

The background of the entire page is a photograph of two men wearing white hard hats and light-colored shirts. They are standing in a dark interior, looking out through a large, circular window. The window looks out onto a bright, sunlit construction site with wooden framing and concrete structures. The lighting is dramatic, with the workers' silhouettes in the foreground and the bright light from the window.

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WEBZINE UPDATE

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QC Welcomes New Deans for Education and Sciences

Penny L. Hammrich, formerly associate dean at Temple University's College of Education, became dean of the college's division of education this fall.

"Dr. Hammrich's work on equity in science education is nationally respected," notes President Jim Muyskens. "She brings with her extensive experience in K-12 classrooms, teacher training, and collaborative, grant-funded research."



Penny Hammrich

Hammrich holds a BS in biology from South Dakota State University (1985), where she also obtained her teaching certification, and earned her MS in biology at Mankato State University in Minnesota (1988). She completed a PhD in curriculum and instruction at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis (1994), with a concentration in science education.

Besides teaching in Temple's Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology in Education, Hammrich was affiliated with the university's Women's Studies Program and

was a senior research associate at the Mid-Atlantic Laboratory for Student Success.

Hammrich has held major research grants from NSF, the U.S. Dept. of Education, and the Space Telescope Science Institute. Her recent accomplishments include the innovative programs "Sisters in Science," "Sisters in Sport Science," and "Daughters with Disability," which address the educational needs of young urban women.

"Sometimes we do a nationwide search to find the best person for a position, and it turns out that the best person is already here," President Muyskens noted in announcing the appointment of **Thomas Streckas** as dean of the division of mathematics and natural sciences.

"Tom has been a most effective advocate for his division, and I have full confidence that under his leadership the division will continue its rapid advancement."

Strekas, who had been serving as acting dean of the division for the past two years, received his BA from Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA, and his PhD from Princeton. He did postdoctoral work at IBM Research and Columbia University-College of Physicians and

Surgeons from 1973 until joining the college's Chemistry Department in 1978. He was appointed a full professor in 1988.

Strekas' research has appeared in many of the leading journals in his field, including *Journal of Physical Chemistry*, *Inorganic Chemistry*, and the *Journal of the American Chemistry Society*. He has received numerous grants for his work from the National Institutes of Health, PSC/CUNY, and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and he has also been the recipient of a Mellon Fellowship Award, several Faculty-in-Residence Awards, and a Presidential Mini-Grant for Innovative Teaching.

"I have enjoyed my 25 years at Queens College immensely," Streckas says. "The dedication of the administration, faculty, and staff, and the determination and high aspirations of the students have been an inspiration to me. I look forward to contributing to the college's growing reputation for excellence."



Thomas Streckas

Satchmo's Permanent Open House

Louis Armstrong was known as Ambassador Satch for his worldwide concert tours, sometimes spending as many as 300 days a year on the road. On October 15 the world repaid the favor by flocking to Corona, Queens, for the opening of the Louis Armstrong House as a historic house museum. Along with music legends such as Jimmy Heath, Jon Faddis, and Marty Napoleon, and local dignitaries such as Queens Borough President Helen Marshall '72, a virtual UN of media came to the October 9 media preview or the October 15 opening. Among the foreign press joining U.S. national media were BBC TV, Agence France, AP TV, France 2 TV, NTV America (Russian TV in U.S.), Globo TV (Brazil), German TV and radio, Nippon TV (Japan), TV Tokyo America, ANSA (Italian News Agency), *America Oggi*, and others.

Louis and Lucille Armstrong purchased the home, located at 34-56 107th Street, in 1943 and lived there for the rest of their lives. The house, which has undergone a \$1.6 million restoration and renovation, is now open for tours from 10 am to 5 pm, Tuesday to Friday, and 12 noon to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$8; students and seniors, \$4. From October 15 through December 31, about 2300 people visited. For more information on the Armstrong House, visit www.satchmo.net.



