$55 Million Jump-Start For 2020 on 20 Campuses
Gov. Cuomo Hails CUNY’s ‘Game-Changing’ Entrepreneurship

Eight entrepreneurial programs. Twenty campuses. Fifty-five million dollars. Those are the numbers for the first grants awarded in the state’s new NY CUNY 2020 program, launched by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature to support work across CUNY that connects academic achievement with entrepreneurship and economic development. The projects, selected by staff from CUNY and the state’s Empire State Development agency after a competitive bidding process, will help create 3,800 jobs over six years. The projects reflect the wide range of innovation in many fields and across CUNY — emerging technologies, research initiatives and training programs that are

Continued on page 6

Recognizing Faculty Achievement

The University’s renowned faculty members continually win professional-achievement awards from prestigious organizations as well as research grants from government agencies, farsighted foundations and leading corporations. Pictured are just a few of the recent honorees. Brief summaries of many ongoing research projects start here and continue inside.

John Mogulescu, senior university dean for academic affairs and dean of the School of Professional Studies, announced that The Robin Hood Foundation has awarded $1.25 million to “At Home in College,” which provides an array of instructional and support services to high school students, high school English and math teachers and college advisers; and $1 million for the expansion of CUNY’s Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP), which is designed to accelerate degree completion within three years at community colleges.

Michael Geller of Kingsborough Community College has received $276,250 in grant funding from the NY City Council for the “Lighthouse: Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program.”

Jeffrey Butts of John Jay College has been awarded a $250,000 grant from the NY City Council for “Implementation and Outcome Assessment of the New York City Anti-Gun Violence Initiative.”

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services has awarded a $1,605,000 grant to Carlos Molina of Hostos Community College as a “Health Profession Opportunity Grant to Serve TANF Recipients: Allied Health Career Pipeline.”

Gisela Rivera of Queensborough Community College...
I N MAY, I completed almost a decade as president of the University of Nebraska, from which I graduated 35 years ago.

NU was founded in 1869 as a “land-grant” university under the Morrill Act of 1862, signed by President Lincoln to expand educational opportunity to the children of farmers and mill workers. Today, in a small state, NU has a $2.48 billion budget, 50,000 students on five campuses, outreach in 93 counties and a global impact through distance learning and partnerships abroad. Nothing is more important to Nebraska than its public university.

The same could be said about North Carolina’s public university, which admitted its first class in 1795. UNC became the “people’s university” early on; today it has an $8.8 billion budget, 17 campuses and over 220,000 students. During my time as senior vice president of the UNC system, prior to “coming home” to Nebraska, North Carolina passed what may still be the largest bond issue solely dedicated to public universities and community colleges. Its pioneering public-private partnerships are models of economic engagement.

Now I have “come home” again, to the city where I went to law school, worked as a lawyer and was married. I am continuing my engagement with public higher education, this time working for what may be the most extraordinary institution of them all: The City University of New York.

CUNY began its remarkable journey in 1847 at the Free Academy, expanding over 167 years to its current 24 campuses with 270,000 matriculating students in community and senior colleges, 240,000 continuing education students and a $3 billion budget. The country’s largest urban university, it has a profound impact on the diverse and talented population of this city and state. These are very different states and institutions, but the similarities among the three great public universities are pronounced. All were created to expand educational and economic opportunity, a mission more important today than ever. They accomplish their essential balance of large-scale affordable access and academic quality with the support of a mix of federal, state and local funding, tuition lower than most, and, increasingly, private philanthropy. Their success is inextricably linked to the success of their states and communities. Their past is rich with examples of great accomplishments of their graduates and faculties. But there may be no city whose fortunes are more aligned with its leading university system than New York with CUNY.

CUNY is the city’s critical intellectual infrastructure and economic engine, educating and continually renewing our community and its workforce. Ninety percent of graduates reside in New York City or state. Eighty-three percent are employed in the state within three years of graduation. CUNY’s capital construction program — upgrading and maintaining classrooms and labs for the 21st century — has generated thousands of construction jobs for the region.

More than 48,000 students graduate this academic year from CUNY’s 24 senior colleges, community colleges, graduate and professional schools with respected, valuable credentials. These new graduates have so much to contribute.

In North Carolina and Nebraska, I believed the measure of a great public university was not its ranking in a magazine but its impact on the people of the state and through them, the world. I cannot imagine a better way to express both the impact and promise of CUNY.

No institution has had a greater role in helping new Americans, low-income students and first-generation college-goers achieve their dreams or has had a greater role in the social and economic well-being of its city and state. This mission has never been more critical and, with the support of New Yorkers and their leadership, CUNY will continue to deliver on its essential promise.

