

Lehman

TODAY

FALL 2008

Investing in Future Scientists

Lehman Breaks Ground on a New Science Building



Two Alumni Win
Teacher of the
Year Awards

Surprisingly
Natural:
*The Nature of
the Bronx*

THE MAGAZINE OF LEHMAN COLLEGE
For Alumni and Friends

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On the Cover: Biological Sciences Professor Liesl Jones is one of the faculty members who will move into Lehman’s new science facility. In her research, she uses a recently developed animal model to understand the role calcium may play in causing schizophrenia.

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LEHMAN
COLLEGE



NOTE: PLACE FSC LOGO
HERE, CENTERED BETWEEN
CUNY AND TEXT

A message from

President Ricardo R. Fernández



Photo by André Beckles

It's with great pride that I share with you this first issue of our alumni magazine, *Lehman Today*, which we hope will be a showcase for your stories, as well as those of our College.

Lehman's 55,000 alumni live in the Bronx and elsewhere in the New York metropolitan area, across the country, and around the world. They are contributing to their communities and to our society in hundreds of ways and dozens of fields. In this issue, for instance, we include profiles of graduates from our earliest classes to our most recent—from two teachers of the year to one artist working in alabaster and another in rap. An alumnus from our first graduating class (1969) discusses his successful fight to protect the teaching of evolution in the state of Georgia. Another from the Class of 1975 tells us how a study-abroad experience led to her lifelong interest in Turkey, which in turn has shaped her successful academic and writing career.

Lehman's story is also growing and evolving. Alumnus Steve Mirsky, a distinguished science writer, returns to the campus to report on the changing face of science at the College and the importance of the new science facility we're building. The first Korean students in our new dual-degree program with Sungshin Women's University in Seoul explain why they want to study in the Bronx and their eagerness to explore another culture. We hear from faculty who continue to win national grants to pursue groundbreaking research—like Professor Humberto Lizardi's effort to understand more about a mood disorder that is widely prevalent but little studied.

Lehman Today is meant to be a two-way street. I encourage you to write to us at lehmantoday@lehman.cuny.edu. Tell us about your lives, accomplishments, and the issues that matter to you. Catch up on the news of your classmates and former professors. Attend some of the upcoming events listed in the calendar, including Homecoming, Reunion, and others planned just for alumni. Become active members of the Lehman Alumni Association and help mentor and support current students.

As graduates, you remain a vital part of the Lehman community. I hope *Lehman Today* will help strengthen your bond not only with us but also with your fellow Lehman alumni.

Above: President Fernández in front of the Old Gym, at the historic bell donated by the U.S. Navy to honor the service of the campus during WWII as a training station for the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services).



campus walk

New Faces at Lehman

Lehman welcomed two new senior administrators to the College this semester.

Vice President of Institutional Advancement Mario DellaPina will work to increase Lehman's fundraising and development efforts and bring private fundraising to \$40 million by June 30, 2014. He is former executive director of the Queens College Foundation as well as director of development for Queens College, where he served for twenty years. He helped to increase annual giving at Queens from \$300,000 to \$18 million and to raise over \$150 million for the College's Foundation. Altogether, he has raised nearly \$500 million in his thirty-year career.



VP Mario DellaPina

Dean of Education Deborah B. Eldridge, likewise, brings more than thirty years of experience to her new position. She was chairperson of the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Montclair State University (N.J.) and, earlier, chairperson of the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Hunter College, where she also was assistant dean of education and NCATE coordinator. NCATE is the national accrediting agency for teacher education programs. In 2002, the Lehman education division became the first within CUNY to receive NCATE accreditation, which was renewed in 2007.



Dean Deborah Eldridge

Summertime and Semester Breaks Mean More Time for Community Service Projects

Sifting through mounds of hot garbage isn't what most people would consider a relaxing summer day. But for two Lehman students—Shomari Brown and Olga Torres—it was the perfect way

to spend an afternoon. They were among six members of the Lehman community who joined the Friends of Hudson River Park Trust to help clean up the Gansevoort Peninsula one weekend in July.

Located just south of 14th Street, shooting off the trendy Meatpacking District, the peninsula consists of about seven acres of landfill, used now by the City's Department of Sanitation to park its trucks and store salt for the winter's snowstorms. The Hudson River Park Trust, which plans to turn six of those acres into open lawn, gardens, and other attractions, arranged monthly weekend cleanups from April through September to remove flotsam and floatables that arrive daily with the tide.

Brown, majoring in computer graphics and imaging, and Torres, who graduated in 2008 with a degree in geography, spent their summer working in air-conditioned offices. Both were looking for ways to give back to the community.

During her last spring break, Torres took part in the clean-up project sponsored by Lehman in New Orleans. Her positive experience there drew her to the Gansevoort work, both for the opportunity to participate in another off-campus community service project and the chance to meet new people.

As a result of their work that day, both Torres and Brown became more attuned to the environment. "I'm definitely more aware of the importance of keeping public places clean, and I appreciate more where I come from," says Brown, who also took part in the trip to New Orleans—in fact, it was her second trip there to help that city.

New Orleans will be a Lehman destination again in January during the 2009 winter break. In spring, a trip is planned to either Eustis, Fla. (with Habitat for Humanity) or Asheville, N.C. (with the Mountain Housing Project). In June, the goal is two weeks in Nairobi, Kenya.

Many community service projects also take place closer to home. This fall, for instance, students brought in supplies to create care packages for U.S. soldiers serving in Iraq, joining for the second year in a program called "Treats for Troops." The packages were

upcoming events

All events are free unless noted.

Through Jan. 6

Surprisingly Natural: The Nature of the Bronx.

Tony Bechara: Grand Canyon.

Elizabeth Jobim: Endless.

Lehman College Art Gallery. Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. 718-960-8731.



Dec. 3, 12:30 p.m.

Lehman Big Band Concert.

Works by Basie, Goodman, Herman, and Miller.

Hearth Room, Music Building. 718-960-8247.

Dec. 3–7

Our Lady of 121st Street

by Stephen Adly Guirgis.

Directed by Stephanie Stowe.

\$10, General Admission;

\$8, seniors and non-Lehman students;

free for Lehman students with valid I.D.

718-960-8025.

Dec. 4, 12:30 p.m.

Lehman Percussion Ensemble.

Works by John Cage and Steve Reich and a piece by Don Knaack (a.k.a. the Junkman) for "found" instruments.

Studio Theatre. 718-960-8024.

Dec. 7, 2:30 p.m.

Winter Concert, Lehman College and

Community Chorus and the

Lehman Chamber Orchestra.

Excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*, shorter works by Tchaikovsky and Strauss, and other multicultural selections.

Concert Hall. 718-960-8833.

Dec. 9, 4:30 p.m.

Lehman Latin Jazz Ensemble:

"Descarga en Diciembre." Works by the directors of the music of Carlos Santana, Machito, Tito Puente, Dizzy Gillespie, and others.

Studio Theatre. 718-960-8024.

Dec. 10, 12:30 p.m.

Student Recital.

Music Building Recital Hall. 718-960-8247.

Dec. 11, 12:30 p.m.

Lehman Brass Quintet.

Music Building Recital Hall. 718-960-8247.



Lehman students and staff help clean up a future park on Manhattan's Gansevoort Peninsula. From left are Willa Ivory, Amanda Dubois, Lianee Torres, Olga Torres, Maladu Bah, and Shomari Brown.

sent on Veteran's Day to the 340th M.P. Company, a unit based out of Queens with members from Queens, the Bronx, New Jersey, and Boston.

Alumni can volunteer on projects through Amanda Dubois, coordinator of Community Service/Service Learning, at 718-960-8695 or amanda.dubois@lehman.cuny.edu.

■ Discovering Clues to Our Environment—Through Salamanders

Have you ever seen a salamander? How about in the Bronx? In New York City's concrete jungle, it's easy to forget about nature and the negative effects we and other factors can have on the ecosystem. That's what a group of seventh graders concluded after taking part in the Salamander Project cosponsored by Lehman's Bronx Institute and Wave Hill, a public garden on the Hudson in nearby Riverdale.

Why salamanders? According to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, they are perfect bio-indicators because they breathe through their skin, making them more sensitive to pollution and other negative environmental changes.

Amanda Bickerstaff, project associate for the Bronx Institute's Gear Up Network, worked in the program, along with environmental educators from Wave Hill.

"I taught biology," she explains, "and one of the things missing was a sense of inquiry—the ability to go outside and make your decisions and create an experience that has real meaning to you. This project was a great way to introduce students to the environment and let them start to do science as a process, not as a concept."

Four groups searched for salamanders and documented their findings, each focusing on a different aspect—soil, plants, invertebrates, and mapping. One thirteen-year-old, who studied the impact of native, exotic, and evasive plants, said he thought the Bronx "is starting to be like a city place, where nothing is really healthy because of the pollution. It's good to know that there are other places around here that are helpful to the environment, that still contain pollution but are not dead yet."

The project contributed to ongoing research being conducted by the Natural Resources Group of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, which is tracking and analyzing salamanders in the city's parks to better understand environmental impacts within an ecosystem.



This Red-Backed Salamander (*Plethodon cinereus*) in its "leadback" phase was found by seventh graders under a log in Riverdale Park during the Bronx Salamander Project.

"It is critical for students in the Bronx to be aware of the environment and to have authentic experiences and opportunities to identify issues of concern," commented Professor Herminio Martinez, executive director of the Bronx Institute and a faculty member in the Department of Middle and High School Education.

"Renewed interest in understanding real-world science in its broadest and most comprehensive form is critical. Students can begin 'turning the tide' of harmful environmental factors through the work of their studies, in labs, and in their own community."



Dec. 13, 8 p.m.

Jose Feliciano: Feliz Navidad.
Performing Arts Center.
\$45, \$35, \$25, \$20.
718-960-8833.

Dec. 14, 12-1 p.m.

Irish Music Performances: Donie Ryan.
Carman Hall, Room 263. 718-960-6722.

Dec. 14, 2 p.m.

Lehman Jazz Brass and Saxophone Ensemble.
Works by Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy and the World Saxophone Quartet.
Studio Theatre. 718-960-8024.

Dec. 14, 3 p.m.

A Bronx Messiah (Handel), performed by the Bronx Opera Chorus.
\$25, \$15, \$10 (children 12 and under, \$10). 718-960-8833. A \$25 ticket carries free admission to A Taste of the Bronx Food Show and Tasting.
Performing Arts Center. 718-590-2502.

Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

"A Holiday Hurrah!"
Lehman College Community Band.
Pianist Yumi Suehiro ('09) performs *Rhapsody in Blue*; other works by Anderson, Porter, Jutras, Sparke, and Goldman.
Lovingr Theatre. 718-960-8025.

Jan. 17, 8 p.m.

Poncho Sanchez and Gato Barbieri.
Performing Arts Center. \$45, \$35, \$25, \$20.
718-960-8833.

Jan. 24, 8 p.m.

Doo Wop Night with The Drifters, the Frankie Lymon Teenagers, Shirley Alston Reeves (original lead of The Shirelles), Bobby Lewis, and Gene Chandler.
Performing Arts Center. \$45, \$35, \$25, \$20.
718-960-8833.



Feb. 7, 8 p.m.

BREAK: The Urban Funk Spectacular, with young talented artists showing off their moves.
Performing Arts Center. \$35, \$30, \$25, \$20 (children 12 and under, \$10).
718-960-8833.

Feb. 7, 12-5 p.m.

Homecoming: Hunter vs. Lehman Women and Men's Basketball. Women's Game, 12 p.m. Alumni Game, 1:40 p.m. Men's Game, 3 p.m. APEX. Lunch and refreshments served.
718-960-8975.



campus walk

High School for American Studies at Lehman College Named to *US News & World Report's* List of Nation's Top 100 High Schools



One hundred percent of graduates have gone on to college.

The High School of American Studies at Lehman College was named this spring one of the top 100 high schools in the nation in *U.S. News & World Report's* prestigious "America's Best High Schools" rankings.

"This is a tremendous achievement for a school that has been in operation for only six years," said Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández.

"It demonstrates the strength of the school's faculty, students, and curriculum, as well as the real value that educational partnerships can bring to the high school experience."

Located on the Lehman campus, the High School of American Studies offers a rigorous college preparatory curriculum coupled with an emphasis on U.S. history and politics. One of nine specialized high schools in New York City whose students are admitted through competitive exam, it was founded in 2002 as a partnership among Lehman, the New York City Department of Education, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Designed as a "small school," with limited enrollment, it currently enrolls 346 students in ninth through twelfth grade.

Through the collaboration, students regularly attend lectures and other Lehman events, use the library and other campus facilities, and enroll in College courses during their junior and senior years. With the support of the Gilder Lehrman Institute, students receive additional learning materials and take trips to sites and cities of historic importance, such as Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. One hundred percent of the school's first three graduating classes (2006 - 2008) have gone on to college.

"We are extremely gratified to be recognized for the accomplishments of our students, teachers, and parents," said Alessandro Weiss, the school's principal. "We know that our partners, Lehman College and the Gilder Lehrman Institute, have been indispensable in helping us to instill in our students a love for learning and intellectual inquiry."

The school was one of four schools to earn the "Gold Medal" status in the magazine's update of its rankings. *U.S. News* analyzed academic and enrollment data for more than 18,000 public high schools and based the rankings on a variety of factors, including state proficiency standards and college readiness. To view all the rankings, visit <http://www.usnews.com/sections/education/high-schools>.

Classrooms Open for Business in New Multimedia Center

Communications is taking an exciting new direction at Lehman with the phased opening of a two-story, state-of-the-art multimedia center in Carman Hall. Classes are already being held on the upper level, as construction workers complete the lower level and the College orders and installs the remaining equipment needed to make the facility fully functional.

The upper level includes five classrooms (two pairs of classrooms can be divided by portable partitions), a conference space, and an administrative area. The cellar level will feature a television studio for both video and audio recording, a newsroom, an audio control room for audio-only productions, a television production control room, an equipment room, a green room, dressing rooms, an audio sweetening room, a media conversion lab, a graphic workstation, an edit instruction room, and eight editing suites, along with open editing workstations. A dedication ceremony is planned for 2009.



Professor Carl Mazza teaches a social work class in the new facility.

upcoming events

Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
The Pointer Sisters and Kool & The Gang.
Performing Arts Center.
\$100, \$85, \$75, \$55.
718-960-8833.



Feb. 15, 4 p.m.
The Dublin Philharmonic Orchestra in its U.S. premiere concert, with works by Beethoven, Brahms, Mahler, Mozart, and Tchaikovsky.
Performing Arts Center. \$25, \$20, \$15 (children 12 and under, \$10). 718-960-8833.

Feb. 18, 12:30 p.m.
Lehman Chamber Players.
Works by Haydn, Cerha, and Schubert.
Music Building Recital Hall.
718-960-8247.

Mar. 4-8
"Once On This Island"
by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty.
\$10, General Admission; \$8, seniors and non-Lehman students; free for Lehman students with valid I.D.
718-960-8025.



March 8, 4 p.m.
The National Acrobats of China.
Performing Arts Center.
\$35, \$30, \$25, \$20
(children 12 and under, \$10).
718-960-8833.

March 15, 2 p.m.
Lehman Chamber Players.
Works by Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Cimarosa, Jacobs, Dukas, and Colin.
Music Building Recital Hall.
718-960-8247.

March 22, 4 p.m.
Russian National Ballet Theatre: "Cinderella"
Performing Arts Center.
\$35, \$30, \$25, \$20
(children 12 and under, \$10).
718-960-8833.

March 28, 8 p.m.
Forever Freestyle 3, with Judy Torres, TKA/K7, Coro, Cover Girls, Lisette Melendez, Cynthia, and Soave.
Performing Arts Center.
\$35, \$30, \$25, \$20.
718-960-8833.

Preserving *The Meridian*

The first issue of Lehman's student newspaper, *The Meridian*, was published on September 24, 1964 and derived its name from the "Freedom Riders" who were murdered that summer en route from Meridian to Philadelphia, Mississippi. The paper would go on to report on important events, both on campus and nationally. Together with the Leonard Lief Library's Special Collections Division, members of today's *Meridian* staff are working to preserve its fragile archives and make them available online. Past issues are being flattened with weights in preparation for scanning into a searchable collection that would incorporate issues from 1964-1988 already on microfilm.

Students Learn About Yiddish Theatre And 'Put an Ancient Method to New Use'

Yiddish theater is alive and well in New York City, thanks to the National Yiddish Theatre-Folksbiene, the oldest and only remaining professional theatre of its kind in the nation. This semester, Lehman students not only had the opportunity to enjoy the company performing during its second visit to the campus but also to learn more about the music and meaning of these works.

