Over the summer, Queens College revised its administrative lineup. ELIZABETH HENDREY, formerly acting chief operating officer and vice president for strategic planning and enrollment management, became acting provost. "I am honored to be asked to take on the duties of provost," says Hendrey. "This past year, as chief operating officer, I have had the opportunity to work with students, faculty, and staff from across the college, and I hope to draw on that experience in my new role."

She replaced JAMES STELLAR, who assumed the challenging new role of acting vice president for academic innovation and experiential learning. "I like to say that experiential education is my middle name, although it’s two words," says Stellar. "I’m pleased to work in this field and make it a very significant feature of a QC education."

New College Appointments—and a Presidential Milestone

WILLIAM KELLER was named VP for finance and administration, a position that has been vacant since Katharine Cobb’s departure last year. A CUNY veteran, Keller held the same title at Kingsborough Community College.

October 4 Conference Will Celebrate All-Things Queens

The keynote speaker will be Robert Sullivan, who recently published My American Revolution. Sullivan “had very much a Queens boyhood, but one block away in Nassau. He is very funny and insightful,” according to conference organizer John Waldman (Biology).

A dozen others will speak about a broad range of attributes of the borough that could be considered America’s fourth largest city. Among them will be the poet laureate, the official historian, professors, pundits, a passionate preservationist, a New York City councilman, an artist, an actress, and the Chinatown Partnership’s guiding light. Queens is “a landing zone for small, quiet diasporas that melt out over..."
as acting deans CRAIG MICHAELS (Education) and WILLIAM MCCLURE (Arts and Humanities) won permanent appointments in their respective divisions. “We are delighted whenever search committees conclude that the best person for the job is one of our own,” notes President James Muyskens.

DANA WEINBERG, acting dean of social sciences for the past year, has left that position and is tackling new challenges: directing the MA program in data analytics and applied social research (Sociology) and developing new interdisciplinary tracks in the program in data science (with Computer Science), market research, and media and marketing (with Media Studies). A search for a new dean is under way. DONALD SCOTT (History), the division’s dean from 1997 to 2005 and its acting dean in spring 2011, is again serving as acting dean this fall. In the spring 2014 semester LEONARD RODBERG (Urban Studies) will fill in as acting dean.

But amidst all the changes at the college, there are also constants. This fall marks President Muyskens’ twelfth year on campus, making him the longest serving president in Queens College history.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Another QC veteran, VINCENT J. ANGRISANI, executive director of enrollment and admissions, has been put in charge of the college’s new Division of Enrollment Management. While he continues to manage Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions, Angrisani will oversee the Registrar, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services, and the One Stop Service Center. Additionally, Veterans Support Services and the Office of International Students and Scholars will now report to him.

Sometimes, the best people move on. LORRAINE and MICHAEL PRASAD, who devoted a combined 70 years to QC, retired together in late June. To replace Lorraine, BERNIESHA COLEMAN, a three-year veteran of the Office of Finance and Management, was promoted to acting director of purchasing, property management, and fleet management. Assuming Michael’s responsibilities at the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, POLINE PAPOLIS, its assistant director of administrative operations since 2006, was named acting director.

The Queens College Art Center (QCAC) has also undergone a change in leadership. SUZANNA SIMOR (Library), who directed the center since it was founded in 1987, and ALEXANDRA DE LUISE (Library), who joined it four years later, rising to the rank of associate director, stepped down this spring. Both continue working on campus, Simor as head of the Art Library and De Luise as coordinator of instructional services. TARA MATHISON, who began curating QCAC shows in 2007, has been appointed director, overseeing the center on a part-time basis.

QC Giving Students “Best Bang for the Buck”

Queens College has long been an institution that helps students from families of modest means achieve their dream of earning a college degree. Now, the Washington Monthly has ranked us number two nationwide—and first among all public colleges—for doing the best job of helping non-wealthy students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices. Out of the 1,572 colleges and universities in the magazine’s rankings, QC was second among only 349 that made the cut as a best-bang-for-the-buck school. We placed first in the category of Master’s Universities.

As usual, QC has been named one of the country’s best institutions for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review in its annual guide, The Best 378 Colleges. In a nod to our extraordinarily diverse learning environment, QC ranked second in the U.S. for “Lots of Race/Class Interaction”—just behind fellow CUNY school Hunter College. This category reflects how frequently and easily students from different class and ethnic backgrounds interact with one another.

