

Taking Stock in Global Exchange

◆ RANDY FADER-SMITH

Students Alexander Kaloferov and Brittanny Colebrook are methodically tackling a paper on globalization for Professor Angela Wu's Principles of Accounting I class the same way they would any collaborative assignment: they have selected a topic, brainstormed how they will approach the subject, divvied up the work and carefully reviewed and edited each other's submissions. There's just one difference.

The students are communicating solely by email because they are separated by over 1,400 miles. Alexander, a LaGuardia student, is working from the Long Island City campus, while his partner, a Bahamas Baptist Community College student, is at her Caribbean campus.

Alexander and Brittanny are among 38 LaGuardia students and 17 BBCC students who are participating this spring in an online exchange program between the two institutions.

And while Professor Wu's students

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PAOLA TINEA AND
ALEXANDER KALOFEV
BRING NEW MEANING TO
EXCHANGE PROGRAM

are working on a team project with the help of technology, in a more conventional study abroad program, four Danish students from Niels Brock Copenhagen Business College in Denmark are taking a full course load at LaGuardia.

With these two student exchange programs, which were launched this semester, the Division for Academic Affairs, with the cooperation of the Business and Technology Department, is wasting no time moving forward on one of the college's four strategic

directions, "educating a global citizenry."

Dr. Marcia Caton, assistant dean for Academic Affairs who helped develop these initiatives notes that LaGuardia's virtual exchange program with BBCC, the only community college in Nassau, was designed to respond to the needs of the students. "Many of our students cannot travel abroad, either due to family responsibilities or financial reasons," she said. "This initiative enables them to interact with students from other cultures."

Professor Wu also worked with her counterpart at BBCC

via email. "We had to make sure that the curricula were compatible and that the lessons jived so that the students

"MANY OF OUR STUDENTS CANNOT TRAVEL ABROAD, DUE TO EITHER FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES OR FINANCIAL REASONS," DR. CATON SAYS. "THIS INITIATIVE ENABLES THEM TO INTERACT WITH STUDENTS FROM OTHER CULTURES."

were covering the same materials," she says. She and the BBCC professor will both grade the papers.

"It has been a great experience," says Paola Tinea, who is teaming up with Zoya Bagatry-

ova, a fellow LaGuardia student, and Anya Klarke of BBCC, to write on the

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SHARING THE MESSAGE

Making it Work

◆ DR. GAIL O. MELLOW



No matter who you are—a student waiting for a computer at the library, faculty in front of a class or staff in the financial aid office—you cannot help but be struck by the growth in the number of students coming to LaGuardia. We've read the front page articles about how the historic downturn in the economy is driving more students to attend community colleges. Now, in our daily experiences, we are seeing this come to life.

As of the end of April 2009, we enrolled 3,150 students into degree programs—a 20% increase from the same period in 2008. Certain programs are also overwhelmed with applicants; our highly regarded EMT program saw a 33% jump in applications over last year's total.

We face so many challenges in meeting this demand. At a time when we are already starved for space, how do we find the classrooms and offices to meet growing enrollment numbers? How can we ensure that we don't compromise the quality of our teaching, or diminish the effectiveness of our support services, when more students are coming through our doors?

There are certainly no easy answers to these questions, but I know of no other faculty or staff that will work harder to make sure LaGuardia Community College addresses these issues with creativity and a keen focus on quality education. We will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to maximize existing space and to create new space. We have just opened new space in the B Building, and we hope to rent even more space there. I need everyone's support and advocacy to make the case to policymakers that it is a glaring societal mistake to turn away qualified students from programs, such as our veterinarian technology or nursing programs, when we have jobs waiting for graduates, but are constrained from expanding because of lack of funding and facilities.

While we work to increase our physical space and secure more dollars to expand and maintain academic quality, I know everyone will bring even greater flexibility to their work, their departments, and the College, to ensure that we can serve our community during these most difficult times.

