Savage, Shur, and Geffen Remember Martin Luther King, Jr.

In the summer of 1965 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. recruited the late Rev. Hosea L. Williams and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)—along with over 500 college volunteers—to register African Americans to vote in 120 counties in five southern states. This major voter registration effort came to be known as the Summer Community Organization and Political Education (SCOPE) project.

Among the students who participated in the SCOPE contingent assigned to Orangeburg, SC, were Peter Geffen, a QC graduate and founder of the Abraham Joshua Heschel School and now executive director of the Center for Jewish History; Moshe “Mickey” Shur, who now, as Rabbi Shur, heads the QC chapter of Hillel; and Dean Savage (Sociology). The project, which resulted in the registration of 49,000 new voters in the South, had a huge impact on their lives.

On February 8 at 12:15 in the Student Union, these three men will take part in a special event at the college called “The Scope of Freedom: Dr. King’s Civil Rights Movement.” Scheduled to attend and also share their experiences are Barbara Jean Emerson, Rev. Williams’ daughter and former associate provost at the college, and Willy Siegel Leventhal, who wrote about this ground-breaking civil rights initiative in his book, The Scope of Freedom: The Leadership of Hosea Williams with Dr. King’s Summer ’65 Student Volunteers.

This program is one of a variety of events that will take place at the college in February under the title “Remembering the Past: Celebrating the Future” to commemorate African American History Month.

“As a collaboration among students, (continued on page 2)
gants in the years between 1845 and 1875, in juxtaposition with extensive research in the lives and works of over 20 women writers of the period, demonstrates that, despite severe restrictions imposed by law and custom, many women managed to live independently, supporting themselves and, in some instances, their families.

Notes Warren, “In more than half of the New York Supreme Court cases that I looked at involving women, not counting divorce cases, a woman was the plaintiff. The suits were brought by women of all classes and backgrounds—from the widow who sued her deceased husband’s debtors, to the woman who kept a boardinghouse or other rental property, to the moneylender or mortgagee, to the seamstress or milliner or retailer who sued to obtain payment for goods or services, to the white woman who sued to retain possession of slaves whom she claimed as her ‘property,’ to the woman who sued to gain compensation for an injury or to litigate an inheritance.”

Economics is the dominant theme in the works of many of the women writers Warren examines, including Susan Warner, E.D.E.N. Southworth, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Maria Cummins, Fanny Fern, Frances Harper, Harriet Jacobs, Harriet Wilson, and Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Warren notes that these writers “asserted a new economic identity for women” in both their portrayals of female characters and in the conduct of their own lives.

Taken together, the evidence of the court cases and the writers effectively runs counter to and provides a powerful corrective to long-held assumptions that women of the era were economically dependent and financially uninvolved.
Faculty Profile
Keena Lipsitz

Maybe the bipartisan nature of her family predestined Keena Lipsitz to a career of trying to better understand the American political system.

“There was sort of an unspoken agreement in my family not to discuss politics,” says Lipsitz, the daughter of a fervent Democrat mother and a father who was a member of the National Rifle Association, and a Republican.

As a consequence, says Lipsitz, who joined the Political Science Department in August, she has always been interested in political leadership. When I was in high school in rural Arizona I went to Kiev as part of an exchange program. This was April 1990, the calm before the storm.” Kiev was an eye-opening experience, says Lipsitz, who describes herself at the time as “clueless” to the fact that the large, well-appointed apartment where her host family lived was not a typical Russian home, but a reflection of the father’s privileges as a Communist Party apparatchik.

Needless to say, she has acquired considerably more political savvy since then. Lipsitz received a BA in politics and public policy cum laude from Pomona College and both an MA and PhD in political science from UC Berkeley. She is currently turning her PhD thesis into a book.

“I’m interested in electoral law and how we run elections,” Lipsitz says. To this end, she and her husband, Grigore Pop-Eleches, an assistant professor in the Department of Politics at Princeton, conducted an informal investigation of new voting technologies used in 2004 in Florida, where four years earlier the most controversial election of our time was decided, the Gore-Bush race.

“One thing that is just outrageous—and I teach this in my ‘Introduction to American Politics’ class—is how crazy and unstandardized our system is. Different counties within a state can have completely different methods for voting; they can have different types of machines with different error rates. The fact that we have a federal system and yet the method for voting is left up to the states and counties is just preposterous.”

