXPERTS** from page 18

**HARRY LEVINE** (Sociology) made observations about the U.S. Army’s practice of burning its waste in Afghanistan in open pits... Innovative choreography and multimedia work by **YIN MEI** (Dance), and her recent receipt of a Fulbright U.S. Scholar grant, has been the subject of articles in the *Queens Chronicle*, the *Queens Tribune*, and the *Queens Courier*. **PYONG GAP MIN** (Sociology) was cited in a *New York Times* article about the dwindling number of Korean grocers... NY1 News and the websites DNAninfo.com and LoHud.com reported that a four-year study conducted for the environmental organization Riverkeeper by **GREGORY O’MULLAN** (SEES) and Columbia University researchers showed significant sewage contamination of the Hudson River, although there has been general improvement in water quality. The study took place before a waste treatment plant was temporarily disabled in July by a fire. O’Mullan’s comments about this incident were cited in a *New York Times* article and by WCBS radio and NY1... **STEPHEN PEKAR** (SEES) was among the sources for a piece in the *Observer* about the impact of past and current global warming on Antarctica... In a letter published in the *New York Times*, **FRANCINE PETERMAN** (Dean, Education) assailed the practices of Relay Grad School of Education, an institution launched earlier this year by leaders of the charter school movement. “While Relay may prepare teachers who plan lessons and manage children’s behavior, it eschews the theoretical foundations and academic rigor and engagement that define graduate work,” she wrote... **ANDREW ROSENBERG** (Computer Science) was featured in an episode of CUNY-TV’s “Study with the Best.” He talked about his work as a member of the team that prepared the IBM computer Watson to speak its answers on “Jeopardy”... **RICKY RICCARDI** (LAHM) did a Q&A with the New Orleans website nola.com in connection with his appearance at the Satchmo Summerfest... **SUZANNE STRICKLAND** (Sociology) was among the authorities explaining a possible undercount of the local Afghani community in a *Queens Chronicle* story about the 2010 Census.

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**News and Events**

*Queens: Multiple Visions*, an exhibition put together by the QC Division of Education and the Queens Museum of Art, was mentioned in the *Queens Chronicle* and was the subject of a cover story in the *Queens Courier*. The Louis Armstrong House Museum has been much in the news as an icon of Queens diversity on WABC Eyewitness News and included in arts listings and calendars in the *New York Times*, *Queens Courier*, *Queens Chronicle*, and *NY1*. As reported in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, a study by the Education Trust found that QC is one of only five colleges in the nation doing a good job of serving low-income students—a fact repeated in a *New York Times* op-ed by University of Connecticut professor Gaye Tuchman about dismal graduation rates for the same population. The college’s 87th Commencement was followed extensively in the press, including broadcast media (NY1 News) and print coverage in the *New York Times*, *Daily News*, *Sing Tao Daily News*, *Claron*, and five Queens weeklies... A talk by Seth Pinsky, head of the city’s...

**First Hamdani Scholarship Awarded**

The awarding of the first Salman Hamdani Scholarship—in honor of a QC alumnus and emergency medical technician who died at the World Trade Center on 9/11—was widely covered. WNBC, WNYW, NY1 News, and CBS News Radio 880 as well as the *New York Times*, *Daily News*, *Newsday*, and five Queens weeklies ran stories on the event at QC. The recipient, Anam Ahmed, is a pre-med student here.

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Economic Development Corporation, at the Queens College Business Forum breakfast in June, was covered in detail by the Queens Gazette, Queens Examiner, Queens Chronicle, Extra N.A., and Jewish World. In the 2012 editions of both The Best 376 Colleges and Best in the Northeast, the college received high marks for race/class interaction (diversity), green standards, the accessibility of the faculty, higher admissions standards, financial aid, and fire safety. The Asian/American Center, under the direction of Madhulika Khandelwal (Urban Studies), hosted 20 students at its weeklong Summer Institute, as reported in the Queens Gazette and Queens Ledger. The students learned about the multicultural neighborhoods of Queens, with an intensive program of lectures, workshops, discussions, and guided tours on which they met business and community leaders. Ongoing renovations of the Kupferberg Center were described in an article in the Queens Chronicle.

Students

MICHÈLLE CHAN, who holds a prestigious Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship, was featured in yoursabe.com. Her fellowship is helping her serve three summer internships at the Gotham Gazette, an immersion in researching and reporting news and issues that she feels will help her in her career path toward public-interest law.

JOSHUA NIAMEHR came clean in the Daily News, which wrote about his business LaundryLocal.com, a growing web-based laundry service.

OLIVIER FRANÇOIS NOEL was touted when the Daily News column “Caribbean” celebrated the achievements of four local Caribbean-American members of the class of 2011.

ROsSE MARy SAyVERy, who completed her BA this year after a series of setbacks, including homelessness, was the subject of stories in the Daily News and El Correo.