CUNY unveils Master Plan

By ALEKSANDR SIDOROV

CUNY unveiled 2004-2008 Master Plan in November 2005 at meetings with student club representatives all over CUNY campuses. Yearly tuition increases are one of the important factors of the Master Plan, which according to the plan, which has yet to be approved by the New York State Legislature, the tuition increase would be 4.3% for the 2006-07 semester for community colleges, like LaGuardia, and 3.3% for senior colleges like Queens College.

The Master Plan should be implemented by the Fall 2006 semester at all CUNY campuses. The tuition for senior colleges would increase by $130 to $4,130 per year, and community colleges’ tuition would increase, but by a smaller amount: $120 to $2,290. By the 2009-10 semesters, yearly tuition for senior colleges will be $4,390, while community college students will have to pay $3,160. These figures are representations of what a full-time, New York State resident, 2-credit student will have to pay. The figures do not include out-of-state and international student, who pay nearly 50% more than their matriculated counterparts.

To offset students’ costs, CUNY came up with a plan so that what a student has to pay in Fall 2006 will be the same as they pay now.

For those who receive TAP (Tuition Assistance Program), the increase should have no effect, since the TAP is large enough to cover this increase. For students who do not have TAP or any other grants, corporations and other donors should help those students and pay the difference.

The administration was not clear as to how that would be done and which students will qualify.

Continued on Page 5

Man attempts suicide from E Building

By SABRINA HARTEL

On Jan. 10, 2006, a hearing-impaired male in his early 20s attempted suicide from the fifth floor of the E Building at LaGuardia Community College around 5 p.m., according to top officials at the Public Safety Office.

The young man, who was not a student at the college, and whose identity will be withheld for privacy, entered the building with a valid driver’s license, and stated that he was there to visit a cousin. Moments later, according to Ed Sisco, LaGuardia’s public safety director, he made his way up to the fifth floor, and through an unlocked door where he exited, and stood on the ledge of the roof.

Students spotted the man from below, and security personnel responded immediately, as well as local police and fire fighters, when he was safely removed from the roof, and escorted to the hospital by two Public Safety officers – according to an official report from LaGuardia’s Chief External Affairs office.

Even though the man was from the neighborhood, LaGuardia’s open-door policy has raised some concerns about student safety. “This is an open campus,” said Captain Brooks, from the Public Safety Office, “They show us a valid driver’s license, and we can’t stop them, or even know where they are going.”

LaGuardia is one of a few of CUNY’s colleges with an open door policy while some close their doors to the public; a student must show a valid student I.D. to gain access to the college grounds.

Continúa en la página 8

Regresa el Programa de Educación Bilingüe

Gústele a quien no le guste

Por FABIAN ZARTA

A través de los últimos años, en Estados Unidos el bilingüismo ha venido tomando bastante fuerza, en especial cuando de Español e Ingles nos referimos; esto gracias a un alto índice de inmigración Hispánica. Consecuentemente, se ha ido creando mayor conciencia cada vez más, en cuanto a la formación académica en los dos lenguajes, hecho que debe prevalecer. Ello fundamenta la existua trascendencia de nuestra sociedad y la expansión del pensamiento de nuestra raza.

El Programa Bilingüe arraiga en el año 1973 pero genera fuertes fundamentos después de 1974 en LaGuardia. Según informes de “Bilingual People Services”, antiguos exgraduados de LaGuardia, hay gran demanda de maestros bilingües en la ciudad pues los que hay no suplen las necesidades. Sin embargo, hace aproximadamente dos años atrás el programa dejó de funcionar en LaGuardia por cuestiones aparentemente de revisión y/o reestructuración. Hecho que no dudo haya sido importante para el desenvolvimiento de de nuestros futuros educadores bilingües. Pero estamos hablando de un periodo bastante larg, ¿Cuáles realmente fueron las razones? Me di a la labor de indagar al respecto, y después de escuchar voces aqui y alla, contacte a Ana Maria Hernández, maestra de Literatura, y una de las pioneras con este programa en LaGuardia.

“Yo fui una de las primeras sorprendidas cuando el programa fue cerrado” dice la docente. Y agrega “aún me pregunto, cuales fueron las razones? Me di a la labor de indagar al respecto, y después de escuchar voces aqui y alla, contacte a Ana Maria Hernández, maestra de Literatura, y una de las pioneras con este programa en LaGuardia.

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School lunch tasting more like money

By JENNIFER MORRON

Listening to the sweet beat of “Jingle Bell Rock,” a great holiday song, I could smell the thick cheeseburger sandwich sitting on my friend’s plate.

“How much was that? It looks good!” I asked facing her as she was placing the gigantic burger in her mouth. “How does it taste?”

“It’s good, here try it. It was $2.39,” she replied as she positioned the burger in my hands fully covered with ketchup.

“How much was that? For a cheeseburger? And this is not including a drink, correct? Wow! In McDonald’s, you could buy two cheeseburgers for that price!” I had remembered this past experience as I saw my two friends eating those crispy curly fries and a cup of warm, delicious oatmeal. School lunch is tasting more like money to me than food.

Cost is Great, Correct?

There are two cafeterias, one in the M Building located on Thosmon Avenue and an additional cafeteria in the C Building located on 43rd Street on Thomson Avenue. Both have the same type of food, such as crispy curly fries, warm cheeseburgers and even sushi. The food is fantastic and so is its cost, isn’t it?

Ebony Dawkins and Ayesha Sultana, freshmen, both disagree. “The school lunch tastes very good, but it is putting a dent in my pocket because it is too expensive,” Dawkins said. Sultana added that the food cost was making her waste about $30.00 per week.