Segueing to the controversy surrounding the new generation of electronic touch-screen voting machines manufactured by Diebold, a company whose chief executive made no secret of his desire to help re-elect George W. Bush, Lipsitz observes, “I don’t understand why it’s even an issue; why of course they need to have some kind of paper trail!

“I’m interested in reforming the system,” she asserts, “but I feel that political scientists have this attitude that American voters are stupid. We have to do a better job of talking to people. They are feeling alienated from politics and we’re not doing a good job of saying why they should be interested.”

Lipsitz also believes that the polariza
tion of the two parties in Congress con
(continued on page 8)
Providing health care to one of the city’s most ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods is a challenge for New York Hospital Queens (NYHQ). Now, thanks to a collaboration with the college’s Continuing Education Program (CEP), the hospital has been offering its employees free courses that not only enhance patient care but also build staff skills and create opportunities for professional development and career advancement.

“Like all hospitals, we face an increasingly competitive, rapidly changing health care environment, which includes severe staff shortages,” says Dr. Patricia Woods, Chief Learning Officer of NYHQ. “Our hospital also has the special challenge of serving a patient population of over 30 nationalities who speak at least 10 different languages.

“We were one of the first health care organizations in the country to adopt this cutting-edge approach.” This approach appears to be successful as New York Hospital Queens College was named a finalist for an award given each year by the Corporate University Xchange, which recognizes excellence and innovation in corporate learning.

So far about 20 percent of the hospital’s workforce has taken courses since the collaboration began in the fall of 2001. Today New York Hospital Queens College offers over 30 workshops, seminars, and courses each semester. Subjects include multi-lingual medical translation, computer classes, fundamentals of grant writing, and management and leadership training, according to Thomas Cracovia, CEP’s executive director. Most courses are taught by CEP faculty, who also develop the curricula and classroom materials. NYHQ recruits the students and provides rooms for the classes, which usually are held Monday through Friday during the day. This year 45 hospital administrators were awarded professional certificates for completing the college’s first management studies/leadership program. This comprehensive, two-semester course was so well received that it is being offered again this spring.

Cracovia notes that “Our partnership with NYHQ and their goals for this venture dovetail perfectly with Continuing Education’s mission, which is to provide career training, educational enrichment, and recreation to meet the diverse, ever-changing needs of Queens residents.”

Among the unique—and especially needed—offerings are a 100-hour medical translation program in Russian, Chinese, and Korean for the nursing staff, and a 30-hour medical terminology program in Korean for non-clinical personnel. Funded by a grant from the New York State Department of Health, these two translation programs have been instrumental in more effectively diagnosing medical problems and prescribing treatment to non-English-speaking patients who cannot communicate with hospital staff.

Roza Younatanov, a Russian-born nurse of Persian ancestry, describes the medical translation course as a “beautiful, enriching experience. Through simultaneous interpretation, we enable the doctors and patients to accurately ‘talk’ to each other so that nothing is misunderstood. This also alleviates patients’ anxiety, which is already elevated because they are away from home in a hospital.” Through the interpreter, patients also receive a better understanding of consent and other legal forms.

Internships “PEP” Up Asian Student Involvement in Politics

Despite the recent explosion of Asian Americans in New York City, particularly in Queens, few hold elected positions, and young Asians rarely enter public life. To address this vacuum, the Asian/American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Asian Pacific American Voters Association, formed the Participation and Empowerment Project (PEP).

PEP, now in the second year of a projected four-year program, emphasizes “action learning” fall internships for Asian American students, notes A/AC Director Madhulika Khandelwal. Interns receive course credit and a unique opportunity to engage in grass-roots politics and the electoral process through a variety of activities. Among these are meetings with local Asian officials and community activists and public forums with leading practitioners and scholars on the challenges and strategies needed to promote political involvement among Asian Americans. This past December, for example, the interns met with City Councilman John Liu for a discussion on “Youth and Political Empowerment Issues.”

“The important thing is that this was the students’ event—they did all the research, planning, and development and chose Councilman Liu as the public official they’d most like to meet for a one-on-one discussion of key political issues,” says Khandelwal. “This is the essence of empowerment in action.”

