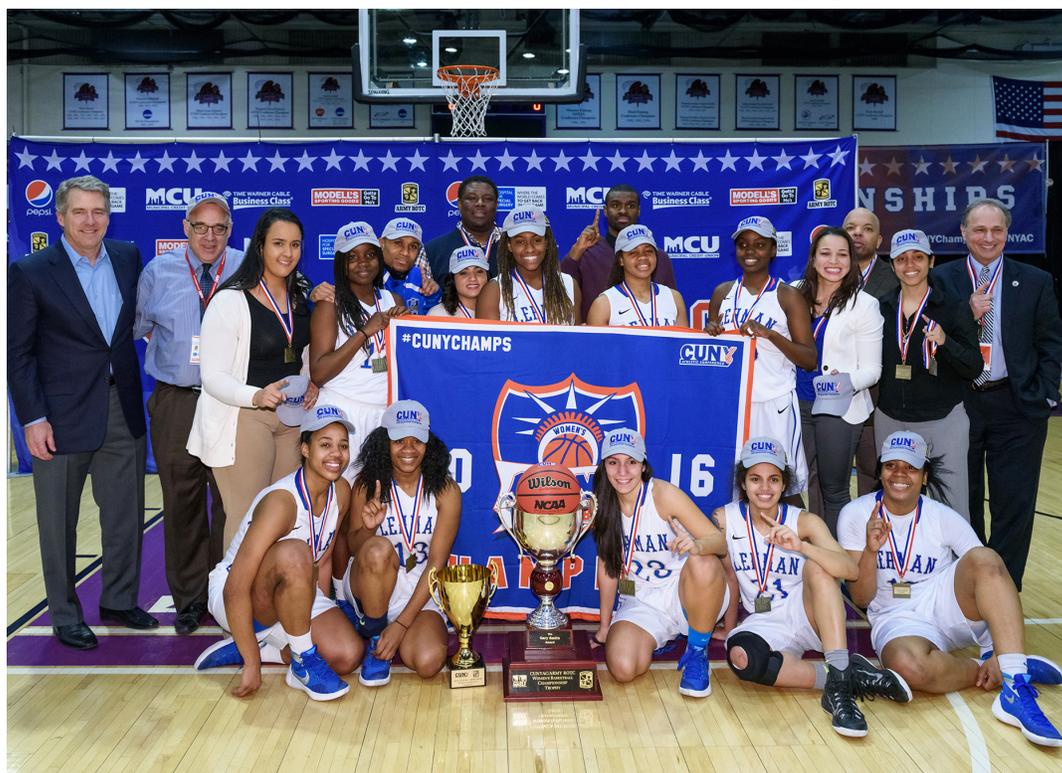


## Student Affairs

- The APEX/Athletics
- Career Services Center
- Child Care Center
- Counseling Center
- International Student Services
- Office of Campus Life
- Office of Community Engagement and New Student Programs
- Office of Financial Aid
- Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs
- Peer Educator Program
- Student Disability Services
- Student Health Center
- Urban Male Leadership Program

## Lehman Women Win CUNY Championship



The women's basketball team—the 2016 CUNY Athletic Conference champs—celebrate their victory with CUNY Chancellor Dr. James Milliken (far left), Lehman Athletic Director Dr. Martin Zwiren (far right), Head Coach Eric Harrison and members of the coaching staff.



The Lehman College Student Health Center will relocate to a newly renovated space in the Old Gym, Room B008.

Look for a ribbon-cutting ceremony announcement in Spring 2016.



The Lehman College women's basketball team defeated Brooklyn College in a thrilling overtime contest, 73-67, to win the 2016 CUNY Athletic Conference Championship on February 26 at Nat Holman Gymnasium at CCNY. The Lehman women also won the CUNY-AC regular season title and 11 of their last 12 games.

Junior Amely Del Rosario scored 30 points in the championship win—including six three-pointers—and was named Most Valuable Player. Senior Amani Lightbourne earned All-Tournament Team honors for her performance.

"This is the moment we worked so hard for all season," said Head Coach Eric Harrison after the championship game.