The Princeton Review is famous for its annual rankings, including the much-publicized “Best Party Schools.” In contrast, QC continues to appear on the following lists: “Got Milk?” (#10) (campuses where beer is scarce); “Scotch and Soda, Hold the Scotch” (#11) (no hard liquor); “Don’t Inhale” (#17) (how widely marijuana is used); and “Stone-Cold Sober Schools” (#13), 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.

Thanks to its performance as an environmentally aware and responsible institution, QC saw a 10-point increase in its “Green” rating in the Princeton guide. This year’s academic and fire safety ratings both also increased, with the college being named to the guide’s “Fire Safety Honor Roll” for how well prepared it is to prevent or respond to fires, specifically in residence halls.

In “Quality of Life,” QC outperformed Bard College, Cooper Union, Hofstra University, St. John’s University, and all but one SUNY college. This category measures “how happy students are with their campus experiences outside the classroom.”

And in the 2014 edition of the U.S. News and World Report’s Best Colleges we are ranked eighth among top public regional universities in the North—up from number nine last year.
It’s official: The first annual Louis Armstrong International Music Festival will take place on a weekend next June at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows Corona Park, which was home of the 1939 and 1964 World’s Fairs.

“We want this festival to embrace the legacy of Louis Armstrong, who traveled the world and became known as ‘Ambassador Satch,’” notes Jeffrey Rosenstock (Asst. VP Government & External Relations), who is helping to organize the event. “Indeed, this festival takes its inspiration from Armstrong’s belief that ‘You gotta listen to all kinds of music.’”

Rosenstock believes the festival, which will use multiple stages and locations throughout the USTA grounds, has the potential to draw over 60,000 people. There will be an open festival format each day from noon to 7 pm, and a concert featuring major artists in the Arthur Ashe Stadium each evening.

George Wein, the legendary founder of the Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals, will serve as advisor. “This could be a true world’s fair of music in the actual World’s Fair grounds,” Wein believes. “It’s a spectacular concept to showcase not only jazz, but music from around the world.”

The festival, which is being produced by the college through the Kupferberg Center for the Arts, has already secured support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the City University of New York, and the Kupferberg Family. Collaborating partners include NYC & Company, the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, the Louis Armstrong House Museum, and the USTA.

Keep your eye on the college’s website in coming months for more information about performers and tickets for what might be the most exciting thing to hit Queens since the 1969 Mets.

Yunping Jiang and Joshua Freeman Named Distinguished Professors

Jiang completed his PhD at the CUNY Graduate Center in 1990, and joined QC two years later. A campus institution, he became a full professor in 2001. His research investigates key issues in chaotic systems, a field that can be used to examine phenomena as disparate as the flow of water, the slow crawl of rush-hour traffic, and the puzzling fluctuations of stock prices. His insights have deepened our understanding of such chaotic behavior; his work has been described as “elegant” and “exceptional.”

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In the deep woods of downeast Maine, enduring fierce heat and swarms of insects, seven geology students pored over the folds, the faults, the bedrock outcrops. Guiding their weeklong field trip in July was their professor, ALLAN LUDMAN (Earth & Environmental Sciences). Residents of Topsfield (population 200) call him “the rock doctor” because he has been studying this terrain for 38 years. “People will go a mile here to help you,” observes Ludman, who is responsible for mapping about 3,000 square miles of this part of Maine.

Using jeweler’s loops, compasses, and geologist’s hammers, the six majors and one graduate student pieced together “a complex geologic history,” Ludman says. On one day, they hiked in a state park as far east as you can go in the United States: West Quoddy Head, with its lighthouse and spectacular ocean views.

At their camp, there was no WiFi and only spotty cell service. At night the students played board games, bonded over their fascination with the natural world, and viewed “The Walking Dead” on DVDs. “They had never been in such a rural environment,” Ludman says. “It was as much a cultural experience as a geological one.” He played sous-chef to his wife, Elaine, to cook them dinners. “No air conditioning in the 93-degree weather,” he recalls, “but we did have ‘lake conditioning.’”

The camp borders East Musquash Lake, two-thirds of it preserved from development in a Land Trust conservancy. The Ludmans stayed in the rustic cabin they have rented here during 33 years of his research. The owner, Homer Clough, a retired guide, charged only $50 per student, welcomed them into his log home, and showed them a moose horn. Five female students shared a cabin, and the two males the third one.

Graduate student Amanda Bastas-Hernandez ’02, ’12 had begged Ludman to take them to Maine since EES no longer requires a five-week summer field study. “We really got to practice what we had been learning,” to appreciate geologic forms and “not just see them in the textbook or view rock samples under the microscope,” she notes. After earning her first degree in English, Bastas-Hernandez worked for several years before returning to QC to master the math and science she needed to become a geologist. In January she heads further afield: to Bangladesh for her thesis research.