I welcome your suggestions and ideas on how we can bring the same level of innovation to handle the surge in new students as we do to our day-to-day work. In the coming months and next fall, this will undoubtedly be a greater challenge, but it is one we have no choice but to overcome.

Dr. Gail O. Mellow is President of LaGuardia Community College

Global Exchange...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

financial crisis in the Caribbean. Through daily emails, the team had no problem deciding how to tackle the subject. "It's been a truly shared experience," says Zoya.

The agreement with Niels Brock Copenhagen Business College, is giving four Danish students the opportunity to take a full range of business courses including marketing, business law and small business management, as well as urban studies.

To ensure that the students made an easy transition, the International Students Office prepared the students' visas, and Enrollment Management and Student Development led them through the registration process. Faculty members have also invited them to speak in their classes.

"This was the first time the school offered a student exchange program, so I decided to participate," says Frederik Qvitza, who had never been to New York. "Frankly, I was not sure what to expect, but it's been a great experience. I've enjoyed the classes, and the professors have been great."

The experience has been so great that Frederik plans on returning to New York to pursue his baccalaureate degree. "I would like to go to Baruch," he says.

As part of the agreement, LaGuardia has established internships at Danish companies for LaGuardia business students who are interested in studying abroad. Francine White, the chairperson of the Cooperative Education Department, is developing learning objectives specific to these new internships.

"We definitely will be establishing other student exchange projects," Dr. Caton says. ▀

Randy Fader-Smith is the Associate Director of Public Relations for LaGuardia's Marketing and Communications Department.

LaGuardia Dances at Bridge's 100th Anniversary Bash

Still Feeling Groovy After All These Years

◆◆ RANDY FADER-SMITH

The Queensboro Bridge has been the inspiration for songwriters, novelists and film directors. Now, in honor of its 100th anniversary, two acclaimed dance companies will be performing Martha Graham's classic "Panorama," at LaGuardia on June 6. The free performance will be held in the Mainstage Theatre at 2 p.m. A reception will follow.

The Manhattan-based Graham II and the Queens-based Mad About Dance will revive the 1935 piece -originally created as a social protest work- that uses numbers and geometric design to communicate intense socio-political themes. Performing with the professional troupes will be dancers from the college and the local community.

"Since the bridge links Queens and Manhattan, we thought it would be fitting to have two companies that represent the boroughs that were most impacted by the bridge," says Steven Hitt, managing director of



LPAC. "Inviting local dancers to perform with the guest companies adds a special dimension to the performance."

LPAC's event is part of a week long centennial celebration that kicks off May 31. Scheduled are marching bands, period cars, walking tours, lectures and exhibitions. Sponsoring the celebration is the New York City Bridge Centennial Commission. To find out more about the celebration, visit www.nycbridges100.org

"We hope that people will salute the borough of Queens and their history," says Sam Schwartz, president of the commission.

The Queensboro Bridge, also known as the 59th Street Bridge, unofficially opened to traffic on March 30, 1909, and was officially opened on June 12 of that year. The longest bridge spanning the East River, it quickly became an important connection between Queens and Manhattan. It also became a cultural icon, which inspired the Simon and Garfunkel song, "The 59th Street Bridge Song (Feelin' Groovy)." It appeared in silhouette in Woody Allen's "Manhattan." And the view from the span is described in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. "The city seen from the Queensboro Bridge is always the city seen for the first time, in its first wild promise of all the mystery and the beauty in the world." For more information, please call the box office at ext. 5151.

LaGuardia Community Examines the Pros and Cons of Gentrification

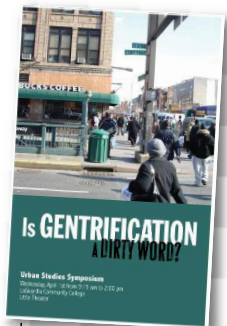
◆◆ KAREN MILLER

How can we, as members of diverse communities, assess whether the positive elements of gentrification outweigh the problems associated with them? When a neighborhood "improves" for whom is it improving? Should poor residents be forced to move out when their neighborhoods become more livable? Or should all city residents have access to affordable housing and good quality living?