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James B. Milliken

Chancellor
The headline was an echo of the past but Chancellor Milliken’s words beneath it typified the forward-thinking message he carried everywhere he went this summer. “There may be no city whose fortunes are more aligned with its leading university system than New York with CUNY,” he wrote. “No institution has had a greater role in helping new Americans, low-income students and first-generation college-goers achieve their dreams or has had a greater role in the social and economic well-being of its city and state. This mission has never been more critical…”

Chancellor Milliken ended his first month on the job with his first Board of Trustees meeting, where he formally thanked the trustees for “the honor and opportunity” of leading CUNY and told them he planned to visit all 24 campuses by summer’s end. And then he transitioned from the pomp and ceremony of being CUNY’s first new permanent Chancellor in 15 years to the nitty-gritty work of running the nation’s largest urban public university.

He reported good news on a range of fronts — last-minute city funding that will save CUNY Prep, $67 million in new state appropriations, 22 students and 14 faculty getting Fulbright Scholarships to study and work abroad. The Board of Trustees also approved his recommendations for major appointments: Farley Herzek as the president of Kingsborough Community College, Hostos President Felix Matos-Rodriguez as the new president of Queens College, and David Gomez to be his interim replacement at Hostos; the Graduate Center’s interim president, Chase F. Robinson, to the permanent post; and Judith E. Bergtraum as interim vice chancellor for facilities planning, construction and management. She replaces Iris Weinshall, who resigned after seven years in that key position to become chief operating officer of the New York Public Library.

In July, Chancellor Milliken resumed his tour of campuses and events such as a dinner with the University’s 24 valedictorians at the Morgan Library and a meeting with leaders of many of CUNY’s college foundations, independent alumni groups that have become integral to college fundraising nationwide. The University of Nebraska Foundation had banner years during Milliken’s tenure, including a record $237 million in gifts in 2013.

Reflecting on the success in an interview with a Nebraska newspaper before his departure this spring, he said that chief executives of universities can help shape and bring energy to fundraising strategies and attract new resources, but that success ultimately reflects the faith that philanthropists and the public have in an institution’s faculty and leadership.

Judging from Chancellor Milliken’s Twitter account, his working summer of 2014 gave him plenty of faith in his decision to choose CUNY. “Enjoyed a very good day with talented students, faculty and staff @BaruchCollege,” he tweeted on July 10. “Everyday I learn more about how well CUNY serves NY.”

Carlos Merliles of City College has won a $425,440 grant from the National Science Foundation for “GOAL: Research and Development of Chip-Integrated, Magnetic-Resonance-Based Platforms for Chemical Sensing of Trace Systems.” Anne Rothstein of Lehman College has won $32,724 in grant support from the NY State Department of Education for the “Science and Technology Entry Program: Mathematics and Science through Excellence and Research.”

Robert Pichotta of New York City College of Technology has received $654,078 from RF SUNY for “Hurricane Sandy Revitalization.” City College has been awarded a $646,678 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for a project aimed at “Increasing Retention and Graduation Rates through Enhanced Pedagogy and Improved Technology,” under the direction of Craig Levinsky.

Dean Balsamini of the College of Staten Island has received a $15,687 grant from NPORG/Research Foundation/SUNY for “NYS Hurricane Sandy Business Assistance.” A project titled “SC2: Synthetic and Biological Studies of Understudied Anti-Tubercular Natural Products,” directed by Ryan Morelli of Brooklyn College, has been awarded a $141,300 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Gerald Mallon of Hunter College has received two grants: $1,477,186 from HHS/Administration for Children and Families for a “National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections,” and $291,384 from the NY State Office of Children and Family Services for a “Community Case Management Institute.” The U.S. Department of Education has awarded $55,850 in grant funding to Patricia Rachal of Queens College for “Special Education-Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities.” Stephen Fearney of York College has won $486,250 in grant support from the National Institutes of Health for a research project titled “Oxazolidinone Vaccinoids as Heterocyclic Scaffolds for Decahydroquinolines Alkaloid Synthesis.”

Two faculty members from City College’s Colin L. Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership have received awards for exceptional articles in scholarly journals. An article co-authored by Maria C. Binz-Scharf was honored as an American Review of Public Administration Best Article, while Dr. Katherine K. Chen received the Literati Network Award for Excellence/2013 Outstanding Author Contribution Award.

Anthony Carpi and Nathan Lents of John Jay College were awarded $797,970 from the U.S. Department of Education for “Creating Hispanic Scientists: A Model Articulation Program Between Hispanic Serving Institutions.”
**HAVE YOU HEARD?**
Kingsborough’s radio station, WKRB 90.3 FM, was named the best community college station ...  
Stressed out? Tracy Dennis and Hunter College researchers have designed an app to calm you down ...  
CUNY Dance Initiative is offering residencies to New York City choreographers ...  