Even staff members of the Recreation Department agree that the food is too expensive. “I think the school lunch is way too expensive and they need to have more of a variety of foods to choose from since the school promotes diversity,” one staff member spoke out.

Another staff associate, Tamer Altan disagreed and thought that there was a large selection to choose from and the price was pretty reasonable.

Many have the same opinion with these staff members, particularly on the price range. A cup of cereal itself is sold separately from a container of milk. Together, that would be close to three dollars.

Another example would be a turkey sandwich. This alone would come out to almost $4.00. Additionally, there is ten percent sales tax on the food. Why the tax? Mike Gelles, President of the Food Corporation of CUNY food services added, “It’s the law. We can’t get away from it.”

Could a Difference Happen?

The head of the food industry here at LaGuardia said they can lower the prices, but to keep in mind, they do sell more of a quantity than McDonald’s for the same price. For example, the box of small French fries costs the same amount but they are made instantly, hot and fresh.

Another example would be a turkey sandwich. This alone would come out to almost $4.00. Additionally, there is ten percent sales tax on the food. Why the tax? Mike Gelles, President of the Food Corporation of CUNY food services added, “It’s the law. We can’t get away from it.”

7 Eleven Moves Into Town

Recently, a new 7 Eleven opened across the street from the E Building. Many students have been going there and buying hotdogs and instant spaghetti. When asked if there was a decline in customers, Levine explained, “Not that I have seen. I’ve seen a couple of 7 Eleven coffee cups in the school campus but no decline has been made. I personally feel that the store was built on the wrong side of the street because it’s dangerous.”

The wide block has traffic lights, but is still known as a dangerous street due to the fact that the Queensboro Expressway is right next to the school. It is in fact very perilous but many students seem to rather choose 7 Eleven than college food, regardless of the weather or the traffic.

Many students, like Austin Auriemma, choose 7 Eleven rather than the college’s cafeterias. “Well, first of all, everybody crosses that street, to go to the train station or to buy their cigarettes. And, well, rain doesn’t bother me at all. It’s just across the street; it’s not like walking an extra 10 blocks or something.”

The prices in 7 Eleven are as costly as college lunch. The only difference is they sell more of a variety like dishes of instant noodles, hotdogs, slushies, hot pockets, frozen dishes and additional materials for home and to eat.

“Could a Difference Happen?”

The head of the food industry here at LaGuardia said they can lower the prices, but to keep in mind, they do sell more of a quantity than McDonald’s for the same price. For example, the box of small French fries costs the same amount but they are made instantly, hot and fresh.

“I recommend before the students go and make assumptions about our food being pricey, to check out any other CUNY school. Out of all CUNY food industries, we are the lowest committee in the system. I do feel strongly, a petition could be made.”

If anyone feels strongly about the food prices or quality, please feel free to voice your opinion. A single voice can make a difference.

Corrections:

Pictures from Bridge Update (page 2) for November 2005 were taken by Robert Lam, not Randy Fader-Smith.

Author of “Enrollment Service Center Opens for Business” on page 4 in October edition of The Bridge is Charles Arizmendi, not Ed Cen.
International High School receives high marks

By ANGIE ORTIZ

A recent study done by the City University of New York Graduate Center has compared the graduation and dropout rates of international high schools with traditional high schools. The international high schools participating in this study were Brooklyn International, Manhattan International, and LaGuardia's very own International High School. It was found that the graduation rate for foreign students is higher than foreign students from traditional high schools. For international high schools overall, the 4 year dropout rate is 5.2%, while the rate for students who are learning English is at 31.5%, and 19.9% for students who aren't English language learners.

Many will wonder, what are the international schools offering that the others aren't?

This research was also looked at further by other factors such as age, gender, and GPA. LAGCC's International High School receives students from all over the world. There are students who recommend the school to other family members who wish to learn English and study in America, and sometimes the demand is high to get it, so admissions has a waiting list set up.

This particular exhibition presented a collaborative final project of each photographer as explained by Mr. Scott Sternbach, Lecturer and Director of Commercial Photography at LaGuardia Community College. "They have given their time and effort to outside sources, such as people who speak a language learners.

While there is tutoring available to help them. Every teacher helps students improve their English along with their schoolwork. In its 20th year, the international high school in LAGCC has many success stories, such as receiving and winning grants from foundations such as the Gates Grant for the Early College Program. Also, officials from other states such as Colorado will visit the high school to gain knowledge on what to do to achieve an international high school as successful as LaGuardia's. Officials from North Carolina have also visited the school to gain insight on opening an Early College Program similar to the school's.

Once the students reach their goal, they are able to participate in the honor of graduating from their high school, which takes place in LaGuardia's main stage theater in the evening when parents who can attend this special event. The graduation ceremony is performed in English, but students who speak are welcomed to say something in their native language as well as translate for the others. The ceremony also has special guest speakers, some who are given awards from the school.

Many special awards are given to the students at the time of graduation, from academic achievements to scholarships to private schools that can be up to $100,000. Awards are also given to outside sources, such as people who have given their time and funds to help the school continue with its success.

Photographers light up LaG

Commercial Photography Majors illuminate campus with vivid colors, images and creativity.

By BETTY BENITEZ

The LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Commercial Photography Department presented, Student's Exhibition by Upper Class Photography Majors, October 12 through November 30, 2005.

The student exhibition presented work by ten Upper Class Photography Majors. Students' work was showcased in a glass case located in the main lobby of the college, where most student could get a glimpse of the exhibition.

