According to the Chinese calendar, the Year of the Tiger is more than halfway over on October 5. But at QC, that date marks a full day of events celebrating the Year of China, the umbrella for two semesters of Sinological activities. The Year of China will be the first entry in an interdisciplinary series that will use the college’s resources to focus on one nation at a time.

Given the demographics of QC and Flushing in general, the existing offerings on campus, and the intrinsic appeal of the country, China was an obvious inaugural subject. “I received 65 responses to a mailer I sent out over last Christmas asking people to propose projects,” says Marleen Kassel, director of Asian Initiatives, who has spent many months organizing this Year. “The interest was self-generated by faculty and staff.”

The resulting lineup utilizes the talents of QC personnel, well-known performers and scholars, and members of New York’s Chinese community. The October 5 celebration will feature concerts by the Shanghai Quartet and by Aaron Copland Music School professors and Visiting Distinguished Artist-in-Residence Bright Sheng ’84; a lecture by Distinguished Professor of History Morris Rossabi; and an illustrated talk on the

Continued on page 9

In China, students had the chance to offer prayers in front of a Buddhist temple.

Faculty and Students Traveled East This Summer

“Go east!” could be one of QC’s mottoes, as academic pursuits led students and faculty to Asian destinations over the summer break.

In May John Waldman (Biology) went to Ulan Bator, Mongolia, to lay the groundwork for a conservation genetics study of taimen, a fish native to the area. “Taimen is the world’s largest trout, weighing up to 100 pounds or more,” says Waldman. “It eats mice and rodents.”

Immersing himself in the Mongolian capital for four nights and three days, the professor made the most of his time, giving a talk at the American Center for Mongolian Studies, teaching a class to third graders—the children of Americans working in Ulan Bator—and taking a tour of the city. “In about a minute, you go from downtown to the countryside, where you can see herders and their livestock,” he observes.

The trip itself was arduous, involving 24 hours in transit in each direction and a 12-hour time difference. Waldman hopes that his efforts will Continued on page 2
After a national search, Queens College has appointed Larry Liebovitch, an alumnus of the Bronx High School of Science and City College, as the new dean for the Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Most recently associate dean for graduate studies and programs at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science at Florida Atlantic University, he succeeds Thomas Strekas (Chemistry), who began teaching at Queens in 1978 and served as the dean from 2003 to 2009.

Liebovitch holds a bachelor’s degree in physics from City College and a master’s and doctorate in astronomy from Harvard. He returned to the city for postdoctoral fellowships in ophthalmology, first at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and then at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, eventually joining its faculty. Living in Astoria, he commuted to Manhattan by bicycle. In 1993 he accepted a job at the interdisciplinary Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences at Florida Atlantic, where he rose through the academic ranks—becoming associate dean in 2008—and pursued research in topics ranging from genetics to archaeology and psychology.

“My path in research is a single line, just bent in places,” says Liebovitch, explaining that the mathematical models he used in astronomy and ophthalmology have applications in other fields. “I particularly enjoy discovering how what we know in one area of science can give us new insights into other areas of science.”

“The newness of science lies in the complexity of research,” observes Provost James Stellar. “Larry’s work has moved from the study of galaxies to the study of fluid flow in the eye and analysis of human conflict. He will galvanize the sciences at Queens and get us better integrated with the sciences in CUNY and in the New York area.”

Liebovitch assumed his new responsibilities in August. “I am deeply thankful for the intellectual and career opportunities that the City University of New York provided me,” he says. “I am honored to be able to serve that mission by working with the great students, great faculty, and great staff at Queens College.”
Global Education: A Curriculum without Borders

QC has always made a point of expanding students’ worlds. Now the college is integrating global perspectives into the campus experience, all but guaranteeing that undergraduates gain an understanding of cultures and nationalities other than their own. “We have one of the most diverse student bodies in the country,” says VP Sue Henderson. “So we decided to capitalize on it.”

QC’s Global Education initiatives—described in a website, qc.cuny.edu/Academics/GlobalEd, just launched last month—are continually growing. An ambitious Education Abroad office encourages students to take credit-bearing courses in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and North America. There are short- and long-term opportunities for all students in good standing, including entering freshmen.

In addition, QC hopes to increase internship options overseas. “While he was the chief executive of a camera manufacturer, Ira Lampert ’69 sent students to work in his factory in China,” reports Henderson. “In turn, they learned how his company was run globally.”

The revised General Education curriculum, introduced last fall, emphasizes Global Education. Among other Gen Ed requirements, candidates for a bachelor’s degree have to complete one course on world cultures, one course on a preindustrial society, and pass an intermediate-level course in a foreign language or demonstrate comparable proficiency.

Professors are thinking globally, too. In the summer of 2009, QC faculty members pursued research in east Greenland, Ecuador, Ethiopia, and Turkey. This year’s most exotic location was probably Mongolia (see page 1).

Future ventures, from partnerships to exchange programs, will allow QC to build on its international reputation. The English Language Institute is exploring the possibility of opening a satellite in Vietnam. “We can establish a presence there, bringing over our technical knowledge and experience,” says Provost James Stellar. Meanwhile, under a proposed arrangement with Kaplan International Colleges, Chinese students could come here for a baccalaureate with benefits: They would matriculate at QC and take English classes at ELI.

The college’s global goals also encompass staffers. The Year of China (see page 1), the initial offering in a series of annual events related to a single country, includes a professional development component. After attending lectures and seminars, some participating employees will visit destinations such as Fujian—home province of many of today’s Chinese immigrants—and academic institutions.