These are some of the questions that animated the four panels at the gentrification symposium hosted by LaGuardia's Urban Studies program on April 1. The daylong conference, "Is Gentrification a Dirty Word?" was organized by faculty and staff from across the college. Each panel examined gentrification as a process that can be beneficial for some and devastating for others.

The first panel, "A More Livable City? Preservation And Rezoning In Queens And Manhattan," explored how New York City has been reshaped by redevelopment and historical preservation projects designed to improve such neighborhoods as Western Queens, Manhattan, and Willets Point. Tim Coogan a social science professor at LaGuardia who also served as moderator, and Seth Bornstein, assistant dean of LaGuardia's Centers for Economic Development organized the panel.

"Gentrification in Harlem" explored critical perspectives on gentrification and redevelopment through the experiences of people who have been



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LAGUARDIA

LIVEWIRE

IS A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY PRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS. Submission guidelines and back issues are available at: www.laguardia.edu/livewire

LiveWire Editorial Board:

Randy Fader-Smith, Lara Moon, and Cindy Busch, Marketing and Communications; Robert Jaffe, President's Office; Renee L. Daniels, Division of Enrollment Management and Student Services; Liesl Fores, Division of Adult and Continuing Education; and Liz Carrillo, Institutional Advancement.

To contact us, please send an email to: RANDYFS@lagcc.cuny.edu

LaGuardia's Annual Fund: The Foundation of Fundraising

◆ E. RAMONE SEGREE

Each year between July 1 and June 30, LaGuardia's Development Office mounts a concentrated effort to generate support for the College. This is known as the Annual Fund Campaign – the bedrock of all fundraising campaigns.

Development operates within a giving pyramid with the Annual Fund at its base, proceeding upward to special events, major gifts, major institutional campaigns (i.e. capital and endowment), and to the ultimate gift, the planned gift. We speak in terms of "acquiring" our donors through the Annual Fund and "stewarding" them up the giving

pyramid over time.

Gifts can be restricted for specific purposes, but typically gifts to the Annual Fund are unrestricted, to be used as needed. At LaGuardia, the primary focus for unrestricted gifts is student scholarships. In fact, since the 2003 inception of the LaGuardia Community College Foundation – the entity staffed by the College's Development Office and whose mission is to raise, manage, invest and distribute fundraising dollars for the College – nearly 1,000 scholarships totaling almost \$450,000 have been awarded.

The goal of the Annual Fund is to expand the number of annual donors, and to sustain and step-up their annual giving. This dedicated base of donors is

seen as a pool from which greater gifts can be mined, but more importantly, they become the College's ongoing family of friends who assist with and benefit from the College's advancement and success.

This loyal and growing group of supporters, made up of individuals, businesses, foundations, organizations, faculty, staff, board and alumni, now totals 673 and gives about \$500,000 annually. LaGuardia's Development Office and Foundation maintain a strong focus on this important annual effort, with the goal of engaging more fully each of these vital gift sources for the Annual Fund.

E. Ramone Segree is LaGuardia's Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Why So Innovative?

LPAC Director Steven Hitt Explains His Strategies for Success

◆ LIZ CARRILLO

Steven Hitt, Managing Director of the LaGuardia Performing Arts Center (LPAC), was recently named one of Queens' Top 15 Innovators by It's *Queens* Magazine. LiveWire's Liz Carrillo found out how his creativity has brought the gift of entertainment to audience members of every age at the College and in the greater Queens communities.



STEVEN HITT

the world. During CUNY Month in November, we will host "Around the World in 24 Hours." This theater festival will web-broadcast plays on a global level; our audience will be viewing performances from around the globe, and international audiences will be watching our performances as well. This is part of experimental theatre that is supported by a group called "The Internationalists" who are comprised of international directors. Similar to their mission, LPAC is committed to opening up our audiences to a wide array of experiences in a way that helps them to appreciate our differences.

Q Why were you named one of Queens' Top Innovators?

