



Discimus ut serviamus: **We learn so that we may serve.**

#2

What's News

Join Us at the Q Gala May 3

Juliet Papa '78, the well-known reporter for 1010 WINS Newsradio, will serve as emcee on May 3, when QC holds its 27th Annual Q Gala. Alums and friends of the college will cross the border into Manhattan for this year's event, to be held at Guastavino's on East 59th Street; the honorees are alumnae Muriel Sapir Greenblatt '54, Evelyn M. Strauch '60, and Fran Drescher. Students from the Aaron Copland School of Music and the Department of Drama, Theatre & Dance will provide the entertainment. The Gala helps to raise money for student scholarships. For more information, write to gala@qc.cuny.edu or call 718-997-2920.



Alumni Award

Mrs. Muriel Sapir
Greenblatt '54



President's Award

Mrs. Evelyn
M. Strauch '60



QC Lifetime
Achievement Award

Ms. Fran Drescher

CUNY Budget Watch

The New York State budget, passed on April 7 by the Legislature six days after its deadline date, includes Governor Andrew Cuomo's much



The members of Team Knight, the group of QC students who won the first "Making College Possible Coding Challenge" last month, with Governor Andrew Cuomo and Hillary Clinton at the signing of the college tuition-free law. Students l-r: Shaoqiang Lin, Carlos Beltran, Navidur Rahman, and Zifang Huang.

anticipated [Excelsior Scholarship program](#). Beginning this fall, the program will allow eligible students with a family income below \$100,000 to attend CUNY's community colleges and senior colleges for free, with the ceiling for family income rising to \$125,000 in 2020. The state's Higher Education Services Corporation is expected to issue regulations later this semester that will address questions on this new first-of-its-kind initiative. CUNY's University Budget Office has released [a preliminary analysis of the state budget](#). The university and the college await passage of the city budget in June by the City Council and with the approval of the mayor.



Rep. Grace Meng to be Commencement Speaker

President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez announced that at Commencement on Friday, May 26, [Congresswoman Grace Meng](#) will be the featured speaker. She also will receive the college's President's Medal in recognition of her many years of service to the greater Queens community.

Currently serving her third term in the House of Representatives, representing the Sixth Congressional District of New York, Meng is the first Asian American member of Congress from New York State, and the only member of Congress of Asian descent in the entire northeast. She is a member of the Appropriations

Committee that is responsible for funding every agency, program, and project within the federal government.

Meng has passed several pieces of legislation into law, including laws about religious freedom, making Queens historic sites part of the National Parks Service, protecting public housing residents from insufficient heat, and measures that assist veterans and strengthen anti-terrorism initiatives. She also worked to create New York City school holidays for Lunar New Year and Eid.

Middle States Commission Concludes CampusVisit

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education Evaluation Team, chaired by Dr. José Jaime Rivera, has concluded its visit. At an oral presentation on Wednesday, April 5, the Middle States Team praised the work of the college's faculty, staff, and students. They also made several suggestions that President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez said the college will consider in the coming months. The Middle States Team's final report will be presented to the college this summer.