As part of Languages and Literatures Professor Zelda Newman's class on "The Immigrant Jewish Experience in America," each student was "paired off" with a member of the College's neighboring Jewish community, who became his/her learning partner. First the pairs heard a lecture by Professor Alyssa Quint of Princeton University on Avrom Goldfaden, whose songs and plays laid the foundation for the Yiddish repertoire. A week later, they attended a free public performance of one of Goldfaden's works in Lehman's Lovinger Theatre and then discussed what they had heard.

"In a traditional Jewish learning environment, known as a 'yeshiva,'" Professor Newman explained, "students learn most of the time not by listening to a lecture or reading a book in solitude, but by engaging in conversation with a learning partner." In that respect, she said, this service learning project "put an ancient method to a new use."

"The songs were moving even if you didn't understand the words," said Sbusio Mgwaba, a student from South Africa who is majoring in business administration. "The rhythm makes you understand."

Sean Diamond, whose roots are in both Eastern Europe and the Caribbean, thought of his own grandparents during the concert and the discussion afterwards. "I never knew them," he explained, "because they passed away before I was born, but I'm sure listening to Yiddish music is an activity I would have shared with them. I was fortunate enough to share it with one of my neighbors."

Another student, Kristina Kletzky, noticed that, when the performance began, "so many people had smiles on their faces. This wasn't just any performance for them—it's their experiences, their culture, and their background." She and others plan to keep in touch with their learning partners, who are all part of the Simon Senior Center at the Riverdale YM-YWHA.

Performing Arts Center to Build New, \$3.25 Million Addition

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts will start construction next year on a much-needed, two-story addition, thanks to a \$3.25 million capital allocation secured by Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión, Jr. and New York City Council Members James Vacca and Annabel Palma.



The Center's lobby (above) was renovated last year.

The two-story expansion will house a new box office and management offices, as well as mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems that can operate independent of the main facility. Those systems will keep the 2,300-seat theater temperate when not in use, producing cost and energy savings. The project also will bring the Center into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.). Outdoor seating and an electronic rooftop bulletin board will be added to the facility as well.

The project is expected to be completed in 2010, just in time for the Center's thirtieth anniversary. Performances will continue as usual during the construction period.

March 29, 2 p.m.

Lehman Community Band:
"March into Spring."
Selections by Mendelssohn, Rossini, Ewazen, Van der Roost, and King.
Lovinger Theatre. 718-960-8025.



April 19, 4 p.m.

Cirque Le Masque.
Performing Arts Center.
\$35, \$30, \$25, \$20
(children 12 and under, \$10). 718-960-8833.

April 26, 2 p.m.

Lehman Woodwind Quintet:
"Light Breeze for a Sunday Afternoon."
Music by Danzi, Gould, LeFever, Mozart, and Rimsky-Korsakov.
Music Building Recital Hall.
718-960-8247.

April 29–May 3.

Cornbury: The Queen's Governor.
Written and directed by William M. Hoffman.
\$10, General Admission; \$8, seniors and non-Lehman students; free for Lehman students with valid I.D.
718-960-8025.

May 3, 2:30 p.m.

Spring Concert, Lehman College and Community Chorus and Lehman Symphony Orchestra.
Schubert's Mass in B flat major, shorter works by Haydn, Bartok, Dello-Joio, Stanford, and Wilhousky, and a medley from "Show Boat."
Performing Arts Center. 718-960-8833.

May 5, 4:30 p.m.

Lehman Latin Jazz Ensemble: "Fiesta de Cinco de Mayo." Arrangements by the directors of the music of Agustín Lara, Dámaso Pérez Prado, Cal Tjader, Vince Guaraldi, and Horace Silver.
Studio Theatre. 718-960-8024.

May 6, 12:30 p.m.

Lehman Big Band: "More Than the Blues!"
Works by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Benny Goodman, and Harry James.
Music Building Hearth Room. 718-960-8247.



campus walk

HERMES Makes It Number 13 for Inside Lehman Productions

Inside Lehman has won a Gold HERMES Creative Award from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals, an international organization consisting of several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, media production, and freelance professionals. The awards recognize outstanding work in the industry.

This is the thirteenth award for *Inside Lehman*, a student-produced video magazine that focuses on events, programs, and issues within and around the Lehman community. This particular show included segments on Nobel prize winner Jody Williams's visit to the campus, women's softball, computer game programming, and the theatre program's production of *South Pacific*.

FYI: Helping Freshmen Connect to Each Other and to Lehman

"I don't know if everyone would say this, but it was very scary coming here without knowing anyone," says Nathalie Diaz, Lehman Class of 2011. "FYI made it a lot easier to find people to talk to, find advisors, and pick my classes."

FYI (the Freshman Year Initiative), a comprehensive learning community designed for entering freshmen, is a nationally recognized program that serves approximately 1,000 students entering Lehman each year. The program organizes courses into "blocks." A single set of students will take one of the blocks as a group.

Both Diaz, a graduate of Lehman High School in the East Bronx, and Cristal Martinez, of Saunders Trade and Technical School in Yonkers, are now sophomores who shared the same five courses in their first semester at Lehman and a smaller block of two courses in their second semester.

"There are some real benefits in terms of meeting people," said Martinez, who plans to major in business. "We both felt as though we fit into the society early on."

Founded and directed by English Professor Steven Wyckoff since the program's inception in 1992, FYI provides a year-long interdisciplinary approach to first-year studies. It aims to increase student retention, promote intellectual development, and build meaningful connections between the student and the College.



Nathalie Diaz (left) and Cristal Martinez in an FYI class as freshmen.

"FYI helps students feel connected to each other and to the institution," explains Professor Wyckoff. Both average freshman GPAs and third-semester retention rates have increased substantially since the FYI program began.

Besides organizing the students into learning communities, faculty members teaching the same block of courses meet regularly to collaborate on assignments and lesson plans, ensuring that thematic and conceptual links run across the entire freshman curriculum. The upshot, for students, is greater opportunity to benefit from both faculty and peers.

Students interested in pre-med, teacher education, and the performing arts, as well as majors in accounting, business administration, nursing, and psychology may request placement in a learning community targeted to their planned field of study.

Lehman Debuts on iTunes U

Lehman in collaboration with CUNY has launched a series of podcasts on iTunes U. The project is part of the University's effort to embrace new technologies that have the potential to expand learning across the campuses and promote CUNY's resources. To link to Lehman on iTunes U, visit the following website: www.lehman.edu/itunesu. Current programming is free and open to all and includes interviews with faculty members on their research, as well as segments that highlight the College's rich resources in academia and the arts, such as excerpts from the Spring 2008 concert of the Lehman College and Community Chorus.



May 7, 12:30 p.m.
Lehman Brass Quintet.

Music Building Recital Hall. 718-960-8247.

May 7-9

Original Musical Production.

Music Building Recital Hall. 718-960-8247.

May 10, 2 p.m.

Lehman Big Band: "More Than the Blues."
Works by Duke Ellington, Count Basie,
Benny Goodman, and Harry James.
Studio Theatre. 718-960-8024.

**May 13,
12:30 p.m.**

Student Recital.
Music Building Recital Hall.
718-960-8247.

May 16, 8 p.m.

"Ain't Misbehavin'."
with American Idol stars
Ruben Studdard and
Frenchie Davis.
Performing Arts Center.
\$45, \$35, \$25, \$20.
718-960-8833.



May 17, 2 p.m.

Lehman College Community Band:
"A Mélange of Music," with works by
McCartney, Porter, Gershwin, Camphouse,
and Sousa, and a performance by the
2009 Jerome Sala Memorial
Scholarship Competition winner.
Lovinger Theatre. 718-960-8025.

May 28, 6 p.m.-11 p.m.

Alumni Reunion (all classes)
Marina del Rey, Throgs Neck
Cocktails: 6 p.m. & Dinner and Dancing: 7 p.m.
Contact Barbara Smith at 718-960-8975/8294
or barbara.smith@lehman.cuny.edu

May 30, 8 p.m.

Donnie McClurkin and Yolanda Adams,
performing classic and contemporary gospel
and inspirational music.
Performing Arts Concert Hall. \$100, \$90, \$80, \$55.
718-960-8833.





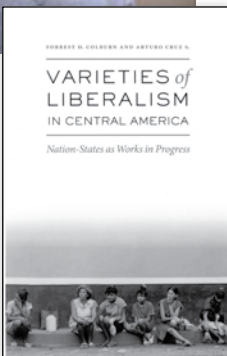
Varieties of Liberalism in Central America: Nation-States as Works in Progress

(University of Texas Press, 2008). Forrest D. Colburn and Arturo Cruz.

In the 1960s, the per capita income of Costa Rica and neighboring Nicaragua was just about the same. Today, the World Bank estimates that Costa Rica's income is six times greater. What happened?



Professor Forrest Colburn (Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies, pictured right) argues in his new book that specific political contexts are all important, giving substance to "democracy" and "free market economies." He argues that a paired comparison of Nicaragua and Costa Rica underscores the considerable role local decisions play in the kinds and quality of public institutions built and of the investments made—or not made—in social services. These decisions, in turn, he writes, shape the ability of state and society to respond to urgent pressures that arise in the international economy, to fashions in ideology, and to the quirks of fortune.



The book, which focuses on Costa Rica and Nicaragua, grew out of the years that Professor Colburn has spent in Central America, dating back to the early 1980s, and his observations regarding the unevenness of development in different countries.

"In the study of politics, it is best to neither start nor end with political labels," he says. "The world is more pluralistic in both causes and effects than either academic theories or political rhetoric suggests."

From fall 2006 to spring 2007, Professor Colburn was a visiting professor at the prestigious Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton. He also is a visiting professor at INCAE, the premier graduate school of management in Latin America. His other books include *Latin America at the End of Politics* (2002), *The Vogue of Revolution in Poor Countries* (1994), *My Car in Managua* (1991), *Managing the Commanding Heights: Nicaragua's State Enterprises* (1990), and *Post-Revolutionary Nicaragua: State, Class, and the Dilemmas of Agrarian Policy* (1986).

Co-author Arturo Cruz holds a doctorate in history from Oxford University and is Nicaragua's current Ambassador to the United States. ■

The Abyssinian Proof: A Kamil Pasha Novel

(W. W. Norton & Co., Inc., 2008). Jenny White.

Jenny White ('75, B.A., pictured below), an associate professor of social anthropology at Boston University, has gained renown as an author after writing a series of historical novels set in Turkey. Her lifelong interest in that country first developed as a Lehman student, during a study-abroad experience in her native Germany, where some of her fellow students were Turks. That led her to a lifelong career, both as an anthropologist and a novelist.

Professor White's first novel, *The Sultan's Seal*, was shortlisted for the 2006 Ellis Peters Historical Crime Award and named by "Booklist" as one of the top ten first novels and one of the top ten historical novels in 2006. Set during the reign of the Ottoman Empire, the plot begins when the body of an Englishwoman, wearing a pendant with the seal of the Turkish sultan, washes up in Istanbul.

Also taking place in Istanbul during the same time period, Professor White's newest book, *The Abyssinian Proof*, involves the race to find a powerful reliquary between a deadly smuggling ring and a magistrate determined to restore order.

Professor White, who emigrated with her family to the New York area when she was seven, has fond memories of her experiences at Lehman.

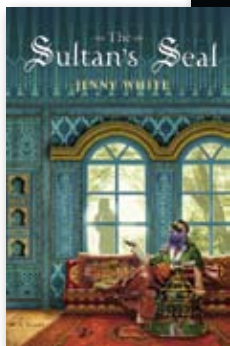


Bethany Vessey

"When I'm abroad," she says, "I often speak of Lehman College as an example of why the U.S. is such a special place. In what other country, I ask, has a university been set up specifically for people just like me, immigrants who couldn't afford to go to college any other way?"

Referring to her fellow students, she says that it seemed they "were from everywhere. I remember a lot of Greek speakers, a Persian fellow with an Afro, and students dancing to Latin music in the cafeteria at lunch.

"I was lucky in that I was accepted into an experimental program at the College—no requirements," she adds. "Except for major classes, I could take whatever I liked, and if I didn't find a class I wanted, I could invent my own as long as a teacher agreed. I took quite a few one-on-one classes, but also some science sequences."



Three of her semesters were spent abroad in Kiel, Germany, studying psychology, her major. She is currently living in Istanbul, as a Fulbright scholar. ■





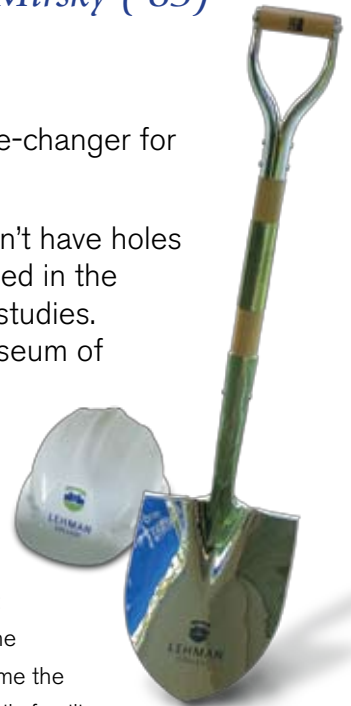
Building the Future

by Steve Mirsky ('83)

The new Lehman College science facility is a game-changer for scientific research and education.

In 1982, I put on the pair of pants I owned that didn't have holes burned into them by potassium permanganate spilled in the Lehman chemistry labs and took a break from my studies. A visit to the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, however, turned into a busman's holiday.

While there, I happened onto a re-creation, featuring original glassware, of the 1790 laboratory of Joseph Priestley, the discoverer of oxygen (what did we breathe before him?!) and one of the founding fathers of modern chemistry. His lab looked ancient and exotic. Right next to the Priestley exhibit was a re-creation of the laboratory of chemist Ira Remsen, who isolated saccharin and became the president of Johns Hopkins University. This lab, from 1890, was eerily familiar. Because it looked almost exactly like my chemistry labs in Davis Hall.



Future Lehman graduates are not likely to repeat my experience. On September 24, ground was broken on the Lehman campus for a new \$270 million science building that represents an aesthetic and functional departure from all previous science facilities.

"We're assembled on this gorgeous fall morning to celebrate a new beginning for Lehman College and the great borough of the Bronx," said Lehman's president, Dr. Ricardo Fernández, of the first groundbreaking in the City University's "Decade of Science" initiative.

"This building," he continued, "will be the home for outstanding individuals—molecular and plant biologists, chemists, and other leading scholars, many of them already on our faculty, and some to be hired in the years ahead, who will be able to pursue research in a variety of scientific disciplines.

"It will be the home of our graduate and doctoral students from the United States, India, New Zealand, and other nations who have come to the Bronx to advance their research and their understanding. It will be the home of aspiring science teachers who will leave this building determined to take their own students on extraordinary journeys that are possible with science. It will be the home of our undergraduates, especially women and members of minority groups who may never have considered careers as scientists until a field trip in elementary school brought them to this building.

[A constructed wetland of local native grasses in the building's central courtyard will provide plants and soil for research into life science and ecology.](#)

"The events that occur here," he continued, "the discoveries that are made here will resound as well in prestigious scientific journals, at conferences around the world, and in new knowledge and new medicines that impact in our daily lives. This building will also bring glory to the Bronx, for science, as Stephen Jay Gould once described it, is 'one of the glories of the human intellectual tradition.'"



The new building will make more research possible by postdoctoral students like Dr. Peng Gao of China (above), who worked in the lab of Biological Sciences Professor Dr. Zhiliang Zheng.

Building Will Be Both 'Green' And Conducive to Discovery

The physical structure of what will eventually be a 210,000 sq. ft. facility was designed to foster scientific research and discovery. The building itself will generate studies: the central courtyard includes a constructed wetland of local native grasses that will provide plants and soil for research into life science and ecology. Collected storm water will irrigate the wetland, and be filtered and recycled for general maintenance, as well as for the bathroom plumbing system. This courtyard will serve as a "science commons" or urban oasis that will draw scientists and members of both the campus and Bronx community. It will be a common cross-disciplinary testbed. In the same way that the natural world demonstrates the linkages between overlapping systems, the courtyard will provide opportunities for collaborative interdepartmental research:

- Biologists will investigate the processes by which microbes clean contaminants from stormwater.
- Chemists will quantify changes in plant physiochemistry, based on varying levels of water quality.
- Hydrogeologists will track water percolation rates.

As befits the home of world-class programs in the plant sciences,

the building is environmentally green. The goal is to achieve a CUNY-first stamp of approval from the U.S. Green Building Council called L.E.E.D.: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Thermal panels will generate hot water from sunlight. Fully five percent of the building's operating energy will be derived from this rooftop system.