Each student offers a unique style of photography. Students submitted their best work in both, black and white and color. The photographs also varied in subjects from landscapes and experimental work to studio still life, portraits and photodocumentaries.

This particular exhibition presented student-produced and student-curator work. Students were in charge of production, which allowed space for hands-on experience. The curator opportunity was given to student and Commercial Photography major Sungoon Kim, 31.

Sungoon Kim printed all photographs on an Epson 7600 ink jet printer using Ultra Chrome Archival ink. He also did the layout of the photographs, by choosing from thumbnail images. His final choice was 24x33 life-size photographs. Having design experiences helped him curate this exhibition. "I have a bachelor degree in Fine Arts [and] my major was design, so I think I was pretty much familiar with doing printing and using computers," he said. According to Sungoon, his experiences helped him organize the exhibition, but it was still hard work. "It took a lot of time to put together the images and print them out. It took 1 month because of my class schedule," he said.

The exhibition was intended to highlight work by students produced in in-class assignments and individual outside work. There were no guidelines as to what types of work were installed. The final choice was made by the students themselves as explained by Mr. Scott Sternbach, Lecturer and Director of Commercial Photography at LaGuardia Community College. "I gave them basic guidelines which the subject matter did not matter, the thing that mattered was the quality of the work. They should only show their best work that would translate well to a large image," he said.

Students were also very happy that their work was installed in the exhibition. "As a student from LaGuardia Community College, I feel grateful that my work is up because there are only a few students whose work is up - ten out of at least thirty students," said Upper Photography Major Mauricio Quintero, 22. Mauricio's displayed work is experimental. He uses a technique called painting with light, where the subject he photographs is highlighted by a flash light in plain darkness. "I feel everybody's work is up - ten, and I feel good about my school and class work. I feel confident about my school and department," he said.

Each photograph has a different meaning and reflects specific visions of each photographer as explained by Photography Major Joe Canter, 31. His photographs were black and white documentaries. "I think it is important, because I photograph out of state, the small towns of Maine and Texas. [It] is a good way for students to see lifestyles out of New York and a lot of my pictures in this exhibition are photo-documentary and portrait, I really like to tell a story with my pictures, I love pictures," he commented.

Please contact the school for more information.

Get involved in your newspaper! Join The Bridge Meetings are Wednesdays at 2:45 p.m. in M 159
LaGuardia helps to battle asthma

LaGuardia Community College launches a 300 Family Asthma Assessment and Prevention Project focused on Elmhurst, Queens and Parkchester, the Bronx.

By WALTER IWACHIW

Through a $250,000 two-year Federal Environmental Protection Administration Project LaGuardia Community College is recruiting volunteers and eligible participants in an asthma assessment and prevention project in Elmhurst, Queens and Parkchester. This study is a collaborative effort with Environmental Protection Department of Education, the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, and community hospitals supporting the LaGuardia-based project.

The motivation for the program is the continued increase in asthma cases among the New York City population. Currently, over 700,000 adults and 300,000 children are diagnosed. This assessment project is an effort to establish monitoring and remedial programs to stem the tide of asthma and the thousands of deaths that result every year. Low-income communities have a threefold greater incidence of childhood hospitalization from asthma.

This initiative involves conducting an initial assessment of the home environment and providing individuals with educational information on how to minimize or eliminate asthma triggers such as pests, dust mites, secondhand smoke, molds, and household cleaning products. Six months after the initial visit, a Master Home Environ mentalist will conduct a follow-up visit to evaluate the effectiveness of asthma education in decreasing the occurrence of asthma symptoms.

The project is recruiting individuals with asthma and health care workers through its website (http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/AsthmaProject/). Volunteer Healthcare workers are being recruited from the community, student and faculty base and the project offers a stipend to qualified students to defer the costs incurred.

Allied health field students are encouraged to volunteer and take advantage of the training with a certificate as community health worker, provided by the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation in support of the program. The student body as a whole is encouraged to inform eligible friends in the Elmhurst and Parkchester areas to register for the benefits of the program, which includes an asthma kit with products to help control asthma symptoms, a home assessment for asthma triggers and education designed to minimize or eliminate triggers in the home.

LaGuardia CC faculty, staff and at large members on the asthma assessment and prevention committee are project director Rosely Ocaiviano, RN, MA, ACE, project manager Marcia Caton, RN, Ph.D. Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, committee members Cynthia Boone, OTR/L, Fredesvinda Dura, BScChE, ME, Debra Engel, PT, DPT, MS, Nurper Gokhan, PT, DPT, MS, Nurper Gokhan, Ph.D., Adjoa Gizzi, BA, MA, Rosann Ippolito, MS, RD, CDN, Francine Kline, E. Mark, Ph.D., Maria Pinti, Fonti, RN, BSN, MA, Dian Slade, RN, MSN, Ione Thomas-Connor, RN, BSN, MA, EPA Project Officer Ameesha Mehla-Sampath, EPA Grant Specialist Douglas Roberts.

Family Asthma Assessment and Prevention Project http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/AsthmaProject/

A Spanish Edition at The Bridge

Dear readers,

LaGuardia is made up of approximately 48% Hispanic students, more of us immigrants, some others with Hispanic roots. This is a high percentage if we see how many cultures we find around a city like New York or even in a country like Queens. Although our college has had this statistic for over 20 years, the importance of the Spanish language has been growing in the U.S.