Setting Tech Development on Course

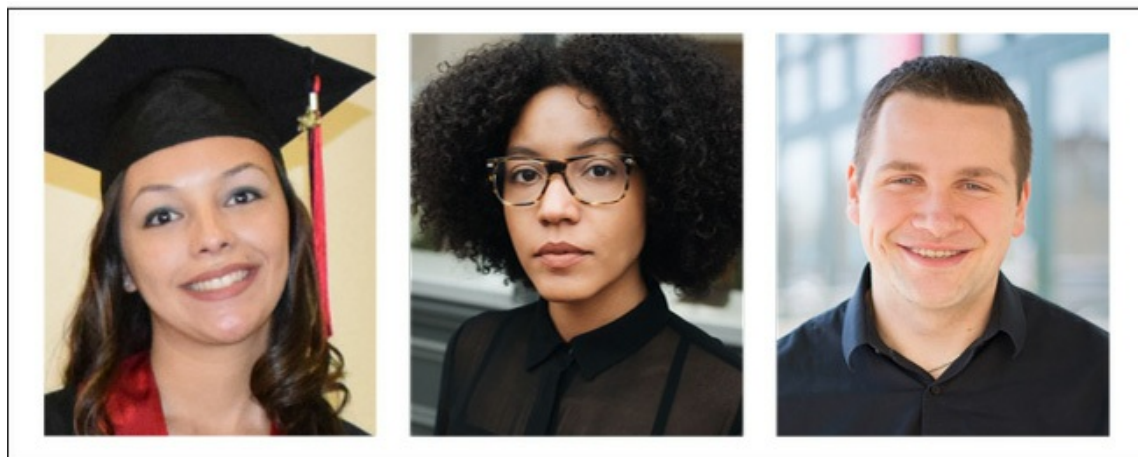
This fall Douglas Rushkoff (MediaStudies) will be launching a studio course, Tech Development Lab. With advice from industry experts, participants will refine their technology concepts into proposals and prototypes that can be pitched to investors. At the end of the course, three projects will be invited to take space in QC's Tech Incubator.

"College is about helping students create the jobs of tomorrow," says Rushkoff. "That means instilling them with the spirit of entrepreneurialism, creativity, and perseverance, and then weaving in the social mission that makes Queens College unique."

The Tech Development Lab is open to the entire college community--including undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty--on Wednesdays, 1:40 pm to 4:30 pm; class size is limited to 15. For more information, visit <http://goo.gl/j5omcu> or email Rushkoff at drushkoff@qc.cuny.edu.

Three QC Graduates Receive NSF Fellowships

Three recent [Queens College graduates](#)--Nohely Cesarina Abreu '16 (Biology), Adolmary Pena '14 (Anthropology), and Patryk Perkowski '14 (Economics)--have been awarded 2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, one of the most prestigious and competitive grants in the nation. Each five-year fellowship provides a total of \$138,000 for tuition and other education-related expenses, along with opportunities for international research and professional development to prepare the recipient for a science research career.



QC Named to List of Nation's Top Public Colleges

Queens College appears on a new [list of America's 100 best public colleges and universities](#), according to a study by Business First. The study considers 22 indicators of academic excellence, affordability, diversity, and economic strength. It gives the top marks to schools with highly selective admissions processes, strong retention and graduation rates, impressive earnings by alumni, generous resources, affordable tuition and housing costs, diverse faculties and student bodies, and economically robust communities. The report includes a separate breakdown for New York's public colleges, in which QC ranks ninth among the 30 New York institutions that made the list.

FNES's Vegetable and Herb Garden Is Ready to Bloom

Spring is definitely here, and the vegetable and herb garden tended by students and faculty of the Department of Family, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences is starting to spring to life. Established a decade ago as a small six-foot-by-six-foot plot by Food Management Studies Director Clare Consiglio (right), the garden now is an example of a complete food system with over 25 varieties of vegetables and herbs, and a compost bin to turn food scraps from the food lab into fertilizer.



Garden produce is used in FNES's food science laboratories and the campus's dining hall, and is donated to residents of the Pomono housing development across the street from the college. The garden also serves as a convenient hands-on site for students in FNES's Food Sustainability class. Plans are underway to expand the garden to include a medicinal herb section. A member of the Menu of Change University Research Collaborative, the garden was recently featured in a presentation of best practices for college gardens, along with gardens maintained by Harvard and Princeton.



English Language Institute Expands in Japan

The English Language Institute (ELI) has launched a second round of international online courses for students at the Toyohashi University of Technology campus in Toyohashi, Japan, notes ELI Executive Director Donna Y. Smith. Designed and taught by ELI teachers here in Queens, the courses focus on academic reading and writing. A collaborating professor in Japan meets the students every other week, supporting technical and academic content as well as adding a listening/speaking component. Established in 1945, Queens College's ELI is the second oldest English language school in the United States.

