

The City College
of New York



2018-2020 REPORT

ON RESEARCH AND CREATIVE PROJECTS

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This year past, and the years directly in front of us, will define CCNY for generations. How we address challenges we face, on the immediate front of keeping our community physically safe, in terms of weathering new and grave financial challenges, and in repositioning the college into whatever new era unfolds from now on will leave an indelible mark on our college. We are resolute in the face of these difficulties, and I am pleased, in this report, to describe our efforts over the past year, and forecast, a bit, about where we hope to go in the future.

We set out this year to continue our mission to reposition CCNY publicly, telling the story of our college's historic mission and the continuity between our current work and our past. We were excited about continued and rigorous empirical verification of our nation-leading success in producing social mobility among our graduates. We released our landmark economic impact study that revealed, among other things, that CCNY contributed \$1.9B each year to the economy of our 10 most proximate counties. We celebrated our past by sponsoring the launch of "The City Game" (Matthew Goodman's gripping story of our national championship basketball team) and our joint program with the Center for Jewish History, describing the role CCNY played in the history of New York's Jewish community. And, we honored the great Ben Ferencz, CCNY graduate and Nuremberg war crimes prosecutor with the President's Medal.

These efforts demonstrated the connection between our past and our present—but contemporary work also sought to build on that

mission: from the launch of our climate policy fellows program to research on environmentally-responsible energy, cancer detection, drought causes to creative initiatives that shed light on housing inequity and the refugee experience. We undertook to knit together various incubator and innovation efforts on campus, backed by a new President's Fund for Innovation, to produce a new ecosystem for the commercialization of our research, and several important efforts, like our Campus Engagement Network, helped deepen our embrace of our public engagement mission.

COVID-19 shifted things utterly in a mere few weeks. We moved from teaching 3% of our classes online to moving the entire curriculum to a distance learning footing. Overnight, our top priority centered on keeping our community safe, securing our facilities and developing protocols for protecting essential workers who needed still to come to campus. Soon after—as quickly as we could—we also began to take up a position alongside other social institutions, to assist in the effort to secure our neighbors in the City. Engineers, scientists and architects undertook to manufacture PPE equipment, to direct their research toward efforts to remediate the impact of the virus. Our first medical school class graduated months early, so they could finish their clinical requirements in service at local hospitals. Our food pantry expanded its operations, and we sought new ways to provide health and technology services to students who were now spread across the city.

In all of these efforts, I came to believe, that CCNY was uniquely suited for this moment. Not only did our physical location in Harlem position us to help serve the needs of some of the city's hardest hit populations; it also put us in close partnership with civic and advocacy organizations in upper Manhattan, and those

newly strengthened bonds will serve us well into the future. But more than that: CCNY was founded on the intimation that when crisis crept across our land, we would need the talent and the insight and the energy of the whole people, developed and honed to its most powerful capacity. We were designed to meet the challenges of this moment, and every scrap of our work detailed above helps provision us for this mission. We are, by no means, through the worst of this crisis—but we are prepared, I firmly believe, to play our role in ways that will make us all proud, and will define our legacy.

Beyond that, however, we are deeply involved in the project of figuring out what kind of school we will be when all of this passes. It will not do for us to merely pull in our appendages and wait out the storm. Efforts we begin in these months, things you will read about in these pages, represent plans to come out of these layered crises on a path to prosper in the years to come. To do this, of course, we will need the help of each one of you reading these pages, and I know by perusing our records that I can count on you.

I'll say it again, in closing: City College (and that means each one of you, members all, of our community) was made for this moment, was crafted against the occasion of our city's need, and we dare not fail to answer the call.

Sincerely,

Vince Boudreau
President



PROVOST'S LETTER

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

To say that this has been a challenging year would be both understatement and, these days, a cliché. What's special about saying it in reference to City College is how our community has reacted to the challenges. I have been so gratified and encouraged over the past months at how faculty, staff and students at the College have supported each other and drawn together to face the challenges brought on by the pandemic.

In March we suddenly had to close down campus and move to online instruction. Our faculty, most of whom had never taught online before, and our students, most of whom had never had an online class before, rose to the challenge, supported by our IT Department who provided the platform and training to faculty and hardware to both students and faculty who needed it. I couldn't be more proud of them. Teaching online is its own challenge, and the College has been working hard to provide continued training in both the technical and pedagogical aspects of online instruction.

Research on campus was shut down in March, with the exception of a number of projects that were directly related to COVID-19 and deemed essential work. All other labs remained closed until July when we began, slowly and safely, to reopen. A research reopening plan prioritized work on federally-funded grants that had deliverables and deadlines, untenured faculty whose work would be part of their promotion package, and graduate student research needed for the completion of dissertations. Each lab submitted a plan for safe operation with minimal personnel that was reviewed by a representative group of faculty and administration and forwarded to me for final approval. The result has been a slow, steady reopening of research on campus that has allowed us to resume essential work while maintaining the safety of our community.

In August, in preparation for the start of classes, we began to prepare a broader reopening plan for the campus as a whole. While nearly 98% of our fall classes are fully online, the plan allowed for the safe operation of the remaining 2%, made up of hybrid classes (classes that are mostly online but have a few in-person meetings over the course of the semester) and a few classes that have no option but to meet in person. Each of these classes was required to observe all COVID-19 safety protocols. Essential business operations are now taking place on campus, with the campus population kept at a minimum in order to keep everyone safe and prevent disruption of the essential activities.

Apart from the upheaval due to the pandemic, this has been a year of change at the College. Two of our deans moved on to positions at other institutions. Dean of Education, Mary Driscoll, left the College in February to take a position as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Regis College. On July 1, Gilda Barabino, Dean of the Grove School of Engineering, left the College to become President at Olin College. Edwin Lamboy has taken the position of Interim Dean of Education, and Alex Couzis is now the Interim Dean of Engineering.

On September 1, long-time Chief Librarian Charles "Chip" Stewart retired. Chip stepped into the role of Chief Librarian in 2014 and has led the library through a time of ever shrinking budgets while still increasing access to and delivery of library services to students, faculty and staff. This fall, library faculty offered their first course, Research in the Digital Age. Daisy Dominguez has stepped in as the Interim Chief Librarian.

Even closer to home for me was the departure of Senior Associate Provost Doris Cintrón who has, at least temporarily, left the College to become Interim President of CUNY's Guttman Community College. Doris has worked in so many different capacities at City College that they are hard to list, but they have spanned the range from undergraduate student to Senior Associate Provost. Doris embodies what's great about City

College, and I miss her counsel. Stepping into the role as Acting Senior Associate Provost is Mary Ruth Strzeszewski, who has been in the Provost's Office since 2012, most recently as Associate Provost overseeing our graduate programs.

We continue to focus on the College's mission of providing access to excellence for our students. At a time of such disruption, it is especially important that we find ways to engage with our students and build a sense of community. The Fall semester began with a community read of Isabel Wilkerson's Pulitzer Prize winning book "The Warmth of Other Suns," an epic story of The Great Migration from the southern US to the North, beginning around World War I and lasting through the 1960s. Freshman Convocation in September featured a talk by Ms. Wilkerson herself, followed by a Q&A. This event grew out of a working group that President Boudreau convened last winter to reimagine how we introduce our new students to City College, its history, and what makes it special. Rooted in the idea that a City College education prepares graduates to be change makers in the world and seeded by a generous gift from the Moxie Foundation, a Campus Engagement Network (CEN) of faculty and staff are reimagining the way we teach and train students. This fall the CEN has piloted a new First Year Experience course that is team taught by three faculty in different fields and combines history lessons with project-based social activism and community engagement. No matter what their major, our students will graduate with the tools to carry on the City College tradition of making the world a better and safer place.

Sincerely,

Tony Liss
Provost



FOUNDATION'S LETTER



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Each year, as we begin to draft the report on our past year activities we deliberately pause to remind ourselves of the scope and breadth of what has happened because campus life moves so much faster than one realizes. The process of crafting the narrative of our year—or more correctly, our year together as a community – is a tremendous gift and as a team, we look forward to the moments spent developing content to share with each of you.

The past few months have changed the educational landscape across the nation, and City is not unique in that we changed our entire business operation, almost overnight. Being able to ensure that our students never had to worry that City College would be there for them was our top priority. However, so was the desire to provide a place where our active researchers could continue their important work, where our staff felt both safe and supported in their mission to steward the college's legacy, and where our teaching faculty could continue to devote their attention to their students, all while encouraging them to not just learn for the sake of learning, but to imagine themselves as the future caretakers of the planet.

This year saw many changes and one that stands out is the consolidation of the College's foundation, the 21st Century Foundation, and the City College Fund. The work of this consolidation took place over three years and we have now begun the important task of bringing together a combined 100 years of information into a unified system. We know that this means that so many of us will begin to meet and work

with new partners across our alumni and friends universe and we look forward to building upon the tremendous work done by both organizations.

The consolidation of a combined century of work managed by both the Fund and the Foundation saw us inherit almost a half million digital records, each representing an individual's or family's relationship with the College. We know that we have a lot of work to do. We were very close to finishing an audit of every 21st Century Foundation donation before the work of the consolidation began, and while we were not expecting to see more than 95% of our campus staff required to work remotely this year, we also know that getting these relationships right—which in thousands of instances will mean reintroducing the work of the College to alumni and friends around the world—is the most important work we will do for the foreseeable future.

There are data points for just about everything we do, but when we take a step back and look at the work of the college, we know that our impact can be felt on a global scale and, for that, we thank each of you for your support. Your generosity of time, gifts to the college, advice and friendship continue to play a vital role in what we do and how we plan for the future.

Much of our mandate to be stewards for, and communicators of, the College has allowed us to reach even further across campus to work with student groups, faculty and staff to increase the resources needed for our community. Our campus pantry first launched in 2017 in a small, shared office space in the Colin Powell School's 5th floor suites. In 2019, we were able to move to a new, larger space in the Hoffman Lounge area of the North Academic Complex (NAC) and renamed the pantry "Benny's" as a way to

anchor the tradition of our pantry to the founding mission of our college to "open the doors to all."

In 2019, through the generosity of the Foundation and a project inspired by the Moxie Foundation, we were able to open the Urban Gardens at City College, of which Benny's is a partner resource. The Gardens, serves as a teaching space and resource for the pantry and is cared for by our community through partnerships with the Office of the President, Office of Institutional Advancement and Communications, Campus Engagement Network and Campus Facilities. It expands upon the important work of other garden spaces on campus that are managed by the teams responsible for the Solar Roof Pod at the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture, CUNY School of Medicine, and CCNY Green. In the earliest days of COVID-19, we opened the pantry to the entire CUNY community so that no one in our neighborhood would be without this valuable resource.

This past year, we found ourselves celebrating the successes of our students and campus, thanks to national rankings, while also mourning the loss of friends and close colleagues. In that way, the College is no different than each of the individuals who make up the whole. We are grateful to you for your trust in our work and remain committed to including you in all that we do.

Sincerely,

Dee Dee Mozeleski
Senior Advisor to the President &
Vice President and Executive Director
The Foundation for City College

EXTERNALLY FUNDED GRANTS FOR FACULTY RESEARCH GREATER THAN \$750K AND TRAINING GREATER THAN \$250K IN FY19-20.

PI	PROJECT	AMOUNT
MAROM BIKSON Professor of Bioengineering	Integrated Quantum Photonics Using Van Der Waals Materials	\$1,270,187.75
MARK BISCOE Associate Professor, Martin and Michele Cohen Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry	New Approaches to Stereospecific Alkyl Transfer in Metal-Catalyzed Reactions: Synthetic and Mechanistic Investigations	\$1,084,320.00
MICHAEL BOBKER Director of the CUNY Building Performance Lab	BPL- Building Performance Lab - ENERGY DATA LAB	\$11,305,450.50
VINCENT BOUDREAU CCNY President	Other Institutional Activity	\$2,853,532.66
RANAJEET GHOSE Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry and Chair of the College Research Council	Activation And Regulation Of Bacterial Tyrosine Kinases	\$1,322,447.00
JORGE GONZALEZ Professor of Mechanical Engineering NOAA-CREST Professor	CCNY Initiative to Promote Academic Success in STEM (CiPASS)	\$1,134,565.27
RAMONA HERNANDEZ Professor of Sociology Director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute at City College	Supports the libraries and archives of the Dominican Studies Institute	\$1,100,000.00
KAREN HUBBARD Professor of Biology	1/2 CCNY-MSKCC Partnership for Cancer Research, Education and Community Outreach	\$1,044,075.00
MASAHIRO KAWAJI Professor of Mechanical Engineering Assistant Director of the CUNY Energy Institute	Mixing Of Helium With Air In Reactor Cavities Following A Pipe Break In HTGRS	\$943,328.00
CAMILLE KAMGA Associate Professor of Civil Engineering Director of the University Transportation Research Center at City College	University Transportation Research Consortium	\$704,909.44
AKIRA KAWAGUCHI Professor and Chair, Computer Science	New York City Tech Talent Pipeline (TTP) Co-op Program	\$240,955.00
REZA KHANBILVARDI Professor of Civil Engineering /NOAA-CREST Director	CSC-Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing Technologies-ESSRST	\$3,368,840.00
JOHN MARTIN Medical Professor	Translational Research Projects in Spinal Cord Injury Research	\$1,842,042.00
SHARON MACKEY-McGEE Executive Director of Continuing and Professional Studies	Workforce Investment Act (WIA): Adult Education and Literacy	\$269,036.00
VINOD MENON Professor and Chair, Department of Physics	QII-TAQS: Chip-Scale Quantum Emulators Based on Polaritonic Lattices	\$3,049,545.00
CARLOS MERILES Martin and Michele Cohen Professor of Physics	Optical/Infrared Microscopy and Spectroscopy System for the Characterization of Point Defects and Carrier Dynamics in 2D and 3D Semiconductors	\$968,631.00
ROBERT MESSINGER Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director, NASA-CCNY Center for Advanced Batteries for Space	19-MIROG-0057, NASA-CCNY Center for Advanced Batteries for Space (ABS)	\$1,006,567.00
DEE DEE MOZELESKI Senior Advisor to the President & Vice President and Executive Director The Foundation for City College	Partnership with Living Redemption Youth Opportunity Hub	\$403,804.00
RICHARD STEINBERG Professor, School of Education and Department of Physics	Middle School Science Professional Development	\$800,000.00
HAO SU Professor of Mechanical Engineering	Lightweight and Affordable Soft Knee Exoskeletons to Enhance Independent Living for Broad Lower-Limb Disability Populations	\$2,013,570.00
MARIA TAMARGO Professor of Chemistry / Director of the CRESTCenter for Interface Design and Engineered Assembly of Low-dimensional Systems	CREST Center for Interface Design and Engineered Assembly of Low-Dimensional Systems (IDEALS)	\$1,042,547.00

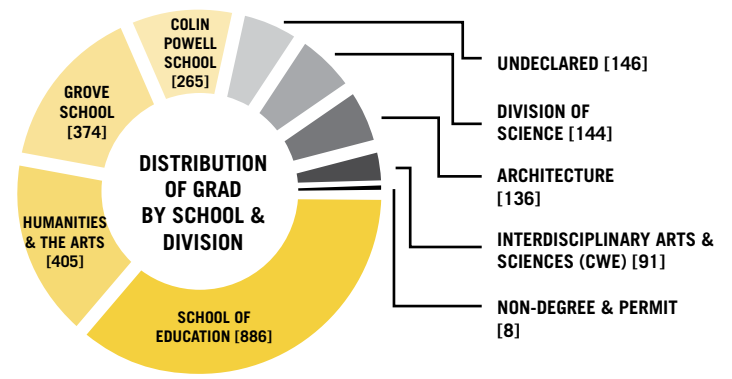
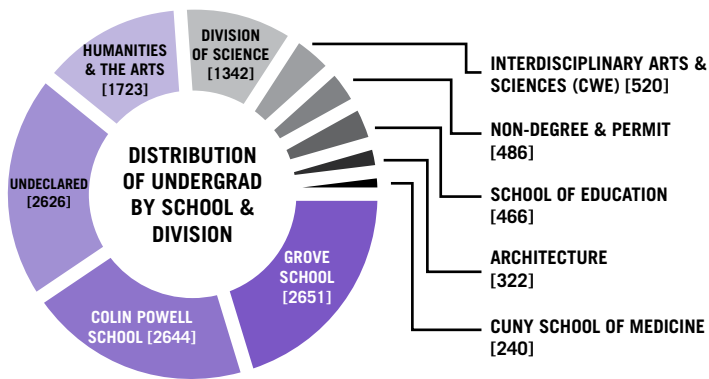
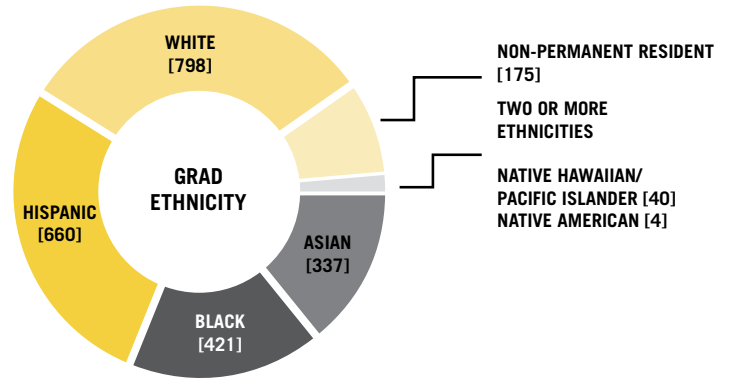
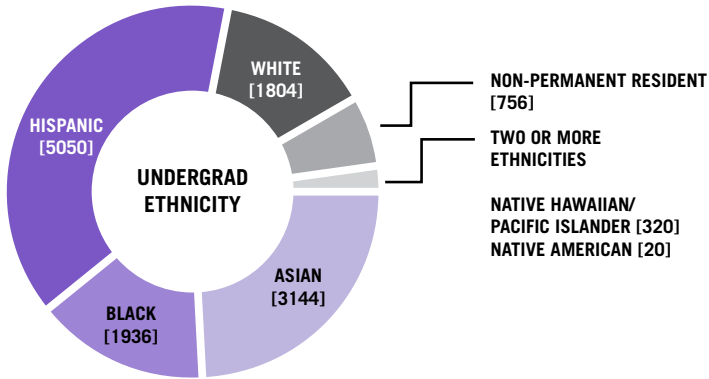
RESEARCH AND TRAINING GRANTS MAY REPRESENT MULTIPLE AWARDS FROM VARIOUS AGENCIES. THIS IS A PARTIAL LIST OF AWARDS.

