$100,000 Ford Foundation Grant Renews College’s Transfer Effort

The Ford Foundation has awarded the college a $100,000 renewal grant to continue its program designed to encourage two-year minority college graduates to continue their education toward a four-year degree.

The two-year grant will fund a study of how many students have transferred and how they are faring, expand the successful LaGuardia/Vassar Summer Institute (see story, top right), and disseminate the results of its transfer opportunities program to other two-year institutions throughout the nation.

The initial implementation grant, awarded to the college in 1984, was part of a new initiative by the foundation to identify and support institutions with the potential to develop model transfer programs which can be adopted by other community college across the country.

“What has impressed the Foundation,” said President Martin Moed, “is that the whole institution is now geared toward transfer opportunities. With additional funding, we can continue these efforts.”

Since the initial grant, LaGuardia has developed a college-wide effort to provide transfer information.

Transfer is first introduced at the freshman level through a career development module in Freshman Sem.

LaGuardia/Vassar Institute Study Finds 90% of Students Go on To Four-Year Degree

Ninety percent of students participating in the LaGuardia/Vassar Summer Institute have transferred to four-year colleges after graduation—with 11 of the 86 graduates enrolled at Vassar College, according to Dr. Janet Lieberman, the president’s special assistant for educational collaboratives.

The four-year-old intensive summer program is viewed by the college and the Ford Foundation, which is supporting the program along with other transfer opportunity efforts at the college (see lead story, left), as one of the most effective strategies yet devised to encourage our graduates to pursue a four-year degree.

“This program,” said President Martin Moed, “is an effective tool to open students’ eyes to the many transfer opportunities available to them.”

The program introduces 25 to 30 academically motivated students to one of the country’s most prestigious private institutions for five weeks each summer. Although among the

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LaGuardia/Vassar students (left to right): Arlene Alvarado, Ed Miller, Laura Steptuk and Jason Schulterbrandt
The Ford Foundation...
Continued from page one

inar designed to make students aware of the skills and education needed to achieve their goals.

The cooperative education curriculum also now includes transfer seminars that concentrate on educational planning. The Division of Student Services also holds a transfer seminar and has trained its counselors to advise students on the process.

The Career and Transfer Resource Center has also been expanded. Staffed by a full-time professional, the center provides computerized information on four-year institutions to an estimated 2,000 students annually. The center also conducts a scholarship workshop four times a year.

The college publishes a Transfer Information Guide that lists which LaGuardia courses can be transferred to specific public and private four-year colleges. All CUNY senior colleges are included along with Adelphi University, Clark College, The College of Insurance, Dominican College of Blauvelt, St. John’s University and SUNY at Old Westbury.

The college also conducts transfer fairs during the fall and spring quarters where over 30 four-year institutions attend and some 650 students participate.

The continuance grant will support a study which will allow the college for the first time to learn how many students have transferred as a result of its efforts and the progress those graduates have made.

“This study will clearly indicate how effective our strategies have been in influencing our students’ future educational plans,” said Dr. Janet Lieberman, the president’s special assistant for educational collaboratives.

Kane, Parsons, and Associates, Inc., however, concluded a study for the college last year on the attitudes of recent graduates toward further education. The four-year project indicated that the number of students expressing interest in further education increased from 44 to 56 percent.

Finally, the new funds will support a plan to disseminate information on the college’s transfer program to community colleges nationwide.

“Through a series of conferences and public speaking engagements,” said Dr. Lieberman, “we will communicate to other academic institutions what we have done and what we have accomplished.”

Vassar Institute Study...
Continued from page one

college’s highest achievers, none of the students had plans to continue beyond LaGuardia before entering the program, said Dr. Lieberman.

“The Vassar program admits students who don’t see further study in their career plans either because they don’t have information on the financial aid packages or because they believe they can’t compete in a highly competitive academic environment,” she explained.

The institute allows these students to discover whether they can successfully take on a difficult academic program at a senior college by requiring them to choose two of four specially-designed courses team taught by both a LaGuardia and a Vassar faculty member. Records indicate, however, that LaGuardia students have fared very well—earning B averages.

The social environment of the residential college is also a very important factor in the experience. Research has shown that students, particularly minority students, learn best when they study together,” Dr. Lieberman said. “A campus setting makes it very conducive for students to establish study relationships.”

