PUTTING A NEW FACE

Edward R. Murrow

Lawrence G. Campbell

ON Journalism !!!
To all CUNY students:

My name is Lawrence Campbell, the new editor-in-chief of “The Bridge.” My goal is to make “The Bridge” more enjoyable for all our readers and in the process, gain more readers. I plan on doing this by adding a variety of new ideas, for example ideas like a comic strip, beauty of the month, a horoscope page and much more. In closing, my staff and I plan on making this year’s “Bridge” one of the best publications ever published.

Editor-in-Chief
Lawrence Campbell
Dear students,

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to the college as you begin a new and exciting academic year.

Like many entering freshmen and transfer students who just began their first semester at the college, I, too, am starting my first year as the third president of this great college.

I want to assure every one of you that you have made the best possible choice in coming to LaGuardia. If you haven't already discovered it, this is a very special place. And the reason for that is simple: our students.

LaGuardia has the diverse population of students of any community college in the country. And you all encounter, whether its financial concerns, job responsibilities, family obligations, or you are determined to pursue an associate degree.

That's why you make LaGuardia a great college.

Being a community college, understand the heavy demands on your life. The place where you run to for two minutes, and run family. But it does not have to be that way. You have all the opportunities the college has to offer. Take advantage of the room knowledge in the of your classes, do not hesitate to talk with your professors. All instructors are there for you and dedicated to providing you with the best education possible.

Instructors are also interested in how you feel about your courses. If you like the class, writing a note of thanks is a very nice gesture. On the other hand, if you are not pleased with how a course is going, a note indicating your concerns is equally important to them.

To ensure your academic success, the college also offers a wide range of support systems. There are counselors who can advise you on your career and academic choices. And there are plenty of tutoring centers in every academic area. Do not wait until the night before a paper is due to realize that there are people here who can help you shape that assignment into an “A” paper.

The college also offers an array of student activities. Take a break and go to the college's terrific recreational facility, which includes a pool, fitness center, and sports gym. There are over 27 clubs and organizations that are always welcoming new members. For more information on clubs and other student life offerings, call the Student Life office at (718) 482-5193 or visit the office at M-115. Try and take advantage of everything the college has to offer.
What ever happened to the dream?

In 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. let the world see his dream. Standing at the podium, Dr. King made all nations stop and listen to his dream. Three years later, Dr. King was assassinated. The conspiracy behind his death would take over 35 years to reveal itself. When he died so did his dream. Right after his death, numerous riots broke out in Watts and many other sections of the country. It was like people forgot all about the dream that was to be a reality. Up until this day many believe that Dr. King’s dream was always alive. Followers of Dr. King’s movement had another march on Washington. Even though there was a massive turnout, many people believed that somewhere down the line Dr. King’s dream had faded. For example, Amadou Diallo was brutally shot dead in the hail of 41 shots. This was an open and shut case of murder and violation of civil rights, because those who participated in the man’s slaughter were
acquitted. In other cases dealing with the same kind of civil rights violations, the police and the Mayor’s office tried to justify the shootings by assassinating the character of the victims in the case. To me, society is backwards. If a man shoots another man intentionally or not he is put in jail, but if a cop unloads his gun into an unarmed man he’s acquitted. What ever happened to justice? Whatever happened to the dream?
Students Write to the Mother of Amadou Diallo

This is a letter from the Chair of USS to the mother of Amadou Diallo. Trustee Md. Mizanoor Biswas urges all people to write to Mrs. Kadiadou Diallo and voice your reactions to the tragic event that took place February 1999 in the Bronx. To know more about how to send your letter(s) to the Diallo family call the USS office at (212) 714-2198.

Dear Mrs. Kadiadou Diallo,

Asalamualikum Wa Rahmatullah.

