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to submit news items, questions and comments about the newsletter:  
[oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu)



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535 East 80<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021  
Ph: (212) 794-5455; Fax: (212) 794-5378



### UNIVERSITY DEAN FOR RESEARCH

## Welcome to the First Issue

Welcome to the first issue of the CUNY Research Newsletter! As I travel around the campuses and hear of the impressive and

significant research achievements of many of our faculty I wanted to create a platform through which we could share and highlight these successes with both our internal and external communities. Thus, we will be generating a monthly newsletter for this purpose. Through this venue we will also provide information on upcoming research symposia or conferences at our campuses, provide information and deadlines for upcoming internal funding opportunities, as well as external funding opportunities for which we will be willing to take the lead in preparing collaborative CUNY-wide proposals.

Each month we will have a "spotlight" feature in which we will highlight the research of one or two of our faculty. In deciding what area to choose for this first edition I could not help but be swayed by the current "hot topic" centered around women's ability to have a highly successful scientific career. Sparked by the comments of the president of Harvard University, Dr. Lawrence Summers, who spoke of the possibility of innate differences between men and women that result in the superiority of men at science and math<sup>1</sup>, this subject is currently being debated in various media. Thus, we have chosen to highlight two female scientists in this, our first, issue. Distinguished Professor Myriam Sarachik joined City College in 1964 from Bell Telephone Laboratories. She was promoted to Distinguished Professor in 1995 and has won numerous awards during her illustrious career. Dr. Bonnie Gersten was recruited to Queens College as part of our University Flagship Initiative in Photonics. Last year Dr. Gersten received a prestigious James D. Watson grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research (NYSTAR).

*(Continued on page 2)*

### FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Myriam Sarachik

Myriam Sarachik, Distinguished Professor of Physics at the City College, was named the 2005 L'ORÉAL-UNESCO for Women in Science North American Laureate "for important experiments on electrical conduction and the transition between metals and insulators" and honored at a special ceremony in France on March 3rd. Later in the month, she received the 2005 Oliver E. Buckley Prize in Condensed Matter Physics for "fundamental contributions to experimental studies of quantum spin dynamics and spin coherence in condensed matter systems." These awards, which were accompanied with cash prizes, underscore an already illustrious career of one of this country's most prominent women Physicists.



*(Continued on page 2)*

### FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Bonnie Gersten

Bonnie Lynn Gersten came to the Queens College in 2002 by virtue of CUNY's Flagship Initiative in Photonics. Launched in 2000, the initiative aims to bring CUNY into the highest ranks of Photonics research through cluster hiring of new faculty, development of new facilities, and expansion of educational opportunities. In May of 2004, Dr. Gersten was one of ten scientists selected statewide to be the recipient of a prestigious James D. Watson Award—a \$200,000 grant from the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research (NYSTAR).

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## Welcome to the First Issue

*(Continued from page 1)*

We have great strengths at CUNY. We have faculty who are terrific teachers and researchers, despite the sometimes-challenging conditions. Our goal is to support these efforts wherever possible. In the last year or so we have initiated several new internal funding programs to help seed research programs that can flourish and attract external funding. We are in the process of initiating a Postdoctoral Program to support the increasing number of Postdocs at the University – stay tuned to future issues for more information on this shortly. We are also preparing a University Research Brochure that will enable us to showcase some of our best researchers to potential students, faculty and funders.

I would like to encourage you to offer suggestions of items for us to feature in the newsletter, and to send comments on the content of past issues. Such correspondence should be sent to [oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.president.harvard.edu/speeches/2005/nber.html>

### PEER-NNYN EVENT AT THE CARRIAGE HOUSE

## Climate Change and a Global City



Nurture New York's Nature (NNYN) and CUNY's Program for Ecological/Environmental Research (PEER) held a joint event at the Carriage House on March 15th titled "Global Climate Change and New York City: A scientific and an Artistic

Response". The highlights of the event were presentations by Hunter College Geography Professor William Solecki and contemporary artist Alexis Rockman. Other speakers included David Rosane, Chief Naturalist of NNYN ([www.nnyn.org](http://www.nnyn.org)) and Dr. Gillian Small, University Dean for Research, CUNY.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Rosane gave an overview of the NNYN/CUNY strategic alliance. Launched last year, the partnership reflects a pooling of resources between a foundation created by a legendary mediator, Theodore W. Kheel, and CUNY, the nation's largest urban university, to sponsor research, academic courses, student activities, field trips, events and public awareness campaigns to encourage New Yorkers to explore and care for the city.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Myriam Sarachik