The success of the LaGuardia/Vassar Summer Institute has spurred a number of spinoffs.

With the Ford Foundation grant renewal, the college will introduce the LaGuardia/Vassar model to Brooklyn, City and Queens Colleges, as well as The New School for Social Research, New York University and St. John’s University, under a program which will operate year round.

Professors John Hyland, of the Social Science Department; Gilbert Muller, of the English Department; Jorge Perez, of the Mathematics Department; and Eleanor Tignor, of the English Department will develop courses team taught by faculty from LaGuardia and the senior college.

Faculty who are interested in teaching in the program or who would like to nominate student participants should contact Professor John Chafee, extension 5699.

Cooperative Education Employer Awards Go to Juvenile Justice Dept., Port Authority and IBM

The Division of Cooperative Education will present this year’s Employer Recognition Award to the New York City Juvenile Justice Department, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and IBM.

The award, which recognizes involvement in the college’s internship program, will be presented during special ceremonies held at the individual companies for the supervisory employees specifically assigned to LaGuardia interns.

“The division has recognized particular companies for their role in our co-op program in many ways,” said Associate Dean Dorrie Williams, “but
IBM, which is one of the original co-op employers, provides the college with both the largest number and the greatest variety of internships. Each year 250 students majoring in computer science, data processing, accounting, liberal arts, business administration, office technology and secretarial science are placed. Over 250 graduates are now permanent IBM employees. The college this April will recognize the Marketing/Graphics Division located at the company’s lower Westchester County headquarters. Honored will be twenty supervisors and three managers.

"Through the award," said Dean Williams, "the college hopes to solidify and reinforce the relationships that it has established with these companies."

**Grants to Faculty Top $700,000 This Fall, A Record High for The Period**

The college in the first four months of the 1988/89 academic year received over $700,000 in grants, the most funding ever received during this period.

In September, six faculty members received funding for their proposals. Professor Mary Beth Early, of Natural and Applied Sciences, was awarded $198,000 from the New York State Education Department for a career opportunity professional recruitment education program.

Jane Schulman, director of the Adult Career Counseling and Resource Center, received two grants totaling $129,426. The Department of Education awarded a $90,061 gift for a teach/career headstart program, and the New York State Education Department funded a new careers project for $39,365.

Professor Richard K. Lieberman, director of the LaGuardia Archives, also received two grants. A $82,124 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities will produce a radio series on Mayor LaGuardia. The New York City Housing Authority awarded the archives a $45,000 grant for the New York City Housing Authority papers contract.

Chief librarian Ngozi Agbim received a $9,538 grant from the New York Metropolitan Reference and Research Library Agency for a collection development aid program.

In October, Dean Irwin Feifer, of Cooperative Education, was awarded a $48,261 Department of Education grant to improve and expand a program of cooperative education.

In November, Acting Dean of Faculty Roy McLeod, Associate Dean of Faculty Arthur Greenberg, Assistant Dean Max Rodriguez, Special Assistant to the President for Educational Collaboratives Janet Lieberman, and Professor Gilbert Muller received a Ford Foundation grant for $100,000 to continue to develop a model program to promote transfer opportunities for community college students (see story on page one, column one).

Alexis Frazier, director of the Adult Learning Center, was awarded $84,835 from the New York State Education Department for the adult literacy education program.

Gus Hatzidimitriou, of the Grants Office, received $25,000 from the United States Department of Justice for the Steinway multilingual community outreach project.

In December, Wilford Saunders, coordinator of Technical Program for the Division of Continuing Education, received $9,996 from the New York State Education Department for tourism seminars in Queens.
The college has announced that the former Exacto building will be ready for partial occupancy in the spring quarter and will be in full operation by the fall.

When completed, the two-story structure, located across from the former Equitable Bagbuilding on Van Dam Street, will house Middle College High School, the Computer Information Systems Department, the Photography Program and a second day care center.

The $4.8 million project will add an additional 60,000 square feet of space to the college, according to Associate Dean Richard Elliott, who is involved in overseeing the preparations.

For Middle College High School, which has been housed in the leased space in the satellite building since 1974, the new building will become its permanent home. Occupying a portion of the first floor, the school's facilities will include classrooms, a library, a computer lab and two science labs, which will also be used by the college.