"It takes real teamwork and discipline to be successful as student-athletes," said Student Affairs Vice President Jose Magdaleno. "Our women's team demonstrated both."

"I am very proud of our players and coaches on winning the CUNY-AC championship and a berth in the NCAA women's basketball tournament," said Dr. Martin L. Zwiren, Director of Athletics. "This victory makes everyone associated with Lehman College very proud and takes our program to a higher level."

In addition to Del Rosario and Lightbourne, the team includes seniors Yarmese Jones, Karrin Walker and Jennifer Navarro, sophomore Chayenne McPherson, and freshmen Millina Cuffy, Salima Sangare and Khadijah Sangare.

Coach Harrison is assisted by Associate Head Coach Ivelisse Rosario-Balbuena and Assistant Coaches John Ridley and Mariel Barton. At the NCAA Tournament, the women's team lost, 70-63, to New York University in a game played at Bowdoin College in Maine on March 3.

## The ReelAbilities Film Festival at Lehman

These films will “forever change the way we think of people with disabilities,” affirmed students in Julie Maybee’s Philosophy classes. On March 14-15, they were joined on campus by more than 170 viewers who participated in Lehman’s Reel Abilities Film Festival. Over the course of two evenings the audience viewed internationally award-winning films that showcase the abilities and talents of individuals with disabilities.

“This is the fourth year Lehman hosted the festival,” says Merrill D. Parra, Director of Student Disability Services who curated the event. “Every year it seems to grow. This year we screened three feature films and eight shorts—all designed to challenge people’s perceptions of disability and highlight the human condition in all its forms. Through stories and images, viewers come away with an understanding that disability is only a single characteristic of someone’s persona. The festival hopes to demystify disability and change attitudes.”

As in past years, a highlight of the event was a Q&A following the screenings that introduced audience members to some of the filmmakers and stars. Two protagonists from the film “True Smile,” 26-year-old Sergio and his brother Juan Manuel answered questions and spoke about their

experiences. The film is a documentary that traces the astonishing 13-kilometer journey of these two brothers on a tandem bike ride from Central Spain to Morocco. The story is seen through the eyes of Sergio, who was born both autistic and blind. The brothers discussed how their lives changed since the film’s debut and how they selected the director and cinematographer.

Viewers also had the opportunity to meet Shonali Bose, whose film “Margarita with a Straw” is a coming of age story of a young woman who leaves her home in India to come to New York City and attend NYU. The film tackles questions about identity, sexuality and beauty and was well-received by the Lehman community. It won awards at the Toronto Film Festival. Lehman students questioned the filmmaker about her own journey in developing the script and the choices she made with certain scenes.

Audience feedback for the festival was extremely positive. The festival was free to all and well attended by students, faculty and members of the Bronx community. One participant described the films as “powerful, sensitive, heartwarming, life-affirming.” Another said that the film, “Stilts and Spokes” offered “an invaluable insight into life with disability” and refocused his entire worldview.



*Student Disability Services Director Merrill Parra (far right), Philosophy Professor Julie Maybee (front) and BCC Leads Advisor Preston Burger at the film festival with students who participated in the event: Belinda Arias, Namouyan Dembele, Edward Hernandez, Badar Islam, Emmanuel Yawson and Luis Zapatacorea along with actors Sergio Aznarez Rosado and Juan Manuel from the film “True Smile.”*

# Lehman L.I.F.E. Gears Up for Alternative Spring Break

Lehman L.I.F.E. (Leaders Involved for Everyone) is celebrating its tenth year of service-learning opportunities. The program is designed to raise students' awareness of issues and needs in local and global communities and to foster effective action through volunteer work.

The cycle of service continues and expands as students bring their experiences abroad back home to benefit their communities in the Bronx and greater New York City. For Lehman students, this has been an opportunity to make a real difference in the world—a difference many of them never imagined was possible."

This year, sixteen students will spend their Spring break partnering with grassroots leaders in St. Andrew, Jamaica. They will participate in a community painting project and volunteer at the Annie Dawson Girls Home through Jamaica Volunteer Programs.