*(Continued from page 1)*

After earning a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1960, Dr. Sarachik did postdoctoral work at IBM Watson Laboratories and AT&T Bell Laboratories before joining the faculty at the City College as an assistant professor in 1964. She was promoted to associate professor in 1967, to the rank of professor in 1971, and Distinguished Professor in 1995. She served as the Executive Officer of the University wide doctoral program in Physics from 1975 to 1978. Dr. Sarachik received the 1995 New York City Mayor's Award for Excellence in Science and Technology and the 2004 Sloan Public Service Award from the Fund for the City of New York for blazing "trails as a scientist, researcher, teacher, mentor and humanitarian". In 2003 she served as president of the American Physical Society, the third woman president in the society's 105-year history. Dr. Sarachik is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the (APS) American Physical Society, a Fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Sarachik's experimental work on solids (condensed matter) has covered a wide range of topics from superconductivity to metal-insulator transitions to the properties of molecular nanomagnets. From very early on, even before she became a full-time faculty member at City College, Dr. Sarachik made important contributions in condensed matter physics, beginning with her determination of "the superconducting energy gap from measurements of the superconducting penetration depth in the classic superconductors tin and lead." While at Bell Laboratories, she made a seminal contribution by establishing "the correspondence between a minimum in the electrical resistivity of an alloy as a function of temperature and the presence of dilute magnetic moments. This work played a key experimental role in support of the theoretical advance embodied in the Kondo effect."

During the 70's, Dr. Sarachik's research activities decreased markedly. She took on various tasks in her department as well as an administrative assignment. She then decided to return to her research with renewed interest and energy. In so doing, she was able to do what very few other academic research scientists have succeeded in accomplishing—be at the forefront of research, take a ten-year hiatus, make up for the gap in research and publications, and catch-up with the forefront again. In her second go-around, her new line of investigation was with metal-insulator transitions in (three-dimensional) semiconductors. With collaborators, Dr. Sarachik was recently able to show that, contrary to conventional wisdom, a true metal-insulator phase transition may occur in two-dimensional systems. Her group has also demonstrated quantum mechanical spin tunneling in molecular magnets. In her laboratory, Dr. Sarachik and her team are currently pursuing the study of condensed matter properties at low temperatures, with particular focus on two areas: molecular nanomagnets and the novel behavior of two-dimensional electron systems.

So how does the 2005 Women in Science Laureate react to the comments made by Dr. Larry Summers that there are "innate attitudes" that explain the low number of scientific women? Dr. Sarachik thinks that commitment, tenacity and hard work are far more important than any other factors in achieving success in science, as in any other field. She believes that Dr. Summers' comments have been both beneficial and harmful; beneficial, in the sense that the issue has stimulated a broad public debate, and harmful, in the sense that it echoed the same attitudes that made things so difficult for her when she entered the field, more than forty years ago.

## Climate Change and a Global City

*(Continued from page 2)*

A product of that undertaking was the first round of the PEER competition, initiated in 2004, to support research that is focused on ecological and/or environmental issues pertinent to New York City and that relates to, or addresses, the sustainability of the natural environment. Dr. Solecki together with Hunter College Geography Professors, Dr. Wenge Ni-Meister and Dr. Hongmian Gong, were awarded a \$30,000 grant for their proposal titled, "Environment and Climate Impacts of Urban Land Use in New York City: A Satellite Remote Sensing Perspective."

Announcing the second round of the competition during her presentation, University Dean for Research Dr. Gillian Small drew attention to a change in this year's program guideline, eliminating the collaboration requirements for participating faculty members. For the present round, proposals may be submitted from one faculty member, although, collaborations between two or more faculty would be strongly encouraged. Additionally, Dr. Small spoke about the new CUNY Institute to Nurture New York's Nature at the Queens College.

In his presentation, titled "Climate Change and a Global City: The Potential Consequences of Climate Variability and Change in Metropolitan New York", Dr. Solecki pointed out that the climate of New York City is going through a significant shift, which will impact residents' quality of life. Climate change scenarios indicate that the rate of change could accelerate in the future. The most significant impacts of this change, according to Dr. Solecki, will be increased coastal flooding, loss of coastal wetlands, and heightened heat stress faced by the very young and elderly.



*Manifest Destiny* (Photo Courtesy of NNYN)

Artist Alexis Rockman's talk centered around the background, motivation, research and the preparation of "Manifest Destiny"—an 8 x 24 foot mural depicting Brooklyn, New York after the catastrophic effects of global climate change. A full-scale digital reproduction of the piece was on exhibit at the Carriage House during the event, which was attended by senior staffs from CUNY Central, NNYN and a healthy cross-section of CUNY faculty members and graduate students from the Earth and Environmental Sciences Programs.



## Bonnie Gersten

*(Continued from page 1)*

The grant program, an integral component of a \$225 million Generating Employment through New York State Science (Gen\*NY\*sis) initiative, is designed to recognize, retain and develop the foremost early career researchers at New York's public, private and not-for-profit institutions who demonstrate a willingness and ability to develop research into economic development opportunities for the state.

Brokering this highly coveted but seldom realized marriage between the best of enabling sciences and the most desired of economic opportunities, for Dr. Gersten, was no accident. As early as in high school, she found her interests and passion gravitating towards mathematics, problem solving and the creative arts. In the field of engineering sciences she found the perfect meeting ground for all three of her callings. Dr. Gersten proceeded to earn her undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees in Material Science and Engineering, all from Rutgers University, and worked at the Army Research Lab in Aberdeen, MD as a materials engineer prior to joining the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department at the Queens College.