“We look forward to settling into our new space,” said Assistant Principal Douglas Berman. “Our close proximity to LaGuardia allows us to remain an important part of the college.”

The Commercial Photography Program, explained Director Jonathan Clymer, will also be moving from its satellite building space into a larger and much more technically advanced facility. The new area will include both beginning and advanced black-and-white darkrooms, two photo studios and classrooms.

“Our photography facility,” said Dean Elliott, “will become the finest in CUNY.”

According to Renee Butler, director of the college’s Early Childhood Learning Center, the new day care facility will serve an additional 20 youngsters each quarter. The original center in the main building, which will remain in operation, enrolls 60 students per quarter.

In addition to accommodating the children of college students, Ms. Butler indicated that the Exacto center will provide an infant-toddler program for children of Middle College students. Approximately 10 high school students are expected to take advantage of the program.

The second floor will house the offices, labs and classroom of the Computer Information Systems Department.

The ten classrooms on the second floor will open by the end of the spring quarter. The day care center will be finished during the summer. The rest of the work will be finished by fall.

Facility Council Names Four Winners of Its First Alan J. Berman Scholarship Awards

The Faculty Council has announced the winners of the first annual Alan J. Berman Scholarship Award: Randy Douglas, nursing; Linda Keenan, liberal arts; Arlene Leyba, nursing; and Elaine Williams, physical therapy assistant.

The $300 scholarship goes to students with outstanding academic and community service records who have exhibited personal growth as a result of their college experience.

“The scholarship is a way for the faculty to recognize a select group of exceptional students,” said Faculty Council Chairperson Hannalyn Wilkens. “It also provides the faculty with a sense of pride in knowing that
they are indeed successfully reaching their students and making a difference in their lives."

The scholarship is named for the late Alan Berman, professor of English, who was involved with the council and its scholarship program. "We felt that the most appropriate tribute to Alan would be to name the scholarship after him," said Ms. Wilkens.

Ms. Douglas is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the college's honor society, and the nursing club. She also served as a volunteer for the Corona Volunteer Ambulance Corp, an emergency medical technician with the 110 Precinct's rescue squad and as a certified CPR instructor.

Ms. Keenan has served as an assistant teacher at The Interdisciplinary Center for Child Development, where she helped children with special needs. She has also conducted a workshop on substance abuse at P.S. 11 in Woodside. In her community she is a member of the executive board of St. Sebastian School in Woodside.

Ms. Leyba has served as class representative. As president of the nursing club, she helped raise funds for a critically ill classmate. She was also involved in organizing a study group.

Ms. Williams served as a class representative. She has also been active in efforts to establish a physical therapy club.

The college, in a new collaboration with the city's public schools, has developed a "Co-op Now" seminar curriculum at five high schools to prepare low-achieving students for a more meaningful internship experience and a better understanding of the world of work.

"The college-level course," said Dean Irwin Feifer, the project's developer, "coupled with the actual work experience provided by the high schools, will give students a better grasp of the connection between education and their career goals."

The program, which kicked off last September, has been integrated into the existing co-op programs at Brandeis and Seward Park High Schools in Manhattan, and Newtown, Bryant and Hillcrest High Schools in Queens. The programs are supported by grants from the New York State Department of Education and Manufacturers Hanover Trust, one of the college's cooperative education employers.

Some 150 students who participate in the high schools' voluntary work/study program attend the special classes. They divide their time, working one week at such entry-level positions as typists, clerks and messengers, and the following week attending the classes, which are conducted by LaGuardia-trained high school co-op teachers.

According to Dean Feifer, the college plans to develop a formal articulation agreement where participating high school co-op students earn three advanced standing college credits at LaGuardia for completing the curriculum.

"The majority of students currently in high school cooperative education programs either do not graduate or do not continue studies beyond high school," he said. "By offering co-op credits, we hope to encourage students to make a deeper commitment to their education."

If this one-year pilot program proves successful, he added, the college hopes to establish the model in the 60 New York City public high schools that offer cooperative education to their students.

Fifty LaGuardia Students Nominated For 1989 Who's Who College Directory

Fifty LaGuardia students have been selected to appear in the 1989 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

The selection of the LaGuardia students by the campus nominating committee and the editors of the annual director was based on academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities, and future potential.

Candidates are selected from more than 1,400 institutions nationally and several foreign nations. The publication has honored outstanding students since it was first published in 1934.