Another key activity was the students’ participation last fall in voter registration drives and exit polls in neighborhoods with large Asian American populations. “Such non-partisan efforts capitalize on the students’ language and cultural skills to increase the numbers of Asian American voters and enable them to learn first-hand about Asian voting patterns,” says Khandelwal. “The demographic data collected from these voter surveys will also be tabulated and analyzed in a special report by the students, which we will disseminate to interested Asian communities and organizations.”
Steve Milord ‘06 wants to make his mark in science. And as a participant in the Minority Access to Research Careers program (MARC), he is already developing professional skills. He spent last summer assigned to a genetics laboratory operated by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), where he was part of a team that used high-tech tools to manipulate a mouse gene so that it functions at a reduced level.

“In humans, overexpression of this gene is known to be associated with vaginal bleeding during childbirth; its complete deletion is associated with stillbirth,” explains Milord, displaying an enviable facility for putting complicated concepts into terms laypeople can understand.

Only a few years ago, the future biology major was something of a layman himself. “I wasn’t quite sure what I wanted to do,” he says. That changed after he became a lab assistant to Pokay Ma (Biology), who was working with goldfish. “I got to look at the functional anatomy of a nerve, in the neuromuscular system,” Milord recalls. When Queens received its first $2.4 million, five-year grant for MARC—a federally subsidized initiative designed to encourage members of minority groups to pursue scientific careers—Ma suggested that Milord apply.

Milord is now in the last semester of his term in the program, which gives him and several other undergraduates a $900 monthly stipend in addition to covering their tuition for junior and senior years. These students also get the chance to be mentored by faculty members.

“It’s been a great opportunity,” says Milord, who commutes to Flushing from Valley Stream every day, and admits that it’s a challenge to juggle coursework and lab work. “I used to have a part-time job; with the stipend I can focus on research. I have been able to attend and present at conferences every year. And the access to faculty has been very beneficial, helping me with everything from schoolwork to planning for the future.”

“Steven was obviously very excited about research,” comments Zahra Zakeri (Biology), who secured the MARC grant for Queens. “I recommended him to NIA because I have been working with them for many years. I wanted him to get experience outside Queens. It’s important for students to see how research is conducted at other universities and institutions so they can decide where to go for their PhD.”

While Milord doesn’t yet know where he’s headed next, he is sure of his general direction. “I’d like to combine medical science and research, and work in an academic setting,” he reports. In one respect, he is already a role model, reports Zakeri, who says Milord’s image has been used in promotional materials for MARC.
First CIRCE Conference Looks at Nature in NYC

Had earlier residents been more inclined to take notice of the consequences their activities were having on the surrounding waters, The Big Apple might instead have been called The Big Oyster.

Difficult as it may be to envision today, until the end of the 19th century, the oyster population in the waters surrounding New York City was so plentiful that even the poorest residents ate oysters as their primary meal at least twice a week. Oyster stands were more plentiful than hot dog stands are today, and one of the great civic issues was determining how to dispose of all the shells.

This illuminating bit of lore was provided by Mark Kurlansky. Better known as a food writer than an environmentalist, he was addressing the attendees at Why Nature Matters to New Yorkers, the first conference sponsored by the CUNY Institute for Research on the City Environment (CIRCE, previously known as the Institute to Nurture New York’s Nature). Some 200 were in attendance Dec. 2 at LeFrak Hall to hear Phillip Lopate, David Rosane, Anne Matthews, Tony Hiss, and Robert Sullivan describe the past, present, and theoretical future of the city’s natural environs.

John Waldman (Biology), the conference’s principal convener and a self-described “lifetime New Yorker,” set the tone with his introductory observation: “There is an interesting and unresolved tension between nature and New York and it leads to strange dichotomies and sublime juxtapositions.”

He illustrated this contention with a series of photographs that included a remarkable 1951 image showing a shark that had ventured into Brooklyn’s famously polluted Gowanus Canal (“the only waterway in the world where the sediment consists mostly of discarded handguns”) being executed by a police sharpshooter. He followed with a photo of Pale Male, the red-tailed hawk who inspired a legion of protectors last year when owners of a luxury Fifth Avenue apartment building removed his nest. Certainly, observed Waldman, attitudes had changed in the intervening decades, and the time was right for a program such as CIRCE.