“We want to let staff see their counterparts at work in China,” explains Henderson. She is already weighing choices for the next year.

Through Education Abroad, QC students soak up the culture of such destinations as Japan, Greece, and Rome (clockwise from upper left).

Recognition for Contributions to Art Education

Rikki Asher (SEYS, center, in red) was honored as the New York City Art Teacher Association Higher Education Art Teacher of the Year in a June 11 ceremony at the Museum of Modern Art in Manhattan. She will receive an award certificate Oct. 24 at the annual NYCATA Conference.
A Stellar Move-in Experience

“We want to attract students who never would have thought of applying to Queens College because it didn’t offer them a full college experience, or the chance to leave home and live on campus,” Provost Jim Stellar told the New York Times for an Aug. 24 story. Now beginning his second year as a Summit resident, Stellar (bottom photo) was among a group in special “Summit Volunteer” t-shirts who were on hand on Move-in Day (Aug. 23) to help students get settled in their new QC digs.

The Global Is Local in Asian American Queens

Acupuncture, bhangra music, and culinary traditions were among the topics when the Asian/American Center sponsored a summer institute for students in late July. The six-day event—Studying the Global in the Local: Asian American Communities in Multicultural Queens—was an opportunity “to share what we have with people in other states,” says A/AC Director Madhulika Khandelwal, who planned the conference as part of a new curriculum funded by a federal grant that supports Asian American Pacific Islander Community Studies.

Publicizing the institute throughout the country, she contacted Asian American studies and student life programs at other schools; applicants had to have strong academic records and submit an essay and two recommendations. “We wanted to get good students,” Khandelwal comments. The 17 participants came from as far away as the West Coast and included a fair number of first- and second-generation Americans.

In the morning the students attended lectures and discussions about local Asian American enclaves. Afternoons were used for demonstrations and tours of areas like Flushing, Jackson Heights, and Richmond Hill, which have been changed and revitalized by recent immigration.

“In each neighborhood, we collaborated with community organizations, so we could see a community through the eyes of that community,” explains Khandelwal, adding that every trip involved a meal. The schedule extended into the evening, with additional activities and, on the last two nights, time for students—who were housed at The Summit—to write about what they had learned.

“What’s happening in Queens has global ramifications, and vice versa,” concludes Khandelwal, who was delighted by the positive feedback she got from all the participants. She also appreciated the coverage the institute received in the local media, even if she couldn’t read all of it herself. The Daily News, the West Indian, and the Chinese-language papers Ming Pao and World Journal published pieces about the conference.
Italian Americans—the most prevalent European ancestral group in New York, and perhaps the rest of the tristate area—are simultaneously everywhere and nowhere, visible in government and television, ignored by academia. The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute strives to correct that imbalance. “Calandra is the Italian American research institute par excellence,” says Anthony Tamburri, its dean. “It’s the only game in town, and the town is the western hemisphere.”

Since his arrival in 2006, Tamburri has strengthened the institute’s connections to communities here and abroad. Stateside, Calandra supports research projects, archives material on the Italian American experience, publishes books and a journal, *The Italian American Review*, and presents a wide range of public lectures, readings, and screenings.

Tamburri himself hosts *Italics*, a CUNY-TV show about prominent Italian Americans; Calandra supplements the monthly broadcast with audio and video streaming of past episodes on the web. In addition, the institute gets involved in educational issues, such as the successful campaign to preserve Italian as part of the College Board’s Advanced Placement programs in European languages, previously limited to French, German, and Spanish.

“*Re*-thinking Italian-American Studies: A National Symposium,” “Italian American Mental Health and Wellness Conference,” and “Roundtrip: Linguistic-Cultural Migrations and Diaspora,” organized with the University for Foreigners in Perugia, are among the special events Calandra is holding this year. Its next annual conference, scheduled for April 2011, will address *The 3 F’s in Italian Culture: Critical Approaches to Food, Fashion, and Film.*

Meanwhile, Tamburri has been promoting a dialogue with his counterparts overseas. “Except for a few historians in Italy, Italian American culture did not get the attention of Italian scholars,” he observes. “My own work drew me to see what Italians were and weren’t saying about Italian American culture.”

The past spring has been especially productive. In April, Americana, the Italian-language book series Tamburri edits for the Florentine publisher Franco Cesati Editore, released its first two titles—a study of the work of Italian American novelist John Fante by Florida Atlantic University professor Emanuele Pettener, and Tamburri’s own *Una semiotica dell’etnicità. Nuove segnalature per la scrittura italiano/americana* (A semiotic of ethnicity: New “directionals” for Italian/American writing), which got a full-page review in *Liberal*, an Italian daily published in Rome. The list of future releases includes a book by Fred Gardaphé (English).

In May, Tamburri delivered the keynote at *Italia–USA: lingua, cultura, & identità*, a conference presented in Siena by the Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance (ILICA), Calandra, and the local University for Foreigners. An agreement he worked out with the University for Foreigners in Perugia will allow it to collaborate with Calandra on research related to migration.

 Appropriately, Tamburri’s efforts are winning him recognition on both sides of the Atlantic. The Garibaldi-Meucci Museum in Staten Island, owned by the National Order Sons of Italy Foundation and administered by the New York Grand Lodge Order Sons of Italy in America, paid tribute to him in August at its annual fundraiser; he’ll be saluted by Staten Island’s Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden in October, with his wife Maria, and solo by ILICA in November. Meanwhile, he was named a Cavaliere dell’Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. “Knighthood, basically, though no horse,” says the honoree, who will receive a pin from the Italian ambassador in a ceremony later this fall.