International High Study Finds 90% Graduation Rate

A study of International High School's first three years shows that ninety percent of its initial freshman class graduated last June and all of those graduates have been accepted to college.

Eighty-five percent went to four-year colleges, the study found, and 15 percent entered two-year colleges. Eighty percent are attending City University, 15 percent entered the State University of New York, and 5 percent are studying at private colleges.

Only six of the initial 60 freshmen did not graduate within the first three years. Of those, one graduated in August, one dropped out, and four others are still enrolled in the school.

The report also disclosed that the school's overall dropout rate has been below 4 percent, in contrast to the city-wide high school total of nearly 30 percent.

"In examining the achievements of our graduates," Assistant Principal Eric Nadelstern said, "their progress attests to the school's level of success in realizing its mission."

The mission of the school, the college's second alternative high school, is to serve a special "high-risk" student population—recent immigrants whose limited English language skills cause many to drop out.

To serve its students, the school has adopted a model based on Middle College High School, the college's first alternative high school, acclaimed nationally for its success with high school students identified as potential dropouts.

The major features of the program are classes which do not exceed 24 students, a solid counseling program, and a career education based on the college's cooperative education program. Other success factors include students' access to college facilities, such as science and computer labs, the library, cafeteria and gymnasium, and the opportunity to enroll in college-credit courses.

The heart of the instructional program is English language training introduced into all content areas.

"By combining study in all subject area classes with intensive English as a second language training," said Cecilia Cullen, principal of Middle College High School, "International High School students advance at a good rate in an environment which allows them to learn English while gaining high school credit."

The school opened its doors in 1985 with an initial class of tenth graders drawn from some 20 countries. Today the school serves over 400 ninth through twelfth graders, the school's maximum student enrollment.

To be admitted, students must have resided in the U.S. for less than four years, scored below the 21st percentile in New York City's standardized test measuring English competency, and been recommended by a guidance counselor.

Based on the success of the program, Mr. Nadelstern believes that the school's next step is to have its collaborative program design replicated. "The International High School at LaGuardia," he said, "has demonstrated the benefits that can be realized by changing the structure of the high schools."

Spring Theatre Season Promises Events for Entire Family Beginning March 6th

The college's spring theater season promises a lineup of magic, puppetry, music and dance for the entire family.

The March and April program will
include a special series of weekday morning performances, as well as Saturday afternoon entertainment. All tickets are $2.50 for children/seniors and $4 for adults.

The season begins March 6 with the Ragabash Puppets performing Hans Christian Anderson's classic fairytale *Nightingale* with music by Stravinsky. To tell the story of the enchanting nightingale and an emperor in ancient China, the troupe uses puppets, masks and shadow projections. The fairytale will be performed the 6th thru the 10th at 10 am.

The world of magic comes alive as Landis Smith and Company presents "The Great Vaudeville Magic Show" on March 18. In addition to magic tricks and real rabbits jumping out of hats, the four-member group combines illusions, pantomime, comedy and juggling to create a full theatrical production. The show begins 1 pm.

The Anthony Morgan Dance Company, an international company acclaimed for its imaginative and humorous work, will introduce contemporary dance to the audience during five lecture/demonstration sessions that will be held from April 10 through the 14th at 10 am. The workshops will also include performance excerpts and discussion.

The dance group will display its stunning combination of music and movement April 15 during a dance performance. The program will include the imaginative "Cows," and a new piece, "Fever," which features music performed by Elvis Presley.

*Pierrot & Pirouette,* the poignant story of a frustrated ballerina and a successful but lonely clown will be performed April 29 by Christine DiMario and Mark Stolzenberg. The performance includes ballet, jazz, mime, clowning and more. The show begins at 1 pm.

Those interested in purchasing tickets should contact the theater at extension 5151.

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**Taxi Commissioner Is 'Just One of the Guys,' As He Completes Course at College**

When Jack Lusk became chairman of the Taxi and Limousine Commission last November he announced that one of his first priorities was to get his taxi license.

"This is the way that 40,000 guys make a living," he said. "There is nothing wrong with the chairman going out and seeing how they do it."

So like every other novice driver, Mr. Lusk completed a 20-hour certificate program given at the college's New York Taxi Driver Institute.