We didn't have a Hispanic edition in The Bridge, before January 2006. In fact, it was a big mistake. Even though English language is an important tool for our advancement, personal/social overcoming and successful life in this country, we should work to preserve the basis of our culture. In illustration, the language is fundamental for this new. When we come to be part of a new community, it is almost impossible that a transformation or mutation doesn't happen, it is not good and it is not bad. It is as simple as change. It creates a new concept of evolution in the thoughts of society in which each individual is adapting himself/herself and a sentiment gives what they have. However, it doesn't just mean to receive commands like a machine; it must be a feedback of thought, forming new missions and visions in the society. Therefore, I stepped up to contribute to this cause, opening El Español, La Sección in The Bridge.

The Spanish Section (pages 8-10) will have news of what is going on in the Hispanic world at LaGuardia. I am a person like most people here and I'll be a learner all my life because there is always something to discover. Even though my first language is Spanish, I am also learning its grammatical structure, vocabulary, history and present everyday. This is to invite all of you who want to be part of this idea, Hispanic and American people. There is hope with this section that is shared by The Bridge's staff because it expands our multicultural culture in LaGuardia. Finally, I want to give thanks to all my comrades, interviewed people and you, readers, for supporting this idea in The Bridge.

Thank you,

Fabian Zarta
Editor, El Español, La Sección
Congress announces grants for science students

By WALTER IWACHIW

On Dec. 24, 2005 the U.S. Senate, following the House of Representatives, approved a five-year $3.75 billion Smart and Academic Competitiveness Grants program, funded by budget deficit reduction bill. The grant program will provide additional dollars to Pell recipients who had a rigorous High School curriculum in the first year an additional $750.00 the second year with a 3.0 GPA and a major in science, math or language, the third and fourth year amounts rising to $4,000.

The Eleventh Hour Christmas Grants, from the U.S. Congress, to supplement LaGuardia Student education financing while cutting back on medical benefits and bank school loan subsidies. The grants were called the Smart and Competitive Grant Student Aid Program. These grants supplement Pell Grant Eligible Students Majoring in Sciences and Math. The grant and loan program changes are funded by a $39.7 billion deficit reduction bill and awaiting further information about the effective date of the legislation.

The objective of the additional financial aid is to provide financial incentives to College students across American to major in the sciences, math and the languages as well as sciences, engineering and the languages largely because the U.S. economy is dependent on these career paths for the future and there is a shortage of these kinds of professionals.

The new Master Plan is different from CUNY's tuition increases in the past. Justin Pastor, LaGuardia's representative at University State Senate (USS) of CUNY, views the plan as good. "I think that the plan is better than the past because the increase is gradual instead of having the tuition jump every few years," he said. The gradual tuition increase ensures that the University expenses will be covered even with inflation. It also adds programs to the colleges, while decreasing emphasis on students paying tuition. According to CUNY's website, the percentage of CUNY's budget funded by students' tuition will decrease to 37.6% in 2009-10 semester from the current 40.6%.

CUNY officials point out that the last increase, which was in 2004, raised tuition by $800 in senior colleges and $300 in community colleges. Though, some of LaGuardia's students disagree with the plan. At the time of the announcement of the plan, students leaders spoke against the hike, calling it unfair because the time the changes are implemented, the students will be gone. Mr. Elliot acknowledged their concerns, but said it's out of their hands, since LaGuardia is only a two-year college.

Some international students voiced their concerns as well, citing the fact that they pay more than other students, while not getting any aid from the government or any other sources, other than their own income. Elliot tried to alleviate their concerns by repeating that the difference in tuition will be paid by a private investor.

<table>
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<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Projected Senior College Increase</th>
<th>Senior College Tuition Rate</th>
<th>Projected Community College Increase</th>
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<td>3.1%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I'm going to be working on my career in real estate, my LaGuardia classes and, if I have time, party!

- Alberto Santiago, Deaf Studies

I am going to go upstate four-wheeling and working on a farm

- Radica Lazic, Liberal Arts: Math and Science

Vegetating on the sofa as I graduate at the end of this session.

- Suzanne Georgion, Teacher's Ed/English
How Do You Plan to Spend Your Spring Break?

"I'd like to look for another job so that I can quit the one that I have right now."
- Alexander Espinoza, Computer Science

"Traveling. Whoo! I love to travel. I just got a new car, so I can’t wait to take a road trip with my girlfriends. What better time than springbreak?"
- Monique Pettawal, Liberal Arts: Social Sciences

"I plan to visit my family in Massachusetts. and then come back to prepare for my Spring 2006 classes."
- Pedro Peralta, Computer Technology

"I plan to study for Biology II, since I am taking Biology I during the six-week session."
- Kelly Sexton O.T.A.
La Sección

Noticias en Español
La pequeña nota

Se inicia una nueva etapa en The Bridge, pues se da paso al pensamiento hispano y al rescatar de nuestra escritura y lengua. Debo decir que aún soy un aprendiz, y que toda mi vida lo seré; se que falta mucho por explorar en el Español, la Sección. Sin embargo, el ideal es noble y la esperanza grande. Por ello, seguiré trabajando más en profundidad para las futuras ediciones, con más temas de interés, no solo de aquí en LaGuardia, sino también en el panorama socio-político-cultural de nuestra comunidad hispana y por supuesto de esta cultura americana que es nuestro hogar ahora. La idea es crear y sombrer inquietudes por nuestro lenguaje, tanto para nosotros en LaGuardia como para el público en general; y es por esto que hago una invitación a todos aquellos que quieran ayudar a enriquecer esta sección, para que se unan a esta causa. Compañeros como quiera que sea les deseo lo mejor en su marcha. Gracias a todos mis cariñosos lector, por apoyar esta idea, a los entrevistados y a todos ustedes lectores, gracias.