In a hard place as EES chair for three-and-a-half years, Ludman willingly taught geology last spring and now resumes his study of rocks. At QC since 1975, he is on sabbatical this year, researching, mapping, completing a lab manual, and continuing as director of the GLOBE training center he established at QC. In this program spanning 111 countries, K–12 students collect data for global climate researchers. “There’s nothing more rewarding,” says Ludman, “than advancing the science.”

DIRTY WORK: The Maine attraction for Allan Ludman and his students was the opportunity to devote a week to hands-on geological research in a remote, undeveloped area (left, inset). They also got a close look at a set of moose antlers (larger picture).
Year of Brazil Will Highlight One of the World’s Most Dynamic Nations

By a fortuitous circumstance, Queens College’s Year Of initiative is observing the Year of Brazil just as much of the world is turning its attention to Latin America’s largest country.

As one of the five BRICS countries (along with Russia, India, China, and South Africa), it has garnered attention for its rapid economic development, and, as host of the upcoming 2014 World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics, Brazil is poised to be front and center in the arena of international athletics competition.

In fact, one of the first Year of Brazil events—the October 16 “World Cup 2014” Futbol: Brazil vs. the World!—will offer the campus an opportunity to participate in a soccer match and gain an appreciation of the Brazilian passion for the sport.

As explained by Asian Initiatives Director MARLEEN KASSEL, who is also coordinator for the Year Of series, the decision to focus on Brazil was a popular choice. “Our first program, the Year of China, was selected by the administration based on student demographics and the course offerings at the college,” she says. “During the Year of China, the administration put out a campuswide call to faculty, staff, and students, asking them what countries they were interested in learning more about. Twenty-six countries were submitted.”

A subsequent call went out to pick the top three from among those 26, but four were so close that it was decided to use them all: Turkey, India, Brazil, and South Africa.

“I was surprised by the selection,” continues Kassel, “in that these are the BRICS countries everyone needs to know more about, and, in doing the programs that we do, they add an element to the curriculum of cutting-edge material that normally would not be open to the whole campus unless, perhaps, you were enrolled in a course on Contemporary Brazilian Politics or Contemporary Brazilian Art.”

The Year of Brazil began on August 28, the first day of classes, with something that often comes to mind when thinking of the country: music. During free hour, members of the Direct from Brazil ensemble provided free lessons in samba drumming on the plaza in front of the Aaron Copland School.

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Together, the two largest cities in the United States house about one-eighth of its total population, as ANDREW BEVERIDGE (Sociology) notes in the first chapter of New York and Los Angeles: The Uncertain Future (Oxford), which he co-edited with David Halle, a sociology professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. That’s reason enough for this bicoastal project. Using the latest Census information and drawing on the expertise of authorities in nine fields—architecture, criminology, culture, demography, economics, education, environmental studies, history, and politics—the book analyzes recent trends, which may foreshadow future developments in other urban areas in this country and abroad. New York and Los Angeles features maps and tables Beveridge created with his Social Explorer program, which crunches demographic data going back to 1790.

Why does musical promise sometimes result in dead-end careers? In Hamish MacCunn (1868–1916): A Musical Life (Ashgate), JENNIFER OATES (Music Library) tackles this question in the life of a composer who, despite early success, lost professional standing and opportunities through a number of missteps. Among them, he hitched his star to a Scottish identity, which won his compositions wide acclaim at a time of great interest in musical regionalism and nationalism, but later hemmed him in. A headstrong young man, he refused his Royal College of Music degree and failed to complete commissions, and thus was able to secure only irregular appointments in teaching and composing. As MacCunn grew older, he proved unable to adapt to modernist tastes and was overshadowed by emerging artists like Ralph Vaughan Williams and Béla Bartók, whose musical nationalism explored challenging new idioms. Oates’s study combines biography, social and cultural history, and a close reading of MacCunn’s compositions and musical development. It illuminates British musical culture and its institutional structure in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and paints a portrait of a talented composer whose career suffered at his own hands.

NOVEMBER 7

Book Launch Party

On Thursday, November 7, the Comparative Literature Department will be hosting a launch party to celebrate the publication of books by two members of its faculty: Charles Martin, whose book of photos, Because of Algiers, has just been published by the Queensborough Community College Art Gallery, and Caroline Rupprecht, the author of Womb Fantasies: Subjective Architectures in Postmodern Literature, Cinema, and Art (Northwestern University Press). The party will take place during free hour (12:15–1:30 pm) in the President’s Conference Room #2 on the fifth floor of the library. All are invited.

