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Lehman’s Paulette Baldwin Wins NCAA Nationals

Lehman’s Paulette Baldwin won the 55-meter hurdles at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field National Competition. Her time was 7.99 seconds, a CUNY record.

More sports news on page 3.

Lehman Plays Major Role with New Century High Schools

Research has found that the most important variable in whether a student graduates from high school is size smaller is better. That’s the premise behind New Century High Schools, an exciting initiative to create small, magnet schools within larger schools. The work is supported by the Gates, Carnegie, and Open Society Foundations in collaboration with the New York City Board of Education, the United Federation of Teachers, and the Council of Supervisors and Administrators.

In the Bronx, the Office of New and Small Schools, headed by Deputy Superintendent Eric Nadelstern, will open 19 New Century high schools: 10 this fall and nine in fall 2003. Lehman College will be involved with four of these new high schools.

The Center for School/College Collaboratives at Lehman will be the lead partner at the High School for Teaching and the Professions, opening this fall at Walton High School. The Lehman College Art Gallery will be the lead art partner for the Bronx High School for the Visual Arts, opening this fall at Columbus High School.

Lehman’s Division of Arts and Humanities and the Department of Music are planning now for the Bronx High School for Music, opening in fall 2003 at DeWitt Clinton High School. Meanwhile, the Division of Education faculty are planning for the new High School for Community Research and Learning, which is also opening in fall 2003.

One of the best things about a small school is that students don’t “get lost,” as they do in big schools. At the New Century schools, staff members will have direct responsibility for a small group of students. The schools will benefit from alternative time schedules, low student-counselor ratios, and constructivist strategies for learning.

For more information, contact Dr. Anne Rothstein at (718) 960-8569.

Soaring Career for Irish Singer-Songwriter Cathie Ryan ‘91

Amid a busy year of travel, performing, and rave reviews for a new CD, Cathie Ryan is looking ahead to some time at home this summer to write songs and perhaps record another album. “I love performing and I love writing,” she said, “but it’s not easy to do both at the same time.”

Cathie Ryan loves to hear Bronx kids singing Irish songs.

A 1991 graduate of Lehman College and the lead singer for eight years in the popular Irish ensemble Cherish the Ladies, Cathie set out on her own in 1995. Among recent honors, she was named Irish Traditional Female Vocalist of the Year by The Irish American News.

Cathie wrote many of the songs for her latest CD, “Somewhere Along the Road.” Her theme was the fragility of life and the importance of seizing the day. “I’m telling a story about faith, hope, and the need to believe that when things are tough, they will get better.”

Cathie is a performing artist with the Lincoln Center Institute’s Art in Education program. “I go into schools and sing songs that speak of the Irish experience: the tragedy of famine, the humor, the spirit, and the humanity,” she says. “The kids are well prepared by the time I meet them, and they get the music on a very deep level. I love to see Bronx kids from so many different nationalities singing Irish songs.”

In recent years, New Yorkers have seen Cathie on Channel 13 where she hosts Irish programming during pledge drives.

But wherever her soaring career takes her, Lehman will always have a special place in her heart. Her husband is Dr. Michael Paull, a Dean at the College and a teacher of Celtic mythology. You can learn more about Cathie by visiting her web site at www.cathieryan.com.

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For more information, contact Dr. Anne Rothstein at (718) 960-8569.
Alumnus John D’Allara Loved to Be With His Family

Lehman alumnus John D’Allara died on the job at the World Trade Center on September 11. A rescue specialist with the New York City Police Department’s emergency service office in Harlem, he was 47 years old and lived in Rockland County with his wife, Carol, and their sons, John, 7, and Nicholas, 3.

Both John and Carol grew up in the Bronx and earned degrees at Lehman in Physical Education. John taught at Park West High School before joining the Police Department 18 years ago. He planned to return to teaching after he retired.

“John loved being an ‘E-man.’ He enjoyed rescuing people, animals, and anything or anybody who needed him,” said Carol. “But most of all he loved to be with his family. He loved playing with his kids. One of their favorite things to do was going to the Bronx Zoo.”

A robot called RMI was John’s “baby” at work. He wrote the manual for it and operated it, typically in barricade situations where there was a hostage or a bomb threat.

John was a vital member of a large, close-knit extended family. He also leaves his parents, John and Helen D’Allara and a twin brother, Daniel.

In the fall issue, we reported that alumni Stephen Belson and Alan Richman and a student, Yvette Nicole Moreno, also died on September 11.

Assignment ‘Disneyworld’ for Recreation Education Class

Professor Ori Caroleo’s class in Theme Park Management (Recreation Education 360/680) will make a five-day trip to Disney World in June. The Lehman students will be guided on their tour of the popular Florida theme park by Disney representatives, who will discuss risk management, staffing, accommodation for persons with disabilities, and other administrative issues.

The class includes undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Recreation Education. The undergraduates will each write three papers based on the trip, including one that assesses how well a particular attraction or facility complies with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Graduate students will prepare an additional risk management assessment of one of the four theme parks they will visit: Magic Kingdom, the Epcot Center, MGM Studio, and Animal Kingdom.

A number of Lehman courses incorporate travel as a feature of instruction. For example, the English Department offers a popular course every January to study drama in London. This course, taught by Professor Earl Fendelman, is available to nonmatriculated students.

Westchester High School Musicians Win ‘Sala Scholarships’

Two high school seniors from Westchester County were awarded the first Jerome G. Sala Wind Competition Scholarships at Lehman College. Clarinetist Joanna Mathes of Scarsdale High School was the first prize winner, a $500 scholarship, for her performance of “The Weber Concertino.” She performed the piece again with the Lehman College Community Band at its annual spring concert.

A $200 scholarship and second prize went to Aaron Kushner of New Rochelle High School, who performed “The Ibert Concertante” on alto saxophone.

Flutist Adam Ray of Saunders High School in Yonkers received Honorable Mention for his performance of “The Chaminade Concertino.”

The competition was judged by three members of the Lehman Band directed by Alan Hollander, who is also Director of Music at Edgemont High School. The competition honors the band’s former conductor, a renowned clarinetist who conducted the Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra and was a member of the Department of Music faculty at Lehman for 19 years before his death last September.
College Receives HUD Grant for Community Development

Lehman received a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for community development in the Bedford Park, Norwood, and Kingsbridge Heights neighborhoods that surround the College's campus.

The Bronx Small Business Development Center at Lehman College and the Mosholu Preservation Corporation are working together in a variety of ways to promote new commerce. Under the new project, business majors fluent in languages such as Spanish, Korean, and Albanian will be interns/ translators for local merchants.

Volleyball Team Wins First CUNY Championship

The Lehman College men’s volleyball team won the championship for the first time in the 17-year history of CUNY Athletic Conference volleyball competition. The team beat City College three sets to one at The APEX on April 6.

“It’s fantastic to win at home in front of our fans in our gym,” said Head Coach Junior Garcia, whose team is ranked 10th in the NCAA Division III.