Fabian Zarta
Editor

El Español

Regresa el Programa de Educación Bilingüe

Por FABIAN ZARTA

Continuación página 1

Cuando nos mencionan leyes a que tipo de leyes te refieres, leyes de LaGuardia?


4. Cuando nos mencionan leyes a que tipo de leyes te refieres, leyes de LaGuardia?

hablaba que la universidad de cuatro años que da la licencia de maestro es donde debe hacerse el “Field work”. Además, que los estudiantes de LaGuardia iban muy bien preparados académicamente. Después, todas las empresas de educación bilingüe que tomen aquí, les serán útiles al transferirse a la universidad de cuatro años. En adición, se darán “intenships” para que el estudiante trabaje en el área de docencia bilingüe, por que antes hacían los “intenships” pero no realmente en su campo. Los cursos de composición I y II en Español e Historia Latinoamericana continuarán y también serán transferibles. Adicional, el programa estará en un solo departamento.

6. Hablamos que no había un director en el Programa Bilingüe, Por qué dejar eso vacío, y luego sencillamente cerrar el programa? Carencia monetaria.

No querían traer a nadie, hasta no saber hacia que dirección realmente iba el programa. Se habló de una revisión del programa, luego, que quedarían en un solo departamento. Y después que este estará supervisado por una sola persona que estará a cargo de todos los programas de educación en LaGuardia. Entonces no tenía sentido traer una persona para el Programa Bilingüe, cuando se iba a traer a alguien para la supervisión general. Yo creo, esto es para que se atienda mi, como tú sabes que esto es la educación bilingüe es una cuestión muy política, muchos de los críticos, a nivel de bochinche, dicen que no debe existir y que se va a acabar. Esto no es cierto, ellos no tienen ni la menor idea de lo que hablan.

7. Ha habido mucha polémica con esto del Programa Bilingüe, se habla que los consejeros no saben que existe, o les dicen que es un programa sin futuro profesional. Que les dirías a los asesores interesados, como escritor de este artículo, debes mencionar que ciertas personas con las que hable, dicen que quien hizo la inspección realmente no era muy bien aceptada por todo el programa de educación bilingüe en LaGuardia, inclusive hubo quien se refirió a ella poniendo en tela de juicio su desenvolvimiento profesional, “dicke que porque habló de más cambios de los necesarios”.

5. No servían acaso todos esos cursos / Cuáles eran esos cursos y para que van a enseñarse.

Realmente con un diploma de LaGuardia solo pueden trabajar como asistentes para profesionales y servirles mientras van terminando la carrera profesional de cuatro años.

8. Que puede ofrecer un estudiante que quiere ser docente bilingüe?

Yo siempre he dicho que la enseñanza es una vocación, la riqueza del maestro es formar niños para que el estudiante trabaje, 21 de noviembre en una reunión con CUNY en City College, se

Cuando nos mencionan leyes a que tipo de leyes te refieres, leyes de LaGuardia?

hablaba que la universidad de cuatro años que da la licencia de maestro es donde debe hacerse el “Field work”. Además, que los estudiantes de LaGuardia iban muy bien preparados académicamente. Después, todas las empresas de educación bilingüe que tomen aquí, les serán útiles al transferirse a la universidad de cuatro años. En adición, se darán “intenships” para que el estudiante trabaje en el área de docencia bilingüe, por que antes hacían los “intenships” pero no realmente en su campo. Los cursos de composición I y II en Español e Historia Latinoamericana continuarán y también serán transferibles. Adicional, el programa estará en un solo departamento.

6. Hablamos que no había un director en el Programa Bilingüe, Por qué dejar eso vacío, y luego sencillamente cerrar el programa? Carencia monetaria.

No querían traer a nadie, hasta no saber hacia que dirección realmente iba el programa. Se habló de una revisión del programa, luego, que quedarían en un solo departamento. Y después que este estará supervisado por una sola persona que estará a cargo de todos los programas de educación en LaGuardia. Entonces no tenía sentido traer una persona para el Programa Bilingüe, cuando se iba a traer a alguien para la supervisión general. Yo creo, esto es para que se atienda mi, como tú sabes que esto es la educación bilingüe es una cuestión muy política, muchos de los críticos, a nivel de bochinche, dicen que no debe existir y que se va a acabar. Esto no es cierto, ellos no tienen ni la menor idea de lo que hablan.

7. Ha habido mucha polémica con esto del Programa Bilingüe, se habla que los consejeros no saben que existe, o les dicen que es un programa sin futuro profesional. Que les dirías a los asesores interesados, como escritor de este artículo, debes mencionar que ciertas personas con las que hable, dicen que quien hizo la inspección realmente no era muy bien aceptada por todo el programa de educación bilingüe en LaGuardia, inclusive hubo quien se refirió a ella poniendo en tela de juicio su desenvolvimiento profesional, “dicke que porque habló de más cambios de los necesarios”.

5. No servían acaso todos esos cursos / Cuáles eran esos cursos y para que van a enseñarse.

Realmente con un diploma de LaGuardia solo pueden trabajar como asistentes para profesionales y servirles mientras van terminando la carrera profesional de cuatro años.