SPONSOR**PROJECT COUNT****BUDGET AMOUNT**

City	18	\$9,203,903.00
Federal	281	\$33,128,561.00
Private	158	\$16,307,598.00
State	21	\$3,418,696.00
TOTAL	478	\$62,058,758.00

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING ALL OF AWARDS REFLECTED, PLEASE VISIT: WWW.CCNY.CUNY.EDU/GIVING

STUDENT BODY TOTAL # STUDENTS **15,465** (AS OF SPRING 2020) | **UNDERGRAD 13,030** | **GRAD 2,435** } **MASTERS: 2,236**
PHD: 199



Source: CUNY Census data (Based on Headcount)

FACULTY

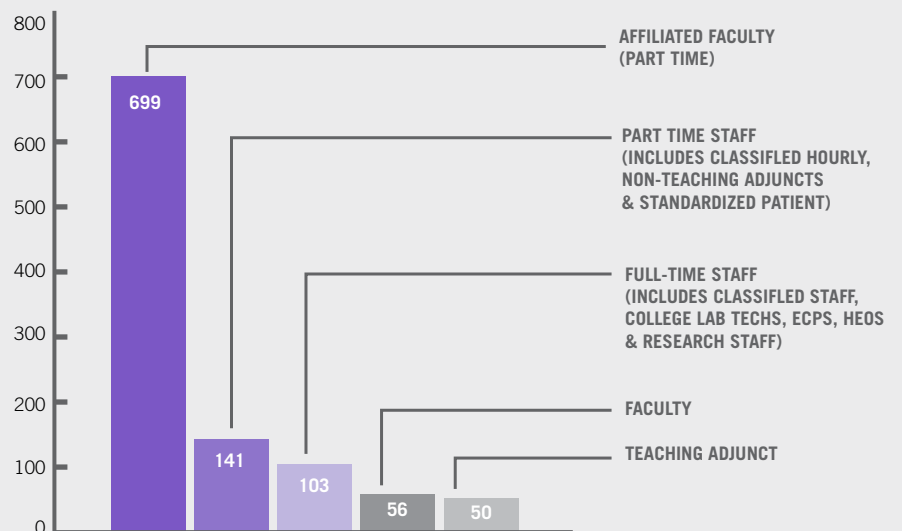


539
FULL-TIME

1023
ADJUNCT

SOURCE: CCNY HR DATA AS OF SEPT. 2020

OF FACULTY FOR CUNY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



SOCIAL MOBILITY

HIGHEST
PERCENTAGE
OF GRADUATES
WHO MOVE
TWO OR MORE
QUINTILES UP
THE INCOME
LADDER

36%

OF CCNY STUDENTS WHO COME
FROM FAMILIES WHOSE INCOME
IS THE BOTTOM FIFTH RISE TO
THE TOP FIFTH AS ADULTS

12%

OF CCNY STUDENTS
COME FROM LOW INCOME
FAMILIES BUT MOVE TO
THE TOP INCOME QUINTILE



1ST OUT OF 369 SELECTIVE PUBLIC COLLEGES

We're #1 in "Overall Mobility Index: This measure reflects both access and outcomes, representing the likelihood that a student at The City College of New York moved up two or more income quintiles."

SCHOLARSHIPS

OVER \$6 MILLION

In scholarships, stipends and fellowships awarded to students at all levels of study

There are **195** countries in the world.
CCNY students and their families come from **85%** of them.

RANK #17 (Tie)
in Social Mobility
(National Universities)

RANK #61 (Tie)
in Undergraduate Teaching
(National Universities)

RANK #87 (Tie)
Top Public Schools
(National Universities)



One of the top schools globally [2019 & 2020]



Among the nation's Best Colleges [2013-2017, 2019 & 2020]



One of the Top Colleges [2013-2015 & 2018]



Ranked No. 6 in the nation by Victory Media [2018]

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK HAS JUMPED 52 PLACES FROM LAST YEAR IN THE LATEST U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT BEST COLLEGES RANKINGS.

THE FOLLOWING IS HOW CCNY FARES IN THE ANNUAL EVALUATION OF AMERICA'S TOP DEGREE-GRANTING SCHOOLS:

The overall ranking of CCNY at #176 is a huge leap from #228 last year. According to U.S. News & World Report, schools in the National Universities category offer a full range of undergraduate majors, plus master's and doctoral programs. These colleges also are committed to producing groundbreaking research.

With the exception of social mobility where it maintained its #17 position from last year, the 2021 rankings see CCNY climb in all the other categories.

For instance, the #90 ranking for best undergraduate engineering program at a school whose highest degree is a doctorate is three places better than last year.

CCNY also makes a considerable jump in the top public schools category, from #109 previously to #87 this time.

CCNY is listed among the best 1,000 schools globally in the latest Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) [2020]

U.S. News & World Report ranking of Grove School of Engineering among best graduate schools [2020]

GradReports ranking of School of Education as a producer of top earners nationally [2020]

CCNY ranks in the top 1.8% out of 20,000 universities worldwide according to the Center for World University Rankings. [2020-21]

The Brookings Institution's affirmation of CCNY as an economic mobility engine. [2020]

U.S. News & World Report ranked CCNY one of the best global universities for Physics [2019]

The Princeton Review ranked CCNY among the country's greenest colleges [2016, 2018 & 2019]

Ranking from the Princeton Review as one of the best colleges in the Northeast

Money Magazine and University HQ listing City College as a best value school

The American Institute of Physics ranking CCNY as a top producer of physics graduates

RANK #90 (Tie)

Best Undergraduate Engineering (Doctorate)

RANK #104 (Tie)

Best Undergraduate Computer Science

RANK #176 (Tie)

Overall in National Universities

U.S. News ranks CCNY's Grove engineering among best graduate schools

City College of New York's Grove School of Engineering, the only public school of engineering in the metropolitan area, once again ranks among U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate Schools. Of the 200 elite graduate engineering programs listed nationwide, the Grove School is #129, according to the 2021 U.S. News rankings. The recognition comes as the Grove School celebrates its centennial.

U.S. News also ranks three other City College programs—fine arts in the Division of Humanities and the Arts [#64]; and the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership offerings clinical psychology [#101] and public affairs [#141], among the best nationally.

In the Grove School, biomedical engineering is the highest ranked program at #58. It is tied with five other schools including Dartmouth College (Thayer) and University of Alabama–Birmingham.

Chemical engineering is #61, tied with four schools including Clemson University (SC) and University of Illinois–Chicago.

OTHER GROVE PROGRAMS RANKED NATIONALLY BY U.S. NEWS ARE:

Ranked #93 in Civil engineering
Tied with 16 other institutions

Ranked #97 in Electrical engineering
Tied with eight other schools

Ranked #97 in Mechanical engineering
Tied with 10 other programs

Grove's **#129** overall ranking nationally means that it moves up five places from #134 in the 2020 rankings.

Brookings study affirms CCNY as economic mobility engine

The City College of New York is ranked third in lifting low-income students into the middle class, according to a new report from the Brookings Institution analyzing four-year schools. Five other CUNY senior colleges are ranked in the top 10. The report is the latest confirmation of research over the past three years establishing City College and CUNY as the nation's leading engines of social and economic mobility.

"CCNY has always been deeply involved in developing the workforce necessary to sustain New York City," said City College President Vince Boudreau. "Our strong and consistent record in producing social mobility among our graduates demonstrates how faithful we have been, throughout our 173-year history, to our founding dream of building a more just society by educating the whole people. Today, there are few measures of a college's contribution to justice more accurate and precise than the contribution it makes to social mobility."

The Brookings "Middle Class Mobility" report assessed data for more than 1,600 colleges and ranked the schools according to the percentage of their graduates who came from families in the bottom 20 percent of income level and eventually reached the top 20 percent for individual earnings. The study also assessed colleges' success in helping students from middle-income families move up the economic ladder.

CWUR ranks City College among top 1.8% schools globally

The City College of New York ranks in the top 1.8% out of 20,000 universities worldwide according to the Center for World University Rankings' new list for 2020-21. "This is an outstanding achievement to be celebrated," said Dr. Nadim Mahassen, president of the CWUR, which publishes the largest academic rankings of global universities.

CCNY is #343 among the 20,000 degree-granting institutions of higher education analyzed by CWUR and #108 in the United States.

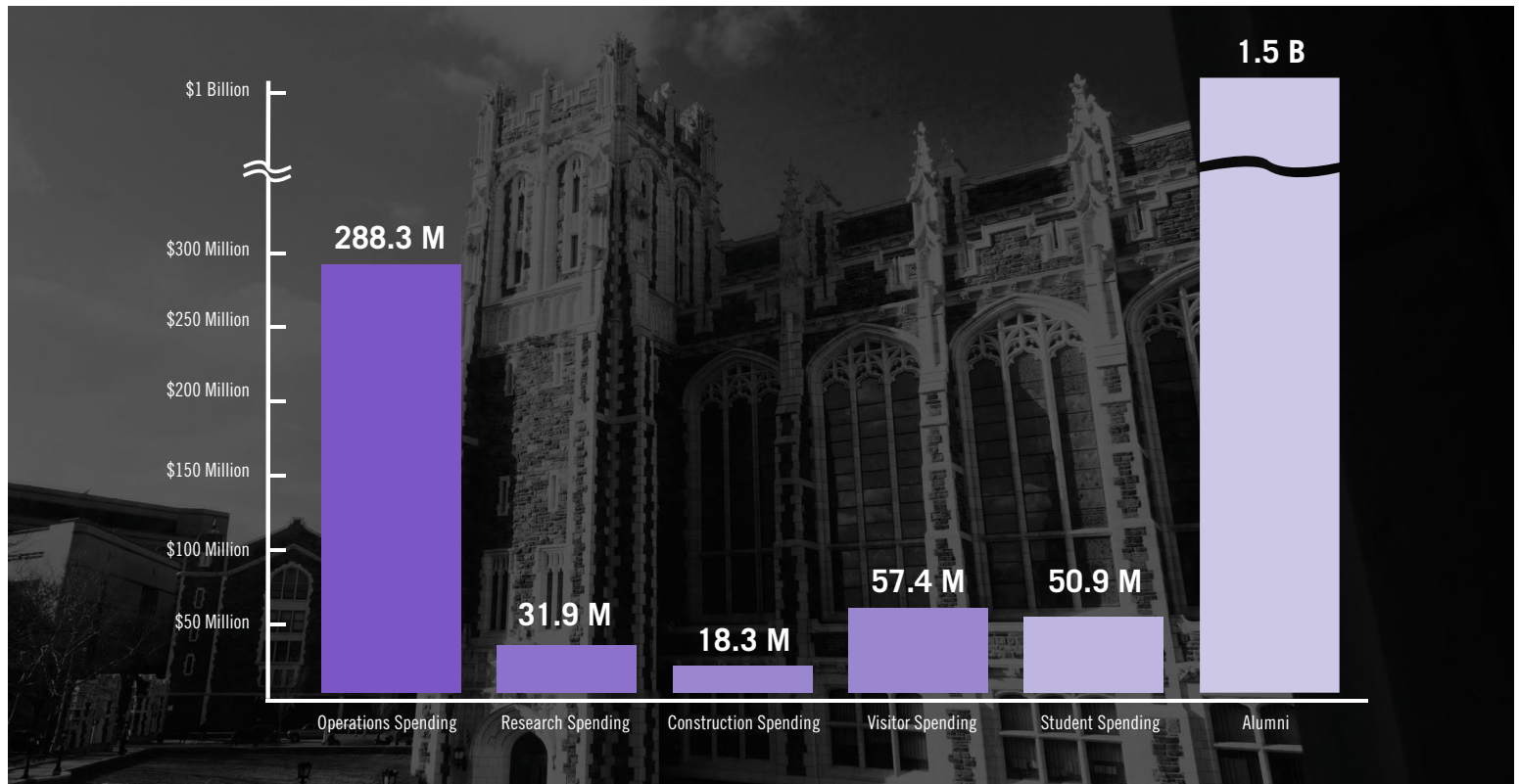
The rankings are unique in that:

- **Objective indicators are used for all four key pillars underlying the methodology of the ranking (quality of education, alumni employment, quality of faculty, and research performance) with no reliance on surveys and university data submissions**
- **Equal emphasis is put on the learning environment and research**
- **Twenty thousand universities are analyzed and ranked according to their academic performance**

CCNY's other placings on the CWUR list this year include: #24 for Quality of Education, #427 for Alumni Employment, and #768 for Research Performance. These amounted to an overall score of 76.1.

City College's \$2 billion impact on New York economy

The City College of New York (CCNY) added \$1.9 billion in income to 10 counties in the New York region in fiscal year 2017-18. This is according to an economic impact study released by the labor analytics firm Emsi.



The study measures the economic impact of City College on the business community and the benefits CCNY generates in return for the investments made by its key stakeholder groups—students, taxpayers, and society. The report focuses on what Emsi terms the “CCNY Service Region,” 10 counties comprising the Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester.

This adds up to \$1.9 billion or 16,760 jobs supported by CCNY, which was founded in 1847 and is the oldest institution in CUNY.

In addition, for every dollar of public money invested in CCNY, taxpayers receive a cumulative value of \$3.00 over the course of the students’ working lives.

Overall, the study shows that CCNY creates value in many ways. It plays a key role in helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential.

The College also facilitates new research developments and draws visitors and students to the 10-county region, generating new dollars and opportunities for the CCNY Service Region.

“CCNY provides students with the education, training, and skills they need to have fulfilling and prosperous careers,” said Emsi. “Furthermore, CCNY is a place for students to meet new people, increase their self-confidence, and promote their overall health and well-being.”

“We always knew that investing in CCNY was a smart decision, but the Emsi study gives us precise and methodologically transparent data to back those convictions,” said City College President Vince Boudreau. “Moreover, our widely reported, fantastic social mobility numbers mean that these economic returns are taking place via the education and elevation of previously marginalized populations. That fact vastly deepens any calculation of our social and economic impact.”

Martin Cohen, a distinguished CCNY alumnus (Class of 1970) and co-chair of the newly formed Foundation for City College, Inc., applauded the institution’s enormous value.

“CCNY’s significant impact on the New York economy illustrates why it’s important to support the College’s growth and development, which is the primary goal of the new Foundation,” said Cohen.

With a remarkably diverse student population of more than 16,000, CCNY influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy. The college supports a variety of industries in the CCNY Service Region, serves regional businesses, and benefits society as a whole in New York from an expanded economy and improved quality of life. The benefits created by CCNY even extend to the state and local government through increased tax revenues and public sector savings, Emsi noted.



Lesia Ruglass, Robert Melara and Teresa Lopez-Castro

\$1.7 Million NIH Grant Extends Minority Scientist TRACC Program

An NIH grant for \$1,672,150 has been awarded to the Translational Research Training in Addictions for Racial/Ethnic Minorities (TRACC) program to continue its mission for another five years. Partnered with Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) since 2013, the program's mission is to increase the number of scientists from underrepresented racial/ethnic minority (URM) groups conducting translational studies in addiction research. The NIH has provided more than \$3 million in funding for the innovative and interdisciplinary research training and mentoring program. Psychologist Lesia Ruglass will continue as the multiple principal investigator (PI), and her colleagues Robert Melara and Teresa Lopez-Castro continue as co-investigators. With the new funding, the program has now been expanded to Rutgers University, with multiple PI Denise Hien, and is now known as TRACC-RU. "Rutgers not only expands the reach of this successful program, but broadens access to scientific and methodological expertise of mentors" said Ruglass. TRACC-RU aims to recruit and train URM undergraduate and graduate students in the conduct of translational research on substance use disorders. It's also intended to promote a sustainable network of trainees by continuing to engage program graduates through peer mentorship, presentation opportunities, and alumni events.

Grad Daniel Hila Wins a Fulbright Scholarship



Daniel Hila, BA '20, is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship to pursue a master's degree in security and diplomacy at Tel Aviv University in Israel through 2021. Hila studied political science and took classes in the MA program in international relations on nuclear security and non-proliferation, the UN, and the practice of diplomacy, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. His mentors included Professors Rajan Menon, Carlo Invernizzi Accetti, Jean Krasno, and Diana Greenwald.

