

Lehman

TODAY

FALL 2011 - WINTER 2012



Old Blends with New in the Leonard Lief Library

Professor
Gary Schwartz:
An Honorable
Scholar

Biologist David
Spector ('77):
At the Forefront
of Gene Research

THE MAGAZINE OF LEHMAN COLLEGE
For Alumni and Friends

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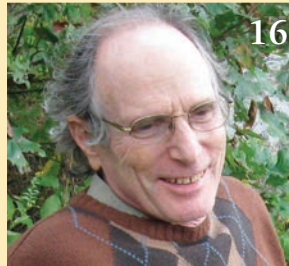
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On the Cover: Like thousands of alumni before her, a student reads from the stacks of the Leonard Lief Library, where the digital age is blending seamlessly with books printed on paper. *Photo by Adi Talwar.*

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A message from

President Ricardo R. Fernández



Learning, whether in the library or the laboratory, or from a dedicated teacher, forms the main focus of this issue of *Lehman Today*. Lehman's Leonard Lief Library (p. 11) is a leader in incorporating new technology, which has changed the way we seek out and retrieve information. As Chief Librarian Kenneth Schlesinger points out, though, it's not a case of "either-or." Even while relying on their laptops and smartphones, students are still gravitating to the shelves for the printed word. Visit the Library's website (www.lehman.edu/library), and you'll find a wealth of services available today to the Lehman community.

Alumni know better than anyone that learning must continue beyond college and throughout life. As director of research at the preeminent Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories, Dr. David Spector (M.S., '77), is leading teams of scientists who have devoted their lives to uncovering new knowledge in several fields of biology (p. 20). We are proud that Dr. Spector studied at Lehman and models his teaching and mentoring after that of Professor Emeritus Dr. Thomas Jensen, who was the College's long-time biology chair.

Faculty like Dr. Jensen and Dr. Gary Schwartz, director of both the Lehman Scholars Program and the Macaulay Honors College at Lehman—as well as many hundreds of other faculty at Lehman, now and in the past—have inspired students to believe in their own abilities and pursue careers they might not have thought attainable. They also have prepared students with the skills to succeed in those endeavors. The profile of Dr. Schwartz (p. 16) is written by alumnus Tom Stoelker (B.A., '09), who became one of these inspired students.

Alumni, in turn, continue to inspire all of us at Lehman. For those of you who are teachers, you know first-hand the sense of satisfaction you experience when your former students make a contribution professionally or within their communities. At Lehman, we also are gratified by the commitment expressed by many alumni to our College and to the students learning today on our campus. Donors to the Annual Fund (p. 30) are supporting new stories of success and achievement.

In this, my twenty-second year as president of Lehman College, I remain ever grateful to each of you for your dedication to learning, and to Lehman.



campus walk

Construction Begins on \$6.3 Million Child Care Center ...

Lehman's new Child Care Center just went into construction this September and will be finished in the blink of an eye, when measured against the usual time for completing new buildings. Because of its modular construction—twenty-two prefabricated modules will be delivered and assembled on-site—the two-story building is expected to be completed in Spring/Summer 2012. It will be located along Goulden Avenue, between Shuster and Davis Halls, in an area not currently being used.

Serving 140 children of Lehman students, the \$6.3 million center will contain six classrooms and a multipurpose room that can function as a playroom, after-school space, or additional classroom. Outside, a natural playground will incorporate greenery, boulders, and garden space, along with traditional playground equipment.

Designed by Garrison Architects, the structure will replace the T-3 Building, which houses the current center and will be demolished to make way for Phase II of the College's new science complex.

Lehman was one of the first CUNY colleges to open a facility of this kind. In 1971, "As the Twig is Bent Day Care Center" was established off campus, with support from the College administration and funding from New York City. Created on campus in 1985, the current center later became the first in CUNY, and among the first forty in New York State, to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

The new project is supported by funds from the New York State legislature and the Office of the Bronx Borough President. Speaking at the ceremony were Lehman and CUNY officials, as well as Erica Sevall, a Lehman graduate student whose son, now in first grade, was enrolled in the center for several years. Highlighting the

program was a performance of the children's song "The Carpenter's Hammer" by the Center's four-year-olds.



Top: Four-year-olds from the Child Care Center perform at the groundbreaking. Bottom: A rendering of the new structure.

... as Funds Are Allocated for Another New Project

Part of the Old Gym will soon become home to a new Teaching and Learning Commons, thanks to \$1.3 million in capital funds from the Bronx delegation to the New York City Council. The old swimming-pool area on the basement level will be transformed into flexible classroom and presentation space, areas for group and quiet study as well as for technology support and training, and a combination lounge and café. The project should be bid out next fall and opened early in 2014.

In the Commons, established last year in temporary space, faculty members are already working to develop new pedagogical methods, including an advanced aesthetics lab, hybrid lecture-and-lab teaching in anatomy and physiology, and more effective ways of teaching and tutoring in math. The new space will provide an open environment where faculty and students can meet, share ideas, and work on projects across multiple disciplines.

Dr. Harriet R. Fayne Named New Dean of Education; Divisional Structure Changes Over to 'Schools'

A new dean of education arrived at Lehman this summer, just in time to head a School of Education, instead of a Division. Dr.



Harriet R. Fayne, an administrator with more than thirty years of experience in higher education, comes from Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio, where she was dean of the School of Professional Studies, as well as interim dean of its Graduate School.

Dr. Fayne has led initiatives to improve scholarship, expand community partnerships, and foster institutional growth. At Otterbein, she oversaw five practitioner departments and was responsible for managing budgets in excess of \$7 million,

as well as fifty-seven full-time faculty. She holds a B.A. from Barnard College, an M.A.T. from Harvard University, an M.A. and M.Ed. from Teachers College, and a Ph.D. in educational psychology from

Columbia University. She succeeds Dr. Deborah Eldridge, who left Lehman to become senior vice president of NCATE (National Council on the Accreditation of Teacher Education) in Washington, D.C.

Joining with Education in the change of name were the Division of Arts and Humanities and the Division of Natural and Social Sciences, now each a School. The move is designed to provide a more streamlined administrative structure for the development of new professional programs. At the same time, the Division of Adult and Continuing Education became the School of Continuing and Professional Studies to better describe its programs and mission.

■ **President Fernández Receives Two Major Awards ...**

Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández received the NFL Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award on Sept. 18 during the Jets game against the Jacksonville Jaguars at MetLife Stadium. The Jets went on to win the game, 32-3.

The award to President Fernández was given in recognition of his twenty-one years of service at Lehman and his long-time leadership and advocacy in his community. He is the longest-serving of the twenty-three current CUNY presidents.

"I was very proud to accept this award on behalf of the faculty, students, and staff of Lehman College of The City University of New York," said President Fernández. "Our students come from throughout the metropolitan area and from more than ninety nations. They go on to contribute in important ways to the vitality of our city and state, and this award recognizes their achievements as well."

Last spring, the president was honored at ASPIRA's Fiftieth Anniversary Salute for his more than forty years of work in the field of education. He received the Education Award, which recognizes those who have had a significant impact on the Latino community and ASPIRA.

Founded in 1961 by Dr. Antonia Pantoja, ASPIRA has grown from a local organization to the largest nonprofit dedicated to educating and developing the next generation of Latino leaders. Dr. Fernández was recognized for his own personal achievements in his lengthy career as an educator and as a great example of the high levels of success Latinos are capable of reaching in this country.



President Fernández receives the NFL award at MetLife Stadium.

■ **... As More Awards Roll in for *Inside Lehman***

The awards keep growing for *Inside Lehman*. The ninth edition of the thirty-minute video magazine has captured a Communicator Award of Excellence from the International Academy of the Visual Arts and the Communicator Awards; its fourth consecutive Hermes Creative Award; and a Telly Award. These bring the total number of awards to a staggering count of twenty-two.

"Lehman College programs, faculty, and students can be proud that our accomplishments continue to be recognized," said Lynne Van Voorhis, assistant dean of Undergraduate Studies and Study Abroad, and executive producer of *Inside Lehman*. "The Communicator Award is our highest honor and is given to those entries whose ability to communicate puts them among the best in the field."

The Communicator Awards are sanctioned and judged by the International Academy of the Visual Arts, an invitation-only body consisting of top-tier professionals drawn from a "Who's Who" of acclaimed media, communications, advertising, creative, and marketing firms. The Lehman program was selected from a group of over 6,000 entries.

One segment of *Inside Lehman XI* reported on the College's Master of Social Work program and followed recent graduates who are beginning their career in the field. Another segment, "Energy Drinks," focused on the negative effects of these types of beverages. Other topics included "Nanotechnology," "Lehman Scholarship Day," "Soccer Goes Varsity," and a recent campus production of the Greek play *Medea*. Lehman students and faculty work together to create the segments, including developing on-air talent, working on production, and building content.

The series airs over BronxNet on Channel 67 in the Bronx and is also seen throughout New York City on CUNY-TV and on the Web through the Lehman College YouTube channel. It is produced by Lehman's Office of Undergraduate Studies and Study Abroad in collaboration with the Department of Journalism, Communication, and Theatre.

■ **... And for Individual Students As Well**

Lehman dominated this spring's "College to Career Latino Essay Contest," sponsored by the National Puerto Rican Coalition (NPRC) and the Ford Motor Company Fund, with Lehman students winning five out of the ten national awards. Asked to write about a Latino in corporate America they admire, and about the contribution Latinos have made to this segment of the economy, the Lehman students chose individuals ranging from entertainer George Lopez to the



campus walk

founder of AVANCE, a non-profit devoted to improving educational and familial support for Latino children.

Lopez might have seemed an unconventional choice, but according to biology major Kazi Sumon, he was a natural. "Through his show, Lopez has helped to humanize Latinos and the Latino family for many Americans," Sumon explained, "much like *The Cosby Show* once did for African-Americans."

Four other Lehman students won Fulbright Awards to travel to the Emerald Isle over the summer to deepen their studies of the Irish language. They took classes six days a week at the University of Galway and roomed with local families who spoke only Irish.

The 'S' Files and 'Sticks and Stones' on Display at Lehman College Art Gallery

The Lehman College Art Gallery enjoyed its most significant collaboration to date with El Museo del Barrio, as the Gallery became one of seven venues in New York City to host the Museo's sixth biennial, "The (S) Files." The show features the most innovative, cutting-edge art created by Latino, Caribbean, and Latin American artists currently working in the greater New York area. This year's exhibit takes on a broad exploration of the visual energy, events, and aesthetics of the street and showcases a record seventy-five emerging artists.

The installation at Lehman features imagery by a number of artists who share an affinity for illustration and the narrative force of images. If you think of the exhibition as a picturesque walk through the city, it conceptualizes the street as a kind of visual library—an opportunity to sample people, objects, costumes, and cityscapes.

Also on display are works by six artists in the "Sticks and

Stones" exhibit. Using natural materials—straw, mud, stones, grape tendrils, mushrooms, and spores—in a largely unmediated state, they invite the viewer to experience the physicality of the materials and the organic logic of their forms.

One of the artists, Barbara Andrus, spent much of the summer at Lehman, constructing what she called "nesting structures," composed of the branches of apple, maple, holly, birch, cherry, mountain ash, barked willow, tiger maple, and elm trees, to name a few.

"I love to be outside," said Andrus, "and this is another way of working outside."

Both exhibits are on view at the Gallery through January 6, 2012, Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Clockwise from above: Gerard Ellis, *Backyard (Afternoon of Disaster)*, 2010, acrylic on canvas; Sandra Mack-Valencia, *Reina Santa*, 2011; Artist Barbara Andrus, creating her "Nesting Structures."



Students Explore the Ancient World of Crete

Students take a moment from their month-long studies in Crete last summer for a photo with Professors Marie Marianetti (History, third from left) and Yuri Gorokhovich (Environmental, Geographic, and Geological Studies, rear, right). They're at the ruins of the Palace of Knossos, which dates back to the Minoan civilization thousands of years ago. The program is planned again for next summer.

Feeling the Pride on Commencement Day

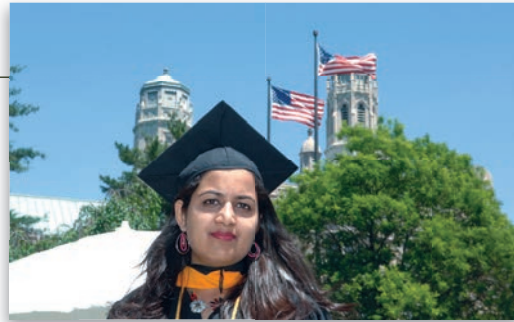
Smiles were everywhere June 2, as more than 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students in the Class of 2011 earned their degrees on Commencement Day. Fresh from a reading at the White House just three weeks earlier, Distinguished Professor of English and former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins was the principal speaker and urged the graduates to continue experiencing the sense of pride that filled the campus.

"I urge you to carry this spirit forward by continuing to behave in a way that makes you proud of yourselves," he said. "And be quick to express your pride in others. Don't hesitate to give someone a pat on the back, a word of encouragement. Don't be stingy with those fist-bumps. Let us take this moving, chest-filling feeling, this euphoric lift into our daily lives and allow it to enhance and better us."

Speaking for his class was Michael R. Hintze, a member of the CUNY Macaulay Honors College at Lehman, who was graduating with a B.A. in mathematics and computer science. Looking at the dismal state of the economy and of the world graduates are entering, he sounded a strong note of hope.

"Maybe we can be the generation that addresses the real issues that have been pushed aside for far too long," he said. "The generation that sheds this country of the 'Get rich or die trying' mindset that has permeated our belief system and seemingly become a tenet of our core values. The generation that will promote group, as opposed to individual, success. The generation that takes more pride in a new education system rather than a new car.

"Maybe our country needs a generation like us that will be forced to overcome obstacle after obstacle in order to thrive. Maybe we, the Obama generation, will actively work to change the way things are."



From top: After receiving her degree, Ambreen Javed stands tall against the backdrop of the College that is now her alma mater.



During the ceremony, President Fernández presents Johnny Pacheco (left) with his honorary degree and Dr. Aramina Vega Ferrer (below) with her Alumni Achievement Award.



Kathryn Menendez (third from left), who earned her master's degree in counselor education/school counseling, receives the first Sheryl Chasin Memorial Award. The award honors a Lehman alumna who was a long-time counselor and administrator for the Yonkers school system and was killed last December in a hit-and-run accident. With Menendez are Department Chair Dr. Faith Deveaux; President Fernández; and (right) Stephanie Chasin, daughter of the late alumna.