The Arts



Rewoven
Innovative Fiber Art

A feast for the eyes that serves up a commitment to environmental and other global issues is on view at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum as *REWOVEN: Innovative Fiber Art*, through May 26. While many pieces incorporate traditional craft, the artists use contemporary strategies

to transform natural, industrial, and waste materials into works of wit, whimsy, protest, and beauty that address such issues as the endangered earth. *REWOVEN* is an international collaboration among arts organizations in Taiwan and New York City. The Godwin-Ternbach will display the work of ten of the 24 participating artists.

Legacy

Dean Savage (Sociology) recently brought to our attention an essay about the role of Queens College faculty and students during the struggle for civil rights in the early 1960s. "Black Leadership and Outside Allies in Virginia Freedom Schools," in the November 2016 issue of *History of Education Quarterly*, tells the story of two QC education professors--Sid Simon and Rachel Weddington--who recruited and led a group of 16 QC students south to teach black students in Prince Edward County VA, where the schools had been closed since 1959 in segregationist resistance to a court order. The Prince Edward county initiative was one of the models for Mississippi Freedom Summer in 1964. Dean notes that "There are some very moving memories from participants and, toward the end of the article, we hear from Andrew Goodman, who has just decided to go to Mississippi." The article--written by Lehman College sociologist Chris Bonastia, who taught at QC as a visiting assistant professor for a year--is based in large part on materials from the college's Civil Rights Archives and recent interviews with former students whose documents are in the archives.



PDF

Spotlight On

Naomi Ducat '16

It's not every college student who can claim to have received a high-level clearance from the U.S. government. Naomi Ducat can.

Ducat, who graduated in December, had the

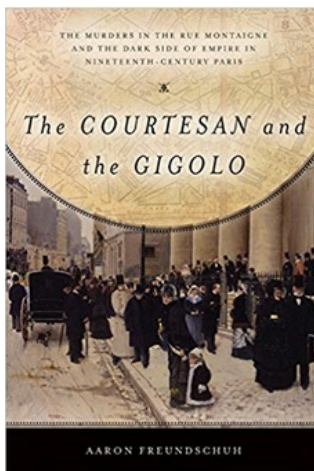


remarkable experience of closing out her final months as a Queens College undergraduate while serving as a White House intern for the Obama administration, working in Vice President Joseph Biden's Office of Foreign Affairs. The caliber of her work was such that she was asked to extend her internship beyond the November election and into the final weeks of the administration. [Click here](#) for the full profile.



Naomi Ducat (third from right front row) with VP Joseph Biden and other interns (David Lienemann, White House Photo Office).

QC Bookshelf

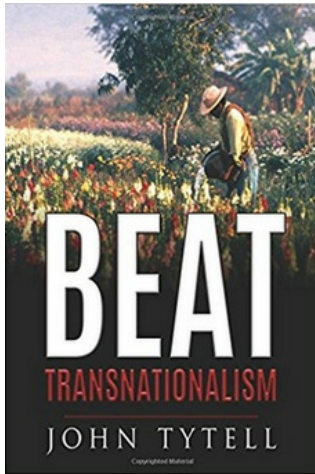


Though the whole world knows Jack the Ripper, it has forgotten Enrico Pranzini--the focus of a lurid international spectacle in the late 1880s and, unlike Jack, a figure publicly identified as a serial killer preying on the Parisian demimonde. **Aaron Freundschuh** (History) has exhumed this spectacle in [*The Courtesan and the Gigolo: The Murders in the Rue Montaigne and the Dark Side of Empire in Nineteenth-Century Paris*](#) (Stanford University Press), in which he explores the trap that closed around Pranzini, a lower-class womanizer of Italian and Egyptian background. In the expanding French empire, citizens and both scientific and political elites were prejudiced against the immigrants arriving from colonized places. Pranzini

was tried in the new mass press, which saturated the public with voyeuristic, sensationalized, and racialized tales of his criminality. Freundschuh tells a story of riveting human interest while illuminating ways in which colonialism worked its way into metropolitan culture and politics. *The Courtesan*

and the *Gigolo* was named the best book released by an independent publisher in the past year in the "true crime" category; it will be awarded the gold medal at the 2017 Independent Book Publishers Awards ceremony to be held in New York City next month.