At present, Dr. Gersten is overseeing three main research projects in her laboratory. The Oncogene Biosensor is a sensor for the detection of cancer. Dr. Gersten and her collaborators are investigating new methods for the detection of cancer using nanomaterials that will be more sensitive, selective and less expensive and thereby help in its early detection. The project on Boron Carbide is for the development of a super lightweight and hard material for armor applications. The grain shape and size can affect the toughness of this material, which is another important parameter for armor. The third project is for the Synthesis of Quantum Dots. Quantum dots display discrete energy levels instead of energy bands found in their bulk counterparts. This leads to a change in the materials emitted energy level through the mechanism of fluorescence with a change in particle size.

Although traversing the very frontiers of scientific understanding and breakthrough technologies, Dr. Gersten likens her research efforts to that of a fine artist, "working in colonies to develop ideas with teams of other artists," feeding off each other's energy and imagination "to develop even more creative pieces of art." At Queens College, Dr. Gersten's research in Chemistry has found some natural complementarities with the research of Physicist Lev Deych, the first faculty member to join CUNY under the Photonics Initiative. Independently, both are working on developing applications, in wide ranging fields in medicine and semiconductors that basically exploit and build upon the idea of Photonic Band Gap, a concept developed by Queens college experimentalist Azriel Genack. At her own lab, Dr. Gersten is now nurturing a growing team of innovators comprising of two postdoctoral researchers, two graduate students, two undergraduate students, a high school student, and a technician, who often accompany her on trips to local companies, national labs and research conferences.

## And the Winners Are ...



Winners of last year's Research Equipment Grant Competition were announced in late February. The goal for this initiative, now three years old, is to help investigators purchase an item of laboratory equipment that will strengthen their research program, while increasing their chances of getting external research funding. Proposals must involve at least two full time faculty members either of the same

or different CUNY colleges. A total of 39 proposals were submitted. A complete list of the eleven funded proposals, selected primarily on the basis of the numerical ranking and comments of the external reviewers, and their participating faculty members is provided below.

Proposal Title	Faculty
"Acquisition of a real time polymerase chain reaction instrument (RT-PCR) for quantification and identification of nucleic acid templates"	Corinne Michels, Queens College Stephane Boissinot, Queens College Susan A. Rotenberg, Queens College Timothy W. Short, Queens College
"Workstation for Patch-Clamp Electrophysiology"	Mitchell Goldfarb, Hunter College Richard Chappell, Hunter College
"Quantification of neuronal polarization by non-uniform electric fields"	Marom Bikson, City College Lucas Parra, City College Jonathan Levitt, City College
"The effect of estrogen and exercise on bone strength"	Vanessa Yingling, Brooklyn College Theodore Raphan, Brooklyn College
"Atomic Force Microscope (AFM) Impedance Imaging: A Novel Nanometer-Scale Analytical Technique to probe Chemical and Physical Properties of Chemical and Biological Samples"	Hiroshi Matsui, Hunter College Charles Michael Drain, Hunter College Lynn C. Francesconi, Hunter College Steven G. Greenbaum, Hunter College
"Acquisition of AVIV circular dichroism spectrometer for the study of the interactions of macromolecules"	Yujia Xu, Hunter College Akira Kawamura, Hunter College Diana Friedland, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
"Using Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry to Study Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers and Other Organohalogen Compounds in Urban Air"	Pengfei Zhang, City College Jeffery Steiner, City College Urs Jans, City College Teresa Badosz, City College
"Photoluminescence and Raman Scattering Spectroscopy of Wide Band Gap Nanostructures"	Igor L. Kuskovsky, Queens College Steve Schwarz, Queens College Azriel Genack, Queens College
"Acquisition of equipment for multi-robot and mobile sensor networks research"	Jizhong Xiao, City College Myung Lee, City College
"Transmitted light and epifluorescence microscopy system with ultra-fast image acquisition and processing for studies of jamming in emulsions, smooth muscle cell contraction, and quantitation of intracellular protein distributions"	Hernán A. Makse, City College John M. Tarbell, City College M. Lane Gilchrist, City College Maribel Vázquez, City College
"Detecting response distortion in non-cognitive predictors of job performance"	Charles Scherbaum, Baruch College Harold Goldstein, Baruch College Yochi Cohen-Charash, Baruch College
"CATI Software and EQ for Baruch's Survey Research Unit"	Gregg Van Ryzin, Baruch College Marty Frankel, Baruch College David Birdsell, Baruch College Doug Muzzio, Baruch College Kapil Bawa, Baruch College



## Strategies for Success

A grant-writing workshop exclusively for CUNY community college faculty was held at the Graduate Center on

Friday, March 18, 2005. The workshop, which was jointly organized by the Community College Caucus of the University Faculty Senate (CCC-UFS) and the Office of Research, featured a lecture and a breakout session.