Several awards were also presented at the ceremony. Dr. Aramina Vega Ferrer ('73, B.A.), associate professor and chair of Literacy and Multilingual Studies in the Graduate Education Department at Mercy College, received the 2011 Alumni Achievement Award. She earned an M.S.Ed. from The City College of New York and a Ph.D. in language, literacy, and learning from Fordham University and is vice chair of the Lehman College Foundation Board of Directors.

Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández presided over the exercises and presented honorary degrees to award-winning Latin music artist Johnny Pacheco and Ponce De León Federal Bank Chairman and CEO Erasto Torres. ■



bookshelf

Why Noise Matters: A Worldwide Perspective on the Problems, Policies, and Solutions

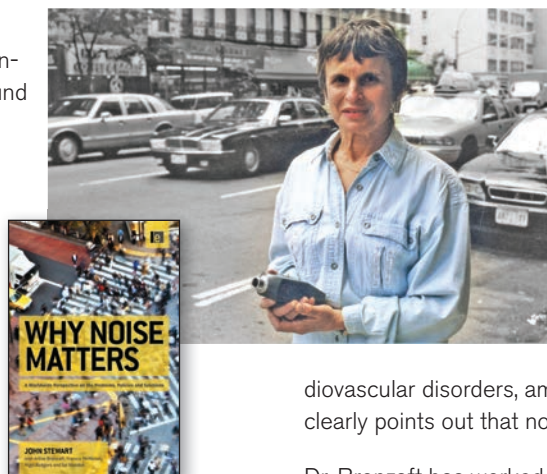
(Earthscan, 2011.) John Stewart with Arline Bronzaft, Francis McManus, Nigel Roders, and Val Weedon. \$42.95.

If you live in a major American city, then you know that noise—the unending soundtrack of industrial sounds forever playing in the background of our lives—is unavoidable. Noise is the price of admission for all the technological wonders we so love: personal computers, Hi-Def TVs, surround-sound entertainment systems, and the endless bleating of cell phones.

And that's not even taking into account the noise that has been part of American—and global—life for much of the last century: cars, subways, jet planes, commuter trains; the list goes on.

All this noise comes with a price, according to Professor Emerita Arline Bronzaft in a new book provocatively titled, *Why Noise Matters*. A lifelong New Yorker and environmental psychologist who taught at Lehman for thirty-five years, Dr. Bronzaft is a leading expert on noise pollution. “New Yorkers will tolerate a lot, including noise,” she notes, “but when they go home, they want quiet.”

Unfortunately, that's not always the case, particularly for New Yorkers in the lower tax brackets. Dr. Bronzaft was the author of a landmark 1974 study that was the first of its kind to measure the impact of noise pollution on children's education. She studied the test scores of children from a New York City public school who were exposed to the sounds of a nearby elevated train; those



who were on the side of the school closest to the train noise had lower reading scores than those who were in classrooms on the quiet side of the building. Interestingly, it was a student in one of her Lehman classes, whose child attended that school, who asked her to help the parents get the city to recognize the impact of the train noise on their children's learning experiences.

Continuous exposure to noise—the kind we take for granted due to its omnipresence—has been found to have a negative effect on the development of children who live in noisy homes or attend schools near aircraft, train, or traffic noise. Noise also has been found to adversely affect mental and physical health, leading to a higher risk of cardiovascular disorders, among other problems. *Why Noise Matters* clearly points out that noise is a global problem.

Dr. Bronzaft has worked with no fewer than four New York City mayors to decrease the abundant noise pollution in her native city, having been named by them to serve on GrowNYC. She also has advised the Transit Authority on ways to lessen the din of trains.

She is something of an expert on subways and buses (she doesn't have a car). When Dr. Bronzaft was asked by former Mayor John Lindsay to serve on a mayoral subway committee in 1971, he recognized she really understood public transit, especially with a round-trip ride between Lehman and her home in Brooklyn that took about three-and-a-half hours a day. This knowledge of transit also helped when she served on the committee that redrew the New York City subway map in 1979; the map was used until this fall, when it was somewhat revised. ■

Duels and Duets: Why Men and Women Talk So Differently

(Cambridge University Press, 2011.) John L. Locke. \$29.

Are men and women really different? Why does there seem to be a communication breakdown between the sexes? It's an age-old question and one that has driven bestsellers like Deborah Tannen's *You Just Don't Understand* and John Gray's *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus*.

Now, John L. Locke, a professor of linguistics at Lehman, makes the case in *Duels and Duets: Why Men and Women Talk So Differently* that these communication issues are rooted in biological differences.

At the heart of his theory is the idea that men *duel*, while women *duet*. The differences, he believes, can be traced back to the separate evolutionary pressures that men and women have faced, resulting in different lines of communication in achieving their goals. For men, those goals have included protecting social status and securing mates; for women, they have included exchanging intimate thoughts and feelings in a social context that welcomes closeness and trust.

“Men are more likely to speak in a competitive way,” says Dr. Locke, “so they can seem more superior to other men.” Men

Cycles of a Traveler

(AuthorHouse, 2010.) Joe Diomedé (B.A., '83). \$16.30.

Shortly after graduating from Lehman, I took a motorcycle road trip across America with another fellow graduate. That first trip became the starting point for many more motorcycle trips throughout America, in which I crisscrossed the continent several times. I even rode my motorbike up to Alaska, and lived in Los Angeles for a short while. After that, I ventured through Mexico and Central America by public transport and hitch-hiking.

Then in 1987, I moved to Japan to teach English. Living there opened me up to a whole new world; it's also where I discovered two-wheeled, non-motorized traveling. Leaving Japan on a bicycle, I spent the next nine years exploring, traveling, and working around the world, pedaling. I occasionally stopped in New York to catch up with friends and family, but traveling and cycling became my life's passion.

In 1996, I met a woman from England high up on the Tibetan Plateau, and we cycled into Tibet together. Fifteen years and two children later, we still enjoy cycling. I opened a bicycle shop in Ireland when we found ourselves living there for a couple of years, and I still co-own a small bicycle shop in England with two friends I met while living and working there. But we had lived in rural France when our first child was born, and were drawn away from the Emerald Isle and are now living in southern France.

My life on the road showed me many things, and as I cycled through many cash-impooverished countries, but culturally rich in many other ways, I realized money was not the answer to happiness. After meeting and living among many alternate, back-to-the-land type people in Brittany (France), a whole new world of food growing and the dream of a more self-sufficient lifestyle became a goal.



At home in France (above). Diomedé and his family set out for a hike in the Pyrenees (right).

My wife Angie, son Louis, daughter Francesca, and I enjoy a simple life in a small international community of people who have dropped out of the mainstream of society in search of something different for ourselves and our families. Although it is not an intentional community, it is in a part of the world that for many years has drawn mainly

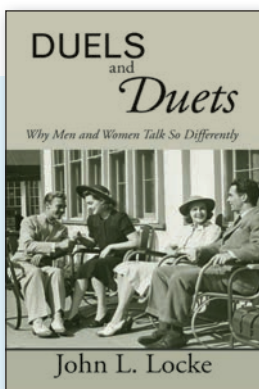


people from Europe and a few others from farther afield. We live in the shadow of the Pyrenees in the fertile foothills of those mountains that separate France from Spain.

My degree in communications from Lehman has not been used in the field it was intended, but my education and four years at Lehman introduced me to many of my friends I still keep in touch with in New York today. Those years at Lehman also introduced me to many people living creatively and forging their own unique ways through life. I am happy to say that many of my friends from those years have also gone on to follow their dreams and live across America in very diverse circumstances with a wide array of lifestyles and careers.

I was last in New York publicizing *Cycles of a Traveler*, a book I wrote about my years of solo travel from 1983 till 1996.

Joe Diomedé invites fellow alumni to contact him by email at thebikeguy61@gmail.com. ■



do this, he says, to be seen as the archetypal "men of words."

It's not that women don't seek power or influence, he explains, but unlike men, they do so in more subtle ways—that is, they use different forms of communication to get what they want or need.

"Women are less likely to interrupt each other and are more collaborative and less direct," he says. "Women have a differ-

ent way of achieving the same things as men do. They just do it in a less obvious way."

And because women often communicate in a far more collaborative way than men, they acquire inside information—whether through friendly chatter or gossip—that can prove crucial in making important decisions.

He traces these fundamental linguistic differences back through the evolutionary history of the sexes, citing examples to document his theory from ancient Greek texts to medieval jousting to vocal traditions of indigenous people. ■



Highlights of the 2011-12 Lehman Athletic Season

New HD Scoreboard Arrives Just in Time for the Fall Season

Visitors to the South Field: Prepare to be blown away.

As of late September, Lehman's athletic programs began enjoying yet another upgrade, this time in a 20-by-13-foot package in full high-definition.

After months of planning and installation, spearheaded by Athletic Director Dr. Martin L. Zwiren, the finishing touches were put on a brand new Daktronics scoreboard that now sits dead center on the field. Similar in quality to those used in professional and Division I stadiums and arenas, the scoreboard can display a multitude of graphics, photos, and animations, in addition to the basics of score and time, all in HD.



The new scoreboard lights up the night sky.

Aside from using the scoreboard for those sports that call the South Field home—soccer, baseball, and softball—the Athletics Department also plans to highlight upcoming events, past Lightning game action, and Lehman Athletics sponsors.

"The addition of our new scoreboard will be great for Lehman students and its teams," said Dr. Zwiren. "We are constantly looking for ways to improve the experience for the Lehman teams and student body, and this is just another example of how much we value the contributions, hard work, and sacrifice of our athletes and coaches."

Lehman Alum Picked as Baseball Coach

Call it serendipity, but one of the Lehman teams in line to make the most use out of the new scoreboard—men's baseball—hired a new head coach this summer, drawing from the ranks of Lehman alumni.

Looking to put last season's 6-21 record behind it, Lehman turned to a familiar face: Christian Viggiano, a star second baseman on the Lightning's back-to-back CUNY championship-winning teams of 1995 and 1996.

A three-time CUNYAC All-Star as a player, Viggiano has made a name for himself in local coaching circles, with stops at Archbishop Stepinac High School, Saunders Trades and Technical School, and most recently Iona Prep, where he served under legendary baseball coach Fred Gallo for two seasons.



Baseball coach Christian Viggiano (B.A., '96).

"Chris Viggiano was an outstanding player and a great student-athlete who knows what it takes to perform at a top level," said Dr. Zwiren. "His experience working in lower Westchester will only serve as a big bonus and will undoubtedly be a positive factor in recruiting future student-athletes."

Fall Sports Update

With so much going on off the field, followers of Lehman Athletics may have missed the exceptional athletic efforts put forth during the early part of the fall semester.

- Led by newcomers Oumar Niang, Momar Thiam, and Carlos Ribeiro, as well as by returning players Marcos Coto-Batres, Thaddeus Ikwuka, and Assami Valian, the **men's soccer team** got off to an outstanding start, compiling a 6-4 overall record and 4-1 in CUNYAC, through the first ten games. Looking like a team capable of another deep run in the CUNYAC Championships, the Lightning features a stifling defense that has severely cut down the number of goal-scoring opportunities by its opponents, along with an offensive attack capable of quick strikes at any moment.



Standout soccer players Assami Valian and Momar Thiam.

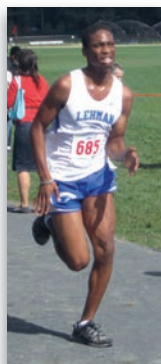
- Also looking like a team to be reckoned with, the **women's volleyball team**, behind four-year seniors Gerri-Ann Martin and Jennifer Winkler, ran a streak of five straight wins during the early



Volleyball star Jennifer Winkler.

part of its season, without relinquishing a single game to its opponents. Gunning for a top spot in the CUNYAC Championships, the Lightning has high hopes of improving on its semifinal ouster one season ago.

- Not to be forgotten, the **men's and women's cross country teams and the women's tennis team** also featured top student-athletes performing at a high level. Sophomore Daraliz Collado continued to build on her 2010 CUNYAC



All-Star tennis season by compiling a 4-2 singles record early on, while men's cross country newcomer Nathan Sylvain started turning heads throughout the conference after only a handful of meets. ■

— Andrew Pearson, S.I.D.

Left: Nathan Sylvain is already drawing attention in cross country races. Above: Tennis whiz Daraliz Collado.



Dinner Celebrates Eighty Years of History And Raises Funds for Scholarships

Lehman's annual Leadership Dinner Gala, "Honoring the Past While Building the Future," was held October 27 at the New York Botanical Garden and celebrated the eightieth anniversary of the campus, while recognizing alumni and friends who support the College's continued growth. More than 200 alumni, friends, corporate executives, and members of the community attended the event, which was sponsored by the Lehman College Foundation and raised significant funding for student scholarships and other College needs.

Honored were:

William J. Gilbane, Jr., president and chief operating officer of Gilbane Building Company, who received the Award for Corporate Leadership. He leads the company that was founded in 1873 by his great, great grandfather as a Rhode Island-based carpentry shop. Today, the firm is ranked as the fifth-largest construction manager in the United States, with annual revenues exceeding \$4 billion, and is the lead contractor on Lehman's new science building.

Congressman and Lehman alumnus Eliot L. Engel (B.A., '69; M.S., '73), who received the Alumni Achievement Award. A member of the House of Representatives since 1988, he represents New York's 17th Congressional District and sits on the Energy and Commerce Committee, one of the most powerful committees in Congress, as well as the Foreign Affairs Committee, where he is the ranking member of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee. (See *the story on page 10*).

Dominick Russello, vice president and relationship manager at Citibank, who received the Award for Corporate Leadership. He began his career with Citibank in 1977 as a bank teller and has gone on to hold various positions in the company, from bank operations to customer service and sales. He currently handles a portfolio of over 100 business clients throughout the Bronx.



Above: The three honorees with President Fernández at the dinner: from left are Congressman Eliot Engel, President Fernández, William Gilbane, Jr., president and chief operating officer of Gilbane Building Company, and Dominick Russello, vice president and relationship manager of Citibank. Below: Orlando Ureña, a student in the Macaulay Honors College at Lehman, addresses the dinner.



"The eightieth anniversary of Lehman's historic campus provides the impetus to move forward," said Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández. "Yes, these are uncertain and difficult economic times, but this campus took root during the depths of the Great Depression. With support from our alumni and friends, we look ahead with confidence to an expansion of our mission of service both to the borough and to the people of New York."

Alumni Relations Website

Lots of information is waiting for alumni at the College's Alumni Relations website (www.lehman.edu/alumni), including an electronic change of address form and photos of alumni at recent events. Please be sure your contact information is up to date. That way, you'll receive notices about upcoming activities. Let the College know, too, when you earn another degree, earn a promotion, or move on to a new position elsewhere. We ask that you submit biographical and professional information for "Alumni Notes" both at alumni@lehman.cuny.edu and lehmantoday@lehman.cuny.edu. The Notes will be published in the spring issue.