To see more books recently published by members of the History Department, [click here](#).



In his new book on [Beat Transnationalism](#) (BeatdomBooks), **John Tytell** (English) pursues his lifelong involvement with the Beat generation by delving into the enormous importance Mexico held for them--as a culture and as a haven for rebel spirits back in the day. The book focuses on William S. Burroughs, Jack Kerouac, and Allen Ginsberg, who first advised Tytell that he should experience Mexico if he wanted to understand the Beats. The book also explores the transnationalism of other Beat and post-Beat artists, including Bonnie Bremser, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, James Laughlin, and Patti Smith. The author's critical essays are interwoven with his own letters from Mexico to his wife, photographer Mellon, written while he was living in Oaxaca and writing *Naked Angels*, the first study of the development of Beat literature. Like so many of Tytell's books, *Beat Transnationalism* is both a critical study and a reflexive essay on the nature of scholarship.

Notes from the Retirees Association

The 2017 annual meeting of the Queens College Retirees Association will be held on Friday, May 19, in the Faculty & Staff Dining Room (aka Agora) in the Student Union. All members of the QC community are invited to attend an 11 a.m. presentation by QCRA Vice President **Thomas Surprenant** (Emeritus, GSLIS) on *A Kid on the Canal: A Bit of History and Personal Reflection* (the canal in question is the Eire Canal). For more information on the group's many activities and publications, QCRA President **David Speidel** (Emeritus, SEES) encourages people to visit the association's [website](#).

Heard Around Campus



We recently heard from the **Aaron Copland School of Music** that its renowned faculty and alumni include nationally recognized composers, conductors, and performers who have received nearly 40 Grammy Awards and nominations over the past 40 years . . . **Israel Blumenfrucht** (Chair, Accounting & Info Systems) notes that his department has been selected by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to receive a \$10,000 scholarship for one of its majors for the 2017-18 academic year. "This is particularly gratifying because this is unsolicited and is only awarded to an accounting program deemed to be recognized as among the outstanding programs in the nation" . . . **Josie Cooke**

(Psychology), a junior in the Transfer Honors Program, has received the 2017 CSHL-CUNY Summer Research Fellowship. She will join a group of National Science Foundation-funded research fellows who will be working at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. The fellowship provides students with an opportunity to learn lab techniques, strengthen their data analysis skills, practice presenting their research to an audience, and more . . . Senior **Giselle Cordero** has been named a 2017–18 NYC Urban Fellow. The Urban Fellows Program is a highly selective, nine-month fellowship that combines work in mayoral offices and city agencies with volunteer service opportunities, and a seminar series that explores current urban issues impacting public policy . . .



On March 27 **Mara Einstein** (Media Studies) delivered the 2017 Robert M. Pockrass Memorial Lecture at Penn State University on the topic of “Black Ops Advertising: The Corporate Creation of Fake News” . . . **Raymond Erickson** (Emeritus, ACSM) tells us that his Bach-related research has been supported by a Research Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. In January Ray undertook a three-week lecture and concert tour of six cities in China and Taiwan, culminating in a sold-out, all-Bach harpsichord recital in Beijing's celebrated Forbidden City Concert Hall. In the course of the trip, he also gave presentations to nearly 1,000 piano teachers at professional development conferences in Zhuhai, Beijing, and Shanghai. Ray continues to teach part-time at the CUNY Graduate Center and has also taught at Rutgers University (New Brunswick) and the Juilliard School . . .

Tarry Hum (Urban Studies) was the subject of a profile in Voices of NY for becoming the first woman of color to chair her department . . . On February 19 **Gita Martohardjono** (Linguistics) spoke at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston on the topic of “Regression in Second Language Acquisition and Loss”



Cecilia McHugh (SEES) has been named a Distinguished Lecturer for the International Ocean Discovery Program for the 2017–18 academic year . . .

