



# LEHMAN

## L I G H T N I N G

Spring 2004

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### *Making It on Broadway*



© Photo by RICHARD TERKIMINE  
for The New York Times

*Trisha Jeffrey ('99) doesn't hold back as she debuts on Broadway as Crystal in the revival of "Little Shop of Horrors." See page 10.*

**LEHMAN COLLEGE**  
The City University of New York  
250 Bedford Park Boulevard West  
Bronx, New York 10468  
[www.lehman.cuny.edu](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu)

## New Entrance Celebrates Wisdom of the Ages



Jason Green

*The plaza and walkway provide the first east-west corridor for the campus and a place for students to enjoy a quiet moment between classes.*

**M**uhammad Ali never met French philosopher Rene Descartes, who lived three-and-a-half centuries ago. And Neil Armstrong only knows Galileo from his studies of science and history. But time is bridged in Lehman College's new main entrance at Gate Five on Goulden Avenue, which opened last fall and features a new walkway and plaza with a striking work of public art.

Criss-crossing stones on the pavement of both the walkway and plaza invite students and visitors alike to linger and consider the quotations, symbols, and other thoughts inscribed on the stones. Drawn from various eras, cultures, and disciplines, the inscriptions range from prehistoric cave drawings to a sermon delivered at Trinity Church in lower Manhattan in 1996.

New York artist Wopo Holup, who designed the work, called "Intersections," intended the criss-crossing to suggest a conversation among the speakers. To Descartes' conclusion that "I think, therefore I am," the famous boxer seems to agree that "I am the greatest." To Galileo's assertion about the earth "But it does move!" comes the astronaut's affirmation "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The inscriptions were contributed by Lehman faculty. ♦

*See the back page for more photos of the new entrance and the dedication ceremony. For a complete description of the "Intersections" project, visit [www.lehman.cuny.edu/whatisnew/newsmaker/newgate/booklet.pdf](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/whatisnew/newsmaker/newgate/booklet.pdf)*

## Lehman's Seventh Distinguished Professor Named



J. Cozby

*Joseph W. Dauben*

Dr. Joseph W. Dauben, a leading scholar of the history of mathematics and a member of the Lehman faculty since 1972, has been named Distinguished Professor of History by the CUNY Board of Trustees. He joins six other current Lehman

faculty in holding the prestigious title, which is reserved for a select group of scholars and artists who have attained the highest levels of achievement within their fields.

Last summer, Professor Dauben became an Honorary Professor of the Institute for the History of Natural Science, a part of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He is only the eighth scholar—and third Westerner—to earn this distinction in the Institute's 46-year history. His studies in the history of Chinese mathematics demonstrate the extent to which the structure of language and writing can influence the methods of mathematical proof. Two of his books, biographies of influential mathematicians Georg Cantor and Abraham Robinson, are considered classics.

Lehman's President, Dr. Ricardo R. Fernández, praised the appointment, noting that Professor Dauben has "helped to build common roads upon which scientists and scholars from both East and West may travel." ♦

## Student Video Magazine Captures Media Award



Yeara Milton

Straight out of the box, Lehman's new student-produced video magazine, "Inside Lehman," has earned its first professional accolade: the top award for special-interest programming from the Northeast Region of the Alliance for Community Media. Lehman was the only college among the 27 categories of award winners.

Winning for a half-hour segment produced last spring, "Inside Lehman" is created as part of an internship in mass communications and focuses on events and programs at Lehman and in the surrounding community. Students attend editorial meetings and research, write, and execute the production of a full television segment. The experience has proven so popular that some students return again as volunteers.

One student, Maurice Mercado, says "You can see who the future stars are" by working on the program. "It's more than a great news show. It's a showcase of up-and-coming talent and an experience I'll never forget."

The program is broadcast on BronxNet, the municipal access station located on the Lehman campus, as well as on CUNY-TV. Professor Tom O'Hanlon teaches the internship. Professor Lynne Van Voorhis is the program's executive producer, and Orlando Lorca is the director.



Lehman College of The City University of New York is located at 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx, NY 10468. Anne Johnson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement; Barbara Smith, Director of Alumni Relations. *Lehman Lightning* is produced in the Office of Media Relations and Publications.

Editor: Marge Rice  
Staff: Barbara Cardillo, Lisandra Merentis, Yeara Milton (editor, *Alumni Notes*), Florian Penev.

## Biology Students Gain a 'Distinct Advantage' With New Computer Lab



Jason Green

Professor Edward Kennelly (seated) shows Biology students (l-r) Jun Ma, Kevin Broadbelt, and Rena Quinlan some of the advanced research software now being used in the department, thanks to a new computer lab in Davis Hall that was dedicated last semester.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the State of New York, the lab is equipped with 25 workstations that allow an entire class to use software-controlled HPLC equipment, which is used in labs around the world to separate mixtures of compounds.

Normally, only one student at a time could use the equipment, but 100 software licenses—valued at over \$200,000 and given to Lehman by the Waters Corporation—allow entire classes to learn how to operate the equipment remotely through the computer network. "In terms of career potential," says Professor Thomas Jensen, Chair of Biology, Lehman students "will have a distinct advantage over most other college graduates seeking research positions in the sciences."

Next door to the lab, a new conference center features high-speed facilities for "real-

time" interactive videoconferencing and distance learning. Lehman biology faculty can now exchange their research more easily with colleagues at distant locations and offer seminars to other colleges that may lack expertise in particular areas.

At the other end of the campus, near the tennis courts, faculty and students also successfully grew and harvested their first crop of corn, which will be used for research underway at Lehman in molecular biology.

A few thousand plants were hand-planted at the end of May and pollinated in August. Leading the project was Professor Eleanore Wurtzel (left) and a team of undergraduate and graduate students, including (below, from left) Faqiang Li,



Marge Rice



Marge Rice

Ratnakar Vallabhaneni, and Christina Murillo, who later dissected the corn and prepared the kernels for use in the lab. ♦

## J.E. Piper '75 Researches Edgar Allan Poe as 'An Everyday Person'



Yeara Milton

J.E. Piper ('75) has walked in the steps of Edgar Allan Poe—literally. The History major retraced Poe's steps from Nassau Street in lower Manhattan, which was the center of American literature and publishing in the 1840s, to each of the boarding houses where he lived and ultimately to the modest Bronx cottage, where he moved with his wife and mother-in-law in 1846.

Piper brought his research back to Lehman in an exhibit in the Library last fall, which focused on "what Poe might have been like as an everyday person who had to go to work, and worry about getting his writing published, while

having a home life with his wife, mother-in-law, and cat."