A I was acknowledged for what I've accomplished in the past three years with the help of my team. Through new artistic programs that focus on addressing issues of multiculturalism and social justice, we've brought recognition to the LaGuardia Performing Arts Center (LPAC). We were able to build and expand upon some of the strong programs that LPAC was offering, such as the children's theatre and the jazz series.

We strive to create programs and services that are all-inclusive. LPAC has gained a reputation among the artistic community for providing something for everyone.

Q How does your vision for LPAC fit in with LaGuardia's mission?

A As "The World's Community College," LaGuardia is proactive in engaging not only the local community, but the global community as well. In keeping with LaGuardia's spirit of celebrating diversity, LPAC features performers that come from all over

Q What are some of the challenges facing LPAC?

A While our work benefits the College as well as the artistic community throughout the city, this is a nonprofit venture. In order to support our program and services, we need to seek out funding sources. We've managed to gain enough recognition throughout the city to spark interest in some of the foundations that support the arts, but there's still a lot of work to do.

Liz Carrillo is the Executive Assistant to LaGuardia's Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Sowing the Seeds of Change

➔ LARA MOON

Can you feel it? A subtle sense of anticipation, coupled with a barely contained impatience permeates the campus. From the gloriously blooming atrium courtyard to every classroom and office, the excitement of spring with its ability to renew our sense of purpose spills into the halls, flowing into everyone. At LaGuardia, this sensibility is heightened as we ready ourselves to cultivate the Vision Summit initiatives that have begun to take root across the College.

ON MARCH 20, the workgroups for the four strategies developed at the Vision Summit—leadership for a sustainable future, harnessing Web 2.0 technology, educating for a global citizenry and redefining the role of community colleges in higher education—met to discuss the ideas Vision Summit participants brainstormed. The President’s Cabinet then reviewed the workgroups’ recommendations and began to discuss how to transform these ideals into realities.

THE AREAS OF FOCUS for the strategies encompass all members of the College community—students, faculty, staff and local community partners. Some initiatives build upon



programs and services LaGuardia already offers, while others are completely new.

THROUGHOUT 2009, four issues of LiveWire will be dedicated to sharing the execution and impact of these strategies. The series will begin in June, starting with leadership for a sustainable future as the theme. The LiveWire editorial board looks forward to updating you on LaGuardia’s progress towards a promising, innovative future.

To learn more about the Vision Summit and the four strategies, visit www.laguardia.edu/visionsummit

Lara Moon is the Writer and Editor for the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Leadership for a Sustainable Future

OUR VISION FOR 2014: LaGuardia is a national leader in sustainability among colleges and universities.

Dramatically reduce the College’s carbon footprint

Increase student awareness through engagement with sustainability issues on campus and in the community

Build a green career pathway from non-credit to credit programs

Provide support for sustainability efforts by small and large businesses

Support community leaders in revitalizing Newtown Creek

Web 2.0/ Harnessing Technology

OUR VISION FOR 2014: LaGuardia has successfully enhanced traditional and virtual learning and teaching by providing current, emerging and connective technologies to 100% of its students on campus, and is using digital technology to connect with individuals and communities worldwide.

Provide professional development so that pedagogy and technology are effectively integrated in our classrooms and beyond

Foster virtual communities in conjunction with ePortfolio, professional development, communication and advisement

Provide laptop or emerging device to every student, faculty and staff on campus

Improve/fix the College’s approach to technical infrastructure

Educating for a Global Citizenry

OUR VISION FOR 2014: LaGuardia's graduates are prepared to become effective global citizens with intercultural competencies that enable them to move across boundaries and unfamiliar territory and see the world from multiple perspectives.

Assisting students to become fluent in at least two languages

Promoting inter-cultural competence through curricular enhancement and extra-curricular activities and cultures

Development of programs in the community to foster inter-cultural knowledge and understanding

Redesigning the physical and virtual environment of the campus to reflect the diversity of world culture

International collaboration and partnership in New York City and with organizations abroad

Redefining the Role of Community Colleges in Higher Education

OUR VISION FOR 2014: Building on its history of innovation and commitment to social justice, peace, empowerment and access to higher education, LaGuardia has become a leader in advancing the community college movement locally, nationally and globally.