Initiative to Battle Opioid Crisis

CCNY is committed to playing a role in turning the tide of the opioid health epidemic with a newly inaugurated initiative focused on the current opioid crisis impacting the city and housed at the college in Psychology, the CUNY School of Medicine (CSOM) and Anthropology. During a recent episode of “From City to the World,” CCNY Pres. Vince Boudreau’s campus radio show, Nancy Sohler, Associate Medical Professor, CSOM, pointed out that in the Harlem community, older persons who have been managing an addiction for years are often at huge risk of overdosing. With the introduction of fentanyl into the drug supply, the heroin or cocaine they were used to handling is now 50-100 times more potent and extremely dangerous. Similarly for individuals who were using drugs prior to being incarcerated and who resume use when released, drugs are far more potent and response is different, often fatal, added Dr. Howard Greller, Director of Research and Medical Toxicology, Emergency Room, St. Barnabas Hospital Health Systems and Prof. of clinical medicine at CSOM.

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC BY THE NUMBERS



130+

People died every day from opioid-related drug overdoses (estimated)



10.3 MILLION

People misused prescription opioids in 2018

2 MILLION

People had an opioid use disorder in 2018

2 MILLION

People misused prescription opioids for the first time

808,000

People used heroin in 2018

81,000

People used heroin for the first time



47,600

People died from overdosing on opioids

15,349

Deaths attributed to overdosing on heroin (in 12-month period ending February 2019)

32,656

Deaths attributed to overdosing on synthetic opioids other than methadone (in 12-month period ending February 2019)

INFOGRAPHIC SOURCE FROM [HTTP://WWW.HHS.GOV/OPIOIDS](http://www.hhs.gov/opioids)



The goal of remediating opioid addiction and preventing overdoses and ultimately preventing death gives each abuser a chance to live another day and beat the addiction, according to Geller. Broad education is called for including a practical and ethical conversation. In CSOM’s Community Health and Social Medicine (CHASM) courses, students are taught to bring up substance abuse in a routine and practical way, so as not to stigmatize the patient, in the same way alcohol or tobacco use might be discussed. City College is already partnering with St. Barnabas Hospital and the City on intervention strategies, offering training to the college community and wider Harlem community in the use of overdose prevention drug naloxone, also known as Narcan.

Additionally, this community response to the opioid epidemic also strengthens the partnership CCNY has with the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce, its President and CEO Lloyd Williams, and Chair of the Health Committee John Palmer.

Latino Americans: 500 Years of History Grant to Collaborate With CUNY DSI



The CUNY Dominican Studies Institute (CUNY DSI) was awarded a Latino Americans: 500 Years of History grant to collaborate on a series of events to honor and recognize Dominican WWII veterans.

This collaboration highlights, for the first time, a two-year research project undertaken by CUNY DSI that uncovered over 300 Dominican men and women WWII veterans who served in various U.S. military branches. Many Dominicans received medals and other recognitions for their courageous actions in combat. After returning from war, many risked their lives, once again, to bring democracy to their homeland.

The CUNY DSI’s series honors and recognizes Dominican WWII veterans through an exhibit, a scholarly panel, and the screening of two episodes of the documentary Latino Americans. These events focused on both Dominican and Latino veterans while serving in the military, as well as their contribution to society after they returned from the war.

Latino Americans: 500 Years of History supports the American public’s exploration of the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinos, who have helped shape the United States over the last five centuries and who have become, with more than 50 million people, the country’s largest minority group. The cornerstone of the project is the six-part documentary film Latino Americans, created for PBS in 2013 by the WETA public television station and supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The award-winning series chronicles Latinos in the United States from the 16th century to present day.

Climate Policy Fellows Program Launched

In Fall 2019, a new Climate Policy Fellows Program was launched to support undergraduate students from the sciences, social sciences, architecture and engineering with training, professional development, and internship opportunities that link climate-related science, engineering and economics to public policy. The program supports an inaugural class of 26 Climate Policy Fellows in 2019-20.

Led by Trevor Houser, a 2006 CCNY alum who is an international climate and policy leader, the program includes two intensive three-day workshops led by a range of senior national and international climate policy leaders. The workshops prepare fellows to understand how science, engineering and economics research affects public policy, and how policy-making shapes these fields of research. The workshops also include leadership and professional development.

Also on the docket is a production of policy briefs by each fellow on a climate-related subject, to be refined between the September and October meetings, with support and advice from faculty and experts in the field. Mentorship and special meetings with leading local practitioners in the climate field through the academic year are particularly important for the Fellows. Fellows are supported with \$500 stipends and with access to special internship opportunities with leading NGOs in the climate and sustainability fields in the Summer.

Inaugural Class of Climate Policy Fellows

Rowida Abdelhafe

BA/MA dual degree History, minor in Arabic Language & Culture

Shanley Augustin

CPS, Economics & Finance

Arjeta Balidemaj

Macaulay Honors, Biology

Lesley Calle

Macaulay Honors, Business Admin. & Economics

Orlando Castillo

BA Physics / MA Sustainability & Urban Environment

Akib Chowhdury

The Grove School, Mechanical Engineering

Jennifer Duong

The Grove School, Environmental Engineering

Courtnei Holness

The Grove School, Earth System Science & Environmental Engineering

Mohammed Hossain

The Grove School, Mechanical Engineering

Michael Hubbs

The Grove School, Earth System Science & Environmental Engineering

Isabella Joseph

Macaulay Honors, Architecture & Anthropology

Aryaana Khan

BA Biology

Darren Lin

The Grove School, Mechanical Engineering

Salina Liu

The Grove School, Mechanical Engineering

Abusaleh Masud

Climate Policy

Violet Nash Greenberg

Spitzer, Architecture

Melissa Olivar

BA Sociology and International Studies / MA Sustainable Development

Lucy Piacentini

The Grove School, Environmental Engineering

Aparna Ramanathan Ramesh

Spitzer, Architecture

Jaylene Salas

BA Physics

Tani Salma

CPS, International Studies & Public Policy

Herut Tekilu

CPS, Political Science & Community Change

Wali Ullah

CWE, Political Behavior & Analysis

Hazel Vaquero

The Grove School, Environmental Earth Systems, Hydrology & Environmental Engineering

Marjorie Vargas

The Grove School, Environmental Engineering, Energy Field

Gabrielle Varghese

The Grove School, Environmental Engineering



Accolades for Innovative Mechanical Engineer Hao Su



Mechanical Engineer and Asst. Prof. Hao Su received a \$1.3 million grant from the US Dept. of Health & Human Services to advance his work on a hybrid soft exoskeleton that combines the advantages of rigid exoskeletons and textile-based exosuits to overcome lower-limb impairments, particularly in seniors. The grant went to establish the Center of Assistive and Personal Robotics for Independent Living (APRIL) in the Grove School. Su's project,

in the Biomechanics and Intelligent Robotics (BIRO) lab that he heads, entails developing wearable, soft exoskeletons based on soft materials, including cables, elastomers, and artificial muscles. "This is in contrast to conventional designs that are typically heavy, bulky, expensive, limited in clinic-settings, and primarily suitable for paraplegic individuals with little to no remnant voluntary movement," said Su. He pointed out that his soft exoskeleton "is lightweight, compact, and affordable to enhance mobility assistance in community settings for people who need partial assistance."

In addition to the grant, Su is the recipient of a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award providing \$552,000 in funding over five years for his "Versatile Wearable Robots for Rehabilitation of Children with Gait Disabilities" proposal in collaboration with Diane Damiano and Tom Bulea of the NIH Clinical Center. The goal of the research and integrated CAREER plan is to "understand human-robot bidirectional adaptation by studying modeling, sensing, and control of assistive robots to enhance mobility and health of children with gait impairments." The problem that they are trying to solve, explained Su, is that cutting-edge wearable robots are based on series elastic actuators that have to compromise compliance to improve bandwidth. Su will leverage electric motor technologies developed to bridge these gaps. "We have developed learning-based controllers to enable the robust performance of the robot in the real-world that involves changing gaits and varying terrain conditions. Our ultimate goal is to make wearable robots available for every child who needs it everywhere," said Su. "Powered exoskeletons are typically heavy and resistive to human movements and lack real-time intention awareness and individualized control," he added. NSF's CAREER Program offers the organization's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department organization.

Manganese Prime Takes Fourth at International Chem-E-Car Finals



Manganese Prime, the latest chemically-powered shoebox sized-vehicle designed by Grove School of Engineering students, placed fourth at AIChE's annual Chem-E-Car Competition® in Orlando, FL. in a field of 42 foreign and domestic entries. The result maintains Grove's reputation as a top performer in the international event. Manganese Prime secured CCNY's seventh consecutive trip to the finals. The objective of the Chem-E-Car competition is for students to build a car, the size of a shoebox, which runs and stops at a precise distance via one or more chemical reactions. Chemical engineering majors Kelvin Leo and Ann Tangsamphan captained the CCNY team. Also on the team were chemical engineering majors Nurjahan Nazu, Jeffrey Wu, Giancarlo Zirpolo, Seemal Shehzadi, Jarin Tasmin, Comlan Alawoe, Kohitur Poheli, Dominik Galazka, Kyukyong Kim, and mechanical engineering major Wajih Tayyab. Ilona Kretschmar, chair of the chemical engineering department in the Grove School and Chem-E-Car team faculty advisor, thanked the CCNY-based CUNY Energy Institute for its support of the team. Manganese Prime is powered by a Zn/MnO₂ battery developed by Michael Nyce in the Institute. Nyce also provided training and technical support to the team. Grove School alumni, including Peter Compo and Carl Liggio, sponsored the trip.

Civil Engineering Department Honored by ASCE with Centennial Award



The Civil Engineering department was the recipient of a Centennial Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Metropolitan Section. The honor recognized the department's "significant contributions to the civil engineering profession" and its work to help build the city over the past century. In honor of its centennial, the theme for the Metropolitan Section was "A Tribute to the New York Metropolitan Engineering Community: Celebrating a Century of Achievements." This coincided with the Grove School's own centennial. In attendance at the ceremony were Professors Alison Conway, Naresh Devineni, Beth Wittig and Michel Ghosn, Fengbao Lin and students Luis Abreu and Ana Radonjic.

Kawaji Leads Nuclear Safety Research for Future Reactors



With nuclear safety an ever growing concern, the next generation of atomic reactors could be safer because of research ongoing at the Grove School of Engineering. CCNY engineer Masahiro Kawaji, whose specialty includes nuclear reactor thermal-hydraulics, leads a team that is the recipient of a third consecutive U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant to safeguard reactors of the future. The new \$800,000 award brings to \$2.8 million DOE funding for the project since 2011. "What we are doing is developing ways of making reactors that will be built

in 10 years' time safer," said Kawaji, professor of mechanical engineering and associate director of the CCNY-based CUNY Energy Institute that is engaged in groundbreaking research. The next generation of nuclear power plants, such as HTGRs (high-temperature gas-cooled reactors) and VHTRs (very high temperature reactors) have passive safety design features for off-normal operation. However, it is necessary to check the safety system performance by modeling the relevant phenomena computationally using system level or detailed 3D CFD (computational fluid dynamics) codes, and by conducting separate effects experiments using scaled models to validate the computational results. According to Kawaji, the main objective of the research supported by the new DOE grant is to obtain experimental validation data on mixing of helium and air in reactor building cavities during and after blowdown in HTGRs, such as a General Atomics 350 MWt MHTGR. Kawaji's collaborators in the CCNY-based research include experts from Idaho State University, the Idaho National Laboratory, Kansas State University, England's University of Sheffield and Framatome, a French nuclear reactor business.



Kawaguchi Named NYC Tech Innovator

Department Chair of Computer Science Akira Kawaguchi was named the 2019 NYC Tech Innovator from the NYC Tech Talent Pipeline. Kawaguchi and his team are recognized for their efforts in doubling the number of students graduating annually with tech-related bachelor's degrees through the CUNY 2X Tech initiative. Kawaguchi launched the Computer Science Co-op Program, with a \$2.3 million award through the initiative, to deliver qualified tech talent to local employers as well as short-term professional opportunities to NYC undergrads, in a collaboration with the Career and Professional Development Institute. He is also recognized for offering students new advanced in-demand courses in emerging tech fields. Kawaguchi convened an industry advisory board for the Department of Computer Science in order to have a sustainable feedback loop with the industry. Kawaguchi has been a CCNY and The Graduate Center faculty member since 1997.



Moskowitz Donation of \$2.4 million Further Funds MTM Program



The Master's in Translational Medicine (MTM) program was given \$2.4 million by Seymour (Engineering '54) and Pearl Moskowitz. The donation will aid growth of the five-year-old collaborative program between the Grove School and CUNY School of Medicine. Jeffrey S. Garanich is director of the MTM program. An engineer, researcher, and developer, Moskowitz focused on technological solutions to address critical national issues. "Seymour and Pearl Moskowitz have made a visionary gift to

biomedical engineering at CCNY," said President Vince Boudreau. "Their early understanding of how a Center for Innovation in Medical Technology can position our campus to more effectively discover and develop medical solutions to disease and injury makes their generosity all the more striking. This kind of support—pioneering investment in a program that can revolutionize an entire field of work at City College—is absolutely priceless." Although the Moskowitzes previously donated scholarship money, which allowed MTM to welcome its largest cohort of students to date, the generous additional funds allows for expansion. Immediate plans for the funds are to expand the MTM administrative team; pilot the MTM Fellows program allowing MTM alumni to continue development of their prototypes and work with CCNY faculty to assess commercialization of their research; and work with local Harlem schools to host Biodesign Boot camps to introduce students to the way MTM teaches translational medicine.

Eisenhower Fellowships Award Winners



The Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowships from the Federal Highway Administration were awarded to three civil engineering seniors. The program's mission is to attract qualified students to the field of transportation and research, and advance transportation workforce development. Seydou Konate, received an \$8,000 fellowship to work with Dr. Anil Kumar K. Agrawal to research the application of Seismic Isolation into Response Control of Bridges. Viktorija Molodecka received a \$10,000 fellowship to analyze bridge reliability under the effects of increasing scour and loading conditions. Dr. Naresh Devineni is her mentor. Shirazum Munira Shachi received a \$6,500 fellowship to work with Dr. Alison Conway on research mapping 311-reported potholes in New York City. The project is entitled: "Understanding Impacts on Street Users."

Salmeron Wins GEM Fellowship with Double Major



In pursuit of a dual degree in Electrical Engineering and Asian Studies, Lizzette Salmeron BA '20, was the recipient of a highly competitive GEM Fellowship. The GEM Fellowship provides funds for advanced learning in engineering for underrepresented students of exceptional quality. Salmeron is pursuing her PhD in Electrical Engineering at the Grove School. Salmeron's mentor is Prof. Ahmed Mohamed. Their research concerns the interdependence of infrastructures including power, telecommunication and transportation systems.

Reichman Awarded 2020 National Goldwater Scholarship



Macaulay Honors College junior Benjamin Reichman is the 2020 Goldwater Scholar. The award is the premier national scholarship for science, engineering and mathematics and is funded by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. Reichman is CCNY's fifth honoree in as many years. Reichman is a Computer Engineering major and conducted research at the CCNY Media Lab, involving computer vision as it relates to medicine. In particular, he is working on algorithms that can detect tampering in medical images. He plans to pursue a PhD in Artificial Intelligence and to work to make advances in computer aided systems for improved diagnosis and medical treatment.

NOAA CESSRST Updates



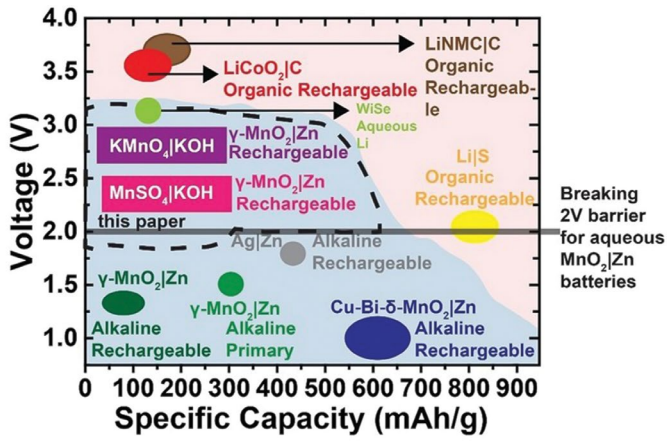
Alum Gomez Earns First NOAA CESSRST PhD Remotely

Andrea Gomez, Bio '15, became the first NOAA CESSRST Fellow to earn a PhD via remote thesis defense. Gomez, an earth and environmental science student at Graduate Center, CUNY, presented her thesis, "Evaluating Satellite-Based Sea Surface Temperatures and In Situ Observations, and Coral Symbioses in Southwestern Puerto Rico." Her research sought to characterize the seasonal changes of the algae symbionts' identity and density in the relationship between NOAA Coral Reef Watch's (CRW) 5km satellite-based sea surface temperatures (SST) product and in-situ temperature loggers deployed at Cayo Enrique and Cayo Mario, in La Parguera, Puerto Rico.