Louis Armstrong

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QC In the News

Alice Artzt (SEYS) was featured in an October 26 *Daily News* article about the shortage of math teachers and how her TIME 2000 program is helping to fill this gap . . . **Andy Beveridge** (Sociology) ana-



lyzed the results of census bureau data for the *New York Times* in a November 16 article that noted, among other things, that rents in Queens have risen sharply in the past three years. The median rent in some Queens neighborhoods is now for the first time over \$1000. A piece on Beveridge was presented on CUNY-TV's "Study with the Best" three times in November.

Beveridge has also been seen recently in the city's subways and buses with student Yolanda White as part of CUNY's "Study with the Best" advertising campaign . . . The *Queens Chronicle* contacted QC's hurricane expert **Nicholas Coch** (Earth & Environmental Sciences) for a Sept. 18 article about Hurricane Isabel. Coch noted that the worst-case scenario for a hurricane approaching the city would be one that came in from New Jersey and entered the city near the Coney Island shore. This could cause massive flooding and tree damage, as well as structural damage to skyscrapers . . .



Andrew Hacker (Political Science) was interviewed about race relations in the United States on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" on August 4. The occasion was a reexamination of W. E. B. Du Bois's classic, *The Souls of Black Folk*, on the 100th anniversary of its publication . . . **Michael Krasner** (Political Science), in an article in the September 30 *New York Times* entitled "Bloomberg, the Technocrat, Seeks His Inner LaGuardia," stated that Bloomberg "is much more comfortable with the details of policy and problem-solving than he is either with rallying and inspiring people or, I think, building alliances among politicians" . . .

Greg Mantsios (Worker Education) was interviewed on WNYC "Morning Edition" for a piece that aired Friday, Oct. 3 on the Freedom Ride, the recent cross-country tour that sought to bring attention to the plight of immigrants . . .

Steven Markowitz (CBNS) was featured in a July



Associated Press article that described his work screening the health of nuclear workers in Paducah, KY . . . Viewers tuning to channel 21 – the PBS Long Island affiliate – on the evening of October 27 saw a group of experts discuss the region's pressing educational issues on "Learning



Curve." President **Jim Muyskens** took his place on two of three panels: overcoming the shortage of school administrators, and recruiting strong candidates for

teaching. For the latter, Muyskens cited the success of the TIME 2000 program, which is increasing the number of mathematics teachers. "Learning Curve" is produced by **Lisa Jandovitz**, a QC education graduate. . . . September 29 *Newsday* featured an article on the exhibit *McCarthyism at Queens College, 1947 to 1955* that was on display in the Rosenthal Library in October. The article included a photo of exhibit curators **Dorothy Pita '49**, **Lawrence Kaplan '55**, and **Alice Sprintzen '69** . . . **Amal Rassam** (Anthropology, Emerita) was the subject of an October 12 column by Thomas L. Friedman in the *New York Times* concerning her efforts to help organize interim advisory councils as a way for Iraqis to begin the process of governing themselves . . . **John Tytell** (English) was interviewed on NY-1's "Closeup" feature on November 10. He is the author of the recently published *Reading New York*. He was also profiled in the August 24 *Newsday* . . . **Susan Weber-Stoger** (Sociology) noted in an October 25 article in the *New York Times* that in New York City, the number of people claiming to be German dropped almost 50 percent from 1980 to 2000. An October 20 article in the *Times* about how immigrants are increasingly using nursing homes for their elderly included a chart Weber-Stoger had prepared on the growth of Asian American groups in this country since 1980.

Helping Hospitals and Patients Speak the Same Language



In Queens, where much of the population consists of non-English-speaking immigrants, a language barrier in hospitals and trauma centers can lead to serious misunderstandings between patients and doctors. To address this problem, the Continuing Education Program has launched a pilot program in medical interpreting, funded by a \$285,000 grant from the NYS Department of Health.

Working in concert with the New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens, located in Flushing, Continuing Education will be training bilingual nurses, technicians, and other staff as interpreters for patients and staff. The languages chosen for this program are Russian, Korean, and Mandarin Chinese, representing the areas of greatest need at the hospital. Thirty-five registered and licensed practical nurses and other staff will undergo training.