President James Muyskens offered welcoming remarks and introduced Theodore Kheel, the legendary labor mediator. Now in his tenth decade, Kheel is devoting his considerable powers of persuasion to mediating between developers and environmentalists via the auspices of his organization, Nurture New York’s Nature. “The most serious conflict we face is protecting our environment while having economic development, because, evidently, we must have both,” he told the crowd.

The process of determining what is a “natural” feature of the landscape is sometimes less than scientific, explained William Kornblum (Sociology), an expert on the city’s waterfront areas. As an example, he offered a recollection of a phenomenon called “the lump,” which he encountered in the 1950s when working at a cement factory on the East River.

The lump, he explained, was the result of the regular, illegal dumping into the river of small quantities of cement leftover in trucks after they had completed their deliveries. That accumulation was augmented by the cement dust runoff from workers who showered on the docks and Kornblum’s own sweepings as a laborer charged with keeping the dock clean.

Long after the factory was torn down, the lump remained, accumulating sand and sediment. Today it is populated by birds and used by fishermen. Along a “hardened” waterfront of man-made bulkheads, it is considered the only bit of “beach” on the lower eastern shoreline of Manhattan and the object of controversy between developers, who want to remove it, and activists, who want to preserve it.

“I realized,” said Kornblum, “that like so many places in this city, the question of whether they’re natural or not natural doesn’t matter, so long as they’re working as part of nature for the benefit of the birds, or animals, or for us. It’s one of the few places along the East River where people can actually touch the water. . . . So I’m a big defender of ‘the beach.’”

MARIANNE COOPER (Affirmative Action) was elected president of the Long Island Labor Resources Council in December. The council represents 157 institutions, including universities, research institutions, archives and historical societies, and school and county public libraries . . . A poster submitted by IGOR KUSKOVSKY (Physics) and his student Weldon MacDonald at the semianual meeting of the Materials Research Society in Boston in November was selected for an award from a field of 400 posters . . . ANDREA MOSENSON, an adjunct professor in the Department of Family, Nutrition & Exercise Sciences, was recently named Nassau County Teacher of the Year by the Long Island Family and Consumer Science Professionals. Mosenson, who received her master’s in family and consumer science education from QC in 1995, is currently working on a doctorate at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln . . . DRORA PERSHING (Aaron Copland School of Music) should have been included on the list of those recognized for 35 years of service at the awards ceremony held in December . . . CAROLINE RUPPRECHT (Comparative Literature) has published an article on migrant literature in Germany, “Co pani robi w Niemczech?—Was machen Sie in Deutschland?” in the Polish journal Tygiel Kultury (Winter 2005–2006).
The secret to having a long academic career may be to land a position at Queens College. Of the five longest-serving faculty members in the entire CUNY system, three of them—Claire Kaplan, Alexander Kouguell, and Wilma Winnick—have posts here. And none of them is ready to retire any time soon.

TEACHING WAVES OF NEW IMMIGRANTS

“Don’t print my age,” insists Claire Kaplan, an adjunct lecturer assigned to Academic Support, where she teaches college English as a second language. “I want to keep working.” She says she fell into her career. Armed with a bachelor’s degree in speech pathology from QC in 1947, she took a job at the school’s speech and hearing clinic. She subsequently earned a master’s in clinical psychology from CCNY and began thinking about getting a PhD.

“Then Elaine Newman of the English Language Institute said, ‘Come help me out,’” Kaplan says. “That was it. I think it was 1970.”

A newcomer in a fairly new field, she created many of her own classroom materials, drawing on the New York Times, magazines, history books, poetry collections, and videos—a method she continues to use today. “It’s very important for students to learn about our culture, political and social life, and goals,” she notes. In turn, Kaplan has gained insight into events taking place around the world. “When I first started, in the days of the Shah [of Iran], I had pro-Shah students on one side of the room and communists on the other, and they didn’t talk to each other. With each new wave of people, it’s meant learning about a new group.”

In 1985 she did an overseas stint herself: As a thank you for housing a visiting Chinese professor for a year, Kaplan and her husband were invited to spend two months in China, where she taught senior English majors as well as faculty members. Although a subsequent trip was cut short by the protests in Tiananmen Square—“We had to leave without saying goodbye;” Kaplan reports—she and her husband went back last summer to see former students and colleagues.

STAYING YOUNG THROUGH MUSIC

Music professor emeritus Alexander Kouguell is an immigrant himself. Born in Crimea, he studied cello at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris before majoring in comparative literature at the American University in Beirut. Then he came to New York to enroll in a doctoral program at Columbia University. “I was in music and literature all the way through,” he explains.