**A Twelve-Tone Artifact Highlights ACSM Exhibit**

George Sturm ’52, a QC alumnus and executive director of Music Associates of America, appears with a manuscript of a work by Italian composer Luigi Dallapiccola, originally composed for a QC ensemble. Sturm was one of Dallapiccola’s students when he taught composition at QC in the 1950s. He donated the manuscript to be part of a yearlong exhibit of artifacts: “The Aaron Copland School of Music: Past, Present, and Future.”

**Avanti Calandra!**

**Save the Date!**

**ANNUAL FACULTY & STAFF ASSEMBLY**

Wednesday, October 13

LeFrak Concert Hall

3:30 pm
Michael Neita Named Head of QC’s Upward Bound Program

When Michael Neita ran Roxbury Community College’s Upward Bound program a few years back, he developed an integrated science and math curriculum that engaged students through the use of music. Now, as the new director of Upward Bound at QC, he hopes to build on what he learned at that inner-city Boston campus. “I was born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica, one of the world’s great music centers,” says Neita. Throughout history, he notes, oppressed groups have used music to free themselves. “As an educator and community organizer, my goal is the same: to use music to empower young people and help them take charge of their education.”

It’s an approach employed with positive results at other schools, including the New England Conservatory. “Teaching about the way guitar or violin strings vibrate can be an effective way to illustrate certain principles of physics,” says Neita. “Chords and scale projections become a means of teaching about fractions.”

Established in 1965, Upward Bound is a federally funded initiative that provides college preparatory support to local public high school students from low-income families in which neither parent holds a college degree. At QC, the program, based in Honors Hall, helps participants graduate from high school and college equipped with the necessary academic, social, and financial skills. Students are recruited through direct outreach to high schools.

“At Roxbury, Upward Bound served as a bridge between the college and the local community, just as it has at QC,” says Neita. His first priority for the QC program is to create an on-campus media lab, equipped with workstations, musical instruments, and the requisite software. “I also hope to build relationships with local recording studios, radio stations, and professional musicians and enlist their support,” says Neita.

Immediately prior to arriving at QC, Neita served as program manager at the Cambridge Academic Group, a Boston-based consulting firm, conducting outreach to low-income communities and educational institutions in New England and Kingston. “I spent a lot of time on the ground in Kingston, meeting with teachers, students, community leaders, and government officials,” he says. The job was as much community organizing as curriculum development, and drew on an extensive portfolio of skills Neita had developed in earlier positions in education, human services, and community outreach.

Neita holds a bachelor’s degree in community planning from the University of Massachusetts and a master’s in urban affairs and community development from Boston University. His new role at QC brings him back to a city where he lived briefly in the 1990s and for which he has great affection. He is also energized by what he describes as “the QC community’s openness to new and innovative ideas relative to helping low-performing male black and Hispanic high school students.” His Upward Bound role will involve him in a broad range of academic disciplines, from English literature and composition to math, science, and digital media technology—and, as always, keep him closely attuned to the needs and aspirations of the greater community.

The Power of Nature

This detail is from Glacier Rapid Melting, an acrylic on canvas work by Marlene Tseng Yu that is part of Nature and Cosmos, a 40-year retrospective of paintings and murals by the Taiwanese-born artist on display through Nov. 24 at Godwin-Ternbach Museum. It is part of QC’s Year of China celebration.
Like any 73-year-old, Queens College has accumulated a lot of stuff. In this instance, however, much of this stuff has significant historic value. With the initiation three years ago of the Rosenthal Library’s Special Collections Fellows Program, these items are being systematically evaluated, organized, and preserved in a manner that will serve researchers and scholars for years to come.

As Ben Alexander, assistant professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies (GSLIS) and head of special collections and archives for the Queens College Libraries, recalls, when he first arrived at QC he was given a tour by Library Director Robert Shaddy of what then passed for the college’s special collections and archives. “It was in a state of disarray. The college had had a part-time archivist, but a part-time staff member simply couldn’t deal with the volume of materials that the college had.”

Following several conversations, they decided to create a pilot project whereby GSLIS students working toward the certificate in archival studies would be invited to participate in the fellows program. “It gives them a very intimate exposure to working in an archive,” Alexander explains. “They’re organizing and describing materials to make them accessible, and joining me in visits to prospective donors to get the experience of going out in the field and assessing materials. The idea is to give students a point of entry into the profession they wouldn’t get until several years into an archive professional appointment.” For their efforts they receive a full-semester independent study course credit.

To date, the program’s most notable accomplishment has been the creation of the Queens College Civil Rights Archive, which was largely made possible by donations of artifacts from former QC students—beginning with Mark Levy ’64—who worked in the civil rights movement in the early 1960s. It continues to grow and gain recognition as a scholarly resource and is in the process of making many of its elements available via a related website at www.archives.gsis.net.