Lehman faculty worked with the design firm, Perkins+Will, to maximize the building's potential.

"I was very much involved in the process," notes Lehman molecular biologist Dr. Eleanore Wurtzel, who published research earlier this year in *Science*, arguably the world's most prestigious scientific journal. "The science facility is being designed in a way that will promote interdisciplinary interactions—which is really the way science is going today."

The classical science building in a research university has each faculty investigator ensconced in his or her own laboratory, with little or no contact with even the lab next door. "Here we're going to have an open structure," Dr. Wurtzel says, "so that there are no walls. And students from one lab will be in the same physical space as students from another lab. They will be more likely to talk to each other and share ideas."



And the layout incorporates flexibility. "When we have visiting scientists, we'll have space for them," she says.

Alcoves will exist for individual investigator use, and modules can be developed into whatever kinds of space a researcher might need, from a cold room for storing samples to a plant growth chamber for incubating vegetation.

"Plus we will have a big lecture theatre," Dr. Wurtzel adds, "so we will be able to host symposia." Such events can bring world scientific leaders to Lehman to discuss ongoing research efforts not yet appearing in any journals or textbooks.

Expansion of Graduate Programs Requires New Facilities for Research

The research labs in the first phase of construction will go primarily to the Biological Sciences Department, with future research space allocated to chemistry. The first phase, however, does incorporate new chemistry classrooms and teaching labs.

“New labs with new equipment will enable students to more readily do experiments,” says chemistry professor Dr. Marc Lazarus, who was also involved in the physical planning of the building.

“That could lead to thinking about new kinds of experiments we couldn't do before because we didn't have certain pieces of equipment. We're hoping that happens.

And students will have all kinds of convenient arrangements they don't have now. It's a small thing but, for example, you won't have to go down the hall to the stockroom. It'll be right there when you need something.”

This arrangement will benefit students in the labs and those outside them who may finally be shielded from the aromatic wafting of



Officially breaking ground on the new science facility are, from left, CUNY Trustee Wellington Z. Chen, Vice Chancellor Iris Weinshall, Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión, and Daniel Doktori, New York State Director for Higher Education.

‘Temporary’ Building Finally Gone

Something had to go, physically, to make room for the new science building, and it turned out to be “T-2,” one of two “temporary” buildings at the north-west corner of the campus. Built in 1972, it housed what was then a revolutionary new area called Data Processing.

Demolition of the structure began this summer on July 16 and ended six weeks later. That was longer than usual because the contractors responsible for demolition needed to follow L.E.E.D. guidelines from the U.S. Green Building Council to sort and recycle materials removed from the site. Not that long ago—in 2000—Data Processing moved into the Information Technology Center that opened in Carman Hall in 1999. Since then, T-2 has stood vacant. Its companion building (T-3) is still there, housing the Student Health Center, the Child Care Center, and the Nursing Department.

“That’s a serious thrust now,” says Chemistry Department Chair Dr. John Richards. “So the graduate program has revved up. And this new building is necessary if we are to succeed in giving people the facilities they need to do good research.”

A vigorous research program benefits all students. “The big advantage to undergraduates studying science is that they will experience what real investigation is like,” Dr. Richards says.



Biological Sciences Professor Dr. Edward Kennelly (left) works with both undergraduate and graduate students in his lab.

hydrogen sulfide, the rotten-egg smelling compound that chemists learn to grudgingly accept. (There's an old adage with a grain of truth that “if it's green and slimy, it's biology; if it doesn't work, it's physics; and if it smells bad, it's chemistry.”)

The transformation of Lehman's science mission in fact requires the new building. Formerly primarily a teaching institution, Lehman will, while maintaining strong undergraduate instruction, increasingly host a major research enterprise.

"It's no longer a laboratory exercise. They will have to deal with failure and repetition and reproducibility and discovery. When kids come into my physical chemistry class who have been doing research at the sophomore or junior level, it will really make a difference in how they conduct themselves, how they think about problems."

Nurturing Science Careers and Developing Scientific Literacy

A more energetic research program that attracts graduate students also means more mentors for undergraduates. And students who might never have been interested in science may be captured as they simply walk through the halls.

"There will be open windows," Dr. Wurtzel says. "Students can pass by and see what's going on—they can start thinking about science being a possible career. I think that's very important, especially for students in the Bronx."



Left: Dr. Marc Lazarus conducts an experiment for his chemistry class. Right: Molecular biologist Dr. Eleanore Wurtzel appears in a CUNY advertising campaign with one of the doctoral students in her lab, Ratnakar Vallabhaneni of India, who is examining corn genomes to find the highest Vitamin A production.

At the very least they can become more scientifically literate, a positive necessity in the current and future economic and social climate.

CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein put it this way at the groundbreaking:

This building is about understanding how the society we live in today, the economy that is defining jobs, is going to be inextricably linked to the ability to train young people in the quantitative and computational sciences, the natural sciences, the biological sciences, in ways that we have never envisaged before.

Unless we do this and do this right, this country is going to be placed further back in the community of nations, and we are no longer going to be competitive. We are no longer going to be able to train the people for the important jobs that are going to be developed.



Biology major Vince Bracy learns more about the new facility from the large construction "wrap," which highlights some of its unique features.

That's why I am so delighted that we were able to convince people that Lehman is an appropriate and right place to make that kind of investment. I can't wait for this building to be constructed.

The Lehman campus has long been an inspirational venue in the Bronx, from its time hosting the nascent United Nations after World War II through its status as the uptown campus of Hunter College to its independence and current standing as one of the jewels of the public higher education system. Now it can be a gateway to the future of science.

"We know that we have fallen behind the rest of the world," said Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión at the groundbreaking ceremony. "This is no secret, because as they say in the South Bronx, 'ya'll

know this is true,' that in science and mathematics, and in research and development of new scientific ideas, we have fallen behind. We produce fewer scientists, fewer engineers, fewer mathematicians than other countries that are emerging.

"We live in an increasingly competitive global marketplace. We cannot fall behind. And so it has been in the difficult times that we have made the important and strategic investments, the smart investments. We've done it in infrastructure: in economic hard times, we would build bridges and tunnels, essentially a platform for commerce and activity that is necessary to move forward.

"Now is the time to invest in education. It's good to be a partner with all of you in building a better Lehman College, a better Bronx, a better New York, and in the end a better world." ■

Steve Mirsky, a chemistry major from the Lehman Class of 1983, is science editor of "Scientific American," the oldest continuously published magazine in the U.S.

Surprisingly Natural: *The Nature of the Bronx*

*The Lehman College Art Gallery, Wave Hill, and the Bronx River Art Center collaborated this fall to present **Surprisingly Natural: The Nature of the Bronx**, a photography exhibition that explores nature as an essential element in the borough's fabric and history.*

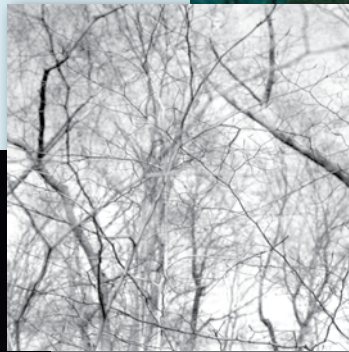
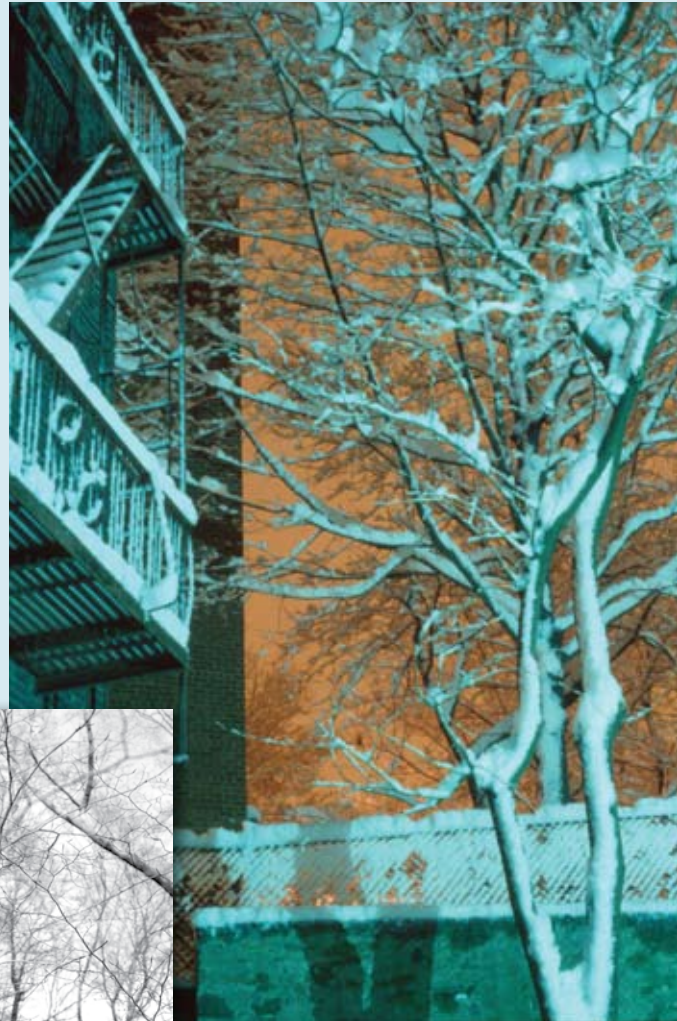
In the face of recent, rapid urban development throughout New York City, these photographs, taken by a variety of artists, focus on the open, green spaces that have long anchored the landscape of the Bronx. In fact, almost twenty-five percent of the borough is still parkland—a remarkably high percentage for any county in the United States, especially one long synonymous with an urban way of life. Although the Bronx is the third most populated county in the United States, it contains the City's largest remaining old-growth forest. Several islands also lie within its boundaries, as well as dramatic exposures of bedrock and acres of marshlands. The terrain is full of quirky contradictions and unexpected juxtapositions. At every turn, nature bumps up against the built environment—and this, too, is a part of the Bronx persona.

Surprisingly Natural demonstrates the wide range of the borough's natural areas. Visitors to the exhibit can see spaces both big and small that are tended by residents, including community and school gardens, playgrounds, window boxes, and tree pits ... and the forests, wetlands, and beach habitats of Van Cortlandt Park and Pelham Bay Park, where nature grows wild and unchecked ... or nature's tenacity, depicted in images of unexpected green spaces—empty lots, community gardens, and abandoned lots—where natural life thrives despite the challenge of urban conditions.

— Susan Hoeltzel

The exhibit is on view until January 6, 2009.
Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Susan Hoeltzel is director of the Lehman College Art Gallery.



Clockwise from top: Daniel Hauben, *Tree and Fire Escape in Snow*, 1991; Margaret Moulton, *Bronx Tangle*, 2008; Rebecca Swanson, *Train Station*, 2007; Lawrence Lederman, *Bronx River, Bird's Eye View*, 2007.

Catching Up with



The Gallardos in 1994, when Elizabeth Gallardo Santiago (center) became the sixth of eight siblings to earn her Lehman B.A. Family members and fellow Lehman graduates, from left, were sister Sara, brother Miguel, husband Manuel, brother Luis, and sister Maria.

When Milagros Gallardo received her degree

in speech pathology in January 2008, she became the seventh of eight siblings to graduate from Lehman College—an impressive record for any family and an extraordinary one for hers. The eight Gallardo children were born in Barranquilla, Colombia, and the family emigrated to the Bronx slowly—first their father, Lorenzo, and the two eldest siblings, Luis and Sara, then the middle four children Juan, Elizabeth, Miguel, and Maria and, finally, their mother, Maria, with Beatriz and Milagros, the youngest two.

The Gallardo parents had attended only elementary school in Colombia, but they believed strongly in the power of education and in the American Dream. They were willing to work at as many jobs as necessary to get the entire family under one roof in the United States and to make sure that all of their children received a good education.

Lorenzo Gallardo was required to document his financial responsibility every step of the way as he petitioned to bring additional family members to the U.S. He worked full-time as a dishwasher at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan, a union job with benefits, and over the years he took on many other jobs, sometimes two or three at a time. After his wife joined him, she worked as a seamstress at a doll factory.

“Our parents tried to give us everything they didn’t have as children. They both were incredibly nurturing—which may be why so many of us chose careers in nurturing fields,” says Elizabeth. “Our very first apartment in the Bronx had just one bedroom, but we were so happy to be together, we didn’t realize until later how cramped and crowded we were.”

Lorenzo died of a heart attack at age 61 in 1994, the year Milagros graduated from high school. It was a huge shock for the family, but Maria kept her children on track. “She was our backbone,” says Beatriz. “She’s an angel among us.”

And the college degrees kept on coming.

- Luis, the first college graduate in his family, earned a Lehman psychology degree in 1984 and an M.S.W. at Fordham. He worked for many years with a private foster care agency and later as a hospital discharge planner. Luis met his wife Brenda Kirschenbaum in an aquatics class at Lehman—she graduated in 1983 with a B.S. in recreation education, came back to earn her M.S. in special education in 1988, and works as a recreation therapist for autistic children. Luis retired for health reasons and was the daily recipient of a tremendous amount of love and prayers from his extended family until his death this fall. “He was so brave,” says his sister Maria. “He fought cancer head-on for five years. We could not believe how strong he was, and we’re so proud of him.”
- Beatriz earned her degree in computing and management in 1997 and works for the New York Stock Exchange, managing the servers that maintain the hand-held wireless devices all brokers use on the floor of the Exchange. She and her husband, Thomas, an Irish-American New Yorker, live in Hopewell Junction, N.Y., in a big three-generation home with Tom’s father, Bea’s mother, and three-year-old daughter Elizabeth. “We have built-in child care, and Elizabeth is learning Spanish from my mother,” Bea says.
- Maria earned her degree in psychology from Lehman in 1993 and a master’s in social work from Hunter College. She lives in Smithtown, N.Y., with her husband, a Suffolk County police officer. They have a four-year-old daughter and are expecting their second child in February. Maria has worked for a private agency, a prevention program, and for the past five years as a psycho-therapist. She’s taking a break to spend some time at home and is making sure her daughter learns Spanish. “That’s a must,” Maria says.
- Miguel, youngest of three brothers, earned his undergraduate degree from Lehman in physical education in 1992 and a master’s in recreation education in 2004. He teaches phys ed at Bronx Leadership Academy, a high school in the South Bronx with 650 students, and he coaches girls’ and boys’ volleyball teams. He and his wife, Janet Ortiz Gallardo, a 1991 Lehman graduate and school principal, live in Throgs Neck with their three children. For fun, Miguel and his son Miguel, Jr. play competitive beach volleyball. “But he’s a lot better than I am,” says Miguel.
- Elizabeth earned her Lehman psychology degree in 1994 and has worked for Cardinal McCloskey Services in the Bronx for the past thirteen years. Her specialty is family child care. “We make sure everything is working for the children,” she says. Elizabeth is a long-term breast cancer survivor who reminds the women in her

the Gallardo Clan:

Seventh of Eight Siblings Earns Her Lehman Degree



Surrounding Milagros Gallardo Gonzalez (center) at her 2008 Lehman graduation were, in the back row, on her right, niece Irene Pineiro and Milagros's husband Raymond and, on her left, Milagros's oldest son Lorenzo, mom Maria, and Milagros's oldest brother Luis. In front are Milagros's oldest daughter Ariana (left) and niece Elizabeth Lennane.

family to do self-examinations and get their annual checkups. She has a company called Child Care Plus that gives workshops to family care providers. Elizabeth is also married to a Lehman alumnus: computer science graduate Manuel Santiago, B.A. 1985, M.S., 1991, who is a high school math teacher in the Bronx. They live in Westtown, N.Y., and have two grown children and two grandchildren.

- Next in line is brother Juan, the only Gallardo sibling who attended Lehman in the early 1980s but finished up at a technical school. Married with four children, he works in Manhattan and lives in the Bronx. "Juan is amazing, and he has done well," says Elizabeth. "He can do anything with his hands."
- Sara, the eldest daughter, says she "always wanted to be a nurse" and received her degree in nursing from Lehman in 1989. "The program was tough," she says, "but I appreciated that later." Sara began her career in adult nursing, moved to pediatrics, and for the past four years has worked in the specialized field of pediatric oncology at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore. "I love working

with children and their families, and I love helping them," she says. Sara has three grown children and two grandsons. She lives in Mahopac, N.Y.

- Milagros took a bit longer than the others because she's a full-time working mom with four children from ages 1 to 13. She put her minor in computer applications to good use, working for the past eight years in the registrar's office at Lehman. Her husband, Raymond Gonzalez, is also a Lehman alumnus, with a 2005 degree in mass communication, and works in the president's office at Bronx Community College.