CUNY Player of the Year, National Player of the Week, and Tournament MVP Alejandro Flores, a freshman sensation from the Dominican Republic, was unstoppable in the final match with 39 kills and 14 digs. “I’m thrilled,” he said. “This was worth all of the sacrifices we made this season.” Flores and his teammates Max Valerio and Troy Jimenez made the All Tournament Team made up of top players from the CUNY colleges.

Three-time CUNY All Star Desiree Ross scored 1,275 points in her college career, setting a new Lehman record.

Dean Joseph Rachlin Inducted as a Fellow of Linnean Society of London

Joseph W. Rachlin, Dean of Natural and Social Sciences, was named a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, the world's oldest, continuously active biological society. Founded in 1788, the Society takes its name from the Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus, whose botanical and zoological collections have been in its keeping for over 175 years.

Charles Darwin’s revolutionary paper “On Natural Selection” was presented before the Linnean Society on July 1, 1858. A newly edited, electronic version of the original paper was prepared in 1999 by Dr. Rachlin and was hosted on the Society’s website.

A Professor of Biological Sciences and the recipient of numerous grants for research, Dr. Rachlin specializes in fishery science, aquatic ecology, and fish cytogenetics. He is an expert on marine pollution. His current work ranges from an evaluation of ancient subfossil fish uncovered at an archeological site in Pakistan (see article on page 5) to a study of the fish population of the Bronx River.

In the Basketball Recordbooks

The women’s basketball team made it to the CUNY Championship this year, losing to Hunter College.

Three members reached the 1000-point milestone: senior Desiree Ross and sophomores Chanel Kendall and Florina Rhodes. Senior Ivelisse Rosario earned the all-time Lehman record for assists. And both men’s Head Coach Steve Schulman and women’s Head Coach Eric Harrison were named “CUNY Basketball Coach of the Year.”

Celebrating Lehman’s victory: (l-r, front row) players Felix Gomez, Frank Del Orba, Edwin Gonzalez, Jackie Lanigua, Gabriel Espada, and (l-r, standing) Athletics Director Dr. Martin Zwiren, Student Affairs VP Jose Magdaleno, Head Coach Soberky “Junior” Garcia, team statistician Lemil Fernandez, players Max Valerio, Dijan Kwabena, Troy Jimenez, Alejandro Flores, Juan Lima, Junior Manon, Wilmy Dipre, and Assistant Coach Felix Suriel.

Three-time CUNY All Star Desiree Ross scored 1,275 points in her college career, setting a new Lehman record.
Civil rights leader Raul Yzaguirre Delivers Lehman Lecture

Civil rights leader Raul Yzaguirre delivered the annual Herbert H. Lehman Memorial Lecture on April 17 in the Lovinger Theatre on campus. His topic: “What the Latino Civil Rights Movement Means for Americans Today.”

Mr. Yzaguirre is President of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), an Hispanic research organization in Washington, D.C. He chaired President Bill Clinton’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans and currently heads the Mexican and American Solidarity Foundation. He was the first Hispanic to receive a Rockefeller Public Service Award, the first Hispanic member of the Executive Committee of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and the first Hispanic Fellow of the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. He received the Leadership Conference’s Hubert H. Humphrey Civil Rights Award and a number of other national awards and honors.

Born in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, Mr. Yzaguirre joined the Air Force after high school and served four years in its Medical Corps. In 1964, he founded the National Organization for Mexican American Services, a forerunner of the NCLR. He is the former Chair of the Independent Sector, a nonprofit coalition of corporate, foundation, and voluntary organizations. A frequent media commentator on Latino issues, he an alumnus of George Washington University.

It’s SRO at Lovinger Theatre for Lehman’s ‘Fiddler’

Local multi-ethnic talent created an international flavor for the Lehman College production of “Fiddler on the Roof,” which performed to sellout crowds March 13-17 in the Lovinger Theatre. Twenty-five students, alumni, and community residents appeared in the celebrated tale of Jewish life under the threat of Russian oppression. The production was directed by Theatre Professor B.D. Bills. In the lead role of Tevye, the milkman, was alumnus Tom Snowden ’99. His wife Golde was played by Osnat L. Greenbaum. Guest choreographer Randy Accardi recreated the original Jerome Robbins choreography and performed in several of the famous dance sequences. Douglas Kostner directed the 11-member orchestra. Among the special guests at the final performance was Claire Dubler, a member of the Broadway cast of “Fiddler” featuring Zero Mostel. Above: Professor Bills introduces Claire to the audience.

Introducing the Certificate Program in Geographic Information Science

Lehman now offers the Certificate in Geographic Information Science (GIS) at both undergraduate and graduate levels. The 17-credit sequence of courses takes 3-5 terms to complete. Matriculated and nonmatriculated students may enroll. Courses are given in the evenings, and some via e-mail. A GIS Certificate can be advantageous by itself or in augmenting a master’s, bachelor’s, or associate degree. GIS is a fast-growing computer technology field involving the mapping and analysis of spatial data. It enables professionals in many areas to assess and manage existing conditions and help predict the future. Typical activities include monitoring disease occurrences, managing water supplies, tracking real estate values, preserving endangered species, and solving crime. For more information, contact Professor Juliana Maantay, program director, at maantay@lehman.cuny.edu.

Where to Find Great Public Art in the Bronx

There’s public art by famous artists in post offices, train stations, schools, parks, firehouses, and courthouses throughout the Bronx. But most of us don’t know where it is—or recognize it when we see it. That’s why the Lehman College Art Gallery has developed a multimedia guide to public art in the Bronx organized around 10 neighborhood walking tours. It has information about artists and projects, a teacher’s guide with lesson plans, and much more. Check it out at www.lehman.cuny.edu and click on Art Gallery.

Students Join Chancellor’s Governors Island Tour

A day after the news broke that a CUNY campus will be built on Governors Island, CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein (photo below) invited President Ricardo R. Fernández and Lehman students (l-r) Collette Sydney, Margaret Klinesmith, and Eurina Drummond to join the island tour with Governor Pataki, Mayor Bloomberg, and the press.

This stained glass window by Romare Bearden is in the Westchester Square train station in the Westchester Square neighborhood.
CUNY and Local 1199 to Open New Workforce Educational Center on the Grand Concourse

The three CUNY colleges in the Bronx and the giant health care union Local 1199 are opening a new workforce education center in the old Alexander’s store on Fordham Road and the Grand Concourse—a neighborhood where thousands of health care workers live and work.

The center will be open to all New Yorkers, not just members of 1199; however, union members will be able to take courses free of charge through a provision in their contract with the League of Voluntary Hospitals. Among the goals of the center is to encourage health care workers to obtain nursing degrees and upgrade their skills.

CUNY on the Concourse is expected to attract more than 1,000 students when it opens this fall and, eventually, could accommodate as many as 8,000 students a semester.