Creating a Center for Advancing the Community College Movement (CACCM)

Exporting the community college model to developing countries

Revolutionizing the education experience through greater use of technology and innovative pedagogy

Demonstrating the value of community colleges

Enhancing community and business partnerships

Gentrification...

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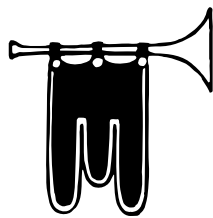
negatively affected by these trends. The panel was organized and moderated by Abigail Schoneboom, a professor in the Social Science department.

"Public Space and Privatization," examined the implications of gentrification for public space. Panelists also considered how both current and past city policies have contributed to the contraction of public spaces in the city and to increases in privatization. Social Science professors Janet Michello, Jane Holzka, and Steven Lang organized the panel.

At the last panel, "Fighting Back: Community Responses to Gentrification," two activists from Brooklyn talked about the impact of gentrification on their neighborhoods and their work fighting against city and developer plans to change the face of Brooklyn. The panel was organized and moderated by Arianna Martinez, an instructor in LaGuardia's Social Science department.

The day was a huge success. Each panel was well-attended, by professors, students and members of the LaGuardia community.

Karen Miller is an assistant professor in LaGuardia's Social Science Department.



LIVEWIRE POLICY CHANGE

(Beginning with the September issue)

Interested in writing an article for LiveWire? STOP! First, please submit a query (a 4-5 sentence description of your story) to Randy Fader-Smith, who will present your idea at our next LiveWire editorial board meeting. **Queries are due the first of each month** prior to the issue in which you would like to be published.

Who's the Greenest of Them All?

Nominate a colleague who sets a good example of environmentally friendly practices in their daily work at the College for LaGuardia's inaugural President's Sustainability Award. Two winners will receive a sustainability kit and their names will be displayed on a plaque showcased in an area to be determined.

Visit the EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS section on www.laguardia.edu to view the criteria and fill out the nomination form, which you can interoffice mail to Mariele Hall in E-409. Or email your nomination to sustainabilitycouncil@lagcc.cuny.edu. Winners will be announced and honored at the 2009 Professional Staff meeting June 3. **Nominations must be received by no later than May 22.**

How Green Are You?

No, not with envy, with sustainability! The *LiveWire* editorial board voted to dedicate the entire June issue to LaGuardia's current and future efforts to incorporate "green" initiatives across all areas of the College, from the classroom to the conference room. In a sentence or two, tell us how you promote sustainability in your daily work, or share your students' efforts to green the campus. Email your information to Randy Fader-Smith **by May 11.**



LUIS FELIX, PTK AWARD RECIPIENT



EDGAR ROMERO WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

A Dynamic Duo

PTK Students Garner Accolades for Their Smarts and Service Activities

◆ RANDY FADER-SMITH

LaGuardia Phi Theta Kappa officers Edgar Romero and Luis Felix are on the same mission: develop programs to enhance their classmates' academic experiences and improve community life.

They teamed up to create *Barbaric Yawp*, a student blog that is a popular social network. They also organized a college-wide book drive, collecting over 1,000 books for African schools. Edgar, Luis and other chapter members reached out to the Women for Afghan Women, a Queens-based organization committed to protecting the rights of Afghan women, helping to run a summer camp for Afghani youngsters.

For their outstanding leadership skills, they received a number of cov-

eted awards from the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society of the Two Year College (PTK). PTK is the largest honor society in the country, comprised of 1,200 chapters, with 1.5 million members.

LaGuardia's PTK chapter Alpha Theta Phi also garnered accolades for its community outreach, joining only 24 other chapters on the stage in front of 4,000 delegates at the society's 91st annual convention in Texas, earlier this year.