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**Continued from previous page**

**Kudos for WKRB.** WKRB, Kingsborough Community College’s student-operated, PCC-licensed radio station, was the talk of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System’s 74th annual conference. 90.3FM, was named the best community college radio station and was one of three finalists for “Best Overall College Radio Station.” In addition, Elisha Nieves, WKRB’s program director and senior college lab technician, got an award for “Best Specialty Show” for her program, “Freestyle Fridays.” Students Malcolm Smith and Kenya Fredericks were named finalists in the categories “Best Talk Program” and “Most Creative Program” for their show, “The Bizzy Mizz Diversion.”

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**There’s a new dancer in town.**  
CUNY Dance Initiative is offering 12 to 14 residencies to choreographers who live in New York City, where there is a critical shortage of rehearsal space. The initiative, which is designed to build an audience for dance, is supported by a $300,000 grant from the New York Community Trust and $80,000 from the Mertz Gilmore Foundation.

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**Continued on page 8**

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**NEWSPAPER**

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**GRANTS & HONORS**

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**City College** has been awarded a $783,627 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for “CUNY’s Initiative for Continuous Innovative Learning Environments in STEM (CILES),” under the direction of Jorge Gonzalez.  
**David Kennedy** of John Jay College has received two grants: $237,420 from the Community Foundation of St. Joseph for “Reducing Serious Violence in South Bend, Indiana,” and $169,487 from the State of Connecticut Via University of New Haven for “Preventing Gang Violence in Connecticut: Continued Efforts in New Haven, Launch in Bridgeport and Hartford.”  
**Joshua Brown** of the Graduate School and University Center has received $200,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a project concerning the “Visual Culture of the American Civil War.”  

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**The Creative Arts Team (CAT) of CUNY** has been awarded a 18-month, $460,000 grant from The New York Community Trust – Brooke Astor Fund for New York City Education to expand CAT’s successful Early Learning Program (ELP) in K-2 classes at four New York City public schools with high concentrations of disadvantaged students and English-language learners.  
**Helen Wheelock** directs the ELP, and Lynda Zimmerman is executive director of the CAT.

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**Hunter College** has received two grants: $1,197,141 from the NY State Education Department to David Steiner and Matthew Caballero for “2013-2016 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program,” and $1,109,185 from the U.S. Department of Education to Matthew Caballero, for “Teacher Quality Partnerships.”  
**Alfredo Morabia** of Queens College has been awarded $499,187 from the Center for Disease Control/NIOSH for “World Trade Center-Heart: Cardiovascular Health Impact and Prediction of Incident

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**City College’s Concrete Canoe Team** rowed away with the first-place prize at the American Society of Civil Engineers’ annual competition. Word is that the team members are floating on air.
A Bright Light. Fainizullah Mashrioi, a student at the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education, has patented a way to harness solar power where it counts most: the wallet. After a two-year study, he has found a way to use aluminum instead of costlier silicon to produce roof-mounted panels to generate electricity, something scientists with far more experience have not been able to do.

Leadership Retreat. Chancellor James B. Milliken, with his wife Nuna Smith, joined CUNY Trustees Philip Alfonso Berry, Freida D. Foster, Carol A. Robles-Roman, CUNY Student Government presidents, and nearly 60 student delegates for the 27th annual University Student Senate (USS) Leadership Retreat, at the Villa Roma Resort and Conference Center in upstate New York’s Catskill Mountains. CUNY Trustee and Chair of the University Student Senate Muhammad W. Arshad said the retreat, held Aug. 15-17, provided participants with a series of workshops and activities aimed at strengthening student leadership throughout the University. At this year’s conference titled, “Reclaiming Student Power,” some of the workshop topics included: job search strategies, the CUNY budget, lobbying, and crisis management. Other CUNY officials who participated in the retreat included: Jay Hershenson, senior vice chancellor for University relations; Frank D. Sanchez, vice chancellor for student affairs; and Matthew Sapienza, vice chancellor for budget and finance.

Nineteen community college faculty members have been awarded 2014 Chancellor’s Research Fellowships. They are: Marcella Bencivenni, associate professor of history, Hostos Community College; Aranzazu Borrachero, associate professor of Spanish, Queensborough Community College; Jonathan Cornick, assistant professor of math, Queensborough Community College; Megan Elias, associate professor of history, Queensborough Community College; Luis Fernandez, math professor, Bronx Community College; Libby Garland, assistant professor of history, Kingsborough Community College; Christopher Grenda, history professor, Bronx Community College; Ted Ingram, associate professor, student affairs, Bronx Community College; Uma Iyer, math professor, Bronx Community College; D. Barry McKerman, associate professor of science, Borough of Manhattan Community College; Howard Mutoike, associate professor of science, LaGuardia Community College; Andrew Nguyen, assistant professor of science, Queensborough Community College; Caterina Pierre, associate professor of art history, Kingsborough Community College; Charles Post, sociology professor, Borough of Manhattan Community College; Chris Robinson, biology professor, Bronx Community College; John Shean, history professor, LaGuardia Community College; Monica Trujillo, associate professor of biology, Queensborough Community College; Ting Man Tsao, English professor, LaGuardia Community College; and Joyce Zonana, English professor, Borough of Manhattan Community College.