Lehman College, Bronx Community College, and Hostos Community College will provide the faculty. Associate’s and bachelor’s degrees will be awarded to students who complete the requirements. To accommodate the varied schedules of health care and other workers, CUNY on the Concourse will offer courses from 8 am to 9 pm. Union members will also have access to child care and afterschool programs while taking classes. For more information, call (718) 960-6900.

Marzie Jafari to Direct ‘CUNY on the Concourse’

Marzie Jafari, a computer scientist with experience in teaching and administration, was appointed Associate Dean of Individualized Studies and Continuing Education at Lehman College. She will direct the new educational center CUNY on the Concourse (see story at left).

“I look forward to developing a unique model of collaboration among the CUNY colleges in the Bronx and our partners in both public and private sectors,” she says. “We are united in our efforts to provide academic courses and degrees that will improve the lives of workers and the quality of health care in the Bronx.”

Ms. Jafari was formerly Assistant Director of Continuing Education at Hunter College, where she earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees. She is pursuing a doctorate at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Psychology Students Raise Funds for Families of 9/11 Victims

Students in Psi Chi, the Psychology honor society, raised $1,500 through campus bake sales and book sales for the New York City Police and Fire Widows’ and Children’s Benefit Fund. On March 11, Professor Vincent Prohaska and Psi Chi President Olanta Barton visited Ladder Company 37 on Briggs Avenue near campus to thank local firefighters and police officers for their service—not only on 9/11 but throughout the year. On hand were Inspector Raymond Rooney of the 52nd Police Precinct and Chief George W. Gierer, who commands Battalion 27, which includes Bronx Ladder Companies 37, 52, and 32. Six men from Battalion 27 were lost in the World Trade Center attack: Firefighters Ken Kumpel, Michael Lynch, Dennis McHugh and Bruce Van Hine and Lts. John Ginley and Thomas O’Hagan.
Distinguished Professors Collins and Corigliano Address High School APs

The U.S. Poet Laureate, Billy Collins, and the Pulitzer Prize and Oscar-winning composer, John Corigliano, both Distinguished Professors at Lehman College, were the keynote speakers on May 2 at the annual one-day conference of New York City High School Assistant Principals of English on the theme, "Our Mutual Estate: Words and Music in Concert."

The conference, held at Lehman, was co-sponsored by the New York City Board of Education, the New York City Association of Assistant Principals—Supervision English, and Lehman's Division of Arts and Humanities. Professor Collins spoke on "Pleasure, Poetry and the Hedonist Reader." Professor Corigliano discussed his composition, "Mr. Tambourine Man: Seven Poems of Bob Dylan," which premiered at Carnegie Hall.

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It’s official. Herbert H. Lehman College established in 1968. Lehman’s founding President, Dr. Leonard Lief, with (l-r) Mrs. Wise, Miss Vivian Golan, and Mrs. James Dunn, unveil a new sign in front of the Fine Arts Building.

The President Leonard Lief Endowment fundraising campaign that was launched last fall has already raised more than $322,000 toward its million-dollar goal. This includes gifts, pledges, and matching gifts.

“We are delighted by the strong, immediate response to this fundraising effort,” said Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández. “It is clearly a tribute to the high regard so many of Dr. Lief’s colleagues, alumni, and friends feel for him and for his extraordinary leadership and service as President of Lehman College for nearly 23 years.”

Endowments are funds invested in perpetuity for income purposes. Building the endowment is a long-term goal for the college. It will enable Lehman to enrich its academic programs and provide scholarships to high-achieving students.

Donors who wish to contribute to the Lief Endowment may use the enclosed envelope for your check (payable to the Lehman College Foundation). If you would like more information or wish to confer on a special named gift, please contact Dr. Anne Johnson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, 306 Shuster Hall, 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx, NY 10468. Phone (718) 960-8350 or e-mail ajohnson@lehman.cuny.edu.

Susan Barossi Leads the Board of Lehman Center

Susan Barossi, the new Chairman of the Board of Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, is a partner at the accounting and consulting firm O’Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP, which has four locations in the tri-state area. A graduate of Iona College, she lives in Yonkers and is also active with the Manhattan-based Not-for-Profit Support Center and the New York State Society of CPAs.

“I was delighted to be asked to chair the Lehman Center Board,” she said. “We’re working together to accomplish the goals we set forth at the beginning of the year. I want the Board to grow with new members who will join us in fundraising and be part of the good work this very special Performing Arts Center is doing.”

MELLON GRANT TO LEHMAN CENTER Lehman Center for the Performing Arts was awarded a $50,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to assist in addressing the loss of income as a result of events on September 11. The grant was made from the Foundation’s $50 million fund to help New York City cultural and performing arts organizations that were affected. Lehman was among 46 performing arts organizations recognized. Managing Director Jack Globenfelt expressed his appreciation for the Foundation’s vision and support, which “will sustain the Center through this stressful period, helping us to continue to stage performing arts events that are affordable and accessible to under-served Bronx audiences.”
Several new scholarships have been established at Lehman College in honor of family members, friends, and colleagues. These scholarships are part of the President Leonard Lief Endowment. They include:

**The John Kent Hilliard and Jane Mauk Hilliard Scholarship**

John Mauk Hilliard, a member of the Lehman College professional staff for nearly 32 years, endowed this scholarship in memory of his father and in honor of his mother. It will be open to juniors and seniors with strong academic standing in the Humanities and History.

"I've had a gratifying career at Lehman," said Mr. Hilliard, who is now Director of Testing, Scholarships, and Awards. "We achieved so much during Dr. Lief's presidency. I really wanted to do something to honor Leonard and to commemorate my parents' love of history, literature, and their lifelong devotion to community service."

John Kent Hilliard, who died in 1991, was a Texas farmboy who moved to New Mexico as a teenager and met Jane Mauk in high school. The daughter of a local lumberman and a descendant of pioneer settlers, Jane still lives in Portales in the beautiful Edgewood area. Her parents built and filled with antiques, where she and her husband raised their three sons.

"My father was a Mason, a World War II vet, a hunter, and fisherman. He read beautiful Edwardian home her parents. She taught us to value language, culture, and the fun of living in New York City. "We went to nice restaurants and Broadway plays," she said. "We took every opportunity to broaden our lives."

The Yvette Nicole Moreno Scholarship

The Wall Street law firm, Sullivan and Cromwell, created a scholarship in memory of Yvette Moreno, the Lehman student who was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, and in recognition of her mother, Ivy Moreno, an employee of the firm for 29 years.

"The lawyers all knew Yvette," said Mrs. Moreno. "They watched her grow up. Both of my kids visited the office from the time they were babies."

Yvette was working her way through college as a receptionist at Carr Futures; she was a senior studying Sociology and Psychology. Her body was found under a collapsed walkway on October 4, which would have been her 25th birthday.

"The scholarship was a wonderful idea," says Mrs. Moreno. "Ivy raised her daughter to value language, culture, and the fun of living in New York City. "We went to nice restaurants and Broadway plays," she said. "We took every opportunity to broaden our lives."