Seven more students will volunteer to build bunk beds, add skirting on trailers for the elderly and install outhouses for members of the Lakota tribe on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. They will be returning for a second time in collaboration with the nonprofit organization RE-MEMBER.

Lehman L.I.F.E. students do not receive college credit or funding for their service trips, which this year will cost more than \$45,000 in total. That means they must raise 100 percent of their program fees.

To that end, they have held small group fundraisers and are planning three major upcoming events including:

- A 10-Year Reunion on Thursday, March 24.
- A "L.I.F.E. Span" concert on Saturday, March 26.
- Third Annual Global Citizenship Gala at Villa Barone Manor in the Bronx on Wednesday, May 19.

In addition to the fundraising requirement, students must volunteer for at least 25 hours in their very own community in order to qualify to apply for the program. They learn grassroots



*This group of Lehman students and alumni will be volunteering with the Lakota tribe at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota during Spring break.*



*This group of students will be volunteering in St. Andrew, Jamaica during Spring break.*

fundraising techniques and attend weekly cross-cultural education training sessions.

During the trip, the students partner with nonprofit organizations and their leaders to assist in local community development. They reflect each night on their experiences and how their lives and the lives of others have changed

throughout their time volunteering.

For more information on the upcoming fundraisers or to help support the students of Lehman L.I.F.E., please contact Amanda Dubois-Mwake, Director of Community Engagement & New Student Programs at [amanda.dubois@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:amanda.dubois@lehman.cuny.edu).

# Bloomberg's International Women's Day Summit

By Seun Olufemi

The Bloomberg 2016 International Women's Day Summit was held on March 6 at the Bloomberg offices in Manhattan. The event celebrates the achievements of women leaders and highlights global opportunities to inspire change.



The Summit features inspirational speakers, dynamic workshops and mentoring for women interested in leadership in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, math and investment/finance.

As a young Nigerian woman pursuing a Master's degree in Finance and participating in the Certificate Program at Lehman's Center for Student Leadership Development, I was honored to be selected to attend the Summit. It was a perfect opportunity to further my academic and career goals and celebrate the achievements of women worldwide.

On arriving, I was over the moon. The environment was inspiring, the



*International graduate student Seun Olufemi at Women's Summit with Bloomberg mentors.*

edifice beautiful. The program began with registration, mentor assignment and breakfast. This year's theme: "Women Power the Future."

Among the guests speakers were Bloomberg executives Ann Bilotti, Ken Cooper and Panna Pavangadkar and CUNY Associate Vice Chancellor for Corporate, Foundation and Major Gifts Development Andrea Davis. There were also very helpful working sessions on resume writing and speed mentoring.

The special guest speaker was Seema Ruhle Hingorani, founder of Girls Who Invest, a nonprofit organization that exposes girls in high school and college to the field of investment management. Hingorani spoke about her career as the manager of a major pension fund with a background in public sector work, mutual funds, hedge funds and asset management. Her advice: keep an open mind to all sorts of possibilities.

CUNY's very personable Andrea Davis emphasized the importance of networking. "That phone number from the person next to you can go a very long way," she said. She also emphasized the importance of women placing high values on themselves.

All in all, the International Women's Day Summit was a wonderful, impactful experience.

## Spring Has Sprung on Lehman Campus



*Three freshman women enjoy a sunny Spring day outdoors as they charge their smartphones: (l-r) Chanta Palmer (pre-Nursing), Naurys Munoz (Biology) and Kenya McDonald (Undeclared).*

# Lehman Hosts MetroCounseling Center Conference

Nearly 200 counseling staff members from New York metropolitan area public and private colleges and universities attended the 2016 MetroCounseling Center Conference and networking reception at Lehman College.

The one-day event was hosted by Lehman's Counseling Center and was being held at a public college for the first time since the conference originated in 1995. Lehman College Provost Dr. Anny Morobel-Sosa opened the conference and welcomed the attendees.

This year's conference, with the theme of "Moving Beyond Resiliency: From Surviving to Thriving," focused on the strengths and accomplishments of students from marginalized social identities, with a workshop emphasis on all-important social-justice practices and a strength-based perspective in working with students and their families.