The program is modeled after a medical translation and interpreting curriculum developed by **Monica Casco** (Hispanic Languages) for Continuing Education students. However, new materials must be written as the classes will consist not of language students, but of staff who will receive paid leave time for training.

Why should bilingual staff need this training? According to Casco, who will supervise the training, there is more to interpreting than language proficiency. "Students need to learn medical vocabulary, dialectal and cultural differences, and ethical issues regarding the role of the interpreter."



Rachel Lyon with the Dalai Lama

Faculty Profile

RACHEL LYON

Rachel Lyon (Media Studies) has filmed on five continents as an independent filmmaker. For some 20 years she has directed and produced documentaries, specials, and feature films, such as the critically acclaimed restoration of Orson Welles' *Othello*.

Her work, screened at film festivals around the world, has won numerous awards, including the National Emmy for *Men Who Molest: Children Who Survive* and three Telly Awards for her last film, *Mr. Dreyfuss Goes to Washington* (2002). She has worked with the likes of Ted Turner, the Smithsonian, and National Geographic Television, and is president of Lioness Media Arts, an independent production company www.Lionessmedia.com.

Prior to her appointment at Queens, she taught at Reinhardt College, New York University, Northwestern University, and Columbia College. "I received three different offers in three states," she says, "but I was excited about Queens College. The student body is diverse and interesting and the Media Studies faculty are remarkably talented."

Currently at work on three films, including one on the death penalty, Lyon gravitates to such themes as gender and family and global peace and justice. "I go for issue-oriented documentaries," she says, "from the black market in plutonium to the worldwide impact of fundamentalism to the tragedy in Tibet. I focus on the human rights of people around the world."

Powdermaker Hall Reopens

Following two years of design and three of construction, the renovated Powdermaker Hall greeted its first students on September 2.

The old Powdermaker had a 1960s curtain wall design of glass and metal. There was no central air and the windows weren't soundproof. "When planes flew overhead to LaGuardia, everyone stopped talking for a few minutes," recalls Robert Landsman (Campus Facilities). After 30 years, the building was "nearing obsolescence," he says. So it was taken down to the concrete structure (floors, columns, and beams), then built up again "almost like a new building."

The results of the renovation are spectacular. The new Powdermaker keeps the footprint of the original with some design twists. Whereas a new building would likely be shaped as a rectangle, which has only four corners, Powdermaker has 18 corners "and a lot of perimeter," says Landsman. As a result, "over 90 percent of the faculty in the building have outside offices with windows." Two internal courtyards feature birches, native grasses, and granite monoliths. The architects also provided a dozen lounges where students can meet and work.

There are many comforts and efficiencies in the new Powdermaker, from

the walls of glass at the ends of corridors to the use of triple-glazed, soundproof glass in the windows. With 200,000 square feet, the building has 29 classrooms plus faculty and department offices for the education and social sciences divisions.

Powdermaker, of course, is wired to the hilt. Each classroom has a mounted projector and speakers in the ceiling, an audiovisual storage closet containing DVD and VCR players and an overhead projector, a pull-down screen, and computer hookup capability.



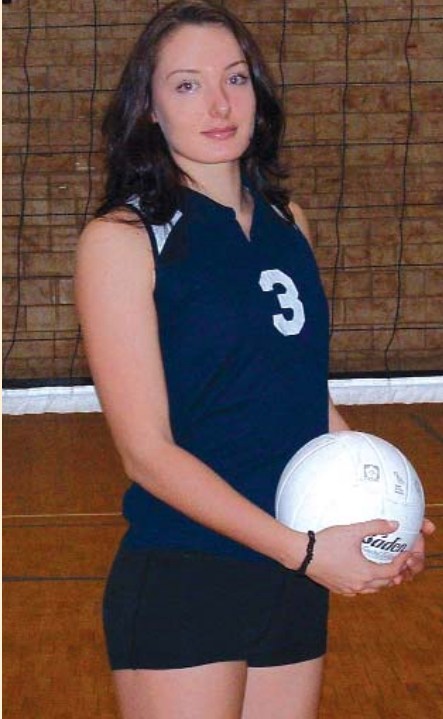
Robert Landsman and President Muyskens inspecting the new building

Our High Guidebook Rankings

The annual listings of colleges are out and Queens is doing fine. The college is included once again in the Princeton Review's *The Best 351 Colleges*. In this book the college is ranked fourth in the nation for its diversity, behind Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ), George Mason University (Fairfax, VA), and the University of Maryland (Baltimore). The college can also claim 14th place among the soberest campuses nationwide.