The new scholarship will be awarded to deserving students in Sociology or Psychology.

**The Rothstein Family Scholarship**

Dr. Anne Rothstein, who began her career at Lehman College in 1965 and now serves as Professor of Education and Director of the Center for School/College Collaboratives, honors her mother, father, and brother with this new scholarship.

Rose Mary Smith Rothstein was a registered nurse who was an advocate for patients with ileostomies and colostomies. "She modeled sensitivity, caring, and concern for others," said Dr. Rothstein.

William Rothstein was a self-educated electrician and entrepreneur who formed his own electrical contracting company. "He always encouraged loyalty and achievement," his daughter said.

Harold Rothstein, an engineer, was a much-loved tutor, mentor, and champion of his younger sister.

This scholarship will be awarded to deserving students who have completed the requirements for certification and need financial support while they do their student teaching.

All three of these new, named scholarships will be matched in whole or in part by a Title V federal match. See other naming opportunities in the column at right.

**Development News**

**Lehman Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Its Incoming Freshmen**

You may have read in the Times that enrollment at CUNY colleges is on the rise—with a 23 percent increase in the number of freshmen at the senior colleges. At Lehman, the freshman class has roughly doubled—for good reason.

Over the past two years, the College has stepped up its student recruitment efforts with attractive new publications and ads in newspapers, on radio and cable TV, and in movie theatres. The message is Lehman offers quality programs, a stellar faculty, a gorgeous campus, and affordable tuition.

This spring the Office of Admissions/Recruitment hosted three receptions for students admitted for fall 2002. The first was aimed at convincing applicants who were also accepted at other colleges that the opportunities for them at Lehman are unlimited. At the second, scholarships were presented to high-achieving high school seniors who enroll at Lehman in the fall. The third was to welcome the first class of freshmen accepted into the prestigious new CUNY Honors College at Lehman.

The Lehman College Foundation provided funding both for recruitment materials and scholarships.

**Namimg Opportunities**

Within the President Lief Scholarship and Academic Endowments, donors may name funds for themselves or others.

**Scholarships & Awards**

Student Scholarships support academically qualified students with financial need. Recommended minimum $5,000.

Student Awards fund student research, creative activity, conference attendance, or other academic projects. Recommended minimum $10,000.

Honors College Scholarships provide tuition and enrichment opportunities for high-achieving students in the CUNY Honors College at Lehman. Recommended minimum $20,000.

**Academic Endowment**

Faculty funds support faculty research, artistic expression, and professional development. Recommended minimum $25,000.

Lectureship funds enhance classroom learning by bringing leading scholars, speakers, and performers to the campus. Recommended minimum $200,000.

A College development officer will work with you to develop your specific named fund.

**Gift Vehicles**

With the help of legal and financial counsel, you may also use gift vehicles other than cash to contribute to the Endowment. These include: appreciated securities, real estate and other property, life insurance, and a variety of trusts and annuities.
It’s a basic fact that plants can’t move. If it gets too hot, a plant can’t relocate to the shade. If it’s attacked by insects, a plant has to develop a mechanism to resist. And these responses by plants to environmental stresses have important potential applications for health, nutrition, agriculture, and horticulture.

Plant scientists in the Department of Biological Sciences at Lehman College are trying to understand the inner workings of plants in an effort to improve their nutritive value. They are also studying unusual compounds in plants that may lead to new medicines.

CUNY’s doctoral program in Plant Sciences, which is housed at Lehman, attracts students from around the world.

“Having the Ph.D. program on our campus enriches the teaching environment for undergraduates,” said Professor Eleanor Wurtzel, director of the program. “It has a spiraling effect on educational opportunities. Our students do research with the faculty, and we have the added benefit of a synergistic collaboration with the New York Botanical Garden.”

Lehman’s plant scientists are internationally known for their analytic, molecular, and botanical expertise. Recently, the National Institutes of Health sent Professor Edward Kennelly to Mali in West Africa to meet with officials in the Department of Traditional Medicine. They talked about forming a research project jointly with Lehman, Mali, the New York Botanical Garden, and Columbia University’s Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

“This is very exciting, because health practitioners in Mali have so much information about how plants have been used as part of traditional medicine in their culture,” said Dr. Kennelly. He is studying the plant chemistry of a number of tropical fruits that produce unusual compounds in response to stresses. Many of these compounds are good antioxidants, which makes them important for human nutrition and may also be helpful in preventing certain diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

Professor Dominick Basile has studied plants with anti-malarial, anti-addictive, and other medicinal properties. His niche is in producing medicinal drug compounds from plant cultures in a laboratory. “The technology is not that far along, but the potential is tremendous,” he said.

Currently, Dr. Basile is looking at two cancer-fighting plants: rosemary and edible figs. “Both fresh and dried figs are chock full of antioxidants,” he said. “We know they’re safe because people have been eating them for years. The same is true of rosemary. Try using it in your cooking. Put it in your olive oil.”

Dr. Basile did important early research on how plants develop from a single cell to the size and shape by which they are recognized. "If you
• BRILLIANCE IN THE BRONX •

ove Health, Nutrition and the Environment

understand what controls the time and place cell division happens—or doesn't happen—you can figure out why a particular plant is producing fewer leaves, branches or fruit.”

Professor Hai Ping Cheng is studying the interaction between plants and microorganisms. The plant he is using in his research is alfalfa, a rotation crop that is used to improve corn fields. The microorganism under study is a common soil bacterium called *Rhizobia* sinorhizobium.

“*Their relationship is symbiotic and they communicate through chemical signals,*” Dr. Cheng explained. “*The plant builds a house for the bacterium to live in and provides for all its needs. The bacterium, in turn, converts nitrogen gas from the atmosphere into ammonia, which the plant uses as a nitrogen source. This is important because nitrogen is the limiting factor for growth in most plants.*”

Dr. Cheng and his student-researchers label the bacterium with fluorescence and observe it under microscopes. “It’s sort of like watching a fish tank and characterizing the steps the bacterium takes to get into the plant,” he said. “It’s a good interaction, but we need to understand it better—especially the communication. For example, how does the plant select the signal that the correct amount of bacteria, and not disease-causing bacteria, have come into its root to provide nitrogen?”

The complete genome of the *Rhizobia* bacterium was decoded last summer. “A gigantic step,” said Dr. Cheng. “It means we can more efficiently identify the genes that the bacterium uses to make signals. Once we understand the communication, we can improve it, and this may result in healthier crops, better soil, and a safer environment through more efficient use of fertilizers.”

Dr. Wurtzel is working on the molecular level to improve the nutritional quality of corn and other crops through a study of how plants make beta carotene. This research will help in the worldwide fight to prevent vitamin deficiency.