YEAR OF BRAZIL — from page 5

IT TAKES A VILLAGE: As part of the Year of Brazil, artists from that country teamed up with QC students to erect a scaled-down shanty town on Cooperman Plaza.

Projeto Morrinho Rises on Campus

A deft combination of art, role-playing game, and sociopolitical commentary, Projeto Morrinho fosters understanding of Brazil’s favelas—low-income settlements, often perched on urban hillsides. (Morrinho is Portuguese for “little hill.”) Using decorated LEGO avatars, game participants assume the identities of residents, drug dealers, and police officers to act out original scenarios inspired by actual conditions. QC’s installation is the first Projeto Morrinho in the United States. Set up on campus at the suggestion of John Collins, director of Latin American and Latino Studies and a member of the Year of Brazil advisory committee, the model will remain in operation throughout the year, juxtaposed against our familiar Manhattan skyline.

The Year of Brazil will embody a wide range of events and presentations, student and faculty exchanges, academic offerings, and the development of partnerships with Brazilian institutions. For more about the program and for a schedule of Year of Brazil events, visit brazil.qc.cuny.edu.
Darryl Jacobs

At a June press conference to introduce Darryl Jacobs, QC’s first full-time men’s basketball coach in nearly two decades, Assistant VP for Athletics China Jude noted that “He’s poised, strong, witty, passionate, and organized.” And then added, “It seems like every time I call Coach Jacobs, he’s wiping his car down… So, I really appreciate the attention to detail that he has.”

Stepping to the podium amid applause and laughter, Jacobs characterized his actions as simply “getting a good workout,” while also confessing that he’s got the crew at his car wash trained: “Now, when I come back they say, ‘Coach, it’s perfect; it’s just the way you like it.’ So, yes, I am a person who pays attention to details.”

Weeks later, speaking from behind a desk in FitzGerald Gym, Jacobs recalled his basketball days at William Penn University (where he also played football). As a point guard, he showed such attention to detail in directing players on the floor that his coach enlisted him to coach the junior varsity and assist in coaching the varsity before going overseas to play professionally. “I always had a great basketball IQ, according to my college coach, Coach Richardson,” Jacobs said.

Six months later, in January 1989, Jacobs landed a contract to play professionally in South America. Yet the coaching instinct remained, and he returned to his hometown, Paterson, NJ, in 1991 to become assistant basketball coach at Paterson Eastside High School. During his three-year tenure the team won two county championships and one state championship, and Jacobs began a tradition of coaching winning teams.

He returned to college ball in 1994 with assistant coaching positions at Ramapo College and Montclair State University, and then was head coach at Lehman College, where the team won two consecutive Hudson Valley Athletic Conference Championships and Jacobs earned Coach of the Year honors. Five seasons (2000–2005) followed as head coach at Felician College. The team won the Eastern Collegiate Athletics Conference Division II Championship in 2004 and the Central Athletic Collegiate Conference regular season championship; Jacobs was again named Coach of the Year.

At Clark Atlanta University from 2006 to 2011 he led the Panthers to their first Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament Championship in 46 years, earning both SIAC Coach of the Year and Atlanta Tip-Off Club/Naismith Georgia College Coach of the Year awards.

Prior to accepting his QC appointment, Jacobs spent two seasons as head coach at Virginia State University.

At the June press conference, Jacobs had graciously acknowledged the work of his predecessor Kirk Peponakis and, citing some of the strong players who would be returning, said, “I’m very excited: This is the first program I’m walking into that I don’t have to rebuild from the ground up. Any time you’re returning two Second Team All-Conference players, that’s a good place to start—with George Holmes and Patrick Parker, as well as some other key guys that are coming back into the program.”

He noted there were still key positions to fill, but, “One of the advantages of being from the area is I’ve got some good recruiting ties.”

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS – from page 3

A terrific ambassador for Queens College, Jiang has been a visiting professor in France, England, Germany, and Switzerland, in addition to his native China. As a CUNY alum and one of the leading researchers in his field, he is a particularly apt choice for a distinguished professor of mathematics.

Like Jiang, Freeman has enjoyed a brilliant career. Upon earning his doctorate from Rutgers University in 1983, he crossed the Hudson, working at the CUNY Graduate Center and Columbia University; in 1997, he came to our campus. Appointed a full professor three years later, he has served the college, the Murphy Institute, and the City University in many capacities, including two terms as executive officer of the PhD History Program at the Graduate Center.