Other significant collections being archived by special collections fellows include the Ann Birstein Papers, which features correspondence between the QC alumna and her husband, the renowned literary critic Alfred Kazin, as well as Saul Bellow, Joan Didion, Ralph Ellison, and Elie Wiesel, among others; the Karol Rathaus Collection, which holds scores, manuscripts, and correspondence (with Aaron Copland, among others) from the noted composer and former QC music professor; the K. Robert Schwarz Collection, which contains various papers of the QC alumnus who became a classical music critic and scholar writing for the *New York Times*, *Out, Pulse!*, and *Stereo Review*, among others; and the Queens College Presidential Papers, which show administrative developments during the presidency of Shirley Strum Kenny (1984–1994).

This fall, Alexander says, the program’s focus will shift to two projects. One is the processing of a vast collection of theatre-related materials from the college’s performing arts collection. It comprises several items bequeathed to the college by Richard Wall, a former humanities librarian, and a collection of *Playbills* dating back to the 1930s, donated by the wife of actor Dom DeLuise, as well as materials donated by a former theatre critic for the *Los Angeles Times*. The other project involves creating an archive of the college’s estimable collection of about 1,000 rare books, including some from the 1450s.
Rajiv Mohabir ’12

Poet, fifth-grade teacher, graduate student, dancer, adventurous cook, and creator of videos are categories that help define but never confine Rajiv Mohabir ’12. In each persona he is finely attuned to the rhythms of his life’s 29 years. Languages and sacred stories, rivers and oceans, the diaspora of his Christian/Hindu family, and the migration of humpback whales all fascinate him.

“My grandmother would tell these elaborate stories through song. It was really magical when I started to understand what she was saying,” Mohabir recalls. “Music is the ancestor of poetry,” he muses, and reminds us “that things are never really lost.”

Born in London of artistic Guyanese-Indian parents, Mohabir grew up in Queens’s Richmond Hill neighborhood, Niagara Falls, and the tropical lushness of central Florida. He studied folksinging in India for a year and practices meditation. At the University of Florida, he switched from pre-med to religious studies, and then earned an MS in TESOL at Long Island University–Brooklyn.

His poetry earned him an invitation to a Voices of Our Nations workshop for writers of color. Pudding House Press named him a “Poet of Note” in 2009 and recently published his chapbook na bad-eye me.

While pursuing his second master’s degree—an MFA in creative writing at QC—Mohabir teaches Corona fifth-graders full-time in an English as a Second Language (ESL) program. On Fridays in his classroom at P.S. 92, his pupils recite their own poems. As he engages them in writing’s craft and creativity, he says, “Nobody gets below a perfect score.” For Mohabir, teaching ESL fits in with his aspiration to contribute to immigrant empowerment and immigrant rights.

“The way people can be moved to mutual understanding through poetry can be really impactful,” he believes. “It’s the coolest thing to use art for social change. If we can dream a better world, why not create it?”

Mohabir chose to study at QC “because it is located in a borough that is the most linguistically diverse in the country, possibly even the world. Queens feels like a good fit for me as it’s the home of a second Indo-Caribbean Diaspora, and a place where I have the cultural connections and support in order to translate and poetize folk songs.”

SEDA of Positive Change

At QC, learning isn’t for students only. That’s the notion behind the Office of Human Resources’ newly expanded Staff Education and Development Academy (SEDA). “We created this enhanced program in response to needs we have identified on campus over the last three years,” explains HR Director Reinalda Medina. “All of us should have opportunities to continue our development and refine our skill sets. You don’t always get that at grad school—or in life.”

SEDA offerings range from professional support to wellness topics. “We see this as a route to becoming great at whatever you’re doing,” says Brandis Ruffin, the training and development coordinator in charge of SEDA. She and her colleagues can chart an employee’s line of promotion and figure out what might be required next, from certification to preparation for a civil service exam. Meanwhile, SEDA’s on-campus workshops, in such areas as telephone skills or cross-cultural communication, give employees tools they can use in any position.

Other workshops help employees address personal issues. Upcoming seminars will cover stress management, maintaining balance in times of change, and debt management and personal finance. “For those of us who work here, QC is an extension of our lives,” observes Medina, noting that some classes, such as State 459 Investment, are provided in Spanish. In addition, SEDA comprises charitable initiatives, notably the annual campus drives for Toys for Tots, City Harvest, breast cancer research, and last spring’s Hands for Haiti fundraiser.

SEDA’s growth takes place in an HR office that has itself undergone considerable development, gaining new talent—including Ruffin—in the past year, increasing its presence on the college intranet MyQC, launching the quarterly newsletter OHR 163, and making preparations for CUNYfirst. Also in the works: updated orientation programs for new employees.

Meg McAuliffe and Howard Williams participate in an exercise in conflict resolution as Reinalda Medina looks on.
Results of Latest Transportation Survey

While the way individuals get to and from campus has not changed dramatically, the third annual survey since 2007–2008 of the commuting habits of the Queens College community reveals a trend toward more economical transportation.

“There was a clear increase in carpooling from 4.2% in 2008–2009 to 11.2% in 2009–2010,” the survey reports. “These carpoolers represent about one-fourth of those who commute by car. Typically, people who choose to carpool do so once or twice per week with one additional person in their car.”

Additionally, it notes, “Thirty people reported using a Zipcar to commute this year, which is a substantial increase compared to the single person who did so last year.”

“The greatest interests in carpooling and in Zipcars are the two salient results of this year’s QCUTE (Queens College Ultimate Transportation Evaluation), even though they apply to a minority of people,” says doctor and epidemiologist Alfredo Morabia (Center for the Biology of Natural Systems), who, along with his colleague at the School for Earth and Environmental Sciences Yan Zheng, has been conducting the survey.

