

Division of 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
- Veterans/Military Affairs

What's Inside

- Community Engagement 2
- Bronx Achievement Award 2
- Bronx Educational Summit 3
- "Take Back the Night" Is College-wide Event 3
- Alumni Mentoring Program 3
- New, Free App for Lehman Sports Fans 4
- Engaging Urban Student Conference 4



Lehman Students Join White House Roundtable



Lehman students, above, participated in a roundtable discussion at the White House in March.

By Blaise Tano

Fourteen Lehman students leaders took part in an inspiring roundtable discussion at the White House on March 16. Elias Alcantara, a Lehman alumnus and an Obama White House intern, arranged the event in collaboration with Michael Sullivan and Suzette Ramsundar from the Office of Campus Life. The group began with a tour of the White House East Wing.

Alcantara's supervisor, Ronnie Cho, of the Office of Public Engagement and White House Liaison to Young Americans, led the roundtable. He spoke about the mission of his office and his personal experience as the son of Korean immigrants who instilled in him the value of hard work. Alcantara's fellow interns also participated in the discussion.

"Under President Obama, the White House has become the most inclusive workplace in history," said Raul Alvillar, Associate Director of Public Engagement and a member of the Latino and LGBT communities.

Lehman alumna Katina Rojas Joy also spoke at the roundtable. As a 40-year-old Latina mom from the Bronx, Joy said she

was an atypical candidate for her position as Deputy Director, Office of Business Liaison, U.S. Department of Commerce. Joy was appointed by President Obama in 2011. "He is serious about being inclusive," she said, "and a 4.0 GPA from a public urban college can help level the playing field."

Joy will be the keynote speaker at the annual CUNY New Leadership Challenge Conference to be held at Lehman on Friday, June 15. The conference runs from 9 am to 3:30 pm with the keynote address at 10 am. To register, contact the Office of Campus Life at (718) 960-8535.

After graduating with a double major in Political Science and Philosophy, Alcantara won an OAS scholarship for graduate studies at the Institute of International Studies at the University of Chile. He was president of the Student Government at Lehman and active in the Center for Student Leadership Development. Among other activities, the Center assists students who wish to apply for the White House Internship and recommends that students use all available campus resources such as the Mock Interview program at Career Services to prepare for future placements.

Lehman Student Volunteers Have a National Impact

By Donya Locke, Elizabeth Lora and Amanda Dubois

Volunteers from the Office of Community Engagement and New Student Programs are making a difference both locally and nationally. A group of 13 students participated in a Lehman L.I.F.E. alternative spring break trip to Apopka, Florida. For them, the trip was the culmination of a 25-hour qualifying experience that began last October.

The Lehman L.I.F.E. program gives students opportunities to do meaningful volunteer work at home, which gives them a sense of the needs facing their own community. They take that sensibility to a different place and immerse themselves in another culture, continuing to gain information and knowledge and sharing what they've learned. Then the students bring their broadened perspectives back to Lehman—to work and make a difference here at home.

The recent trip to Florida had a powerful impact on Lehman students, who worked alongside migrant farm laborers and mostly undocumented youth through the Hope "CommUnity" Center.

On their return, the students decided to bring the program full circle—and are fundraising to bring the young people from Apopka to the Bronx for a week of educationally focused activities, including volunteering at New Student Orientation.



Volunteers join the MSWalk (above, left) and work with migrant workers during spring break (right).



Quiltmaking Effort

Among other volunteer activities, students created a quilt to highlight voices against domestic violence and sexual assault as part of the national event "Take Back The Night."



Their quilt highlights voices against violence.

Initially, they doubted their ability to complete the quilt in time, but amazing things can happen when the motivation is there. Lehmanites were not just helping to create a square or

a stitch with a piece of thread. They were taking a stand against something they felt passionate about. A defining moment came when one student shared her story with the quiltmakers. Suddenly, they came to realize the profound meaning and importance of this event. The experience also encouraged others to share their stories.

Fundraising for MS

Multiple Sclerosis affects 2.5 million Americans, with 200 individuals diagnosed every week. For the past two years, Nelson Medina, a student staff member in the Office of Community Engagement, has led Lehman's fundraising efforts for MS awareness.

This year Medina outdid himself by hosting a fundraising event called "Stick Fly" in which a college administrator is taped to the wall once for each dollar donated. With Amanda Dubois, Director of Community Engagement, as his "Stick Fly," Nelson raised more than \$125 dollars in an hour! And yes, Amanda stuck!

Lehman Receives 2012 Bronx Achievement Award



Lehman College was honored by the Office of the Bronx Borough President and the New York Blood Center with a 2012 Achievement Award for outstanding participation in local blood-collection efforts. Lehman students and staff gave a total of 414 blood donations, making it the second highest donor college in the Bronx. In first place was SUNY-Maritime with 794. Fordham University came in third with 392.

Lehman Health Center Director Cindy Kreisberg (photo, at right) accepted the award for the College at a breakfast held on March 29 at the Bronx Zoo. Among the participants in the awards breakfast with Kreisberg were (right to left) recipients from SUNY-Maritime and Fordham, and Bronx Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene.