Oldest Alumnus: 103-year-old Miguel Cruz

Oldest employee: 94-year-old Abraham Sacks

CUNY’s Oldest Alumnus… Miguel Cruz is 103. That, in and of itself, is enough to have someone write a story about him, which is exactly what the Daily News did in the spring when, at 102, he was a mere spring chicken. Cruz, who was born on Aug. 19, 1911, in Puerto Rico, arrived in New York by boat in 1937 and lived in Brooklyn for six decades. He has done a lot in his long life, including driving a taxi, working as a bookkeeper and as a Spanish interpreter for city courts. He also worked for the New York City Housing Authority for a quarter-century. Putting himself through Baruch College, where he earned a degree in business administration, was one of his greater achievements.

…and Employee. Meanwhile, at 94, Abraham Sacks might be CUNY’s oldest employee. His part-time job as a college assistant in the Kingsborough Community College Public Safety department helps him feel young. “I work as a receptionist because I want to keep busy instead of sitting around in a rocking chair,” says Sacks. “I get to work with young people and that keeps me alert.” Sacks joined the KCC staff in 2000 after working 24 years in cargo shipping at John F. Kennedy International Airport.
Continued from Page 1

creating jobs and establishing new economic sectors for the city and state, “The students at New York City’s public colleges and universities have provided the world with game-changing ideas in fields ranging from health care to manufacturing. Through the CUNY 2020 program, we are maximizing those ideas to create economic opportunity for New Yorkers,” Gov. Cuomo said. “The first round of CUNY 2020 projects will help link some of our best and brightest students with positions in high-tech sectors, while leveraging their academic excellence to support economic development and create new opportunities throughout the New York City area. By funding these eight projects we are making an investment in New York’s future, and I am proud to present these awards to the first round of CUNY 2020 recipients.”

Chancellor James D. Milliken said of the awards, which were announced on July 28: “CUNY has developed and implemented many public/private partnerships and this vitally important initiative will continue to grow the economy, create employment opportunities, and expand our research and development in all five boroughs. This is a great day for the University and all New Yorkers.”

The eight projects include:

Transportation Technology, Sustainable Fuel and Product Development in New York City, awarded $9 million, is led by Bronx Community College and involves College of Staten Island, City College and the CUNY School of Public Health. The project will renovate existing space to create a hub for transportation technology, sustainable fuel and development of hybrid and electric vehicles at CUNY’s only automotive technology program. The program, at Bronx Community College, will double its enrollment to 500 students and train them for new jobs in fields such as electric vehicle infrastructure, biodiesel, and renewable fuel-related industries. It is expected to generate more than 2,000 jobs in six years, while filling about 260 local jobs per year.

Allied Health Training for Employment is a project at Hostos Community College awarded $2.2 million to update equipment and resources to expand degree and non-degree programs in allied health care fields, which is one of the largest growing sectors of private employment in New York City. Through updated programs and equipment, Hostos can expand access to stable employment for New York residents. This project will increase enrollment in the college’s highly competitive Allied Health programs and modernize equipment. The investment is projected to put more than 500 graduates into this high-priority workforce over five years.

Big Data Consortium, awarded $15 million, involves the Graduate Center, College of Staten Island, CUNY School of Professional Studies, Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York City College of Technology and City College. Through this consortium of CUNY institutions, the University will help build New York City’s growing technological innovation strength to establish programs in data analytics. Data analytics professionals will fill a growing need across the country and the immediate impact of the project will create 154 construction jobs. CSI President Dr. William Fritz said the CUNY 2020 grant would be used to develop the college’s high-performance computing center, along with its School of Business. “CUNY 2020 will provide training for graduate students and business professionals to meet the current industry demand for big data analysts in the public and private sectors,” Fritz said.

Center for Allied Healthcare Education and Workforce Development, awarded $10 million, will involve students from Queensborough Community College, York College, Queens College, the School of Professional Studies and the CUNY Law School. In this project, CUNY will establish a teaching health care clinic in northern Queens in partnership with Urban Health Plan Inc. This initiative expects to add 791 jobs over three years, with 678 of these positions filled by graduates entering the workforce in professions related to allied healthcare education, a focus of the Regional Economic Development Council.
Jamaica Bay is a front door to the Atlantic Ocean for New York City and a part of Gateway National Recreation Area. The bay contains more than 10,000 acres of city and federal parkland, making it important to wildlife and people alike. To help preserve it, the federal Department of the Interior’s Hurricane Sandy Mitigation Funding has awarded $3.6 million to support research projects that will advance knowledge of resilience in urban coastal ecosystems. The money will go to the Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay, a research consortium led by the University.