He learned that for a time the famous author would have had to travel through the notorious neighborhood of Five Points, which may have influenced his writing, and that one boarding house where he lived was located on the site, more than two centuries later, of the World Trade Center. At the University of Maryland, Piper wrote his master's thesis on Poe Cottage, just north of Fordham Road, which has interested him since childhood. "Invariably," he says, "landmarks that have survived to our times are mansions and homes of the wealthy. Poe Cottage is an extremely rare example of how financially disadvantaged people lived in the nineteenth century." ♦

## Transformation: An Anthropology Major Learns that 'Every Step Has a Meaning'

Roxanne Rivera became interested in anthropology when she was a child in the Bronx, watching the Discovery Channel. Now she's entering her senior year as a cultural anthropology major. A Presidential Scholar, as well as a Lehman Scholar and McNair Scholar, Roxanne landed a prestigious internship at the



Marge Rice

Roxanne Rivera

American Museum of Natural History with the help of the Chair of her department, Professor Eric Delson, who is a Research Associate there. Professor Louis Flam, an

reasoning and then learning how to apply that to the outside world. The lessons and struggles that we have experienced here are only the beginning. The tools that we have obtained here are only the foundations of the building blocks that we must later ascertain. There is a lesson that I have learned recently—that every step that we take in life has a meaning.

"Block-by-block, grain-by-grain, each new experience and each new thing learned change you as an individual. We should look toward education and learning as a way to become inspired—inspired not only to understand ourselves and the world around us but also to transcend those limitations that have already been set for us.

"Transformation is not an easy task. It takes discipline and sacrifice, things that I am sure all of you already know too well. In some instances, it may even call for challenging certain obstacles

or situations that may at times seem greater than you are. But it is through this struggle that you find who you are, and what your passion in life is (if you have not already discovered that). *For what is life without passion, and what are you if you are not willing to live and stand for those things in life that you find important?*

"We have all done well, very well in fact, at Lehman College, and hopefully, we have all been transformed and have grown as individuals to some extent. But the question is, how will we take what we have learned here and use it for a greater purpose?

"This world that we live in is not a perfect world. This nation that we live in is not a perfect nation. Soon we will be venturing out into a place where feats that were once hard to accomplish have now gotten even harder to accomplish. We should feel good about ourselves for the endeavors that we have achieved, but we should also not become blinded to the fact that this is only a small chapter in our lives.

"In the future, we will inevitably come across those who will try to pull us down, those who will try to break our spirits and those who will try to cause us to fail; however, if we take each day at a time and understand that each incident in our lives is a learning experience, regardless of whether it is good or bad, we will never cease to grow. We will never cease to transform, and we will never cease to succeed.

"I'd like to thank God and my parents for always giving me strength in everything that I do. ♦

*'The question is, how will we take what we have learned here and use it for a greater purpose?'*

archeologist known for his research of the Indus civilization in Pakistan, is her mentor. This year, she was also selected to participate in the National Science Foundation-funded program in undergraduate Biology and Mathematics (see page 7). Roxanne's career goal is to enter a Ph.D. program and eventually pursue research while traveling and living among different cultures. She delivered the following remarks, entitled "Transformation," at the Dean's List ceremony in December.

"Life is all about transformation. We come together here to acknowledge our accomplishments as students and scholars. We join together this evening to commemorate our hard work and enduring success here at Lehman College; however, what good are the education that we have acquired and the success that we have driven for if in the process we have failed to grow and further develop as individuals?

"We live in a time when people seem to forget that education is not only about getting a degree in order to aspire to a certain job or career, but it is also about expanding one's mind and hopefully in the process getting a better perspective of this world that we live in. Education, you see, is all about transformation. In actuality, everything that we will ever need to know is already harbored within us, and education is just a tool used as a stimulating agent to bring out that which is within.

"Education is not about dictating and memorizing data into our brains, but about developing our own ways of thinking and



Anne D. Perryman

### Yvette Nicole Moreno Place Honors Student Lost on 9/11

The intersection of Castle Hill and Watson Avenues in the Bronx has taken on new meaning for the Lehman community. At a ceremony last summer, attended by representatives of Lehman and several church and community organizations, the spot was named "Yvette Nicole Moreno Place" in honor of the Lehman student who lost her life in the World Trade Center on 9/11. Yvette, 24, who lived at home with her mother and brother, was working full-time at Carr Futures and also attending Lehman full-time.

"This sign is being placed in this particular spot," her mother, Ivy, explained at the dedication, "because this is the community in which she and her brother grew up." Close by is Holy Family Grammar School that Yvette attended and Holy Family Church, where she received First Communion and was later confirmed.

Mrs. Moreno spoke of her daughter as a loving person who had "a cheerful nature, a generous heart, and always had a beautiful smile on her face—described by her friends as a 'Kool-Aid' smile. She was a bright and happy young lady with a great future ahead of her. She had an inner beauty that shone outward. I believe that she is spiritually here with us now and always."

A memorial plaque on College Walk on the Lehman campus is also dedicated to Yvette and the three Lehman alumni who perished in the attack.

### Bronx Independent Film Festival June 19-26

Both short films (30 minutes or less) and feature films (30 minutes or longer) will be shown in the 2004 Bronx Independent Film Festival. The categories are narrative, documentary, animation, and experimental films. The festival will coincide with Bronx Week 2004, scheduled for June 19-June 26. Festival screenings will be held at Lehman Stages, a family of performance and exhibit spaces on the Lehman campus. Log on to [www.bronxstage.com](http://www.bronxstage.com) for more info.

**HS of American Studies  
Moves into New Home**



Jason Green

*The High School of American Studies at Lehman College welcomed its first freshman class in September 2002. A year later—in record time—it moved into a new home, a handsomely refurbished building overlooking the Jerome Park Reservoir that had been used by the College until then as a storage facility. Hugh Isleib, principal of Helerp Architects, who designed the converted interior space, spoke at the dedication ceremony about the challenge of completing a project in eight months "from planning to the doors opening."*

*Since the one-story building did not provide enough space for an auditorium, he worked with the principal, Myra Luftman, and used architectural devices to help create a sense of community. Students enter through an enlarged lobby, which serves as an area for impromptu, small events as well as a place to congregate, and walk down an educational version of "Main Street," containing a corridor of classrooms though which everyone must pass. Three classrooms on the opposite side of the building are separated by panels that can be removed to create one larger space. Students—who will ultimately total 400—will continue to use Lehman facilities for gym, lunch, school assemblies, and research projects.*

*Richard Gilder of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, which is a partner in the school with Lehman and the New York City Department of Education, noted that "the United States is the only nation founded on ideas, just like this school. This is a small idea, compared to the birth of a nation, but it can have tremendous consequences." Students agree. "We will return this gift," promised Student Council President Daniella Jones, "with the hard work and energy we will bring to this building."*

**Lehman to Expand Focus on Environmental  
Issues and Programs**

Zong-Guo Xia has an ambitious plan: to help Lehman develop a leadership role in the growing new fields of Geographic Information Science and Environmental Science. And he believes the plan can succeed, "if we have good leadership at the top, act quickly, work hard as a team, and stay focused."