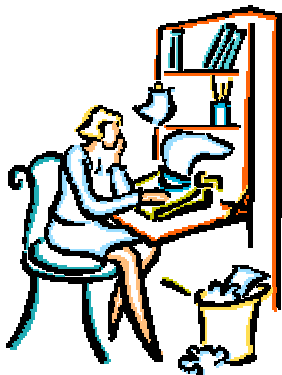
The lecture session included an introduction and welcome by Dr. Susan Farrell, Professor of Behavioral Science, Kingsborough Community College and Past Chair of the CCC-UFS, and talks on different aspects of the grant-writing process by Dr. Gillian Small, the University Dean for Research, Dr. Nkechi Agwu, Professor of Mathematics at Borough of Manhattan Community College, and Dr. David Lieberman, Professor of Physics at Queensborough Community College.

Dean Small's talk focused on funding opportunities and challenges for community college faculty and provided an overview of the second round of the CUNY Community College Incentive Research Grant (CCIRG) program. The differences between writing individual and collaborative grant proposals were highlighted in Dr. Agwu's presentation. Dr. Lieberman gave a brief walkthrough of a standard grant-writing process, providing helpful hints for each stage.

During the breakout session, attending faculty members were grouped with faculty members in their respective disciplines who had won an award during the last round of the CUNY Community College Incentive Research Grant Program. Participants discussed grant-writing strategies appropriate for their respective areas, asked and obtained answers for their more individualized questions and exchanged information about their current research and interests.

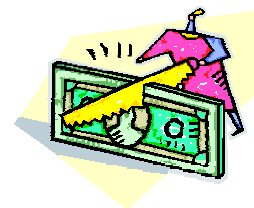
More than sixty members of the CUNY faculty from all six community colleges attended the workshop. An evaluation conducted immediately after the workshop found that the participants were generally pleased with the outcome. Among the faculty members who completed the survey, 88% thought that the presentations at the workshop were informative, 83% found the format of the workshop appropriate, 78% thought that the time allotted for the workshop was adequate, 73% felt that the workshop increased their awareness of grant opportunities, and 68% agreed that attending the workshop encouraged them to submit a grant proposal.

## Crisis in Federal Funding



Sponsored research at CUNY has increased in a significant and impressive manner over recent years. Expenditures through the Research Foundation rose from \$221 million in 2001 to over \$300 million in 2004 and, through the excellent efforts of all of our faculty, we expect this trend will continue. However, on a somewhat more negative note, the looming crisis in federal funding for research in this country is extremely sobering and it seems inevitable that federal funds will be more difficult to secure over the next few years. Funding for the arts and humanities has not fared too badly in recent Presidential budgets, but agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities have fairly modest budgets in the first place. On the other hand, future support for research in areas of science and engineering, by far the largest areas for which federal dollars are directed, is getting tighter. Between 1998 and 2003 we witnessed a doubling in the budget for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), but since then there has been a dramatic slowdown and now we are seeing sub-inflationary budget increases. Funding models predict that gains realized during these doubling years will be erased by 2007 if present funding trends continue<sup>2</sup>. For other funding agencies, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) that suffered a budget cut this year, the situation appears even worse.

I raise this subject not to cause despair but rather to suggest that perhaps we have to approach obtaining funding for research in a slightly different manner. With competition for such funding being high, it may take many more attempts, or re-submissions, in order to be successful. Further, since much of the available funding at NIH and NSF is being targeted for specific areas (the NIH roadmap initiatives, for example), perhaps we have to channel our efforts towards some of these areas. From this office we would like to find additional ways of being helpful in securing research dollars across the CUNY campuses. We currently run a number of internal funding programs to help seed research efforts that will hopefully become competitive for external funding. With the support of the senior administration at the University and the Research Foundation, we recently launched a Bridge Fund Program. The purpose is to help a limited number of faculty who have had a history of funded research, but who may miss a round of funding and need limited financial assistance in order to maintain their research program while they re-submit their proposals. We also offer to support faculty who need to travel to a funding agency to discuss a specific RFP or their own research proposal. All of these programs are described in more detail on our website (<http://cuny.edu/research>). Going forward, we would like to take a more proactive stance in planning collaborative proposals with faculty across several campuses when appropriate. I encourage you to send us suggestions of such grant opportunities for which we might take the lead, as well as any other suggestions of how this office may be able to help research efforts across the University.



This all being said, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of you who have secured funding for your research over this past academic year, and wish you a successful and productive summer.

Gillian Small, Ph.D.  
University Dean for Research

<sup>2</sup> *Science* 296: 1401-1402, 2002

## LINKS AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR FACULTY SPOTLIGHT ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE

### MYRIAM SARACHIK

- Women in Science Award: [www.loreal.com/en/www/loreal-women-in-science/](http://www.loreal.com/en/www/loreal-women-in-science/)
- Oliver E. Buckley prize: <http://www.aps.org/praw/buckley/>
- Dr. Sarachik website: [www.sci.ccnycuny.edu/~sarachik/](http://www.sci.ccnycuny.edu/~sarachik/)
- Dr. Sarachik's contribution to condensed matter physics: [www.physics.ucla.edu/~cwp/dev/exp.1.html](http://www.physics.ucla.edu/~cwp/dev/exp.1.html)
- For more information about Dr. Sarachik's early life and struggles, see: Wasserman, Elga (2000). *The Door in the Dream: Conversations with Eminent Women in Science*, Washington, DC: Joseph Henry Press.