Hira Mohammed received a CleanTech Scholar internship on the CUNY Conserves team, thanks to the foresight of QC's late energy manager and chair of the QC Sustainability Council, Staci Cohen, who initiated Hira into the world of real-time energy monitoring. An applied mathematics major, Hira used a methodology for tracking actual energy use versus reported energy use, and discovered an electric meter anomaly. The dollar savings implied by Hira's discovery is roughly equivalent to \$600,000 annually! The Sustainable CUNY CleanTech Scholar program, supported by Con Edison, is looking for STEM students for a variety of projects and is open for **applications** for this



summer and beyond . . .



Kate Pechenkina (Anthropology) recently published an article in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (Vol. 114, No. 5) on "Shifting diets and the rise of male-biased inequality on the Central Plains of China during Eastern Zhou" . . .

Mark Rosenblum (Emeritus, History) will be the guest of honor at the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding's first annual gala. For more information, see Save the Date below . . .



Joe Sanchez (GSLIS) has been awarded an ALA-Google Ready to Code (RtC) Faculty Fellowship. RtC Fellows will develop graduate-level course models that equip master of library and information science students to deliver coding programs through public and school libraries . . .

Gillian Stewart (SEES) has been named a Sustaining Fellow of the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO), the leading international aquatic science organization. This recognition is for her exceptional contributions to the field of aquatic science and to ASLO . . . **John Waldman** (Biology) appears in the video series [Urban Nature](#) in a segment examining his work with eels in the [Bronx River](#).



Students in the News

Five Computer Science Students Win Summer Mentorships

On April 3 two teams consisting of five QC computer science students pitched their ideas to improve college life at the Startup Show and Tell at [CoLab Factory](#). Both teams were awarded an opportunity to work at CoLab Factory for two months in the summer under professional mentorship. Team Enigma, led by Firangis Khalimzade, consists of four QC students, two who emigrated from Uzbekistan--Khalimzade and Dilshod Khodjayev--and two students from China--Ya Sun and Zhouxin Shi. The team's product is SubGroup, an app that matches and connects students based on their common interests, classes they take, their cultural background, and so on.



L-r: Jason Farkas, Dilshod Khodjayev, Ya Sun, Zhouxin Shi, and Firangis Khalimzade.

Team Eval is led by QC student Jason Farkas, who is also an alum of the Tech Talent Pipeline residency program at the college. Team Eval's main product is an online exam-management platform that uses crowdsourcing to help professors create shared test banks across campuses along with easy test administration and analytics on student performance.

Team Enigma and Team Eval will have full membership benefits at the CoLab Factory while they work to further develop and implement their ideas. Both teams brainstormed and practiced their pitches with business advisors, including Peter Patch (CUNY Professional School), Ernst Pierre, a real estate professional and QC graduate, and Ying Zhou, the program manager of the Tech Talent Pipeline Residency@QC.



Best Poster Award Winner Nicole Ortiz with John Dennehy and Martin Klotz.

Sigma Xi's 31st Annual Research Day

The QC Chapter of the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society held its 31st Annual Research Day in the Science Building Atrium on April 5. This event, which is a forum for students to communicate the results of their research to the QC community, attracted over 50 student participants.

Following the poster session, Sigma Xi President John Dennehy (Biology; Director, Undergrad. Research), Martin Klotz (Dean, Div. of Math & Natural Sci.), and President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez welcomed students to the award ceremony. Best Poster Prize and \$100 went to Nicole Ortiz (Psychology) for her "Evaluating the Role of Neurotransmission and Neurodevelopment in ADHD Symptomatology and Autonomic Nervous System Reactivity: A Look at Candidate Genes and EDA" (mentored by Yoko Nomura, Psychology).

