

H O S T O S   C O M M U N I T Y   C O L L E G E  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 10, 1971

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FLAGS OF VARIOUS GROUPS MAY NOW BE HUNG AT HOSTOS

President Nasry Michelen announced today that the flag of the United States of America is now flying over the Concourse Campus building of Hostos Community College at 149th Street and the Grand Concourse in the Bronx.

In a memorandum to the college community on February 1, President Michelen stated that "flags of any group may fly over the Concourse Campus" provided that the group is "recognized" by the student government and that the American flag flies in a position higher relative to other flags. The flying of the American flag at Hostos now makes it possible for students to fly flags which reflect their personal sense of pride and involvement with their community. The South Bronx, a predominantly Black and Puerto Rican community, is strikingly represented at Hostos Community College, where 70% of the students are residents of this area.

President Michelen said that he believes the flying of flags is "just one visible form of freedom of expression, a freedom which educational institutions should assume the leadership in promoting and supporting whenever possible."

After obtaining recognition of their organization by the student government, a student group must submit their request to hang a flag to the College Council, whose responsibility it is to make some form of recommendation to the president. The funds to finance this activity will come out of student fees.

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