Edgar, an international studies major, was recently elected to the prestigious post of 2009-10 International President of PTK. He also was named 2009 Distinguished Chapter Member. Luis, a liberal arts major and Kaplan Educational Foundation Scholar, was selected to the 20-member All-State U.S.A. Academic College's First Team, an elite group of the state's best and brightest community college students. Luis was also named the 2009 Distinguished Chapter Officer and a Coca-Cola Bronze Scholar, which includes a \$1,000 prize.

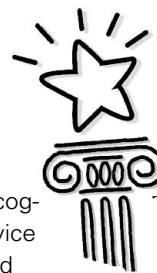
"This is truly an astounding achieve-

ment for Edgar, whose determined hard work and commitment have resulted in the attainment of one of the highest positions of student leadership," says President Mellow. "And Luis's award acknowledges him as that special student who is not only a stellar scholar, but possesses a deep desire to give back to the College and his community."

LaGuardia's Alpha Theta Phi won the highly competitive 2009 New York State Most Distinguished Chapter Hallmark Award for successfully implementing its ambitious college and community outreach program. Vying for the prize were 58 New York State chapters. The chapter's goals focused on supporting the College's student retention efforts, working with underserved local and international communities, greening the environment, using technology effectively and creating scholarly communities on campus. The chapter also received a 2009 Pinnacle Scholarship for boosting membership to 375, a 10% increase over the previous year.

To visit the blog, go to www.ptkbarbaricyawp.blogspot.com

Sing the Song of the Unsung Heroes



LaGuardia's Unsung Hero Awards that recognize outstanding service and commitment, and include a \$300 gift check, will be presented to four faculty and staff members at the Professional Staff meeting on June 3.

Nominate one of your peers who you feel is deserving of this honor; someone who doesn't seek out recognition, someone whose exceptional performance may have gone unnoticed. Full-time and part-time employees are eligible. Visit the Announcements section of LaGuardia's homepage to view criteria and print the nomination form: www.laguardia.edu.

Submit nominations to nomination@lagcc.cuny.edu, or mail them to Patricia Goodson in E-513.

Nominations must be received by no later than Friday, May 8.



STUDENTS AT LAGUARDIA'S ANNUAL AFRICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION PRESENT GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING MUSICIAN AND PHILANTHROPIST WYCLEF JEAN WITH A CHECK FOR RELIEF FUNDS FOR HURRICANE RAVAGED HAITI. THE LAGUARDIA CHAPTER OF JEAN'S YELE HAITI FOUNDATION RAISED THE LARGEST AMOUNT FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT
RAQUEL GRULLON IS STUDYING TO
BECOME A PARAMEDIC

Taking it to the Next Level

CUNY/ACE Scholarship Fund Help Students Advance Their Careers

◆◆ LIESL FORES

The new CUNY/Adult and Continuing Education Scholarship Fund supported by the Helena Rubinstein Foundation is helping several LaGuardia students get closer to achieving their dreams.

Designed for individuals enrolling in adult and continuing education programs, the scholarship is a first for CUNY. It is open to those seeking career advancement through learning new skills, and who do not have access to other sources of funding to pay for tuition and fees. Scholarships are awarded in any field—for credit or non-credit courses—although scholarships will generally not be given to anyone with 60 or more college credits. Candidates must submit a short personal essay with their application.

Eyana Smith is on the road to becoming a doctor—an emergency room physician to be exact. Already a certified EMT, Eyana has continued on this journey in LaGuardia's Paramedic Program. Once she has completed her paramedic studies, she plans to apply to college to begin a pre-med program. "I was overwhelmed when I came to LaGuardia," Eyana explains, "Then I

Course Correction

Student's Internship Helps Reshape His Goals

◆◆ PAULA ZIMMERMAN

When Alejandro Andrade began his academic journey at LaGuardia, he believed

he had the same goals as other students: get a degree and eventually a job. "I never expected that at the end of my studies those goals would change and that my life would be transformed, intellectually and personally," he says.