The veteran teacher and scholar—who steered the program in Geographic Information Technologies at the University of Massachusetts at Boston to a national ranking—considers Lehman and its students as uniquely suited to help with issues of environmental quality and natural resources.

"Our students come from this area and stay in this area," he explains in his office in Gillet Hall, where a worn walnut desk stands next to a new large-format color printer, displaying the latest aerial photograph of the Bronx. "We need to closely relate to our students, and we cannot ignore the realities they face." Not only does Lehman have "an obligation and responsibility" to help communities deal with environmental problems, he argues, but "we must take a holistic approach because environmental problems know no boundaries."

When Dr. Xia (pronounced "shaw") started running the program at UMass, it had only one outdated computer and two courses, both taught by adjuncts. By the time he left last September, it was the largest in New England, with over 130 students, one of the best computer facilities in the country, and a significant track record in research.

"I'm the kind of person who has trouble staying idle," he says with an energetic smile, explaining why the invitation from Lehman appealed to him. "I like to be involved in something useful, set new goals, and get results."

Lehman also has distinct advantages, he adds, including one of only two Geography Departments in the entire metropolitan area—"and they're not teaching things like this." Dr. Xia is familiar with New York, as a graduate of the CUNY Ph.D. program in Earth and Environmental Sciences (where he now also teaches). He has taught at Tufts and the University of Cincinnati and held guest professorships at several prestigious Chinese universities.

As Chair of the renamed Department of Environmental, Geographic, and Geological Sciences, he has



Phyllis Yip

Professor Zong-Guo Xia

set his sights on achieving significant growth in three-to-five years. That will include, he projects, increases in students, courses, research output, external funding, and community service projects—plus one or two new master's degrees.

He will build on work by faculty like Professor Juliana Maantay, who introduced a certification program in Geographic Information Sciences (GIS) and led a team of undergraduates in charting the correlation between the high rate of asthma and the concentration of environmental hazards in the Bronx. "This connection between the environmental landscape—between use of the land—and disease patterns is a hot topic and relatively new," he pointed out.

GIS majors learn mapping technologies to track and analyze resource issues. Remote sensing and Global Positioning Systems are used to monitor and map natural resources, atmospheric conditions, and both natural and human-induced disasters—all of them critical to understanding the changing conditions of our planet.

"GIS cuts across all disciplines," he notes. "Over 80 percent of our institutional and personal decisions have a spatial dimension. Think about all the factors that go into your decision to buy a home. What is the property tax? Are the schools strong? Is it a safe area, with access to transportation? You put all of that information together to make a good decision. You do the same thing when you want to understand what's happening to our planet." ♦

*Want to learn more about GIS? Visit the Lehman website at [www.lehman.cuny.edu/geography](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/geography).*

**Psych Alumni Return to Lehman . . .**

Zandra Quiles ('92) is back at Lehman. But this time she's in front of the classroom as an adjunct faculty member in Psychology, showing just how far students can go in their careers with a Lehman degree.

One of the first in her family to finish high school, she completed her master's and doctoral degrees in experimental psychology at Northeastern University, her post-doctorate at Harvard Medical School, and a fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital.

Zandra's parents arrived in the U.S. from rural Puerto Rico in the 1960s. She planned to study at Lehman for one semester and then transfer, but a variety of programs and opportunities led her to stay and also helped her decide to pursue graduate school.

"I think it's important," she says, "for folks who come from within CUNY to come back and demonstrate to students that you can go on from here and do really good things, especially if they take advantage of all the programs and opportunities that are available."

## Graduate Student Helps His Writing Class 'Let in the Light'



Yeana Milton

Nicholas Esposito with his writing students.

The students in Nicholas Esposito's writing class at Lehman don't have to look far for inspiration. In 1997, while in his third semester at Pace University, Esposito was stricken with a rare genetic condition known as Lebers Hereditary Optic Neuropathy that destroyed his central vision. One minute he was in class, the next his hands were clenched tightly around the steering wheel, sweat pouring down his face as he guessed whether each traffic light on the way home was green or red.

*I thought I was a pretty good writer, one student observes, but I've gotten papers back with tons of marks, and I think, 'How did he catch that?'*

But the aspiring teacher was determined to overcome this turn in the road and find his way back into the classroom. He began to miss not only the wonders of the seeing world but also the education he had left behind. As he would later write, "I longed to push my way through the clouds to the light of knowledge that awaited me on the other side."

In the fall of 1999, after mastering independent travel, the use of Braille, and computers with speech software, he returned to Pace, a black Labrador retriever named Guthrie leading the way, and began working toward his degree and his teaching certification.

"The transition to teaching was very gradual," he recalled. "I was exposed to a lot of different classes in different environments." One summer he spent tutoring at the Lighthouse, an organization for the visually impaired, and another as a literature specialist at a school in Washington, DC. Then came student

teaching in middle and high schools in Westchester, first part-time and later full-time.

Graduating from Pace *magna cum laude*, with a major in English as well as his certification, the City Island resident then accepted a graduate teaching fellowship to Lehman, which involves teaching an undergraduate writing class each semester.

"He has high expectations," says senior Brenda Caceres, one of many students praising his teaching skills. He walks up and down the classroom and back and forth, she notes, and knows all the students and who's in the room and whether or not seating has been rearranged. (He associates voices with a fixed position and learns each student's name so he can ask questions of everyone in the class.)

"I thought I was a pretty good writer," one student observes, "but I've gotten papers back with tons of marks, and I think, 'How did he catch that?'" (He uses readers to catch students' mistakes, as well as screen-reading software. Students must submit their work both on paper and computer disk.)

"He even writes on the blackboard," another student adds. (With his peripheral vision still intact, he can use a white board and contrasting markers.)

With a natural and relaxed teaching style, Esposito creates an atmosphere in which students are attentive and feel comfortable about asking questions. A favorite tool is humor. Once, remembers a student, he joked that he isn't really blind, but is just conducting an experiment.

For his part, Esposito enjoys the students he teaches at Lehman and the variety of backgrounds they represent. "They're Hispanic, Asian, white, black, all working-class people with either part-time or full-time jobs, who appreciate education."

Perhaps no one, though, more than their own teacher. Last spring, representing his class at Commencement, he spoke of how the knowledge that comes from education "cannot be found in a frame on a wall, but within each one of us."

"Let us use it," he urged, "to let in the light and brighten the future." ♦

### ... as Members of Psychology Faculty

Also new to the Psychology faculty is another '92 grad, **Keith Happaney**, appointed as an assistant professor. He completed his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of California at Santa Barbara and a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto.

His research interests are focused on social cognition and social development, with an emphasis on the cognitive processes that are at the basis of how children and adults adapt to society.