The funding will enable the institute to begin 10 research projects covering an array of topics including water quality within Jamaica Bay and the health and resilience of its salt marshes, the monitoring and evaluation of current ecosystem restoration efforts and an assessment of barriers to future projects. The funds will also allow the institute to help evaluate community-generated resilience strategies, to catalog the environmental history of Jamaica Bay and to start developing process studies and the groundwork for long-term research. The funds will also allow the institute to help evaluate community-generated resilience strategies, to catalog the environmental history of Jamaica Bay and to start developing process studies and the groundwork for long-term research.

“The City University of New York is deeply grateful to the Department of the Interior for providing vital support to enable research critical to the development of strategies to preserve and protect Jamaica Bay,” said Chancellor James B. Milliken. “CUNY’s faculty are providing much needed expertise in partnership with faculty at other leading research institutions who are committed to the well-being of the ecosystem and to more effective ways to prepare for and respond to future natural events.”

The institute is a joint initiative among the National Park Service, the City of New York, and a consortium of nine top-tier research institutions. The consortium includes Columbia University, Cornell University, the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers University, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, New York Sea Grant, Stevens Institute of Technology, SUNY at Stony Brook and the Wildlife Conservation Society.
Continued from page 4

Primary and Subsequent Cardiovascular Events Among WTC Responders.” Ramona Brown of the College of Staten Island has received a $109,000 award from the New York City Council for the “Black Male Initiative.”

Simone Rodriguez-Dorestant and Lehenrdro Gason of Medgar Evers College have received a $292,798 grant from the NYC Department of Education for a “Young Adult Borough Center,” while the U.S. Department of Education awarded $273,719 to Abraham Nyameh and Rodriguez-Dorestant for the “Talent Search Program.”

Additionally, the NYS Education Department granted $350,000 to Sean Anderson and Rodriguez-Dorestant for the “Liberty Partnership Program”; as well as $287,054 to William Bailey and Rodriguez-Dorestant for the “MCE Science Technology Entry Program”; and $188,562 to John Brown and Rodriguez-Dorestant for the “Science, Math and Robotics Science Technology Entry Program.”

Peter Mertens of Hostos Community College has been awarded $293,484 from the U.S. Social Security Administration for “Work Incentives Planning and Assistance”; and the NY State Education Department has awarded two grants, $197,794 to Mertens and Noise Kofi for “STEP/Proyecto Access”; and $170,719 to Mertens and Kofi for “CSTEP.”

President Jeremy Travis of John Jay College served as chair of a National Research Council committee dealing with “The Growth of Incarceration in the United States: Exploring Causes and Consequences.” The committee’s report provides a comprehensive evaluation of scientific evidence on the effects of high-imprisonment rates on public safety and crime prevention, as well as their effects on individuals and communities, including the financial and social costs of current sentencing and incarceration policies, especially for minority and disadvantaged populations, and whether they outweigh the benefits to society.

Eve Bernstein, assistant professor in Family, Nutrition and Exercise Science at Queens College, received the 20th Anniversary Margaret M. Paulding Lecturer Award from the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) at the organization’s Eastern District Convention in Newport, R.I., where she was a keynote speaker. The award is one of SHAPE’s most prestigious honors for women in higher education who are actively involved in research, program development and activities in physical education.

Dean Michelle J. Anderson of the CUNY School of Law received the New York City Bar Association’s 2014 Diversity and Inclusion Champion Award for her critical role in initiating and sustaining change within the CUNY School of Law and the overall New York legal community. Under her leadership, the school obtained the National Jurist ranking as the second most diverse law school in the nation for both faculty and student body diversity.

Single Stop, Petrie Foundation Provide Financial Safety Net for CUNY Students

By Margaret Ramirez

Two years ago, as Borough of Manhattan Community College student Turner Simplice was studying for her English final exam, she received the unsettling news that she was being evicted from her home. After a frantic morning rush to pack clothes and other essentials for herself and her two children, the single mother left her Bronx apartment, dropped the kids off at her cousin’s home in Brooklyn, then raced to class to take her exam. Simplice, 37, passed the exam with a B-plus, but she needed some support with the other challenge: finding legal assistance — and help with rent — to get her apartment back.

Like thousands of other CUNY students who have unexpectedly faced financial hardship or even homelessness, Simplice turned to the BMCC campus office of Single Stop USA, a program that connects students with benefits and social services so they can remain in school and complete a degree. And she sought the assistance of the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation Emergency Grant Fund.

Simplice had been receiving eviction notices, but she was fighting the action because it was because of an error that had halted her public assistance. After researching her case, Single Stop counselors were able to get Simplice a loan through financial-aid funds and an emergency grant for rent. She also received a Metrocard for school transportation, coupons for student meals on campus, and supermarket vouchers to feed her children. Single Stop also helped her navigate the city bureaucracy and got her back into her apartment in two weeks.