The 2004 edition of *America's Best Colleges*, published by *U.S. News & World Report*, also has good news for the college. Queens ranks first in graduation rate among all CUNY colleges, and also has the highest percentage of freshmen who were in the top quarter of their high school class (58%).

Student Profile: ANNA BONDARENKO '05



Anna Bondarenko

To everyone who follows college volleyball, Anna Bondarenko is a star. A newcomer to the Lady Knights, she was deemed Most Valuable Player, four-time Player of the Week, and Player of the Year by the New York Collegiate Athletic Conference. She also made the NYCAC All-Conference first team and the Queens College Traditional Tournament first team. In a season when the Lady Knights won the NCAA Division II Regionals in two games, Bondarenko's record as a middle hitter stood out.

Who is this 6'1" prodigy of the volleyball court? Like many of her peers here, Anna is a recent immigrant. She left both her family and her studies in her native Kazakhstan, though she could have finished a free university education there. "We have a lot of highly educated people in my country," she explains, "but they can't find a job." Though she is an only child, her parents supported her decision, knowing she had "big plans."

Not that she was unprepared. Anna is trilingual and accustomed to diverse cultures having grown up in Almaty, the former Kazakh capital, the crossroads of central Asia. And as a volleyball player at Kaynar University, she competed all over Asia, and even contended for Olympic standing. She also played in Turkey, Europe, and Russia.

Though she had been studying psychology and philosophy in Kazakhstan, Anna is now working toward a degree in economics. "The teachers are so great, and the department is really strong," she says. In a year she will choose whether to aim for graduate study in economics or business administration.

A video of Anna created by Rich Billay (Communications) can be viewed at the NYCAC Website: www.nycac.net in English or in a slightly different Russian version narrated by **Thomas Bird** (European Languages).

Opening Doors for Newest Immigrants

It was 15 years in the making, so there was much fanfare November 10 as Queens College joined in celebrating the opening of the CUNY Center for Higher Education in downtown Flushing. Queens is one of several CUNY institutions offering programs at the new center, which is geared primarily toward recent immigrants.

Those present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony included Borough President Helen Marshall '72, Councilman John Liu (D-Flushing), President Jim Muyskens, and QC Executive Director of Continuing Education Programs Barbara Ritchin.

According to Ritchin, the center "was opened to meet the needs of the surrounding community." Housed in the heart of a bustling Asian American neighborhood, it offers a mix of coursework and services. English classes figure prominently as the center is expected mainly to draw foreign-language speakers (especially Asians, Colombians, Haitians, and Russians). Civics education also is a cornerstone of

the program. To accommodate the busy schedules of immigrant workers and families, the center will be open seven days a week, from 8:30 am until 10 pm.

Queens College, with its long history of serving a diverse student body, is offering courses through the continuing education program, including ESL courses in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. There will also be job-training classes in real estate, computer programming, and food handling, as well as test preparation (such as for the GED and the licensed practical nurse entrance exam).

Located at 39-07 Prince Street, in a spacious 10-room facility, the center is convenient for residents of Flushing and nearby communities. The center is nonprofit but, through course fees, should be self-sustaining. With 500 people registered already, enrollment should reach 1,000 within a year.



CUNY chief operating officer Allan Dobrin, Borough President Helen Marshall, Queensborough Community College President Eduardo Marti, and President Muyskens at center opening.

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Alumni Notes

1941: **Irwin Stein** was featured last fall in a segment of “The Visionaries,” a public television series. He is founding executive director of Family Services of Westchester, a nonprofit mental health and social services agency. When it opened its doors in 1954, Irwin was the sole social worker on staff; today it employs 300 professionals in seven locations and helps 16,000 people a year . . .