He says that "as a product of public schools in the

Bronx, from kindergarten through college—in fact, my elementary school, PS 86, and Lehman are located on the same street, I feel I have a unique window into the perceptions of students at Lehman. I feel I can provide a friendly bridge into what higher education can offer them, which is considerable.

"Lehman, and the Psychology faculty in particular, served such a role in my life, and I largely returned to Lehman so that I could play a similar role in the lives of our students."

## Lehman President Urges Greater Access to Technology

Lehman President Dr. Ricardo R. Fernández made a second appearance on Capitol Hill last summer to urge passage of legislation that would enlarge the access of minority-serving institutions, like Lehman, to wireless technology.

In testimony before the House Science Subcommittee on Research, as in his earlier testimony before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, he spoke in his capacity not only as President of Lehman but also as Chair of the Board of the American Association of Higher Education, a past Chair and current Board member of HACU (the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities), and a Board member of HETS (the Hispanic Educational Telecommunications System). HETS is a consortium of 18 Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) that offer distance education over the Internet.

Noting the disparity in high school and college graduation rates between Hispanics and the larger population, he connected this issue with a comparable lack of access to technology, a phenomenon known as "the digital divide." Citing statistics from the U.S. Commerce Department, he pointed out that more than one-half of all U.S. households have computers and that more than four out of ten have Internet access; for Hispanic households, however, the figures drop to one-third with computers and about one-fifth with Internet access.

The need for substantial new technology funding is especially critical for Hispanic Serving Institutions, which serve the country's youngest and largest ethnic population, he said, citing the continuing under-representation of Hispanics in technology fields. Hispanics, which make up the fastest-growing school-age population, suffer the lowest high school college graduation rates of any major population group.

Hispanic Serving Institutions, he argued, are in "the forefront of every significant effort to address these disparities" and yet they receive "only about half the Federal funding on average per student" that is awarded to all other degree-granting institutions.

Legislation pending at the end of the 2003 session would provide eligible HSIs and other minority-serving institutions with \$250 million in competitive National Science Foundation grants every year over a five-year period to enhance their technology infrastructure, programs, and training.

## Noted Presidential Historian to Deliver Lehman Lecture

Michael Beschloss—who has been described by *Newsweek* as “the nation’s leading Presidential historian”—will deliver the 34<sup>th</sup>



Michael Beschloss

Herbert H. Lehman Memorial Lecture on March 30, at 11 a.m. in the Lovinger Theatre. A regular commentator on PBS’s “The Newshour with Jim Lehrer” and a contributor to ABC News, Beschloss is the author of seven books, including his most

recent work, the acclaimed *New York Times* best-seller *The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler’s Germany, 1941-1945*.

Admission to the lecture is free. Tickets will be distributed beginning at 10 a.m. on the day of the lecture. The event is funded by Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, in cooperation with the College, and in part by a grant from the New York Council for the Humanities, a State program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Following the lecture, President Fernández will host the Retirees’ Recognition Luncheon at 1 p.m. For more information, call 718-960-8975. ♦

## Art Gallery Celebrates Twentieth Anniversary

The Lehman College Art Gallery is celebrating its twentieth anniversary this spring with an exhibit co-curated by Gallery Director Susan Hoeltzel and its founding



Christo, “The Gates, Project for Central Park, New York City,” drawing, 2002.

Director, Nina Sundell. Called “Images of Time and Place: Contemporary Views of Landscape,” the exhibit features the work of over 40 artists and explores innovative approaches to this traditional

genre through paintings, drawings, photography, installations, sculpture, fiber art, and video installations. It will run through May 15. ♦

For more information, visit <http://ca80.lehman.cuny.edu/gallery>.

## A Familiar Face Greets Straphangers

John Corigliano, Lehman’s Distinguished Professor of Music, seems to be everywhere these days, thanks to a new CUNY campaign to communicate the quality of the University’s faculty to the riding public. Professor Corigliano and one of his students, Jeffrey Layton, are featured in several different posters that attract attention on major subway lines and on the sides of city buses with the theme “A Meeting of the Minds.” Jeffrey, who has played piano and guitar with legendary artists like Barbara Cook and Janis Ian, has also composed for PBS, CBS, ESPN, and hundreds of advertisers. Back in 1970, the lure of professional opportunities won out over his studies at



Randy Fader-Smith/William Freeland

the Manhattan School of Music. He came to Lehman intending just to study composition with Professor Corigliano, who has won the Pulitzer Prize for Music, the Academy Award, and numerous Grammys, but soon discovered the quality of other Lehman music faculty and decided to complete his degree. He graduates this spring.

## A Lehman Moment—in London

Most colleges consider it a coup when one of their faculty is featured on the BBC. Distinguished Professor of English Billy Collins—then in his second year as the U.S. Poet Laureate—had just finished an interview with the BBC in London and was walking out of the studio last summer when he spotted a familiar face: John Corigliano. What had brought the acclaimed composer (and fellow Lehman faculty member) there? Why, an interview, of course.

This February, Professor Collins was honored with another designation: New York State Poet.

He will serve two years in the post. When he was notified of the award, which is made by the New York State Writers Institute, Professor Collins said that “moving from the position of United States Poet Laureate to New York State Poet Laureate might seem like a demotion or a drop in rank to the military-minded. It might even appear that I am heading toward eventually being crowned laureate of my zip code. But in fact, it is very gratifying to be honored again as a representative of poetry, this time by my native state where I grew up—more or less—and continue to live.”

## Lehman to Help Reform Role of School Counselors

Lehman College is on the brink of helping to transform school counseling in every public school in New York City within the next few years.

Administrators who supervise school counselors and school counseling programs in the city have agreed to implement a new National Transforming School Counseling Initiative, developed by the Education Trust, a reform organization headquartered in Washington, DC. Lehman is the only public university in New York State currently involved with the Trust’s school-counseling project.

“We’ve been working hard behind the scenes in our classes to close achievement and opportunity gaps for poor and working-class children and youth, and for children and youth of color,” said Professor Stuart Chen-Hayes (Specialized Services in Education), assistant professor of Counselor Education and coordinator of Lehman’s graduate program in school counseling. “This formal recognition by the city of the need to systemically change all school counsel-

ing programs now gives us the chance to play a leadership role.”

The initiative will include a five-day training program focused on the new mission of schools: attaining high levels of academic achievement for all students, using data-driven, standards-based models and accountability. Not only the counselors themselves, but also principals and assistant principals in charge of these programs, will be trained in a new model.

The model calls for counselors to work as systemic change agents, closing achievement and opportunity gaps through advocacy, leadership, collaboration, and the use of technology and focusing on academic, career, college, and personal/social development for all students. The initiative has been warmly received in states and cities around the country. ♦

To learn more about the details of this initiative, visit the Educational Trust website at [www2.edtrust.org](http://www2.edtrust.org). Click on the Transforming School Counseling Initiative.