“They helped me in a real crisis situation,” said Simplice, who is majoring in business administration. “Not only did they allow me to stay in school, they helped me keep my sanity.”

Since 2010 when the BMCC Single Stop office opened, the program has served more than 10,400 students by connecting them with approximately $23 million in government benefits and tax refunds.

In addition to the BMCC location, Single Stop has six other offices at CUNY’s community colleges that have helped 54,782 students to access nearly $11 million to assist with unexpected hardships.

After Hurricane Sandy struck in October 2012, College of Staten Island student Yamilet Blas, 24, said her mother lost her job as a housekeeper. As her family fell behind on rent and tuition payments, Blas reduced her course load to one class and worried that she would have to drop out of school.

After hearing about the Petrie fund, however, she filed an application explaining her situation and received an emergency grant. Blas said the foundation also assisted her in obtaining a work permit that eventually led to a part-time job in a day care center.

“I didn’t have to take a semester off or leave school,” Blas said. “To have an organization say they’re going to help you out, that took a big weight off my shoulders. It helped me emotionally, so I could get back to studying.”
By Gary Schmidgall

HIS BOOK is utterly pedestrian. Let me explain.

Back when Billy Helmreich was a boy growing up on the Upper West Side, his father would entertain him with a pastime called “Last Stop.” The two would hop on the subway, get off at one of the system’s far-flung terminals, and walk in the neighborhood on foot. They eventually worked down to some third-to-last stops. “The Child is father of the Man,” as Wordsworth wrote, and that boy grew up to become William Helmreich, sociologist at City College and the CUNY Graduate Center and the author of The New York Nobody Knows: Walking 6,000 Miles in the City.

You heard that right. After first planning to study 20 city streets, Helmreich finally vowed to trapse down every block in the entire city. And so, over a period of four years and armed with an Omron pedometer, good walking shoes (you’ll learn his preferred brand later), and a knack for striking up conversations with strangers, he knocked off an average 52 miles a week. The first block was in Little Neck, Queens, the last in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in 2012. The book, a congenial report on his experiences with many figu- rative snapshots (and 28 actual ones), is dedicated to Helmreich’s father, who extolled walking and died at nearly 102, alas just before it appeared.

Though the narrative style and the person Helmreich projects are casual, make no mistake; this perambulatory feat has produced a serious meditation on New York’s sociology. The author calls it “the first attempt to evaluate the city sociologi- cally as a whole, using ethnography as a method.” Data are glibly inserted as need be, and there is, in good sociological style, a summary titled simply “Conclusions.”

“The main conclusion is that New York is ‘enjoying a tremendous renaissance,’” and that statement captures the author’s optimistic take on the city. Some of his other conclusions are gratifying to hear: “Contact with the stereotypic of the cold, hard city, most New Yorkers are friendly, outgoing, gregarious, and eager to help.”

Helmreich also thinks “there is broad sympathy for the undocumented at every level of society.” And he even thinks the “ambivalence felt by outer borough resi- dents toward Manhattan has greatly diminished.”

The New York Nobody Knows
By William B. Helmreich
Princeton

Which reminds me of Walt Whitman’s poem “A Broadway Pageant,” in which the poet takes the reader on a ride through Manhattan: “I too am exult,” he exhils, “descending the pavements to merge with the crowd, and gaze with them.” That is exactly the marching order Helmreich set for himself; he just expanded it to all five boroughs. He also clearly shares Walt’s exuberant love of the city’s “million-footed” sidewalks, not to mention Walt’s skill at schmoozing with the hoi polli.

He’s happy to report he was never attacked or robbed, but he does remember a few “close calls” that were avoided by friendly hello. The only VIPs he bothered to interview, briefly, were mayorors Koch, Dinkins, Giuliani, and Bloomberg (de Blasio at the time is in it). Also like Whitman, Helmreich seems comfortable with the contradictions of the city. For example, he writes, “Regardless of its well-deserved reputation for tolerance, New York is still one of the most segregat- ed cities in the nation.” But then he goes on in many pages to explain why self-seg- regation is typical and understandable. On the other hand, he is convinced that the pot will continue to melt: “The long-term trend in the city is toward assimilation.”

One of Helmreich’s key conclusions is that “immigration is a key force that gives New York much of its dynamism.” The New York Nobody Knows is riveted on life in the neighborhood, where the ethnic mosaic is most intensely — and colorfully — felt. The initial huddling and last diaspora portend the mixing of the masses is the great constant of change in the city. It is worth recalling that about 36 percent of New Yorkers are foreign-born.

Chapter 4 focuses on the newcomers ease themselves into the city: where they live, the impact of the undocumented...