1949: **Al Ligotti** was recently honored by the Athens Symphony Orchestra in Athens, GA, which commissioned a bust of him on the occasion of his twenty-fifth year of conducting the orchestra. Al is a retired associate professor at the University of Georgia School of Music, where he taught for 27 years after 11 years of playing with the New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein. Still writing and publishing music, Al is a past recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from QC. He and his wife, Arlene, have two daughters . . .

1951: **Rev. Nicholas J. Marino** writes that he was ordained a permanent deacon of the Roman Catholic Church last year. He had a long career teaching foreign languages, retiring in 1986 as professor emeritus at Suffolk County Community College. Upon moving to Virginia, he taught Spanish literature for a number of years at Old Dominion University. “Being driven by some inner force,” he says, he entered the seminary in 1999, and was awarded his graduate certificate from St. Meinrad’s Benedictine Monastery in St. Meinrad, IN . . .



1959: **Barbara Schweitzer Yudell** (MS '63) is leading an active retirement in Boynton Beach, FL, where she has published a spiritual

autobiography, *Discovering Soul Connections* (2001).

The book provides the basis for courses she is teaching at Florida Atlantic University and at University of the Soul.



Before retirement, Barbara taught for many years, then ran a nutrition and natural product business. She and her husband have two sons and two grandchildren . . .

1966: **Edward Ray** is the president of Oregon State University, a 19,000-student institution in Corvallis. He was formerly a professor of economics, executive vice president, and provost of Ohio State University, where he had taught since 1970. Ed, who obtained his MA and PhD at Stanford University, specializes in economic development and the international economy, and is the author or co-author of several books. Ed and his wife, Beth, have three children and two grandchildren . . .

1968: **Elyse Weissman** is president of Elyse Weissman Design Associates, Inc., which does residential and commercial space planning and design, primarily in New York. Elyse has been on the faculty of Kendall College in Evanston, teaching art history, cinematography, and painting. She lives in Westhampton Beach, NY, where her twin sons are in tenth grade. Elyse is listed in the *International Who's Who of Entrepreneurs* and *Who's Who in Executives and Professionals* . . .

1969: **Alan Seifer** is a physician in Miami, FL.

He's also Dr. Doowop. He writes that he can be heard “playing the old sounds” on Internet radio at www.doowop-cafe.net on Sundays from 3–5 pm . . .



1970: **Arthur Bloom** is treasurer of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, of which he is a past director. Arthur, who is a tax partner at Marks

Paneth & Shron LLP, is a regular contributor to the *Practical Accountant* and the *CPA Journal*. He is an executive board member of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale and member of the board of trustees of Riverdale YM-YWHA. He and his wife, Elaine, have three children . . .

Michael Bronstein was honored with the Outstanding CPA in Industry Award by the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants. Michael, who earned his master's at New York University's Stern School, is director of internal audit at Loews Corporation and a professor of finance and accounting at Adelphi University . . .

1973: **Lillian Giraffa** is a first vice president in the individual policy services department of New York Life Insurance Company. She has been with the firm since 1978, where she is in charge of technology planning and design. She lives with her husband and two daughters on Long Island . . .

1975: **Sandra Berman** was an honoree of Long Island College Hospital's spring ball. She is an internist at the hospital, a general practitioner in Brooklyn Heights, and a member of the board of Brooklyn's Physician's Association. She lives in Brooklyn Heights, where she is involved in community activities. Sandra has three children . . .

1976: **Leonard G. Gomella**, a nationally recognized expert on prostate cancer and urologic

laparoscopy, is chair of the Department of Urology at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, where he has



taught since 1988. Leonard, who completed his MD at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, has authored and edited over two dozen books and 250 papers, book chapters, and monographs. He lives in Chadds Ford, PA . . .

1978: **Nicholas Maraventano** teaches social studies at Jericho High School on Long Island. This year he was among the teachers selected nationally to participate in a Summer Institute funded by the National Endowment for

the Humanities. Nick attended a five-week program on “The Holocaust and Humanity in the 21st Century” at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Nick received a Fulbright Fellowship to West Africa in 1990, and has participated in summer study programs at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Hangzhou University in China, and Oxford University in England . . .

