LEHMAN COLLEGE

OFFICE OF STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

February 2013 Newsletter

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Spring 2013 Underway	1
Latavia wins Scholarship	1
Jackson-Stricks 2013 Scholarship	2
NY Disabilities Film Festival (*All Welcome*)	2
Where Have You Been?	3
Free Tax Preparation	4
FAFSA Information	4
New AAR Metrocard	4

Important dates:

Feb 16—Apr 12: Withdrawal Period

Feb 27: Student Advisory Board meeting

Mar 12 & 13: Film Festival

Mar 22: Deadline to apply for May 2013 Graduation

Mar 25—Apr 2: Spring Break

Apr 2013: Summer & Fall Registration

Apr 15: Alternate Textbook Format Workshop

Apr 17: International Perspectives on Higher Education

SPRING 2013 UNDERWAY!

The Spring semester is well underway! Classes are moving at a fast pace and soon you will be faced with many projects, assignments, tests and more. We would like to extend a special invitation to anyone who feels overwhelmed or just wants to learn more about our services to stop by the Office in Shuster Hall Room 238. Our professional staff will be more than willing to assist you with your needs.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that registration for Fall and Summer 2013 will begin in early April. Begin now to think of the courses you would like to take and consult with an academic advisor about your program. Also, if you will be graduating in May 2013, the deadline to file is March 22nd. Go to the graduate office in Shuster Room105 to learn more about the graduation requirements.

The SDS Advisory Board will meet on February 27, 2013 in the Music Building from 3:30 PM to 5 PM. This is an excellent opportunity to raise issues that are important to you. We hope that you will be able to join us.

LATAVIA WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Latavia Sturdivant—
Passantino Award Recipient

Latavia Sturdivant is the proud winner of the USS Donald and Mary Ellen Passantino Students with Disabilities Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes international students and students with disabilities who demonstrate outstanding academic performance and enthusiastic service under extraordinary circumstances.

Latavia is a Speech Language Pathology major and will complete her studies at Lehman in the Spring of 2014. She was born with a neurological condition known as Cerebral Palsy and even though she is limited physically, this does not limit her drive and passion to further her studies. Her goal is to complete a Master's in Speech Language Pathology at Columbia University. From there, Latavia wants to become a lawyer who advocates for students with disabilities.

Latavia attended the Awards Ceremony on Thursday January 31st, 2013 at John Jay College where she received a certificate and a check of $500.00. The Office of SDS congratulates Latavia and wishes her continued success.

A CHANCE TO WIN!

The National Council of Jewish Women of New York Section is pleased to announce their **2013 Jackson-Stricks Scholarship.**

This scholarship is available to students with physical challenges who are enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in the New York Metropolitan Area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO OBTAIN A 2013 APPLICATION,
Please contact:
NCJW NY Section 241 W. 72nd St.
New York, NY 10023
Phone: 212-687-5030 or
info@ncjwny.org
Applications are also available online at
www.ncjwny.org

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 2013

APPLY NOW!!!

REELABILITIES: NY DISABILITIES FILM FESTIVAL

Save the Date!
NY Disabilities Film Festival
3/11/13 and 3/12/13
5-9 PM

Join us for award-winning films that celebrate the lives and artistic expressions of people with different abilities

Q&A and Panel discussion with film-makers and special guests to follow film screenings!

Lehman College
Music Building
Faculty Dining Room
For info: (718)-960-8441

Office of Student Disability Services
Disability.Services@lehman.cuny.edu

Space limited. Please RSVP.
For special accommodations contact our office two weeks prior to event.
Everyone Welcome!

SDS STUDENTS GRADUATE!

At the end of the Fall semester 2012, some of our students graduated from the Track One Leadership Development Program. The Office of SDS congratulates *Shannon Hynes, Nicole Asencio and Jeffrey Townsend*. This program is sponsored by the Herbert H. Lehman Center of Student Leadership Development and its goal is "to give students the experience in assessing and developing leadership identity."

Students are given the opportunity to be involved in a high level of group discussions and direct interaction with experienced Lehman College faculty, staff and student leaders. Civic engagement is essential to this track. Students are able to put their knowledge into action in a "real world" setting by giving fifteen hours of community service.

We encourage all of our students to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to form relationships with other students leaders and experience the impact true leadership can have to bring about change.

HAVE YOU VISITED US LATELY?

CHECK OUT OUR ACCESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The Access and Technology Center (ATC) provides a quiet work and study space for students registered with our office. It is located in room 215 of the Leonard Lief Library and open to students during Library hours.