## Professor Edward Kravitt, Most Senior Member of the Faculty, Retires from Lehman



Jason Green

Professor Edward Kravitt

As a music historian, Professor Edward Kravitt studied the past, in particular the German “Lied,” an important genre in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that was made famous by Gustav Mahler, Richard Strauss, and other composers. As a teacher, he left an indelible mark on close to five decades of students.

For many hundreds of those students, who enrolled in his classes, he earned their respect and admiration because he never lowered his standards or wavered from what he expected them to learn. For thousands of others, he was

the proud, smiling, and bespectacled leader of the Commencement procession, carrying the College Mace onto the South Field, as the band played “Pomp and Circumstance” and the faculty in academic regalia marched close behind.

Professor Kravitt earned that coveted position by virtue of his seniority. He started teaching at Lehman part-time in 1955, when it was still the uptown campus of Hunter College, and moved into a full-time position in 1963. Except for one sabbatical leave, when he won a Fulbright to study in Germany, that record of service was never broken, making him the most senior member of the Lehman faculty.

At the end of 2003, when he was deciding to retire, Professor Kravitt thought back to some of his classes and remembered many moments when teaching was its own reward. “When students applaud you,” he said, “it means a lot.”

Over the years, many former students have contacted him, especially those who were themselves teaching music either in middle schools or high schools. To colleagues as well,

he was a friend and mentor. “Students really learned something in his classes,” one noted. “He not only was a specialist in the late Romantic to early modern period in music, but was also very well-rounded in the arts as a whole.”

Professor Kravitt is still contributing to art and cultural history. He continues to write on the interrelations between culture and history, and this April, a revised edition of his book *Lied: Mirror of Late Romanticism* will be published in German by Olms, a scholarly publisher in Germany. The book was originally published by Yale University Press. ♦

### College Adding New Faculty

As faculty members with long and distinguished careers retire from Lehman, promising new faculty are joining the ranks to take their place. In the Fall of 2003, 25 new full-time faculty, with strong backgrounds in research as well as teaching, were appointed to 17 different departments (see the stories on pages 4 and 5). To learn more about them, visit [www.lehman.cuny.edu](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu) and download a copy of *Quorum*, the faculty newsletter.

## Students Learn About the Immigrant Experience Through Course in Yiddish Culture



Yeara Milton

Samuel Norich (C), editor of *The Forward*, the oldest Jewish newspaper, talks to Professor Zelda Kahan Newman’s students about the importance of the early Yiddish papers in Jewish immigrant life.

When Waimun Yeow enrolled in Zelda Kahan Newman’s “Jewish Immigrant Experience in America” class, his goal was to simply fulfill a writing requirement. What he got instead was a lesson in a people and culture far removed from his native Singapore.

“What I like about the course is that it’s not your traditional writing course—in fact, it’s more like a history course,” said Yeow, who’s a Computer Science major.

The course is designed to explore early Yiddish culture in America. Students write first-person narratives, depicting a day in the life of a Jewish immigrant in the early part of the twentieth century.

As part of the course, Professor Kahan Newman arranged for figures active in the Jewish community to visit the class, including Samuel Norich, the editor of *The Forward*, the

oldest Jewish newspaper; Lorin Sklamberg, sound archivist at the YIVO Institute for Jewish History; and Henry Sapoznik, an award-winning author, record and radio producer, and musician, who jump-started international interest in Yiddish “klezmer” music. The class also visited the Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side to get a physical sense of how people lived in those times.

Curious to learn why non-Jewish students would sign up for her course, Professor Kahan Newman asked the class to write a paragraph describing their reasons for enrolling. “Most

said that it fulfilled a writing requirement,” she noted, “but others said they were curious to learn about Jewish culture because they had Jewish friends, or because they wanted to see if what they learned squared with the image of Jews on television.”

Professor Kahan Newman has taught undergraduate and graduate linguistics courses in Israel, where she helped start a women’s center for victims of violence. “I am particularly proud of our organization because it was one of the few cases I know of where Jewish and Arab women work together in harmony.” ♦

### Lehman Pioneers New Program Combining Biology and Mathematics

Lehman is one of the first colleges in the country to take part in a new program funded by the National Science Foundation to teach undergraduates about the interaction between mathematics and biology.



Marge Rice

Professors Eric Delson (l) and Katherine St. John join in a class discussion with Dr. Will Harcourt-Smith (r).

Professors Eric Delson (Anthropology) and Katherine St. John (Math and Computer Science) were awarded a \$100,000 grant to train students in biological anthropology and mathematical sciences and pursue joint research projects at both Lehman and the American Museum of Natural History. The interaction is important to both fields. Mathematicians are rewarded with an insightful, challenging way to apply their work; biologists learn powerful techniques to increase the accuracy of their research. Dr. Will Harcourt-Smith, a postdoctoral associate, is supervising the students’ training, which includes working in teams on specific projects. Professors Delson and St. John, along with other Lehman colleagues, plan to apply for funds to continue the program for several more years.

# LEHMAN COLLEGE FOUNDATION HONORS

THE LEHMAN COLLEGE FOUNDATION and President and Mrs. Fernández hosted a festive reception in the Lehman Art Gallery in December that drew faculty, friends, and alumni, as well as a special group of students. One of the evening's highlights was announcement of \$100 prizes awarded to outstanding students. The students were chosen by each Distinguished Professor and the prizes funded by the Lehman College Foundation. Gathered below, from left, are Distinguished Professors John Corigliano (Music) and Victor Pan (Math & Computer Science), President Fernández, who welcomed the audience and served as "M.C." for the event, and Distinguished Professors Eugene Chudnovsky (Physics), Adam Koranyi (Math & Computer Science), and Billy Collins (English). (Distinguished Professor of History Martin Duberman was unable to attend, and his colleague, Professor Joseph Dauben, had not yet been named by the CUNY Board of Trustees to the Distinguished rank.) Also recognized were students in the new CUNY Honors College at Lehman and The High School of American Studies at Lehman College. Students from both groups addressed the reception, and Professor Bernard Shockett, Music Chair, and Professor Chris Warwin of the Music faculty provided background music.



PROFESSOR GARY SCHWARTZ, who directs the new CUNY Honors College at Lehman, introduces Mishal Bawa, a sophomore in the program. With her is her mother, Dr. Rookaya Bawa. Mishal told the audience about her experience as she moved to New York City with her family, from South Africa, just a year earlier.



"I was faced with culture shock that would rate on a personal level more surprising than Hurricane Isabel," she said. "Luckily for me, I had just been accepted into the Honors College and found myself among a small group of students that I now call my friends."

Recounting the many benefits of the program, she recalled wondering for many days whether the Honors College "was reality or simply a figment of my overactive imagination." Honors College students, she noted, "receive free tuition, a laptop computer, an academic expense account, a cultural passport, the chance to study abroad, and the chance to study with the elite students from CUNY. Wouldn't you think it was a crazy dream?"

