Hundreds of students and alumni met with prospective employers from throughout the metropolitan area at the annual Career Expo sponsored by the Career Services Center at Lehman College.

“While the U.S. economy may be in the swing of a recession, the annual Career Expo event at Lehman College had a successful turnout with about 70 companies reaching out to 537 students and alumni,” said Nancy Cintron, Director of the Center. “This year’s student/alumni attendance reflected an increase of 27 percent over last year’s event.”

The participating employers represented both public and private sectors and ranged in size from local firms to major national corporations. They included: Banco Popular, Deloitte LLP, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, FritoLay, New York University Medical Center, O’Connor, Davies, Munns & Dobbins LLP, St. Barnabas Hospital, the Social Security Administration, Walgreens, and WIS International.

“I was most impressed by your Career Day activity,” said Arlene Ortiz-Allende, Senior Vice President at St. Barnabas Hospital. “Kudos to all of the staff involved for the great event organization. The space was comfortable and well organized. It’s fair to say that it was the most hospitable Career Day I can recall in quite a while.”

Among other networking connections that were made at the March 5 event, accounting senior Roger Castillo, who has a 3.7 GPA, impressed Expo representatives from O’Connor, Davies, Munns & Dobbins, LLP, a certified public accounting firm in Westchester and has since moved on to the next phase of this process—an interview for the position of staff accountant.
Lehman Students Contribute to New York City Council Study on Accessible Transportation

The New York City Council report on the state of public transportation available to people with disabilities was especially satisfying to Lehman senior Wanda Muniz. She was quoted several times—including her suggestion to let passengers use Metro Cards instead of requiring exact change.

Muniz was one of several Lehman students in a focus group moderated by Merrill D. Parra, Director of Disability Services.

The City Council conducted its study in conjunction with the CUNY Office of Student Affairs and included data from focus groups throughout the five boroughs. The report, “Moving Forward: A Roadmap to Improving Transportation for New York City’s Disabled Population,” underscores inadequacies and recommends specific improvements.

Participants were queried on their experiences with buses, subways, Access-A-Ride and taxis. Many students described unhelpful and rude treatment by drivers and of even being stranded. Factors such as safety, reliability, comfort, cost, punctuality, cleanliness and courtesy were coded by the evaluators.

“I’m glad I participated and I hope that we will begin to see much needed improvements,” said Muniz, a Nutrition major.

The report recommended better training for MTA and Access-A-Ride employees, increased vehicle inspections, and better maintenance of wheelchair lifts. Throughout CUNY, many students with disabilities rely upon Access-A-Ride as their primary mode of transport to the campuses. The lack of reliable accessible transportation is frequently cited by the disability community as the prime reason for high unemployment.

Award to Lehman for Student Health Center Blood Drives

Hudson Valley Blood Services of New York Blood Center held its Annual Recognition Breakfast at the Bronx Zoo on January 18. High schools, colleges, and government agencies were recognized for their hard work in planning and executing blood drives throughout the Bronx and Hudson Valley.

Lehman was presented with the Bronx Borough President’s 2007 College Award for collecting the highest number of donations on a college campus.

Last year, the Student Health Center sponsored three two-day blood drives on the Lehman campus, and collected a total of 280 units of blood.

The Student Health Center and the Division of Student Affairs are very appreciative of the College community for their continued support of the blood drive efforts.

On February 5–6, the Student Health Center sponsored their first Blood Drive of 2008, during which 106 donations were collected. This is the largest number of blood donations ever received during a Blood Drive at Lehman. Each donor received two free tickets to the Bronx Zoo, as well as entry in a raffle to win a free trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando or an autographed football from the New York Giants. The next campus Blood Drive is scheduled for May 6–7.

The Health Center’s Kate Greenberg receives award from Bronx BP Adolfo Carrion in ceremony at the Bronx Zoo.

Busy Season in Office of Campus Life

Here are some of the recent events and activities:

**CUNY Emerging Leaders Conference**
Lehman students Lamont Badru, president of the Black Legacy Club, and Rukmini Moorleedhar, a Peer Educator in Campus Life and member of the track team, attended the annual event, held this year at City College on February 29. Ode Hoppie, Assistant Director of Campus Life, represents Lehman in the planning for this conference, which identifies CUNY students who have demonstrated leadership potential and supports them in clarifying their future plans.

**Tour of Underground Railroad sites in Philadelphia**
More than 50 students took part in this fifth annual tour on February 29 as part of Black History Month programs co-sponsored by the Office of Campus Life, CASA and the African American Studies Department. The students visited the Mother Bethel Church, the Johnson House, and the African American Museum.

**Leadership Certificate Ceremony**
Eleven undergraduates completed the first track of a program sponsored by the Herbert H. Lehman Center for Student Leadership Development. At a ceremony in the Student Life Building on December 14, Jose Magdaleno, VP for Student Affairs, and Ray Flock, Associate Director of Campus Life and Center Coordinator, praised the “Alpha Group” for their efforts. The students attended seminars, maintained journals, completed weekly assignments, and performed 15 hours of community service. Through group discussions, readings, writing assignments, and contact with faculty and staff, the students progressed from an understanding of different leadership styles to the acquisition of practical skills they can use on and off campus. Those honored were: Sheanna Amaker, Hansel Anselmo, Betsy Beltran, Ayeesha Berte, Alyna Brown, Shevonda Graham, Jeniffer Herrera-Andujar, Dennis Kim, Keith Lewis, Natalie Patterson-Whiby, and Justin Simmons.

**Special election for the Senate**
A participant in the Center for Student Leadership Development program will practice his newly honed skills in the Lehman Senate. Justin Simmons was elected along with Germain Bempah, John Figueroa, Adnan Hirad, Madina Kouyate, Charlotte McNaughton, Angel Vitello, Andrea Weiner, and Kelly Worby to replace the Senate’s graduating students.

**Leadership Weekend II**
The bi-annual intensive weekend for students leaders was held February 22–24 at Edith Macy Conference Center.

**Staff changes in Campus Life**
Margaret Registe has joined Campus Life as a CUNY Office Assistant, and Lydia Quiros was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Operations.
Swim Team Wins 3rd Straight CUNY Championship

With a strong team effort, the Lehman men’s swimming and diving team (at right), coached by Peter Kiernan, won the CUNY Conference championship for the third year in a row. Playing key roles in the victory were (above) seniors Hector Pena, Joseph Bodden, and Darnell James and freshman Mingfan Sun.

Students Attend ‘Adventure Leadership’ Weekend

Thirty-five students took part in a three-day intensive weekend organized by the Herbert H. Lehman Center for Student Leadership Development and the Office of Campus Life. The students participated in workshops, discussions and team-building exercises led by Lehman faculty, Division of Student Affairs staff, and facilitators from Education Through Adventure. Among their outdoor activities was a snowman-building competition, and here is the winner (at left). We believe it was the largest snowman in the Hudson Valley, standing tall at 9 feet, 6 inches on February 23, when this photo was taken.
It’s All About Networking at Annual Career Expo

Lehman’s Career Services Center helps students and alumni prepare for Career Expo events and other professional development opportunities. The Center offers career counseling, resume and cover letter assistance, workshops in interviewing and job search strategies, and appropriate communication techniques.

The Career Services Center also provides experiential learning through internships, community service and service learning opportunities.