Other plant scientists on the faculty include Dr. Dwight Kincaid, an ecologist who specializes in urban botany and biostatistics; Dr. Miguel Cervantes-Cervantes, a plant physiologist currently studying “senescence,” the autumn phase when deciduous trees shed their leaves, and Dr. Thomas Jensen, Chair of the department, a cell biologist who has published extensively on his detailed microscopic investigations of plant cells.

Lehman plant scientists have received funding from the NIH, National Science Foundation, USDA, American Cancer Society, the Rockefeller Foundation’s International Rice Biotechnology Program, and the McKnight Foundation. For more information, visit http://a32.lehman.cuny.edu/PlantPhD.

Even as an undergraduate, Nicholas Licciardello, working above with Professor Eleanore Wurtzel, has access to sophisticated instrumentation and bioinformatics tools for molecular biology research. Like previous students trained at Lehman, Nicholas is gaining a competitive edge that will benefit him in his future aspirations to apply to graduate school in plant molecular biology.

Lehman Professor of Art George Corbin curated the beautiful new public entrance hallway to the Margaret Mead Wing on the third floor of the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Corbin’s specialty is Pacific Island, African, and Native American art.

**Lehman Students Are Teaching Interns at the Zoo**

As teaching interns at the Bronx Zoo’s summer “Zoo Camp,” Lehman students Amer Assal and Greg Lobel taught children about different animal species and about conservation and ecology. Greg is an English major who’s minoring in Elementary Education. Amer is a Biological Sciences major and a recipient of the prestigious Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship. He plans a career in medicine.

**Professor Corbin, Guest Curator at Museum of Natural History**

Lehman students Amer Assal and Greg Lobel (l-r).
A reunion luncheon for graduate alumni in Specialized Services in Education will be held on Saturday, September 14 at Sammy’s Fish Bar on City Island, 1–4 pm. Cost: $30.

To sign up for either event, call Barbara Smith at (718) 960-8975.

Finals Week TLC

The Lehman College Alumni Association will serve pastries, coffee, and tea to students during finals week. LCAA also sponsored a graduating senior brunch on April 27.

35th Anniversary

Lehman will celebrate its 35th anniversary next year, and alumni will play an active role. If you would like to join an Anniversary Committee, please call (718) 960-8975.

In this issue, we are continuing to publish post-September 11 commentary submitted by Lehman alumni. We regret that we lack the space to publish all of the poetry that was also submitted. Please send alumni news to Anne Perryman, Lehman College, 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx, NY 10468. Or e-mail anne@lehman.cuny.edu.

Nancy Berman, M.A., ’72, is a teacher and head of the Alternative Center for Education at Danbury High School in Connecticut. She returned to Lehman this spring to talk about employment opportunities in the Danbury Public Schools during a recruiting fair at The APEX. She was pleased to see how the campus has grown.

John Brauweiler of the Bronx is retired from his position as manager of the Citibank branch at 399 Park Avenue in Manhattan. “I love Lehman College and all of its cultural events,” he wrote. John entered Hunter’s uptown campus back in 1953, then left to work at Citibank and serve in the Army. He returned in 1963 as a part-time student, graduating with honors in Economics the year Lehman was established—and still has his college rings from both Hunter and Lehman to prove it.

Steven Metzger lives in New Haven, Connecticut, and works in Brooklyn Heights as a claims evaluator for the State Office of Temporary and Family Assistance, from where he witnessed the second plane hit the World Trade Center and the collapse of both towers. These tragic events have stirred in him a sense of our vulnerability and the fragility of freedoms we take for granted as Americans. He writes: “As of this date, I have not been to Lower Manhattan since September 11. And, after what I saw, I don’t even like to look at commercial airliners in flight..... Americans seem to feel more uncertainty now than during World War II. Pacific and Atlantic Oceans are no longer a barrier..... On my job, I have had several Social Security disability claimants who were at the World Trade Center and now are experiencing posttraumatic stress disorder. I have had to turn their claims down, although I really didn’t want to. Will these people ever recover psychologically? What about all those who lost their jobs as a result of the attacks? E-mail: Osmostis6@aol.com

In 1969

Ivan Seidenberg is President and co-Chief Executive of Verizon and a member of the Board of Directors of Viacom.

1972

Patricia J. Thompson, M.S., now a Professor at Lehman College, is publishing the first volume of her “Hesta trilogy,” entitled The Accident: The Double Helix of Everyday Life (Peter Lang 2002).

1974

After graduating from Lehman’s first BSN/Nurse Practitioner class, Lynda Tutino Menges worked for New York-Cornell Medical Center, a cardiologist, and two private hospitals in the metropolitan area. She got married and, in 1992, moved to Raleigh, North Carolina. “My husband and I have been working successfully in real estate since then, and we have two children attending college in North Carolina,” Lynda writes. “I would love to hear from old classmates I’ve lost touch with over the years” E-mail: lmenges@ncrr.com

Rhonda Karp Soberman is one of more than 11,000 Lehman graduates located last fall by an alumni-search professional organization. She writes: “I just received Lehman Lightining. This is the first newsletter I have received from Lehman since I graduated. I must say, I was very impressed. I look forward to the next issue. Keep up the good work!”

1975

Joyce Griffin-Sobel of Manhattan received a Ph.D. in Nursing from New York University in 1988. She became Director of Research for the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps and now is an Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Medicine-Dentistry of New Jersey. Joyce is also Director of Research for the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates.

1977

Marsha Hook Haygood is Executive Vice President of Administration at New Line Cinema with a bicoastal (New York City and Los Angeles) staff of employees. Previously, she was VP for Human Resources at Orion Pictures. Marsha was featured in Ebony magazine as one of the “best and brightest women in corporate America.” She was a “Time Warner Andrew Heiskell Community Service Award” finalist, and a recipient of Lehman’s own “Alumni Achievement Award.” She’s married with four sons.

An item in the fall issue about Robert Georgilas of the Class of ’72, now a college professor in Illinois, caught the eye of Janet Kaplan of the Class of ’79, a poet. Their exchange is excerpted below:

Janet writes: “Bravo, Robert! Many moons ago I had the good fortune to be in one of your English composition classes. I was 16 and without a speck of confidence. You made me feel as if I had some talent, and I loved your curriculum.... After working in publishing for many years, I earned an M.F.A. from Sarah Lawrence and published my first collection of poetry, The Groundnote, in 1998. A second collection is sitting on (I hope not under) several editors’ desks and I’m busy working on a third.... I hope you know how much you’ve done for your students—and this student especially. The College of DuPage is lucky to have you.”