Congressman Eliot Engel: Supporting Lehman College So That Young People Can 'Live Their Dreams'

During a short recess in this fall's session of the House of Representatives, Congressman Eliot Engel (B.A., '69; M.S., '73) visited Lehman's Multimedia Center for a videotaped interview in which he described his strong relationship with the College in the years since his graduation. Excerpts of that interview were shown at the Leadership Dinner and are included below.

It's quite an honor for me to receive this award from Lehman College, which has meant so much to my life. I was a graduate of the first graduating class, and twenty-five years later, as a Congressman, I was the keynote speaker for the twenty-fifth graduating class. I really enjoyed doing that.

The mission of Lehman and CUNY back in the 60s, when I went to school, is the same as it is today. We were young people from the Bronx. Our parents couldn't afford to send us to Ivy League schools, and we couldn't afford to take on the debt that a private college would cost. Lehman was there to give us an excellent education, which it did for me. I grew up in a housing project in the Bronx in a working-class family. For me to be able to participate in the State of the Union, with the President of the United States coming down and giving a speech to Congress and shaking my hand, it's just such an honor for me to do it.

The people skills—that is really what I learned here. Lehman is intertwined with the Bronx, and I think the legacy of Lehman is helping to give good young minds the ability to live their dreams and to move on and be the leaders of this country. I have no doubt that what Lehman did for me, it will do, and has been doing, for other people as well. I'm proud that I have been able through the years to steer literally millions upon millions of dollars of Federal monies toward Lehman College for various innovative programs, whether it's the Urban Teachers Program or programs to use technology.

I believe people expect their elected officials, and rightfully so, to be there for them. It's not only about passing legislation and voting

right. It's about being there for people. And that, I think, when push comes to shove, is what I'm really most proud of. That's why I've got three district offices, one right here in the Bronx, where we've helped literally tens of thousands of people through the years.

I'm a big supporter of Lehman. I feel that the way it helped me, it's helping people today. We have to make sure it keeps helping people thirty, forty, and fifty years from now.

Author Esmeralda Santiago Set to Give Lehman Lecture March 21

Award-winning author Esmeralda Santiago will give the 43rd annual Herbert H. Lehman Memorial Lecture on Wednesday, March 21, at 11 a.m. in the Lovinger Theatre. All members of the Lehman community are invited to attend.

Santiago was born in Puerto Rico and came to the United States at the age of thirteen, the eldest in a family that would eventually include eleven children. After graduating from New York City's Performing Arts High School, where she majored in drama and dance, she pursued part-time study in community college, eventually transferring to Harvard University with a full scholarship. She graduated from Harvard *magna cum laude* in 1976 and also earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from Sarah Lawrence College.

In 1977, she and her husband, Frank Cantor, founded Cantomedia, a film and media production company, which has won numerous awards for excellence in documentary filmmaking. Her writing career evolved from her work as a producer/writer of documentary and educational films.

Santiago's essays and opinion pieces have run in numerous newspapers and magazines, as well as on NPR. She has written three memoirs, *When I was Puerto Rican*, *Almost a Woman*, which received an Alex Award from the American Library Association, and *The Turkish Lover*; a novel, *America's Dream*, which was published in six languages; and a children's book, *A Doll for Navidades*. She also co-edited two anthologies, *Las Christmas: Favorite Latino Authors Share Their Holiday Memories* and *Las Mamis: Favorite Latino Authors Remember Their Mothers*. In recognition of her work on behalf of public libraries and organizations working to support arts education, as well as other issues, she received a Girl Scouts of America National Woman of Distinction Award in 2002.

For more information, call 718-960-6906. ■



Congressman Engel is pictured in 1969 in his Lehman graduation photo (inset) and on a campus banner today outside Shuster Hall. The banners illustrate the accomplishments of Lehman alumni.



The Leonard Lief Library: Forging New Paths to Knowledge

*A good library is a palace where the lofty
spirits of all nations and generations meet.*

— Yiddish literary critic
Shmuel Niger
(1883-1955)

By Anne Perryman ('93, M.A.)

Lehman's Leonard Lief Library is a place that both today's digitally wired students and generations of alumni, who remember when copy machines and microfilm were high tech, can call home. The Library is holding fast to traditions it won't let die, like one-on-one help from a real librarian and, yes, thousands of books printed on actual paper. At the same time, it is leading the way in this new technological age, where information is delivered instantly, around the clock, in ever-changing ways.

"We're in an interesting hybrid phase right now in terms of access to knowledge, and as a simultaneous physical and virtual space," says Chief Librarian Kenneth Schlesinger. "We're pushing information around the clock through remote means—that's the new industry standard. But we are equally committed to giving Lehman students 'face time' with library faculty to discuss their assignments, as well as to providing a clean, quiet, safe space conducive to individual study."

Any lingering stereotype of the "shushing" librarian is way behind the times. Lehman librarians were early bloggers and tweeters. They're on Facebook and 24-7 Chat. At the original Circulation Desk—now called Access Services—Lehman students can borrow iPads, color Nooks, eReaders, and laptop computers. Soon the Library will launch a mobile website that will allow students to retrieve information via their smartphones from a large and growing body of e-content.

"Our profession has always sought novel means to capture, organize, and classify information—from ancient Egyptian papyrus to hand-copied medieval manuscripts to today's wikis," says Professor Schlesinger.

Librarians were early computer users in the 1970s to create standardized records for transmitting and sharing information about their holdings. In an academic environment, libraries have been among the first to explore new technologies. Working closely with information technology professionals, the Leonard Lief Library is committed to piloting new software, applying mobile devices, and hosting institutional repositories with access to both "born-digital" and repurposed historic resources.

The Library's growing digital collections celebrate the art, architecture, and history of the Bronx. And the fast-growing trend to global information has created new opportunities for library faculty exchanges with institutions in China, Costa Rica, and South Africa.

"This is an exciting time for us, and a major sea change," Professor Schlesinger declares. "Libraries have not functioned as mere repositories of information for a long time, but with emerging technologies our mandate has grown. We are proactively involved as producers and online publishers of new content and scholarship. Our work increasingly is to stimulate online learning, promote information literacy through remote means, support data collection in new formats, and reinforce ethical uses of intellectual property in the digital age."

Nevertheless, electronic resources have not replaced the printed page. Libraries will continue to provide books, monographs, and other print resources. A recent University of California study found that college students are still more comfortable using print content. Even in an electronic research environment, they like to print out articles and make notes on them. And people still like to read books the old-fashioned way, turning page by page.

"It's not an either/or situation. We need both," says Professor Schlesinger. "But the reality is that college students today are using smartphones to access the Internet. It's their universe, and we want to be a part of it."

Stefanie Havelka, Electronic Resources-Web Services librarian, helps to make that possible. "We have to be where the students

continued on page 15



Friends of the Library Provide Much-Needed Support

What's changed so dramatically is not the core mission of the Library, says Professor Schlesinger. "It's our delivery system, which allows us to serve more students, faster, better, at any time of the day or night. But academic libraries are expensive beasts to feed. We've never functioned as profit-centers, and due to declining State support, now more than ever we depend on private fundraising to underwrite these exciting technology initiatives and even ongoing book purchases."

One of the most effective ways to accomplish this is by joining Friends of the Lehman Library. For only \$50 a year, Lehman alumni and community members are entitled to Library access and support services. As Professor Schlesinger notes, "It's a great way to remain in touch with the Lehman campus and know you are contributing to the success of a future generation with the same hopes and dreams you shared for your own education." To join, visit www.lehman.edu/library/support-us.php

He welcomes visits by Lehman alumni. Contact him at kenneth.schlesinger@lehman.cuny.edu, or e-mail Lehman's alumni director, Cristina Necula, at maria-cristina.necula@lehman.cuny.edu. Membership in the Alumni Association provides access to the Leonard Lief Library, physically as well as virtually.



A student (top) finds a comfortable place to study outside the Library on a fall day, while Library faculty (below) gets acquainted with the latest electronic devices available for students. From left, top row, are Robin Wright, Zhan Huaqing (a visiting librarian from Shanghai University), Kenneth Schlesinger, Alison Lehner-Quam, and Edwin Wallace. Seated, from left, are Kachuen Gee, Madeline Cohen, Raymond Diaz, and Janet Butler Munch.



International Projects

In a global information society, librarians and archivists can benefit enormously from international exchanges. Faculty members in Lehman's Library are involved in several.

Cape Crusade: Building the Steve Biko Library-Archive. In the role of Fulbright Senior Specialist, Professor Schlesinger—who was a Fulbright Fellow to Vietnam—helped design a Library and Archive for the Steve Biko Centre in South Africa. The 1970s student leader, who was murdered while in detention, has emerged as a national icon. The Library is a community and teaching resource for Ginsberg Township on the Eastern Cape. The Archive will function as a center for the study of Biko's writings, philosophy, and political legacy.

During Professor Schlesinger's residency, he studied archival records of the liberation movement at South Africa's National Library and major universities. "As a new democracy, the South African government has growing pains and some overwhelming challenges," he reports. "But the country is fascinating, incredibly diverse, and stunningly beautiful. I met so many people who are working hard to promote positive change, particularly in the townships."

CUNY Library Faculty Exchange with Shanghai. After a visit to China, Professor Schlesinger helped jumpstart a library faculty exchange between CUNY and two universities in Shanghai. The exchange has been an eye-opener for both countries. Lehman Science Librarian Jennifer King, who taught classes in Shanghai, was impressed by the modern, spacious, and well-appointed campus facilities. On the other hand, visiting Chinese librarians were impressed by CUNY's personalized reference services.

"Students in Shanghai e-mail their questions and get responses by e-mail. There's no one sitting at a Reference Desk for them to talk to," says Lehman's Kachuen Gee, head of Technical Services. "They saw how hard we work for our students and how helpful we try to be." Gee played a key role in the exchange—as emissary, communicator, and "den mother" to visiting Chinese librarians, especially those in New York City for the first time. "I found housing for them, showed them around, and made sure there was some Chinese food on their shelves when they got here."

Creating a Digital Library in a Costa Rican Cloud Forest. For the past three years, Electronic Resources-Web Services Librarian Stefanie Havelka has been traveling to and from a cloud forest in Costa Rica, where she's helping to create the Monteverde Institute Digital Library Collection. She's focused mainly on public health. "We've become so used to seeing an avalanche of information on every subject imaginable on the Internet," says Professor Havelka. "At Monteverde, we are working with people who, for the most part, do not have computers. We're creating simple access to health information that can make a difference in their lives." On her most recent trip, she worked on community outreach, providing bilingual brochures, tutorials, and presentations to doctors and nurses at public clinics.

Digital Collections

In keeping with the College's long-standing commitment to its home borough, the Special Collections Department offers a treasure trove of digital materials of great interest to the Bronx. "We've always had a strong community focus, and this is a way of giving back," says Janet Munch, Special Collections librarian. "With grant support, we have digitized archival texts and photographs that celebrate the people and history of the Bronx and the borough's amazing art, architecture, and public works. It's been a real source of pride for us to bring so much positive attention to the Bronx."

The digital collections may be viewed on the Library's webpages, reached via www.lehman.edu. They include:

Childhood in the Bronx. Vintage images and oral histories from the Bronx Institute Archives, with sound excerpts of people recalling their childhood, and contemporary photographs by Georreen Comerford.

Bronx Business for Everybody. Photographs, articles, and minutes from the Bronx Chamber of Commerce Collection.

Digital Preservation of Publishing in Irish America. Created by the CUNY Institute for Irish-American Studies at Lehman College, this archive contains monographs published between 1820 and 1922, including digital maps, landscapes, portraits, documents, architecture, and line art images that link to the books.



Senior Vince Bracy (above) catches up on his reading assignments on one of the Library's new iPads. Most of the card catalogs remain that alumni remember (lower left), even though they're no longer kept up to date—all the information has been migrated to an online catalog. Rooms with computers (below) live harmoniously with rooms lined with books.





Sophomore Nelson Medina checks out a Sony Reader from Reserve Manager Angelina Brea (right).



The sunny, comfortable spaces of the Library (left) encourage quiet study and research.

are," she says. "Even better, a step ahead. We're seeing the trend with database providers offering mobile smartphone apps for Androids and iPhones. This is great because many of our students are using smartphones as their sole device to get online."

Professor Havelka plans to teach a class with mobile devices outside the Library this year. "I want to show people that the Library is so much more than books and a physical space." She's also been part of a QR (Quick Response) code initiative. Students can use their phones to scan the QR code, and it will lead them to a Web research guide.

Head of Reference Madeline Cohen sees a growing demand for electronic resources as well. She answers questions from students and faculty in person and, increasingly, on a 24-7 Chat service, a network staffed by college reference librarians worldwide. "People want and need information remotely, whether they're working at home or in an office," she says.

For example, a Lehman student called recently to find information about the history of World War I for a research paper. "As always, I tried

to help narrow down the topic. I asked if the student was more interested in journal articles or books and recommended some relevant subject terms for database searches," she says. "And as more people reach out to us in this way, there's a teaching component. We have to show them how to access these sources."

Surprisingly perhaps, the Library's virtual services seem to encourage more—not fewer—students to visit the physical space. "We're the busiest I've seen in the seventeen years I've worked in this Library," says Addy Soto, head of Access Services. "Students used to line up for laptops, and now it's for the eReaders and Nooks—and they all know about the iPads scheduled for this year."

Because of the high price of textbooks, there's always a run on electronic textbooks at the Library's Reserve Desk. These are currently available for in-library use only, but soon students will be able to borrow electronic readers for a seven-day loan.

"We're a commuter campus, so our students spend time riding trains and buses," says Professor Soto. "It's great to be able to download a chapter and do your reading on the way home—and you never have to worry about late fees. Electronic books simply expire." ■



Facts and Features

Over 200 networked electronic periodical indexes and full-text databases

More than 150 state-of-the-art computer workstations for student use, most with full Internet access

An open-stacks book collection of 658,316 volumes

713,888 microforms

2,296 films and videotapes

Subscriptions to 1,535 print periodicals and over 13,000 electronic journals

Seating for 1,200

A periodicals room, laboratory classrooms equipped with audiovisual and computer equipment, and the Bronx History Archives

A Fine Arts Collection with an extensive collection of music CDs, audiotapes, and DVDs

An Education Library with K-12 curriculum materials, an ERIC microfiche collection, a special teaching collection of children's books, and computer workstations

An Assistive Technology Center providing specialized computer services available to all

An Honorable Scholar

By Tom Stoelker

For many students in both the CUNY Macaulay Honors College and the Lehman Scholars Program, one of the first things they notice on entering the office of the program director, Professor Gary Schwartz, is the chairs. A discerning eye might pick out the Knoll by Bertioia or the Charles Eames. They share the room with other chairs from Ikea and a dubious one from a colleague who “left the College under strange circumstances.”