8. Que puede ofrecer un estudiante que quiere ser docente bilingüe?

Yo siempre he dicho que la enseñanza es una vocación, la riqueza del maestro es formar niños para que el estudiante trabaje, 21 de noviembre en una reunión con CUNY en City College, se
La actriz y maestra

La actriz y maestra por FABIAN ZARTA

Digna representante de la raza negra, actriz y docente nacida en Washington D.C. esta radicada desde 1993 en New York, tiempo en el cual ha estado trabajando como maestra de teatro en LaGuardia y actriz profesional. La realización de sus estudios de actuación, han sido en “The University of Michigan, M.A.”, “Howard University, B.F.A. (Magna Cum Laude)” y “WebberDouglas Academy Of Dramatic Arts “, en Londres, donde tuvo un encuentro especial con Shakespeare y sus clásicas obras. Es una artista con una vida, viviendo en una vida materialista cada vez mayor, la verdadera felicidad es saber que haz hecho una contribución y que eres feliz haciendo esa contribución. Lamenta que tal este último mensaje que Ana María nos deja, como para reflexionar. Se ha enseñado a nosotros a ser tolerantes y a querer con lo que más se de utilidad. Si están interesados en el Programa Bilingüe o si simplemente desean tomar un curso en lengua extranjera o profundizar en el idioma, acceden a la oficina E 212.
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(Sanford Theater Works), obra con la cual ganó una nominación por parte del "Corno Critics Circle" como mejor actriz en 1999 y pese a que no se llevo el premio, el mérito fue grande. Con la obra For Colored Girls, (Off Broadway, teatro de bajo presupuesto) interpretó a "Lady in the Violet", entre otros personajes y bajo la dirección de Ntozake Shange, fue una obra que le dejó reconocimiento por parte del "Audelco Award", por excelente integración de todo el grupo de trabajo. Estas son solo algunas de sus muchas obras.

No puedo dejar por supuesto al lado, su trayectoria televisiva con "All my children", ABC, donde interpreta a Zora Jones, bajo la dirección de Conal O’Brien; "Law and Order: Trial by jury", NBC, interpretando a Taylor/ Forewoman, dirigida por Constantine Markis, entre otras series.

Cuando uno se encuentra está mujer en la senda, descubre muchas manifestaciones de la berrueca de una americana. Ella con su particular estilo demuestra lo que es sin más ni menos de perjuicios sociales o etiquetas; la síntesis de una gran fuerza y energía, algo que no podemos negar las personas que hemos tenido la oportunidad de compartir con ella. más aún, quienes somos sus estudiantes, pues nos toparamos con un método de enseñanza que aunque profesional no deja de ser justo y exento, y para que más, si aprenedten a fundamentarse en lo que se aprende. Las experiencias con ella una muestra que busca dotar con semillas de conocimiento al alumnado, en base a sus particulares experiencias, tales con la idea de que nuestros pasajes de vida profesional sean aún mejores. Aquí, sus pensamientos:

Me gusta leer y en ocasiones escribir, a veces profesionalmente. Yo aconsejo a mis estudiantes en base a su personalidad, pero les hago saber que la actuación es más que glamour y bastante dinero, que existe una diferencia entre ser un actor y ser una estrella: Ser actor demanda seriedad en el estudio y deseos de ensayo constante, tanto en el aula de clase como fuera de ella; pues no es por arte de magia ni rápido arreglo que se hace un acto. Hay que anar la carrera, para mi grandes ejemplos de carreras activas son: Ingrid Bergman, Joan Crawford, Betty Davis, Spence Tracy, Crack Gables, Cary Grant... estos si son actores, estas si son estrellas en mi libro, porque en ellos se ve un trabajo, por eso son leyenda. No como ahora, que algunos disque actores son estrellas y famosos por sus divorcios, escándalos,... y no por una real entrega al oficio. Que actores pueden ser esos?

Mi trabajo en LaGuardia me salvo. Yo me acababa de mudar a esta ciudad, no conocía a nadie y contaba a mi sentido la Sección de Estudiantes, pues nos topamos con del Programa de Teatro, y me hablaron de su sabiduría. Entendí su camino y las muchas palabras, pero con los humildes están la sabiduría y la sabiduría en los labios de los prudentes. pues el prudente con labios de sabios se corona en de la buena palabra hallarás derecho en su opinión porque los prudentes no recuerdan el recibo, porque los labios del justo aprecian a muchos y con su boca se producirá sabiduría debido a que saben hablar lo que agrada pues cuando viene la soberbia viene también la deshonra y las muchas palabras, pero con los humildes está la sabiduría y la sabiduría en los labios del prudente; pues el prudente con labios de sabios se corona en de su propia ciencia que es entender su camino para la integridad de sus caminos en la recta. Porque el que sabe mira bien sus pasos y como sabio teme y se aparta del mal en justicia de perfecto que es entender su campo porque amando la instrucción se ama la sabiduría, que es el camino a guardar en la vida pues los simples heredarán necedad y el que aborrece la represión es ignorante porque el camino del necio es extremadamente serio con su rol de loco, drogadicto y desechable.

"Pese a que no conocen muchos escritores los Hispanos... a los poetas que he leído los he disfrutado!". Me dice Catrina con ganas de correr.

Dentro de mis proyectos, está un programa piloto llamado "convivencias" que empezó a grabar a finales de noviembre, y cosas por ahi, aún por concretar.

Me gustaría ser una niña Bond 007 en el cine, pero No, no soy una niña sexy... claro que, como una niña si puedo soñar! Uf! Olvtales, hacer un alién; en el teatro he trabajado muy fuerte y por muchos años que hacen que no esté interesada en regresar a la escena teatral. Sin embargo, si me ofrecieran el rol de la enfermera en "Romeo y Julieta" o el rol de Mama en el musical "Chicago" regresaría, porque la vida profesional sean atm mejores. negros enfermos de sífilis con quienes el gobierno y doctores experimentaron en Alabama, durante el periodo entre 1932 y 1972. Esto con el fin, de saber que poder de destrucción, en su etapa final, tenía esta enfermedad. Trabajé arduamente en esto en base.

