Architecture, one of the university’s crown jewels. The Spitzer gift will give the School of Architecture a national profile by providing supplementary funds to attract the best faculty and provide the resources for them to publish and exhibit work. It also will broaden student perspectives through increased opportunities for study abroad, networking and internships. These will enhance and become an integral part of the City College student experience, reflecting the school’s growing stature as one of the best in the country.

Submitted by the City College

ALUMNI PROFILE: CHERYLE LEVINE, Queensborough Community College ’75

President, Queensborough Alumni Association; Founder, CHS Payroll LLC

As president of the Queensborough Alumni Association, Cheryle Levine is a model of leadership and philanthropic generosity. Since 2004, she has expanded the membership of the association by motivating board members to reach out to alumni; spearheaded alumni events and diversified the cabinet to include a younger generation. Today, 50 percent of the cabinet consists of alumni from the 2000- Cheryle Levine 2006 graduating classes.

Ms. Levine says that recalling her exceptional professors led to her involvement in the alumni association. She has contributed $100,000 to the college to date. Her family also has established three endowed scholarships, affording a new generation of students the same educational experience she once received. Ms. Levine and her husband, Steve, have co-chaired the journal committee for the college’s annual gala fundraiser, Partners for Progress, for the past four years and have been instrumental in helping the college reach and exceed its fundraising goals for this event.

Ms. Levine’s devotion to Queensborough is matched only by her passion for business, which led to an outstanding career in accounting and culminated in the launch of her payroll and human resources consulting firm, CHS Payroll LLC. Two of her employees are students from the college. “Both of my Queensborough employees possess dynamite technical knowledge and people skills,” she says. If I were in high school today, I would choose Queensborough again as the right place to get my start for success at a four-year college and beyond.”

Submitted by Queensborough Community College

CUNY HONORS ITS SUPPORTERS AT COMMENCEMENT

CUNY put the spotlight on philanthropy at commencement this year, honoring some of its key supporters and tapping several as keynote speakers.

Philanthropist, real estate developer and 1943 City College alumnus Bernard Spitzer, who recently established The Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at City College, was awarded the President’s Medal for Distinguished Service.

Sidney M. Harman, PhD, Baruch College class of ’39, delivered the college’s keynote address. Dr. Harman, executive chairman of Harman International Industries Inc. is the founder of the Harman Writers-in-Residence program at Baruch.

Brooklyn College awarded the Presidential Medal to Barry R. Feirstein, class of ’74, and Howard “Woody” Tanger. Mr. Feirstein is chair of the Brooklyn College Foundation and creator of the Barry R. Feirstein Presidential Scholarship. Mr. Tanger, whose father, Alexander Tanger, was a Brooklyn College alum, is a major supporter of the college’s Library Café and the benefactor of the Woody Tanger Auditorium.

Don Buchwald, class of ’59, chair of the Brooklyn College Foundation’s Performing Arts Center Committee, received the Distinguished Alumni award “for his long and principled career as a talent agent ... and his steadfast loyalty to and support of his alma mater.”

Widely regarded as one of the best attorneys in the country, Hunter College alumna Sheila Birnbaum – BA, Phi Beta Kappa, class of ’60 and MA class of ’62 – received an honorary Doctorate of Laws.