Among other results: “Commute modes included car only (43%), bus only (24%), and subway and bus (28%). Strict walkers (4.8%) and bikers (1%) were a minority. The median commute time to the college was 45 minutes one way. For 25% of commuters, the one-way commute time was 75 minutes or more. These responses are very similar to those obtained in the two previous surveys, except for graduate students whose commute time has increased from 45 minutes in 2007–2008 to 60 minutes in 2009–2010.”

Survey questions concerning parking provided some of the more curious results: “12% of drivers took 31 minutes or more to find a parking space when arriving at Queens College. This proportion has increased from 2.8% a year before. On the other hand, 42% of drivers (vs. 53% a year ago) can find a parking spot in five minutes or less.”

The survey garnered 2,518 complete and almost-complete responses from 278 employees, 351 instructors, and 1,883 students.

Morabia says he hopes to have the opportunity to continue QCUTE. “These simple, short surveys take all their meaning when they are continued over long periods of time. Trends start to appear that are clearly beyond the random fluctuations of annual results.

“The main trait of the commuting habits—that is, the relative importance of cars vs. public transportation—is unlikely to change substantially before something changes in the public transportation network,” he says. “But if a new transit resource becomes available, the continuous surveillance with QCUTE will be a great tool to evaluate its impact on commuting habits.”

QC Cited for Volunteer Efforts

A QC contingent won an honorable mention for their efforts to aid Haiti earthquake victims in the inaugural Mayor’s College Challenge. Eighteen New York colleges participated, recording their hours of volunteer service on a special website between January 15 and April 30 and submitting a Service Portfolio describing their commitment to service. In June Emanuel Avila (Student Union), QC’s liaison to the project, was notified that QC was one of six colleges demonstrating “an exceptional commitment to service and the College Challenge” thanks to multiple campus relief efforts under the umbrella “From Queens to Haiti: Let Freedom Ring.” The citation from the Mayor’s College Challenge read, “Special Recognition to Queens College: For contributions by faculty in the academic area of service and service learning, providing service opportunities outside of New York and relief for Haiti.” Participating faculty and staff members were Ron Huggins and Judy Krinitz (Student Union), John Andrejack (Student Life), and Eva Fernandez (Center for Teaching & Learning).

Taking stock of QC’s generosity.

Queens Explores the Middle Kingdom - from page 1

vestiges of the Chinese Silk Road by Shen Wei Dance Arts executive director France Pepper. Two days later, journalist and China expert Orville Schell will speak at the first session of a professional development course that will acquaint faculty and staff with issues in contemporary China and culminate in a trip at the end of the academic year. A separate trip for alumni, led by Rossabi, will cover historic destinations on the Silk Roads.

In conjunction with the Year of China, galleries on campus will be looking eastward, too. For its first show of the fall, the Godwin-Ternbach Museum is presenting a retrospective of work by Taiwan-born painter and muralist Marlene Tseng Yu, while the Queens College Art Center will display ceramics by QC art professor and Hong Kong native Sin-yi Ho.

The spring calendar is still being finalized; the schedule will include a celebration of the Chinese New Year, a calligraphy workshop, performances by the Shanghai Acrobat, and events related to Asian American Heritage Month in May. Faculty and student exchanges may also be arranged. “Through the synergy and energy of people on campus, we’ll have tremendous success,” promises Kassel, who says that the goal of this Year is “to learn more about ourselves by looking at China.”
A home away from home to hundreds of students during the regular school year, QC’s residence hall, The Summit, takes on a somewhat different role during the summer months, serving as a hotel for people participating in a variety of summer programs. Residence Life Director Terry Walsh reports that in addition to 80 QC students taking summer courses, The Summit was home for varying periods of time to more than 200 people attending five different summer conferences.

“We’re not actually part of the programming process. We’re more of a hotel when it comes to the summer conferences,” explains Walsh, who along with Lifelong Learning Institute Program Coordinator Josephine Gesuale, handled all the arrangements for the use of QC’s facilities. By far the largest contingent—150 students—was participating in St. Giles International’s Junior Summer Camp, a six-week-long English-language learning program for high-school-age foreign students. An international institute offering programs for students and teachers in England, the United States, Canada, and Brazil, St. Giles provided the instructors and the students, with QC providing the facilities.

In touting its June 27 to August 8 program at QC, the St. Giles website noted: “High quality shared rooms in a newly built residence; Set in beautiful suburban university campus, within easy reach of Manhattan; Ideal for more independent learners looking for the New York City experience.”

QC’s own Asian/American Center took advantage of The Summit to provide housing for participants in its first summer institute (see page 4). Seventeen students from around the country were selected by an A/AC committee for Studying the Global in the Local: Asian American Communities in Multicultural Queens, a weeklong program combining an academic introduction to Asian American studies with immersion-learning experiences in the vibrant Asian American communities in New York’s most diverse borough.

The Summit boasts music practice rooms among its amenities, which most certainly saw use when 44 members of the New York Laureate Orchestra took up residence there for three nights leading up to a concert they presented July 31 at LeFrak Concert Hall. Additionally, the Aaron Copland School sponsored two summer workshop programs that found 13 visiting musicians taking advantage of on-campus housing. The Institute for 17th-Century Music at Queens College conducted its Baroque Opera Workshop June 20 to 26 for singers, continuo players, and string players, with 10 of the 30 participants staying at The Summit.