The faded spines of books on low shelves bear titles in Greek and Latin. “I remember all these chairs, all these different shapes, which tell whole tales about him,” says Kunchok Dolma ('09).

“I like the one that he sits in that tilts, but I never tried it, just out of respect,” said Samsiya Ona ('11).

For others, the experience was aural. Dr. Lewis Gordon ('84) recalls that “Gary opened his door, and I heard Parker’s ‘Bird at the Roost.’”

The first thing Macaulay students and alumni have learned—along with a generation of Lehman Scholars—is to leave the formali-



Professor Gary Schwartz on the Hudson (top) and (below) with, from left, Florence Aliberti, academic advisor to the Macaulay Honors College, and Class of '09 alumni Mikaela Chase and Valerio Russo of the Macaulay Honors College and Ansamma James of the Lehman Scholars Program. Photos by Barbara Siegel (top) and Jason Green.

ties at the door. It's Gary, not Professor Schwartz. Perhaps it has something to do with the straight-laced period he grew up in and rebelled against. "Gary has an unconventional way of thinking," says Alice Michelle Augustine ('06). "He's not invested in platitudes."

Born in Atlanta, Professor Schwartz grew up in Maplewood, N.J., the son of a professor of medicine. "The one thing he could do is teach you something," Professor Schwartz recalls. "And he could do it in a very direct and painless way, a reflection of his practice." In Maplewood he attended Columbia High, which had no affiliation with the university where he would eventually acquire his Ph.D. The high school, he notes proudly, was "public, absolutely, public." On his father's side, however, it was ivy, absolute ivy: Harvard, Princeton, and Columbia. Of his father's ten siblings, all were high-striving professionals.

An uncle on his mother's side helped break through those paternal strictures by introducing him to jazz. The first notes he remembers are from "Lover Man," with singer Sarah Vaughan and Charlie Parker on sax. Through jazz, he had a revelation. "Being crazy is because someone tells you there's only one way to do something, which is the essence of post World War II America," he said.

At fifteen, a friend's father took the two teenagers to Birdland, back when it was still on Seventh Avenue. "We were so young we had to drink Shirley Temples," he remembers with a laugh. Professor Schwartz now plays the saxophone, and Dr. Gordon, who has jammed with him, understands the appeal for the classics scholar. "Jazz reminds you of the different levels of communication. It asks you to find your own voice, you've got to figure things out," he said.

By 1964, he had met his future wife, Barbara Siegel. Four years later, campuses all over the country erupted in protests. "It was because the students were reading the books they were supposed to read," he says. In 1969, he began teaching at Lehman, the year after it split from Hunter College.

CUNY in the 1970s and 80s was a university in turmoil, with budget cuts, open admissions, and student demonstrations. But it was the open admissions policy that changed the demographic face of Lehman, as well as its intellectual makeup. Looking back, Professor Schwartz says that many of the older professors were taken by surprise, and talented students were in danger of being lost in the shuffle of bringing others up to speed. It was in this atmosphere that he became director of the Lehman Scholars Program (LSP).

In 1983, Dr. Gordon, now the Laura H. Carnell Professor of Philosophy at Temple University, was at the center of it all. Things were quite different at Lehman, he says, before LSP. "We were used to the idea that we had nothing to offer; we were just there to learn." With LSP, students were invited into the conversation. "What I remember from that period were the discussions; they would continue after the classroom."

When Dr. Gordon graduated, he described the experience to Professor Schwartz, who in turn made it policy. "That became what I tell the faculty. No lecturing; you can't do it in here. Get the people talking," Professor Schwartz says. LSP students were released from general course requirements to pursue their own field of interest. "It turned into a rebirth for him, where before he was feeling

frustrated with his teaching," says his wife. "This was a way for him to create an environment and do the teaching he wanted to do, and encourage the people to create. He ended up loving his job."

Professor Schwartz specifically credits a fertile atmosphere that "has been very rich under [President] Ricardo Fernández." In 2002, the atmosphere became golden when the Macaulay Honors College joined LSP. Professor Schwartz participated in many of the early discussions that formed the new program.

"Chancellor Goldstein wanted to change the conversation about CUNY," he said. There was some concern among faculty that Macaulay might swallow up campus honors programs, but the Chancellor saw the Honors College as an overlay upon them. With LSP's free-wheeling conversations already in high gear, the voices at the table just got more diverse.

Both programs stress the liberal arts. Professor Schwartz believes that, no matter your major, the liberal arts are for life. "It's really a question of developing that inner voice and that way of accessing, experiencing, and expressing it by drawing, painting, blowing on a saxophone or a bassoon, or playing a set of marimba."

Of course, including the liberal arts doesn't mean abandoning other dreams. Just ask Samsiya Ona. "He was the first person to convince me to go back to premed and not nursing," says Ona, a native of Togo, currently at Harvard Medical School. "I wanted to become a doctor at first, but because of the language barrier everyone was telling me to become a nurse, because it's safe." Professor Schwartz has a way of convincing students they can do it all, and maybe a little more.

Dolma remembers a similar anecdote. Earlier this year, she won the highly coveted Clarendon Fund Scholarship to attend the University of Oxford for a master's degree in international relations. "I was telling him that, after Oxford, I was thinking of either doing my doctorate or going to law school, and he said, 'Why not do both?'"

Augustine faced challenges that seemed beyond her control, but Professor Schwartz convinced her otherwise. "At my final Watson Fellowship interview, I had an illness, a fire, and a burglary," she recalls. "I had just come back from Ghana. My application for fellowships and everything on my computer was gone. And Gary was, like, you can do it—just like that." Augustine went on to graduate from Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans.

Today, many LSP and Macaulay students arrive as one unit, taking freshman classes together, instead of waiting until junior year to meet up in seminars, as was often the case. LSP and MHC students now have access to honors sections early on. Professor Schwartz believes this diverse mix is the key to growth. He says that "like transnationalism—that concept that anybody who spends just three days in another country is still changed—there's an interplay between the two programs, a homogeneity to the experience. It's really a very attractive quilt we've been able to put together." ■

Tom Stoelker '09 is a graduate of LSP and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. He credits Gary Schwartz with helping him find his calling.

A Guide to the Best of the Arts in the Bronx

A calendar to pull out and save of some of the cultural events taking place at Lehman through June 2012. Reserve seats early for ticketed events—many sell out.

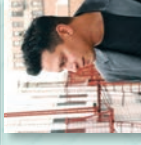
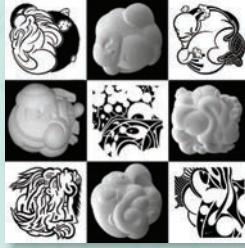
ONGOING

Feb. 7 – May 12

UNDER THE INFLUENCE: THE COMICS AND CONTEMPORARY ART

This exhibition will feature the work of artists indebted to the style and energy of comic-book imagery, including the work of both established and emerging artists in painting, prints, drawings, video, installation, and sculpture.

Lehman College Art Gallery: Free
10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday



MARCH

Sat., Mar. 3, 8 p.m.

FOREVER FREESTYLE 6

Celebrating twenty-five years of Freestyle Fever.

Lehman Center: \$60, \$55, \$45

Sun., Mar. 4, 6 p.m.

BALLET FOLKLÓRICA DE ANTIOQUIA COLOMBIA

A Colombian Cultural Ambassador
Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25;
children 12 and under,
\$10 any seat



MAY

Sat., May 5, 8 p.m.

VOX LUMIERE 'METROPOLIS'

Flying Cars, TV Phones, Evil Robots.
It's the future.

Lehman Center: \$45, \$35, \$25

Sun., May 6, 2:30 p.m.

LEHMAN COLLEGE & COMMUNITY CHORUS, LEHMAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Lehman Center: Free



Sat., May 12, 8 p.m.

OLGA TAÑÓN AND THE NEW YORICAN EXPRESS

Lehman Center:
\$60, \$55, \$45

Sat., May 19,
2 p.m.

ORIGINAL MUSICAL

Music Building
Recital Hall: Free



Sat., May 19, 8 p.m.

GRUPO NICHE

Thirtieth anniversary tour
of this popular salsa group.

Lehman Center:
\$60, \$55, \$45



JANUARY

Sat., Jan. 14, 8 p.m.

THE O'JAYS

One of the most important soul music
groups of the past thirty years.

Lehman Center: \$65, \$60, \$55



Sat., Jan. 21, 8 p.m.

RAPHY LEAVITT Y LA SELECTA AND SPANISH HARLEM ORCHESTRA

Solid Gold Salsa from Puerto Rico to El Barrio.

Lehman Center: \$55, \$50, \$45

Sat., Jan. 28, 8 p.m.

UNFORGETTABLE DOO WOP

The Drifters, The Herb Reed Plat-
ters, The Coasters, The Chiffons,
and Jimmy Beazumont and
The Skyliners.

Lehman Center: \$50, \$45, \$35

Sun., Mar. 18, 2 p.m.

LEHMAN CHAMBER PLAYERS

Works for violin and piano.

Music Building Recital Hall: Free

Sun., Mar. 18, 4 p.m.

MOSCOW FESTIVAL BALLET'S SWAN LAKE

Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25;
children 12 and under, \$10 any seat

Wed., Mar. 21, 11 a.m.

LEHMAN LECTURE

Author Esmeralda Santiago

Lovinger Theater: Free

Sat., Mar. 24, 8 p.m.

SONORA PONCEÑA

Old-school salsa featuring the piano
virtuosity of Papo Lucca.

Lehman Center: \$60, \$55, \$45

Sun., Mar. 25, 2 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 29, 6 p.m.

BLAST!

Winner of the 2001 Tony Award for Best Special Theatrical Event and the 2001 Emmy Award for Best Choreography.

Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25; children 12 and under, \$10 any seat



FEBRUARY

Sat., Feb. 4, 8 p.m.
BOBBY MCFERRIN

One of the most recognizable singers of our generation.
Lehman Center: \$45, \$40, \$25



Sat., Feb. 11, 8 p.m.
VALENTINE'S DAY COMEDY FEVER

A Latino-flavored comedy evening.
Lehman Center: \$45, \$40, \$25



Sun., Feb. 19, 3 p.m.
TSCHAIKOWSKI ST. PETERSBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Direct from Russia, this company performs regularly all over the world.
Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25; children 12 and under, \$10 any seat



Sat., Feb. 25, 8 p.m.
THE ORIGINAL TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS

A Night of Music, the Moves, and Comedy.
Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25



LEHMAN COLLEGE COMMUNITY BAND

Lovinger Theatre: Free

March 28 - 31

LEHMANDANCE SPRING CONCERT

Original choreography by graduating dance and dance/theatre majors, guest artists, and faculty.

Studio Theater: \$5 - \$10

APRIL

Sun., Apr. 1, 2 p.m.

LEHMAN JAZZ COMBOS

Music Building Hearth Room: Free



Sat., Apr. 14, 8 p.m.

GILBERTO SANTA ROSA

El Caballero de la Salsa (The Gentleman of Salsa) live in concert.

Lehman Center: \$60, \$55, \$45



Sat., Apr. 21, 8 p.m.

GLORIA GAYNOR AND THE HIT MEN

Lehman Center: \$45, \$40, \$25

Sun., Apr. 22, 2 p.m.

LEHMAN WOODWIND QUINTET

Music Building Recital Hall: Free



Sun., Apr. 22, 4 p.m.

MOSCOW FESTIVAL BALLET'S CINDERELLA

Lehman Center: \$40, \$35, \$25; children 12 and under, \$10 any seat



Sat., Apr. 28, 8 p.m.

SMOKEY ROBINSON

The Living Legend

Lehman Center: \$85, \$75, \$55

Sun., Apr. 29, 2 p.m.

LEHMAN JAZZ BAND

Music Building Hearth Room: Free

Sun., May 20, 2 p.m.

LEHMAN COLLEGE COMMUNITY BAND

Lovinger Theatre: Free

JUNE

Sat., June 2, 8 p.m.

CAPONE AND FRIENDS

A Stand-Up Comedy Night.

Lehman Center: \$45, \$40, \$25



Programs are subject to change.

Visit www.lehman.edu to verify event or call

718-960-8833 (Lehman Center Box Office)

718-960-8731 (Lehman College Art Department)

718-960-8025 (Lovinger Theatre)

718-960-8247 (Music Department).



Order Tickets
online for Lehman Center
at www.lehmancenter.org

Biologist David Spector

At the Forefront of Gene Research

Dr. David L. Spector (M.A., '77), director of research at the world-renowned Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, began his career as a scientist long before he entered Lehman's graduate program in biology. Back in the sixth grade, he and a friend took first prize at the Borough of Manhattan Science Fair. Their project was to build an electronic oscillator. "The base of the oscillator was a cigar box," recalls Dr. Spector, who still has the newspaper clipping announcing his award. "We received a \$10 check as a prize."

It wouldn't be his last accolade. A native New Yorker who grew up in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan, Dr. Spector attended the City College of New York, where he earned his B.S. in biology in 1973 and developed an interest in lichens. They're the greenish, mold-like stuff that often grow on the bark of trees and represent a symbiotic relationship between a fungus and an alga. He travelled to the University of Tennessee to begin studying toward a master's in biology with a particular scholar who was an expert on lichens.

After several months in Tennessee, he decided to return to New York and called Professor Lawrence Crockett at City College for advice. He suggested he contact Professor Thomas Jensen, a biologist at Lehman College, who was an expert on algae. Professor Jensen, who would become the long-time chair of the Biological

Sciences Department, agreed to serve as his mentor. Arriving in the Bronx in 1974, he quickly felt at home in Professor Jensen's lab, where he pursued his research on lichens.