I am writing to send you my deepest condolences, and to express my grief over the loss of your son. It is no small task to try and convey the complexity of feelings that I have experienced over the last few months. But no feelings in me could stand against the loss of a child, and I pray in earnest to the almighty Allah that he blesses you with the strength you will certainly need for the road ahead. There are no words that I could think of that could inspire comfort in you. If there were, I would use them myself. The only comfort that there is in this whole mess is that your son; in spite of what the system says, was not, is not, insignificant. He matters; he matters to me, he matters to you and he matters to millions of New Yorkers who will not let his memory go silently into that long good night. That your son is our son, our father, our brother, our responsibility and we let him down. So I make it my solemn oath that this life snuffed out so young and so innocent will not be in vain. My promise to you Mrs. Diallo is that I will not let your son’s legacy end with a hail of 41 bullets. The best tribute that I could give your son Amadou is to let his life be a rallying cry for Justice and a remembrance that we must be our brothers keeper, only because that brother could be someone else’s son. I don’t know if that will be enough to heal the wounds I feel but it is enough to start with.

Sincerely,

Md. Mizanoor Biswas
Pataki’s Budget

Blasts CUNY

By Bill Crain

Governor George Pataki’s budget for next year will hurt CUNY’s most financially strapped students. It calls for a $2 million cut in SEEK, a combined reduction of $2 million for child care services at the senior and community colleges, and a $40 million statewide reduction in TAP. These cuts, coming at a time when the state enjoys a budget surplus, are simply cruel. There should be a tuition decrease to help students—not cuts like these.

The governor’s budget, which must be approved by the state legislature before going into effect, also fails to provide money for additional full-time faculty. Since CUNY has suffered severe losses of full-time faculty since the early 1980s, and will lose more next year, the lack of replacement money is serious. One has to ask whether the budget reflects a plan to downsize the university.

The Pataki budget does provide a 2% overall increase for the senior colleges. Much of this new money will go to the new remedial programs that CUNY is putting in place as it phases out the current remedial offerings. The new programs include immersion institutes and new tests. The community colleges, which are supposed to help many students who are barred from the senior colleges, will suffer an overall funding loss of 1%.

As noted, the governor’s budget is not final. If the university community and the wider communities actively oppose it, the pressure will be on the governor and the legislature to revise it. Let’s press for a fair budget that gives students a chance.
Rebirth

It’s an early December morning--the sound of the chain gang is roaring--these men are not your typical chain gang. Instead of working with pitchforks and shovels it’s beat machines and sound booths. That’s right, I’m talking about chain reaction records and their hot new group the “Chain Gang..”
We caught up with rapper Blu Flame in the sound booth where he was working on his hit new single “Let It Burn.” When asked what makes him better than the rest of the other rappers out there, he said simply, “they spit fire, I spit lava so you tell me who’s hotter.”
“Love me or hate me,” the motto of the up and coming rap artist E Legal Fah. With his laid back rapping approach and his knack for dressing it is rather easy to see how he adopted the name of Fayd after the late Dodi Fayd. Since the start of his career, he has become accustomed to the cameras, bright lights and is definitely making a name for himself in this big City.
Real rap is what the Brooklyn native Costolano says his lyrics are. This young man is taking the rap game by storm. His name alone demands respect "the boss" and if you have ever seen him perform so does his skills.
Find out more on Chain reaction on the web. www.chainreactioninc.com
Police Brutality

The Police Brutality T-Shirt Project invites students, faculty and staff to express their ideas about this very serious issue in an artistic way through drawings, pictures or text on a T-shirt.

T-shirts will be collected and hung across the Atrium during the week of seminars and discussions in March.

Police Brutality is a crucial issue affecting all of our communities and our country.

Student Center for Women
LaGuardia Community College
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW ACTIVE WOMEN!

JOIN THE STUDENT CENTER FOR WOMEN AT LA GUARDIA

Our goal is to connect with all women at LaGuardia.

We seek to empower, support, and strengthen all women.

We want to create physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental change.

We want to make all our resources available to women at LaGuardia.

We seek to give women a voice, not just at LaGuardia, but in society at large.

We want to make women leaders in all aspects of life.