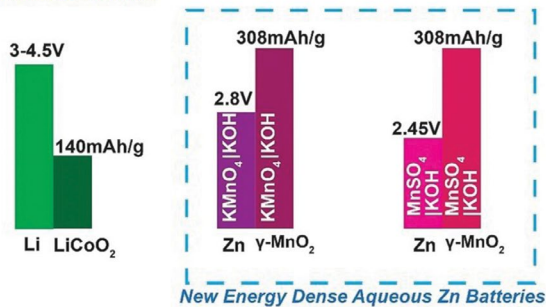
NOAA CESSRST & CUNY CREST Install Mini-Meteorological Stations

Autonomous mini-meteorological stations were installed in NYC by NOAA Center for Earth System Sciences and Remote Sensing Technologies (NOAA CESSRST) and CUNY CREST Institute as a way to document extreme weather conditions caused by climate change. Dubbed the NY-uHMT (New York Urban Hydrometeorological Testbed) project, it is a one-of-a-kind high-density hydro-meteorological weather network installed in Brooklyn's JHS High School, Queens Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Public Library Brownsville Branch, and the NYCHA properties the Harlem Polo Grounds Towers and the Dyckman Houses. NY-uHMT research objectives include integrated high-resolution mapping of ground and lower atmospheric conditions to detect, forecast, and improve prediction accuracy and increase lead-time warnings of severe weather hazards resulting in quantifiable public safety and economic benefits. Data produced from the NY-uHMT stations will be available to anyone through open access servers.

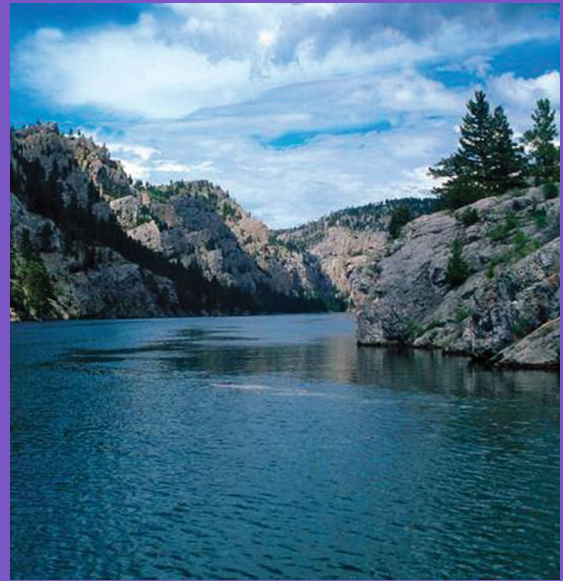


NEW HIGH VOLTAGE AQUEOUS BATTERIES

The newly designed high voltage aqueous Zn anode batteries can challenge Li-ion's current dominance



Streamflow Study to Understand Droughts



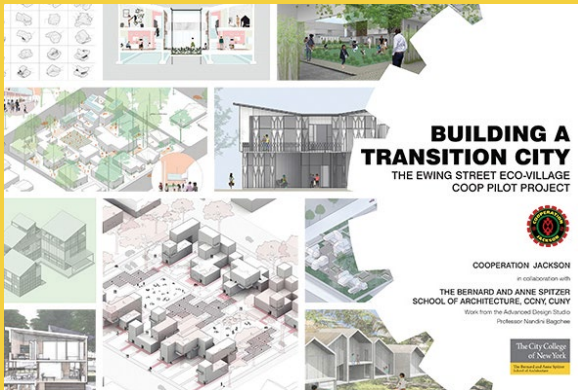
Knowing the history of a river's flow is surprisingly useful, helping create policies for reservoir water release and increasing understanding of events such as recurring droughts. But often existing records only go back so far. Researchers have

developed a new model to recreate streamflow back before we started keeping track. The study, authored by Ph.D. student Arun Ravindranath and Professor Naresh Devineni, (pictured here) recreates the flow in the Upper Missouri River Basin back to the year 1800. The results appeared in "Water Resources Research." While many reconstruction models recreate flow at individual points on a river, Ravindranath said, this new model considers the river as a network and looks at how water flows from one point to the next. Doing it this way increases the reconstruction's accuracy and reduces uncertainty. Their model gets help from nearby trees, too. By analyzing the width of tree rings, the scientists can get an idea of how much moisture was available that year. Wider rings indicate more moisture availability, while narrower rings mean less availability and thus a smaller volume of river flow. "This model let us go, on average, more than 120 years back from when we have the first observations," Ravindranath said.

Groundbreaking Research in Rechargeable Aqueous Battery Challenges Lithium-Ion Dominance

Dr. Gautam G. Yadav and his group in the CUNY Energy Institute have published groundbreaking research on a new rechargeable high voltage aqueous manganese dioxide zinc battery in the leading periodical "ACS Energy Letters." With a voltage of 2.45-2.8V, the alkaline MnO₂|Zn battery, could break the long dominance of flammable and expensive lithium (Li)-ion batteries in the market. Primary inventor Yadav, and his team, interfacially engineered two different aqueous electrolytes that deliver the theoretical capacity (308mAh/g) reversibly for many cycles. "The voltage of current commercially available alkaline MnO₂|Zn batteries is around 1.2-1.3V, and this has been considered low compared to Li-ion which has a voltage >3V," said Yadav. Voltage has been Li-ion's greatest asset and has helped fuel its rise in an energy hungry world. "Unfortunately it contains elements that are toxic and geopolitically sensitive with Asian countries having a monopoly on mining and manufacturing them," added Yadav. "This has put the United States at a tremendous disadvantage and has lost its lead in energy storage industry, when in the past it was a world leader. With Mn and Zn being widely available elements, and with the US being rich with them as well, it allows the U.S. to compete again. The manufacturing cost of these batteries will also be low, so it can kick start the growth of the energy storage industry in the U.S." Yadav's Grove School of Engineering collaborators included: Xia Wei, Jinchao Huang, Damon E. Turney and Sanjoy Banerjee, who is Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering and director of the CUNY Energy Institute.

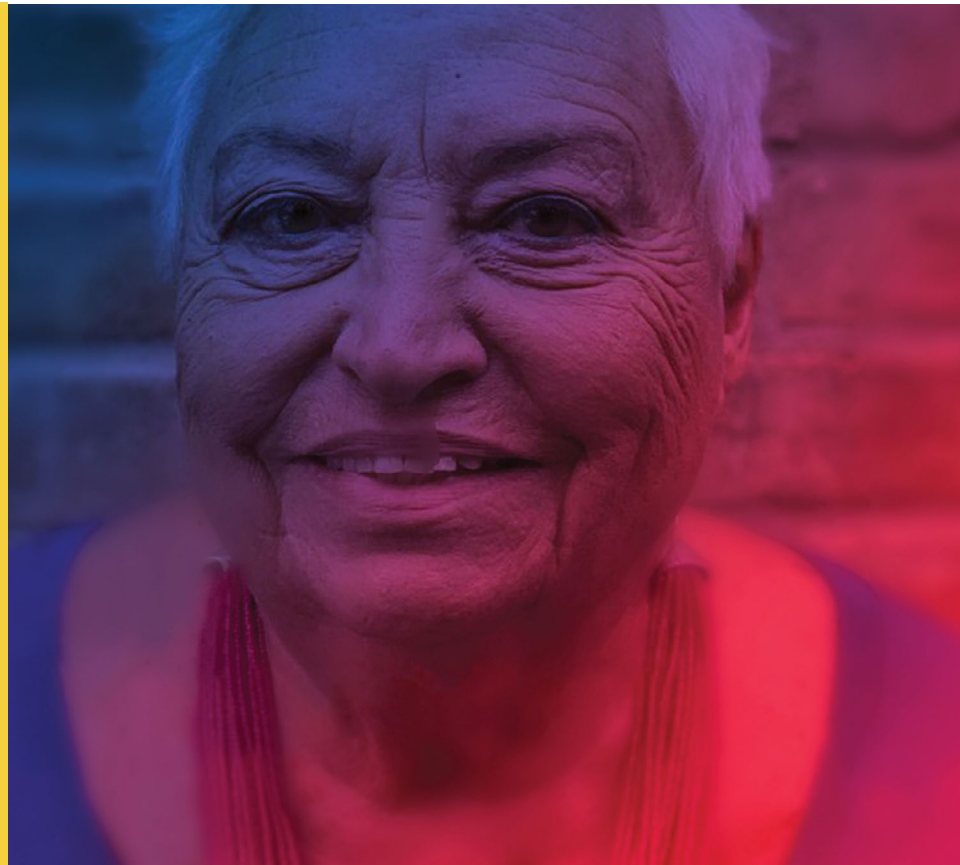
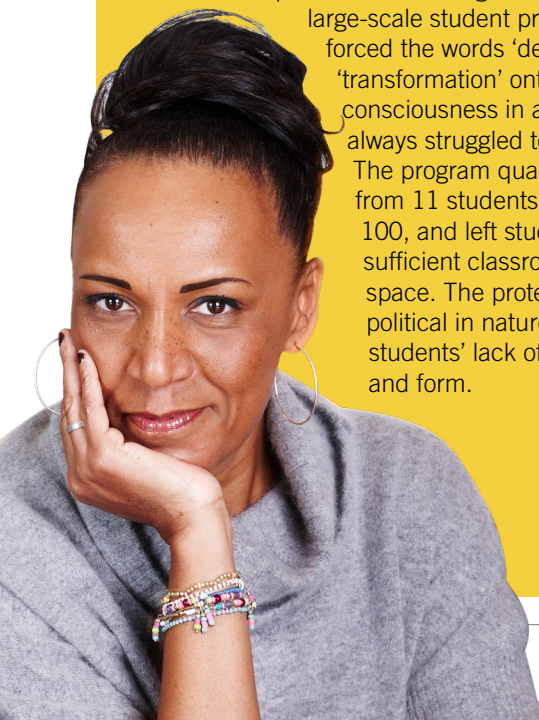
Prof. Bagchee's Advanced Design Students Have Modular Housing Design Published



Student work from Assoc. Prof. Nandini Bagchee's Spring 2019 Advanced Design Studio was featured in "Building a Transition City: The Ewing Street Eco-Village Coop Pilot Project," an educational publication about how to collaboratively design and build deeply affordable, sustainable modular housing. The work represents the first stage of the concept design for a Jackson, Miss., site in a collaborative project with Jackson community organizations.

Dean Lesley Lokko Writes About Turbulent Times for "e-flux Architecture"

Dean Lesley Lokko published an essay *The Age of Wildfire* in "e-flux Architecture" about educational space. Lokko wrote about her experiences in South Africa at the Univ. of Johannesburg where she was the Director of the Graduate Program for five years. The graduate school was founded in 2015, on the back of an existing master's program at the university, which happened at an "extraordinary moment of political crisis brought about by two large-scale student protests... and forced the words 'decolonization' and 'transformation' onto the national consciousness in a society that has always struggled to define itself." The program quadrupled in size, from 11 students to more than 100, and left students without sufficient classrooms and studio space. The protests, although political in nature, were about students' lack of access to space and form.



Former Dean Piomelli Honored as "Great Immigrant" by Carnegie Corporation

Former Spitzer Dean and Architect M. Rosaria Piomelli was recognized by the Carnegie Corporation of New York as a Great Immigrant in July 2020. Every Fourth of July, Carnegie Corporation honors Andrew Carnegie's legacy by celebrating the wide-ranging contributions of immigrants who enrich American communities and culture, strengthen the economy, and invigorate democracy. When Piomelli was appointed Dean in 1980, she became the first woman to head an architecture school in the United States. Piomelli worked to open the profession to more women, most notably as director of the American Institute of Architects Equal Opportunity Committee in the 1970s. She remained a faculty member at City College until her retirement in 2004.

Born in Naples, Italy, in 1937, Piomelli attended the Art Institute of Naples and went on to earn two architecture degrees from Italian universities. In 1957 she moved to the US to study architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After graduating from MIT, she earned her professional licensure in NY in 1969 and became a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1970. Piomelli worked for several architecture firms in the US and Europe, including I.M. Pei and Partners, before opening her own firm in 1974. Her best-known projects include the Sciences Library at Brown University, the main library at Oberlin College, and the Pierson School in Tarrytown, New York.

Coveted 2020 European Museum Prize Goes to Terragni for “House of Leaves”



Assoc. Prof. Elisabetta Terragni, and her Studio Terragni Architetti, won the distinguished 2020 Council of Europe Museum Prize for the design project The National Museum of Secret Surveillance in Tirana, Albania. Terragni worked on the restoration and installation of the “House of Leaves,” as Albania’s historical National Museum of Secret Surveillance is also known. She was also part of the curatorial team. Opened in 2017, the museum is situated in the house that served as headquarters of Albania’s notorious Directorate of State Security during the communist era. It commemorates the psychological violence and total control of citizens during that dark period (1944-1991). Some 18,000 people were prosecuted and up to 5,000 executed.

The Culture Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has presented the Museum Prize annually since 1977. It goes to a museum judged to have made a significant contribution to the understanding of European cultural heritage, which promoted respect for human rights and democracy, bridged cultures overcoming social and political borders, and broadened visitors’ knowledge and understanding of contemporary societal issues and explored ideas of democratic citizenship.

Author, Historian Marta Gutman Named President-Elect SACRPH



Marta Gutman, an award-winning author and historian, has accepted a new leadership role as the President-Elect of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH). The society is an interdisciplinary organization dedicated to promoting scholarship on the planning of cities and metropolitan regions, over time bridging the gap between scholarly study of cities and the practice of urban planning. Gutman was a 2018 Distinguished CUNY Fellow, where she took up a semester-long appointment at the Advanced Research Collaborative (ARC), a program of the Graduate Center, CUNY. She recently contributed to the new book “Educating Harlem: A Century of School and Resistance in a Black Community” (Columbia University Press, 2019) with a chapter titled “Intermediate School 201: Race, Space, and Modern Architecture in Harlem.” Her first monograph, “A City for Children: Women, Architecture, and the Charitable Landscapes of Oakland, 1850–1950” (University of Chicago Press, 2014), earned her four prizes including the Spiro Kostof Award from The Society of Architectural Historians. The prize recognizes interdisciplinary studies of urban history that make the greatest contribution to our understanding of the growth and development of cities.

Prof. Hillary Brown Elected to National Academy of Construction



Professor and sustainability expert Hillary Brown, FAIA, is one of 39 new members elected to the National Academy of Construction (NAC). She was inducted into the Class of 2019 at the Academy’s annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. Brown was selected from more than 300 leaders considered for membership. She was cited by NAC as “a recognized leader, author, and academician in sustainability, infrastructure, and the built environment, advancing innovation towards high performance buildings and next-generation infrastructure in the U.S. and internationally.” Brown is the director of CCNY’s Master of Science program, Sustainability in the Urban Environment. She is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and the Post-Carbon Institute, Senior Advisor to the Ecologic Institute, U.S., and a Senior Research Fellow at the CUNY Institute of Urban Systems. Brown previously served for seven years on the National Academies’ Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment (BICE). She founded NYC’s first Office of Sustainable Design in 1996. She co-authored both the City of New York High Performance Building Guidelines and High Performance Infrastructure Guidelines. Brown earned a bachelor of arts degree from Oberlin College and a master’s in architecture from Yale University.

Prof. Suzan Wines' Students Take Second in ACSA Timber in the City Competition



Undergraduate students Danny Medina, Cesar Soto, and Daniel Olayiwola Akinsulire won second place in the ACSA Timber in the City Competition. Their project, Re-Gen Growth, was undertaken in Prof. Suzan Wines's Spring 2019 Advanced Studio, Timber in the City: Urban Habitat.

Re-Gen Growth proposed a mixed-used development with residential apartments, an early childhood education center, and a community wellness center. Re-Gen Growth employed modular mass timber construction to create an inhabitable, elevated urban forest that provides natural light, clean air, and skyline views for residents while restoring habitats for animals that once thrived on the site. The goal was to revitalize life by integrating vegetation and social spaces. Vegetation reduces particulate matter, sequesters carbon dioxide and mitigates noise pollution from vehicular traffic. Social spaces promote interaction between residents on the ground floor and in the air.

The jury noted that the project “shows an innovative use of wood, which connects spaces, structure and the user experience all together. The density of the project represents a three-dimensional occupiable city. The project renderings are expressive showing a very elegant porous project with vertical spaces that reconnect the inhabitants to nature and the city.”



Michael Sorkin
8/2/1948-3/26/2020

Sorkin Studio named finalist in NYC Housing Design Competition

The Michael Sorkin Studio was a finalist in the Big Ideas for Small Lots NYC Housing Design Competition, in Summer 2019, prior to Principal Michael Sorkin's untimely death from COVID-19 in early 2020. Launched in early 2019, the Competition's design brief called for “excellence in small-scale, urban infill affordable housing.” Twenty-three city-owned properties, of small, irregular vacant lots, were the focus for the Competition. Greenfill: House as Garden, submitted by the Michael Sorkin Studio, was one of five finalists chosen from a field of 444 entries from 36 countries. For its winning entry, Sorkin's firm, which specializes in urban design and green architecture, proposed a terraced five-story, seven-unit accessible structure for the subject site, an approximately 17-by-100-foot lot at 113 West 136th St. in Harlem.

At the time, Sorkin noted the synergy between the project and the Spitzer School's mission: “The school in general is about New York City, about design committed to social justice—and one of the main crises that the city faces at the moment is housing affordability. We're also a school that's committed to community-building, especially in our own neighborhood.” Organized by the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the American Institute of Architects New York, the Competition was a response to Mayor Bill de Blasio's Housing New York 2.0 plan, which aimed to build or preserve 300,000 affordable homes by 2026.

Distinguished Professor Sorkin was Director of the Graduate Urban Design program and President of Terreform, a nonprofit urban research center.