First runner-up and a \$50 prize was awarded to Deborah Pedoeem (Chem. & Biochem.) for "XRS2: Crosslink Repair by Homologous Recombination" (mentored by Wilma Saffran, Chem. & Biochem.). Honorable mention and a \$25 prize went to both Samantha Tramontano (Earth & Environ. Sci.) for "The Timing and Longevity of a Mafic Magma Recharge Event Prior to the 2015-2016 Eruption at Momotombo Volcano, Nicaragua" (mentored by Marc-Antoine Longpré, Earth & Environ. Sci.) and to Kaungmyat (Zach) San (Biology) for "The Impact of Urbanization on Soil Microbiomes in Long Island, New York" (mentored by John Dennehy, Biology).

In Memoriam

Thomas Frumkes

Thomas Frumkes, a longtime member of the Psychology Department, recently died. He began his time at Queens as a postdoctoral fellow under Harold Schuckman in the late 1960s. He was then invited to join the faculty, where he rapidly moved through the academic ranks to become a professor. Tom was a world-renowned expert in rod-cone interactions; his lab published masterful works in human visual psychophysics and amphibian visual neurophysiology. He published prolifically in major journals, and enjoyed external funding from the NIH and NSF. In addition to being a wonderful scientist, Tom could build harpsichords from scratch, and in his retirement performed in many classical musical groups in Arizona.

Joanne Miller

Joanne Miller (Sociology) died peacefully in her sleep on March 9. She received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1975, and before coming to QC in 1986, was the director of the National Science Foundation Sociology Program. She became a full professor in 1999, and served as director of the sociology MA program as well as acting dean of Graduate Studies and Research. Joanne was best known for her work on assessment and quantitative reasoning, and served as the coordinator of the department's quantitative reasoning initiative. Her scholarly work focused on jobs, authority structures in organizations, and the response of corporations to diversity.

Henry Weinberg

Henry Weinberg, a former faculty member of the Aaron Copland School of Music and a beloved mentor to a generation of music students, died on February 22 at the age of 85. A protégé of Roger Sessions, Milton Babbitt, and Luigi Dallapiccola, Henry was the recipient of many major awards, including the Rome Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Brandeis Prize, and Fromm Foundation commissions, among others. He was also a composer-in-residence at the Koussevitsky Foundation Studio in Tanglewood. Henry taught at QC and the CUNY Graduate Center in the 1970s and 1980s along with his colleagues George Perle and Hugo Weisgall, a formidable group of composers who brought considerable notice to Queens College. His music was widely performed by such groups as the Composers Quartet and the Contemporary Chamber Players of the University of Chicago.

Mark Your Calendar

Save the Date

Earth Week events on the Quad, April 19 & 20, 12:15–2 pm, sponsored by QC's Environmental Club. Free

QC in the News

Building Futures: Kiana Newell

plants, homemadevegan snacks, and ideas on how to reduce our environmental footprint.

Comedy Night with Trevor Noah. Thur., April 20, 8 pm, Colden Auditorium. For ticket availability call 718-793-8080.

[ArtisticCitizenship & Urban Music Education.](#)

With keynote speakers David J. Elliott (NYU) & Marissa Silverman(Montclair State Univ.). Sunday, April 23, 10 am–5 pm.

[Cesar Millan Live!](#) The secrets of happier relationships between humansand canines. Saturday, May 6, 8 pm.

Haydn's **[The Creation.](#)** QC Choral Society. Saturday, May 13, 7:30 pm.

QC Student Winners Celebration. Monday, May 15, free hour, on theQuad. Pizza and ice cream for all.

CERRU's **[FirstAnnual Gala](#)** will honor MarkRosenblum (Emeritus, History), the founder and first director of CERRU. Evening will beemceed by Tony Award Winner Mandy Patinkin. Monday, May 15, 6 pm.

The Q View is produced by the **Office of Communications and Marketing.**

Comments and suggestions for future news items are welcome. Send them to jay.hershenson@qc.cuny.edu.



Watch video

Building Futures: Coding Contest



Watch video