Few historians can match Freeman’s knowledge of New York City and the City University. His books have won both the New York Society Library Book Prize for History and the Philip Taft Labor History Book Award, and he has been called “the world’s leading authority on modern New York labor.” His most recent title, *American Empire 1945–2000*, was notable for its thoroughness, rigor, and readability—an unusual combination.

Jiang and Freeman join the ranks of the college’s other distinguished professors, bringing the total to a baker’s dozen: Robert Bittman (Chemistry), Fred Gardaphé (English), Azriel Genack (Physics), Kimiko Hahn (English), Jeffrey Halperin (Psychology), Samuel Heilman (Sociology), George Hendrey (Earth & Environmental Sciences), Pyong Gap Min (Sociology), Carl Riskin (Economics), Morris Rossabi (History), and Stephen Steinberg (Urban Studies).
Biala Exhibit

The artist known as Biala painted charming interiors, still-lifes, and landscapes informed by her life in Paris with novelist Ford Madox Ford and by her friendships with members of the New York School, including her brother Jack Tworkov. Now she’s the subject of a long-overdue survey, *Biala: Vision and Memory*, at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum through October 27.

Giving All New Yorkers a Voice

Con Edison’s “Power of Giving” program will subsidize a QC study of participatory budgeting—a process that allows all New Yorkers, regardless of citizenship status, to play a role in allocating some of the city’s funding. QC students will conduct hands-on research under the aegis of the college’s Immigration Studies Working Group, the precursor of a center to be established on campus.

“We are delighted to partner with Queens College in this opportunity to engage immigrants in the democratic process, and raise awareness among students about ways to increase government responsiveness and accountability in neighborhoods with large immigrant populations,” said Con Edison’s Director of Public Affairs Carol Consiato during a recent visit to campus, at which she discussed the grant with QC sociologists Ronald Hayduk and Anahi Viladrich.

Ready Set, Go

President James Muyskens (standing) posed on terra firma with “America’s Got Talent” judges (l. to r.) Howard Stern, Heidi Klum, Melanie Brown, and Howie Mandel on Wednesday, August 14, after the TV show filmed aerialist Slackwire Sam in action on the Quad. QC students and members of the local community watched Sam execute a daring stunt. Alas, he did not advance in the competition.

ACE Director RICHARD ADAMS was quoted in a Times-Ledger article about college programs for older students . . . RIKKI ASHER (SEYS) and SUZANNA SIMOR (Library) discussed the QC Art Center exhibit Friendly Gestures: Namaste in a Queens Chronicle article . . . YVETTE CARO (Psychology) was quoted in a Queens Chronicle article about people who commit suicide by throwing themselves under a train . . . The North Jersey Record ran a profile of QC’s new basketball coach DARRYL JACOBS . . . SEOGJOO JANG (Chemistry & Biochemistry) received $120,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy for Elucidating Positive Quantum Effects for Efficient Energy and Charge Transfer Dynamics in Soft Solar Energy Conversion Systems . . . HARRY LEVINE (Sociology) was honored at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, held August 9–11 in New York City. He received the Senior Scholar and Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the SSSP’s Drinking and Drugs Division, and his research on the NYPD’s discriminatory marijuana arrests was featured as the topic of a session. The Drug Policy Alliance, with which he has been working on this issue, also received the SSSP’s coveted Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award . . . STEVEN MARKOWITZ’S (CBNS) research about the link between smoking, exposure to asbestos, and lung cancer was cited on watchlistnews.com and hvnplus.co.uk . . . The Queens Symphony Orchestra’s sixtieth anniversary gala, at which President JAMES MUYSKENS was honored, was the subject of a story in the Queens Gazette . . . A lohud.com article about the dangers of allowing raw sewage to flow into the Hudson River quoted GREGORY O’MULLAN (SEES) . . . MIHAELA ROBILA (FNES) was invited to participate in the Eurasian Migration and Demographics Conference organized by the Department of State–Bureau of Intelligence and Research last April. She presented a paper on “Immigration and Public Health in Eastern Europe” . . . A research project directed by ANDREW ROSENBERG (Computer Science), titled SPARKLER—Scalable Prosodic Anomaly and Relational Knowledge Exploration of Language with Enhanced Robustness, was awarded $333,334 in grant funding by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the United States Air Force . . . ROLF SWENSEN (Library) published “Israel’s Return to Zion: Jewish Christian Scientists in the United States, 1880–1925,” in the Journal of Religion & Society. He will be acting chief librarian for the coming academic year while ROBERT SHADDY enjoys a sabbatical.

QC People

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