Dept. Chair Torres Awarded Two NIH Grants Totaling \$2.5 Million

Gonzalo Torres, medical professor and chair of the Department of Molecular, Cellular & Biomedical Sciences at the CUNY School of Medicine, received two grants from the National Institute of Health to establish centers that support and mentor neuroscience diversity junior faculty members and drug addiction research. Each award is \$1.25 million over five years for a total of \$2.5 million.

“These grants support faculty in neuroscience who will become stronger researchers and mentors,” said Torres, the principal investigator on both projects. “It’s my hope that we will be able to recruit a significant number of talented diversity junior faculty from City College and CUNY.” The first of two grants come from NIH’s National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) to support and establish the “Mentoring Institute for Neuroscience Diversity Scholars,” a national program that will support diversity junior faculty members doing neuroscience research.

The second award comes from NIH’s National Institute on Drug Addiction (NIDA) to support the “Center for Underrepresented Research in Addiction (CURA),” a national program that will support diversity junior faculty members doing drug addiction research.

A native of Chile, Torres’ research uses a multidisciplinary approach to examine the role of protein interactions in the control of dopamine homeostasis and in dopamine-related diseases including drug addiction and Parkinson’s disease. For over 15 years, Torres has been funded by NIH, NSF and NARSAD, and he has received the Presidential Early Career Award under President Obama as well as several other honors.

Medical Students Fight Cancer in Tanzania



Tanzania, one of Africa’s largest countries with a population of almost 55 million, has only one cancer treatment center in Dar es Salaam with limited resources. B.S./M.D. Program students from the CUNY School of Medicine are helping patients of the Ocean Road Cancer Institute fight cancer using their research skills. The Cancer Epidemiology Education in Special Populations (CEESP) Post Summer Career Development Workshop was established in 2018 and focuses on career planning, development and research advice for clinicians. The four CCNY students worked with three public health students in Tanzania, including one student from the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy.

“Medicine is not only a form of healthcare but a response to the needs of others. Epidemiology is seen through research and is a stepping stone to making changes that can ultimately help many individuals, from New York to Tanzania,” said Beatriz Martinez-Flores, a fellow of the Mack Lipkin Broader Horizons Fellowship, about her experience. “I now have a greater appreciation for the voice researchers and physicians give to their patients, and how I can help make changes to the way healthcare is practiced.”

The Class of 2023 students and their research topics are:



Shanjida Ambia researched breast cancer analyzing clinical and demographic factors of patients at the breast cancer screening clinic



Eric Jon researched changing trends of liver cancer in association with HIV and hepatitis infection



Martinez-Flores conducted a study on HPV-related anogenital cancers and their proportional changes over a 16-year span, which is important in the development of preventative interventions like vaccination programs



Fatma Shalan researched epidemiological and clinical factors that influence precancerous and cancerous lesions of the cervix



Inaugural Class Graduated Ahead of Schedule Due to COVID-19

The CUNY School of Medicine (CSOM) moved up the date for graduating its fourth year medical students in response to the growing need for medical professionals to respond to the coronavirus outbreak. The School's 44 students are its first class to graduate since it opened its doors as a medical school in 2016 and have been permitted to start their residency programs early or volunteer at New York City-area hospitals to support their response to the crisis. To help mark the occasion of their graduation, the School celebrated via Zoom on Monday, April 13 to acknowledge the conferring of their medical doctor degree. Students had the opportunity to reflect on their journey, followed by a collective toast to their future. A virtual formal graduation ceremony followed on May 21, the original planned date for degree conferral.

"The college has joined our sister institutions in New York City and responded to Governor Andrew Cuomo's request to support the state's front-line healthcare workforce by graduating its fourth-year medical students early," said President Vincent Boudreau. "I am proud that so many of our students expressed a desire to affirm the College's long-standing commitment to society and will take advantage of early graduation from medical school to assist patients, families and our local communities at this extraordinary time of need."

At St. Barnabas Hospital, in the Bronx, CSOM graduates are being trained to participate in a telehealth initiative to relieve staff needed for other duties by answering queries from the public and families of patients. Students slated to begin their residencies at Northwell

Health's Staten Island University Hospital in the fall will start their training there early to help alleviate the burden on current hospital staff due to COVID-19. Other opportunities include partnering with the Health and Hospitals Corporation where early graduates would work as "house physicians" and work in the inpatient areas where there is the greatest need.

"No one could have predicted that the students from our first class would be graduating into a health care crisis of this magnitude," said CSOM Interim Dean Erica Friedman. "They have been trained to identify and address health inequities, which is already apparent in the COVID-19 adverse health outcomes for New York City's most vulnerable residents. They have responded with grace and a desire to help in any way to alleviate the strain on their professional colleagues, as well as help patients and families survive this pandemic."

CSOM is known as the gold standard for recruiting underrepresented minorities for careers as physicians practicing in underserved areas. Together with historically black colleges and universities, CSOM curriculum emphasizes a compassionate, holistic approach to care, as well as a commitment to social justice and health equity. It admits students directly from high school into an accelerated undergraduate biomedical program and seamlessly transitions them into CUNY's rigorous preclinical and clinical curriculum. Seventy-eight percent of the students in this year's graduating class will be joining the medical staff at New York City-area hospitals.



Victoria Frye Leads CHHARGE Intervention With NIMH Grant

Associate Professor Victoria Frye is leading the conversation on reducing intersectional stigmas at the community level to increase uptake of and adherence to biomedical HIV prevention modalities through a new grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. “This grant will advance prevention science by optimizing study design to evaluate the impact of community-level interventions. As well, the intervention developed should address how intersectional stigma acts as a barrier to accessing prevention methods,” said Frye. “With increased uptake of effective prevention, we seek ultimately to achieve lower community-level viral load and the diminution of the HIV epidemic among urban communities, in particular among African-American or Black gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in the US”

The three-year planning study is made possible by a grant of over \$740,000 to adapt the CHHANGE (Challenge HIV Stigma and Homophobia and Gain Empowerment) intervention, which sought to reduce community-level HIV stigma and homophobia. The funding will support intervention adaptation to address intersectional and emergent stigmas around the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), as well as HIV testing. The CHHANGE intervention focused on enhancing visibility and contact with people who identify as sexual orientation minority group members and people living with HIV/AIDS. Intervention components were designed to enhance empathy and perspective-taking, challenge stereotyped beliefs, and teach skills to interrupt stigma and homophobia in organizations, families and individuals.

The adapted intervention, called CHHARGE, which stands for Challenge HIV Stigma, Homophobia and Racism and Gain Empowerment, will specifically address stigmas that have emerged related to PrEP and PEP use among gay and bisexual men, as well as how racism interacts with stigma to form a powerful barrier to prevention access, particularly among gay men of color. The new study also aims to identify optimal intervention evaluation design features, for example the use of “big data” for characterizing group-level outcome and covariate measures, methods for minimizing contamination, and statistical approaches to assessing lagged effects.

Frye and the Laboratory of Urban Community Health (LUCH) will partner with community-based organizations and colleagues at the CUNY School of Public Health and Columbia University to execute the three-year research study.

School of Medicine launches Executive Advisory Board

The CUNY School of Medicine is launching a newly-created Executive Advisory Board. The members of the new board are thought leaders in the areas of academic medicine, primary care, and diversity and inclusion. Board members are committed to CSOM's mission of recruiting underrepresented populations into medicine, increasing medical services in underserved areas, and increasing the availability of primary care physicians and physician assistants that reflect the diversity of the surrounding communities. The priority of the board is threefold: to focus on funding for the school; to advance CSOM recognition and facilitate educational opportunities for students; and to identify and facilitate connections to donors in order to better support student needs.

CUNY School of Medicine Welcomes the New Executive Advisory Board Members:

Marthe R. Gold, chair of the CSOM Executive Advisory Board

Jo Ivey Boufford, MD

Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts III

Richard H. Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS

Erica Friedman, interim dean of CSOM

David A. Gruber, BS '81, MD, MBA

Lynne Holden, MD

Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez, MPH

David M. Kaufman, BS '80, MD

Jack Laub CCNY '44

José A. Pagán, PhD

Nicholas Pantaleo, BS '06 MD

David Perlstein, MD, MBA, FAAP

Kyu Rhee, MD, MPP

Wayne J. Riley, MD, MPH, MBA, MACP

Steven M. Safyer, MD

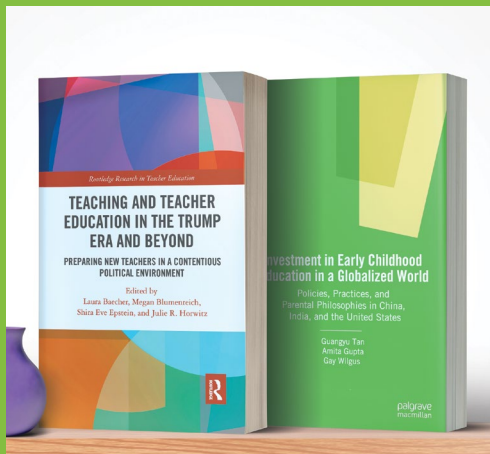
Felice H. Schnoll-Sussman, BS '92 MD

George E. Thibault, MD

Jonathan Woodson, BS '77, MD, MSS, FACS

Laurie C. Zephyrin, MD '97, MPH, MBA

Recently Published Books by SoE Faculty



Early Childhood Education
Prof. Amita Gupta and
Assoc. Prof. Gay Wilgus
co-wrote “Investment in
Early Childhood Education
in a Globalized World:
Policies, Practices, and
Parental Philosophies
in China, India, and the

United States” (Palgrave Macmillan 2019). The book is a comparative study of early childhood educational policies as a way of responding to fierce global economic competition in the three countries, as well as a discussion and analysis of the beliefs, perspective and practices of parents in response to these same forces of globalization. Human capital theory and cultural ecology theory serve as the conceptual framework for discussing how this has played out in each nation. Gupta and Wilgus wrote the book in conjunction with Assoc. Prof. Guangyu Tan, SUNY, Fredonia.

“Teacher Education in the Trump Era and Beyond: Preparing New Teachers in a Contentious Political Climate” (Paperback Ed., Routledge 2020) aims to start the conversation about how the consequences of the historic 2016 election can be addressed in the teacher education classroom. The book is co-edited by Assoc. Prof. Laura Baecher, TESOL, Hunter College, Prof. Megan Blumenreich, Childhood Education, Assoc. Prof. Shira Eve Epstein, Social Studies Education, and Julie R. Horwitz, Interim Co-Dean, School of Education and Human Development, Rhode Island College.



New Rankings Places SoE as Top Earners

An important contributor to The City College of New York’s #1 national ranking for social mobility, CCNY’s School of Education (SOE) is earning additional recognition for its programs. In its 2020 rankings of Best Colleges for Earning Potential, GradReports places both SOE’s Special Education and Educational Leadership graduate offerings in the top 10 in the United States.

Out of the best 24 colleges that offer a master’s degree in special education -- based on median salary one year after graduation—CCNY is #6. This is based on SOE alumni earning a median salary of \$64,000 once they leave City College. California State University-Los Angeles ranks first with a median starting salary of \$73,900.

CCNY’s master’s in educational leadership is a national leader, too, in producing top earners in the field. It’s ranked eighth best among the top 25 schools – again by median salary one year after college. SOE graduates make an average \$91,600 straight from City College. The top ranked school is The College of Saint Rose, in Albany, New York, with a median salary of \$105,400.

GradReports is a resource that helps students choose a college or graduate program that meets their needs. It provides over 30,000 in-depth student reviews as well as college rankings for popular majors based on the salaries of alumni with those specific degrees. According to GradReports, these are the first college rankings to use by-major student earnings data available for the first time from the U.S. Department of Education.

SOE’s impressive performance has contributed to City College’s #1 ranking by the Harvard-based Opportunity Insights out of 369 selective public colleges in the United States on the overall mobility index. This measure reflects both access and outcomes, representing the likelihood that a student at CCNY can move up two or more income quintiles.

GradReports’ recognition follows the Hispanic Outlook in Education magazine’s 2019 ranking of CCNY’s Bilingual Education Program as the sixth best Bilingual, Multilingual and Multicultural Education degree in the US.



SoE's Successful Partnership With NYC Men Teach Initiative Drives New Goals

The School of Education has partnered and continues to partner with CUNY, New York City community organizations and the Mayor's Office to support the NYC Men Teach Initiative (NYCMT), which aims to significantly increase the number of minority male teachers in NYC public school classrooms. NYC Men Teach takes aim at the public school faculty's lack of diversity. Male students of color comprise 43 percent of the student demographic but only 8.3 percent of the teachers.

In 2015, Mayor Bill de Blasio, in conjunction with New York City's Young Men's Initiative, made a pledge to put an additional 1,000 men of color on course to become NYC public school teachers by 2020.

According to CCNY NYCMT Program Director Walter Greigg, CCNY has met its student recruitment goal since the program's inception. For the current period, CCNY has 113 students in the teaching pipeline, 48 students have successfully completed college degrees, and 21 students are slated to graduate this fall. The previous goal of 75 new recruits was not only met but surpassed with 137 students placed in the teaching pipeline. On average, CCNY supports 34 graduates annually.



Students interested in the initiative at CCNY pursue either the program or pipeline track. The program track requires currently enrolled CUNY students to obtain 45 undergraduate credits, or to be enrolled in a graduate teacher education program, and maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA. Those on the pipeline track receive additional advisory assistance and must maintain a cumulative 2.75 undergraduate GPA.

In addition, NYCMT CUNY Tutor Corp has been tasked with providing tutors to NYC classrooms to support students academically during the COVID-19 crisis. Mentorship of NYC middle school and high school boys of color is also available from the 100 Black Men of New York "Junior 100" program.

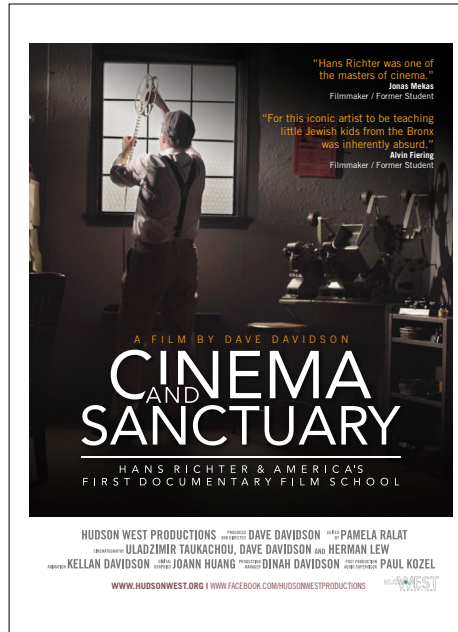
NYC Men Teach is a cross-agency enterprise with the Young Men's Initiative, NYC Department of Education, City University of New York, Center for Economic Opportunity and Teach for America that is committed to improving educational, employment, and justice outcomes for young Black, Latino and Asian men committed to educating today's diverse student population; supporting each other's professional and leadership development; and empowering the communities they serve. NYCMT Senior Colleges work closely with the NYCMT Community College to provide intentional programming to help reduce student attrition rates when transferring into the senior college.

Sonic Arts Center Celebrates Quarter Century Anniversary



This year the Sonic Arts Center celebrates its 25th year of training students for careers in the music and audio technology industry. The center's guiding force is founding Director Paul Koziel (MA '82), who shifted the focus of courses and resources over the past few years as the music industry became less prominent in New York and post production work grew to offer plentiful opportunities. Koziel is proud that 60% of the program's graduates are fully employed in the music and audio industry. Graduates of the program have won Grammys, Emmys, and top ten placements on the iTunes and Billboard charts; worked with major recording artists Eric Clapton, Richie Havens, Lady Gaga, Jay-Z, and Bruno Mars; provided music and audio support on broadcast and movie projects including *Wedding Crashers*, *X-Factor*, *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon*; as well as commercials for Apple, Volvo, Pepsi, and Verizon. The Center offers a four-year Bachelor of Music (BM) degree with a concentration in Audio Technology and combines classroom instruction with an extensive amount of hands-on experience in seven studios.

“Year of Film” Ends With World Premiere of “Cinema and Sanctuary”



City College presented the world premiere of “Cinema and Sanctuary,” a documentary by independent filmmaker and media educator Dave Davidson on June 20 at New York’s Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center. “Cinema and Sanctuary” traces the tumultuous twenty-five-year history of The Institute of Film Techniques at CCNY under the unlikely, yet inspired leadership of the pioneering experimental filmmaker Hans Richter. Forced out of Europe in 1940 by the Nazis, the German-born Richter was a major force in redefining art and film in the 20th century.

During his tenure thousands of aspiring filmmakers passed through the doors of the CCNY Film Institute, from Academy Award winners such as Stanley Kubrick, editor Alan Heim, cinematographer Nestor Almendros and Woody Allen to groundbreaking experimenters like Jonas Mekas and Shirley Clarke. “I was drawn to this story by the sheer improbability of an aristocratic, Avant Garde artist from the European elite being thrown in the same room as a bunch of working class kids from New York City,” said director Dave Davidson, adding, “It seemed like such a random DADA encounter - I just knew there had to be story there. As soon as the alums started recounting their life-changing experiences with Hans Richter I knew my instincts were right.”