Three participants in New York Horn Seminar 2010, a brass seminar conducted by the Music School’s David Jolley, were Summit residents from July 25 to 29. The Summit also entertained young athletes during the summer months. Overnight housing was an option offered to grade school participants in the Athletics Department’s Summer Volleyball Camp, and some 19 players elected to stay at QC. Fortunately, they did not misinterpret the concept of “practice rooms.”

No Summer Break for The Summit

This July the Louis Armstrong House Museum received $825,000 from the Queens Borough President’s Office to support its capital needs for fiscal year 2011. The funding will cover furnishings, fixtures, and computer equipment for the Visitor’s Center that is currently under construction. “We are deeply grateful for Borough President Marshall’s support,” says LAHM Director Michael Cogswell. “It is a great blessing to have a borough president who understands that the Louis Armstrong House Museum contributes both cultural enrichment and economic benefits to the people of Queens.”

Three participants in New York Horn Seminar 2010, a brass seminar conducted by the Music School’s David Jolley, were Summit residents from July 25 to 29.

The summer months saw no letup in activity in the lobby of The Summit.
ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology) participated in a New York Community Media Alliance panel discussion July 15 concerning how journalists who write for media outlets that serve immigrant and ethnic communities in New York City should prepare for coverage of the fall elections ... YIN MEI CRITCHELL (Dance) appeared in City of Paper at the Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival Aug. 4–8 in Becket, MA. Inspired by the choreographer’s childhood during the Chinese Cultural Revolution, the work merges sensual movement, paper and ink, and video projections with live and recorded music. Watch excerpts of her performance on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIjEmWMCXQ ... JOHN DENNEHY (Biology) presented a poster entitled “Phage Phinding in the City: Training Phage Hunters at Queens College” with coauthors James Carpino and PETER NOVICK (Biology) at the 2nd Annual Science Education Alliance Symposium at Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Janelia Farm Research Campus on June 12 in Ashburn, VA ... DUNCAN FAHERTY (English) won the eleventh annual Society of Early Americanists Essay Contest Prize, announced in the society’s spring 2010 newsletter. Faherty’s essay, “‘Daily and nightly disgorged upon our shores’: Revolution, Rumor, & Serial Unrest in the Early Republic,” explores the impact of uncorroborated reports spread by newspapers after four French frigates sailed into New York Harbor with a noteworthy group of captives: a thousand revolutionaries and ex-slaves from the West Indies ... A book by ELENA FRANGAKIS-SYRETT (History), The Commerce of Smyrna in the Eighteenth Century, has been translated into Greek and issued by Alexandria Publications ... The Dance Research Foundation announced that MARVIN HOSHINO (Art) has been named editor of Ballet Review. Hoshino became its designer in 1981 and will continue in that capacity ... A recording submitted to the New York State School Music Association by JAMES JOHN (Music) has resulted in the QC Choir being selected to perform at NYSSMA’s 2010 Winter Conference this December in Rochester ... PETER LIBERMAN (Political Science) was awarded a full-time residential fellowship at the CUNY Graduate Center’s Center for the Humanities. He will be working on a book on how retributive motives influenced U.S. actions in two Iraq wars and—with another fellow from Baruch College—leading a year-long interdisciplinary faculty/graduate student seminar on emotion ... KENNETH LORD (Computer Science) received this year’s Outstanding Partner Award from the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching, or MERLOT. The international consortium recognized Lord for his services as QC’s MERLOT Project Director ... PAT MINER (FNES) joined more than 80 other professors and graduate students from universities around the world to participate in the National Institutes of Health Office of Dietary Supplements course held on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, June 14–18 ... ANDREA MONTENEGRO is the first recipient of the Margaret Mehran Scholarship, named for the former director of the English Language Institute who retired in February after more than 30 years of service. The scholarship provides full tuition for one semester at the ELI ... President JAMES MUYSKENS participated in a panel at an Aug. 19 Power Breakfast hosted by the Queens Courier to discuss the economy, healthcare, educations, jobs, and immigration. Also participating was New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand ... Students in MICHAEL NEWMAN’S (Linguistics) spring 2009 Sociolinguistics class created linguistics landscapes, documenting the various ways written language is used in public signage around New York, and in particular the interplay of different languages. This project is available at queenscollege.wordpress.com. It was put on the web by 2010 graduate OLIVIA IOANNOU ... JENNIFER OATES published an article in Studies in Musical Theatre about the depiction of Scotland in Brigadoon ... MIHAELA ROBILA (FNES) received the 2010 Carolyn Atteanve Diversity Award from the American Psychological Association Division 43–Society for Family Psychology for her contributions to advancing the understanding and integration of diversity in family psychology ... SUSAN ROTENBERG (Chemistry & Biochemistry) was coauthor of a paper recently published in EMBO Molecular Medicine that reported a new treatment for human neuroblastoma. The breakthrough arose through collaboration with David Kaplan’s lab at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto ... DAVID SCHOBER (Music) won Copland House’s 2009 Sylvia Goldstein Award for his composition Empty Shells. The prize supports the performance or recording of an outstanding work that the composer wrote at least in part while in residence at Copland’s Mt. Kisco home. The distinguished jury consisted of the composers Sebastian Currier, Alvin Singleton, and Steven Stucky ... SHIGE SONG (Sociology) won the 2010 Distinguished Sociology of Population Paper Award from the Sociology of Population Section of the American Sociological Association for his first authored paper, “Does Son Preference Continued on page 12
Influence Children’s Growth in Height? A Comparative Study of Chinese and Filipino Children” (Population Studies 62 (3): 305–320) ... Joel Spring has been chosen to be the 2010 Butts Lecturer for the American Educational Studies Association. He will deliver his lecture Oct. 29 at the AESA’s annual conference in Denver ... On October 15 Maria Terrone (Communications) will receive the Arts and Culture Award from the Italian American Labor Council.