Like Kaplan, he got his position somewhat serendipitously: After performing in a concert that included a piece by Leo Kraft, a Queens grad and music professor, Kouguell met the composer in person. “Leo said that the college wanted to have a string quartet in residence. So I started here in September 1949,” he says. He discovered that the music department’s goals were grander than its location. “We had the army shacks, three or four of them,” Kouguell recalls. “Then we moved to the building that became the power plant. Concerts were given in Jefferson Hall.”

The curriculum was different, too. In addition to teaching core classes for instrumental majors and playing in faculty recitals, Kouguell had to teach music appreciation, a required course. “That was a challenge,” he admits. “I had to sell music to people who weren’t appreciative of it! Attending two concerts—one orchestral, one choral—and writing about them was obligatory for all freshmen.”

Today, Kouguell’s caseload is lighter, and his department’s facilities are vastly improved. “As an adjunct, I come in once a week to teach chamber music,” he says. “I still perform, too. Now we have the Golden Center and LeFrak Concert Hall, and they’re wonderful!” During the summers, he coaches string ensembles at Bennington College, which he’s done since the 1950s. “Music keeps people young,” he concludes.

SIXTY YEARS OF MEMORIES

Wilma Winnick, who preceded Kouguell to Queens, has also witnessed its institutional transformation. A native of the borough, she came here to earn an undergraduate degree in psychology. “My parents were intrigued with the free tuition,” she observes. She completed a master’s at Brown University and a PhD at Columbia, returning to her alma mater in the summer of 1946 because she was asked to teach by someone, she can’t remember whom—an ironic admission from a scientist with a particular interest in human memory.

Winnick’s recollections of the Queens campus are much clearer. “It was a little country school, very small, with little old buildings,” she says. “My true love was experimental psychology. But before the doctoral program came along, there was no money for research and no money for equipment. We couldn’t have a lab, so we couldn’t do animal experiments.” Instead, with the help of grants, she managed to investigate human learning, designing studies that didn’t require much apparatus.

Now, the psychology lab is much more sophisticated. So are the people Winnick trains. “There were always very bright students, but now they’re less naïve,” she comments. To date 15 grad students have completed dissertations under her. She continues to tackle research projects and, in her spare time, she is expanding her own skill set, an effort involving a non-laboratory mouse: “I’m taking adult courses, learning to use the computer.”
Daniel Marien earned his BS from Cornell and his PhD from Columbia in 1956. His doctoral thesis research on Drosophila species evolution was carried out under the mentorship of the renowned geneticist and evolutionary biologist Theodosius Dobzhansky. Dan joined the faculty of the QC Biology Department in 1962 as an assistant professor. He taught genetics and loved railroad trains. Dan retired from the faculty in 1992 and died last year on November 17.

But these facts do not tell the whole story. Those who remember Dan probably know him best for his 35-year stewardship of the college’s Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC). In 1965 Dan took over the Premedical and Predental Advisory Committee, as it was then called, and developed this into a strong advising body for our students applying to graduate schools in the health professions. After retiring, Dan continued as head of HPAC until the summer of 2000, when he reluctantly turned over the reins.

Over the years Dan advised hundreds of students on course selections, extracurricular activities, and preparing for an interview. He wrote countless recommendation letters and frequently helped students with academic and even personal problems. He was well-respected by the admissions officers of most U.S. and many international medical schools.

As the field of pre-health professions advisement grew, Dan became an advisor to the directors. He was an active participant in the Northeast Association of Advisors for the Health Professions. Indeed, upon hearing of Dan’s passing, many of his colleagues sent HPAC remembrances. Said Carol Baffi-Dugan, director for Health Professions Advising of Tufts University: “Northeast advisors knew Dan for many years as a warm, generous soul whose commitment to students was unparalleled and whose generosity to colleagues helped many of us get our advising feet on the ground. . . . He has left an indelible mark and truly is the grandfather of the NAAHP.”

Our many alumni with rewarding careers in the health professions owe a debt of gratitude to this dedicated professor. There is no better way to end than by letting Dan speak for himself. “Good academics and high MCAT scores do not necessarily make a good physician. I wrote my best and strongest letters for individual students who I felt were ‘good people.’”