New Titles / CUNY Authors

Planning Slavery’s End
In the Scorpion’s Sting: Antislavery and the Coming of the Civil War, by James Oakes, a Distinguished Professor of History at the Graduate Center, examines the strategy for ending slavery that precipitated the crisis of the civil war. This award-winning historian provides stunning insight and makes clear that most Republicans, including Lincoln, devised a solution to end slavery peacefully over time. They even called by the name The Scorpion Sting.

Revisiting Incompatible Musicians
David Gibbons, an associate professor in the Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College, also teaches in the MFA programs in Performance and Interactive Media, Art, and Computer Music. In Records Run the Landscape, John Cage, the Sixties, and the Sound Recording, he argues that, following Cage, new genres in experimental music from the 1960s were particularly incompatible with orthodox recording formats. Through provocative insights, Gibbons helps to inspire readers to collect, download, and/or stream the musicians and composers it examines.

Foraging for Everything
Ava Chin has made a life and science out of urban foraging and in her new memoir, Eating Wilyly Foraging for Life, Love and the Perfect Meal, she weaves a tale about how searching for food in unexpected places parallels her personal search for love and family. Formerly the Urban Forager columnist for The New York Times, Chin, an associate professor of creative writing, nonfiction and journalism at the College of Staten Island, who calls herself a “master forager,” has been foraging since she was a child.

Solving Disease Mysteries
Dr. Alfredo Morabia’s book, Enigmas of Disease Solving Mysteries helps unravel scientific mysteries, sheds new lights on epidemiology’s role in the development of effective measures to identify, prevent and treat diseases. A physician in internal and occupational medicine and a professor of epidemiology at the Barry Commoner School of Public Health at Queens College, Morabia explains how throughout history, epidemiologists have challenged conventional knowledge, from the outbreak of bubonic plague to the origins of Alzheimer’s disease.

Hiding the Louvre
Saving Mona Lisa: The Battle to Protect the Louvre and Its Treasures During World War II, by Gerri Chanel, is the compelling true story of how the largest treasure house in the world protected the art and antiquities throughout the German occupation and the French Vichy government. Currently a professor of accounting at York College, Chanel lived in France for five years as she researched the book about how the Louvre’s staff members fought to keep the priceless treasures and the Louvre palace safe during one of the most chaotic periods in their jobs and their lives to protect the country’s artistic heritage.

CUNY Matters — Fall 2014
Mentoring Program Enhances Publication Skills

By Barbara Fischkin

LIKE MANY, Vanessa Valdés, a City College associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese, believes writing is hard work. In describing the process, she mentions “navigating the anxiety of writing.” Yet she is the author of Oshun’s Daughters: The Search for Womanhood in the Americas, published this year by the SUNY Press. It is a project, no doubt, she would have completed on her own. But she credits the University’s Faculty Fellowship Publication Program — and Shelly Eversley, a Baruch associate professor of English and her program mentor — for providing crucial support as she wrote. And for making the book even better.

Eversley has advised more than 15 junior faculty program fellows during the three years that she has been one of its several mentors. She hopes to mentor more. Her tasks for FFPP, as the program is also known, include conducting a series of seminars for faculty fellows, mentoring them less formally and facilitating discipline-based peer writing groups. Eversley and others say that often mentors and the mentors and the fellows benefited from each other.

Typically junior faculty, at schools nationwide and in many disciplines, need to have excellent writing skills to publish and to describe the value of their teaching and research endeavors. In response to this, CUNY began the FFPP program in 1998, which officially “assists full-time untenured faculty in the design and execution of writing projects essential to progress toward tenure.”

Eversley adds, “In the last three years I also have sat on eight job searches. I have read the files of some of the most competitive candidates coming out in a number of literature fields. I can see the big picture regarding the work scholars are doing. I see the difference between a lukewarm recommendation and an "outstanding." She says this is knowledge she, of course, passes on to those she mentors.

The program also fosters University-wide interactions. Busy professors often don’t get to meet those in their own fields on other campuses. With FFPP they do.

Untenured junior faculty throughout the University are eligible for FFPP. But they must be nominated in October of each year by their department chairperson and endorsed by their college provost or dean of faculty. Fellows are notified in November and participate during the spring semester. Other requirements include full-time employment for at least three years that she has been one of its several mentors. She hopes to mentor more. Her tasks for FFPP, as the program is also known, include conducting a series of seminars for faculty fellows, mentoring them less formally and facilitating discipline-based peer writing groups. Eversley and others say that often mentors and the fellows benefited from each other.

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One academic year and an earned doctorate, or a qualifying master’s degree. Fellows also receive three credit hours of reassigned time.