'Take Back the Night' Event Raises Awareness of Domestic Violence



Lehman's "Take Back The Night" program on April 24 was part of an annual international effort to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. The event was organized by Nicole Madonna Rosario, Megan Wilen, and Ingrid Hiraldo of the Lehman Counseling Center with support from offices throughout Student Affairs. Among the participants were peer educators, the Office of Community Engagement, and members of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (photo above). Featured speakers included writer-artist Sheena La Shay, Andrew Willis of the Stop Abuse Campaign, and local social justice activist Ralph Castro. Lehman students performed "The Witness," a theatrical production, and members of Signa Phi Rho fraternity presented a step performance. The event concluded with a candlelight march and open mic "speak out."

Career Services Hosts Alumni Mentoring Event

The Career Services Center hosted a social event on March 28 to provide Lehman alumni and current students with an opportunity to connect, network, and learn more about the Alumni Mentoring Program. Alumnus guest speaker Robert Brownell '08 shared his experiences as a mentor of seven Lehman students. With outreach assistance from the Alumni Relations Office, more than 25 alumni attended, along with 35 current students.

"The evening was a remarkable success—increasing student awareness of the program and fostering relationships between our alumni and the Career Services Center," said Director Nancy Cintron. "Many alumni expressed interest in serving as mentors through information and mock interviews, job shadowing, and giving students firsthand career advice from professionals working in their field of interest and study."

To learn more about Alumni Mentoring, email Navisha. Maharaj@lehman.cuny.edu or call her at (347) 577-4009.

Schools Chancellor Walcott Challenges Students at Lehman

Lehman's Urban Male Leadership Program hosted on March 14 the fourth annual day-long Bronx CUNity Educational Summit, "Educate to Innovate: Renewing Your Passport to Success," a collaboration with Hostos and Bronx Community Colleges.

More than 400 high school and college students attended. The event provided information about educational and career opportunities for Black and Latino students, especially males.

Vice President Jose Magdaleno welcomed the students, and President Ricardo R. Fernández was among the speakers. Schools Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott delivered the keynote address.



Chancellor Walcott answers students' questions in a lively Q&A session after his keynote address.

Workshops were held on the challenges of popular culture in everyday life, how to make the most of mentoring relationships, and how to maintain a circle of support to help resist distractions and encourage academic success. High school students got tips on preparing for ACT and SAT examinations; college students got tips on preparing for the LSAT and MCAT examinations.

In recognition of Women's History Month, three outstanding educators were

honored: Drs. Milagros Ricourt of Lehman, Veronie Lawrence Wright of BCC, and Linda Anderson of Hostos.

Conference on Engaging Urban Commuter Students

Students from Lehman, Hostos, Bronx Community College, John Jay and the CUNY MALAVE Leadership Academy were among the participants in the “Engaging Urban Commuter Student in Leadership Conference.” It was held at the College on March 28 and was hosted by the Herbert H. Lehman Center for Student Leadership Development.

Following greetings from Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández, keynoter Jillian Kinzie addressed the challenges many urban commuter students face and suggested “best practices” that schools could implement to facilitate students’ education and optimal growth.

Dr. Kinzie, an expert in student engagement and retention, is Associate Director of the Center for Post Secondary Research at the University of Indiana and co-Director of the National Survey for Student Engagement. Following her address she led a roundtable discussion for faculty and staff on her research.

Workshops for students covered various topics in leadership from public speaking to gender roles to networking. “The conference gave me a broader perspective of leadership,” said Lehman graduate student Tanya Joyner. “It made me more aware of the skills needed for leading in the business world.”

The Lehman Center for Leadership will host another conference next spring, and it offers leadership training to



Panelists, above, at the recent conference focusing on urban commuter students.

students year round. The program focuses on the development of skills and links leadership theories to practice. For more information, go to www.lehman.cuny.edu/student-leadership/

New, Free Apps Keep Lehman Sports Fans in Touch

The Athletics Department has come out with two new mobile applications, one each for the Apple and Android platforms. The apps were designed for Lehman fans who want to stay connected with Lightning varsity teams while on the go.

You can download the apps at no cost at Apple’s app store and at Google’s Play/Android App market. Search for the keywords “Lehman Athletics” and “Lehman College Athletics,” respectively. Users will have access to stories, headlines, team rosters, schedules, photo galleries, student-athlete profiles, recruiting information, Facebook pages, coaches’ e-mail addresses, and the Athletics Department staff directory.

It also has information about membership in the APEX Center and many other features of the Department’s home page.



Lehman Athletics is always open to embracing new media technologies that will showcase the outstanding accomplishments of our student-athletes and coaches,” said Athletics Director Dr. Martin L. Zwiren. “These new apps are the next step in bringing the Athletics Department up to speed with our fast-changing, online world.”

The apps are the latest of Lehman’s mobile offerings, which currently include two additional iPhone apps—one connecting users to Lehman College information and the other “Meet Mobile,” with real-time results of competitive swimming and diving meets at the APEX pool. Lehman sports fans also have the option to receive score updates via text message and to follow all things “Lightning” on Facebook and Twitter.