### BONNIE GERSTEN

- CUNY Photonics Initiative, visit the Flagship Initiatives link at [www.cuny.edu/research](http://www.cuny.edu/research)
- NYSTAR's James D. Watson program: [www.nystar.state.ny.us/jdw.htm](http://www.nystar.state.ny.us/jdw.htm)
- Dr. Gersten's website: [gcpages.qc.edu/~bgersten/gersten.html](http://gcpages.qc.edu/~bgersten/gersten.html)
- For more information about Dr. Gersten's research and how it relates to the research of Dr. Deych's research, see Suter, Bob (2004). Photon Initiative: Finding a New Way to Look at Cancer. *Q: The Magazine of Queen's College*, Fall 2004, 4-5.

## CITI - New Web-based IRB Training to Debut in July



In addition to the requirement that all Institutional Review Board (IRB) members and staff receive continuing comprehensive education regarding human subjects protections issues, the IRB is required to ensure all

researchers and "key personnel" also are adequately trained in protection of the rights and welfare of human research subjects.

CUNY has had a computer-based training (CBT) available on the CUNY website and on the RF CUNY website for a number of years. While this training is good, it has not been updated since it was designed more than five years ago. Many new issues have evolved in the human subjects research arena. CUNY's CBT is in need of updating.

There is now a well-respected training product called the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI). This was designed, is updated, and is maintained by a number of nationally known IRB professionals and is housed at the University of Miami. The CITI is more comprehensive than the CUNY CBT. It contains specific modules, each followed by a short quiz. While it is more time consuming than the current CBT, it does not have to be completed in one sitting.

The current CUNY CBT will be replaced by the new CITI modules, effective July 1, 2005.

What does this mean for researchers and key personnel who have already completed the CUNY CBT? Anyone with a CBT certificate before July 1, 2005 will have a two-year grace period to complete the CITI modules. Please be sure to keep a copy of your current CBT certificate. There will be no way to retrieve certificates or verify completion after that date. The new CITI certificates will be valid for three years before a continuing review is required.

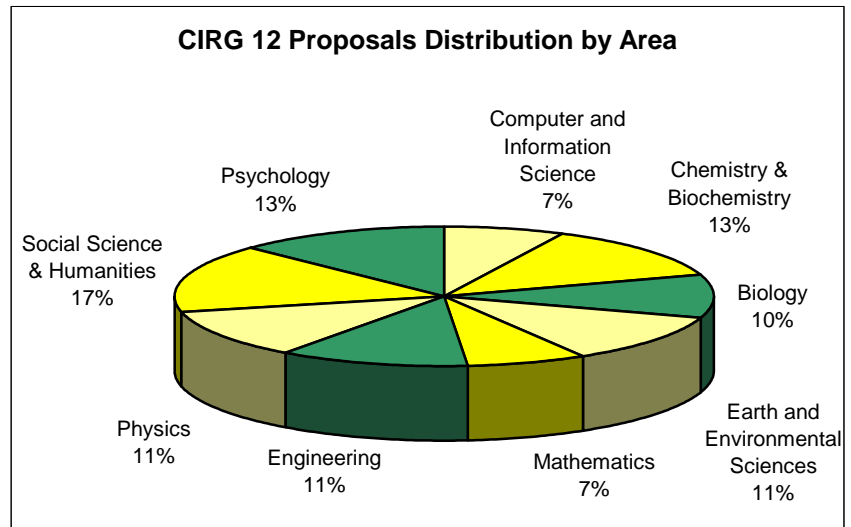
Patricia A. MacCubbin  
Director, Office of Research Conduct  
[patricia.maccubbin@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:patricia.maccubbin@mail.cuny.edu)



## COLLABORATIVE INCENTIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM

### Applications are up by 40%

The number of submissions in the CUNY Collaborative Incentive Research Grant (CIRG) program jumped from 50 to 70 total proposals this year, reflecting a 40% increase. A total of 165 full time faculty members from 18 CUNY campuses were represented in this year's applicant pool; 46% of the applicants were at the Assistant level, 21% at the Associate level and the remaining 33% were at the level of Full Professor. The area wise distribution of proposals was also fairly balanced (see graph).



Each of the submitted proposals is now in the process of being sent out for evaluation by two external reviewers. The completed evaluations are to be submitted by June 17th, 2005. The faculty committee overseeing these awards will convene soon thereafter to select successful proposals based on the numerical rankings and comments of the external reviewers. The results will be announced later in the summer.