The organization, founded in 1941, is honoring Terrone for her poetry, which strives to “give voice to anonymous people in the shadows”—from an early-20th-century child factory worker to a woman employed by a paint company to name its colors ... Yan Zheng (SEES) has been elected a fellow of the Geological Society of America. Election to the prestigious position requires nomination by two fellows, evidence of distinguished scholarship or other contributions, and at least eight years of professional activity.

Move-in Day at The Summit, the QC residence hall, was the focus of an article with photos in the New York Times on August 25 ... Yournabe.com offered a story about QC’s commencement ceremony as well as a profile of Jeremiah Lundgren, who received his master’s degree. The ceremony and Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish’s speech were also covered by NY1. The Queens Chronicle profiled English majors Sharon and Frances Tran, Vietnamese immigrants who graduated summa cum laude ... The June QC Business Forum featuring State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli generated stories in the Queens Chronicle, Queens Ledger, TimesLedger, and Queens Courier. The Queens Tribune ran a photo of the event ... The annual QC Gala Dinner—which this year honored art collector Nasser D. Khalili ’74 and QC Foundation trustee Renée Kroll Zarin ’54—was mentioned in the Sunday New York Times’s Styles page ... The Queens Courier reported that four QC students were awarded Jonas E. Salk Scholarships; eight in all were given out ... “Studying the Global in the Local,” QC’s six-day conference on local Asian American communities, received coverage in the Daily News, the Queens Tribune, the Queens Courier, the West Indian, Ming Pao, and World Journal ... The QC festival Summerworks 2010 got a big writeup in Yournabe.com, which quoted Ralph Carhart (Drama), the faculty member who directed the event, as well as student choreographers involved in the final performance.

Bard in the Yard ... or, at least, in the plaza between Klapper Hall and the Dining Hall. Under the direction of Ralph Carhart (Drama, Theatre & Dance), the aptly named Wandering Players presented William Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing June 23 and 24 as part of QC’s Summer Performing Arts Festival.

WABC-TV News’s NYC events roundup. It was reviewed in the Queens Chronicle, too ... The QC Art Center exhibition of Susan Sills’s life-size wood cutouts of works by Old Masters, IllusionAllusion, was mentioned in the Queens Courir and reviewed in the Queens Chronicle ... The Queens Courier reported that four QC students were awarded Jonas E. Salk Scholarships; eight in all were given out ... “Studying the Global in the Local,” QC’s six-day conference on local Asian American communities, received coverage in the Daily News, the Queens Tribune, the Queens Courier, the West Indian, Ming Pao, and World Journal ... The QC festival Summerworks 2010 got a big writeup in Yournabe.com, which quoted Ralph Carhart (Drama), the faculty member who directed the event, as well as student choreographers involved in the final performance.
TESFAYE ASFAW (Career Development) was quoted in a Queens Courier feature about landing the perfect internship. AndREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology) was a guest on “The Brian Lehrer Show” (WNYC). Its “Anecdotal Census” series—which is a people’s history of the NYC area from 2000 to 2010—used Beveridge’s Social Explorer maps to engage WNYC listeners in the project. A Pittsburgh Post-Gazette story about the TV series “Mad Men” quoted “Mad Men” fan KRISTIN CELELO (History). Alyson COLE (Political Science) provided her observations for a Queens Courier story about New York State’s new law providing a bill of rights for domestic workers. MARA EINSTEIN (Media Studies) was quoted in a Florida Times-Union story about megachurches and a CTV News story about a public awareness campaign to improve perceptions of Islam. A Los Angeles Times story about the demands of caring for someone with Alzheimer’s disease included observations from NANCY FOLDI (Psychology). JOSHUA FREEMAN (History) appeared on CUNY-TV’s “City Talk” speaking about the history of NYC labor unions, the last 10 years in particular. Freeman, who is helping to develop an MA program in labor studies at CUNY’s Murphy Institute, was also quoted in a Crain’s New York Business article about how cash-strapped New York State has been citing public employee union contracts as contributing to its fiscal woes. The new book Higher Education? How Colleges Are Wasting Our Money and Failing Our Kids—And What We Can Do About It by ANDREW HACKER (Political Science) and Claudia Dreifus was reviewed by the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. Hacker and Dreifus also co-authored a commentary piece based on their book’s findings for the Chronicle of Higher Education and U.S. News and World Report, and Dreifus was featured in “Newsmaker,” a Q&A column in More magazine. Hacker also made an appearance on “The Stephen Colbert Show” on Aug. 25. A story in the New York Times described the controversy created by SAMUEL HEILMAN’S (Sociology) new biography of the late Lubavitcher Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson (see page 14) 2010 graduate ANDREW HILLMAN, who was born in Guyana, was profiled in Caribbean Life, which cited his extraordinary achievements as a young medical science researcher. MADHULIKA KHANDELWAL (AAC/Urban Studies) appeared on CUNY-TV’s “One to One” discussing Queens South Asians and her book, Becoming American, Being Indian. The Daily News carried a story quoting her about the weeklong Exploring the Global in the Local program sponsored by the A/AC. She was also quoted in a Christian Science Monitor story about the electoral successes of Indian American candidates, and in a TimesLedger piece about job-seeking CUNY grads in Queens. HARRY LEVINE (Sociology) was quoted in stories by the Daily News and NBCNewYork about so-called stop-and-frisk marijuana arrests by NYC police. LARRY LIEBOVITCH’S appointment as the new dean for the division of math and natural sciences was reported in the Queens Tribune and the Queens Ledger. The degree to which idling Chinatown buses contribute to local air pollution was the subject of a GothamGazette.com story quoting STEVEN MARKOWITZ (CBSN) and SHERYL MCCARTHY (Journalism) appeared on Fox News’s “Fox and Friends” as a member of a three-person panel discussing news of the day. PYONG GAP MIN (Sociology) was quoted in a New York Times story about the mixed feelings some Indian Americans have about the political successes of Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal and South Carolina gubernatorial candidate Nikki Haley. The Daily News featured a story about JAMES MOORE’S (Anthropology) call for the re-examination of a proposed building site in Flushing for evidence of human remains from a historic cemetery. President JAMES MUYSKENS commented on success, the economy, and other topics in a Q&A with the Queens Tribune, which interviewed him in his capacity as the leader of a prominent local business. The work of Greek American poet ANDRIANA RIZOS in QC’s MFA in literary translation program was the subject of a Daily News story. EDWARD SMALDONE (Music) was a guest on “Soundcheck” (WNYC Radio), debating the effectiveness of online music instruction courses as compared with in-person classes (he made the case for classroom training).
As a New Orleans native whose parents sat out Katrina in their home and survived, Nicole Cooley (English) had a visceral response to the storm. Breach (Louisiana State University Press), her latest poetry collection, is an elegy to what was lost on the Gulf Coast: people, neighborhoods, and the institutions—from restaurants to houses of worship—that had held communities together for generations. The poems move back and forth in time while Cooley muses on ravaged local landmarks and alludes to the wreckage of September 11, the signature disaster in her adopted hometown.