As both the United Nations Club President and the Model UN Head Delegate, Alejandro produced a video clip in 2007 while completing an internship at UN Works. The video, produced to promote the UN Club at LaGuardia, addressed four of the main topics on the UN agenda, global warming, global poverty, armed conflict and HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

His interest in the UN and his prior experience led to an internship in 2008 continuing into 2009 at the United Nations University (UNU). As a UN agency, the aim of the UNU is to function as a think tank, and to bridge the gap between policy makers and academia. Alejandro is now part of the organization's prestigious Junior Professional Fellows Program. His internship gave him a perspective on the inner workings of the United Nations, and exposed him to individuals who care about others but must face politics,

met the paramedic staff. Their support helped me focus on my future."

Raquel Grullon is a dedicated student. She came to LaGuardia with the idea that she wanted to become an EMT, and she accomplished that goal. Along the way she picked up an award for perfect attendance. Now she is applying herself in the college's Paramedic Program. "LaGuardia has given me the opportunity to achieve my



AN INTERNSHIP AT THE UN TURNED INTO A PAYING JOB FOR ALEJANDRO ANDRADE

bureaucracy and limited resources.

A member of the online marketing team, his responsibilities include updating the UNU-ONY's website, developing an online community through social networks such as Facebook, Blip.tv, Vimeo and Youtube. He also assists with video and audio editing, and the development of a digital audio and video library. Alejandro also participates in the many events sponsored by UNU at the United Nations, often helping to set up media equipment.

Alejandro is currently attending City College, pursuing a bachelor's degree in International Studies with a double major in Anthropology.

He credits his internship experience with reshaping his goals once again. The possibility of obtaining a Ph.D., traveling abroad or learning a new language no longer seem impossible.

"When curiosity and good guidance are mixed, the outcome can be unbelievable," he says. "I have begun to build my future."

Paula Zimmerman is a Program Assistant in the Cooperative Education Department.

goals," she says.

Other LaGuardia winners include Vincent Pena and Steven Soto from the Paramedic Program. For more information on the Adult and Continuing Education Scholarship Fund contact ACE at ext. 7244.

Liesl Fores is the Director of Communications in LaGuardia's Adult and Continuing Education Division (ACE).

Scientists in Training

◆ THOMAS ONORATO

LaGuardia students once again distinguished themselves at the American Society for Cell Biology's (ASCB) annual meeting. Two of my research students, Cherub Ruiz and Sasheen Pottinger-Francis were granted ASCB Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) Travel Awards valued at \$1,200 each to attend the society's 48th convocation in San Francisco late last year. Cherub and Sasheen presented their research on adult male fruit flies at the Undergraduate Poster Session and ASCB MAC Poster Competition. Sasheen won 1st place and \$200 for her poster in the undergraduate category at the ASCB MAC Poster Session.

At the conference, Cherub and Sasheen networked with scientists, science journalists, and students from all over the nation. Both students also received career advice at the Women in Science Career Luncheon and were fortunate enough to receive a personal invitation from Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines, Professor of Cell Biology at University of Massachusetts Medical School, to have breakfast. At breakfast, Cherub and Sasheen received valuable mentoring, career advice, and were asked tough but necessary questions to help them become future leaders in the Life Sciences. Dr. Harmon Hines will visit LaGuardia this fall to give a Cell Talks Seminar, and share her advice and experiences with students.

Both students are Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (C-STEP) participants and Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Research Scholars, as well as members of LaGuardia's Phi Theta Kappa Honor's Society. As an ASCB MAC Linkage Fellow, I have served as keynote speaker at a workshop about opportunities for faculty and student research mentoring at New York City



LAGUARDIA STUDENTS CHERUB RUIZ (LEFT) AND SASHEEN POTTINGER-FRANCIS (CENTER) RECEIVED FUNDING TO TRAVEL TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CELL BIOLOGY'S 48TH ANNUAL MEETING WITH LAGUARDIA BIOLOGY PROFESSOR THOMAS ONORATO (RIGHT).