Robert replies: “Thank you for The Groundnote. I was touched by your inscription and stirred by your poems. Your ‘voice’ rings clear and true. Here, I thought, is a writer who understands what Flaubert meant by le mot juste, and why he struggled so hard to find it. Your descriptions are vivid.... And then, of course, there is the Bronx. Your references stirred memories of a distant time and place that still seem ‘present’ to me. As one of my old friends says: ‘You can take the boy out of the Bronx, but you can’t take the Bronx out of the boy.’ Your work reinforces the idea that as pedestrian as our lives may often seem, there is significance and ‘poetry’ in the patterns and rhythms that govern us. The trick is to open our hearts and minds so that we see it. May your life and career continue to shine.”
Edna, a teacher and Lehman alumna, goes back to. You'll see. "Frank's wife, Yonkers Raceway will be the place to New York Times horses there and, as he recently told a weekends. Frank continues to race his Yonkers Raceway, which used to draw says he got started in racing as a little guy with a small stable. And it last week. That was great, because I'm wichtig. The professors were knowledgeable and nurturing, and my education has served me well."

Diana Dominicci Stewart writes: "I received my first-ever edition of Lehman Lightning and what a surprise. First of all, I can't figure out how you found me. Secondly, it was fantastic to see Billy Collins on the cover announcing his appointment as Poet Laureate. He was fundamental in my career as a writer. Though my final paper (about David Bowie's lyrics as poetry) was a little shaky, Professor Collins was always encouraging. Thirdly, and most shocking, was the article on the passing of [Lehman student] Yvette Moreno. My husband also worked for Carr Futures and was lost in the attacks on September 11. His name was Michael Stewart, and he began working there in June. Please keep me informed and many thanks for tracking me down."

Andrew Kolin received his Ph.D. from the CUNY Graduate Center and is Associate Professor of Political Science at Hilbert College in Hamburg, New York. He credits Professor Young Kun Kim of the Department of Political Science at Lehman for inspiring him to pursue an academic career. Andrew has presented many papers at various conferences and has published two books so far: The Ethical Foundations of Hume's Theory of Politics (Peter Lang) and One Family: Before and after the Holocaust (University Press of America). E-mail: akolin@hilbert.edu

Westchester resident Frank McCahey races harness horses. "I love the competition," he says. "My horse came in second at the Meadowlands last week. That was great, because I'm a little guy with a small stable. And it was always my dream to race the big horses against the big guys." Frank says he got started in racing as a certified groomer and trainer. His favorite track is still the fabled Yonkers Raceway, which used to draw as many as 40,000 people on weekends. Frank continues to race his horses there and, as he recently told a New York Times feature writer, "Yonkers Raceway will be the place to go back to. You'll see." Frank's wife, Edna, a teacher and Lehman alumna, also loves horses.

Deirdre R. McGee-Chioccardi, M.A., ’81, taught school for 10 years and is now an Assistant Manager for AmSouth Bank in Sarasota, Florida. "Today my 17-year-old son took the SAT's and I found myself getting nostalgic. I went to the Lehman website. It's terrific," she writes. "As my son approaches his college years, I only hope that he will gain as much as I did at Lehman. The professors were knowledgeable and nurturing, and my education has served me well."

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Hortense Kassoy is always busy working on something: a new sculpture, a print, or perhaps a watercolor. These days she's preparing for a summer exhibit at the Smitty-Pioneer Gallery in Cooperstown. And what better way to celebrate her 85th birthday, on February 16, than with a retrospective exhibition of her art, held at Viadeck Hall Gallery.

Like many community residents, Hortense takes advantage of the rich resources at Lehman. Over the past 20 years, she has audited numerous Art classes. She and husband Bernard studied poetry with Billy Collins. Hortense, a former high school art teacher, is also an activist in promoting artists and the arts.
Lehman’s Own Indiana Jones, But He’s For Real

For two decades, the friendship of a courageous tribal chief in Pakistan and a soft-spoken American archaeologist from Lehman College has withstood war, disease, and a host of other dangers to produce important discoveries about the world’s past. But the war in Afghanistan and its impact on Pakistan has put a temporary halt to that research.

Working since 1982 with the support and protection of Shabír Chandio, chief of the remote Piedmont region of western Pakistan, Professor Louis Flam (Anthropology) has uncovered valuable artifacts and new information about the long-lost Indus civilization—ancestors of present-day Pakistanis and Indians, who lived in the region thousands of years ago (see column at left). Many of these artifacts are in Pakistan’s national museum.

Dr. Flam has uncovered Indus settlements, found examples of their writing, and chronicled a dam system that is among the best engineered of ancient civilizations. Normally, he travels to Pakistan during the semester break in January, but this year the situation was too perilous. He intends to pick up again in July.

This rugged area has always been dangerous, and strangers are not welcomed. Indeed, Dr. Flam is retracing the steps of a famous Indian archaeologist, Majumbdar, who was shot and killed there in 1938.

Only one other American expedition, a team from Harvard and the University of Wisconsin, is currently authorized to conduct archaeological digging in Pakistan, and they, too, are on hold. Their team is excavating in Punjab, a more urban area to the north. Dr. Flam’s dig is in the Sindh region, at a site called Ghazi Shah, about 250 miles north of Karachi. En route, he must leave Karachi early in the morning in order to arrive at Ghazi Shah before nightfall to avoid an encounter with armed bandits from neighboring tribes.

As the work continues in Ghazi Shah, Dr. Flam and a small tribal support team also go in search of possible new sites for excavation, traveling by jeep through difficult terrain filled with narrow valleys, agricultural plateaus, and steep mountain gorges. As the elevation rises, they must switch to camels, and when the trails become too narrow and steep even for camels, they start to climb by foot. Along the way, his Chandio team feeds and protects the group of explorers. They live on wild vegetables, sweet jujube berries, barbecued grouse and partridge, wild goats and sheep, the occasional gazelle, and water from the region’s rivers and waterfalls.

For more information about Professor Flam’s work, visit www.lehman.cuny.edu.

The Ghazi Shah dig began at the top of the five-acre site. Coming down the slope, corners of rooms emerge. Stone tools and intact pottery were also found.

Archaeologist and Professor Louis Flam (left) is with chief Shabir Chandio at a prehistoric site they discovered together in western Pakistan. They must carry guns to hunt for food and protect themselves from bandits and warring tribes.

Clay animal figures found at the Ghazi Shah site date back to 3000 BC. Professor Flam expects to find artifacts as far back as 6000 BC, the Neolithic era.

Painted pottery, copper buttons, bangles and bracelets were found as well as Indus civilization seals bearing a distinct form of cursive writing that has not been deciphered.

Professor Flam discovered exquisite etched carnelian beads, smoothing stones, and drills. “We have the complete bead manufacturing kit,” he says.

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A college that writes To write better, students need to write more—and that’s what the “Writing Across the Curriculum” initiative is all about. A CUNY-wide effort now in its third year at Lehman, faculty from all divisions are working with Writing Fellows from the Graduate Center to integrate more writing into their courses, develop writing assignments, and guide students in gaining writing skills relevant to their fields of study. Faculty members receive stipends for their involvement. Visit http://lang28.lehman.cuny.edu/wac.
David Gillison’s New Book Celebrates ‘Gimi’ Rituals

P rofessor David Gillison (Art) set out for New Guinea in 1973 to explore the sources of imagery in village art. He lived for two years among the Gimi people of Crater Mountain in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea and has returned almost every year since then to photograph their lives and rituals as well as the birds and animals in the rainforest. A record of this work in words and pictures has been published in a handsome new book (Abrams, see cover at right).