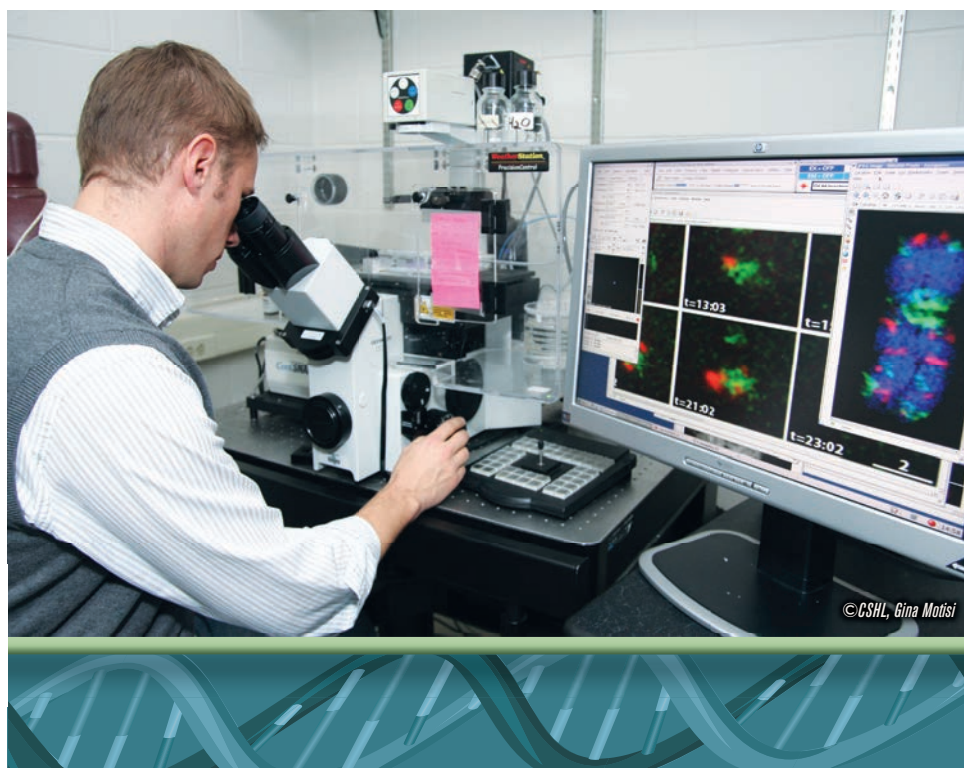
"I had a very good experience at Lehman," Dr. Spector says. "Tom Jensen was a great mentor. He made you think. He wasn't one of these professors who gave you all the information and then you just had to put it together. Whatever you were working on was your problem, and you had to solve it."

As a graduate student, Dr. Spector recalls showing up at the lab at Lehman every day at 8 a.m. to conduct research. By 8:30, Dr. Jensen would arrive and check on his students. "There were four or five of us in the lab, sitting at our benches, working on our individual projects," Dr. Spector recalls. "Professor Jensen would walk around, meeting with us individually, asking us what we were doing, and checking on our progress."

The experience has marked him to this day. "I'm a pretty great mentor—if I say so myself," he adds with a laugh. "And it's because of the influences of my professors, like Tom Jensen."

Another key element to his time at Lehman, he says, is that Dr. Jensen's lab was remarkably well equipped. "His lab had so many microscopes," he remembers. "That was a big plus for me because

Dr. David L. Spector
(right)



Dr. Michael Huebner (left), a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Spector's lab, collects image data from labeled genes in living cells. The microscope is fully computerized and able to collect three-dimensional data sets over time.

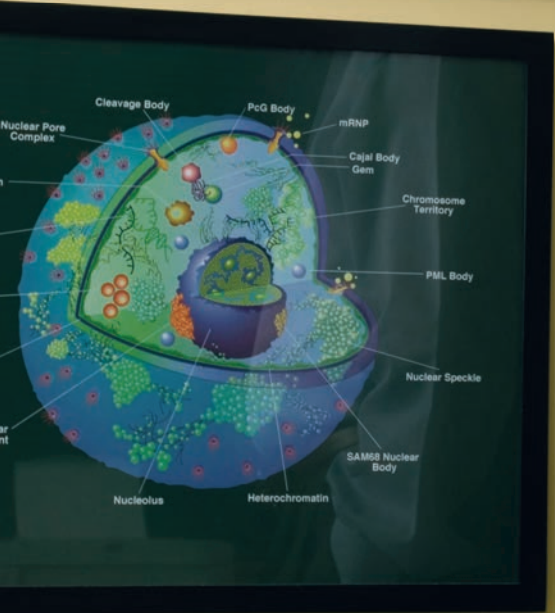
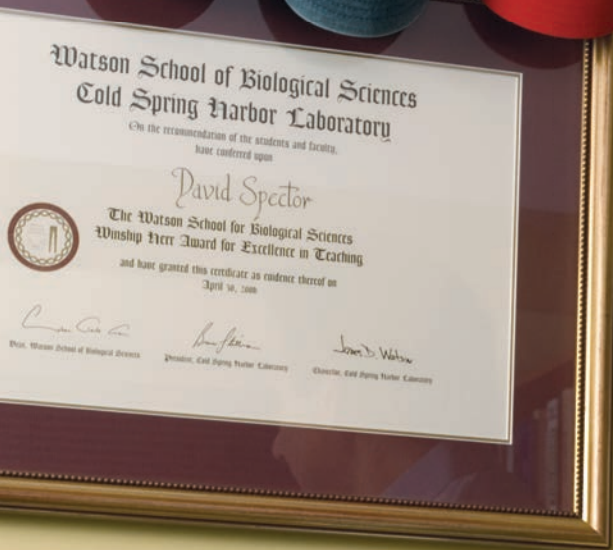


Photo by Constance Brukin, 2007

we had the equipment and expertise to tackle our research questions. If you don't have the proper equipment, it limits the kind of scientific questions you can ask."

Microscopes—and their possibilities—would become the key element of Dr. Spector's work as a biologist. "The central theme of my work is using the microscope to learn about how cells function," he says. "And, of course, the microscopes and the level of their sophistication that has evolved over the last fifteen-to-twenty years is something I could not have predicted." At Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Dr. Spector's lab has state-of-the-art computerized microscopes, including a \$1.2 million OMX microscope, one of only twenty-four that exist in the world, that can image cells at twice the resolution of a standard light microscope. "It's truly amazing," he says.

After Lehman, he earned his Ph.D. in cell biology from Rutgers University in 1980 and worked briefly as an adjunct assistant professor at Brooklyn College (his CUNY roots run deep!) before landing a full-time position in 1981 as an assistant professor at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

Then in 1985, a year after he published his first book, *Dinoflagellates*, about the form of algae that causes "red tides" in the ocean, he returned to New York, where he landed a position at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. In 1992, he earned the rank of professor and has been director of research for the entire faculty since 2007, overlooking its four major research programs: cancer and molecular biology, neuroscience, plant biology, and quantitative biology.

Founded in 1890, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory has shaped contemporary biomedical research and education. It is ranked number one in the world by Thomson Reuters for the impact of its research in molecular biology and genetics. Since 1998, the Laboratory has been a Ph.D.-degree granting institution. It has been home to eight Nobel Prize winners; among them, Dr. James Watson, co-discoverer with Francis Crick of the double-helix structure of DNA.

Besides his administrative duties, Dr. Spector maintains a highly energetic lab with twelve researchers, teaches class each academic year (he received the Best Teacher Award in 2006 from the Laboratory's Watson School of Biological Sciences), and presents lectures around the world. "I still love to teach," he says.

His research has focused on understanding the organization and regulation of gene expression in living cells and how this process is altered in cancer cells. Among his accomplishments has been the development of a system to directly visualize gene expression in a living cell: DNA→RNA→Protein. A world leader in the field of nuclear organization—how the nucleus of a cell is functionally organized—he has published six books and more than 150 scientific papers.

Just this year he added *The Nucleus*, his newest addition to the shelf of books he has either written or edited. His past works include *Live Cell Imaging: A Laboratory Manual*, now in its second edition, which is a basic text that is used widely in laboratories throughout the world. "I swear it's my last book," he says with a laugh, because he knows he has said this before. ■

The campus of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory,
overlooking Long Island Sound.



The Remarkable Journey of

Karen Cronin ('94)



Karen Cronin (fourth from left) at this year's Lehman College Foundation Scholarship Dinner with, from left, Vice President of Institutional Advancement Mario DellaPina, Lehman College Foundation Executive Director Fredrick Gilbert, Alumni Director Cristina Necula, and President Fernández.

Many students enter college with only the vaguest notion of a career plan. Not Karen Cronin (B.S., '94). For as long as she can remember, she's always known where she wanted to go and what she wanted to do. Lehman College helped her get there.

Now an audit partner in the real estate group of Deloitte & Touche LLP in New York, Cronin was only "knee-high" when she started helping out in her family's Irish gift store, located on 207th Street in the Inwood section of Manhattan. "By the time I was in sixth grade, I was working there regularly, behind the counter or doing chores, and learning about how businesses operate. It was fascinating." Her older sister, Mary, had studied accounting at Manhattan College; Karen decided she would also be an accountant, "although I had no idea what area of accounting I wanted to focus on."

Later, in a class on careers at St. Barnabas High School, the teacher talked about the vital role of auditors in making sure that public corporations kept accurate books—and, thus, in protecting investors, many of whom had entrusted the companies with their life savings.

"Something about that stuck with me," she recalls. "I knew that that's what I wanted to do." Lehman, given its proximity to her family's store and its highly regarded accounting program, struck her as the best place to pursue that goal. She entered in the fall of 1991 and, having already taken several college courses in high school as part of an accelerated access program, graduated just three years

I see the same hunger and drive in the students that I saw in myself—and in my parents.

later, in December 1994. The ink on her diploma had barely dried when she began working at Deloitte & Touche the following month. She's been there ever since.

"As a high school senior, I looked at a number of schools," she explains. "But what set Lehman apart for me was the people—the students as well as the faculty." The teachers she remembers best were those who had spent much of their adult lives in the professional world—many in the accounting profession—and had come back to college "to teach and give back," she says. "They brought not only academic skills to the classroom, but a wonderful ability to convey, through real-life examples, what we could expect once we graduated."

And the students?

"You couldn't help but be inspired," she remembers. "Public colleges attract individuals who, frankly, don't have the means to go anywhere else—the kind of smart, driven people you see at Lehman every day. They raise kids, hold down jobs, come to class, do the work, and make better lives for themselves and their families." Cronin herself put in twenty-five hours a week at her family's store and, in her senior year, did an internship with Deloitte & Touche while keeping up with her studies.

As an alumna and a Deloitte partner, she is involved in recruiting students for internships and full-time accounting positions at her firm. "One of the most rewarding aspects of my work is the opportunity to work with young people right out of school and fostering in them a commitment to corporate responsibility," she says.

The theme of corporate responsibility—to the investing public and to the greater community—has great resonance for her. Not surprisingly, she returned to that theme as keynote speaker at this year's Lehman College Foundation Scholarship Dinner.

"A college like Lehman succeeds because it instills in its students a sense of empathy, ethics, and corporate responsibility, and an understanding of diverse cultures," she said, directing her remarks to the many students present. "My fervent hope is that when you graduate from Lehman College, you have a burning desire to give back, whether it's through financial support or donating your time on a not-for-profit board or mentoring a student."

continued on page 25

Jewan Baboolal ('06, '10)

Switches to Teaching to Pursue the Career

He Always Wanted

Sometimes careers choose us instead of the other way around. A case in point is Lehman alumnus Jewan Baboolal (B.A., '06; M.A., '10). At the age of 14, Baboolal immigrated to the United States with his family from his native Trinidad and Tobago. He attended Walton High School in the Bronx, right next door to Lehman, and moved on to Lehman.

During his time at Walton, he first encountered the possibility of teaching as a career through a school/college collaborative program run by Dr. Anne Rothstein from Lehman's Education Division.

The program—which later grew into the High School of Teaching and the Professions—engaged high school students to consider careers in teaching through a four-semester Pre-Teaching Academy.

There they were placed as interns working with high school teachers to experience what it means to be a teacher. Baboolal was able to experience tutoring, small group instruction, lesson planning, and teaching high school students. Beguiled by the idea of teaching, he started to dream of it as a possible career.

I said to myself, if I don't make the switch to teaching now, I don't think I will ever do it.

In 1998, he began working for Teldata Control, Inc., a telecommunications company, in the Client Relationship Management field and quickly climbed the corporate ladder. Life was good, but something was missing. In 2005, he decided to

go back to college to complete his undergraduate degree.

"I said to myself, if I don't make the switch to teaching now, I don't think I will ever do it," says Baboolal. "It was always a desire of mine, but I got distracted by becoming financially successful in the private sector."

Soon after completing his bachelor's degree, he came back to Lehman to earn his master's in childhood education. Since finishing his studies in 2010, he has been working as a substitute science teacher in the Bronx while looking for a full-time position.

"Teaching is what I always wanted to do," he says.



Jewan Baboolal

Adnan A. Hiram ('08) Begins Studying For M.D./Ph.D. at University of Rochester

Since graduating from Lehman, Adnan A. Hiram (B.A., '08) has been keeping busy. For the past two-and-a-half years, he has been a research specialist in the University of Pennsylvania's molecular imaging lab, eagerly accruing the experience needed to win a spot in the prestigious and ultra-competitive University of Rochester's M.D./Ph.D. program. He began his studies there this fall.

The program is quite rigorous—only six or seven students are accepted each year—and includes two years of medical school; then four years to complete a Ph.D. in bioengineering; and then another two years to finish a medical degree. At the end, Hiram will hold both a medical degree—he will be a full-fledged medical doctor—and a Ph.D.

"The strength of the program is that it is very rigorous and has great professors—these are the people who are going to be your mentors

and colleagues," he says. "You're going to be spending a lot of your time with them for the next several years. And I like the atmosphere there, which is important."

Originally from Somalia, Hiram immigrated to the Parkchester section of the Bronx. After enrolling at Lehman in 2005, where he majored in chemistry (with a specialty in biochemistry), he graduated in just three years. So how did he manage to do that? Easy. He took 21-22 credits per semester.

"I had to get permission from certain professors," he says. "But if you can handle the workload, then why not?"



Alita Damar ('07)

Started Down One Path and Found Another—Online



Alita Damar

When most people think of a college education, they picture classrooms filled with students and a professor lecturing at the blackboard. But Alita Damar knows that a quality education can now be found online, as digital tools are enabling students to interact with their professors and each other in new ways.

Damar began at Lehman in the 1970s, majoring in French literature, but had to return home to Indonesia for personal reasons. French fluency helped her land a job at the

French Embassy in Jakarta, where she became the first Indonesian press attaché. When she was ready to return to school in 2005, she needed some liberal arts credits and realized that a traditional classroom setting would not be possible in her circumstances. To complete her degree, she decided to pursue health education and promotion and enrolled in Professor Craig Demmer's online class.

"Never did I imagine that an online class could be as stimulating as those he taught," she says. "His online discussion board was lively, and the experience turned out to be even better than in-class live discussions." In fact, after taking his courses, she subsequently entered the health education field professionally, specializing in HIV/AIDS. Damar graduated from Lehman in 2007 with a degree in French literature, *magna cum laude*, but her focus had changed.