—Corinne Michels, Biology Department

LIPSITZ (continued from page 3) tribute to voter disinterest. “Democrats and Republicans are much further apart than they’ve ever been before. That creates bickering and argument, and turns people off. We need to think about how to structure our politics so it’s more palatable to voters.”

A self-described “West Coast person,” Lipsitz says that while she was aware of CUNY, she knew nothing of Queens College before coming here and has been delighted by her experience thus far. “I really love teaching here. It’s the most diverse student population I’ve ever taught,” she says.

She has also observed that the politics of local ethnic groups here is different. To illustrate, she points to the recent election in Los Angeles of a Latino mayor while, in New York, Fernando Ferrer’s mayoral bid failed.
**IN MEMORIAM**

Fredrick Purnell, Jr.,
professor of
philosophy at
Queens College
and the
Graduate
Center of the
City University
of New York,
died suddenly of a stroke on November 29.

A graduate of Duke University, Fred studied with Paul Oskar Kristeller at Columbia University, receiving a PhD in 1970.

Fred’s deep understanding of the complex currents of Renaissance thought gave him the impetus to examine and make notable contributions to the study of Renaissance Platonism, Renaissance Science, and the Hermetic tradition. His latest publications are the entry on Francesco Patrizi, for the Stanford History of Philosophy online and the forthcoming Paul Oskar Kristeller and Renaissance Science. In recent years, Fred’s interest in Renaissance science extended beyond the traditional boundaries to Galileo. His expertise on Galileo became well known and he was invited to present a concise analysis of Galileo’s central accomplishments on the History Channel International this past fall. The great success of this presentation led to an invitation to lecture on Galileo in China.

Deeply committed to Queens College and the Graduate Center, Fred served for 11 years as chair of the Philosophy Department and two years as acting associate provost. At the Graduate Center, he served one year as acting executive officer for the PhD program in philosophy. Fred’s good judgment and affability were reflected in the demand for his services on many committees.

Fred thoroughly enjoyed his students and was very impressed by the great diversity of the Queens student body. Students loved studying with him, both for his wide learning and his enthusiasm, and many were inspired to continue their studies in Renaissance thought and other areas of philosophy.

Fred’s wide intellectual interests went well beyond his own field. He was a knowledgeable ornithologist and keenly interested in environmental studies and medical ethics, teaching popular courses on the latter two subjects.

Fred’s death is a tremendous loss for the college, for Renaissance studies, and for me personally as a close friend and colleague for over 30 years.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, his daughters Stephanie and Emily, his son-in-law Chris, two grandsons, Reilly and Samuel, and his brother, John.

—Martin L. Pine, Emeritus Professor of History

**QC COMMUNITY**

**FIRST WINTER SESSION A SUCCESS**

The college’s inaugural Winter Session proved to be a hit with students. Put together with little fanfare after receiving CUNY approval, this pilot project pulled in over 420 students, who put in a full semester’s worth of work by taking these four-and-a-half hour courses five days a week for two weeks.

“Winter Session at the college is an idea whose time has come,” says Director of Admissions Vincent Angrisani. “Most of the departments that participated emphasized introductory courses. This was a great help for our students, who may have been shut out in the fall because of the overwhelming demand for these courses. And introductory courses are very appealing to visiting students, who realize they can get one of their degree requirements out of the way in just two weeks.”

Another advantage is that the City University allows the college to keep most of the funds generated by Winter Session courses, rather than sharing them with CUNY as it does in other sessions. “With all this going for it,” Angrisani concludes, “I feel very confident that in the future Winter Session is going to snowball at the college.”

**ARMSTRONG HOUSE MONTH**

NYC & Co., the New York City convention and visitors bureau, has selected the Louis Armstrong House Museum as its Cultural Organization of the Month for February. This means NYC & Co. will provide special promotions, including a video about the Armstrong House that will continually play at the Visitor Information Center in Times Square and have a prominent location on its Web site (www.nycvisit.com). In turn, the Armstrong House will host a special mini-program each Saturday afternoon in February (see Events Calendar, page 10) and offer discounted admission to visitors who mention “Cultural Organization of the Month.”

**ALUM SETTING UP EES SCHOLARSHIP**

In the next 10 years a number of students working for their master’s degree in applied environmental geosciences will have reason to thank Paul Roux. The 1978 graduate is donating $10,000 a year for the next decade to fund the education of students in this new program.