Gillison, an artist and photographer from Australia, was instrumental, along with the Gimi people and several other conservationists, in setting up the Crater Mountain Wildlife Management Area, a virtually intact rainforest that rises from sea level to 10,000 feet and is home to 21 species of birds of paradise. He is a founder/director on the board of the Research and Conservation Foundation of Papua New Guinea that today protects this 3,000-square kilometer wilderness area, thanks to the cooperation of Gimi landowners and the generous support of the Wildlife Conservation Society (Bronx Zoo).

At Lehman, Professor Gillison teaches 3D computer graphics and drawing. He and Professor Bob Schneider (Mathematics and Computer Science) helped establish the Art/Computer Graphics Imaging program.

Dick Rauh Is Having Fun Doing What Comes Naturally

A ward-winning artist Dick Rauh of Norwalk, Connecticut, retired from an exciting career as a designer of motion picture special effects to an equally exciting career in painting, printmaking, and scientific illustration. In the process, he has learned a whole lot of science. He received a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from CUNY in 2001 and is continuing his graduate studies in Plant Sciences at Lehman. Rauh also teaches in the New York Botanical Garden’s Botanical Illustration Program, where he was formerly a student.

“It’s been great," he says. "I’m doing exactly what I want to do in retirement."

Dick’s prints and paintings are in many private collections. He has had one man-shows in Connecticut, at the Botanical Garden, and the Arsenal Gallery in Central Park, as well as numerous group shows. He has created botanical illustrations for the Parks Department, for plant scientists at Lehman and the Botanical Garden, and for the book, A Guide to Winter Wildflowers (Yale University Press).

Dick is a past President of the international Guild of Natural Science Illustrators and a member of the American Society of Botanical Artists, the American Fern Society, and the American Glorxinia and Gesneriad Society. He sits on the board of the Torrey Botanical Society.

“I’m in Art, Science, and—increasingly—Computer Graphics," he says. “Eventually I’d love to see an interdisciplinary department, perhaps at Lehman, to do all of this work more formally.”

Dick created this watercolor of the fruit of the rose family as a teaching tool for his botanical illustration class at the New York Botanical Garden. He has depicted (clockwise from upper left): the rose hip, pome, drupe, drupecetum, and achenecetum. The painting is on vellum, as the great botanical illustrators of the 18th century painted. Dick also enjoys working in a high-tech 21st century medium as science adviser on a 3D graphics computer project at Lehman.

‘Pig’ Sculpture Wins National Art Show Prize for Lehman Student

A gustin Gonzalez and “The Pig Soul.”

Agustin Gonzalez raised pigs in his native Dominican Republic and has a fondness for the animal. When he came to New York, he was surprised to hear women referring to some men as “pigs.” And he realized that very few New Yorkers seem to make any connection at all either between their political/social references—or their pork chops—and the actual animal. Hence: “The Pig Soul.” Agustin’s copper-and-steel sculpture is meant to capture the noble essence of both species. It captured second prize in the annual student exhibition at the National Arts Club.

Agustin is a paraeducator at Lewis and Clark Elementary School and an Art major in his senior year at Lehman. He plans to teach and continue sculpting.

“Agustin worked in the studio on this project long into the evening and over many weekends,” says his sculpture teacher, John Belardo. Works of art by Jaroslave Albert, a junior, and Joan Leli, a graduate student, were also exhibited at the National Arts Club.
Continued from page 11...

benchmark some applications, processes, and procedures in the military medicine community. With the grace of God, we will continue to have a positive impact in our respective environments.” At Lehman, Frank was undergraduate Assistant Coach of the women’s basketball team. He enjoyed working with Athletics Director “Chip” Salvestrini and with Coaches Ted Hurwitz and Nick Niko. Since then, Frank has coached high school teams, Navy youth leagues, and AAU basketball in the Richmond area. He also coached at several NBA basketball camps, including New York Knicks summer camps. For the past four years, he’s been a high school basketball referee in Virginia. E-mail: maciii32@hotmail

1987

Lawrence Morgan, E.A., has launched Tax Associates to represent taxpayers before the Internal Revenue Service.

1988

Father Rafael Gonzalez of Puerto Rico returned to Lehman’s Student Life Building last December 11 to celebrate Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The event was sponsored by the Newman Catholic Community.

Teonilda Madera of the Bronx recently published her third book of poetry, a bilingual volume entitled Sorbitos de café en paisajes yertos (sips of coffee in a cold landscape). The book celebrates the enrichment of having two languages in one’s life. It’s available at the Lehman Book Store and online at amazon.com. Teonilda has read her works at colleges in the United States and Puerto Rico. A recipient of the Willa Elton Memorial Prize for Excellence in Spanish literature, she also writes short stories, plays, and novels and is in a doctoral program at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Felix Uribe lives in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and works as a computer specialist for the Department of Justice. He’s on a team that performs computer security audits and recommends findings to the Congress as part of the Government Information Security Reform Act. “I am very proud to serve in the Department of Justice,” he writes. “I am also very proud of attending Lehman College, which I have kept in my mind and in my heart ever since my graduation. I will be forever grateful for all the wonderful things I learned.” After immigrating to the United States from the Dominican Republic, Felix received B.A. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Lehman. He was a computer consultant for NYNEX and for several years was on the Computer Science faculty at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry. “My years as a college teacher were influenced by all of my teachers at Lehman,” he says. Before relocating to Washington, Felix was a database analyst at the NYU Medical Center. E-mail: uribe@theoffice.net

1989

Navy Lieutenant Commander Marie Gordon, M.A., is Deputy Chief of the Architecture and Information Management Branch with the U.S. Pacific Command, stationed at Camp H. M. Smith on the island of Oahu in Hawaii.

1992

In recent weeks, the Anita Brown Jazz Orchestra has performed at the West Bank Café in the Broadway theatre district, at Tierny’s in Montclair, N.J., and at the club “93%” in Nyack, N.Y. For info about future engagements, check Hot House Magazine or visit www.TurnWorld.com.

Suzy Mercedes Doyoun, M.S., is a geriatric clinical nurse specialist with the Ross Health Center in Suffolk County and the recipient of several awards for her leadership and service in the field of long-term care.

1993

Lisa Spinelli of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, was glad to see the 9/11 tribute pages in the fall issue of this publication. “I am fine,” she writes, “at home with my three children. My husband works at Union Square. He witnessed the towers coming down and was on the bucket brigade. I still feel heartbroken, at a loss for words.”

1995

Wilson Maldonado of Boca Raton, Florida, is a case manager for the Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County and is also involved in other community projects. An Accounting major at Lehman, Wilson worked in business before making a career change to the field of Social Work. “I have always had a desire to work with needy people,” he said, “which is why I minored in Psychology.” Wilson would like to get in contact with former classmates. E-mail: wmalandonado69@yahoo.com

1996

Alissa Chattman of Yonkers is a teacher in the Lakeland School District. She is planning an August wedding to Saul Jacob Luxemburg, a CPA.