Ryan Camire, LCSW, the new CUNY Director of Counseling and Wellness, attended a conference luncheon meeting of 18 directors of counseling centers.



*Dr. Norma Cofresi presented an award for outstanding service to Ingrid Hiraldo, office manager of the Lehman College Counseling Center.*

The first "Inspiring Others to Thrive Award" was presented at the conference to Ingrid Hiraldo, the Lehman Counseling Center's office manager for the past 10 years.

In addition to the CUNY colleges represented, the conference was attended by counseling staffers from Barnard, Columbia, Fordham, Manhattan College, NYU and Pace University, among others.



## Tau Sigma Society Celebrates Transfer Student Excellence

Tau Sigma is a national honor society that recognizes and promotes the academic excellence and campus involvement of transfer students. In 2014, a Tau Sigma local chapter was chartered at Lehman and 17 students were inducted. As May approaches, the society prepares for its third annual induction ceremony.

To join Tau Sigma, a transfer student must be registered fulltime and have a minimum GPA of 3.5 during their first semester at Lehman.

This year Tahsina Khan, president of the local chapter, received one of the 56 scholarships totaling \$75,000 that were awarded by Tau Sigma this year.

Khan, a senior international student who transferred to Lehman two years ago, has worked diligently to raise awareness on campus of Tau Sigma and encourage more students to apply for membership. Under her leadership, the chapter looks forward to growing this semester beyond its current membership of 43 members.



# 400 Students Attend Black History Month Event

The Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP) and the Department of African and African American Studies presented the Annual Black History Month Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on February 24. More than 400 students from Lehman College and Bronx high schools attended the event in Lovinger Theater. This year's theme was "The Legacy of African American Leadership for the Present and the Future."

The keynote speaker was the Honorable Adam Clayton Powell, IV, a New York State Assemblymember from 2001 to 2010, representing the 68th District in Harlem and East Harlem. Powell also served two terms on the New York City Council, representing neighborhoods in East Harlem, the Upper West Side and the South Bronx. He is a Howard University alumnus with a law degree from Fordham University.

In his address, Powell focused on the legacy and leadership of Dr. King and of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., the speaker's late father. Both men focused on issues of educational attainment and equity, employment opportunities, and enhanced social mobility through fair wages and improved working conditions.

Powell encouraged students to become engaged in current issues of particular importance to minority communities such as income inequality, employment discrimination, and still-existing barriers to voting rights. He emphasized that politics is not a spectator sport, especially in an election year.

"We must mobilize and take direct action," Powell said, "not watch from the sidelines in silence."

Prior to the keynote address, the program included a video clip entitled "Sign Your Own Emancipation Proclamation." This provided a perfect opportunity to intertwine the historic achievements of Dr. King with the successful civil rights legislative efforts of Congressman Powell.



*At the event: (front row, l-r) UMLP Assistant Director Cleveland E. Beckett, Jr., keynoter Adam Clayton Powell IV, African and African American Studies Chair Dr. Mark Christian, Dean John Holloway, (back row, l-r) UMLP inductees Raziel Garcia, Michael DeJesus, Rich Nguyen, Joseph Fordyce, Willie Jackson and Euston Harp.*



*The Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Choir led by Professor Jacqueline Bergland.*

His family lineage and longstanding commitment have led to Powell to continued engagement in public advocacy—and have become the cornerstone of his current campaign for the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the communities of Central Harlem, Washington Heights and the South Bronx.

This year's Black History Month Tribute was enhanced by the dynamic performance of the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Choir led by Professor Jacqueline Bergland. This choir of 85 students performed musical selections throughout the program,

including "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the "Hallelujah Chorus" by Handel, and "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong.

Another notable aspect of this year's event included a special recognition and award presentation to Fredrick Gilbert, Executive Director of the Lehman College Foundation and Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement. Over the years, Gilbert has provided outstanding leadership to the Foundation and has consistently provided strategic guidance to enhance capacity-building efforts within the Urban Male Leadership program.