The Gallardo clan—which now includes twenty-one grandchildren and five great-grandchildren—are all within driving distance, and they get together for holidays and birthdays. "We need three tables just for the cousins," says Miguel.

And what do the cousins do for fun? "We just try to keep them from destroying the house," says Bea. ■

— Anne Perryman ('93, M.A.)

Lehman Goes Global

Program with South Korean University Becomes Latest In Series of International Initiatives

When Lehman and Sungshin Women's University of South Korea announced a new dual-degree program for 2008, Sungshin student Kang Hee Kim was one of ten Korean students to jump on board.

A senior double-majoring in economics and international trade, Kim believes the opportunity will give her an edge in the Korean job market.

"In Korea, to get a good job it is necessary to know the English language well," she explained. "At first I was kind of worried. I have to take more than fifteen credits each semester, and it's not in my language."

The program allows Sungshin students to earn a Lehman degree by completing their final thirty credits here. Similarly, Lehman students can study for a year at Sungshin and earn a degree from both institutions when they complete their Lehman studies.

Even though Kim studied English in middle and high school, where she learned grammar and reading comprehension, she enrolled in an English institute to improve her skills. She soon realized, though, that the language barrier was not as great an obstacle as she feared, and after just a few months at Lehman, she began to speak up in class and venture out in baby steps.

"When I came here, people recommended that I visit Koreatown or join the Asian club. We were in Korea—we had Korean stuff our whole lives. I came here to explore the other things in life, to be part of the culture I'm not used to."

Helping them to do that is the Lehman Office of Transfer, Summer, Weekend, and Study Abroad Programs. Study-Abroad Coordinator Emmanuel Perez ('08), along with other staff members, organized an orientation week that offered the students a "sneak preview" of life at Lehman and in the Bronx.

Perez is in direct contact with the students to reassure and motivate them and provide them with information on College clubs, departments, and facilities, as well as on the practical aspects of everyday life, like opening a bank account and choosing a cable TV plan.

"The students are very bright and very much involved in numerous activities at Lehman," he says.

The new dual-degree program marks the second step in a growing relationship between Lehman and Sungshin. Launched in 2005 with the help of Lehman Nursing Chair Dr. Catherine Alicia Georges and Sungshin Dean of Nursing Dr. Ji Ho Song, the first program enables Sungshin graduates who have earned their R.N. degree and passed the National Council Licensure Examination (N.C.L.E.X.) to complete their B.S. degree at the College in one



year. The first contingent of twenty-nine nurses from Sungshin graduated from Lehman this June.

When the presidents of the two institutions signed an agreement authorizing the new dual-degree program, which extends to students in all majors, Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández pointed out the similarities between both campuses.

"We are both evolving and expanding," he said. "We are also committed to serve an international community, to make our academic programs and faculty available to that community, and to give our students a chance to experience and appreciate other cultures."

Lehman's relationship with Sungshin symbolizes the College's growing outreach internationally. Other programs have been established with Ireland and Antigua under the leadership of Dr. Michael Paull, dean of the Division of Adult and Continuing Education.

Similar to the Sungshin nursing program, Lehman signed an articulation agreement in March 2008 with the American University of Antigua College of Medicine that allows students who complete



their Associate of Science degree in nursing to enter Lehman's R.N. to B.S. nursing program. The students prepare to pass the N.C.L.E.X. before attending Lehman. The program is designed to deal with the worldwide shortage of nurses and to offer prospective nurses a flexible method of training.

Conversations regarding joint programs also are underway with the University of Manipal in India and a few universities in China.

Lehman's success to date in this arena stems in part, Dean Paull says, from its commitment to provide needed support and instruction to both native and non-native English speakers.

"Faculty members have been very involved in teaching the students, in helping them acquire more confidence in their English language skills, and in orienting them to the cultural and academic challenges of studying in another country," he explains. "The students appreciate this caring attitude, and they have performed well."

Although only one Lehman student traveled to Korea in Fall 2008 to take advantage of the dual-degree program, he is hopeful that more Lehman students will follow. The program is open to other CUNY students as well. More than fifty courses are taught in English each year at Sungshin.

Kim So Hee, who is part of the first contingent of Sungshin students in the dual-degree program, says she has found that "living and studying in a different country with people who have a different culture and ideas is not easy." But overcoming those challenges, she adds, "will make you stronger, braver, and smarter." ■



Above: President Fernández and Sungshin Women's University President Hwa Jin Shim at the signing of the articulation agreement establishing the dual-degree program.

Opposite page (top): The first students from Sungshin to enroll in the new program call the Bronx home. (below): The first contingent of nursing students from Sungshin at Commencement 2008.



'08 Music Grad Teaching In South Korea

Music major Rikardo Wharten ('08) is in South Korea, teaching English and music for a year at a middle school. A classical pianist, Wharten taught music at the Bronx River Community Center, where he worked with students aged 11 to 18. "This opportunity to travel and learn a different culture and different language was appealing," he says.



A native of Guyana in South America, Wharten came to the U.S. when he was seven and taught himself how to play piano when he was sixteen. Commuting to Lehman from his home in Brooklyn was worth it, he says, both for the friends he made and the quality of the instruction, from Music Chair Dr. Bernard Shockett's piano class—where he was encouraged to take more classes and major in music—to four semesters in Distinguished Professor John Corigliano's orchestration and composition courses. Wharten has started his own record label, "Arpeg8 Records," which has already attracted two of Lehman's music majors.

A saxophone player as well, whose favorite genre is classical music, Wharten says that he "used to procrastinate a lot but being at Lehman changed that. The work was so intense that it made me think beforehand instead of waiting until the last minute." ■

Lehman College and the Lehman College Foundation celebrated the College's 40th anniversary with the Lehman Leadership Dinner, held at Bridgewater in the South Street Seaport on October 23. At the gala, two outstanding individuals were honored for their achievements: Lehman alumnus and award-winning musician Michael Bacon and Frito-Lay North America President and CEO Al Carey. Proceeds from the gala, which raised \$500,000, benefit the Lehman College Foundation scholarship fund in support of Lehman students.



Lehman Gave Michael Bacon Something 'I Couldn't Get Anywhere Else in the World'

Michael Bacon (B.A., '95) remembers his first instrument, a saxophone in the key of C, and the many instruments he has learned to play since then. Now, his

fascination with music and musical instruments has brought him an accomplished career in music and an Emmy for his score for the PBS documentary *The Kennedys*.

After starting out as a singer-songwriter and performing at different locations on the East Coast, Bacon eventually settled with his wife and son in New York City in 1985 to look for work in scoring films. Those assignments made him realize

pretty quickly that his musical training was missing some important pieces. An article in the American Federation of Musicians' magazine led him to Lehman.

"The article talked about a two-year program for adults who wanted to return to school," Bacon recalls, "and for their musical education, it mentioned [Distinguished Professor of Music] John Corigliano, who was one of my idols. So, I said, 'This is an opportunity for me, and I'm going to take it!'"

Bacon's determination to fill in the missing pieces of his craft helped him achieve both his goals and the college degree that had fallen by the wayside after three years of studies in his younger years. He attended Lehman while working a full-time job.

Lehman Gala Salutes



Above, left: The Bacon Brothers (Kevin, left, and Michael) light up the evening with their performance.

"It didn't seem possible that I could go to a City University school, up in the Bronx, and get this kind of education at a reasonable price, on a beautiful campus, and study with a world-famous person," Bacon says. "I'll always feel that those two years I spent at Lehman gave me something that I couldn't get anywhere else in the world."

Altogether, Bacon has scored twelve feature films as well as hundreds of hours of primetime television. In the citation accompanying the award, he was honored for using his creative gifts "to express both the struggles and triumphs of Americans past and present" and for providing "an inspiring example of excellence and dedication" for the next generation of Lehman musicians.

Telling the audience that the best way he could show his appreciation for the award was through music, he and his brother, award-winning actor Kevin Bacon, gave a special performance of some of the songs they have recorded together as The Bacon Brothers. Set against the dramatic backdrop of the Brooklyn Bridge and lower Manhattan, the performance brought the audience to its feet. ■

Al Carey: Committed to His Company and the Education Of Today's Students

Al Carey, a native of the Bronx, is a University of Maryland alumnus, former runner on its championship track and cross country team, and current member of its Board of Trustees. He received the Lehman Leadership Award for his commitment to his customers, the development of his company, and the success of Lehman students.

The current partnership between Frito-Lay and Lehman supports students with scholarships and internships. "This partnership gives us the chance to invest in young people in our hometown, New York," he says. "It's great for us to be involved with students, to be around them, ask them questions about our products, about their learning experiences, about our company. Those conversations will make us a better and more informed company."



Leaders from Two Different Worlds

Photos on opposite page:

Enjoying the reception, from left, are Vice President of Institutional Advancement Mario DellaPina, Yong Lee, vice president of the Korean American Chamber of Commerce in Greater New York, and Acting Dean of Arts and Humanities Deena Bernstein.

Attending the reception was former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer with his wife, Aramina, to his right, who is a Lehman alumna and vice chair of the Lehman College Foundation Board. Others pictured, from left, are Geri Taylor and Dr. Sorosh Roshan and, at the far right, Lehman alumna Catherine Harnett. Dr. Roshan and Ms. Harnett are also members of the Lehman Foundation Board.

Honoree Al Carey of Frito-Lay North America (fourth from left) with fellow members of the Frito-Lay management team: from left are Prince Jenkins, Francisco Nieves, Robert Solomon, Al Carey, Robert Ehret, and Tomas Silverio.

In presenting the Lehman Leadership Award, Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández praised Carey as "an exceptionally capable corporate leader who has steered his company into the future" and also saluted his "deep concern for the education and development of the next generation of America's workers and leaders."

In his acceptance, Carey recalled his Bronx roots, the many times he had taken part as a teenager in track races at Van Cortlandt Park, and the several members of his family who had studied at Lehman. Citing Mia Rodriguez as an example of the quality of Lehman's graduates, he noted that the 2005 alumna, who was present at the gala, had been promoted four times since first being hired by Frito-Lay after her graduation.

He also made the surprise announcement—to a standing ovation—that he was establishing a \$50,000 scholarship fund at Lehman in the name of the Carey family and that the PepsiCo Foundation would make a gift of \$100,000 to Lehman to begin a new program that combines study of the liberal arts and business. ■

Congressman Eliot Engel, a member of Lehman's first graduating class (1969), offers his congratulations and addresses the gathering.



Alumnus Michael Bacon (left), Class of 1995, accepts the Alumni Achievement Award from President Fernández (center), with the congratulations of Distinguished Professor of Music John Corigliano. Bacon studied orchestration and composition with Professor Corigliano while a music major at Lehman.

Vice Chancellor for University Relations Jay Hershenson welcomes the guests on behalf of the Chancellor and CUNY.



Master of Ceremonies for the evening Philippe Quint (left), a Grammy-nominated concert violinist, enthralled the crowd with a rendition of a work by Professor Corigliano. He also joined in later (at right) during The Bacon Brothers' performance.





lightning sports

Varsity Soccer on its Way to Making a Return at Lehman

When a Lehman soccer club was organized earlier this year, the sport took a huge step forward in achieving the varsity status it enjoyed a decade ago. This fall, the club took part in a number of exhibition contests to help Lehman once again field a varsity team.

Head Coach of the club team is Joseph Real André, a former Lehman student-athlete (1991-94) who is both experienced with the game and familiar with the College's athletic program. After his playing career, André stayed on with the squad as a volunteer assistant during the 1995 season.



"I am extremely honored to have been able to coach this team this season," he said. "The players have worked very hard and have shown tremendous dedication. They are having fun but are also very serious about working together and building something special here again."

Team captain Ala Salhoobi, also known as "Jordan," loves the game and is very proud of his teammates' effort.

"So many of the guys on this team pushed for a chance to prove that we are dedicated to playing and bringing soccer back," he said. "Hopefully we proved that soccer is worthy of being a varsity sport here again."

Whitney Barnes: One Player on a Team Filled with Talent



Lehman's women's basketball team has given fans plenty of reasons to cheer the last two seasons. The goal this year is to not only stake claim once again to the CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) championship but also to proceed to the NCAA Division III National Tournament. On a team filled with talent, one player who's extremely motivated to make her mark is second-year Lightning standout Whitney Barnes.

Barnes joined the team mid-season last year after transferring from Johnson C. Smith University and immediately became a powerhouse player, giving the Lightning one of the best shot-blocking and scoring

presences in the paint that the program has seen in quite some time. Last season, she played in nineteen games, started twelve of them, and averaged nine points and 7.4 rebounds per game, while tallying a total of seventeen swats.

Head Coach Eric Harrison believes she will take the conference by storm.

"Last year when this program added Whitney, I knew we were bringing in a winning player," Harrison said. "She caught on to our system very quickly, and her dedication to bettering herself was evident this past summer in her work ethic."

With senior standout and Lehman all-time leading scorer Sally Nnamani returning for one more season, sophomore Paulie Tuazon rejoining the fray with a year under her belt, and a slew of polished first-year players, Harrison predicts it could be a very special year at the APEX Center.

Jameson Garcia: Showing 'Signs Of Greatness' on the Court

The Lehman men's basketball team went through a transition phase last season, as many first-year players helped the Lightning once again reach prominence in the CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC). Despite a slow start, the team eventually solidified a spot in the Conference tournament, falling to York College in the quarterfinals. There were many bright spots, however, including the emergence and improvement of standout Jameson Garcia.



According to Head Coach Steven Schulman, Garcia put forth a tremendous freshman campaign, even though he struggled to find his rhythm in the early stages of the season. Once he began to improve, though, Schulman says, he became one of the most productive players in the conference, showing "signs of greatness" that could make him a CUNYAC Player of the Year.

Schulman hopes to see Garcia maintain consistent play throughout the season and give 100 percent every time he is on the court, as well as take on a leadership role and set a good example for his teammates. A polished player, he is expected to score in double digits on a night-in, night-out basis.

"Jameson is not only a very hard worker on the court, but he is very dedicated to his studies and that makes him a great asset for this program," Schulman adds. "It's always good to see your student-athletes doing well in the classroom. Basketball is important, but studies are more important."

Lightning Sports is written by Sports Information Director and Intramural Coordinator Steven Spagnoli.



student/faculty profiles

How Can We Advance the World's Knowledge?

Identifying Adolescents at Risk for Maladjustment

Psychologists have long known that children of depressed parents are at greater risk for more psycho-social difficulties as teenagers than their peers. More research is needed, though, to put together a nuanced profile of this group. That way, mental health professionals can not only identify those adolescents at risk but also design effective intervention programs to prevent their depression and its consequences. And because depression is so prevalent, the need to learn more about these children is critical.

Backed by two National Institutes of Health grants totaling \$1.7 million, Dr. Humberto Lizardi of Lehman's psychology faculty is working to fill this gap by comparing three groups of children: those whose parents suffer from a chronic form of mood disorder, known as dysthymic disorder, that is widely prevalent but little studied; those of normal control parents; and those whose parents are afflicted with major depressive disorder, a condition that has been broadly studied.

Why is there a research gap? Researchers assumed that because the symptoms of dysthymic disorder are milder than those of major depressive disorder, those children would display fewer problems than the other group. Dr. Lizardi's prior research, however, has found the opposite—that they suffer significantly higher lifetime



rates of dysthymic disorder, phobias, and other anxiety disorders than children whose parents have major depressive disorder.

His current study focuses on adolescents, examining a broad range of

Dr. Humberto Lizardi.

psycho-social outcomes, and is ambitious in its design. Dr. Lizardi's team of six part-time clinicians evaluated each subject for a full range of major psychiatric disorders, conducting lengthy, structured, diagnostic clinical interviews.

"Many researchers could not conduct clinical interviews because they are more time consuming and expensive," he explains, "but they are the gold standard for this type of research." Subjects also completed a substantial battery of questionnaires. After evaluating hundreds of potential subjects from four outpatient clinics, Dr. Lizardi and his team discussed each subject's diagnosis in detail to arrive at a team consensus. The project is currently nearing the end of its data collection phase. ■

Women's Forum Honors Three Lehman Students

Difficult backgrounds and hardships throughout adulthood did not stop three women at Lehman from achieving their goals. For their dedication to furthering their education, while overcoming their personal struggles, students Judy Canestrelli, Charlene Corbit-Tosi, and Wanda Vargas were awarded the Women's Forum 2008 Education Award in a ceremony held this fall.