After orientation, which included a boat ride around Manhattan, an outward-bound experience in Central Park, and the opportunity to enjoy her first play on Broadway, she realized that she had "hit the academic jackpot and that this was a fantastic opportunity for me to discover my new home."

REPRESENTING THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL OF AMERICAN STUDIES AT LEHMAN COLLEGE were (l-r) principal Myra Luftman, students Elizabeth Adams and Stefanie Robles, and social studies teacher Arnold Mansdorf, who coaches the school's prize-winning debate team. Both students spoke about the contributions of Herbert H. Lehman. Following is an excerpt from Stefanie's remarks:



"Herbert H. Lehman has a standing legacy in which we believe. Lehman was not just any governor or senator who followed the whims of the masses. He stood for freedom of speech. He lived in a time—the McCarthy witch-hunts in the 1950s—when individualism was dangerous. He believed that people should be able to speak out if their conscience was stirred. He believed that individuals with morals and intelligence should not be afraid of authority.

"If Herbert Lehman were alive today he would want to send his son to the High School of American Studies at Lehman College. He would want to be guest teacher or Principal for a day. Our philosophy is his philosophy. We are a small school where individual rights, caring for others, and self-worth are promoted. Students are able to speak to their teachers and not be afraid of an authority figure silencing their voice. Students at the High School of American Studies—Lehman's school—are encouraged to research a topic and then to express their opinions, to react to the signals from their conscience about all the subjects discussed in a class or a news report heard on the television. We are taught to speak out and not to worry if our ideas are unpopular."

'Students at the High School of American Studies—Lehman's school—are encouraged to research a topic and to express their opinions... We are taught to speak out and not to worry if our ideas are unpopular.'

The Governor Herbert H. Lehman Endowed Scholarship Fund is being established to provide support for deserving students in any field of study. Herbert H. Lehman, whose name the College bears, was a four-term Governor of New York, the first Director General of the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and a two-term United States Senator. To make your contribution, use the enclosed envelope. Your gift will qualify for a dollar-for-dollar match through the College's Title V grant.



HELPING TO RECOGNIZE THE HONOREES were (above, from left) Vice President of Administration Derek Wheeler, Professor George Corbin, Chair of the Art Department, Susan Greenberg Schneider ('73) and her husband, Evan B. Schneider.

# DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS & THEIR STUDENTS



**TWO LONG-TIME FRIENDS** of the College (above), Robert P. Morgenthau and his wife, Susan (r), chat with Dr. Anne Johnson (center), Lehman's Vice President of Institutional Advancement.



**PRESIDENT FERNÁNDEZ** (above, l) congratulates Distinguished Professors Collins (c) and Corigliano on their accomplishments.



**ELISABETH LORIN** (above, l), Chair of the Lehman Art Gallery Board of Trustees, and Susan Hoeltzel, Gallery Director, at an exhibit.



**DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS VICTOR PAN** (l, above) **AND ADAM KORANYI** (c) with Professor Robert Feinerman, Chair of Mathematics & Computer Science. As his choice of an outstanding student, Professor Pan selected senior Severin Ngnosse, who studied with him for two courses, achieving near-perfect scores on his tests. Severin plans to continue his studies at the graduate level and work toward a Ph.D. Making his selection for the award, Professor Koranyi nominated Isabel Freitas, who is "very good at handling the concepts of mathematics" and "goes straight to the essential point, which she wants to understand very clearly." She is in the Class of 2006 and is considering a career in engineering.

## DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EUGENE CHUDNOVSKY

introduces one of his star students, Collin Joseph (r) of the Bronx High School of Science. According to Professor Chudnovsky, the high school student has accomplished a research task that many graduate students in physics would find "difficult and time-consuming."

Working entirely on his own in Professor Chudnovsky's laboratory, with only occasional advice, Collin developed a computer program for understanding properties of molecular magnets and for

designing sources of microwave and terahertz radiation. Calling attention to the "significant scientific value" of this work, Professor Chudnovsky said that in his 35-year career he has never before encountered a high school student who could solve this type of mathematical problem.

When Collin first approached him about working in his lab, Professor Chudnovsky admits he was skeptical. "In theoretical physics," he explained, "no researcher can do anything useful before completing years of studies in physics and math." With that in mind, he gave Collin a task that would be simple for an upper-level undergraduate. After a month, he received the correct answer back.

Then Professor Chudnovsky gave him a much more difficult mathematical problem that could have been part of someone's Ph.D. thesis. "After Collin showed significant progress in solving this problem, I put him on the payroll from my National Science Foundation research grant."



**OTHER LEHMAN STUDENTS HONORED** included History major Robbin Christopher Ramos (l), shown receiving his prize from Professor Duberman, who made the selection, described him as "a remarkably articulate, well-read student, who is passionately engaged in historical studies and eager to exchange opinions with others, while always respectful of divergent views." English major Andrew Nugent was selected by Professor Collins, Music major Jacqueline Bergland by Professor Corigliano, and History major Carlos Elias by Lehman's newest Distinguished Professor, Joseph W. Dauben.



**CELEBRATING THE OCCASION** are (from left) Bernd Brecher, Executive Director of the Lehman College Foundation, Ellen Lobel and her husband, Dr. Brian Lobel ('93), Jose Magdaleno, Lehman's Vice President of Student Affairs, and Professor of Psychology Fred Phelps.

Lehman Grad Makes Broadway Debut in 'Little Shop of Horrors'

Please send alumni news to Barbara Smith, Lehman College, 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, NY 10468. Or email [barbaras@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:barbaras@lehman.cuny.edu)

Note: If both you and your spouse are Lehman graduates, you may be receiving two copies of *Lehman Lightning*. If you would prefer to receive one copy addressed to both of you, please e-mail Barbara Smith at the above address.

1972

Dr. Peter Hoefler graduated from Lehman with a master's degree in Mathematics. Since 1990, he has been Associate Dean and Director of Graduate Programs, as well as Professor of Management Science, at Pace University's Lubin School of Business. He has been with the School since 1979, serving as a full-time faculty member, Assistant Chair, and then Chair of the Management Science Department. In his current position, he has helped implement various new academic programs. His own research involves applied mathematics and most recently has focused on risk analysis and applications of discrete event systems simulation.

While it's a teaching degree that Rhona Silver holds from Lehman, it's catering that's in her blood—her parents owned a Kosher catering company in the Bronx. Ms. Silver is now owner of the Huntington Townhouse, one of the most sought-after Kosher catering companies on Long Island, with the largest catering facility in the U.S. In addition to being an entrepreneur, Silver is listed in *Crain's New York Top 40 Women* and is a member of the Committee of 200, a professional organization of preeminent women entrepreneurs and corporate leaders. Recently, she was tapped by President Bush to participate in a mentoring program, matching 50 U.S. women entrepreneurs with their counterparts in Europe.