La cultura Hispánica es exactamente, tiene un ritmo, una pasión, un fuego emocional. y en el escenario de entertainmiento cada vez van con más fuerza y presión. La cultura Hispana y la Africa-América tienen en común que deben dar el 110% cuando las puertas se abren para demostrar nuestro talento, pues aún existe una pequeña barrera de igualdad entre las dos culturas y la Americana. Pero si hay ejemplo de un actor hispano talentoso, es el de Benicio Del Toro. El nunca trabaja dentro de la caja, hay una subyacente de calor que se genera desde él. Benicio nunca hace una escena dramática, por el contrario, que lo vi actuando, fue un poeta. Amén su actuación.

El es un acto increíble. También debo decir, que amaba mirar actuando a Marc Anthony cuando hicimos la película "Bringing out the Dead" fue extrema...
Elections aftermath
By ANNALIS MORALES

I woke up on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2005 feeling tired and drowsy, like I did not get enough sleep. I hurriedly got out of bed and remembered that I had stayed up early the night before watching the results of the mayoral election. I asked myself, why? Why did I stay up to watch something of which I, as well as countless other New Yorkers, already knew the outcome? It’s like watching a car crash; you don’t want to look, but you do anyway.

Not that the results were bad, at least in my opinion. I voted for Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. Yes, I am a Democrat. Yes, I am Hispanic. Yes, I do reside in the South Bronx. Yes, I did even had a two minute conversation with him when he visited LaGuardia’s campus last semester. However, I do not feel that I owe my vote to him just because I can relate more to him than I can to our billionaire mayor. Ferrer does not have what it takes to run a city that holds the risk of falling back down to the level it was at four years ago. Sometimes change isn’t so good.

My mind was pretty much made up from the start. During the Democratic primaries I backed Congressman Anthony Weiner just because anyone besides Ferrer seemed like a good choice. I knew Ferrer would win the primaries, but I am not the type to follow the crowd, especially when the future of the greatest city in America is at stake.

Mayor Bloomberg possesses the ability to appeal to a vast majority of New Yorkers. In a city that is heavily populated with immigrants and people of different backgrounds and religions, this is a crucial component to winning the hearts and trust of the citizens. According to the New York Post, Bloomberg dominated in four of the five boroughs. Ferrer was only able to win his hometown of the Bronx. Take into account the fact that the Bronx is primarily Hispanic and one could easily assume that the only reason Ferrer won that borough is because the residents wanted to see a Hispanic take over City Hall.

Ferrer lost the support from the African American community as well as other Democrats when he told a group of police sergeants that the shooting death of unarmed African immigrant Amado Diaiio was not a crime. The Village Voice’s Jarret Murphy called it a, “self-inflicted wound.” If four officers, regardless if they are white, shooting at an unarmed suspect 41 times and 19 of those bullets striking him is not a crime, then I do not know what is. Now that he is not busy campaigning, maybe Ferrer should sit on a Government 101 class at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Mayor Bloomberg made this city a better place to live, work, go to school, and raise a family. He made sure that businesses continued to operate here after the terror attacks on September 11, 2001. He helped form Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in commercial neighborhoods in the outer boroughs to make sure that small businesses are partnering up with one another to promote local businesses and ensure a safe shopping experience for residents. He eliminated social promotion in the 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades in order to recognize and stop any academic problems early on that young students may be facing. He reduced crime in some of the worst high schools in the city by flooding these trouble-plagued schools with cops and school safety agents. He introduced a nine-point plan to end chronic homelessness in five years. He has fought hard against terrorism, I applauded him when he made the decision of informing New Yorkers about the terror threat to the city’s subway system. He knows that in this day and age, we cannot take any threat lightly. What has Ferrer done for the city? As far as Bloomberg is concerned - nothing but complain. You know what? I agree. All Ferrer did was attack Bloomberg. He never explained what he would do differently.

Mr. Ferrer did not take this campaign seriously. His advertisements were full of ridiculous humor: Reverend Al Sharpton dancing salsa (something I am sure New Yorkers do not want to witness again), President George W. Bush and Bloomberg riding a donkey together with Bloomberg throwing money at the president and Bush thanking him by planting a big kiss on the mayor’s cheek. Where were all the ads about what you can do for the city in the next four years? Where were all the ads about how you will be a better mayor than Bloomberg? At least this campaign did not turn into a personal attack blitz like the gubernatorial campaign in New Jersey.

And, about the mayoral debates: since when is it polite to point your finger at others, Mr. Ferrer? Obviously he forgot his manners during the debates when he kept wagging his finger at Bloomberg as if he were a mischievous little boy. And what was up with Ferrer trying to make it seem as if Bloomberg betrayed African-American’s by not participating in the debate that was held at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem? Obviously, that extra debate did not do you any good, Mr. Ferrer.

However, I do not agree with Bloomberg on many issues. I am against his stance on the war in Iraq. I was disturbed by the gargantuan amount of money that Bloomberg donated to the group that hosted the 2004 GOP presidential convention in New York City. I found it fishy that he finally signed a contract with the Uniformed Firefighters Association, nearly two weeks before election day. As if that would erase the fact that he closed six firehouses during his first few months on the job. Yet, this is what most New Yorkers love about the mayor; he’s not afraid to make tough decisions even if they are not popular ones.

All of the major papers supported him. The New York Post said, “He’s proven his competence, kept crime down and breathed hope into the schools; his opponent, Fernando Ferrer, has no viable plan.” The Daily News said, “His record far surpassed the expectations we held four years ago when the Daily News was the only major newspaper to endorse him [Bloomberg].”