College of Technology.

In 2007, the digital story that three LaGuardia Community College science students created at the society's 47th annual meeting was posted on the ACSB national website; it was the first student video on the meeting. Sasheen

and Cherub also plan to share their experiences at the conference via video.

Thomas Onorato is an assistant professor of biology in LaGuardia's Natural and Applied Science Department.



We Want to Learn!

STAFF FROM LAGUARDIA'S ADULT LEARNING CENTER (ALC) AND THE CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT EDUCATION & TRAINING (CIET), JOINED 250 STUDENTS FROM NINE COMMUNITY AGENCIES AT A RALLY IN JACKSON HEIGHTS ON MARCH 18 TO PROTEST A \$2 MILLION CUT FROM THE STATE ADULT LITERACY EDUCATION (ALE) FUNDING. COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC GIOIA LISTENED AS STUDENTS CRITICIZED THE BUDGET CUTS TO ADULT LITERACY AND JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MORE THAN ONE MILLION NEW YORKERS WHO NEED BASIC SKILLS, A GED AND HELP LEARNING ENGLISH.



LAGUARDIA STUDENTS SOAK UP THE ATMOSPHERE AT FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES THROUGH THE OFFICE OF TRANSFER SERVICES' WINTER COLLEGE TOUR PROGRAM.

I Know What You Did Last Winter

◆ **ALLISON DOUGLAS-CHICOYE**

Earlier this year, the Office for Transfer Services' Winter College Tour Program gave 20 interested, qualified students a hands-on feel for the four-year, private college environment, and a chance to sample dorm life in time to make a transfer decision for the fall.

We were able to offer the students, at little or no cost to them, the chance to visit New York University, Cornell University, Smith College and Mount Holyoke College. Of the students who participated in the trip to Mount

Holyoke and Smith, all who applied were accepted to one, and often both of the institutions. The same is true for those who visited Cornell. The typical visit included, on average, five students per trip. Students spent the night in a campus dorm room and ate in the cafeteria with current students. Some scheduled on-campus interviews, while others attended classes with their hosts.

For a growing number of our students, education at a private, selective college is a real option thanks in part to the recent trend among highly selective colleges to incorporate varia-

tions of a need blind admission standard when determining eligibility. Colleges that were previously out of dream range for many of our students are actively creating financial aid packages that make it possible for academically qualified students and/or financially challenged students to attend these institutions at minimal out-of-pocket expense.

This news has changed the landscape of college choice for our students. Through outreach efforts we have seen a spike in the number of students interested in exploring their options. As a result of our expanded service over the last year—which includes help with the writing of personal statements, advice on creating transfer portfolios and assistance with scholarship searches—we cultivated a pool of students who are very invested in continuing their education at a private institution.

Our goal to grow the program includes building awareness so that more students can participate in these visits, and groom themselves early enough to fit the colleges' profile of an eligible student.

Allison Douglas- Chicoye is the Director of LaGuardia's Office of Transfer Services.

Fun in the Sun

Already looking ahead to the September issue of LiveWire, the editorial board has decided to dedicate a large portion of the back-to-school issue to "What I Did on My Summer Vacation." We are asking faculty, staff and students to share their summer experiences. Did you spend those two halcyon months writing that novel or book of short stories that you had been putting off? Vacated in some exotic locale? Worked on a pet project? Did some serious research? Taught an interesting course?

Submit your story proposals to randyfs@lagcc.cuny.edu by August 14. Photos (300 dpi @ final size) welcomed.



Administrative Professionals Day Breakfast

AT THE BREAKFAST ON APRIL 22, PRESIDENT GAIL O. MELLOW CHATS WITH, LEFT, JAMIE GOLDBERG, RECREATION; EILEEN GOLDBERG, LIBRARY; AND VALERIE MAZZELLA-LAZIDES, LIBRARY. DR. MELLOW INVITED 270 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS TO THIS ANNUAL EVENT, WHICH RECOGNIZES THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO LAGUARDIA.