The intensive three-day program provided Mr. Lusk and other student cabbies with the driving skills necessary to insure the riding public safe and efficient service. Students cover passenger relations, city geography, defensive driving, and the regulations governing the operation of the taxi in New York.

To obtain his certificate, Mr. Lusk opted to take the first two days of classes at the Federation Employment and Guidance Service, a non-profit agency where the program is also offered, and the final class—defensive driving and the exam—at the college.

"He conducted himself like any other student," said instructor Murray Liebman. "He completed the lesson work and joined in on class discussion."

The institute, which opened in the Spring of 1984 as the nation's first comprehensive training program for new drivers and experienced drivers whose licenses have expired, is designed to professionalize the industry. Each year, the institute serves an estimated 8,000 new drivers.

The creation of the institute was an outgrowth of the recommendations of the Smith Commission, a panel appointed by Mayor Koch to examine a wide range of issues affecting the city's taxi industry. The commission issued a report in 1982 recommending the establishment of the school.

Mr. Liebman said Mr. Lusk praised the program for exposing the new drivers to situations they will encounter everyday and for providing them with information that will help them to better serve their passengers.

Did the chairman, who was appointed to the commission after serving as Mayor Koch's special transportation adviser, pass the one-hour exam that is a requirement for certification? "I will not give away his score," said Mr. Liebman, "but he passed."

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**A Benefits Reminder from Personnel Office**

The Office of Personnel reminds faculty and staff that changes affecting their benefits should be reported to the office regularly.

Events such as marriage, divorce, legal separation, birth or adoption, and change of address must be reported within 30 days to be effective without waiting periods.

Dependents reaching age 19, for example, may be eligible for continued health insurance coverage if they are full-time, unmarried dependent students. An enrollment form, which can be obtained at the office, must be filed three months prior to the dependent's nineteenth birthday. If the dependent does not qualify, a COBRA conversion can be obtained and coverage can continue by paying a premium.
President's Report: Confronting the Budget Crisis

I wanted to brief you on our response to the City and State budget crises that I'm sure you are following in the media. While the City's share of our budget is not yet known, we anticipate some reduction. At the state level, the Governor's allocation has dealt a severe blow to our senior colleges and threatens a number of our community service programs. While the budget negotiating process is just now beginning, LaGuardia, along with our sister institutions, faces difficult times.

Here is what we are doing to address our fiscal problems:

I have created a college Transition/Budget Advisory Committee comprised of the academic chairpersons, the divisional deans, the presiding officers of the College Senate, Faculty Council, PSC chapter, and student government, and the divisional administrators responsible for budget management.

This committee has already met twice and has heard in depth presentations on the overall college budget, and the divisional budgets of the Administrative, Academic and Cooperative Education areas.

At our next session, the divisions of Student Services, External Affairs and Continuing Education will outline how they allocate their funds.

When we receive our final budget for next year, the college will have had the benefit of the widest possible input from a fully informed repre-

sentative group on how we can move forward with the financial resources available.

I want to add that we will be arranging additional budget briefings for members of the departmental Personnel and Budget Committees, and the College Senate. The briefing for the Senators will be open to the entire college community.

While these campus budget discussions are taking place, we are continuing to press our case for funding to the leadership of both the City and State.

We hosted a very successful Legislative Breakfast on January 20th. Borough President Claire Shulman, Assemblyman Saul Weprin, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Assemblyman Alan Hevesi, Deputy Majority Leader, and other key members of the Queens delegation heard me describe our funding priorities for the coming fiscal year. I am pleased to note that our elected officials are very strong supporters of our efforts. They will work closely with us as we lobby for funding for LaGuardia and the University.

In order to update the entire college community about our fiscal outlook for 1989-90, I have called a special Professional Staff Meeting for Wednesday, March 1st from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Theater. (This will replace the Instructional Staff Meeting that was scheduled for that time.)

I look forward to seeing you then.

President Martin G. Moed

8th Annual Road Race Set for April 16th

The college will host its eighth annual 10-K road race, one-mile "fun run" and 4-K for fitness walk April 16.

The event will begin at 9:30 am with the one-mile "fun run." At 10 am, the 6.2 mile road race and the 4-K walk starts.

Registration closes on April 16 at 9 am. Those who wish to obtain more information or an applications, may call the recreation office at extension 5045 or 5396.

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