Roux came to Queens College in 1975 after earning a bachelor’s degree in engineering science from C.W. Post College in 1968 and working for a number of years for a groundwater consulting firm. “The story I remember most fondly about Paul,” says School of Earth & Environmental Sciences Director Daniel Habib, who was Roux’s thesis mentor, “concerned his grade in graduate mineralogy, offered that semester by David Speidel. Paul was the only non-geologist among eight students, coming into the program with an engineering degree, and he was the only one who received the grade of A.”

Once he received his MA in geology from the college, Roux worked for Stauffer Chemical Company until deciding in 1981 to set up his own consulting firm. Starting with just two employees, Roux Associates has expanded to over 200 employees in New York, Boston, New Jersey, Atlanta, Chicago, and Denver, offering environmental and sustainability consulting services to hundreds of clients worldwide.

Roux will also be serving on the EES’s External Advisory Committee, which helps students prepare for careers in industry.

**FNES SPECIALIZATION A FIRST IN NYC**

The Family and Consumer Studies Specialization in the Department of Family, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences has been approved for the Family Life Education Certification (CFLE) by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). The certification attests that the curriculum includes appropriate coursework for each of the 10 family life substance areas required for CFLE designation. According to NCFR, “The CFLE designation recognizes a broad, comprehensive range of issues constituting family life education. It acknowledges the preventive focus of family life education and assures that the designate has met or exceeded the high standards and criteria needed to provide quality family life education.”

The college’s specialization is the only CFLE-approved program in the New York City area. Upon graduation, students are eligible for the Family Life Educator Certification, which increases their visibility and marketability.
FEBRUARY EVENTS

2 THU
CONCERT: Anthony Newton, Pianist, LeFrak Hall, 12:15 pm.

4 SAT

6 MON
PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM: “Advanced Fuels and the Role of Catalysis,” Devinder Mahajan (SUNY Stony Brook and Brookhaven National Laboratory), Science Bldg, Room B326, 12:15 pm.


8 WED
EXHIBIT OPENING: How We Use Land: Photographs of Queens County, by Paul Anthony Melhado. Gallery Talk and Reception at 5 pm. Hours: Mon-Thur, 9 am-8 pm; Fri, 9 am-5 pm. Through March 30.

CONCERT: Long Island Composers Alliance Chamber Orchestra, LeFrak Hall, 12:15 pm.

11 SAT

14 TUE

READING: Novelist Margaret Atwood, with interviewer Leonard Lopate. LeFrak Hall, 7 pm.

15 WED


18 SAT

19 SUN
CINEMA ON SUNDAYS: Hiding and Seeking. Discussant: Dr. Menachem Daum, filmmaker. LeFrak Hall, 2 pm.

21 TUES
CONCERT: Ambience String Quartet, Jiliane Russo, Music Director. LeFrak Hall, 12:15 pm

22 WED
QUEENS COLLEGE ORCHESTRA CONCERT: Monteverdi/Peress, Toccata and Ritornelli from Orfeo, Chen Gang and He Zhanhao, Butterfly Lovers Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Feng Chern-Hwei, soloist; Hindemith, Mathis der Mahler; Maurice Peress, music director. LeFrak Hall, 12:15 pm.


LECTURE: “What is Couture?” Phyllis Tortora (Emeritus, FNES). 401 Klapper Hall, 12:15 pm.

25 SAT

27 MON
EARTH & ENVIRON SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM


CONCERT: Jan-Piet Knijff, Organ, Ralph Allen, violin and viola. Works by Bach, LeFrak Hall, 12:15 pm.

Exhibits
How We Use Land: Photographs of Queens County, by Paul Anthony Melhado. Queens College Art Center. Hours: Mon–Thurs, 9 am–8 pm; Fri, 9 am–5 pm. Through March 30.


I Can’t Give You Anything but Love: Treasures from the Jack Bradley Collection. Louis Armstrong House Museum, 34-56 107th Street, Corona, Queens. $8 adults, $6 students and seniors, members free. Tue–Fri 10 am–5 pm, Sat–Sun 12 noon–5 pm. Information: www.louisarmstronghouse.org.

Items should be submitted to Maria Matteo, Kiely 1310, x 5590. Items longer than one paragraph must be submitted via email to mmatteo@qc.edu