After all, WE ARE THE MAJORITY!

HOURS FALL 2
Student Center for Women
M-114
Phone: 482-5188

Monday 9:15 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday 10:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. & 4:25 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Wednesday 10:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursday 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. & 3:15 – 8 p.m.
The Black Student Union

Black is a shade, a beautiful shade that’s popular. Most people wear black clothing because it tends to be attractive. African Americans are classified as being black. Yes! And that’s what we are. We are strong people who need to unite and portray how wonderful we can be. We tend to belittle ourselves and to hold our heads down and not shine. Slavery has ended years ago, so why use slavery for the negative things which we allow to happen to us? We survived the depression. Our ancestors fought for us, so why not greet each other with respect and honor? Tanisha Jones is my name and I am a strong black woman and I am proud to walk the streets of New York and smile; I am proud to take the bus and sit in the front seat and I am proud because I am successful. There is a spark in LaGuardia Community College and yes! It’s beginning to shine. It is “The Black Student Union” (B.S.U). The BSU is expanding; it has over thirty members and is expecting more. The club board consists of President Jahraime Lewis, Vice-President Shawn Grant, Secretary Emanuel Remmy, Treasurer Nateka and SAC representative Tanish Jones. We are working together with our fellow members, to bring out the black: to let that spark turn into light and to let that light shine and shine with heat and then translate into fire. You see we, as black people are hot; we are successful; we are beautiful and also recognized. If you are black happy and attend the BSU meetings on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. UNITY is all we need because we will, we shall and we must be heard.
Welcome to the Bridge poetry corner
To Love Once Again
By: Milly

Sometimes I can’t help myself
Knowing how I feel
I push and push until you get vexed
Denying myself this steal
I know you doubt these words that I speak
But I know I mean them to the extreme
I try and try not to feel this way-
   But I can’t help myself, these emotions just stay
I know I’m wrong for doing what I do
But, as I think back I doubted the words you spoke, too.
I keep trying to deny these emotions inside
But, these damn feelings just won’t subside
All I want to do is hear your voice,
Feel your arms around me,
Knowing that it’s your choice
I won’t push myself, though you’re there
But please let me know-Is it me you fear?
Do you fear the love I have to offer?
Do you fear that my words aren’t true?
Do you fear that I’m playing you?
Do you fear the same thing I do?
Are these emotions something new?
Are these feelings I feel real-it is true?
Peace in My Soul
By: Milly

Peace in my soul is yet to be found
Through all the controversy and depictions
That’s analyzed by the crown.
Time passes and nothing seems to change
Things get better, then they go back to the same
You came along and brightened up my days,
But my soul has not found ease, not yet anyways
Still awaiting to be released from all pain and anguish
Hoping you can give it to me and bring smiles instead of tears
So many fears, so hard to explain
And feeling for you brings me the peace that I’ll hope to gain
Praying each night for peace in my soul
Anxiously awaiting it to take its toll
Minute by minute and hour by hour
Day by day and year by year
As time passes and each period goes by
My tears compensate for the peace in my soul
That’s yet to be found in my eyes.
Whatever happened to the dream?

What ever happened to the dream?

That was one day to be seen.

What ever happened to the dream that made the whole world look?

What ever happened to the dream captured in my history book?

What ever happened to the dream I heard of as a child?

It’s hard to believe that dream while I’m treated like an animal from the wild.

What ever happened to the dream embedded in you, wife?

What ever happened to the dream that cost a good man his life?

Thinking about his world make me want to scream,

With tears in my eyes i ask you

What ever happened to the dream?

Lawrence Campbell
Curry Club of the Month

Angelika James
Sign: Aries
Hobbies: shopping & dancing
Do you have a voice?

Are you looking for a place to display your creative talents? *We’re looking for you*

Sign up now to be a part of the bridge.

Contact Advisor Jack Lynch for details.

Room E - 103X    Phone: (718) 482-5679
The Bridge

LaGuardia Community College's Student News Magazine