As a child, Canestrelli continually moved around with her circus-performing parents, which impacted her education. One summer, while volunteering as an art teacher at a camp for high-risk children, she found inspiration from her students. Their creativity, intelligence, and eagerness to learn became a catalyst for her own return to school. Now, as an anthropology, biology, and chemistry major, she hopes to teach science in the New York City public school system.

Corbit-Tosi, a divorced mother of two, had to put her education aside from time to time because of family obligations and a lack of financial support. Now, she attends classes part-time as a business administration major, while also working full-time at a hospital and part-time at a doctor's office. Despite this workload, she has maintained the average needed to make the dean's list. She hopes to become a hospital director and open her own medical-billing business.

Vargas's childhood fascination with earthquakes, volcanoes, and oceans continued on into her adult life. A thirteen-year absence from college, as well as a difficult situation she faced as a child, kept her from following her passion. Eventually, however, she returned to school and decided on a degree in marine geophysics after taking part in a sea-faring expedition. Last year, she completed a study-abroad program in Antarctica.

The Women's Forum is a community of preeminent female New Yorkers whose goal is to make a difference for each other and to take an active leadership role in matters of importance, such as education. ■



Left to right: Judy Canestrelli, Charlene Corbit-Tosi, and Wanda Vargas.

'4 Wheelz City'

On the Express to Success

"Tapwaterz," a.k.a. Namel Norris (B.B.A., '06), is a multi-talented rapper and performer, but there's much more to him than even that. Norris inspires people with his courage and insistence there is a full life after the wheelchair.

Norris and co-founder "Rickfire" (Ricardo Velasquez) rap about making choices that will turn young people away from street violence, keep them in school, and help them focus on achieving their goals. Their hardcore lyrics are edgy and authentically urban. "They are stars, and you recognize it as soon as they enter the room," says Matthew Sapolin, commissioner of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities.

Tapwaterz and Rickfire perform for free at hospitals and rehab centers around the city. Norris, for one, knows what it's like to be in those shoes. He also knows what it's like to overcome that sense of helplessness.

In 1999, he was paralyzed from the chest down when he was hit in the neck by a stray shot, fired by a cousin who was playing around with a handgun. Once home from the hospital, Norris subsequently met and befriended Velasquez, a fellow victim of gun violence—and also a paraplegic—who lived next door in East Harlem and helped him adjust to his new life as a person with a disability. The two discovered they shared a love of music that brought them together to create beats and produce tracks.

Once Norris got his bearings, he decided to continue his education. After graduating from LaGuardia Community College, he registered

at Lehman and began focusing on becoming an entrepreneur.

4 Wheelz Entertainment is the record label the pair has established and, thus far, they've produced two CDs, "My Wheels, My Music, My Life" and "Showtime." They also have established a foundation to raise money for research into spinal cord injuries.

Their journey so far has brought them to the attention of *The Daily News*, *XXL Magazine*, *New York 1 News*, and the historic Apollo Theater.

Now the duo plans to inspire new audiences by taking their show on the road to spread their message of encouragement, motivation, and self improvement. Norris and his partner believe they have the "Wheelz" to drive that message home.

— Anita Spearman ('09)

For more information, visit www.myspace.com/4wheelcity.



Namel ("Tapwaterz") Norris (left) and Ricardo ("Rickfire") Velasquez.

Ailene Fields Works a Little 'Magic'

Working in bronze and alabaster, Ailene Fields ('73, B.A.) creates sculptures of real and imaginary animals that convey a sense of playfulness and tongue-in-cheek humor. A bronze dragon is called "Home is where the horde is," and an alabaster dragon asks, "Do you mind if I smoke?" The "Cheshire Cat," meanwhile, slyly emerges from a rough stone base, displaying only a tantalizing grin and a flash of tail. "The Frog Prince," complete with crown, invites a kiss—and who knows what may happen?

Fields selects only those aspects of each personality that intrigue her, freeze-framing each creature's uniqueness. The hard physical work that is necessary to the process, she suggests, half-jokingly, is also therapeutic. "It's good for New Yorkers to bang on stone," she says, "it releases tension. More seriously, I find it exhilarating to peel away the layers and uncover the creature waiting within."

Alabaster encourages spontaneity by giving Fields more time to change direction. "You don't have to rework every line as you do with clay," she explains. "You just have to let this part of you take

over. It's not an intellectual process—in many ways, it's as if you are not in control."

When Fields first began working with stone, she carved by hand, completing only two sculptures a year. Using the compressor, she now creates pieces more rapidly and fluently, usually working on many different pieces simultaneously. Her most recent works include a series of "Temples of Contemplation," featuring stairways and corridors to nowhere and everywhere, which she views as "a place for the viewer to escape into—to find a quiet place away from the stress of the everyday world."

Her sculpture is on permanent display at CFM Gallery in SoHo: www.cfmgallery.com/artists/Fields/pages/index.html



Ailene Fields at work in her studio.

Virginia Math Teacher of the Year

Debbie DeMaria

Wants Her Students to 'See, Touch, Taste, Smell, and Hear' Math



Debbie DeMaria (right) shows her award to Cindy Prieto, the math administrator at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Calculus and Fig Newtons may not seem like the most common combination. But Debbie DeMaria ('74, B.A., '76, M.S.Ed.) is not the most common math teacher.

DeMaria has been using her unusual but successful methods of teaching math to students at Lake Braddock Secondary School in northern Virginia since 1976. This June, the Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics named her as the 2008 William C. Lowry Outstanding Mathematics Teacher of the Year for the high school level.

The point of DeMaria using unorthodox measures for teaching is to make the concepts stay with students long after the class is over. Her methods include pouring and measuring water to see rates of change, using Play-Doh® and index cards to see solids of revolution (a solid figure obtained by rotating a plane figure around some straight line that lies on the same plane), playing charades to reinforce vocabulary, and completing worksheets based on the ingredient amounts in different food recipes.

"I believe that the more of the students' five senses that you can involve in learning, then the more internalized that learning becomes, and the more it will last in their memories," DeMaria says. "I want them to see math, touch math, taste, smell and hear math—so they can truly understand it."

Originally from the Bronx, DeMaria graduated from Cardinal Spellman High School before attending Lehman for both her bachelor's and master's degrees. Since then, she has taught in Fairfax County, Va., just outside Washington, D.C. In those thirty-two years, she has become well-known for her creative methods, especially her tradition of teaching the history of math through Fig Newtons.

"I use Fig Newtons and Leibniz wafers the day I introduce the fundamental theorem of calculus, to illustrate the marriage between integral and differential calculus and the relationship between Sir Isaac Newton and Gottfried Leibniz," DeMaria explains. "The Figs also show up with the murder investigation, complete with a police tape, that occurs when they work on Newton's Law of Cooling problems."

For the past ten years, DeMaria also has been chair of the math department at Lake Braddock Secondary. In this position, she has emphasized the importance of vertical articulation in education—that's the continuity of teaching across different levels, such as middle school, high school, and college. It's a concept DeMaria

credits to Lehman Middle and High School Education Professor Stanley Taback.

"Professor Taback encouraged me to take classes in elementary and middle school math education, in addition to the secondary courses," says DeMaria. "I came to see the vital importance of math continuity throughout the grades. Consistent vocabulary, symbols, and concepts allow the students to rely on the familiarity of the language of mathematics.

"Our department meetings always contain at least one activity that reinforces best teaching practices," she added. "Several times during the year, we have joint meetings with our middle-school math teachers, and we also get together with our science teachers to help strengthen the skills of our students."

DeMaria assigns seniors in her calculus classes a final project to promote lifelong education and empowerment. Based on the "Just Because" project she heard about at a national conference, students try something they have never done before—as long as it's safe, legal, and has the consent of their parents.

"We want them to see that there is math in everything they do and that they need to take the time in life to try something new," DeMaria said. "We stress the connection that their past and present have to their future.

"The feedback is amazingly positive. We want them to leave school choosing to 'seize the day' and not waste it."

DeMaria credits Lehman for giving her "a solid math background and a love for learning." She speaks fondly of Professor Taback and his reference to "red socks" in his classes.

"Professor Taback would mention them to make a point," DeMaria recalls. Jokingly, he would say he needed "to change the color [of his socks] since some students invariably would give him red socks at the end of the course."

The red socks were a metaphor for inappropriate methodology in educational research—red socks represented the use of experimental variables that are based on whimsical predilections, rather than established theoretical constructs. If, for instance, a teacher wanted to identify variables that could have potentially positive effects on student achievement in math, no substantive case could be made for the wearing of red socks as one of those variables.

For more than three decades, Debbie DeMaria has taken the advice she's learned at Lehman College to heart and developed creative methods and approaches that have made math a permanent part of her students' lives, long after high school is just a memory.

— Dylan Brooks

Teacher of the Year

Debbie Ashley

Builds Pride—and Business Savvy

Behind every student success story there is someone—a parent, mentor, or teacher—who carefully nurtures potential into actuality. Alumna Debbie Ashley ('07, M.S.Ed.) is one such person.

For the past five years, Ashley has helped students at the Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) become savvy business entrepreneurs, ready to take on the world, all before graduating from high school. This year, her work and commitment earned her the title “Teacher of the Year” from the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship.

The Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES in Yorktown Heights is a sprawling complex that houses a myriad of centers and programs. Among them are a Special Education Center for children with disabilities, a professional development program for would-be teachers, a Guidance and Child Study Center that provides area school districts with testing in multicultural, neurological, psychological, and educational areas, and a Career and Technical Education Center.

On most days, Ashley can be found in BOCES' Tech Center, weaving in and out of the center's cosmetology labs, where throngs of teenage girls in smocks bend over styrofoam heads, perfecting curls and bobs on practice wigs. Ashley is a science teacher, specializing in environmental and entrepreneurship education. For the past three years, she has worked with the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship to offer classes in entrepreneurship and philanthropy to high school seniors.

Because of the hands-on nature of the program, many students in Ashley's classes have successfully launched hair and make-up service-oriented businesses. One student started a children's door-to-door haircutting business, while another was working on a business plan to offer similar services to the disabled.

A modest person, Ashley attributes the success of the program to her students, the majority of whom are female.

“The girls who come here work very hard,” she says, “and it's my job to not just instruct them, but to guide and encourage them, and give them the experience of having accomplished something that makes them proud.”

In addition to cosmetology, Ashley leads other science- and technology-based projects. Some students are working on building a



Teacher of the Year Debbie Ashley.

“smart house” that will automatically turn lights off and adjust room temperature. Ashley co-wrote the proposal for the project, which was subsequently funded through a \$10,000 tech grant. She also received a \$5,000 grant for development of a hand-held device that would help scientists collect data from the field.

A graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College, Ashley earned her master's in science education at Ohio State University. For seven years, she worked as a middle school teacher, while continuing toward her doctorate in teacher education. With a waning desire to pursue her Ph.D., she decided to switch gears and pursued the field of psychotherapy for seventeen years. That career ended when she started her family. Out of work, Ashley decided to return to school for a degree in school counseling.

“My experience at Lehman was wonderful,” says Ashley. “The faculty is outstanding—they focus on what is cutting edge in the field, so they can produce teachers who are ready to transform school counseling today.”

Ashley's own experience outside the classroom also has played a major role in her most recent success. Seventeen years' experience as a psychotherapist comes in handy, she admits, when working with teenagers.

“I have a vision, and I'm willing to work with these students because I believe in them,” she says. For her students, that has turned Ashley into not only a teacher and counselor but also a friend.

— Yeara Milton ('02, B.A.)

Marvin Silbermintz ('74)

Brought Bronx Humor to the Leno Show



Growing up in the Bronx helped Marvin Silbermintz write for Jay Leno.

utes to my comedy style. For instance, when I was in New York, and I needed a haircut, my mother would say, 'Is your barber on vacation?' And that would mean that I needed to get a haircut."

Born in 1951, Silbermintz grew up in the Bronx, where Tito Puente was the star, and graduated from Lehman with a major in art and a minor in education. "It was still a liberal arts school and a subway college," he remembers. "I took the bus from Washington Heights every day. I remember the green in the middle of campus was open, too."

Silbermintz recalls that Lehman was the first place where he saw a computer, and that Vietnam War protests nearby on the Grand Concourse occasionally became violent—especially near the recruiting station on Fordham Road.

After graduation, he worked at a factory and a toy company, while also telling jokes and performing magic tricks at his Orthodox synagogue. By the early 1980s, he started sending jokes to Jay Leno—at that time a guest host on *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson*. Much like Silbermintz, Leno was originally from the Northeast—he grew up in New York and New England—and was familiar with the speech patterns Silbermintz referenced in his jokes.

"When I was growing up, guys used 'sound outs,' which are often called 'your mama' jokes today," Silbermintz said. "Wiseguys have one-liners for everything. That's what leads men to become joke writers. If you were at a Yankees game, and someone made an error, you'd hear someone say, 'Play for the Mets!'" he noted, explaining what a terrible team the Mets were when they started out during his youth.

Although he has achieved great success in his two decades in Los Angeles, Marvin Silbermintz ('74, B.A.) attributes much of that to his upbringing, three thousand miles away.

"Growing up in the Bronx shaped my career," says Silbermintz, a joke writer on *The Tonight Show* for sixteen years. "The way people talk there contrib-

When Leno took over for Carson on *The Tonight Show* in 1992, he invited Silbermintz to be one of his joke writers, which led the New Yorker to move to Los Angeles with his family. Immediately, he noticed differences between the Big Apple and southern California.

"The way people say 'Hello' all the time in L.A. was strange to me at first," he explained. "I don't like to be hassled, and I don't need to be obligated to say a fake 'hello,' but if you ignore people, then you're perceived as the stupid one."

According to Silbermintz, those in the area were also less familiar with his religious traditions, delivering packages to his home on Saturdays—the Jewish Sabbath—when he could not sign for them, and not understanding his explanation as to why he could not accept the items.

Silbermintz recalls standing behind the desk of *The Tonight Show* on the week that Johnny Carson retired. While growing up, he had watched the show with Carson—at that time, it was filmed in New York—and would write down the jokes on index cards.

"I never saw myself as much of a writer and never imagined that I'd write for *The Tonight Show*," he said, remembering how he used to "come up with the punch line and then have to figure out the jokes, or the best order for the jokes."

Yet, there he was, writing for a national television audience and surrounded by celebrities. Silbermintz's time with *The Tonight Show* ended during the writers' strike in 2008. He spoke with disdain about the invasion of the "Harvard Mafia" into comedy—"elitist humor is taking over," he believes—and is bothered by what he sees as the tailor-made formulas of today's comic routines.

"Jay believes in what he jokes about, which is not always true with the comics of today," he said. "You can fiddle around with a Leno joke and tell it again the next day. Each joke is posed differently. Unless you do this, you can't tell more than eight jokes."

Silbermintz, who considers his comedy style to be more low-key than Leno's, likens his own to Bob Newhart's, with his jokes featuring throwaway punch lines. As he puts it, "I make a statement with a little extra."

For sixteen years, that "little extra" left America laughing five nights a week.

— Dylan Brooks

Dr. Elliot Melendez ('95)

A High School Dropout Turned Harvard M.D.

Perseverance is the centerpiece of Dr. Elliot Melendez's life.

Dr. Melendez dropped out of high school more than twenty years ago, yet went on to graduate from Lehman and Harvard Medical School and now works in Pediatric Critical Care at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children (MGHfC).

In 1987, as a young man, he left high school to find a full-time job, but after working in several restaurants as a busboy and dishwasher, he realized that without that diploma he could never land a decent-paying job. While earning his G.E.D. with the hope of securing that better job, he was encouraged by teachers in the program to pursue college.

Enrolling in Lehman in 1989, he worked full-time while attending classes and then left school in his junior year to help support his wife and newborn child. But two years later he was back, ultimately graduating *cum laude* with a degree in biology.

Balancing family, work, and class meant that his grades had suffered somewhat, but he was still able to interview with eleven of the twenty-one medical schools to which he had applied. Ultimately, he was admitted to Harvard, where he was surrounded by peers from more affluent backgrounds. Most had graduated from better-known colleges. In the end, though, the importance of his roots and his respect for his family and his own upbringing helped him overcome this social obstacle.

Today, at Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, his research focuses on the evaluation of severe infection in infants and children. In addition, he works with a telemedicine initiative



Dr. Elliot Melendez is now on the staff at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children.

between MGHfC and the Hospital Buen Samaritano in rural Puerto Rico, which uses video to provide care and advice to doctors and patients who are out-of-reach of major hospitals. Through this initiative, patients who would have to travel up to two hours to the nearest major hospital can visit a participating clinic and receive a remote evaluation from a specialist.