The New York Times said, “If he continues his record of accomplishment over the next four years, he may be remembered as one of the greatest mayors in New York history.” Bloomberg asked Ferrer during the last debate, “Do you think they’re wrong?” Of course not, Mister Mayor.
LaGuardia educates former convicts

By SABRINA HARTEL

When you enter the tiny office located in room 223 on the second floor of the C Building, there are signs of encouragement lined up along the walls, and no name tags sitting on the desks - just a slew of fresh intake forms scattered about, while others are filled with black ink.

You will be greeted by smiling faces in the federally funded project of the CUNY Catch Program that creates change through economic and personal development. The program assist ex-inmates from Rikers Island with transition back into society, along with homeless persons and low-income youth, said Adella Horsford, coordinator.

Founded in 1991 by Dr. John Chiarkas, the program's mission is to provide at-risk adolescents with their last shot of a high school diploma and an opportunity to pursue a higher level of education. The program offers vocational training, counseling, and continued education with college courses and G.E.D. preparation.

"We assist high-risk students. Some of them are afraid to go to school because of gang threats and intimidation. We offer them an alternative," said Adella Horsford.

140 CUNY Catch students applied to LaGuardia for Spring 2005 and Fall 2005. Out of that number, 102 received their high school equivalency diplomas, according to Dr. Chiarkas.

"My goal is to get students to college on the first day of orientation," said Horsford. "Over 112 students went to college with degree programs ranging from computers, business, and nursing."

According to Horsford, the Catch program is not required, but the challenge is to show them the benefits and make it appealing while the inmates are still in Rikers. "If I tell them, the same people you see here are the same people you will see there," said Horsford.

Greg Bayduss, from the New York State Education Department, believes the ex-inmates face a few challenges upon release. "They have to get over the stigma of being incarcerated, not trustworthy and not being able to hold down a job with no proven record," said Mr. Bayduss.

The CUNY Catch students-crime range from misdemeanors to felonies, according to Horsford. "Women are more forthcoming with their crimes, the men don't talk about them much," said Horsford.

The Catch students are allowed to enter all buildings within the college for the use of the library and other student facilities. According to an un-named source in the public safety office, those who are in the program have a different color banner on their student I.D. cards than the rest of LaGuardia's students. The source also stated that there has been some trouble in the past with Catch students within the high school located in the basement of the M Building: causing trouble and smoking marijuana - although the captain of the public safety department has denied these allegations.

Nora Stock, a LaGuardia student majoring in human services, thinks that all students should be made aware of the CUNY Catch program. "People think that college is a bubble, but anything can happen on the streets of Manhattan," said Nora Stock. "There are people everywhere, I'm always cautious. But no one is beyond redemption, though you will be judged on your past."

Terri-Ann Villas, from the Women's Center at the college, thinks that wearing ID's should be mandated for visual identification of the Catch program students, but she also feels they deserve a second chance. "We don't want to isolate them, LaGuardia is an educational institution," she said.

S.A.G.A. attacked on Halloween night

By ERIC SILEYER

On Oct. 31, 2005, ghosts and goblins wandered around the halls of LaGuardia Community College. It was once again time for the annual Straight and Gay Alliance's (S.A.G.A.) Halloween party. The party was a hit with 149 people in attendance. Creatures from all walks of life and un-life were at the party. The party was taking place in the cafeteria of the L Building, which is one block away from the M Building where the offices are located.

The spooking of friends wasn't the only malicious act taking place. During the party, the S.A.G.A. office was broken into, wallets and other items were stolen. It was not a simple break-in and robbery; this was a hate crime. The rainbow flag, which represents gay pride and diversity, was defaced with the word "FAGS" written on it. "It's bad enough to be robbed, but to be targeted out of hate makes it more painful," commented Gregory Faulkner, Coordinator of Student Life & Development at LaGuardia.

"I've been out longer. I was not as shocked and hurt as some of the other members of the club. I felt like it was my fault - I was so busy; I should have made sure the door was closed. I feel like my kids were assaulted," said Alejandro Lopez, the president of S.A.G.A. at the time of the event.

School security was helpless to stop the robbery. "I definitely think there was a lack of security. The M Building is old. There are not as many cameras there as in the other buildings, but the school did the best they could," said Lopez.

Ruben Rivera, a current student, agreed, "There definitely is not enough security throughout the campus."

"We could have the type of security that would secure us completely," said Faulkner. "But if it were in place, you wouldn't want to come here. If we're to do what we could, we would be giving up our freedoms."

Baruch's system, which is also part of CUNY, could be a model for LaGuardia's security system. Baruch College has a strict security policy where you can only enter the campus by swiping in as opposed to the open door policy at LaGuardia.

When asked why would anybody leave their belongings in an unguarded room, Lopez replied, "People think of their club office as a second home. All clubs leave their stuff in the offices all the time, so it was relatively safe before this incident."

Hate crimes could happen anywhere at any time. "It could have been any club, one day S.A.G.A., the next day the Ecuadorian club with anti-Latino phrases or the Black Student Union with the 'N' word," claimed Faulkner.

The LaGuardia faculty and other clubs quickly offered their response through sympathetic anger, filled e-mails and quickly asked S.A.G.A. what they wanted to do about the hate crime. S.A.G.A. took the lead and held a Tolerance Day, where club representatives handed out red and black armbands, which read, "Stop the Hate."

"The visual statement was made; we received support and everyone said sorry," Lopez commented.

Gail O. Mellow, President of LaGuardia denounced the attack in her e-mail to LaGuardia and said that such attacks are unacceptable.

So far, no perpetrators have been caught. ■