Five Undergrads Awarded Mellon Mays Fellowships



Undergraduates Aisha Butt, Jorge Cruz, Eladia Lopez, Lance Parker and Sophia Yi Nian Yip were recipients of the exclusive nationwide Mellon Mays Fellowships (MMUF). The program's goal is to help increase diversity in the faculty ranks of higher education by identifying and supporting exceptional undergraduates from traditionally underrepresented groups. Since 2001, support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is credited for guiding more than a dozen talented CCNY graduates to PhDs in the humanities and social sciences. According to CCNY Program Director Isabel Estrada, there are more than 23 Mellon Mays Fellows from City College in PhD programs.

This year's students come from a variety of backgrounds and academic majors. Lopez and Parker study History and Yip studies English. Butt and Cruz study Anthropology and Sociology, respectively. The five students engaged in research programs aimed at preparing them for doctoral careers. Last summer, Butt, Cruz, Parker and Yip attended the MMUF Summer Research Training Program at the University of Chicago for graduate study and rigorous research. Lopez attended the CUNY Mellon Mays Fellows Summer Institute at Hunter College, which included introductions to research methods and to academia as a profession.

Four Students Win Jacoff Scholarship To Continue Advanced Degrees

Recent 2020 grads Sean Apparicio, Naajidah Correll, Josias Agustin-Mendez and Cassie Nordgren each received a \$10,000 scholarship from the Sydney and Helen Jacoff Scholarship fund. Alumni benefactor Sydney Jacoff created the fund for students in pursuit of their masters and doctoral degrees in humanities and the arts. Apparicio is pursuing an MA in Philosophy at The Graduate Center, CUNY. Correll is pursuing her MA/PhD in English at Michigan State University. Agustin-Mendez is pursuing his PhD in History at Columbia University. Nordgren is pursuing an MFA in Directing at Baylor University.

BIC School Updates



BIC Scholarship Winners

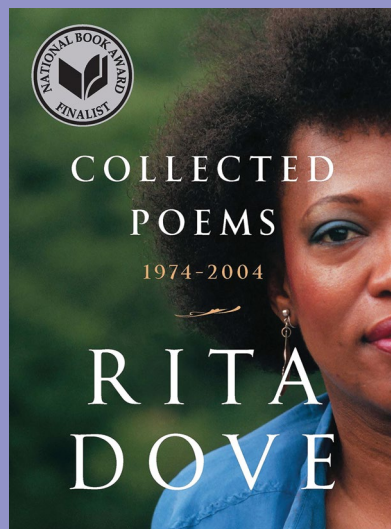
Paul Bernabe, Dimandja Utshudi and Ayush Kumar, from the Master of Professional Studies in Branding + Integrated Communications (BIC) are winners of The LAGRANT Foundation scholarship of which only 26 are awarded. The LAGRANT Foundation's mission is to increase ethnic diversity in advertising, marketing and public relations industries and have given more scholarship money to CCNY than any other college.



BIC Team Takes The Gold

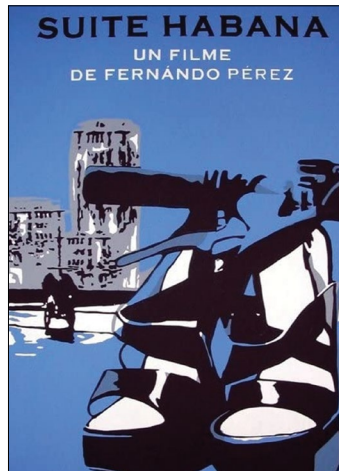
The accolades for BIC students continued at The One Club for Creativity's Young Ones Student Awards. The highest honor - A Gold Pencil - was awarded to students Bernabe, Marian Cuestas, Cynthia Rojas, and Ping Sun for their North Face campaign "Nature Never Judges," beating out hundreds of entrants at the annual international competition. Professors Jason Stefanik and Andy Currie, who co-teach the one-credit intensive course, oversaw the winning team, among others who were finalists.

Pulitzer Prize Poet Rita Dove Wins Langston Hughes Medal



Rita Dove, recipient of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize in poetry and U.S. Poet Laureate from 1993 to 1995, was the winner of CCNY's 2019 Langston Hughes Medal. She received the medal on Nov. 14 in Aaron Davis Hall. The medal is awarded by the Black Studies Program to highly distinguished writers of the African American diaspora at City College's annual Langston Hughes Festival. The award recognizes honorees for their impressive works of poetry, fiction, drama, autobiography and critical essays that celebrate the memory and tradition of Langston Hughes. Dove is the author of numerous books, most recently "Sonata Mulattica," the 2010 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award winner; and "Collected Poems 1974-2004," a finalist for the 2016 National Book Award and winner of the 2017 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work. "Thomas and Beulah," Dove's book of semi-fictionalized poems about her maternal grandparents, earned her the Pulitzer Prize. Her other honors include the 2011 National Medal of Arts from President Obama and the 1996 National Humanities Medal from President Clinton—the only poet honored with both arts and humanities medals. Hughes Medal winners include James Baldwin, Gwendolyn Brooks, Toni Morrison, August Wilson, Maya Angelou, Octavia Butler and Hilton Als.

Havana the Topic of Celebration at LA HABANA 500: A New York Salute



CCNY joined Hostos Community College, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and the School of Visual Arts to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the founding of the city of

Havana. The three-day program in Nov. 2019, LA HABANA 500: A New York Salute to a Timeless City, explored the arc and trajectory of the intersection between Cuban and US history via NYC. The major themes of the program were the founding and early history of La Habana; the relationship between La Habana and NYC during the rise of Cuban nationalism; efforts to restore La Habana and establish a trajectory for future development; and the role of New York City, particularly the Bronx, as an incubator of Cuban music. The celebration included walking tours, a concert and seminars, as well as the screening of "Suite Habana" directed by Fernando Perez. After the screening, there was a panel discussion moderated by CCNY Chair and Prof. Jerry Carlson, Dept. of Media Communication Arts, with Prof. Marta Gutman, of the Spitzer School of Architecture, and Art History PhD Student Sonja E. Gandert, The Graduate Center, CUNY.

Villarosa Writes About Dire Health Inequities in "The New York Times"



Journalism Program Director Linda Villarosa published an essay on medical myths about physical racial differences in "The New York Times's" 1619 Project in Aug. 2019.

Villarosa is a contributing writer for "The New York Times." The 1619 Project is an ongoing initiative from "The New York Times Magazine" that began in August 2019, the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. It aims to reframe the country's history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the center of the US national narrative. Villarosa's 2018 cover story, "Why America's Black Mothers and Babies Are in a Life-or-Death Crisis," was nominated for a National Magazine Award. Her 2017 article, "America's Hidden HIV Epidemic," won a National Lesbian and Gay Journalists' award for Excellence in Journalism.

Art Historian Harriet Senie Wins National Teaching Award



Director of the MA Art History program and Art Historian Prof. Harriet F. Senie is the College Art Association's (CAA) 2020 Distinguished Professor of Art History Award winner. Senie was honored for her lifetime of teaching, her rigorous scholarship and methodology, interdisciplinary work and student career development. The CAA is made up of thousands of fine art professionals across academia, cultural institutions and the commercial aspects of the industry. Senie's chief areas of research are public art, memorials, memory and material culture. She is also a Graduate Center, CUNY faculty member.



NEH Fellowships for Historians Felber-Seligman and Shirane

Historians Yaari Felber-Seligman and Seiji Shirane are National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowship recipients. Asst. Prof. Felber-Seligman's NEH fellowship is to complete her groundbreaking book "Crafting New Economies: Inland Trade in Central East Africa, ca. 1st-17th Centuries." Asst. Prof. Shirane is the recipient of a NEH and Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission Fellowship for Advanced Social Science Research about Japan, for a book "Gateway Imperialism: Colonial Taiwan and Japanese Expansion in South China and Southeast Asia, 1895-1945." This is the fifth-year in a row that Humanities faculty received the highly competitive grants.



\$300,000 NEH CARES Grant for Online Teaching Resources

A National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) CARES Act Grant of \$300,000 was awarded to the Division of Humanities and the Arts for a project put forth by Deputy Dean Renata Kobetts Miller to create a base of 25 adjunct faculty, and to continue their professional development, as a response to the COVID-19 online teaching environment. In addition to the adjuncts, an instructional technologist position, filled by a recent Ph.D. graduate, is to be created and funded. The new position will focus on Digital Humanities tools and platforms to further engage students, particularly in the foundation General Education courses. Upon return to in-person instruction, software training will continue, in addition to share-out events of the instructional technologist to H&A faculty. "This grant makes it possible for us to achieve two important goals: to retain vital adjunct faculty and to enhance the delivery of innovative and high-quality remote instruction in the humanities," said H&A Dean Erec R. Koch.



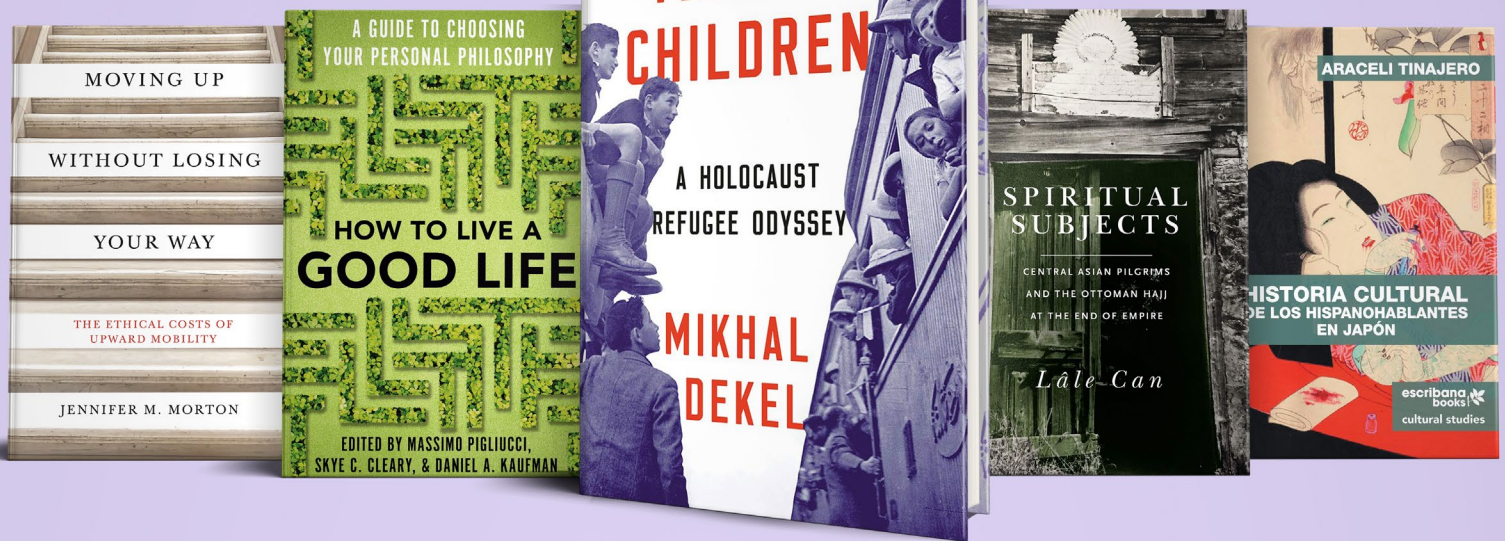
ACLS Awards American History Postdoc Fellowship to Promote Diversity

CCNY was one of three recipients of a two-year Postdoctoral Partnership Initiative award from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) to increase academic faculty diversity. Talented early-career scholars of African-American, Native American, Alaskan Native or Hispanic/Latino ethnicity are sought for the fellowship in American History, with the intent to promote them to assistant professors in tenure-track positions at the end of the fellowship period. "The City College is honored to partner with the ACLS on this important initiative that aligns perfectly with our commitment to ensure that a diverse faculty teaches our diverse student body at CCNY," said Humanities and the Arts Dean Erec R. Koch. Support for ACLS's Postdoctoral Partnership Initiative is made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. CCNY's diversity is ranked highly in the nation. Haverford College and Temple University are the other recipients.

Mellon Foundation Grant to Reimagine "Humanities of and for the City"

The Division of Humanities and the Arts received a \$150,000 Mellon Foundation grant for the reimagining of the program, as addressing the core principles of citizenship and humanity by embracing history, culture and creativity, called "Humanities of and for the City." A faculty-committee and working-group structure has been designated to explore, design and navigate an expansion of the purposeful presence of the humanities at the college and in New York City. City College's Ephebic Oath best encompasses the jumping off point for the initiatives, which promise to leave both the College and NYC better than when they first encountered them. The agenda has been set around three themes: Cultural and Linguistic Diversity, The Cultural Resources and Institutions of the City, and Science and Technology. Planning sessions are underway, recommendations are to be presented in final reports, and, finally, programmatic and curricular development will be put in place.

Recently Published Books



In “Moving Up without Losing Your Way” (Princeton University Press, 2019), Philosophy Prof. **Jennifer Morton** spotlights the ethical and emotional tolls paid by disadvantaged college students seeking upward mobility and what educators can do to help these students flourish. Peruvian-born and Princeton educated, Morton bases some of her thesis on her experience teaching at CUNY, and as a first-generation college student herself. In its 2020 Best Colleges rankings, U.S. News & World Report ranks CCNY #17 nationally as a top performer on social mobility.

“How to Live a Good Life: A Guide to Choosing Your Personal Philosophy” (Vintage, Jan. 2020), co-edited by **Massimo Pigliucci**, who holds three doctorates, chairs the Philosophy department and is the K.D. Irani Professor of Philosophy, with Prof. **Skye Cleary** a former-CCNY academic, and Prof. **Daniel Kaufman**, who earned his PhD at CCNY. The book is a collection of essays by 15 eminent philosophers reflecting on what it means to live according to a philosophy. The thoughtful introductory guide includes Eastern and Western philosophies, the four major religions, as well as contemporary philosophies, like existentialism and effective altruism. Each philosopher offers a lively personal account and a portrait of what it means to live an examined life in the 21st century.

Historian and Asst. Prof. **Lâle Can** has published her book “Spiritual Subjects: Central Asian Pilgrims and the Ottoman Hajj at the End of the Empire” (Stanford University Press, March 2020) on trans-imperial pilgrimage across Asia at the turn of the 20th century. Can received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Spidend award to finish the book in which she examines the paradoxes of nationality reform and pan-Islamic politics in late Ottoman history. The book details how imperial belonging was wrapped up in deeply symbolic instantiations of religion, as well as prosaic acts and experiences that paved the way to integration into Ottoman communities.

Spanish Prof. **Araceli Tinajero**, Classical and Modern Languages & Literatures, has published “Historia cultural de los hispanohablantes en Japón - A Cultural History of the Spanish Speaking People in Japan,” (Escribana Books, an imprint of Artepoeica Press, 2019). Tinajero, who speaks Japanese and is a Mexican scholar, describes the migration of thousands of Spanish-speakers to Japan, as of the 1990s. She focuses on intellectuals, libraries and literature, cultural associations, festivals and music, and media produced in Spanish, in Japan, by Spaniards and Latin Americans.

Dekel’s Book “Tehran Children” Short-Listed for Rohr Prize



English and Comparative Literature Prof. **Mikhal Dekel’s** book “Tehran Children: A Holocaust Refugee Odyssey” was shortlisted for the 2020 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature, Non-Fiction category. The book tracks

the fates of Polish Jews, including Dekel’s father, who during WWII were ‘saved by deportation.’ The story of the children fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe, to the East, and on to Israel via Iran, has been little documented, and Dekel’s account of the tale is a gripping blend of memoir, history and travelogue. Dekel takes the reader on these paths of escape, refuge, exile and new home, probing archives and people as diverse as Polish nationalists, Russian oligarchs and Korean Uzbeks. She tells a dynamic, situational history of Jews and Catholics, refugees and evacuees, natives and newcomers, the millions and the individual, namely her father. The Rohr Prize is the largest and most prestigious book prize in the Jewish literary world, given in memory of the Jewish-literature-loving Sami Rohr, who fled Germany with his parents shortly after Kristallnacht in 1938. Dekel is also on the faculty of the CUNY Graduate Center and is the Director of the Rifkind Center for Humanities and the Arts. This is her third book. She’s also written “The Universal Jew: Masculinity, Modernity and the Zionist Moment” and “Oedipus in Kishinev.”

Early Childhood Education BA Program Ranks High



The Early Childhood Education (ECE) BA program was ranked in the top three percent nationally in the Bachelor's Degree Center's 2019 rankings. The degree is jointly offered by the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education and the School of Education. The program is #13 among the top 25 colleges and universities nationwide that made the cut from an initial pool of more than 500 schools. The recognition is the culmination of a thorough search by Bachelor's Degree Center editors of all education schools in the nation accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The schools were narrowed to those offering early childhood education specializations. Programs were then ranked according to five factors:

- **Cost (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) at the Center for Education Statistics data)**
- **Employment Rate (IPEDS data)**
- **Graduation Rate (IPEDS data)**
- **Reputation (Niche student reviews)**
- **Salary Expectation (College Scorecard)**

"With this comprehensive set of standards, BDC is confident that these 25 colleges and universities represent the very best early childhood education colleges in the US," the editors write. "These programs are most likely to provide graduates not only with quality education, but a real opportunity to make a difference – and a living."

The ECE degree meets the requirements set by the New York State Department of Education for certification as a teacher of children from birth through Grade 2. Upon successful completion of the bachelor's degree and performance on state-mandated tests, graduates are eligible for initial certification as a teacher. The program's objective is to foster insightful professional growth of all degree candidates. They participate in a semester-long internship that focuses on two different early childhood classroom opportunities.