Stalin Acosta is an information technology specialist at the Avon Corporation in Rye, New York. He expects to receive his M.B.A. and an Advanced Business Certificate in IT in December from the University of Connecticut at Stamford.

1997

With her degree in Mass Communications, Denise Acosta began a fast-track career in Human Resources, working first with the major corporations Viacom/MTV Networks and Bell Atlantic. Currently a Human Resources Specialist with Fletronics International, Denise is pursuing a master’s degree in Human Resources Management. She writes that she years as a member of Lehman’s Student Government helped build her leadership abilities and prepared her for a successful career. She and her husband, Joseph, have two sons and live in Long Valley, New Jersey. E-mail: Deemail2002@cs.com

Martha López was appointed Liaison to the Hispanic Community for Westchester County by County Executive Andy Spano. Martha was formerly on the staff of the Washingtonville Housing Alliance, which builds and improves housing for low- and moderate-income residents in and around Mamaroneck. As a recent annual dinner, the Alliance presented her with its Marzella Garland Award. The Sound & Town Report, a local newspaper covering the award presentation, wrote “Lopez’s remarkable story of immigration from Mexico City at the age of 15 is well known by now. Her advancement from childhood deprivation to the many accomplishments of her adult life is an inspiration to all who hear of it, and particularly to the Hispanic immigrant population she continues to serve.” Martha is enrolled in the M.S.W. program at Columbia University.

1998

Mizraim S. Cordero earned an M.S.W. degree at New York University. A senior therapist and intake coordinator at the Catholic Charities Inwood Clinic, he is also active with the archdiocesan Family Life/Respect Office as coordinator of its Ministry to the Separated and Divorced. In this role, Mizraim says his goal is to be supportive to people who are going through a separation so they can move on with their lives in a positive way. “We would also like to change the stereotype that the Church turns its back on people who have gone through a divorce,” he says. He is a member of St. Elizabeth’s parish in Washington Heights.

1999

Accounting honors graduate Chuba C. Ohams has started his own company, Global Tax and Financial Services, Inc., and this coming June, he will receive the degree of Master’s in Taxation from Fairleigh Dickinson University. “I will always treasure the memories of the good professors at Lehman College,” Chuba writes. “I am extremely grateful for the real-world preparation I received….” My special thanks to Professor Ada Rodriguez for her friendship and encouragement.” E-mail: chubagtax@aol.com

Valerie Kosik, M.S. Education, of Croton-on-Hudson, is a teacher for Mahopac Central Schools. She’s planning a June wedding.

Dean Vazquez teaches Italian and English as a Second Language in the Yonkers Public Schools system. Active in politics and the community, Dean made a run for the City Council last year representing Southwest Yonkers.

Alumni News
Alumni Honored for Contributions to Urban Education

Lehman alumni work as teachers, counselors, and administrators in schools, districts, and education programs and projects throughout the country. LUTE (Lehman Urban Teacher Education) Awards are presented annually by faculty of the Division of Education to outstanding graduates in recognition of their achievements as “educators who exemplify the ideals of the Lehman education programs in promoting justice, equity, and caring in urban education.” The 2002 awards will be presented on May 16 in the Faculty Dining Room on campus.

The 2001 recipients were Patricia Amanina, Kevin Finnerty, and Ellen Glogower Newman.

Patricia earned a B.S. and M.S. in Education at Lehman and her doctorate at Nova University. She is Director of the Children’s Center at SUNY at Purchase, where she developed an “electronic portfolio” system to facilitate the observation and assessment of children. Patricia is also an adjunct professor in Early Childhood and Childhood Education at Lehman and a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Kevin earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering at Columbia University and M.S. in Secondary School Science at Lehman. He teaches chemistry and science at DeWitt Clinton High School where he established a student-research program that has already won awards in the Gates Millennium Competition, the Salomon Smith Barney Quality of Life Science Research Competition, and the New York State Regional Bridge Building Competition. Kevin also started a new Advanced Placement Chemistry course at DeWitt Clinton.

Ellen received a B.A. and M.S. in Special Education from Lehman and a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration and Supervision from SUNY at New Paltz. She is Administrator of Special Education for Bronx District 10.

In this demanding role, Ellen oversees special education services at all 52 schools in the District as well as the four Chancellor’s District schools. She is responsible for implementing the “New Continuum model” of supervision with special education supervisors and also providing professional development to the special education staff.

Nina Gabrielle-Cuva directed “Someone to Watch over Me,” a play based on the real-life political abduction of an Irish journalist in Lebanon and staged by the Cool Collective Theatre Company, a new professional ensemble that rehearses and performs in the Bronx and employs Bronx residents. The show toured throughout New York City this spring, but most of its performances were at the Woodlawn Heights Presbyterian Church in the Bronx. The play deals with the bonds of fear, hate, humor, and love shared by three captives—an American, an Englishman, and Irish journalist Brian Keenan, all of whom were released several months after their abduction. “Sadly, in light of current events, this play takes on even greater significance,” says the director. Nina recently got word of her acceptance to the Steinhardt School of Education at New York University for an M.A. in Theatre Education. “I’m waiting to hear from some other schools before I make a final decision, but getting into the NYU program really is a dream come true.”

A Busy Two Years for Computer Scientist Sanjit Othayoth ’00

Sanjit Othayoth became interested in software quality assurance and e-commerce security as a student in Computer Science at Lehman and through his early jobs on Wall Street. In 2000, he launched a bicoastal company, Digital Liberty Group, which already has clients in many countries. He does business in India with a second company, Liberty InfoTech. Sanjit also started the Liberty Educational Charity Trust, which is already helping to finance the education of four children in India.

“I am thankful to Lehman College—especially Professors Bob Schneider and Charles Berger,” says Sanjit. “I am also a proud New Yorker. Hence, my companies are all named Liberty.” E-mail: sanjit@digitallibertygroup.com or visit his website: www.digitallibertygroup.com.
Spring Exhibit: “Femininity in Contemporary Asian Art”


KEIKO NAKA  “Supper on New Year’s Eve,” 2000, oil on canvas

C AI JIN  “Banana,” 1998, silk shoes of various sizes

SIONA BENJAMIN  “Finding Home,” 1999, gouache on paper

JUNG HYANG KIM  “Memories of Seeds,” 2001, oil on canvas

FEMININITY IN CONTEMPORARY ASIAN ART, which closed on May 4, may be viewed on the Art Gallery’s website. Visit www.lehman.cuny.edu.

Art Gallery Director: Susan Hoeltzel  Associate Director: Mary Ann Siano
Guest Curator: Patricia Eichenbaum Karetzky
Gallery Hours: 10 am to 4 pm, Tuesday-Saturday