In 2013, along with Eversley from Baruch, there were six other mentors from Brooklyn College, Hunter College, the CUNY Graduate Center and Queens College mentoring in fields that included Humanities and Society, Literature and Culture, Education and Culture, History and Area Studies and Sociology and Culture. Forty-seven fellows from 15 senior and community colleges participated. FFPP is sponsored by the University’s Office of the Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Management and administered by the dean for recruitment and diversity, Jennifer Rubain. In speaking about the FFPP, Rubain added that in keeping with CUNY’s commitment to the program also works to include diverse viewpoints and scholarly projects. This, she notes, helps the University as a whole. “From research we now know that being exposed to diversity makes for better working and learning environments,” she says. “This program helps us to create those environments.”

Expanding on this, Valdés says, FFPP convinced her that the University “has a very real institutional investment in my success.”

To this, Eversley adds that she gets as much from being a mentor as she gives. For example, about Tyler Schmidt, now an assistant professor of English at Lehman whom she advised, she says: “We’ve become colleagues and friends because of our intellectual conversations. We have spoken about desegregation, race and sexuality. We have spoken about the Cold War in American literature. His intellectual work is closer to mine than anyone I have met.”

Beginning in Spring 2015, Eversley and Baruch journalism and creative writing professor Bridgett Davis will become co-directors of the FFPP, taking over from La Guardia English professor emerita, Nora Eisenberg, the longtime academic director.

“I am deeply appreciative of professor Eisenberg’s dedication to the Faculty Fellowship Publication Program, says Dean Rubain. “We will always be grateful for her work in cultivating a new generation of faculty. Shellie and Bridgett are excited about the opportunity to build on professor Eisenberg’s considerable legacy.”

Promoting Diversity at CUNY takes many forms. In addition to the Faculty Fellowship Publications Program, featured above — there is also the Chancellor’s Latino Faculty Initiative. Its goals are to recruit, increase and retain Latino/Latina candidates for University faculty positions. The initiative establishes relationships with universities nationwide, arranges for mentoring of junior faculty works to develop a world-class group of scholars who specialize in Latino and Latin American studies and promotes collaborative programming with colleges throughout the University. Last spring, Hunter College associate professor Ariane Torres, an anthropologist, was honored by CUNY for her work as director of the initiative, which began in 2006. While reaching out to others, she also works to expand her own work on multiculturality. In collaboration with the National Parks Service, Torres has a grant to study the ethnography of the Great Falls National Historic Park to document the experiences of the migrant and immigrant ethnic community in Paterson, N.J. Torres understands the isolation of ethnicity from a personal level as well. When honored, she spoke about a time “40 years ago when I was the first and only Puerto Rican girl to attend a Holy Child School in New Jersey.” Among CUNY faculty now, this type of isolation is fading. A three-year comparison of CUNY workforce statistics indicates that the number of Latino faculty increased by 40, from 615 to 655, from 2011 to 2013. The combined percentage of Latino faculty across CUNY is now 8.7 percent. Nationally, in higher education, it’s about 4 percent, according to the National Education Association.
Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American woman elected to Congress and one of Brooklyn College’s most famous alumni. Yet many people under 40 know her primarily as a political leader and activist. In a new biography, professor Barbara Winslow hopes to raise awareness of the political trailblazer. Winslow penned the new biography, "Shirley Chisholm: Catalyst for Change." The book will be released in late summer 2014, just in time for the 40th anniversary of Chisholm’s first congressional campaign.

Baruch College

Fall 2014 Saxe Lecture

"Prison is a form of violence against women" — Thomas Piketty

Inequality

Economist Thomas Piketty, author of the best-selling book *Capital in the Twenty-First Century,* spoke at The CUNY Graduate Center on Sept. 17, 2014. Piketty says "inequalities may return to, or be even higher than, 19th-century levels." But that isn’t necessarily the case, Piketty argued.

"There is a strong tendency of the rate of return on capital to exceed the growth rate under modern capitalism," Piketty said. "This is not a force that is determined by the laws of nature. It is a force that is determined by economic institutions, even more than by the laws of nature."

"The only thing that can change that is changing the economic institutions," Piketty added.

The Case for Marriage Equality

The Graduate Center

Sept. 11

Dr. William Kelly engages two of the University’s most distinctive stylists on the art and craft of teaching writing, Andre Aciman of the Graduate Center and the author of seven books, and Colum McCann of Hunter College, the 2009 National Book Award winner for his novel, "Let the Great World Spin."

The Craft of Writing

The Graduate Center

"Inequality"

Economist Thomas Piketty at The CUNY Graduate Center, speaking of inequality in wealth distribution.

1964-65 Worlds Fair:

Joseph Viteritti, professor of public policy at Hunter College, and other writers use the theme, "Peace through Understanding," to evoke the atmosphere of the fair for a broad audience.

Sociolinguistics Lunch

Baruch College

Rudolf P. Gaudio of SUNY Purchase talks about sociolinguistics.

Latin American Women

Baruch College

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Free

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