CWE Partners to Organize Spain and North America Conference in Madrid



Each Spring, more than 100 hundred scholars and researchers from 50 universities around the world, meet with The City College of New York's Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education to discuss the historical ties between North America and Spain.

CWE, the Instituto Cervantes of New York, and the Instituto Franklin of the Universidad de Alcalá organize the conference, which brings together different disciplines and areas of study with an emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to the historical links between Spain and North America.

The conference is organized in sections with different focal points. Topics covered include: new cultural cartographies, colonial studies, post-colonial studies, links in education, cultural studies, international relations, economy and labor/corporations in the 21st century, science and technology, as well as military and security policy. The event has attracted scholars from Europe, Africa, Canada, USA and Latin America.

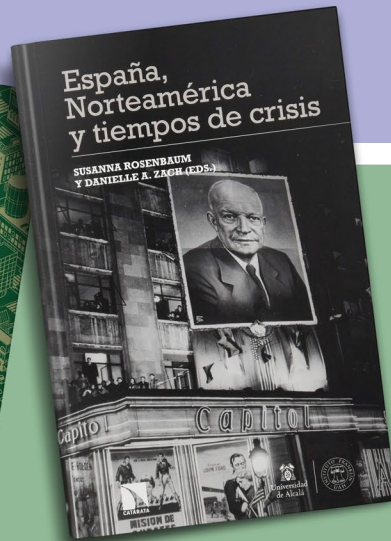
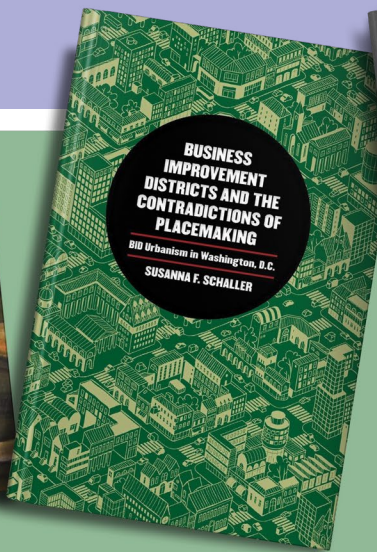
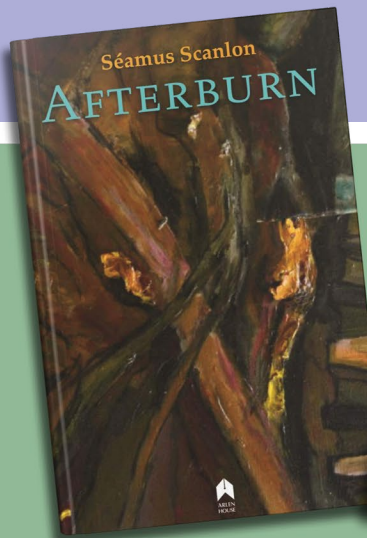
CWE jointly initiated the conference 5 years ago and alternates between CWE and Spain. The fifth annual conference was held in April 2019 at the Alcala de Henares, the birthplace of Cervantes, north of Madrid. Professor of Latin American Cultural Studies Carlos Aguasaco represented the college and presented a paper.

"The aim of the conference is to provide a meeting place for academics and professionals with an interest in other disciplines related to this subject as well as to interact with other members within and outside their own disciplines in the areas of Humanities and Social Sciences," said Juan Carlos Mercado, dean of the CWE.

Serrano Awarded Women’s Forum Education Fund Fellowship



Sandra Serrano is the latest undergraduate from The City College of New York’s Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education (CWE) awarded a \$10,000 Women’s Forum Education Fund fellowship. The awards are given to high-potential women, age 35 and over, whose education and lives have been disrupted by extreme adversity. They recognize extraordinary and often heroic efforts in overcoming adversity in restructuring lives for success. A senior pursuing a BA degree with a concentration in urban studies and public administration, Serrano is the third CWE student in a row named a Women’s Forum Fellow. “I was born into misfortune, the daughter of heroin addicts,” Serrano described her difficult upbringing in the South Bronx. She was legally declared an orphan at age 13 and put out by her grandmother at 16. Still, Serrano persevered. She earned a high school diploma at 18, and after bearing a son at 21, and spending time in a homeless shelter, enrolled in BMCC. Her educational odyssey was buoyed by her son’s grandmother, Janet, who took her in and provided childcare. Serrano graduated from BMCC and continued her studies at CWE. A program coordinator for the Cancer Research Department at Mount Sinai Hospital’s Icahn School of Medicine, she will dedicate her CWE degree to Janet, who died of cancer in 2018. Serrano’s short-term goal is to run a half marathon. Her long-term goal is to obtain a master’s degree in public administration.



Recently Published Books

Librarian & Assoc. Prof. **Séamus Scánlon** published “Afterburn” (Arlen House, 2019), a short story collection. An award-winning librarian, he is a playwright, novelist and screenwriter. He received his MFA in Creative Writing at CCNY.

Asst. Prof. **Susanna F. Schaller** published “Business Improvement Districts and the Contradictions of Placemaking: BID Urbanism in Washington, DC” (University of Georgia Press, 2019). The book is a critical examination of business improvement districts. Schaller’s specialty is Urban Studies, Administration and Planning.

Assoc. Prof. Anthropology **Susanna Rosenbaum** and Postdoc Fellow **Danielle A. Zach** co-edited the book “España, Norteamérica y tiempos de crisis” (Catarata, 2020). Rosenbaum and Zach also contributed writing to the book. Rosenbaum is the Director of MA in the Study of the Americas.

TAFFNY Announces Winners at Record-Breaking Americas Film Festival



The first ever virtual The Americas Film Festival New York (TAFFNY), organized by CWE’s Division of Interdisciplinary Studies, saw thousands tuning in to feature films, documentaries and shorts showcasing stories of The Americas continent from June 20-29.

The 7th annual festival attracted record viewing numbers over its five-day duration, and ended with the online premiere of “Sisters Rising,” a powerful documentary that tells the story of six Native American women fighting to restore personal and tribal sovereignty in the face of ongoing sexual violence against Indigenous women in the United States.

Juan Carlos Mercado, TAFFNY’s executive director and Dean of the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the CWE, lauded the “exceptional jury” comprising Marisol Gonzalez, Alvaro Baquero, Carlos Velasquez, Marina Fernandez and Federico Guaracio.

THE FILM AWARDS

Best Experimental

“Cambia Tutto,” by Ana Mouyis (USA / Italy), “for its ability to make a wise use of the cinematographic medium, capable of poetically summarizing the beauty of a magical land like Italy where everything changes while remaining crystallized in an eternal present.”

Best Animation

“Ian, Una Historia Que Nos Movilizará,” directed by Abel Goldfarb (Argentina). Honored “for the way its layered and impactful messages are delivered through expert animation and storytelling, and the importance of sharing these messages of diversity and inclusion in the canon of Latin American children’s film.”

Best Documentary

“Esperábamos a Que Anoheciera,” by Wendy Muñiz and Guillermo Zouain (Dominican Republic), “for the way it captures a collective history through personal reflection and serves as a visual archive of something that is close to all of us—movie theaters.”

Best Fiction

“Hay Coca,” by Jose Issa (Argentina), “for its beautiful cinematography and masterful acting, in addition, for showing a magical aspect of the traditional Andean life linked to coca leaves. This wonderful journey to the core of the Andes way of life, in the midst of a repressive dictatorship, is a tribute to friendship and life itself.”

Special Jury Mention honors went to the short animation “GirasoL,” by Maria Victoria Sánchez (Venezuela), and the short fiction film “After the Beep,” by Florian Bison (Germany / USA).





AMNH Microbiologist Susan L. Perkins is New Dean of Science



Dr. Susan L. Perkins, a microbiologist and author with expertise on protozoan parasites that cause malaria, is the new Martin and Michele Cohen Dean of Science. Perkins joins City College from the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) where she served as Curator and Professor of Microbial Genomics for the past 15 years. She brings a wealth of experience as a researcher on malaria parasites and other haemosporidian parasites that use non-human hosts. Her particular interests are the malaria parasites infecting creatures such as lizards, bats, and birds, and over the past 20 years, she has conducted field work around the world to better understand their diversity, evolution, and systematics. At AMNH, her lab also investigated other parasites of wildlife and the interaction of host microbiomes with parasites. She earned her PhD in biology from the University of Vermont and her BA from SUNY Potsdam.

Tzortziou Research On Frontline of Pollution, Microplastics



Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Prof. Maria Tzortziou, and her research team, received a NASA Group Achievement Award (2019) for their work on a two-year, multi-agency field campaign program in the Chesapeake Bay. The Ozone Water-Land Environmental Transition Study (OWLETS), which involved participants from NASA, the EPA, and NOAA, sought to better understand, and ultimately represent and predict, the atmospheric chemistry and complex air flow in coastal areas where approximately 40 percent of the US population resides. The novel observation strategy of multidisciplinary observations from fixed ground-based stations, aircrafts, boats, vehicles and space-based platforms, is part of the goal to link results to air quality-management and public health-decision making.

Tzortziou is also a liaison for the Northwest Passage Project, which collects data about scientific changes in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Under her tutelage, three students were able to join a three-week research expedition— after a highly competitive process for the limited spots— organized by the University of Rhode Island. Senior Michael DiGilio, environmental earth system science, senior Yoana Boleaga, geology, and junior Krystian Kopka, Grove School of Engineering, joined scientists, filmmakers and other students aboard Swedish vessel Icebreaker Oden. They collected ice core samples to document the rapidly changing Arctic. The results: microplastics had invaded the Northwest Passage, and more than they suspected. Microplastics is a burgeoning science and Tzortziou, and her students, are at the forefront. This was the first time that plastics were found in ice from the Northwest Passage Project.

NIH \$3 Million Grant to Support G-RISE Minority PhD Students



The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has bestowed a five-year, almost \$3 million grant to train and develop minority PhD students in biomedical disciplines. Led by Distinguished Prof. Ruth E. Stark and Prof. Mark Steinberg, both of whom are Chemistry & Biochemistry professors, the award goes to 28 other faculty members in the fields of Psychology, BioMedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Biology, Physics, and the CUNY School of Medicine.

Fourteen trainees each year, all from underrepresented (UR) groups, will benefit from the grant and receive coordinated, innovative, and rigorous PhD training. The grant builds on the success of the NIH's long-standing Research Initiative for Student Enhancement (RISE).

"The broad mission of the new G-RISE program is to focus biomedical research and professional skills development on UR PhD trainees at CCNY while also providing a beneficial impact for our broader population of trainees and mentors in the STEM disciplines," said Stark.

Significant NIAID Fellowship Goes to Perez Rodriguez



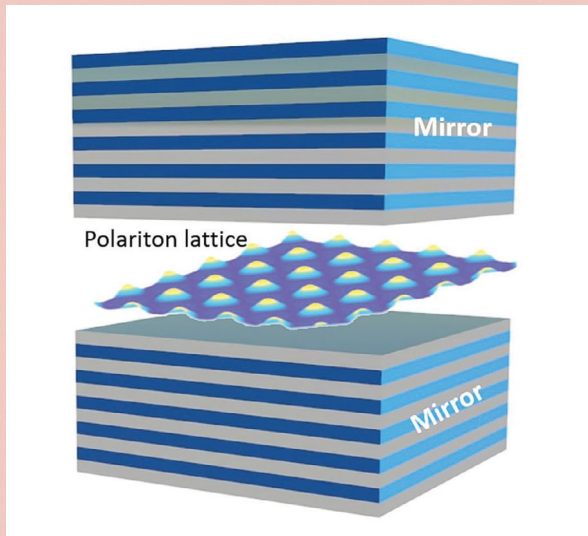
Recent and first graduate of the accelerated MS program in biochemistry, Mathiu Perez Rodriguez ('20) was awarded one of the largest research fellowships by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). The NIAID Fellowship promotes biomedical research training in allergic, immunologic, and infectious diseases. Perez Rodriguez was mentored by CCNY Distinguished Professor Ruth E. Stark, and received many accolades during his time in the groundbreaking combined-BA/MS program.

Sarachik's Research Awarded Largest Prize by APS

Distinguished Prof. Myriam Sarachik is the recipient of the 2020 American Physical Society (APS) Medal for Exceptional Achievement in Research. The \$50,000 prize is APS' most significant award across all fields of physics. Sarachik research has focused on superconductors, disordered metallic alloys, metal-insulator transitions in doped semiconductors, hopping transport in solids, strongly interacting electrons in two dimensions and spin tunneling in nanomagnets. She's been a faculty member since 1964.



Four Year Quantum Tech Research Project Spurred On With \$2 Million NSF Grant

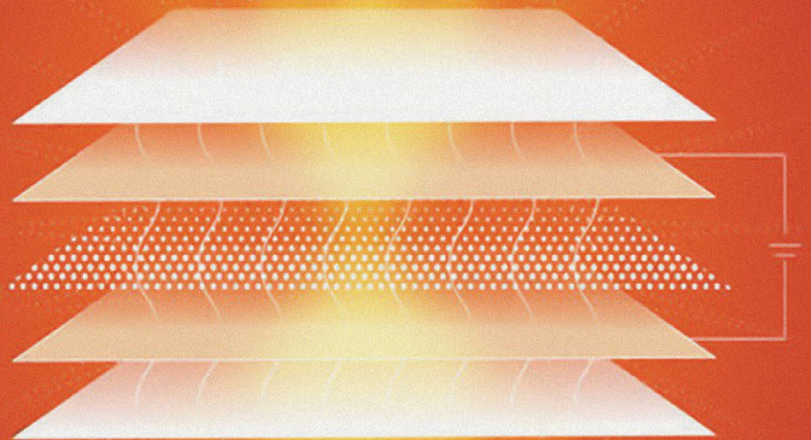


Supported by a \$2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, physicists at City College are embarking on a four-year research project to develop chip-scale quantum emulators. The outcome could include the ability to solve diverse computationally intractable problems from protein folding and neural networks to the dynamics of financial markets. Also known as quantum simulators, emulators are used to simulate computationally complex and experimentally inaccessible problems using a controllable quantum system. “Such a simulator is a task-specific device that mimics the physical behavior of a system of interest that is computationally hard to model or experimentally difficult to realize,” said Team Leader and Physics Chair Vinod Menon. The team includes engineers Sriram Ganeshan, Alexander Khanikaev and Carlos Meriles as co-principal investigators.

Optical Society Elects Vinod Menon to Fellowship



Pioneering Physicist and Chair Vinod Menon has been elected a Fellow Member of The Optical Society (OSA), the foremost professional association in optics and photonics, globally. Menon, whose research in light-matter interaction at the nanoscale level has advanced the field of photonics, is one of 94 new members internationally in OSA's 2020 Fellows Class.

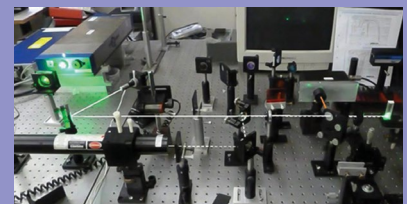


Menon Mentors Breakthrough LED Research

In two breakthroughs in the realm of photonics, graduate researchers are reporting the successful demonstration of an LED (light-emitting diode) based on half-light half-matter quasiparticles in atomically thin materials. This is also the first successful test of an electrically driven light emitter using atomically thin semiconductors embedded in a light trapping structure (optical cavity). Physics PhD student Jie Gu and Post-doctoral Fellow Biswanath Chakraborty, in collaboration with grad student Mandeep Khatoniyar, are the research leads and mentored by Physics Chair Vinod Menon. Their double feat, reported in “Nature Nanotechnology,” marks an important milestone in the field of 2D materials and, more broadly, LEDs. While such LEDs have been realized in other materials at low temperatures, this device operates at room temperature and is fabricated using the now well known “scotch tape” based technique. “The fact that this device is fabricated using stacks of atomically thin materials and operates at room temperature makes it an important first step towards a technologically relevant device demonstration,” said Menon. “One potential application of such hybrid LEDs is the speed of operation – which can translate to using them for LED-based communication systems including LiFi.” LiFi is a wireless optical networking technology that uses LEDs for data transmission. The device was fabricated at the CCNY-based CUNY Advanced Science Research Center’s nanofabrication facility and tested in Menon’s lab. The work is funded by the National Science Foundation and the Army Research Office.



Patent for Innovative Brain Cancer-Detection Uses Resonance Raman



Two patents have been issued to world-renowned physicist Robert R. Alfano and his Institute for Ultrafast Spectroscopy and Lasers (IUSL) research group for the new “Resonance Raman” (RR) technique for more rapid, specific brain cancer diagnoses. Alfano, Distinguished Prof. of Science and Engineering and an inventor with more than 120 patents to his name, said “Light gives you far greater molecular information than the common modalities... which all provide an image and not the content. Light can show you at the molecular level what the tissue is all about and display the difference between good tissue and bad tissue.” Specifically, the non-invasive method works by using the key wavelengths to excite the Raman effect from vibrations in tissue of the brain, breasts and arteries. The colors emitted are different and are part of a larger set of optical methods he’d developed since 1984 called Optical Biopsy. A second patent has been granted for ongoing research to expand RR as an optical biopsy method, and to develop Resonant Stimulated Raman scattering microscopes using compact lasers.