The purpose of the CIRG program is to enhance, through multi-campus collaborations, the prestige and prominence of the University to a national and international audience. Since its beginning in 1994, eleven rounds of funding have taken place.



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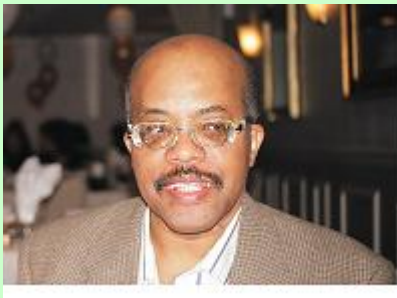
# Around the Campuses



## HUNTER COLLEGE

### APS Honor for Godfrey Gumbs

Godfrey Gumbs, one of Hunter's most widely cited scientific researchers, received two honors from the American Physical Society (APS), the main professional organization in physics. Dr. Gumbs, whose honors include an endowed professorship at Hunter--he is the Maria A. Chianta and Alice M. Stoll Professor of Physics--has been named a Fellow of APS and the recipient of the Society's 2005 Edward A. Bouchet Award. He is also a Fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Physics of the United Kingdom.



Dr. Gumbs was elected to Fellowship--which is granted to only one half of one percent of the APS membership--for his seminal contributions to the understanding of several properties of semiconductors and of mathematical arrangements related to semiconductors. Much of this work was done at Hunter. He received the Bouchet Award for his "pioneering contributions to the understanding of [different types of semiconductors]...and for leadership in recruitment, retention, and mentoring of underrepresented minority students." The Bouchet Award was presented at a special session of the March meeting of APS in Los Angeles.

(Courtesy of Hunter College News)

## GRADUATE CENTER

### Sedgwick Elected to Academy of Arts and Sciences

Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Distinguished Professor of English at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, has been elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences' 225th class. She is among 196 new Fellows and 17 new Foreign Honorary Members selected for their leadership in scholarship, business, the arts, and public affairs.

One of the pioneers of gay and lesbian studies and queer theory, Professor Sedgwick uses scholarship and lyrical prose to explore the widespread effects of homosocial, homosexual, and homophobic currents in Western culture. In addition to her work in sexuality and gender, Dr. Sedgwick has published poetry, a memoir, and essays on affect, psychoanalytic theory, and Buddhism.

Among other honors and awards, she has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Morton Dauwen Zabel award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and Honorable Mention for the Modern Language Association's 1991 James Russell Lowell Prize for her book *Epistemology of the Closet* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990).

Her other leading publications include *Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2003); *Tendencies* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1993); *Between Men: English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire* (New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 1985, reissue 1993); plus a memoir, *Dialogue on Love* (Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 1999), and a volume of poetry: *Fat Art, Thin Art* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1994).

Professor Sedgwick received her Ph.D from Yale University in 1975. Prior to coming to The Graduate Center in 1998, she was the Newman Ivey White Professor of English at Duke University and has taught writing and literature at Hamilton College, Boston University, and Amherst College.

### Milhouš Receives Prestigious Theatre Research award

Graduate Center Distinguished Professor of Theatre Judith Milhouš was awarded a Distinguished Scholarship Award by the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) at a November 2004 awards luncheon ceremony in Las Vegas. The award recognized Professor Milhouš' important publications and research on the English Restoration and late 18th-century English opera, among other topics. She has also co-authored a book with Rob Hume, *Producible Interpretation: Eight English Plays, 1675-1707*, that is widely used in the analysis of dramatic texts, and currently serves as an Editorial Board member for the society.

"ASTR owes her a particular debt of gratitude for her services as a member of the Executive Committee," said Distinguished Professor Marvin Carlson, chairman of the committee selecting the award-winner and a speaker at the ceremony, "as well as her work as Editor of Theatre Survey from 1990 to 1993."

Professor Milhouš has co-authored a number of other historical works, as well, including two volumes of the series *Italian Opera in Late Eighteenth-Century London: A Register of English Theatrical Documents, 1660-1737*; and *Thomas Betterton and the Management of Lincoln's Inn Fields, 1695-1708*. (Courtesy of Nan Shaw, Graduate Center)

## COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND

### Nobel Laureate inaugurates new polymer center at CSI

On March 10, 2005, the College of Staten Island (CSI) inaugurated its Center for Engineered Polymeric Materials (CePM), funded by a five-year, \$2.3 million grant to "bolster and expand high-tech research" as a part of Governor Pataki's initiative to spur technology-based applied research and economic development across the state.

CSI was one of two colleges in New York State to receive the grant, which is funded through the College Applied Research and Technology (CART) program of the New York State Office of Science, Technology, and Academic Research (NYSTAR).

CSI President Marlene Springer gave the opening remarks at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. She was joined onstage by keynote speaker Alan G. MacDiarmid, the 2000 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Kathleen Wise, program director of NYSTAR, and Nan-Loh Yang, CePM director.

Nan-Loh Yang, a CSI chemistry professor and chair of the Polymer PhD Program at The City University of New York (CUNY), will lead the endeavor with a team of three co-directors, CSI faculty members Bhanu Chauhan, Ralf M. Peetz, and Chwen-Yang Shew.