After studying Cuba in her first book, Latin American specialist Sujatha Fernandes (Sociology) headed farther south for Who Can Stop the Drums?: Urban Social Movements in Chavez’s Venezuela (Duke University Press), an account of everyday life and politics in the barrios of Caracas. Building on Karl Marx’s observation that people make history, but not under circumstances of their own making, Fernandes summarizes decades of history as experienced by poor community activists. The majority of them credit leftist President Hugo Chavez with implementing changes that improved their lives; nonetheless, they seek to maintain local control as they struggle for social and economic justice. “Original, timely, and important.”—Steve Ellner, author of Rethinking Venezuelan Politics: Class, Conflict, and the Chavez Phenomenon

In The Narrow Road to the Interior, Kimiko Hahn (English) played with two classical Japanese poetry forms. Toxic Flora (Norton), her eighth collection, is united by theme rather than style: The 60 poems were written in response to articles published in the “Science” section of the New York Times. Contemplating topics that range from insects and extinct birds to astronomy, Hahn draws startling connections. “Oh, what we think we need to survive kills others; / I have consuming need for my beloved, he knows—/ and I hope he is not sorry,” she muses in a poem about a unique flock of bush wren destroyed in New Zealand at the turn of the 20th century by someone’s pet cat. This is fertile territory for Hahn, a CUNY Distinguished Professor and much-honored poet who plans to use her latest award—a Guggenheim fellowship—to work on her next collection, about botany, entomology, and marine biology.

Researchers have long considered religious cohesion to be critical to an ethnic group’s identity in the United States. For proof, they point to the country’s Irish, Italian, and Eastern European Jewish communities, in which culture is closely linked to rituals and holidays. But to what degree does the history of white Europeans and their descendants apply to other immigrants? Pyong Gap Min (Sociology) asks that question in Preserving Ethnicity through Religion in America: Korean Protestants and Indian Hindus across Generations (New York University Press). Using data gathered from surveys of congregations and individuals, as well as extensive telephone interviews, Min sheds light on two Asian American groups with very different ideas about the relationship between faith and ethnicity.

A young couple poses before a painted backdrop depicting a modern building set in a volcanic landscape; a college student grabs his camera as he heads to a political demonstration; a man poses stiffly for his identity photograph; amateur photographers look for picturesque images in a rural village; an old woman leafs through a family album. In Refracted Visions: Popular Photography and National Modernity in Java (Duke University Press), Karen Strassler (Anthropology) argues that popular photographic practices such as these have played a crucial role in the making of modern national subjects in post-colonial Java. Contending that photographic genres cultivate distinctive ways of seeing and positioning oneself and others within the affective, ideological, and temporal location of Indonesia, she examines genres ranging from state identification photos to pictures documenting family rituals. (Examples appear throughout the text.) Strassler illuminates the ways that everyday photographic practices generate visual habits that in turn give rise to political subjects and communities.

BOOKNOTES:
ALLAN LUDMAN’S (SEES) lab manual for introductory geology (co-authored with Steven Marshak), recently published by Norton, has already been adopted by more than 60 colleges nationwide . . . MORRIS ROSSABI’S (History) Genghis Khan and the Mogul Empire was named one of the 20 Best University Press Books and featured on C-Span Book TV . . . NATHALIS WAMBA’S (ECP) book Learning Differences: Research, Knowledge and Advocacy (co-edited with Teresa Citro) has just been published by Learning Disabilities Worldwide.