Dr. Melendez also has returned to the program where he earned his G.E.D. to prepare others for the exam. He taught a summer course at Lehman, at the request of Dr. Clarence Branch, Lehman's pre-health professions advisor, and last May returned to speak to students interested in careers in the health professions.



Bronx Legislators Secure Vital Funding for Lehman

The Bronx Delegation of the State Assembly was very successful this year in advocating for Lehman College's capital needs. As a result, the College can look forward to receiving \$58 million in bonded funds for:

- critical maintenance projects;
- the design of Phase II of the new science facility; and
- the renovations needed to create "swing space" for the Nursing Department and the Child Care Center when the T-3 building is demolished to make way for the Phase II construction.

On the City side, the Bronx Delegation to the City Council was instrumental in obtaining more than \$1.4 million for the new greenhouse in Phase I of the science facility. Individual legislators, as well, went to bat for Lehman, securing \$45,000 for the Speech and Hearing Center, which serves community residents, and other important grants.



Students Awarded Prestigious St. George's Society Scholarships at Luncheon with The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester

Although Ashton James Stewart was born not far from London—and part of a long line of English and Scottish military men—he had never met a member of the British Royal Family. Not until this October, when the music major spoke for a group of twenty-four high-achieving Lehman seniors chosen to receive the first college scholarships awarded by the St. George's Society.

In the audience were Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, who personally commended the students on their accomplishments. The Duke, a cousin of the Queen, is the Royal Patron of the Society, which was founded in 1770 by English settlers in New York City to offer “advice and relief” to their fellow Englishmen in need or distress.

The Society gave close to \$50,000 in scholarships to students of British and British Commonwealth origin who have maintained excellent academic standing and completed three years of study at Lehman. Recipients hail from Ghana, Nigeria, Trinidad, Pakistan, St. Lucia, Jamaica, Grenada, India, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.

“The St. George's Scholarships represent an exciting new initiative that expands our historical commitment to aid people from the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth,” said Peter M. Felix, the Society's president. “In recent decades, the Society has focused its resources on the elderly and incapacitated. As of now, thanks to our new partnership with Lehman College and the financial support of Mark C. Pigott, we can help younger people of similar background complete their college requirements and get on track for a better future.”

Born in the rural county of Hertfordshire, east of London, Stewart emigrated to the United States in 1985, enrolled in the U.S. Navy, and served during the first Gulf War. The first member of his family to attend college, he has maintained a near-perfect G.P.A. while working full-time.

“Since the end of my enlistment,” he told the Society, “I have dedicated myself to working for organizations that promote social justice and foster a positive influence on the communities in which

I live.” Without the scholarship, he said, he would have been unable to register for his final semester.

“The Society's scholarships are vital to the future of these students,” Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández said at the scholarship luncheon. “Their stories are part of the proud mission of The City University of New York to provide access to excellence

for those who come here in search of freedom and opportunity.” Close to 1,000 Lehman students are of Commonwealth or British origin.



Above: Some of the scholarship winners with the Duke and Duchess at the Society's luncheon. Below: Professor Lucie Saunders with Professor Jack Valdovinos (left) and President Fernández in 1993.



'Planned Giving' Helps Lehman Students

French-born Madeleine Richard ('69), who works for the finance division of General Electric, was the first in her family to graduate from college. So valuable was her education that she has included a provision in her will to help future generations enjoy the same experience. Remembering her own struggles as an immigrant, she believes that many Lehman students need a guiding and encouraging hand to choose the best major and has indicated that her funds should be used to support scholarships and internships.

“The idea of the Planned Giving program is to be as helpful as we can to those who would like to support the College,” explains Bernd Brecher, executive director of the Lehman College Foundation, which oversees the program. Over two hundred alumni, faculty, and staff have shown interest in the effort to date.

Bequests are the simplest form of planned gifts, such as the one made by the late Professor Emerita Lucie Saunders, who endowed students majoring in anthropology, chemistry, and biology. Teaching at Lehman from 1965 (when it was Hunter-in-the-Bronx) through 1996, she helped to shape the College's identity and mission over three decades, establishing a high standard of service, congeniality, and mentorship.

Professor Eric Delson, current chair of anthropology, remembers the climate she fostered of “sharing and community” and how her generosity helped him to succeed. Now, he says, learning that she provided for Lehman in her will “just makes our memories of her all the warmer.”

To learn more about the Planned Giving program, contact bernd.brecher@lehman.cuny.edu.



alumni notes

1970

Daniel Krantz (M.S.) was sworn in as the New Jersey Dental Association's president for 2008-2009. He is a general dentist and resides and practices in Somerset.

1971

Sandra Choron (B.A.) is an author and founding editor of *Rock & Rap Confidential* newsletter. She was art director for Bruce Springsteen from 1985-2003.

Barbara Viniar (B.A., '71, M.A., '78) is president of Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, Md. She is the first female president in the College's forty-three-year history and was previously executive director of the Institute for Community College at Cornell University.

Thomas Yorio (B.S.) is executive vice president of academic affairs and research at The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

1973

Merrill Steiger (B.A.) had her paintings featured at the Flaten Art Museum exhibition "Science, Art, and the Imagination" at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. Her work is part of the permanent collection of Rutgers University.

Dr. Alex Johnson (M.A.) is president of the Community College of Allegheny County in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Joseph Zambito (B.S.) retired in July after working seven years as the superintendent of South Orangetown, N.Y., schools.

1974

Paula (Penina) Lester (M.A.) is a tenured professor of education at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University.

Saul Weber (B.A.) has published the children's book *A Lesson My Cat Taught Me*. He is a supervising systems analyst for the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation.

1975

Dorian Mulvey (B.A.) is the new rector of St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Frank V. Auriemma (M.S.) is the superintendent of the Pearl River, N.Y., schools, with twenty-one years of service to the district.

1976

Ralph Legnini (B.A.) is the owner of E Boy Music and a music producer and was elected this year to one of the seats on the Ontario, N.Y., Board of Education.

Eileen Slevin (B.A.) is chief information officer for New York Life Insurance Company, where she has worked since 1977.

1977

Dan Derwin (M.A.) retired in June after working as an art and photography teacher at Scarsdale High School for thirty-five years.

Julius P. Williams (B.S.) is professor of composition and conducting at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He is also co-director of the Videmus Recording Company.

Reginald Stroughn (M.S.) was selected as the 2008 New York State High School Principal of the Year by the School Administrators Association of New York State. He is the principal of Hempstead High School and has been a school administrator for thirteen years.

1978

Rebecca Amoroso (M.S.) was named Insurance Woman of the Year by the Association of Professional Insurance Women. She is vice chairman and U.S. insurance industry group leader of Deloitte L.L.P., based in Parsippany, N.J.

Gloria Stein (M.S.) is an author. Her most recent work, *Leaving Fingerprints*, was published in late August.

1979

The artwork of **John Creagh (B.S., '79, M.F.A., '92)** was on display at the Helen Hayes Hospital in West Haverstraw. Creagh teaches at the Westchester Community College Art Workshop in Peekskill, as well as at the Rockland Center for the Arts.

Kathleen Silard (B.S.) was named a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders. She is executive vice president and chief operating officer of Stamford Hospital in Stamford, Ct.

1980

Dr. William Smith (B.A.) is an adjunct professor of psychology at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City.

profiles

Yoselín Acevedo ('04) Kept Looking For That Chance to Work in Media

Like many new college graduates, Yoselín Acevedo's first position after Commencement was far from her ideal job. The 2004 multilingual journalism major became a temporary program director at a non-profit organization, working with young people in the Washington Heights/Inwood area. There, her hard work and commitment quickly earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and supervisors, and a little while later she was offered a full-time position, which she pursued for three years.

But then it was time to move on to her first love: journalism and writing. Acevedo left her job without a "Plan B," thinking it would be easy to break into the highly competitive media industry. After all, she points out, she had graduated *summa cum laude*, interned in different media outlets, and accumulated extensive writing experience on Lehman's student newspaper. As it turns out, though, she was wrong.

First Acevedo started writing for a weekly community newspaper and a monthly magazine without getting paid. Struggling for money, she tried other alternatives, handling public relations for a singer, organizing events, and recording radio voiceovers. But she was always waiting for a chance.

That chance came when she heard about a temporary opening for a web writer at *People en Español*, the nation's most widely read Spanish magazine. Amazed at the possibilities, she went for an interview—and got the job. Although the position was temporary, she was determined to do her best and learn as much as possible. After six months, she had already become a full-time staff member and the editor's right-hand assistant.

For the past year-and-a-half, Acevedo has been the main writer for the magazine's website, writing and creating photo and fashion galleries and interviewing some of the most important personalities in entertainment. Not only does she love everything she does—she's also convinced this is just her first foot in the door.

1989

Joy Elwell (M.S.) is the 2008 chair of the Board of Directors of the Nurse Practitioner Association of New York State. She is director of health services at Concordia College in Bronxville.

1990

Sandra St. James (M.S.) was inducted into *Cambridge Who's Who Executive, Professional and Entrepreneurial Registry*. She is on the staff of the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center in New York City, specializing in teaching mentally challenged children.

1991

Vena Baker (M.S.) was honored this May with the Presidential Citation of the New York Counties Registered Nurses Association. She is a member of the New York State Nurses' Association and the Registered Nurses Association and treasurer of the Jamaica Progressive League.

1993

Annie Gomez (B.A.) was a keynote speaker at Cameron University's 2007 Academic Convocation in Lawton, Ok. She earned her master's degree from Cameron.

David A. George (M.S.) is a member of the National Guard since 1985 and was called to duty in Iraq after 9/11. He now is tapping into his creative side, experimenting with different painting techniques and working with digital photography.

1996

Lynda Megura (M.S.) is the director of recreational services at Heritage Village Retirement Community in Southbury, Ct. She was previously director of recreation at the Osborn Retirement Community in Rye, N.Y., and is a certified leisure professional and a certified therapeutic recreation specialist.

1997

Alan Shikowitz (B.A.) is vice president of enrollment management at Briarcliffe College, which has campuses in Queens and Long Island. He was previously president of Lehigh Valley College in Pennsylvania.

2000

Eli Yamin (M.A.T.) is a jazz pianist, songwriter, and composer. He is co-founder and artistic director of the Jazz Drama Program and director of jazz at Lincoln Center's Middle School Jazz Academy.

Dominic Pratico (M.A.) has published his first novel, *The Enemy Within*. This is his second publication; the first was a non-fiction work titled *Eisenhower and Social Security*.

2008

Allys Ansah-Arkoful (B.S., '06, M.S., '08) received her thirty-hour certification in wound care from the Wound Care Education Institute. She is a nurse at Frances Schervier Nursing Home in the Bronx.

Maria Gizzo (M.S.) is a special education teacher working with autistic children.

Peter Osei (M.S.) is a nurse manager at Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center in the Bronx.

In Memoriam

1974

Lucile Holt (M.A.) died on August 12, 2007 in Putnam Valley, N.Y. Holt, 84, was born and raised in Huntsville, Ala., before arriving in Rockland County, N.Y. She was a trustee of the Finklestein Memorial Library, a member of the Hillcrest Civic Association, and a life member of the Spring Valley branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

1979

Ayesha Lydia (Uddin) Medina (B.S.) died June 27, 2006 in Fremont, Calif. She was a long-time teacher at St. Leonard's Elementary School in Fremont and also taught in Guam.

1986

Laurence "Larry" Reiter (M.S.) died on May 16 in Northvale, N.J. He was an administrator with the New York City Department of Education.

1993

Margheritte Brown (M.A.) died on Oct. 3 in West Brighton, Staten Island. She worked for the City Board of Education for twenty-eight years and taught special education at P.S. 32 in the Bronx.

2007

Andrei Koloskov (B.A.) died in a car accident on Sept. 6 in Yonkers. He was pursuing an advanced finance degree and working in a brokerage firm.

College Mourns Death of 'Dr. Bronx'

Lehman College lost a long-time friend and supporter this fall when Elias Karmon, a Bronx businessman, philanthropist, and humanitarian, died October 21 at the age of 98.

Over the years, he was an active leader in many civic and humanitarian organizations, and his dedication to community service earned him recognition and awards from a broad range of local, national, and international institutions. Known for many years around the borough as "Mr. Bronx," he enjoyed being known as "Dr. Bronx" after Lehman awarded him an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 2005.

"Elias Karmon was an extraordinary friend and gave generously over the years to support our students," said Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández. "Nor were we the only beneficiaries of his commitment



Psychology Professor Fred Phelps helps confer an honorary degree on Elias Karmon in 2005.

and his largesse. Several notable healthcare institutions were built with his help, and many other local organizations received his assistance.

"Elias will long be remembered as an indefatigable booster for our borough and its people, whose spirit of pride and support energized the Bronx in times of prosperity and sustained us in times of struggle."

A graduate of New York University, he worked as an accountant and as a clothing manufacturer and retailer. His business, Hollywood Clothes on Prospect Avenue, was a Bronx institution for over thirty years. Since 1940, he had served as president of EMK Enterprises, Inc., a Bronx real estate firm.



profiles

Diary of a First-Time Triathlete: Michael Max Knobbe (M.F.A., '93)

The 2008 NYC Triathlon took place on July 20 and had more than 3,000 competitors. The event consists of a 1.5-kilometer swim in the Hudson River, a 40-kilometer cycling course up and down the Westside Highway and Henry Hudson Parkway, and a 10-kilometer run in Central Park.

This would be my first triathlon. In the 90s, I ran with the Lehman Cross Country team, and I'd always loved to swim but had never done so competitively. The Bronx Majority Leader of the New York City Council, Joel Rivera, inspired me to start running again last year while he was training for the NYC Marathon. Encouraging health and fitness is important in our communities, and the Councilman is a role model, who runs as part of Team for Kids.

In February, I completed the Bronx Half-Marathon, which starts and finishes between Lehman College and Bronx Science, two of my alma maters. It was during this time that I decided to do the NYC Triathlon. I'd been trying to fit running, weight training, and working at mixed martial arts, as well as these new endeavors, into a busy work schedule. As it would turn out, biking would be a new challenge for me, as I went into the race without



much road training on the bike. The APEX pool and open-water swimming would help me prepare for the Hudson River, and Van Cortlandt Park would be the site for my morning run.

On race morning, I arrived at 79th Street at 5 a.m. to set up my transition area. I joined thousands of people wearing wetsuits who were walking up to the start at the 99th Street pier. We started in waves from 5:50 a.m. to almost 8 a.m. The water was pleasant for the most part, and swimming in the Hudson in this way can be a great way to see NYC. Three-quarters through the swim, I felt as if I had just shaved and splashed on some cologne and sea salt. It turned out to be jellyfish, but the stings didn't really bother me as I was wearing a full wetsuit.

The bike course took us up near Lehman College and the Mosholu Parkway, and I felt some hometown pride. We should organize a big Bronx cheering section there next year. It wasn't until I got off the bike, and was a mile into the run, that I felt the consequences of not cycling enough in preparation. My quadriceps felt as though they would explode! Simply running had never produced that sensation, and while I was on the bike I had had no hint of this type of stress. I toughed it out and finished the NYC Triathlon. I'm looking

forward to my next Triathlon and participating in many more. When you do find the time to cross-train and get into a flow, it can help all aspects of what you do. Stay Bronx Strong!

Never Give Up on Your Dream, Says Barbara Duckett-Wallace ('95)

Many people struggle to continue their education after high school. For alumna Barbara Duckett-Wallace ('95), achieving her dream of a college education has brought her that much further along in a life devoted to professional and community service.

Duckett, a native of Jamaica, attended Lehman's Adult Degree Program while working at Bellevue Hospital and earned her bachelor's degree after more than nine years of study. Perseverance toward a goal is part of her nature. She has worked at Bellevue for forty-nine years and is particularly proud of her role in opening a 24-hour child-care center for the hospital's staff—which took thirty of those years to accomplish.

Currently the coordinator of patient services in the Volunteer Department, she has earned many awards and recognition, including the Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award and the 100-year Association Award, and also was honored as Notary of the Year in 2000.

"I am involved to the point where I am drafting people to become notaries," she says, noting the simplicity of applying. An ambassador to the National Notary Association, she attends annual conferences and continues to provide her notary services, at no charge and sometimes on her own free time, to the patients, their families, and the Bellevue staff.

Alumni Dates to Remember

Homecoming - February 7, 2009, noon - 5 p.m.

The APEX

Hunter vs. Lehman Women's and Men's Basketball

Women's Game: 12 p.m. - Alumni Game: 1:40 p.m. - Men's Game: 3 p.m.

Lunch and refreshments will be served.

Alumni Reunion (all classes) - May 28, 2009, 6 p.m.-11 p.m.

Marina del Rey, Throgs Neck

Cocktails: 6 p.m. & Dinner and Dancing: 7 p.m.