Karen Cronin (continued from page 23)

In a very real sense, the drive to succeed that Cronin observed in her fellow students is imprinted in her own DNA. "My parents immigrated to New York from Ireland fifty years ago," she says. "Like many other immigrants, they came here with very little money but an abundance of hope for a brighter future for the next generation."

Her father worked as a custodian, earned a GED, and, with his brother-in-law, opened an Irish gift shop. "My siblings and I represent the first generation of our family to attend college," she says. "We've never lost sight of how great a privilege it is." When she visits the campus, she's struck by how many more buildings there are than when she was a student. "But I see the same hunger and drive in the students that I saw in myself—and in my parents," she says.



At Professor Demmer's suggestion, she planned to enroll in a master's program in public health at the University of South Africa (UNISA), online. Due to availability issues, however, she was unable to enroll in that program and, instead, entered the "Social Behavior in HIV/AIDS" program in UNISA's Sociology Department. She did not yet realize just how interested she was in this issue, but she went on to earn her master's in sociology, with distinction, in 2009. "HIV/AIDS has now become the focus of my attention, and pushes me to the limit in trying to make a difference." To that end, she has created a website (www.mautau.com) that offers anonymous online counseling and information on where to get tested.

When Damar was scheduled to travel to South Africa for her graduation, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and had to cancel her trip and withdraw from UNISA's doctoral program. After undergoing treatment, she has recovered and is as passionate about her field of study as ever, and determined to help remove the stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS.

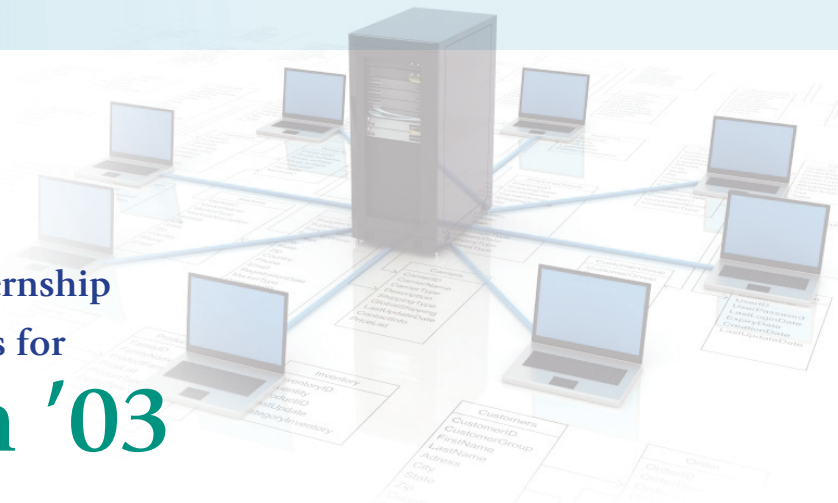
She continues her passion for HIV/AIDS health-related issues, publishing articles in local Jakarta newspapers and volunteering her time. "I want to help find a solution to the AIDS problem in the absence of a cure," she says. That also will be the topic of her Ph.D. thesis; she enrolls in January 2012 at UNISA, online.

— Anita Spearman (B.A., '11)

She and her husband, Noel, have three small children and live in Westchester. The demands of raising a family and serving her clients leave little time for leisure pursuits, although she still shows up regularly for Gaelic football games at Gaelic Park in Riverdale—"to support my nieces and nephews who continue the long-standing Irish tradition in our family," she says.

Those weekend outings often bring her in contact with customers from the family gift store, where she started out on a path that would take her to Lehman and on to a career with one of the world's foremost professional services firms. It's been a long and satisfying journey, she says, as she looks forward to the years ahead while reflecting on where she has been.

— Bruce Felton



Lehman Computing Degree and IBM Internship Fuel Career Success for **Isaac Boamah '03**

You could say that Isaac B. Boamah (B.S., '03) is a pioneer of sorts. Born in Ghana, he immigrated to the Highbridge section of the Bronx with his family and dreamed of becoming the first in his family to earn a college degree. Enrolling in Lehman, he decided to study computer science. Growing up in Africa, he knew no one who had his or her own computer. "To use a computer in Ghana back then, you had to go to an Internet café," he says.

But Boamah had made the right college choice.

At Lehman, he became eligible for the Computer Science and Mathematics Scholarship Program, designed to increase the number of students earning bachelor's and master's degrees in math and computing. The program has been funded for the last decade by the National Science Foundation and provides scholarships, academic and career mentoring, and Boamah's dream prize: a Toshiba laptop.

Studying with Professors Linda Keen and Katherine St. John, he became one of the first Lehman students to take part in a select IBM internship program, a joint venture between the College and IBM's T.J. Watson Research Division. He became part of the Messaging and Synchronization team at IBM and worked with technicians to enhance computerized features for the Ford Motor Company.

Empowered with real-life experience and armed with a degree in computer science, Boamah graduated in 2003 and landed a job with Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services, and outsourcing company—which usually hires from the Ivy League. "My education at Lehman and the two years I spent at IBM strongly contributed to my being hired," he believes. Quickly rising to the position of manager, he's amazed at the position he has achieved: advising and helping Fortune 500 companies across the globe transform their IT systems and platforms to become more high-performing businesses.



Isaac Boamah

For the last four years, Boamah has been consulting with a global chemicals company in Detroit to update its IT platform, utilizing SAP software. He hopes to continue his pioneering ways by convincing Accenture to open a branch in Ghana. "They already have an office in Nigeria and South Africa," he says. "That is my long-term goal: to see that happen and go back to Ghana and help set it up."

Dr. Galla Chandra Rao Returns to Lehman to Deliver Annual Sweeny Lecture

One of the longest-standing traditions at Lehman has been the annual Arthur Sweeny, Jr. Lecture, given in memory of the much-loved and long-serving Professor of Chemistry, who was part of the faculty at both Hunter-in-the-Bronx and then Lehman.

Delivering the 2011 lecture was Dr. Galla Chandra Rao, who completed his graduate work at Lehman and earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry in 1987 from the CUNY Graduate Center, under the guidance of Lehman Chemistry Professor Manfred Philipp.

As director of Reagent Development for the Immunicon Corporation, he worked to create the automated platform for detecting circulating tumor cells in the blood and led a team of scientists in developing an FDA-approved kit for the detection of circulat-

ing tumor cells in patients with metastatic cancer. He furthered this technology to provide an important research tool in detecting circulating cells in the blood.

Dr. Rao now works for Veridex, LLC, a Johnson & Johnson company, where he researches the effects of rare cells in blood—detecting their presence in the bloodstream can help with the diagnosis of various diseases.

His groundbreaking research has earned him sixteen patents, and he received the 2008 Philip Levine Award from Ortho Clinical Diagnostics Franchise for his research in detecting tumor cells. He holds a B.S. from S.V. University, India and an M.S. in organic chemistry from S.K. University and completed a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in biochemistry at Mount Sinai Medical School.

English Professor

Michelle Tokarczyk ('75)

Finds You Can Go Home Again—

Through Poetry



Michelle Tokarczyk

Michelle Tokarczyk (B.A., '75) remembers that she first got the idea to become a professor as she was walking up the staircase of the old Library at Lehman College. It was during her sophomore year. "It just occurred to me as I was walking," she recalls. "I've always loved literature, and my father was always an avid reader. And I thought to myself, 'Why not?' I could do it."

Fast-forward four decades. Dr. Tokarczyk is now a Professor of English at Goucher College in Baltimore,

as well as a published poet whose work has appeared in nearly two dozen journals and anthologies.

Her first poetry collection, *The House I'm Running From*, was published by West End in 1989. She also has written a number of scholarly works, including the forthcoming *Critical Approaches to American Working Class Literature* (Routledge) and *Class Definitions: On the Lives and Writings of Maxine Hong Kingston, Sandra Cisneros, and Dorothy Allison* (Susquehanna

It just occurred to me as I was walking, I've always loved literature, and my father was always an avid reader. And I thought to myself, 'Why not?' I could do it.

University Press, 2008). She has penned reviews and articles and written extensively about another Bronx-bred writer, E.L. Doctorow. She holds a Ph.D. from Stony Brook University.

Although her family left the Bronx for Queens, she returned to Lehman in the early 1970s because she has always felt drawn to the borough. "My grandmother used to live in the Kingsbridge area near campus," she recalls, "and I wanted to attend a college with a real campus. I've always had a strong connection to the Bronx."

Which is why she is working on a new collection of poems about the borough, specifically about the community where she was

raised, West Farms, which suffered through some hard times over the previous

half-century. "I'm writing about the period from 1960 to 1985, when that neighborhood was just destroyed by drugs and arson," she says.

Recently, though, she visited there and found signs of life, maybe even a revival of sorts. "I started writing about my old neighborhood, but soon the poems started forming a larger picture, of life in the Bronx."



The Chemistry Department and other faculty attending the 2011 Sweeny Lecture.



Dr. Galla Chandra Rao (center) with Chemistry Chair Dr. Timothy Paget (left) and Dr. Rao's doctoral mentor, Dr. Manfred Philipp.

Continuing the Dialogue on Undocumented Students

Dear Lehman Today,

As an alum I look forward to reading your publication, as I'm both amazed and proud of the good works Lehman grads are doing. I had a major issue, however, with your latest issue.

The section regarding human rights ("The Courage to Step Forward"), included those who participated in the Freedom Rides, survivors of the Holocaust, and the 1978 Massacre in Guatemala. Why you saw fit to include children of illegal aliens is beyond comprehension.

You featured extraordinary people who stood up to and suffered racial, political, and religious hate. You then featured a two-page piece on the children of illegals (no, they are not immigrants, they are illegals). Many of these people were not fleeing ethnic or religious persecution—they are economic (illegal) immigrants. While they may not live in the best of conditions, their housing situations are better than in their native countries, they often get benefits created for Americans (Food Stamps, WIC Checks, Medicaid, Section 8, etc.), and make enough money to send money back home—otherwise they wouldn't be here. Factor in free public education, ESL program expenses, and you'll understand why the bill Americans are footing for this abuse is one of the major reasons "DREAM" wasn't passed, and why many in Congress are looking to revisit the 14th Amendment (i.e., changing the law that gives U.S. citizenship to anyone born here).

Even more appalling was the attitude of entitlement displayed by many of the "students" you quoted in this article. Ronessa equated legal immigrants (those of us who went through the time, expense, and patience to properly attain citizenship) with those who arrogantly skipped across our border, settled in, perhaps gave birth to an "anchor baby," and applied for public benefits. "Undocumented and Unafraid"—really? What arrogance. If I was undocumented in any other country, I would be very afraid.



I know that this is the age of political correctness, and it might not be "nice" to point out abuse where it exists, but it's really time to stop drinking the Kool-Aid. Those students can scream and protest as much as they like about how "unfair" our country's laws may be (even after taxpayers paid their food, medical, and educational expenses through public benefits up to this time), but perhaps it would be more productive if they sat down with their parents and had a discussion with them as to why they felt it necessary to skirt our immigration laws.

Giving space to something like this really brings into question the integrity of your publication.

Sincerely yours,

Valerie J. Rostkowski
Class of '82

Editor's Note:

We really appreciate your thoughtful note, and certainly we understand that there are different, legitimate viewpoints regarding the situation of undocumented students.

One of our purposes in publishing *Lehman Today* is to inform our alumni of the new developments and trends occurring on the campus among the current generation of students. This particular movement seems to be new not only at Lehman but also within CUNY and has gained some national media attention on CNN and elsewhere. Thus, we felt it would be of interest to our readers and perhaps generate discussion of the issue.

In addition, it struck us that, whether we agree or disagree with their position, the students who are voluntarily identifying themselves in public as undocumented are taking a stand that could have personal negative repercussions, legally as well as socially. In that sense, they fit within the framework of "The Courage to Step Forward" evidenced by others within the Lehman community, who have confronted other issues and circumstances.

Under the Influence: The Comics and Contemporary Art

Feb. 7 – May 12, 2012

"Under the Influence: The Comics and Contemporary Art" will examine the work of artists indebted to the style and energy of the comics. The comics connote humor, with the term "funnies" suggesting a light-hearted sensibility and playfulness. Irony and satire are also a part of the territory. But the comics often explore a more complex, darker side of human existence—for Freud, humor was a path to the unconscious, allowing access to forbidden thoughts. The influences for these artists range widely from Philip Guston's iconoclastic "new figuration" to the Chicago Imagists, from pop culture iconography to underground comix and graphic novels. The exhibition includes a range of media by both established and emerging artists.





From Springtime in D.C....

The Lehman College Alumni Association and Alumni Office organized the first alumni trip to Washington, D.C. on April 16. Participants lunched at Filomena Ristorante in Georgetown, where they

were joined by Congressman Eliot Engel (B.A., '69; M.S., '73), who gave a warm welcome to his fellow alumni. Afterwards, the group toured various memorials and ended their visit at the Smithsonian.

Class of 1961 Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary

The Hunter College Class of 1961 celebrated its fiftieth anniversary this May, and a group decided to revisit the place they called home. At the time, the campus served as Hunter's uptown branch. Organizing their return trip was Morton Berkowitz '61.



Above: The Class of '61 gathers for a photo in front of the Music Building. In the last row, from left, are Vice President of Institutional Advancement Mario DellaPina, President Fernández, and Andrea Rockower, president of the Lehman Alumni Association Board of Directors.



... to a Manhattan Nightspot

June 23, 2011: Lehman alumni got together for the first time after work in Manhattan at "The Globe" Bar & Lounge, one of New York City's oldest bar spaces.

Top, from left: A guest at the event; Peter Krajnak '06; Alumni Director Cristina Necula; Alumni Association Board Secretary Robert Brownell '08; Oneida Cabaleiro; President Fernández; and Rita Habib '69. Left: Larry Carr '77 and Victoria Friedman '95.



Welcoming Lehman's Newest Alumni

May is also the time to welcome Lehman's newest alumni at the Graduating Seniors Brunch, sponsored by the Alumni Office. The event, held in the Faculty Dining Room, included presentations and a raffle.



Top: New grads toast each other's achievements and their hopes for success. Below: Celebrating with the new alumni are members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Gladys Comeau-Morales '83 and Thomas Gallagher '74 (second and third from left).



... to a Cruise Past Lady Liberty

Lehman alumni enjoyed a brunch cruise August 21 on the World Yacht Duchess, with beautiful sights of Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty, great live music, and delicious food.

