

CSTEP Conference...

Continued from previous page

Student researchers were also able to explain projects and answer questions. LaGuardia student, Hristo Tishev, presented a poster entitled "Emotional Intelligence," which he developed at the college under the mentorship of Professor Patricia McGuire of the Psychology Department. He was very excited about the topic and plans on continuing his studies in psychology and how it impacts on the work environment.

The conference, sponsored by Syracuse University, took place in the Sagamore Hotel, in Lake George. We had two days of walking around a five-star hotel in which we were able to attend workshops, network with students, faculty, and administrators from two- and four-year institutions, and dine with those who participated in the event.

The keynote speaker reminded us to keep on that upward climb, despite life's problems. Her theme that every set back is a set up for a comeback were words that urged the students to keep going onward and to fulfill their dreams despite their obstacles.

CSTEP celebrated its 20-year birthday, in which NYSED has been funded by Congress to develop this mission of promoting minority/underrepresented students in the licensed professions. Representatives who had been attending the conference spoke of how much more professional it has become since it was initiated 15 years ago. As first time attendees, we were very inspired by the projects that we saw, and are now seeking projects and ideas to develop and to present at next year's conference.

Any CSTEP student who is interested in developing a research project may contact me at srosenberg@lagcc.cuny.edu or Professor Marlyn Goya, the CSTEP coordinator, at mgoya@lagcc.cuny.edu. We look forward to working with you and sharing your work with the other 40 state colleges at the Sagamore Hotel in 2008. ▀

CO-OP SPOTLIGHT: ANEUDY PEREZ

A LaGuardia Graduate Who Made the Most of All Opportunities

By Paula Zimmermann, Program Assistant, Cooperative Education Department

Aneudy Perez began his undergraduate education at Baruch College. Aneudy decided to transfer to LaGuardia to further develop his writing skills. Aneudy originally intended to return to Baruch after a short time. Instead, due to his positive experience at LaGuardia, he decided to stay and earn his associate's degree. He said, "The faculty at LaGuardia take an interest in the students and their development. I received assistance with my writing skills. I also appreciated being able to take classes year round. In addition, the courses I took in the Cooperative Education Department assisted me with my resume and with my over all professional development. Once I achieved my Associate's degree in accounting, I then decided to return to Baruch."

Aneudy began his cooperative education internship at Con Ed in 2004. During this internship he was trained to use Con Ed's internal payroll system. He entered information in their computer system and interacted with not only managers but with the entire payroll staff. Prior to his internship, Aneudy had never worked in an office before. He had worked as a restaurant manager. His goals for the internship were to gain both office and professional experience. His responsibilities in the Payroll Department and his networking with the Con Ed staff gave him this experience.

After his internship, Aneudy decided to apply for a full time position at Con Ed.

After completing the hiring process; interviewing and testing, Aneudy was



Aneudy Perez

hired as an administrative clerk in the Human Resources Department. In that department, he not only met many people but he answered a number of calls from employees with questions. Six months later he became an assistant in Human Resources. Six months after that he took another test and became a junior accountant in Treasury. Aneudy realized the opportunity for advancement at Con Ed and with encouragement from his Con Ed co-workers, Aneudy made the most of that opportunity.

As a junior accountant in Treasury, Aneudy processes and distributes checks. He utilizes his customer service skills handling customer refunds and has gained additional experience using Excel. A requirement for the junior accountant position is an Associate's degree that Aneudy obtained from LaGuardia.

Aneudy is now currently enrolled as an accounting major at Baruch where he takes classes four nights a week. Another added benefit to working at Con Ed, is the tuition reimbursement plan, of which he is taking advantage. Aneudy hopes to graduate in 2008 and then take the CPA exam.

Aneudy credits his internship experience at Con Ed with enabling him to gain access to Con Ed that was and is valuable experience. Aneudy is proud of his accomplishments at Con Ed and hopes one day to open his own accounting firm.