CePM will also enrich the industrial and scientific community by offering outreach programs to professionals to bring them up to date on the latest advancements in the field. In addition, consumers will gain as this work will help to create, among other products, more powerful batteries for consumer electronics and cell phones, materials for medical applications, fibers that will improve optical communications, and pollution abatement resins that will absorb pollutants contained in exhausts.

CePM orchestrates the effort of nine polymer science faculty members at CUNY. The Center has Hunter College as a consortium member and is currently involved with collaborations and outreach programs with six other institutions.

The official opening ceremony was accompanied by a one-day symposium titled "Polymeric Materials and their Industrial Applications," attracting nearly 200 scientists and researchers from across the nation.

The Center's research activity will be overseen by an advisory board of leaders from industry and academic institutions, who will work with CePM scientists to support the overarching goal to promote the economy of New York State through collaborative research and development. (Courtesy of College of Staten Island Public Relations)

## CITY COLLEGE



### Tarbell Receives Top Engineering Medal

City College Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering John Tarbell, a researcher specializing in the heart, stroke, and atherosclerosis-related research, was awarded the H.R. Lissner Medal by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the leading professional organization for mechanical engineers. The Lissner Medal is the highest annual award given by the Manhattan-based association.

Professor Tarbell, also a member of the Graduate Center's Doctoral Program in Engineering, was cited for his work describing the fluid dynamics of the heart's valves and the vascular system; research toward the development of an improved artificial heart; and research on the characteristics of arterial wall cells, all of which is internationally recognized.

At a December 2004 ceremony in Anaheim, California, AMSE noted that Dr. Tarbell also received the award for his "exemplary mentorship and leadership in the biomechanics community." The medal was created in 1977 to highlight significant research accomplishments in bioengineering.

(Courtesy of Nan Shaw, Graduate Center)

### 'Einsteins In The City' Conference



In commemoration of the 100 years of the Einstein Papers and to celebrate the role that The City College of New York played in Einstein's travel to the US, a Student Research Conference was held at the City College of New York on April 11-12, 2005. This

multidisciplinary conference highlighted and broadcasted students' participation in the academic research endeavor.

The event also brought back to their alma mater, four of CCNY's six living Nobel Laureates. The four Nobel Laureates, Dr. Arthur Kornberg (Medicine, 1959), Dr. Herbert Hauptman and Dr. Jerome Karle, who shared the 1985 Prize in Chemistry, and Dr. Leon Lederman (Physics, 1988), paid tribute to another CCNY Nobel Laureate Dr. Julius Axelrod (Medicine, 1970), who died in December 2004. In addition, they participated in a panel discussion entitled "What We Don't Know Will Hurt Us: Scientific Literacy and Science Policy in the U.S.," moderated by Dr. Myriam Sarachik, Distinguished Professor of Physics at CCNY.

Dr. Michio Kaku, Distinguished Professor of Physics and keynote speaker for the conference, gave a talk on "The Role of CCNY in Albert Einstein's Quest to 'Read the Mind of God.'" More than 250 students presented the findings of their research either as panel participants or in poster sessions. Besides CCNY, they represented such institutions as the University of Pittsburgh, Queens College and Vienna University of Technology in Austria.

"Einstein's in the City" was organized jointly by CCNY's School of Education, School of Engineering and Division of Science. Major sponsors included the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Cooperative Remote Sensing Science and Technology Center, ConEdison and Verizon. (Courtesy of City College Office of Public Relations and 'Einstein's in the City' Website at [www.einsteinexpo.com](http://www.einsteinexpo.com))



## QUEENS COLLEGE

### Robert Bittman Named AAAS Fellow



Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Robert Bittman was recently elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He was cited for his contributions to the field of lipids and was recognized at the Fellows Forum on February 19 during the AAAS annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Professor Bittman's research interests include lipids that are active in maintaining the structure of biological membranes and in regulating a variety of cellular functions, such as stimulating or inhibiting cell growth and inducing cell death. He also studies the development of lipids for use in cancer chemotherapy. In addition, his work concerns the interaction of cholesterol with sphingomyelin, which are both essential components of the membranes of mammalian cells.

Professor Bittman has written over 250 research articles and serves on the editorial boards of several scientific journals. He has edited more than 47 volumes of the monograph *Organic Reactions*, and edited Volume 28 of *Subcellular Biochemistry*, "Cholesterol: Its Functions and Metabolism in Biology and Medicine" (Plenum Press). He received the Avanti Award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 2003 for outstanding research contributions in the area of lipids. This career award is given to only one person each year. Professor Bittman's research has been supported for the past 32 years by grants of nearly \$5.5 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He was among the first to receive the NIH MERIT Award, a 10-year research award for which candidates may not apply, but are selected by the NIH. (Courtesy of Queens College Office of Communications)

## CUNY CENTRAL

### "CUNY thrives by your example," EVC Botman Tells Recipients of Major Institutional Grants



"Your grants reflect vision, something that is at the heart of a great educational institution," remarked Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Selma Botman as she addressed the recipients of major institutional grants. Dr. Botman was speaking at the annual reception held in honor of the CUNY faculty members who had been successful in winning major institutional grants for education and public service in the past year. Held at the Newman Conference Center of Baruch College on May 17th, 2005, the reception was attended by Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, Trustee Benno Schmidt, Jr. and Presidents, Provosts, Deans and award recipients across the CUNY system.