1982: Daniel Marrone (MALS) was named Member of the Year by the Long Island Chapter of the Association of Production Inventory Control in Hicksville for his service to the organization and his students. Daniel is professor of business and management technology at SUNY Farmingdale. He lives in Bethpage, NY, with his wife and daughter . . . **1983: Harold Kahn**

(MSE '83, MS '84, BFA '84) has been appointed assistant professor of American language at Bergen Community College. Harold, who obtained his MFA from SUNY Albany, has been teaching ESL at Bergen, Queensborough, and Nassau Community Colleges, and St. John's University. He lives in White-stone, NY . . . **1989: James J.**

Gormley is a health-food industry expert and commentator, author of *DHA: A Good Fat* (1999), and co-author (with Shari Lieberman) of the *User's Guide to Brain-Boosting Nutrients* (In Press, March 2004). James, who is director of trade relations for Purchase, NY-based Nutrition 21, Inc., was the award-winning editor-in-chief of *Better Nutrition* magazine from 1995 to 2002. Having served as a U.S. delegate at an international health conference in Beijing in 2001, he had the opportunity to participate in global health initiatives. Since 1999 James has done several live health segments on FOX-TV's “Good Day New York” (with segments such as “Herbs for Menopause” and “How to Choose a Multivitamin”) and over 60 radio interviews on health topics. He has also testified before Congress and the New York City Council on issues relating to protecting consumer access to responsible health information and to health-promoting foods and dietary supplements . . . **1990: Lisa**

Copeland earned a BA in political science and government that she has put to full use in her home in Mount Vernon, NY. She holds leadership positions in the Democratic party and in



civic organizations. Among them, she is executive director of the Mount Vernon Democratic Committee and assistant treasurer of Black Democrats of Westchester, president of the Board of Directors of the Mount Vernon Family YMCA, and a member of the Westchester County Human Rights Commission. She has received many awards and honors, including the United Black Clergy of Westchester's Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award. After serving as deputy city clerk, she was unanimously appointed city clerk in 1999. Lisa recently earned the professional designation of Certified Municipal Clerk (the only municipal clerk in Westchester County to hold this designation) . . . **1991: Sr. Marjorie**

Stumpf has been working as a librarian since completing her library studies degree at Queens. First she worked full time at St. Saviour High School in Brooklyn. Then, she writes: “In 1998 I ‘retired’ at 67 but found part-time work as a librarian in St. Philip Neri School, an elementary parochial school in the Bronx. In both cases, I had the challenging but exciting experience of updating long-neglected libraries and restoring them to full service. In 2002, at age 71, I ‘retired’ again, and now I’m teaching ESL classes to Spanish-speaking adults, as well as offering various services in my religious community” . . . **1993: Giancarlo Malchiodi**

recently earned his second master's (in educational administration) at Baruch's School of Public Affairs. He continues to teach literature and writing at Brooklyn Technical High School. He was named the New York State Advisor of the Year for his work on *Horizons – The Literary and Art Magazine of Brooklyn*



Tech, which has been named New York State Magazine of the Year for three consecutive years . . . **2002: Enid Valerie Bennett** received a City Council Citation for community service. She is a volunteer with the New Millennium After School Program in Corona, Queens. When Valerie's students submitted paintings to a city-sponsored art contest, one five-year-old won first prize in his age category. She is currently working toward her MS in art education at the college.



START PACKING FOR ITALY

Alumni Affairs is sponsoring a trip to Tuscany, Italy, September 5–13. AHI International, which has been in the travel business for over 40 years and has over 300 colleges, universities, and alumni groups on its client roster, is producing this entertaining and educational tour. Many thanks to Washington, D.C. chapter chair David Guskin '69, who is coordinating the trip. The Alumni Affairs Web site (www.qc.cuny.edu/alumni_affairs) will have more details in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, if you wish to get a head start, please contact Alumni Affairs @ Queens College, Office of Alumni Affairs, 65- 30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, NY 11367; 1-718- 997-3930; or alumni@qc.edu.