\$14 Million NIH Grant for CCNY-MSKCC Cancer Research Partnership

New research projects funded by this grant include:

“How tumor ensemble models with two experimental models predict tumor dormancy & reactivation in cancers with gender and/or ethnic disparities”

David S. Rumschitzki, whose cancer research earned him a Fulbright

“Development of Mechanical Interventions to Enhance Drug Delivery to Bone Tumors”

Susannah P. Fritton

Herbert G. Kayser Professor of Biomedical Engineering “Characterizing the role of ATM and MSH2 in genome stability”

Bao Q. Vuong, Biologist

“Early Detection of Breast Cancer Subtypes by Raman Spectroscopy with Heavy Water Labeling and MultiPhoton Microscopy”

Robert R. Alfano, Distinguished Professor of Science and Engineering

A \$14 million NIH grant to fund a new research education program to develop future cancer researchers has been awarded to the CCNY-Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Partnership (CCNY-MSKCC). Dean Gilda Barabino and Division of Science’s Biology Prof. Karen Hubbard are the Principal Investigators in conjunction with their Sloan-Kettering counterparts.



The Partnership’s primary mission has been to nurture trainees from underserved minority populations. Upwards of 500 trainees, 80% of whom have gone on to pursue higher academic tracks, have been served and supported. The grant will continue to fund ongoing cancer outreach in Harlem. The Partnership Community Outreach, Research and Education Core (PCORE) promotes access to cancer services, and encourages and supports health behaviors which enhance the quality of life for diverse underserved communities.

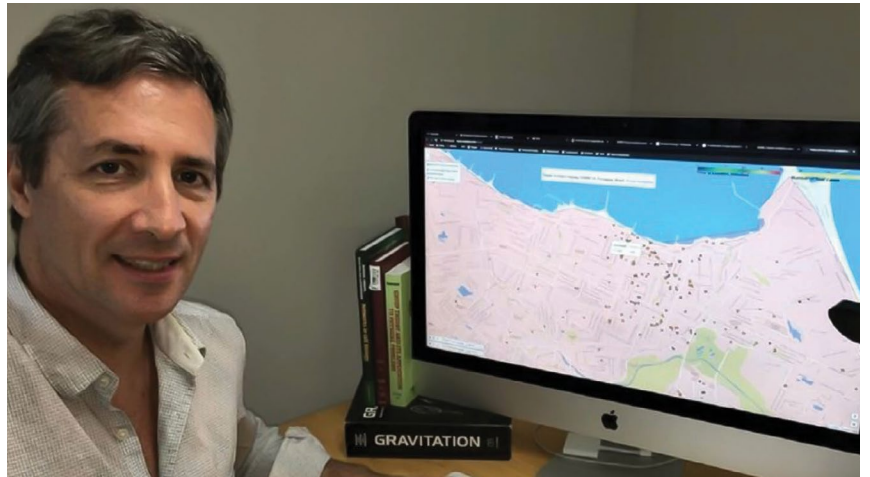
Hajredini to Attend 2021 Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting



PhD candidate Fatlum Hajredini (Graduate Center, CUNY & Division of Science) has been invited to attend the 70th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Germany in 2021, a global interdisciplinary event with more than 600 scientists and dozens of Nobel Laureates in the natural sciences. Originally scheduled for summer 2020, the event has been postponed to summer 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The selection process to attend the Meeting is highly competitive. A Kosovo native, Hajredini's interdisciplinary research at the City College Center for Discovery and Innovation (CDI) is on the interface of physics, chemistry and biology. Prof Ranajeet Ghose, Chemistry & Biochemistry, is his mentor at the CDI. Hajredini will discuss his research at the Meeting.

"My work centers around understanding how a class of proteins, known as protein kinases, perform their function at the atomic level," said Hajredini, who earned his BS in Bio-Chemistry at CCNY in 2017. "Protein kinases play key roles in proper cellular functions and malfunctioning of these proteins is commonly associated with the emergence of some of the most devastating diseases. Thus, understanding how these proteins perform their functions is key to developing strategies to treating these diseases."

Physicist Makse Collaborates on COVID-19 Tracing App



K-Core Tracing app is a newly developed COVID-19 tracer developed by physicist Hernan Makse, the Federal University of Ceara, Brazil, GranData and K-Core Analytics. Using GPS data, the app tracks millions of data points to develop an algorithm that notifies the individual user that he or she has had contact with a person who is either infected (by means of a red signal on the device), asymptomatic (a yellow signal), or not infected (a green signal). The app was successfully tested in Ceara's capital city Fortaleza with plans for further roll-outs.



Tamargo Is Elected Member of NAE

Prof. Maria C. Tamargo, on the doctoral faculty of electrical engineering, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) Class of 2020 for her work in creating an inclusive science and engineering research community, as well as for contributions to molecular-beam epitaxy of semiconductor materials. Tamargo is also a professor of chemistry in the Division of Science. Tamargo has been teaching at CCNY since 1993 and is also a doctoral faculty member in chemistry and physics at The Graduate Center, CUNY.



Alumni Bendau Awarded Fellowship for Biomedical PhD

Magna cum laude alum Ethan V. Bendau, BA Physics '18, received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship. Bendau is earning his PhD in Biomedical Engineering at Columbia University and is doing research in non-invasive brain modulation with focused ultrasound.

Recently Published Research

Tsang Published in “Journal of Biogeography”

Dr. **Susan Tsang** (Bio PhD, Graduate Center, CUNY) and her researchers have published “Dispersal out of Wallacea spurs diversification of Pteropus flying foxes, the world’s largest bats (Mammalia: Chiroptera)” in *Journal of Biogeography*. The research reveals dwindling populations and widespread hunting throughout Indonesia and the Philippines. Co-authored by **Y-Lan Nguyen**, Macaulay Honors College graduate, the duo also collaborated with scientists from the region. Hunting depletes the rare species but also exposes humans to animal-borne pathogens. “For instance, the current case of Wuhan Coronavirus is thought to have been spread from wild bats to humans through an intermediate host at a wildlife market,” said CCNY biologist and Tsang’s mentor **David J. Lohman**. Tsang and researchers continue their work with a new study on the outcome of bat-borne viruses in Southeast Asia, as well as the environmental impact of flying foxes on plant diversification and terrestrial/marine ecosystem dynamics.

Hickerson and Bertola Published in Britain’s “Proceedings B”

Scientists **Michael Hickerson** and **Laura Bertola** had their paper “Asymmetrical gene flow in five co-distributed syngnathids explained by ocean currents and rafting propensity” published in the premier British journal “*Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*.” Using seahorse and pipefish species, the research highlights how the direction of ocean currents can determine the direction of gene flow in rafting species depending on species traits that allow for rafting propensity.

Meriles and Team Published in AAAS’ “Science Advances,” and “PNAS”

Physics Professor **Carlos A. Meriles** led a team of researchers from The Meriles Group, national and international researchers to publish the paper “Optically pumped spin polarization as a probe of many-body thermalization” in “*Science Advances*,” the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s (AAAS) publication. Meriles’ group developed a technique that circumvents the problem of huge disparity between the numbers of thermal and athermal spins. The same technique made it possible to see that under certain specific conditions, it is possible to make those isolated (‘athermal’) spins ‘communicate’ with the rest.

Meriles was also published with postdoctoral researchers **Jacob Henshaw** and **Daniela Pagliero**, and previous postdoctoral researcher **Pablo Zengara** in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)* for a study of the properties of a type of defect in diamonds that could help improve the technology behind MRI scans and molecular spectroscopy. Shine a green light on diamonds and their spins polarize almost 100 percent. To transfer the polarization to another material, another defect of diamonds needs to be bypassed. Called “spin-pumping,” the technique could someday benefit not only MRI technology, but also spectroscopy methods that researchers and pharmaceutical companies use to glean information about molecules.



Prof. Anderson’s Biology Research Highly Cited Worldwide



Biology Prof. Robert Anderson was named in the Global Highly Cited Researchers 2019 list by experts at the Institute for Scientific Information at Clarivate’s Web of Science Group. This places Anderson’s biodiversity research in the top 1% of citations in the field worldwide and demonstrates his significant influence among peers. His current research program centers on the interface between ecology and evolution, and developing and applying methods of modeling species’ geographic ranges using occurrence records and environmental data. His taxonomic specialty is Neotropical mammals. Anderson shares the list with only 169 other researchers in the Environment and Ecology category. American researchers topped the list in other categories, as did 23 recent Nobel laureates. Research papers from 2008-2018 were culled for the citation list.

Maillet Awarded All-American Honors in Two Events



Women's track & field star Avery Maillet was named to the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-America Team for the 2020 indoor season, in the 200 meters and long jump. She qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships in both events. Ordinarily, All-Americans are chosen based on their NCAA Championship performance. After the meet was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USTFCCCA Executive Committee declared all student-athletes who qualified would be named All-Americans. Maillet was set to make her second straight NCAA Indoor Championships appearance in the long jump and her first in the 200 meters. Maillet was an outdoor All-American in 2019, when she placed eighth in the long jump at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

Women of the Year Nominees Duchaussee & Polanco Shine Beyond Athletics



Recent grads Gabrielle Duchaussee and Nicole Polanco are among the nominees for the 2020 NCAA Woman of the Year Award for their distinguished academics, athletics, service and leadership during their tenure at CCNY.

One of two players in the history of the women's soccer program to score 50 career goals, Duchaussee was a two-time CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) All-Star. A team captain, she led the Beavers to three consecutive CUNYAC Tournament berths, including a Championship Game appearance in 2019. She is the recipient of CCNY's Exceptional Senior Award and Lionel Malamed Award in 2020. She graduated with a degree in English, with Latin Honors. Duchaussee was a 2020 CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Honorable Mention and has twice been named to the CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll.

Polanco, who graduated with a degree in chemistry, participated in the 2020 NCAA Student Immersion Program, and was a two-year member of the the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). She also served as a student representative in CCNY's Academic Momentum meetings and represented the student-athletes on numerous campus committees. A two-time recipient of the Denise Whitaker-Hill Spirit Award, Polanco helped the women's volleyball team earn back-to-back CUNYAC Tournament bids. In the 2019, the Beavers played a home playoff match and advanced to the semifinals for the first time since 2014.

NCAA Scoring Title Winner Reilly Boehm Sets Points Per Game Record



Freshman basketball player Reilly Boehm was the 2019-20 NCAA scoring champion with a record-breaking average of 26.8 points per game. She ranked third nationally in three-point field goals (93) and ninth in free throws made (141). Boehm scored a single-season program-record 642 total points this season, the third-most by a freshman in Division III history. Boehm's total points were the second-most in the NCAA. Her 3.88 three-pointers per game were second-most in the NCAA and third on the all-time freshman list. Boehm established this season's NCAA single-game high with 49 points and 12 three-pointers at Lasell, one of nine 30-point games she recorded this season, including a 41-point performance against Potsdam. A five-time CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) Rookie of the Week, Boehm was named the conference's Rookie of the Year. She was also selected as the D3hoops.com Atlantic Region Co-Rookie of the Year, sharing that award with Montclair State's Nickie Carter.

Biden, Ferencz, Schumer salute CCNY class of 2020



From left, President-elect Joseph Biden, CCNY alum Ben Ferencz '40, and NYS Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul

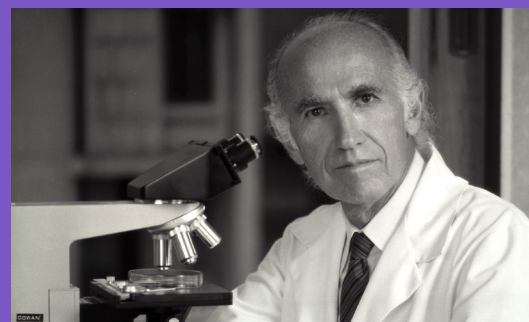
In its first Virtual Salute in its 173-year legacy, the Class of 2020 was charged by one of the institution's oldest known living alumnus, centenarian Benjamin B. Ferencz, and Former US Vice President Joe Biden to help shape a post-COVID-19 world. "How do you get people to accept compromise, compassion and human rights as mandates? That's the challenge that you face," said Ferencz, who received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree, in his keynote address. A distinguished 1940 alumnus who turned 100 on March 11, Mr. Ferencz is the last surviving prosecutor from the post-WWII Nuremberg trials. "I pass that burden on to you. I have done as much as I could during one lifetime." The former US Vice President, who since became President-elect Biden, predicted that CCNY's Class of 2020 would play a major role in America's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. "We're going to need your passion, your integrity, and the skills that all of you have to offer to help rebuild and transform this country into a better country than it was even before this," Biden said. "We have a genuine opportunity to come out of this crisis stronger than we've ever been and this Class of 2020, you are going to be a big part of that."

In addition, US Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-NY, New York State Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodriguez offered greetings to CCNY's graduating class.

CCNY Partners With Living Redemption Youth Opportunity Hub

The City College of New York began an official partnership in April 2020 with Living Redemption Youth Opportunity Hub (LRYOH), a community-based initiative in Central and West Harlem funded through the Manhattan District Attorney's Criminal Justice Initiative in a collaborative effort with Community Connections for Youth. LRYOH, launched in July 2017 by Founder and Executive Dir. Rev. Maurice Winley, provides comprehensive support for at-risk youth and young adults to reduce the likelihood of entering the criminal justice system. "Our partnership...represents one of the most concrete expressions of our mandate to bring the resources and capacities of the college into the community," said President Vince Boudreau.

CUNY Bestows Salk Scholarships on CCNY's Students



Swathi Mettela, a 2019 graduate of the CCNY Macaulay Honors Program, and Jazmin Morales, from the Class of 2020, are recipients of Jonas E. Salk Scholarships awarded by CUNY. The scholarships recognize exceptional students who plan careers in medicine and the biological sciences. As Salk Scholars, Mettela and Morales will each receive a stipend of \$8,000 to be allocated over three or four years of medical studies. The Salk Scholarship is named for Dr. Jonas Salk, a 1934 CCNY alumnus, who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955.



Mettela was born in India and moved to the United States at age four. The Queens resident graduated with a 3.9 GPA and a BA in anthropology. She plans to attend the Pennsylvania

State College of Medicine. Mettela's research interest in medical narratives led her from City College to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan to the University of Michigan. She now works as a community habilitation specialist at the non-profit, Sick Kids Need Involved People (SKIP) of New York.



Morales was a year-old when her mother, graduating magna cum laude with a BS in Education, carried her onto the stage at CCNY to receive her diploma. Morales' father had graduated summa

cum laude in 1994 with a BS in Biology. Following in her parents' footsteps, Morales leaves CCNY with honors and a 3.7 GPA. The double major from Queens has earned a BS in Biotechnology and BA in Jewish Studies. Her plan is to attend Brandeis University on the Neuroscience PhD track.

Black Studies Program Presents First-Ever Harry Belafonte Award

The winner of the first-ever Harry Belafonte Award, Best Essay on Social Justice, was Naomi Ligon, a Sophie Davis CUNY School of Medicine student. Ligon, now in her third year, is studying biomedical science and minoring in psychology. The annual award, which carries a \$300 prize, is presented to a deserving undergraduate, regardless of major, by the Black Studies Program in the Division of Humanities and the Arts. Ligon is a member of Sisters of Sophie, a group on campus promoting self-esteem, integrity, respect and academic excellence amongst women of color within the Sophie Davis community. She is an avid reader, loves to write and was very grateful for the opportunity to take part in the contest. The essay had to be no more than 2,500 words, and needed to be submitted to Psychology Prof. Bill Crain by March 31, 2020. The inaugural award was presented in the spring and Ligon received a medal in addition to the cash prize. Topics for the essay need to be centered on social justice, issues on which entertainer and activist Belafonte took a strong stand, such as police profiling of people of color, housing discrimination, segregated schools and economic disparities. The award signifies the most recent recognition of Belafonte's outstanding career. The Harlem native, who turned 93 on March 1, received the CCNY Alumni Association's John H. Finley Award in 2002, for exemplary and dedicated service to the City of New York. In 2011, Belafonte gave the CCNY Black Studies Program's keynote address in celebration of Black History Month. In 2018 and 2019, celebrations of Belafonte's 91st and 92nd birthdays took place in The Center for the Arts.

In Memoriam : COVID-19

William "Willie" Helmreich
Ray Hoobler
Daniel Padavano
Michael Sorkin
Leonard Trugman



CCNY Foundation Board Members

On December 3, 2019, The City College of New York and its Foundation Board Leadership announced the formation of The Foundation for City College, Inc. It is the culmination of a two-year process to consolidate the 21st Century Foundation and the City College Fund. The Foundation began operations with an endowment of more than \$290 million.

Following are our esteemed board members:

Martin Cohen '70, Board's Co-Chair

David R. Wall '97, Board's Co-Chair

Robert W. Adler '58

Gabriella de Beer '56

Edward Blank '57

Howard V. Campbell '67

Vivien R. Clark

John Dionisio '71

Jacob Feinstein P.E. '65

Leonard Kleinrock '57

Anna Ramos Marinaccio '62

Maureen Mitchell '73

Howard Lee Morgan '65

Allen J. Rothman '68

Frank Sciame '74

Emanuel James Stergiou '71

Sy Sternberg '65

Lev Sviridov '05

Kim Wales

Robert B. Welner '71

Josh Weston '50

Richard von Zerneck '66 '68

Vince Boudreau, President, CCNY

The new foundation's mission at the 173-year-old institution is to enhance access to educational and research excellence, particularly to students who might not otherwise attend a senior college due to the financial costs.



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