Contact Barbara Smith at 718-960-8975/8294 or barbara.smith@lehman.cuny.edu

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense Samuel Kleinman ('69) Is Responsible For Troop Readiness and Training

Dr. Samuel D. Kleinman ('69, B.A.) is the U.S. Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Readiness, developing and overseeing policies and programs that ensure the readiness of the Armed Forces to carry out all assigned missions. He acts as the focal point on all issues and activities related to both readiness and training of the total force. Currently, he is responsible for developing a real-time readiness reporting system, managing sustainable military training ranges, transforming the training environment for joint forces, and implementing the Secretary of Defense's mishap-reduction goal.

Previously, Dr. Kleinman was vice president and director of the Resource Analysis Division at the Center for Naval Analyses (C.N.A.). His division provided analytical services to help its sponsors develop and evaluate policies, programs, and management practices regarding their budgets, workforce, and equipment.

Prior to that, he developed a research team that identified ways to improve efficiency and maintain Defense Department readiness. Earlier, he was a field representative to the Navy's Second Fleet in Norfolk, Va., where he evaluated the performance of battle groups in war-fighting exercises and helped to develop a deployment readiness system.

Dr. Kleinman worked on the Defense Science Board's 1996 study of operating and support costs and the National Research Council task force that examined Navy shore installation readiness and management. He has provided analytical support to both the Commission on Roles and Missions and the National Defense Panel and has testified before Congressional committees on the merits of public-private competitions.

An economics major at Lehman, he earned an M.S. and Ph.D. at the Graduate School of Management of the University of Rochester. A member of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, he has received C.N.A.'s Distinguished Service Award and the Navy Superior Service Award.

José Ponce ('04) Is a Teacher Who Will 'Always Be a Student'

A Latin American Studies major, José Ponce ('04) was always intrigued by Mexico, his birthplace. Working for two years after graduation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, he felt his future looked very promising, but still it was important for him to move on. Considering his various options, Ponce decided on the field of education, building on his earlier work in an after-school/summer program and his experience coaching college baseball for several years. Once he earned his E.S.L. teaching certificate in 2006, Latin America became no longer a thought, but a priority.

Inspired by the film *The Motorcycle Diaries*, which documented Che Guevara's travels throughout the Americas, Ponce traveled to Peru, where he taught at a small English institute in the city of Arequipa. That location proved to be ideal, he explains, because it al-



Dr. Kleinman (center) is shown at the Nellis Marine Corp Base on the desert warfare training center, shortly after he fired a 50-caliber machine gun.

Ed Rabinowitz (B.A., '74)

has published his first book, *The Road to a Record* (PublishAmerica, 2008), about the women's softball team of Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pa., which set a collegiate record by winning its 93rd consecutive game in April 2007. The book, coauthored with the team's coach, Sam Carrodo, chronicles the three-year history of that record-setting journey.

Rabinowitz, an adjunct professor at Lehigh Carbon Community College, is an editorial consultant and a frequent contributor to *AHIP Coverage*, *MDNG*, and *Managed Healthcare Executive* magazines. Prior to launching his own editorial firm in 1995, he was director of marketing communications for the Continental Insurance Company and also had spent seven years as publications manager and Eastern public relations manager for Volkswagen of America. He earned his master's degree in communication and information studies from Rutgers University.



Northampton Community College Women's Softball Coach Sam Carrodo (left) and Ed Rabinowitz ('74).



lowed him not only to make a positive contribution through education but also to explore neighboring countries.

After a year, with his diary in hand, Ponce traveled north to Mexico and is currently teaching at the University del Mar, located in the town of Huatulco on the southern Pacific coast of Oaxaca. Regardless of where he may find himself, Ponce sees the years ahead as "an intricate labyrinth of unforeseen conclusions." He will "always be a student," he says, "exploring endless possibilities, never limiting myself to constructing my own, but surrendering to Life's moments with a sense of clarity and purpose."



annual fund report

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Linda S. Ochser '69
Claire Paccione '73
Maria C. Pagan Ortiz
Anthony V. Patti '80
Norma Kolko Phillips
Esther R. Phillips
Plan De Pensiones
Susan Polirstok
Willie M. Polite '78
Eleanor J. Pontes
Kathleen G. Quinn-Miller
Victor M. Quintana '82
Joseph Rachlin
Luz Minerva Ramos
Aubyn M. Reid '89
Savel M. Richards '04
William J. Rider
Ridgewood Savings Bank
Hector A. Rivera '70
Angel L. Rivera Santiago
Andrea Jean Rockower '73
Jose F Rodriguez Garcia
Irwin I. Rofman
Carole S. Rothman '69
Carlton Eugene Sailor '06
Pamela Scheinman
Wendy Schleifer
Barbara Schwimmer
William Seraile
Mary Deborah Shea
Richard M. Sheldon '68
Sydel Silverman
Beverly A. Simmons '76
Miriam G. Simms '98
Oneater Sinclair '80
Madeleine G. Smith
Cindy Newkirk Smith '86
Samuel Soto '78
Clarence Stanley
Shirley Ann Sterling '82
Dianne B. Stillman '98
Lorraine K. Stock '70
Jack M. Stryker '79
Irving R. Stuart
Carlos Suarez '83
Sunnyside Queens Restaurant Corp.
Sherry A. Swanston '82
David Swinghamer
Doris Lynn Tancredi '75
Rochelle Teichner '02

Steven Tepikian '79
The Courtyard Bar Inc.
Nicholas T. Torrens '70
Emanuel J. Torres '03
Eileen C. Treacy '74
Roseann L. Trovato '76
Debbie L. Tucker '88
Julieann V. Ulin
Valerie Vallade '69
Milan Valuch '69
Inez B. Vanable '72
Diana A. Vartabedian '70
Cecilia Vega Vega '77
Edna R. Ventarola '76
Joan Louise Villani '71
Melba Villar '87
Karen Paulette Walach '81
Wendy Wallace '76
Elizabeth Anne Ward '69
Michael Jonathan Warren '69
Malvina Watson '77
Karen Rothberg Weinberg '76
Elliot Weitz '72
Mona Weitz '69
Ellen Wilkinson '97
Theresa S. Wilson '76
Genneva A. Winkley '99
Mark Harris Winnegrad '71
Lawrence D. Young '80
Cheryl J. Zaccaro
Stephen Zimmerman '75

Recent Graduates (2006 - 2007)

Nana A. Atta-Mensah '07
Ferdinand Corral DeJesus '07
Mesrake Eshetu '07
Scott Fowler '07
Lis Goris '06
Wayne Groh '07
Antonia J. Hassan '07
Joel R. Key '06
Barbara M. Lazarus '07
Ratha Katrinity Ry '06

Friends

B. L. Abdul-Jabbaar '03
George J. Abosi
Sheila Abramowitz '70
Joel Abrevaya '88
Haydee Acevedo '02
Juan L. Acosta '02
Zelma Acosta '98
Monica R. Adames-Robinson '08
Taiwo G. Adeniji '96
Pauline L. Albert '79
Annie Carmen Alexander '75
Carmen M. Alicea '02
Jo L. Alston '04
Frances Alvino '01
Daniel Vincent Amatrudi '80
Geraldine Ambrosio '75
Samantha Amiker '04
Sonia M. Amira '95
Tommy L. Anderson '86
Marianne Anderson '84
Lillian Andino '04
Joseph Real Andre '95
Patricia A. Andrews '73
Allys Ansh-Arkorful '06
Beryl Anto '78
Elliott M. Antokoletz '68

Audra Armorer
Lynette Arroyo '03
Manuel Angel Arruffat '96
Daniel Morris Asnis '74
Margaret Ann Assante '07
Nana A. Atta-Mensah '07
Florence B. Audevard '92
Jacquelyn Nicole Austin '05
Sean Anthony Baez '06
Breda Muldoon Bahler '74
Jacqueline A. Bailey '79
Madhuwattie Balgobin '08
Darrell M. Ballinger '78
Bryon C. Baptiste '01
Geri A. Baron '71
William Baronowsky
Irene A. Barros '99
Dennis P. Barry '96
Carl J. W. Becker '87
Judy P. Beckles-Ross '99
Margaret Patricia Begendorf '80
Desmond M. Begley '91
Andrew B. Belin '06
Christine Bellacero '76
Carlos J. Benitez '03
Nicholas A. Berardi '81
Rhonda K. Berkowitz
Frieda Bernstein
Shirley Bernstein '72
Elizabeth Bertrand '93
Elizabeth A. Betz '84
Elena S. Billing '70
Patrick J. Birde '77
Consuela Othello Blake '77
Alan D. Blau '75
James B. Block '98
Antoinette Blum
Betty L. Blume '75
Mona T. Boland '78
Bernice A. Borow '05
Lottie V. Bragg '92
Gonia E. Braham '90
Gail A. Brandt '03
Linda M. Brandt '71
Arlene Brasill '02
Evelyn M. Brillon '88
Arline Bronzaf
Barbara Heimlich Bross '73
Alwyn A. Brown '08
David C. Brown '69
Ronald V. Brown '75
Carol Jacynth Browne '01
Margaret Kelly Bunzick '91
Eileen Burke '80
Donna M. Burke '78
William E. Burnicke '01
Darian D. Burrus '02
Kwasi Busia
Ilene Mach Calderon '77
Gemma Sarah Calimeri '70
Eugenia Celeste Cameron '86
Karlene Nichole Cameron '07
Carole C. Campbell '03
Esmie Lylvester Campbell '88
Kerry A. Campbell-Jones '87
Enrichetta Caparco '73
Barbara J. Cappelli '00
Peter R. Carelli '86
Ernestine Carmenatti-Robles '96
John Carney
Lynn J. Caron '88
Charles M. Carpenter

Eleanor Carren '76
Elizabeth Marshall Carroll '06
Charles A. Casale '74
John F. Casale '72
Sally-Mary A. Cashman '73
Rachel Casillas '99
Yvette M. Castagnetto '99
Sonia Diaz Castellanos '85
Douglas Castor
Wanda Tousey Castro '89
Philippa Gullo Centini '68
Beverly J. Chabinsky
Mercedes Charneco '70
Ricardo Charriez '04
Sarah Chen Cheng '89
Perla M. Cherubini '76
Barbara Verona Chin '05
Roman W. Chornodolsky '71
Anthony J. Ciarfeo '76
Joanne P. Cintron '06
Karina Cisnero '08
Ellen M. Clancy '72
Tamika T. Clarke '08
Faye M. Cohen '84
Richard Cohen
Joseph S. Cohen '99
Hilda G. Coll
Kathy Miller Collyer '80
Diana Martinez Colon '08
James J. Connell
Diane M. Connors '86
Silverio V. Conte '78
Kevin J. Convery '90
Carol A. Coogan '80
Allen S. Cooper '79
Dominick Anton-Joseph Corrado '76
Helen M. Corrigan '02
Donna M. Costanza '69
Catherine L. Cotter '71
Monica Almena Cover '77
Donald R. Coy '04
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
Elizabeth A. Creaney '92
Patrick Critton '69
Lourdes Cruz '91
Miriam R. Cruz '76
Horace E. Cunningham '02
Danny D'Adamo '86
Mary Jo Verna Dalbey '74
Mariana T. D'Alessandro '98
Dora Daniel '86
Marcus V. Daugherty
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Rosalind Y. Davis '02
Pota Yianoukos Davis '86
Jennifer L. Dawber
Mary M. De Bellis '82
Andrea De George-Garbarini '84
Alketa Deci '06
Anne Bazukiewicz Defino '76
Ferdinand Corral DeJesus '07
Lillian DeJesus-Martinez '99
Sonia L. Deliz '08
Josephine Depace '95
Sadie M. Desdune '85
John Dewey '98
Melanie Renee Di Stante '08
Sandra Diaz '93
Shirley Diaz '96
Desiree Dichiaro
Martha Williams Digiovanni '84
Gwendolyn Dillard - Hatcher '74

Mary Beth Dinoto '75
Suzanne R. Donahue '85
Adwoa Donkor '06
Edward N. Doohan '68
Michael J. Dooley '99
Geraldine E. Doonan '82
Karen Dorio '97
Prudence Drummond '92
Barry Martin Druyan '74
Marilynn Plotnik Duchin '73
Paulette J. Dunkley '89
Lorraine Jones Dunklin '78
Edmund John Dunn '80
Daroud Oaboo Dye '86
Sarah Ann Dziomba '82
Alfred D. Elkins '69
Rosetta C. Ellis '72
Norma Encarnacion '76
Brittne Martha Epple '84
Bruce Epps
Javier Escudero '04
Mesrake Eshetu '07
Bernard Etheridge '87
Wesley C. Evans '91
Harvey N. Evans '89
John Wesley Evans '06
Dhalia S. Ezra '78
Celia V. Fagan '01
John Fallon
Stefan B. Farage '98
Rosemary Fasano '04
Joseph J. Fata '77
James V. Ferebee '95
Alan Z. Feuer
Debra E. Fields '78
Mary R. Figlear '88
Phyllis B. Fisher '86
Maura E. Fitton '86
Agnes T. Fitzpatrick '88
Rachelle Ann Flisser '69
Barbara Florenzan '06
Sarito A. Flores-Aponte '02
Tracie Florida
Anna Graham Flowers '82
Norma B. Fogarty '92
Shirley C. Fogle '99
Arlene E. Foote-Patterson '94
Scott Fowler '07
Carolyn Fox
Sonia V. Fraser '72
Philip I. Freedman
Mark Jay Freiberg '74
Daniel Steven Frey '00
Charles D. Friedman '78
Michael J. Friedman '82
Victoria J. Friedman '95
Robert N. Friedman '76
Bernard H. Friese '84
Susanne H. Fruchter '94
Linda Carmela Frum '95
Althea Fuller '05
Karen Fung '91
Jack Funt '90
Samantha Fuster '84
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Patricia Ellen Gallagher '76
Charles B. Gallo '01
Cira Garcia '06
Sandra R. Garcia '99
Jemmiel A. Gardner '01
Terri Garrity '79
Peter Gartlan '81