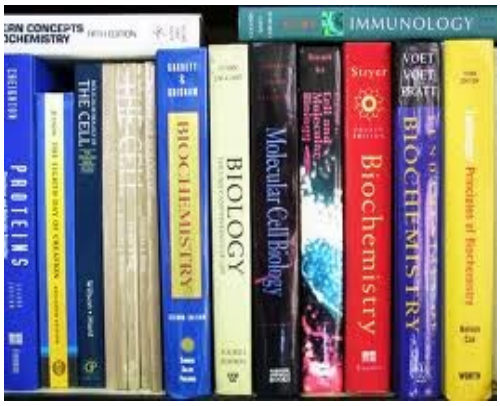
The ATC is staffed by the Assistant Director for Disability Services, Mr.Chandrika Surajpal as well as the Writing Specialist, Mr. Michael Rymer. Chandrika provides technical support to students who use assistive technology. His office hours are **Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri from 9 AM to 5 PM and Tues from 9 AM to 6:30 PM**. Michael is responsible for helping students navigate reading and writing assignments and getting their thoughts clearly down on paper. He is available on **Tues: 10 AM to 3:30 PM, Wed: 11 AM to 4:30 PM and Thurs: 10 AM to 3:30 PM**.

Zoomtext, JAWS, Dragon Naturally Speaking, Kurzweil, Read & Write Gold, ABBYY FineReader, and other assistive software are installed on the seven computers in the ATC. Scanners allowing for the conversion of print material to electronic text are connected to four of these computers. There are also three closed circuit televisions (CCTVs) for use by students who require print magnification. Specialized software installed on other campus labs may be installed in the ATC at the student's request.

All of this makes the ATC a valuable resource for any Lehman student registered with our office. To schedule an appointment please call (718) 960-8441 or (718) 960-1167. Walk-in's are welcome but appointments are recommended.

We look forward to seeing you there soon!

ARE YOU IN NEED OF ALTERNATE FORMATTED TEXTBOOKS?



If you feel you may benefit from textbooks in alternate format, please visit our office. This accommodation is provided to students who have a documented print disability. Alternate format textbooks are available in formats such as Audio File, Accessible Structured PDF, Microsoft Word and Audio (Daily/Learning Ally) CD.

CUNYCap, Joshua Karpiloff is more than willing to assist you with your requests. You may contact him at **(718) 960-8442** or walk in anytime on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 AM to 4 PM**.

Please note that there is a process for applying for a textbook in an alternate format. If you believe that you qualify for this accommodation, first make an appointment to speak with the Director of SDS for confirmation. Once approved, you will complete the alternate text request form and Joshua will then locate your textbook(s) in an accessible alternate format. Please note that you are required to submit a proof of purchase with the form.

Please come and visit us!

FREE TAX PREPARATION

Tax Preparers from Bethex Federal Credit Union are offering free tax preparation assistance to individuals with disabilities.

WHEN: *Every Tuesday and Friday*

TIME: *Tuesday from 12pm to 7pm*

Fridays from 10am to 3pm

(MUST CALL FOR APPOINTMENT)

Please call Jennifer Santiago at (718)515-2800 ext 111

WHERE: ***Bronx Independent Living Services***

4419 3rd Ave, Suite 2c

Bronx, NY 10457

ANNOUNCEMENT: THE NEW (AAR) METROCARD

Starting the first quarter of 2013, the MTA is introducing a new Access-A-Ride MetroCard exclusively for Paratransit customers. This new AAR card will afford customers the opportunity and flexibility to take up to four **FREE** trips a day using subways, local buses and Staten Island Railway.

For more information, about this service you may visit the AAR web page at www.mta.info by clicking on the "**Accessibility**" tab or you may call (718) 393-4147.

DON'T MISS OUT!

IMPORTANT FAFSA INFORMATION

Students are encouraged to complete their Financial Aid Form as soon as possible and avoid registration problems. CUNYfirst registration for Summer and Fall 2013 will begin in early of April 2013.

Some of you may have already received notification regarding the filing of the 2013-2014 online FAFSA form. Therefore, use this form to apply for Financial Aid for Summer and Fall 2013 and Spring 2014.

If you run into any difficulties and need assistance, please visit the Financial Aid Office in Shuster Hall, Room 136. They are available Mon to Fri, 9am to 4pm and in the evenings on Tues and Wed from 5 to 6:30pm,

You may also visit the ***Financial Aid Internet Lab*** in Shuster Room 131A to file your FAFSA form electronically. Please remember to bring your household's 2012 income documents.

AMERICAN HEART MONTH—FEBRUARY

Heart disease is a major public health problem in the United States with Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) being the most common form that leads to heart attack.

Major risk factors that have proven to increase the risk of heart disease are high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, smoking and physical inactivity. The sooner we can understand what puts us at risk and monitor those issues with our primary care doctor, the better our chances are to maintain a healthy heart and live a healthy life.

For more information about services you may contact the Initiative Women with Disabilities (IWD) Nurse Practitioner, Daniella Casimir at (212) 598-6429.

Office of Student Disability Services

Shuster Hall

Room 238

718-960-8441

"ATTITUDES are the real disability"

SDS Staff

Merrill D. Parra—Director

Chandrika Surajpal– Assistant Director

Lauren McCarthy—CUNY LEADS Counselor

Doreen Patrick—College Office Assistant

Michael Rymer—Writing Specialist

Glendaly Rodriguez—Notetaker Coordinator

Magdalena Wojeik —College Assistant

Kim Singh—Peer Educator , Newsletter Editor

Joshua Karpiloff—CUNY Cap

Lashay Bentley—Peer Educator