Above: The group gets ready to board the World Yacht Duchess. Left: In front of the Statue of Liberty are, from left: Lawrence Seiler, Fred Gilbert, John Dean Daley, Barbara Smith, Judge Alma Cordova, Lorraine Pettaway, Haydee Acevedo, Karlene Johnson, Paulene Myers-Williams, Judge



Faviola Soto, Steve Ruff, Cristina Necula, Diane Joye, Beatrice Moreno, Keith Happaney, Luis Castro, Tena Coston, Christine and Tom Gallagher, and Ramon Cordies.

Senior Send-Off Day

Final words of advice and encouragement were given to the Class of 2011 at Senior Send-Off Day on June 22, organized by the Career Services Center. The event included a panel (below) with six alumni speaking on "Secrets to Their Success."





During 2010-11, 1,413 donors contributed \$1,505,716 to the Lehman College Annual Fund and Foundation. This report covers the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. We thank all our donors.

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Anna Gura Chose Lehman Despite a 52-Mile Commute— Each Way

Unlike a lot of students her age, Anna Gura is very optimistic about the future. The Ukrainian-born junior, a member of the Macaulay Honors College at Lehman, is studying for a B.S. in physics and is not yet sure what career she wants to pursue. But she isn't stressing about it.

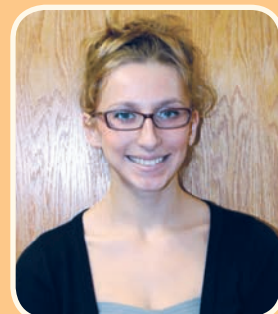
"There are so many opportunities out there," says Gura, who is also enrolled in the Lehman Scholars Program. "I'm not worried about what I'm going to do for a living. Right now my main focus after college is getting into a good graduate program." Her dream is to pursue a master's in physics at Cornell University.

Gura, who travels to Lehman fifty-two miles each way from her home in Carmel, in Putnam County, is considering a career in medical physics. That way, she would use her knowledge to help patients in hospitals, using MRI machines and X-rays and working in departments of radiation oncology.

Besides taking fourteen credits during the fall semester—"It's the least amount of credits I've taken so far," she says, "I usually take more"—Gura plays on the women's volleyball team and researches gravitational waves with Professor Christopher Gerry. "He really cares about his students," she adds.

Oh, she also has a second major: mathematics, which she says is just another way of reinforcing her physics credentials. "Physics is all based on math so if you major in physics, then you're basically a math minor anyway," she says.

This winter she has her sights set on studying abroad in either Cuba or India, making use of some of the \$7500 that Macaulay students receive to underwrite expenses for foreign study. Next summer, she hopes to visit Barcelona, where Distinguished Professor of Physics Eugene M. Chudnovsky conducts research at an annual international workshop on nanomagnetism.



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for Success

Sophia Perlaza, a J.K. Watson Fellow, Helps Out New Immigrants

Sophia Perlaza, a member of the Lehman Scholars Program, won a coveted spot this year in the Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship program. The three-year program offers paid summer internships, mentoring, and enhanced educational opportunities to New York City undergraduates who demonstrate exceptional promise, outstanding leadership skills, and commitment to the common good. Perlaza interned over the summer with DonorsChoose, an online charity that helps “citizen philanthropists” fund public classroom needs around the country.



Perlaza, now a junior, is pursuing a double major in political science and Italian. Active in student life, she recently championed an increase in the student activity fee in the hope of developing more vibrant extracurricular activities at the College. She also is an active volunteer in “We Are New York,” teaching English to new immigrants, and is considering a career either in the field of law or ESL (English as a Second Language) education.

“Being selected as a Watson Fellow is a tremendous stride toward a better educational and professional future for myself,” she said. “This is my opportunity to experiment, my time to see what fits my skills and personality and what doesn’t.” She plans to take advantage of every aspect of the fellowship’s offerings in seminars and summer internships to build strong working relationships and to become a better student and leader.

Established in 1999 by the Thomas J. Watson Foundation, the program offers its fellows their pick of coveted job placements over three consecutive summers in non-profit agencies, business organizations, and government service that give them a chance to grow and develop interpersonal skills and gain self-confidence in a variety of professional settings. Perlaza is one of several Lehman students to win this fellowship in recent years.

Chinello Egwuonwu '04
 Renee C. Ehle
 Adina B. Ehrenkranz '06
 Gary C. Eiferman '80
 Sharif L. Elhakem '99
 David Ellis
 Matthew R. Ellis '08
 Emerald Isle Immigration Center
 Napoleon T. Encalada '80
 Norma Encarnacion '76
 Martin E. Epstein '71
 Donna Lee Esperito '00
 Brian A. Evans '88
 Wesley C. Evans '91
 Michael K. Fadalla '09
 William F. Fager '90
 Gilbert M. Fagian '84
 Steven Farago '74
 Elsa A. Farbiarz '68
 Quinia M. Farrell
 Harmon R. Feig '70
 Eve Feinstein '73
 Paula Feinstein '09
 Anthony M. Fernandes '79
 Maryanne E. Ferrara '84

Mina F. Feuerstein '79
 Michelle B. Field '73
 Mary R. Figlear '88
 Judy A. Figueroa '06
 Jeffrey D. Fink '68
 Licia Fiol-Matta
 Margaret Fiore
 Phyllis B. Fisher '86
 Maura E. Fitton '86
 Agnes T. Fitzpatrick '88
 Josette Fleurant '79
 Joseph Francois '92
 Phyllis G. Fratarcangeli '70
 Philip I. Freedman
 Debra Z. Freeman
 Robert N. Friedman '76
 Dvora Y. Froimowitz '77
 Susanne H. Fruchter '94
 Linda C. Frum '95
 Alfredo P. Fuentes '01
 Karen Fung '91
 Jack Funt '90
 Charles J. Gaffner '69
 Andrew Galinsky
 Albert Gamble '88

Priya S. Ganesh '07
 Michele W. Ganon '79
 Laticia D. Garland '90
 Gloria Garson '76
 Thelma Garvin '05
 Rosalyn Gass '80
 Debra Gaston '05
 Margaret K. Geehern
 Sylvie Geldmacher
 General Electric Appliances
 Patricia J. Genova '75
 Felicia George
 Mark D. Gersten '72
 Geraldine Gewirtz
 Mahbobeh Ghods '89
 Enid F. Giles '77
 Alan Gilman '72
 Olga E. Gioulis '72
 Habib Girgis
 Sandra Gitlin '73
 Frances B. Giuffre '74
 Jeffrey Glanz '72
 Lorraine J. Graves '88
 Jonathan N. Gleicher '06
 Sylvia P. Glick '75

Patricia S. Gloeckner '92
 Kenneth M. Glotzer '74
 Elise M. Gold, Ph.D. '76
 Miriam H. Gomez '72
 Segundo C. Gomez
 Lily Gong '72
 Frank Gonzalez '70
 Ismael Gonzalez '92
 Juan Gonzalez '72
 Renee Goods '90
 Fran S. Gordon '75
 Christiane T. Gorycki
 Maura M. Gouck
 Christa N. Grant '05
 Barbara F. Green '72
 Karen R. Green '91
 Jean D. Greenberg '75
 Daron M. Greene '00
 Susan T. Greenstein '75
 Helen H. Gribetz '85
 Patricia H. Griffin '01
 Teneisha Griffin '11
 Carin Grimaldi
 Dawn A. Groenewegen-
 Genzlinger '96
 Ruth Grosshandler '69
 Anne D. Guarino '74
 Marie Guarnieri '04
 Genevieve Guido '85
 Seth Guinals-Kupperman
 Ilana A. Guttin '08
 Elhum Haghighat-Sordellini
 Cherif E. Haidara '96
 Max Haiman '10
 Marion Halberg
 Alcia D. Hall '99
 Norma N. Hamilton '96
 Mildred A. Hammer '75
 Sonya F. Hammer '75
 Margaret Hanley '01
 Keith R. Happaney, Ph.D. '92
 Judy E. Harfenist '74
 Adrienne C. Harris '84
 Lucie Harris
 Aston W. Harty '74
 Yousef Hattar '94
 Murray Hausknecht
 Linda W. Heaney '76
 Margaret K. Hecker '87
 Deborah H. Hector '78
 Cecelia M. Hedley '93
 Bryan A. Hedlund '05
 Charlotte A. Heese '79
 Dina E. Heisler
 Ronald A. Henry, Jr. '91
 Annette Hernandez
 Kimberly V. Hernandez '10
 Emanuel M. Hickson '10
 Eric Hidalgo
 John Mauk Hilliard
 Ann Marie S. Hing '02
 Raymond J. Hofmiller '10
 Alice V. Holloway '98
 Donald G. Hoople
 Carl A. Horowitz '77
 Julie H. Houston
 Velma G. Howell '99
 Patricia A. Hudick '66
 Stephanie Hung '10
 Mary Hurd-Brown '06
 Claudia Hyland '05
 Mario Iannitelli '73

Carol M. Imrich '76
 Brenda P. Irizarry '03
 Daniel Irizarry '05
 Ruth R. Iuliano '77
 Walter N. Iwachiw '77
 Janice D. Jackson '74
 Lona A. Jack-Vilmar
 Barbara Jacobson
 Camen E. Jairala
 Andrea S. Jakimer '81
 Joan E. James '99
 Sharon D. James '11
 Lisette Jannotti '83
 Marie Esther Jeanty '03
 Andrei Jitianu
 Meredith C. Johnson '09
 Georgette A. Jones '06
 Liesl B. Jones
 Ronald B. Joseph '74
 Jennifer Joseph-Lebron '09
 Lee Jung, M.D. '77
 Ivan Justo '09
 Dara M. Kane
 Margaret Kane
 Margaret O. Kane '68
 Lourdes Kaponer '73
 Fern C. Katronetsky '77
 Darlene A. Katsch '71
 Allan S. Kaufman '81
 Monika Kaur '06
 Orhan Kayaalp
 Mary T. Kearney '81
 Isabel K. Kessler '74
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 Tracey Kimble-Baumann '89
 Steven A. Kimmel, Esq. '77
 Debra Z. Kirschner '79
 Hiroshi Kishiro '06
 Rivka Kisling '10
 Carol C. Kissane '69
 Patricia B. Kleinman '73
 John E. Klonowski
 Sandra V. Klonsky '72 & Bruce G.
 Klonsky, Ph.D. '71
 Alan Kluger, Ph.D.
 Lisa A. Kogel '11
 Hana Kosar '80
 Renee Kranz
 Ida Krausz '08
 Shelagh Krueger '01
 Javqueline R. Kutner
 Rita M. La Bar '89
 La Salle Academy
 Fran Lacas
 Julian D. Laderman
 Mary H. & John J. Lally, Jr.
 Sang S. Lam '04
 Sharon K. Landsberg '71
 Rita B. Laskin '74
 Barbara M. Lazarus '76 '07 &
 Marc S. Lazarus, Ph.D.
 Kris Le '96
 Amelia Lebron '80
 Jongmi Lee '08
 Lehman College Department of
 Social Work
 David A. Lenzon '10
 Abraham Leon
 Frederica I. Levitt '71
 Claudia P. Levy '02
 Richard A. Levy '74
 Leslie A. Lieman



Melissa O'Neill ('00) Is Keeping Her And Supporting Lehman Students

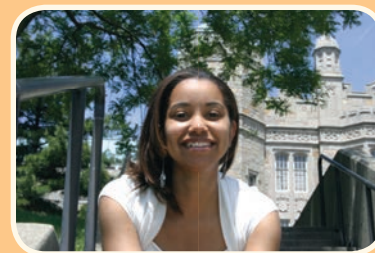
Melissa O'Neill (B.A., '00) got to do something her mother never did. "My mother always dreamed of becoming a lawyer one day, but she was never able to fulfill that dream," says the former political science major, who's now a litigation associate at the New York law firm of Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP.

O'Neill's mother, Rosemarie Kutza O'Neill, died suddenly at age thirty when Melissa was just eleven. After she had achieved her goal—graduating *summa cum laude* from Lehman and *magna cum laude* from New York Law School in 2005, all while working full-time—she began thinking about how she could inspire other young women.

What's more, O'Neill wanted to empower the women who followed her at Lehman. "I feel very connected to Lehman," she says. "I have so much in common with the students, so I wanted to do something to give back to the Lehman community."

Growing up in Manhattan's Hell's Kitchen, O'Neill recalls that she had a lot of help achieving her goals. "So many people have helped me to get to where I am," says the alumna, who lives in Hunts Point. "I wanted to extend a helping hand to Lehman students."

With that in mind, in 2008 she created the annual Rosemarie Kutza O'Neill Award, which carries \$1000, for an outstanding female graduate who majored in political science and has been admitted to law school. "This is my way of honoring my mother's memory," she says. This year's award went to Katherine Mateo (B.A., '11), who won a full scholarship to Stanford Law School.