annual fund report

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Monica Gayle '90
Robert Gerardi '02
Maryann R. Gerbacia '78
Mark David Gersten '72
Christine Crumm Gibian '74
Enid Fox Giles '77
Alan Gilman '72
Irene Boyd Gilmore '75
Jack Gingold
Olga E. Gioulis '72
Frances Breidenbach Giuffre '74
Filippa Giuliano '76
Ezra B. Glaser '98
Philip S. Glotzer '72
Nadeen Glover '00
Armetha V. Goddard '80
Linda Godfrey-Rucker '99
Sol E. Goichman '90
Jean R. Goldman
Arkadiy A. Golyanov '97
Elisa Gonzalez
F. Xavier Gonzalez-Goenaga
Anne Danforth Gooding '75
Fran S. Gordon '75
Lis Goris '06
Karen M. Grandon-Murphy '78
Irwin L. Gratz '78
Frank Greco '05
Methlyn G. Green
Karen R. Green '91
Jean Diane Greenberg '75
Daron M. Greene '00
Michael A. Greer
Robert T. Gregory '80
Jonathan Z. Gribetz '80
Wayne Groh '07
Clement B. Grose '04
Anne Dagostino Guarino '74
Lourdes H. Guerrero '08
Carmen Guzman '97
George L. Guzman '03
Harry Robert Hall '05
Eileen Ferger Halliwell '74
Dona L. Hamilton
Carmen G. Hammer '74
Nora M. Hamond-Gallardo '79
Ann H. Hansen
Barbara Belardo Hanusik '75
Marilyn J. Harding '89
Todorka I. Haroutunian '06
Beris M. Harper '88
Jacquelyn Harrell '76
Adrienne C. Harris '84
Donnelle Harrison
Wayne William Harrison '08
Helene E. Hartman '74
Paisley Harvey
Antonia J. Hassan '07
Una I. Hawthorne
Mary F. Hayes '00
Violet L. Hayes '76
Corrie Hazel '05
Charlotte A. Heese '79
Janet Heettner
Dolores H. Henchy '72
Robert Anthony Henry '06
Clarence I. Henson '85
Marta Heredia '06
Becky Hernandez
Mariela Hernandez
Raphael Hernandez '70
- Robert S Herron '95
Katherine B. Hickey '92
David Hickman
Rachel L. Hill '00
John Mauk Hilliard
Teres R. Hinds '05
Veronica B. Hobbs '72
Sandra P. Hoberman Halofsky '68
Peter M. Hoefer '72
Francis Leo Hogan '07
Virginia Marie Holec '74
Susan P. Hollander '93
Victoria F. Holmberg '03
Sally C. Hoople
Donald G. Hoople
Ellen Hou '72
Patricia A. Hudick '66
Gilton Orlando Huggett '00
Gloria B. Hughes '97
Pamela T. Humphrey
Veronica C. Humphreys '93
Rosemary Tito Hunt '77
Mary Hurd-Brown
Joanna E. Hutchinson '83
John J. Hutton
Ruby H. Hyatt '87
Nana Ayisha Ibrahim '08
Lynn C. Imergoot '69
Abraham Irizarry '07
Brenda Irizarry '03
Daniel Irizarry '05
Md Shahidul Islam
Stephanie T. Ivory '05
Kaitlyn M. Jackson '00
Hinda Jacobs '84
Anita Smoler Jacobson
Mirianne Jean-Jacques '83
Michelle A. Jervis '00
Ethel Jiles '85
Janet D. Johnson '80
Mabel E. Johnson '73
Daryl H. Johnson '90
Lauren Gerowitz Jones '81
Rita Jones '74
Lisa C. Jones-Gordon '85
Ronald B. Joseph '74
Leslie Judd
Loretta M. Judge '89
Adele Pockler Kallet '75
Meredith Tane Kanner '73
Leslie C. Kaplan '72
Ruth Rubin Kaplan '73
Shoshana Leitner Kaplovitz '82
Ellen Katz '74
Monika Kaur '06
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Dorit A. Kehr-Bollinger '73
Brenda J. Keitt '01
Christine Defeo Keller '84
Norma S. Keller '70
Kathleen M. Kelton '89
Jane Hynes Kersting '74
Isabel Knecht Kessler '74
Joel R. Key '06
Gina Bost Keyes '86
Lynette Emily Kiel '70
Susan E. Kim '98
Erma King
Carol J. Kissane '69
Katrina Klein '08
Patricia Kleinman '73
Robert A. Klippel '90
- Kathleen A. Koch '72
Mouhamed Nour Kone
Rose M. Kornblau '86
Elizabeth D. Kotey '05
Douglas Andrew Kozak '75
Minnie Krakowsky '76
Ida Krausz '08
Barry A. Krissoff '72
Jayne Krissoff '72
Omesh Kumar
Theresa M. Kurtz '77
Steven Kutcher '73
Rita McCarthy La Bar '89
Thomas P. La Perche '73
Julian D. Laderman
Lakehead University
John J. Lally
Sang Su Lam '04
Barbara Larteley Larkai '06
Susan M. Laspina '96
William James Lauturner '74
Verna D. Lawrence '89
Barbara M. Lazarus '07
Gregory J. Leighton '86
Jean Leonard
Norma Brown Leveridge '80
Joan Blazis Levitt '88
Karen Kerns Lewis
Salvatore Licciardello '73
Maria B. Lichtenstein '82
David Lieb '01
Hillary Liebowitz-Weber '76
Wanda S. Linares '08
Elaine Doxey Lipton '76
Joan T. Litsky '58
Linda Ann LoBasso Pera '69
Neva L. Lockett '74
Suzanne Millet Locovare '78
Joseph A. Lomascolo '79
Phyllis Estelle Longworth '75
Alfred F. Loomis
Anthony J. Lopiano '98
Judy Y. Lorell '03
Vicki Mofsen Lowery '76
Cheryl Lubin '77
Ralph Lucena '98
Mabel Luperon
Diane De La Flor Lynch '81
Evelyn V. Maben-Hall '06
Jessica T. Macklin '93
Angela M. Madigan '84
Annellen C. Madigan '95
Maira K. Magro '97
Traore Maiga '04
Adriane I. Maisell '92
Robert E. Malberti '83
Violet A. Mallory '80
Bernard F. Malone '89
Joan M. Manfredi '90
Carmen Rosa Manso '83
Paul F. Mapelli '80
Kathleen Marcantonio '75
Maxine Markoff '73
Leslie Maron '75
Gisela Marrero '00
Helvetia Martell
Patricia Snyder Marthouse '79
Cheryl D. Martin '01
Joan F. Martin '85
Linda J. Martin '97
Amira Raphaella Martin '01
Brunilda Martinez '81
- Debra Martinez '75
Maria Del C. Martinez
Dilenia Martinez
Julio Martinez '00
Ayana Kimkia Martinez '05
Pedro Martinez '04
Lillian Yolanda Martinez '08
Sandra Benedetti Masiello '87
Mayra J. Massa Munoz
Marlene Matera '89
Joanna Matos '00
Rebecca A. Mattos '96
Leslie D. May '00
Mary Domenica Mazzarano-
Hagenbuch '74
Lisa McCaffrey '95
Edward D. McCarthy '76
Justin M. McCarthy '85
Veronica A. McCartney '92
Andrea V. McDonald '04
Ellen Mary McDonough '68
Margaret A. McEachern '93
Thomas Joseph McGrath '73
Kathleen M. McGrath '76
Maureen Elizabeth McGuire '69
Robert G. McKay '79
Grace Elizabeth McManus '64
Harold E. McNulty '90
Margaret T. McSherry-Martino '75
Barbara R. Meara '91
Emma Medina
Ana R. Medina '89
Howard B. Medow '74
Hilda C. Meilman '72
Diana E. Melendez
Maria E. Melendez '86
Antonio A. Mendez '87
Dianne T. Meranus '73
Dorca N. Mercado '07
Merrick Library Fund
Doris Meyer
Linda R. Meyer '74
Heather McGlashan Meyerend '80
Harry S. Miller '73
Ana I. Miranda '89
Gilda I Mitrakos '96
Kathleen M. Mohrman '65
Rhina Altigracia Montano '08
Natividad Montero '06
Indira Mookhram '03
Luisa A. Morales '79
Rose M. Moran
Charlotte Morgan-Cato
Gayle Morley Morley '76
Catherine D. Morris '81
John R. Moskal '74
Jordan B. Moss
Glenn J. Muenzer '79
Nasir Muhammad '76
Maura R. Mulligan '84
Jens Mundackal '06
Thomas Murasso
Michael Euphrasia Murphy '79
Lois M. Murray '01
Roland Michael Naglieri '73
Hyun Ok Nam Gung '07
Richard T. Nassisi '72
Fred Negron '87
Nelda C. and H.J. Lutch Stark
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Harriett Nelson '89
Amie Reinhertz Nemeth '77
- Nicole N. Nesbeth '04
Wayne W. Nesmith '91
New York Life Foundation
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Selina Nnorom '91
Maryanne Corcillo Nojman '75
Mary T. Noonoy '98
Gloria G. North '67
Francis C. Nugent '74
Jill Glatter Nusbaum '75
Lydia C. Obasi '04
Benjamin Zev Oberstein '75
Maria A. Y. Oconnell '71
Ann P. O'Connor '05
Mary Anne O'Donnell '73
Sean O'Donnell
Lester C. O'Garro '78
Doris Ojeda
Festus O. Ojwang '02
Jumoke Funmi Olanayan '06
Lydia Arac Olario '06
Lillian Oliva
Maris L. Olivo
Thomas F. O'Loughlin '84
Alice Olsen '75
Yolanda Dona Olsen '08
Leonie A. O'Meally '93
Anthonia Ifeoma Omeke '07
Julie O. Omenukwa '06
Yaw B. Opoku '05
Orange County Library District
David S. Orenstein '76
Arlene Ortiz '03
Liora Ortiz Ortiz-petrescu '82
Corinne O'Shaughnessy '92
Judith Zahler Osten '78
Rona Lynn Ostrow
Elizabeth Pacheco '79
Elizabeth M. Padilla '86
Salvatore Paese '81
Christine Zigrest Paese '86
Yvonne M. Palmieri '84
Louise A. Paluzzi '78
Matthew J. Panetta '04
John David Pantuso '74
Marie Parchment-Maxwell
Jamie T. Parker
Carole E. Parkey '97
Teresa Lucy Patti '70
Barry C. Pearce '70
Hillary R. Peart '05
Albert Pena '95
Stephanie Peña
Wendy A. Perez '03
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Caryn F. Perlman '87
Helen Alexander Pessin '78
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Steven S. Pflaum '75
Jacqueline Georgette Philibert '05
Maria Leotha Phillipknight '08
Melody Joy Phillips '87
Melody Phillips '87
C. Asquith Phills '74
Lee Ping Pian '76
Kristin M. Picone '05
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Benjamin Pilitch '62
Adeline Pina '92
Anna Pizzolato '71
Dinora Polanco '01
Betty Janice Polanco '08

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Betty Chlebnikow
Silverio V. Conte
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Robert Finkelstein
Peter Gartlan

Lewis R. Gordon
Beryl F. Herdt
Anita Smoler Jacobson
Anne Johnson
Alfred F. Loomis
Martha Sokol McCarty

Reinold George McNickle
Wendy Schleifer
Barbara Schwimmer
Sydel Silverman
Virginia Marty Sutter
David Swinghamer

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Bruce Byland
Ann Ellen Chlebnikow
Henry T. Crawford
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Ann C. Quinn-Nathan
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Iris Ramos '79
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Maureen Ray '95
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Miziel Remolona
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Gilda D. Richards '97
Virginia Riklin '78
Dennis Riley '99
Ronald Rimi '77
Howard M. Ring '90
Iliana Rios '91
Daisy I. Rivera
Eugene Rivers
Karen A. Roback '76
Richard N. Roback '78
Kim Robinson Bucano '83
Gail L. Robinson '77
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Aurea Rodriguez '03
Sandro Rodriguez
Gladys Romero '87
Diane L. Romm '70
Arcides Rondon '05
Mayra A. Rosa '99
Frank Rosa '80
Gladys Rosado '08
Marcial Rosado '75
Ingrid Rosario
Carmen Irene Rosario '05
Joan E. Rose '89
Dianne M. Rose '03
Norma Klein Rosenberg '73
Lonnie S. Rosenberg '78
Nancy Berly Rosenfeld '72
Martin Rosenfeld '90
Norman Morris Rosner '80
Carolyn Ross '67
Davis R. Ross
Mark J. Roth '75
Christopher J. Rowan '81
Elisa Lori Rube '81
Ratha Katrina Ry '06
Elise Ingram Sabatel '85
Alice R. Saberski
John Sagan '00
Tomiko Sakazume
Enrique Salgado '80
Patricia A. Salomone '68

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Rosalyn Saltzman '86
Rosemarie T. Salvo '76
Maribel Sanchez '01
Grace M. Sannella '06
Kenia E. SanQuintin '96
Carmen Santiago '74
Dawn Santiago
Elizabeth Santiago '01
María L. Santiago '97
Pablo C. Sanz '96
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Una Satchell-Jenkins '06
Patricia Anne Schachner '70
Marcy Schickler '76
Marie P. Schiff '77
Vivian S. Schiffman '70
Kenneth Schlesinger
Michael A. Schneider '75
Richard J. Schneider '72
Larry Schonfeld '71
Alice M. Schwartz '67
Judith Kennedy Schwarz '92
Emelie T. Sciarpelletti '90
Minnie L. Scott '85
Shirley Scott '76
Lori E. Scott-Funchess '76
Emily Seff '76
Harriet A. Seiz '79
Julius L. Selinger '70
Jacqueline C. Seltzer '73
Yaquelin A. Severino '06
Maharanie Sewbhajan '97
Terry T. Seymore-Collins '87
Michael Owen Shannon
Sylvia Siano '73
Carol M. Sicherman
Ruth Siegler '01
Joanna Sikolas '05
Alice Brady Sillis '75
Beverly Silverman '81
Helene J. Silverman
Carrie Delores Simmons '80
Bridget O. Simmons '07
Sonia Simon '72
Lola B. Simpson
Susan L. Sing '74
Mark Singer '69
Alka Singh
Phanendra K. Singh '04
Lottie M. Singh '94
John A. Sioris '68
Loretta Ann Skrobola '70
Rita V. Sloan '70
Jane Slutsker '05
Shirley Small '83
Barbara A. Smith '92
Wayne C. Smith '85
Charlotte Smith '86
Beverly Deloris Smith '06
Derrick Smith
Laura Ella Smith '05
Danielle H. Smith '01
Peter J. Smith '72
Brian L. Smith '71
Myrtle L. Smith '76
Beverly P. Soares '94
Edith Sobel '88
Lynda D. Solomon '69
David H. Sorblum '74
Anna Maria Sozio-Reis '74
Yvette M. Spellman '81

Benjamin Anthony Spero '86
Randi Ellen Spiegel '76
Bernice Herman Spillert '77
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Rosina Marie Stamati '74
Barbara Stankiewicz '74
Carmen O. Steele-Wallace '97
Eugene Steinhart '76
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Louis S. Strausman '68
Ernest Strom
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP
Beulah Lorraine Stuart '72
Beth Stuckey '77
Christopher J. Sullivan '81
Maryann Sullivan
Linda Sussman '90
Virginia Marty Sutter
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The Alarm Clock Was Ringing

One Graduate Stands Up in Defense of Science

My name is Jeffrey Selman. I was born in the Deep South...Bronx and am an alumnus of the first Lehman graduating class. I only make mention of my "southern" roots because I am living in Cobb County, Ga., where the lingering societal conflict between evolution and creation made me bring my South Bronx understanding of science education to my new Southern home. Unfortunately, I had to do this through a federal lawsuit.

My journey began in 1969 when I joined VISTA, a federal anti-poverty program, and worked with the Navajo Nation as a local community development planner. My college years saw some very turbulent times in the United States, and the educational environment Lehman afforded me helped to influence and encourage my need to contribute to our country.

While in VISTA, I learned that the South Bronx was near the top of the federal list of most impoverished areas of the country. That knowledge—and my understanding that education is a potent weapon against poverty—led me to return to the Bronx and teach everything from elementary school to high school history. After spending almost ten years in the classroom, experiencing both rewards and frustrations, I made the decision to alter my career direction.

Leaving the public sector, I became a COBOL programming consultant, but assignments in New York were hard to land at that time, so I found myself taking a position in Atlanta. As fate would have it, I met my wife there, and we moved to Cobb County, which has the best school system in the state.

My reconnection to education and the origins of the suit began in 1996 during the rewriting of the Georgia curriculum. The State Superintendent of Schools announced that the teaching of evolution should be the concern of local communities and not the dictate of the state board. With concern for my son's future science education and my old Lehman memories of physical anthropology in my soul, I signed up, as an interested parent, to work on rewriting of the state curriculum. Although I was not assigned to the science committee, the general discussions seemed to indicate that evolution would continue as part of a valid science education.

Time passed, and we went back to sleepwalking through our democracy. Within a few years of the curriculum rewrite, however, a petition circulated through several of Cobb's religious communities, demanding that a disclaimer against evolution be placed inside the new biology texts. In disbelief, and still sleepwalking, I questioned why the theocratic community had not petitioned earlier for such a sticker. The answer, as it turned out, was simple. In each and every one of the previous biology textbooks, all the pages concerning evolution had intentionally not been bound into the books, without even a concern for renumbering the remaining pages!

Well, the alarm clock was now ringing, and I was out of bed and back to work. I attended many School Board meetings and spoke up publicly. I met many science educators who contributed immensely in the defense against this renewed assault on science and who continue to help on other separation issues.

The Cobb School Board, however, totally ignored us. I then approached the A.C.L.U. (American Civil Liberties Union) and asked if anyone had begun a suit. The answer was a resounding "No, but would you be willing...?" The moment of truth had arrived. I thought of my wife and child, of all the kids that I had helped to educate in the Bronx, and of my immigrant grandparents, who taught me that "freedom isn't free—you've got to keep working for it."



Jeffrey Selman '69 addresses the Cobb School Board during the controversy over the teaching of evolution.

Photo courtesy of *The Marietta Daily Journal*.

And work for it I did, starting with the filing of a Federal lawsuit, "Selman v. the Cobb County Bd. of Ed." Many threats started coming my way. Several times I even needed to seek help from recalcitrant police.

Through the full-blown trial that we won, and even afterwards, I worked for it. The very conservative Eleventh Federal Circuit threw out the lower court's ruling on the basis of "incorrect information" and sent the case back for retrial. Not until the wonderful "final" settlement was reached, could I "relax." That settlement was brought about by the same lawyers from Americans United for Separation of Church and State who had used the Cobb trial as a basis for arguing—and prevailing—against the teaching of "intelligent design" in Dover, Pa.

While science education in Cobb is, for now, "protected" from theocratic assault, it is in no way safe in our nation's future. My experience shows that preserving our right to a valid education, free from myopic subject-inappropriate content, is only safe if we stay attentive. The alarm clock is still ringing. Don't slap it, and go back to sleep. Wake up! It's time to go to work.

Jeffrey Selman is president of the Georgia chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. To learn more, visit www.jeffreyselman.com.

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