Dr. Botman commended the award recipients for their collective "success in attracting grants for a truly dazzling array of projects that span the many disciplines" within the University. To illustrate the wide range and diversity of the successful grants, the Executive Vice Chancellor drew attention to several of this year's winning projects and their principal investigators. These included the Phi Theta Kappa/National Science Foundation grant, "Preparing Tomorrow's Mathematics and Science Teachers at Community Colleges" awarded to Professors Espinoza, Forman, and Phillip and Dean Posner of the Bronx Community College; the Counter Terrorism Preparedness grant from the US Dept. of Justice, awarded to John Jay College Professors Haberfeld and Strozier; US Dept. of Defense grant "Instrumentation for Enhancing Instructional and Research Programs in Geographic Information Science" awarded to Lehman College Professor Zong-Guo Xia; and Altman Foundation's grant, "The Art of Reading," awarded to Professor Goldsmith of New York City College of Technology.

"The range of these grants demonstrates the many ways in which CUNY realizes its commitment to extending the University's contributions from the classroom and laboratory to the community," remarked Dr. Botman. She went on to add, "This is one of the most important ways in which we make tangible our commitment to civic and community engagement. By imagining, communicating, applying, and cultivating knowledge for the public benefit, we fulfill the faith placed in a public university by society to provide a thoughtful center for improving the common good."

Dr. Botman thanked the recipients for "reminding us of the value of a dream." She commented that the honorees not only dared to dream but also utilized their talent to convince others to provide the financial support necessary to make those dreams a reality. This, according to Executive Vice Chancellor Botman, was a truly remarkable accomplishment that is only too easy to overlook in glow of a successfully funded proposal, but which richly deserves recognition as well as encouragement: "CUNY thrives by your example, and it inspires us all to imagine what might be."

## JOURNAL WATCH

### Science Editors' Highlight Chauhan's Research

The "Editors' Choice" section<sup>3</sup> of the April 15 issue of *Science*, picked CSI Professor of Chemistry Bhanu Chauhan's recently published paper in the *Journal of American Chemical Society* to highlight his group's recent findings involving siloxane polymers. The paper, which Dr. Chauhan co-authored with a member of his research group, at the recently established Center for Engineered Polymeric Materials (CePM), Jitendra S. Rathore, reports on the use of "platinum nanoclusters as hydrosilylation catalyst to append terminal olefins to the Si-H branches of (methylhydro) siloxane polymers."

<sup>3</sup> *Science* 308: 326-327, 2005.



## Events & Announcements



### Annual Fall IRB Symposium – September 8, 2005



The CUNY Office of Research Conduct conducts an annual full-day training session for all Institutional Review Board (IRB) members and staff each Fall. The 2005 Symposium will be held at Baruch College on September 8, 2005.

The federal Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) mandates that IRB members receive continuing, comprehensive training. This annual full-day Symposium is designed to meet that requirement. Last year's sessions focused on international research, research with prisoners, research with HIV positive subjects, HIPAA, and research on the Internet. This year sessions will address the many complex issues of research with children and students, and research data security issues.

Provosts and grants officers are invited to join all IRB members and staff for this Symposium. For more information, please contact Patricia MacCubbin, Director of the Office of Research Conduct, at [Patricia.MacCubbin@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:Patricia.MacCubbin@mail.cuny.edu).



### New Internal Review Procedure for Large Multi-Campus Collaborative Research Grants

On April 5, 2005, the University Dean for Research released a new internal review procedure for large multi-campus collaborative research proposals, which meet ANY of the following criteria:

- The call for proposal limits the number of submission from an eligible institution and CUNY is considered as a single institution;
- The proposal includes a multi-campus collaboration and the amount of funding requested is \$500,000 or larger;
- The intended submission will request some form of support from the central office (such as matching funds).

CUNY faculty interested in developing such proposals are now requested to submit a preliminary proposal at the campus grants office of the lead institution, six weeks prior to the filing deadline.

Please contact the research office at [oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu](mailto:oaaresearch@mail.cuny.edu) for more information.

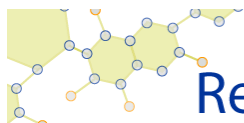
### Next Issue Highlights



The next issue of the Research Newsletter will focus on the launching of a new program for Postdoctoral Researchers across the CUNY system. In addition to the regular sections on Faculty Spotlight, Campus Roundup and Dean's Corner, it will provide updates on the Community College Incentive Research Grants (CCIRG) program and the Faculty Development program.

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# Research Newsletter