1973

Veteran community college administrator Alex Johnson was named as Chancellor of Louisiana's Delgado Community Colleges. Since 1993, he served as President of the Metropolitan Campus of Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland.

1976

Artist Richard Haynes' paintings were unveiled at the first anniversary of the Seacoast African American Cultural Center in Portsmouth, NH. In his



© Photo by RICHARD TERKINE for The New York Times

Trisha Jeffrey (left) and her fellow street urchins, Carla J. Hargrove (center) and DeQuina Moore, sing their hearts out in "Little Shop of Horrors."

(Book & Lyrics by Howard Asherman; book by Alan Menken; directed by Jerry Zaks. Performance (Act I) photographed Wed., Sept. 3, 2003, 8 p.m. at the Virginia Theater, NYC.)

Trisha Jeffrey's dream of performing on Broadway came true last fall, as the recent Lehman grad made her debut in the role of Crystal in "Little Shop of Horrors" at the Virginia Theater on Broadway. Critics called her performance as one of the street urchins "extremely entertaining," and Linda Winer of *Newsday* described the trio of urchins as "a pitch-perfect girl group."

Trisha caught the acting bug early in junior high school, but it was singing that first attracted her to the spotlight. She attended the famed LaGuardia High School in Manhattan, where she studied voice for four years, and arrived at Lehman in 1996, concentrating on theatre while completing a double minor in music and dance.

At Lehman, Trisha faced some of her most difficult years, working

work, he uses bold colors, clean shapes, and silhouettes. He is also a poet and photographer and lives in Portsmouth with his wife and children.

1978

Northrop Grumman Corporation has promoted Mary Ann Benischek to Vice President of Situational Awareness Systems within its Navigational Systems Division. She joined the company as a software engineer in 1981. She holds a master's degree in Mathematics from Lehman.

1979

Poet Janet Kaplan is the winner of the 2002 Poets Out Loud Prize. She recently held a reading of her poetry at the Poets Out Loud Gala and Book

several part-time jobs to support herself. "Lehman's beautiful campus brought a level of peace and tranquility to my hectic life," she explained. "The opportunities there opened up many doors for me, physically and mentally. I practiced the piano, took ballet classes, studied Spanish—all the things that I never thought I'd do, all in one place."

Trisha credits her training at Lehman with giving her the opportunity to teach theatre to children in New York City after-school programs. She also worked as a choreographer for the Classical Theatre of Harlem. Twice, she was nominated for best choreography by AUDELCO for her work on "Romeo and Juliet and The Blacks."

After graduating from Lehman in 1999, Trisha took an office job but, despite her work as a teacher and choreographer, found she was getting little or no stage exposure. Taking the plunge directly into her dream, she quit her day job and joined the Circle in the Square Theatre School in Manhattan, where she embarked on an even deeper concentration in theatre.

After completing the school's two-year program, she quickly was booked into the role of Lucy in "Jekyll and

Hyde" with the Media Theatre of Media, Pennsylvania, where she also played Dionne in "Hair." Recently, she was cast in "The Fantasticks" with the People's Light and Theatre Company of Malvern, Pennsylvania, but had to turn it down to accept the role of Crystal.

Trisha says that, although the auditioning process was fiercely competitive, just being there made her feel that her hard work was paying off. When she finally got the call informing her that she'd bagged the role of Crystal, she said all she could think was to scream and thank God. "I feel very close to Crystal because I know what it's like to struggle and question my existence," she says.

As for her family, they're "overjoyed" by her Broadway debut. "It just goes to show," she says, "that with the right education and training, some strong determination, and plenty of soul, you can make it in the theatre world." ♦

Other Lehman theatre alumni are also winning recognition. Roy Arias (Eugene Roy Nunez, '91) has received a Best Actor Award from the Hispanic Organization of Latin Artists (HOLA). He has performed on stage in *King Lear* and *El Público* and on television in such series as *The Equalizer*, *100 Centre Street*, and *One Life to Live*, and last fall represented the United States at the IV International Theatre Festival in the Dominican Republic.

Launch for The Glazier's Country at Fordham University at Lincoln Center.

1980

Dr. Elizabeth Capezuti has been appointed Co-Director of the John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing.

1985

Dominick Pernoca has joined the staff of Trinity Springs Ltd. as a sales representative and is responsible for sales along the Eastern seaboard. He has 12 years of experience in the beverage industry, most recently as a beverage sales manager with Odwalla.

1990

Rodolfo Licea, who works for the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, received the Department's 2003 Distinguished Service Award, the highest award within HHS, for his achievement in developing and implementing an automated process for child support data reliability audits to improve data collection and maintenance.

Deborah Thurlow will be in the Classical Music section of the 2004 Oxford University Press multi-volume edition of *Black Women in America*. She is currently an instrumental music teacher at Jefferson Elementary School in New Jersey and also gives private horn lessons. Her work on "Angelic Waves Part 2" and "Patchworks" has been picked up by DSM Producers and will be out in 2004 under the Capstone Records label.

*Alumnus Takes the Lead to Help Immigrants Become Bodega Owners*

José Fernández ('93) credits his success as a businessman to the lessons he learned as a member of the



Yeara Milton

Lehman Student Government and his participation in the Dominican Club. "Lehman taught me about politics

and organization and, even more importantly, about how to work in a group," he says.

A native of the Dominican Republic, Jose is not only the owner of a Bronx bodega but also founding president of the Bodega Association of the United States. Arriving in New York in 1983 and settling in Washing-

ton Heights, he dreamed of someday running his own business. But after receiving his degree in Health Education, he began working as a counselor for children in a domestic violence shelter. In 1996, he left a steady paycheck and with money he borrowed from relatives and credit cards, he opened his first bodega. Later, he learned he overpaid for the store by some \$120,000. Unable to make the payments, he lost the business.

"For two months, I looked for an organization, for anything, that would give me some orientation on how to run a store, and I found nothing," he remembers. Determined to help those who had experienced similar circumstances, he founded the association.

"Our goal is not only to offer advice but also to secure bodega

ownership for ourselves and the next wave of immigrants," he explains. First, he honed his political skills by working as a community liaison for State Assemblyman Adriano Espalliat.

Recently, the organization grabbed media attention when it teamed with the Mayor's Office to create an anti-crime program to prevent robberies in the city's bodegas. The collaboration signals a major coup for the association, which had also succeeded in landing a \$115,000 State contract to train bodega owners about regulations on cigarette sales. The association now boasts some 7,000 members and a \$250,000 annual budget, which is financed through corporate donations and fund-raising events.

Two years after losing his first store, Jose purchased his current business, Cristian Deli Grocery. ♦

1994

Michael Knobbe, M.F.A., has been appointed Executive Director of Bronxnet, a municipal-access cable television station serving the Bronx and located on the Lehman campus. A lifelong Bronx resident, he joined the station as a graphic artist prior to its on-air debut and helped to shape its look. An Emmy-Award nominated producer, he directed the station's Creative Services Department for several years and was appointed Acting Executive Director in September 2002.