Jane L. Lima '10
Elaine D. Lipton '76
Germaine A. Livingstone '03
Nancy Livrieri '01
Brian M. Lobel, Ph.D. '73
Marie T. Londrigan, Ph.D. '76
Erinetta L. Long
Pablo A. Lopez '72
Gustavo E. Lopez Quinones
Anthony J. Lopiano '98
Linda LoPresti '07
Judy Y. Lorell '03
Thomas F. Luckey '97
Laurie B. Ludmer '75
Sonia Lugo-D'Andrea '97
Eva Lund
Diane D. L. F. Lynch '81
Nick Maccarone
Robert L. Mack '79
Jessica B. Macklin '93
Annelen H. Madigan '95
Iffat Mahmud-Khan '00
Denise B. Maitland '10
Samuel Maldonado '93
Aravind Mallipudi '98
Violet A. Mallory '80
Julie Mankiewicz, Ph.D. '08 & Paul Mankiewicz, Ph.D. '76
Paul F. Mapelli '80
Jacqueline S. Mark '08
Maxine Markoff '73
Enid L. Marsh '72
Nicole Marti
Carmen Y. Martinez '92
Pedro Martinez '04
Barbara Martz
Lorraine G. Mastracchio '74
Merie E. Mastronardi
Caleb Mateo '09
Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects
Alessandra M. Mautone-Burgos '07
Elizabeth E. Maybruch '88
Sean Mayer '00
Cecil A. McIntosh, Jr. '95
Kevin B. McCahey '86
Bridget S. McCarthy '74
Justin M. McCarthy '85
Mary P. McCullough '78
Sarah M. McDermott '07
Thomas J. McGrath '73
Annie McHugh '89
Robert G. McKay '79
Franklin G. McKenzie '07
Patricia A. McLean '94
Grace C. McManus '64
Suzanna McNamara
Eileen M. McNamee '93
Reinold G. McNickle '79
Harold E. McNulty '90
Frank I. McSweeney, III '86
Albert M. Medvec, Ph.D. '71
Randi S. Meiseles '75
Ekaterini Melitsopoulou '96
Dianne R. Meranus, Ed.D. '73
Myrta Mercado '82
Susan A. Merguerian '92
Cheryl Merzel
Steven E. Metzger '71
Esther Z. Meyer '70
Julio C. Meza '08
Greg J. Michel

Nasry Michelen '93
Gloria A. Middaugh '77
Agnese P. Mignone-Amato '92
William J. Miller '88
Theresa B. Millo '82
Dennis Mincin '80
Hewlyn A. Mingo '82
James L. Minogue, Jr.
Rubi Miyachi '10
Lillian A. M'Latamou '74
Javier E. Montalvo '00
Frances Montera '83
Soraya Morel '00
Lora Morgan '82
Christian J. Morraz '09
Ramona Morris-Ngolla
Virginia L. Moss
Roger E. Mumford, Esq. '74
Alice P. Munzo '70
Thomas Murasso
Tracey A. Murray '88
Nicholas S. Naber '10
Neal B. Naigus '68
Parameswaran Nair
Nancy Nathan '09
Wendy N. Nathaniel '08
Maria-Cristina Neclua
Eileen Negrón '92
Maxine E. H. Neidich '74
Amanda V. Neira '07
Ruperta R. Nelson '10
Wayne W. Nesmith '91
Ellen G. Newman '80
Kim L. Nguyen '96
Arlette Nicholls '93
Marisol A. Nixon '90
Theresa A. Nnodum '91
Maryanne C. Nojman '75
Gloria B. North '67
Howard M. Noskowitz '72
Thomas A. Notarangelo '83
Donald Nowwe, Esq. '71
Lord S. Nwamadson '88
Kachikwulu N. Nweke '00
Eugene Obermuller '01
Benjamin Z. Oberstein '75
Patrick J. O'Brien '74
Naphtali O'Connor
Olanrewaju K. Onijoko '07
Enrique Orengo '08
Kimberly E. Ortiz
Jaquelyn L. O'Shaughnessy '03
Judith Z. Osten '78
Anna L. Oster '70
Edward Osterman '70
Eileen M. Ostrander '91
Jackie Padilla-DiMirco '04
Salvatore Paese '81
Saida Pagan '75
John D. Pantuso '74
Carole E. Parkey '97
Juan E. Parra
Ruschel E. Patrick
Barry C. Pearce '70
Odessa J. Pegus '75
Ana C. Pena '10
Catherine L. Pennacchia '75
Linda C. Pentz '76
Diana Perez '08
Martha C. Perez
Rosa P. Perez-Encarnacion '78
Alberto Perez-Lorenzo '01

Caryn F. Perlman '87
Robert H. Perlman '79
Laura J. Perozo-Garcia '00
Delrani Persad
Manfred Philipp, Ph.D.
Pamela Phillips '06
Jose E. Pichardo '09
Edward Pichardo '09
Serge Pierre '82
Barbara A. Pivarnik, Ph.D. '69
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Robert Puccio
Pamela M. Putney '84
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Patricia A. Rauch '09
Anna M. Reis '74
Fiorella Rellinger '07
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Felix Reyes '76
Luisa Reyes '07
Kastriot Rezag
Anne M. Riccio '70
Carl B. Richards '91
Gilda L. Richards '97
John L. Richards
Denise V. Riera '86
Dennis Riley '99
Joseph Rill '71
Howard M. Ring '90
Roseanne M. Riolo '85
Cathleen T. Riordan Neville '86
Jose Rios '90
Kathryn R. Riter-Bonnell '90
Zacarias Rivera
Ann S. Roberts '87
Edgar V. Roberts
Humberto R. Roberts '93
Jean K. Roccanova '81
Maria A. Rocchi '97
Wickenson Rock '06
Gladys R. Rodriguez '91
Jaclyn Rodriguez '02
Martha Rodriguez '91

Sory A. Rodriguez '08
Gladys Romero '87
Jose Romero
Marcial Rosado, Jr. '75
Veronica Rosado '00
Nilsa Rosario '90
Lance S. Rosenbaum '69
Lonnie S. Rosenberg '78
Mark J. Rosenberg '74
Norma B. Rosenberg '73
Frances R. Rosenzweig '96
Jennifer L. Ross '04
Linda Rucker
Ezequiel Ruiz Baez '08
Ingrid I. Ruiz '09
Kenneth W. Rust '73
Eva H. Rynjah, M.D. '85
Alice R. Saberski
Talieh T. Sadri '95
Marie Salnave '00
Arthur H. Saltz '69
Sandra L. Sams '83
Diana Sanabria, Esq. '85
Jason C. Sanchez '07
Teresa E. Santana '96 '03

Mother's Dream Alive —



"When I look around at what I was able to accomplish," O'Neill says, "I know that my mother would have been proud."

The scholarship is just one of the ways she stays connected to her alma mater. During her time as a student, she forged a lasting friendship with Professor Ira Bloom of the Political Science Department. "He's been a mentor and friend for almost fifteen years," she says. "I consult him for all my important career decisions."

In the same way, O'Neill maintains a connection with the other women who have won the scholarship she created—Kristin Burgess, '08 (due to graduate from Yale Law School in 2012) and Ayesha Lewis, '10 (beginning her second year at NYU Law School). "I consider myself to be a mentor to all of them," she says. "They occasionally call me with questions. It's not just a monetary gift and then that's that. It's ongoing. I'm impressed with all of them. And I have no doubt that they will be successful attorneys."



(Bottom row, left to right) Kristin Burgess ('08), Ayesha Lewis ('10), and Katherine Mateo ('11) are the three students being helped by the Rosemarie Kutza O'Neill Scholarship, established by Melissa O'Neill ('00) (top).

Elizabeth Santiago '01
 Jerilyn F. Santiago '75
 Dorothy M. Sargeant '78
 Carol C. Sarnoff '69
 Patricia A. Schachner '70
 Jessica C. Schick '48
 Marie P. Schiff '77
 Barbara Schmalzer '88
 Michael A. Schneider, Psy.D. '75
 Richard J. Schneider, Esq. '72
 Laura Schwartzberg
 Lorraine A. Sclafani '73
 Levern C. Scott '08
 Madeleine Secunda '80
 Nilda Segarra '77
 Bruce E. Serkes '73
 Maria A. Serrano '86
 Fatima Sesay
 Anita V. Sewer '98
 Christine M. Shanchuk '71
 Honey-Joan Shane '99
 Alan M. Shear '75
 Elzia G. Shelton '78
 Shirley F. Sheriff '71
 Howard H. Sherman, Esq. '71

Soomintra R. Shike '07
 Esia Shor '86
 Richard J. Shore '97
 Elizabeth V. Shuler '08
 Maria T. Siaflas '81
 Mary A. Siano '88
 Anthony J. Siconolfi '75
 Monica B. Silberberg '81
 Beverly Silverman '81
 Dwight H. Simmons '74
 Fateh Singh '09
 Shirley B. Singleton '84
 John A. Sioris '68
 Loretta A. Skrobola '70
 Benjamin A. Smith '97
 Christopher L. Smith '03
 Patricia M. Smith '77
 Peter J. Smith '72
 Beverly P. Soares '94 &
 John Soares, III '98
 Lynda V. Solomon '69
 Christine E. Spadafore '03
 Laura J. Spalter '80
 Valerie L. Spellman '79
 Sylvia Spencer '84

Randi L. Spiegel '76
 Gerald I. Spielholtz
 Edward Spingarn, Ph.D.
 Elizabeth V. Spirer '74
 Marisa H. Spittal '07
 Youlet D. Staff '97
 Alan L. Stein '70
 Richard J. Steiner '08
 Sabina Steiner '83
 Eugene Steinhart '76
 Anita E. Stern '75
 David A. Sternberg '88
 Jacqueline A. Sternberg '78
 Doris Stevens
 Howard I. Stimmel '79
 Robert Stockwell, Jr. '01
 Edythe A. Stoddard '83
 Thomas F. Stoelker '09
 M. Joanne Strauss '70
 Gunthar Stroman
 Beulah L. Stuart '72
 Alexandra W. Stumpf '08
 Juan M. Suarez '09
 Marisa Suescun
 Barbara H. Sulkowski '68

Patricia S. Sullivan '83
 Rodlyn Sullivan
 Eugenie Sullivan-O'Connell
 John E. Sylvester '76
 Carmine J. Tabacco '81
 Stanley F. Taback
 Lorraine Taylor '06
 Devorah Tedeschi
 Alex K. Tejera '05
 Madrid O. Tennant '05
 Cynthia C. Teplitsky '74
 Audrey T. Thomas '81
 Katherina M. Thompson
 Mary E. Timm '80
 Marta H. Tirado '87
 Kristine M. Torres '07
 Evelyne G. Tosini '68
 John F. Townsend '70
 Cecelia E. Traugh
 Phillip J. Travers '80
 Christine Trezza '81
 Rosemarie G. Trotman '91
 Robert C. Troy
 Marissa Trudo '93
 Debbie L. Tucker '88
 Thomasina A. Tucker '91
 Robert P. Tyra '74
 Bushra Umbreen '10
 Ann M. Utke '90
 Carlos M. Valdivieso '78
 Darnella C. Valentino '05
 Ralph Vega, Jr. '76
 Christina Velasquez
 Ana A. Pena-Velez '98 &
 Darwin L. Velez '00
 Margaret M. Vescovi '78
 Vanessa V. Vieux
 Dora C. Villani '71
 Dorinda A. Violante '97
 Louis N. Voltaggio '71
 Betsy Von Burg '97
 Milos Vulcanovic '02
 Yvonne Wallace '90
 Mary R. Walter '88
 Michael J. Warren, Esq. '69
 Vivienne Warszawski '86
 Odella N. Washington '74
 Bridget H. Weeks '92
 Robert B. Weinstein '79
 Vivian Weir '00
 Jessica M. Weiss '78
 Charles J. Weissberg '82
 Charlotte L. Wellington '08
 Allison P. Wheeler '06
 Desi A. White '90
 Hazel P. White '82
 Esther I. Wilder
 Ernestine Wildstein '70
 Anita F. Williams '88
 Hyacinth R. Williams
 Linda C. Williams '70
 Marcus L. Williams '85
 Sloan Williams '00
 Joyce F. Williams-Green '76
 Robert K. Windbiel '09
 Debbie Winder '76
 Blossom Wittlin '76
 Caryn S. Wolchuck '77
 Rhea G. Wolfthal '71
 Eric Woodley '00
 Joseph A. Yarina '79
 Sharon K. Yeter '89

Katherine E. Young '84
 Edward C. Zeligson '73
 Wei Guang Zhu '02
 John S. Zolfo '68

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 Constance C. Usera '96
 Barbara E. Warkentine '82



A Place That's Always

Green

Voodoo lilies, rabbit's-foot fern, and endangered Brazilwood – these are just some of the exotic plants that thrive under the same roof as the more common orchids, cacti, and citrus in Lehman's Teaching Greenhouse, where it stays green even when snow is falling outside. A calm oasis tucked away behind Davis Hall on the ground level, the Greenhouse serves faculty as well as both undergraduate and graduate students in the biological sciences.



For Greenhouse Manager James Lee, who has twenty years of experience working in the plant sciences, the Greenhouse is not only a functional place to teach and conduct research, but also a retreat of sorts. The doors are open year-round to anyone interested in learning about plants or just looking to escape.

Students and visitors alike are treated to small collections of plants that demonstrate a variety of botanical characteristics. The store of carnivorous plants is of particular interest, as are plants like the American mangrove, which forms aerial roots and is an important wetland tree; the *Mimosa pudica*, a sensitive plant whose leaves close upon touch; the coffee plant; the voodoo lily, which produces a large inflorescence that has a very unpleasant odor; and rabbit's-foot fern, which produces a fur-like growth on the surface of the soil.

Photos by Adi Talwar; text by Yeara Milton (B.A., '02).



Clockwise from top: 1. Chin cactus, *Gymnocalycium* sp., part of the cacti collection; 2. Turk's cap cactus, *Melocactus* sp., part of the cacti collection; 3. Castor bean, *Ricinus communis*, grown as an example of palmate leaves for a laboratory exercise on plant morphology; 4. *Cyathea* sp., grown as an example of a tree fern; 5. *Tradescantia zebrina* (also known as *Zebrina pendula*), used for vegetative propagation and other laboratory exercises; 6. *Coleus x hybridus* in its red form, also used for lab exercises in vegetative propagation; and 7. *Coleus x hybridus* in its purple form.



Two Ways to Make a Lasting Gift

Become a Part of History.

Celebrate a graduation, highlight a special occasion, or remember a parent or loved one with a truly distinctive gift: a commemorative brick.

Lehman College has set aside space along a new Alumni & Friends Walkway—in front of Shuster Hall—where your thoughtful gift will be seen throughout the year. Your contribution will support scholarships for the next generation of Lehman students, as well as College needs.

A commemorative brick is the perfect way to celebrate the members of your class, club, or sports team. The College will set aside a special area for your group when you submit a minimum order for twenty bricks. Standard bricks (4 x 8 inches) are \$130; large bricks (8 x 8 inches) are available for \$250.



Create a Legacy.

Ever wonder how the wealthy make a charitable gift?

Lehman College has a new gift opportunity for alumni 65 and over. It makes fixed, steady payments for a lifetime, and what remains is a gift to Lehman.

It's a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).

Your CGA can make its lifetime payments to one or two people who are 65 or over. You can create one for:

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- Children
- Parents
- Siblings

Help our College, our students, and our departments.

Help your loved ones. Help yourself.



*For a brochure on the brick program,
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at 718-960-6908 / sol.margulies@lehman.cuny.edu.*



past, present, future



Lehman Today Creates Lehman Tomorrow

Our college, its campus, programs, faculty, students—in essence, its future, is a guaranteed success as long we help keep the vision alive.

Today, New York State funding contributes only about thirty percent of the College's annual operating budget. Tuition, external grants for research and sponsored programs, and gifts from alumni and friends make up the difference. These gifts expand Lehman's academic programs, establish endowed chairs and professorships, and upgrade facilities, instrumentation, and equipment—which all increase the value of a Lehman education as well as a Lehman degree. Most important, these private dollars make scholarship support available for many students who otherwise could not afford to attend Lehman. Please consider making a gift to help Lehman College fulfill its mission and build both its future and that of its students. *Contact Sol Margulies in the Lehman College Foundation, 318 Shuster Hall, 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, NY 10468 / 718-960-6908 / sol.margulies@lehman.cuny.edu.*