Under his direction, Bronxnet produced and continues to produce award-winning public affairs and arts programs. "I am proud to say I'm a Lehman alumnus," he said when his new appointment was announced in February. "Over the years, Lehman students have gone on to work full-time at Bronxnet and moved on to positions at major media outlets, including CBS, NBC, ESPN, and many others. We look forward to working with the various departments at Lehman to provide opportunities for students and help to shape and inspire the media professionals of the future."

1995

Marvin Reid has published his first novel, *Caught by the Past, A Novella*, June 2003.

Rico Thompson is a Community Development Advisor to several non-profit organizations in New York City and author of a new book, *15 Easy and Fun Ways College Freshmen Can Improve Their Vocabulary*. He believes that "vocabulary building is crucial to compete in today's technology-driven workplace." He began his career as a radio personality for WHCR 90.3 FM. [Rico116@hotmail.com](mailto:Rico116@hotmail.com)

2001

Dominic Valinoti is teaching math to students in the Rye City School District. He graduated from Lehman with a master's degree in Mathematics. Previously, he taught at the Academy of American Studies in Queens and St. Raymond High School for Boys in the Bronx. He is a member of the Teachers of Mathematics.

Nekisha Harris credits her Lehman education for preparing her to be an Education Director at the Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, a non-profit youth service organization in New York. She has fond memories of her days at Lehman, especially of the good times enjoyed in the Student Life Building as an active member of the Caribbean Students Association.

Rafael Jiménez, who holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology, is currently working for the New York State Department of Education,

developing a curriculum for an ESL/Music Class. His book of poetry, *Captured Thoughts*, will be published by Publish America.

2002

Eric Yerger, who manages the Putnam Poets, is the Putnam Arts Council's Poet-in-Residence. He has studied with former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins and co-hosted a monthly writer's workshop comprised of Lehman alumni.

**New Alumni Directory Planned**

Lehman will publish a new Alumni Directory this year, the first since 1995. Look for more information in the mail or on the Alumni website: [www.lehman.cuny.edu/alumni](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/alumni).

**Weddings**

1997

Edwin Torres Jr. and Celia O'Donnell were married June 28, 2003. Edwin is a program associate in the media, arts, and culture division of the Ford Foundation in New York City, tracking groups in line for grants as well as recipients. He earned his bachelor's in Art at Lehman and went on to earn his master's in Art History from Hunter College.

1998

Joseph M. Citrone Jr., and Patricia Ruckel were married Nov. 10, 2002 at the Church of St. Joseph in Bronxville. Joseph, who earned a Master's in Special Education from Lehman, is a firefighter with the Yonkers Fire Department. His bride is a pediatric oncology nurse at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

**Lehman Captures CUNY Championship, Heads to NCAA Tournament**



*The men's basketball team celebrates its first CUNY championship since 1987. Standing from left are Vice President of Student Affairs Jose Magdaleno, Dr. Martin Zwiren, Lehman's Director of Athletics, and Wolfgang Lucena, the team's assistant coach. Missing from the photo is Coach Steve Schulman, who was being interviewed by the press.*

The Lehman men's basketball team has crowned its regular season by winning the CUNY championship for the first time since 1987. With the win came an automatic berth to the Division III NCAA Tournament—a first for the Lehman team.

The CUNY championship game took place at York College Feb. 27 against New York City Technical College and saw Lehman take over the lead 55-36, with just under 14 minutes to go in the game.

The final score stood at 75-69 and gave Lehman an overall record for the regular season of 22-6. This was the team's fourth winning season under Coach Steve Schulman.

In the NCAA Tournament, Lehman was scheduled to face Lycoming College of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The last time a CUNY men's team won a tournament game was in 1998, when Hunter College made it into the final eight.

To learn more about the outcome of the tournament, visit [www.lehman.cuny.edu/apex/apex.html](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/apex/apex.html).

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### Continuing to Remember Professor Sala

For almost two decades, Prof. Jerome Sala was a well-known and beloved figure in local music circles, not only for his own renowned skill as a clarinetist but also for his direction of the Lehman College and Community Band, whose performances at the College's Commencement always expressed the graduates' sense of festivity and triumph. For many years, he also conducted the Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra.

As a result, he had his own large following of loyal fans, who would never miss either groups' performances, whatever the season or location. After his death in 2001, the Music Department established an annual competition in his name to help support and encourage talented wind instrumentalists while still in high school. This year, his wife, Shirley, has added another remembrance, giving his instrumental music and conductor's scores to the College's Department of Music. This gift-in-kind will help another generation of musicians, and music lovers, perform and enjoy the pieces his audiences recall so well.

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## Reunion '03 'Then and Now' Spans the History of the College

Scores of Lehman alumni returned to the campus last spring to celebrate both their own reunions and the start of the College's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Graduates representing virtually all those years, from 1968 on up to the present, were on hand to reminisce and catch up on each other's lives.



Graduates from the Sixties and Seventies.



Alumni from the Eighties and Nineties.



Family and friends joined in the festivities, as well as faculty and staff.

Photos by Marisol Diaz

*College Dedicates New Entrance Featuring Communications Station, Walkway, and Plaza*

The new entrance at Gate Five features a state-of-the-art facility for the College’s public safety staff and its life safety and security systems. The one-story communications station, designed by Fox and Fowle Architects and constructed of stainless steel and



1. Photo: David Sunberg

limestone, creates a visual bridge to the College’s other buildings (photo 1). Next to the station is a new limestone wall on which artist Wopo Holup perched a bronze owl (photo 2), meant to complement an older stone owl found on the facade of Gillet Hall, overlooking the site. Her concept for “Intersections” began with the symbolism of the owl and her desire to combine the distinctive old and new styles of the College’s



2. Photo: Bard Martin

architecture. She clustered the inscriptions (photo 3) around six themes—“The Heavens,” “I,” “We,” “Words,” “Time,” and “Opposition”— and included a bronze inlay (photo 4) of an image in the Codex Zouche-Nuttal, a book handpainted by native artists in southern Mexico before 1519.



3. Photo: Bard Martin



4. Photo: Bard Martin



5. Photo: Jason Green

At the dedication (photo 5), she chatted with faculty members who served on the selection committee that chose the inscriptions. From left are Professors Herbert Broderick (Art), Bertrade Banoum (Black Studies), and Gary Schwartz (Languages & Literatures). Celebrating the completion of the project (photo 6) were Lehman President Dr. Ricardo R. Fernández (center left), Emma Espino Macari (center right), CUNY Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning, Construction, and Management, and the architectural team that designed the entrance and its facilities, Fox & Fowle Architects and Mathews Nielsen, landscape architects. The artist also led walking tours (photo 7).



6. Photo: Jason Green



7. Photo: Jason Green

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