

# The Graduate Student Advocate

City University of New York

MARCH 1992

Volume 3  
Number 5**Editorial:**

## The Empire State Strikes Back

New York City faces brutal budget cuts this Spring, cuts which will accelerate illness, death, and homelessness in many of our communities. As usual, CUNY also faces cuts that are, again, devastating though the difference with past cuts is that instead of questioning whether they rival the cuts of the mid-70's, these cuts are arguably even worse.

Unfortunately we are fighting a fight on multiple fronts. We face not only cuts, and tuition hikes, but from the central CUNY administration, we also face anti-democratic changes to our disciplinary code, anti-student restrictions on our access to activity fee monies (rather than conventional audits and spending regulations), and a College Preparedness Initiative that was ill-conceived and demonstrably reduces minority participation in public higher education.

In addition CUNY is being politically attacked in editorials and in Albany. Since the CCNY tragedy the editorial boards of all of the New York dailies have conflated four separate CUNY issues: the strikes, Jeffries, the USS spending scandal, and the CCNY tragedy, into one huge racist caricature of this largely minority university which rivals the depiction of Reconstruction governments in *Birth of a Nation*. Now, however, even the New York State Senate has indulged in the anti-public institution, racist frenzy, by baiting our university with a round of HUAC-type hearings. The Empire State strikes back against CUNY and CUNY students, who have and will continue to speak for themselves, to press a democratic agenda, and defend public institutions such as this university.

Times Up for The Times

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## Board Approves Disciplinary Code Changes

The Board of Trustees voted at their February 24th meeting to enact the changes to the CUNY disciplinary code recommended by the Committee on Student Affairs and endorsed by the full Council of Presidents. These changes erased what many in the CUNY community have characterized a 20 years of successful self government and were decried by student activists and the University Faculty Senate as tipping the balance of power in disciplinary hearings unduly to the side of the central administration. The original proposal was finally amended such that the disciplinary committee chairperson will be selected by the appropriate campus governance body from a field of three members of the instructional staff who have been specially trained by the central administration. If none of these three

## CUNY Under Siege

### The Impact of the Governor's Proposed Budget Cuts on the Graduate Center:

- \$500/year tuition hike (on top of a \$704/year Level I increase since 1990), representing altogether a 127% tuition increase since 1990.
- 34 full time faculty and staff lines would be cut (in addition to 55 full-time positions lost since 1989).
- Vast numbers of adjunct/part-time positions CUNY-wide would be eliminated, affecting the main source of income for most CUNY Graduate Center students
- 21 part-time staff positions would be cut.
- 36 courses/dissertation supervisions would be eliminated.
- 25 adjunct Graduate School positions cut (visiting professors, English language instruction for foreign students).
- Financial aid cuts are possible, and TAP awards for current students would stay the same, even though tuition would rise.
- Library, Computer Center, Student Support Offices, Business & Administrative Offices might have to be CLOSED ONE (EXTRA) DAY PER WEEK.
- 960,000 cut in Other Than Personnel Services (OTPS) funds for vital educational supplies to science department, for the purchase of library books & journals, for computer equipment, for general supplies, security services and cleaning and maintenance services. TOTAL POSSIBLE CUTS TO THE GRADUATE CENTER: \$3.17 MILLION

### Impact on CUNY:

- \$500/year tuition increase (in addition to \$600/year Senior College increase since 1990, totalling an 88% increase since 1990). Tuition hikes are on top of \$41.3 million total

members are able serve, the president is now authorized to request a chairperson from amongst the entire CUNY field. This person will be selected by lottery. Despite the appearance that campus autonomy is hereby preserved, a situation which might please some faculty members, even with these amendments many students feel that the power of the chair to limit the evidence and hence argument which a student defence can present has dealt a decisive blow to a student's right to due process and a defense of his or her choice. In the past these same committees have often sided with students and their faculty expert witnesses when they argued that their protest actions were taken out of necessity to defend the university system from devastating cuts. This argument was not only a political embarrassment to the central administration, but also revealed the political compromise of the latter.

The only dissenting vote was from Student Trustee, Jean LaMarre.

Students and faculty organized to speak out against the changes at the February 18th public hearings. But this effort was disrupted by unknown parties who heckled both speakers and the Board, and then threw a smoke bomb, thereby preventing the majority of the over 200 speakers who were scheduled to speak from doing so.

These changes to the disciplinary code known as the Henderson Rules, will be put in place immediately.

see page 2 for more details

**Commentary:**

## New York State Committee on Higher Education Holds HUAC-type Hearings on CUNY

... Andrew Long ...

Senator LaValle: "About how many students were involved in the campus takeovers?"

Chairman James Murphy: "... about 1000, the same number it took to effect the October Revolution."

On January 28th of this year the New York State Senate Committee on Higher Education, chaired by Senator Kenneth LaValle (R-C Suffolk), held hearings as part of an "inquiry and evaluation of academic procedures and academic decision making processes in higher education in New York State." The hearing was held in Albany and will be followed by similar hearings on March 11th and 17th. In attendance were: LaValle, Sen. Leonard Stavisky (D-L Queens), Sen. Donald Halperin (D Kings), Sen. Franz Leichter (D-L New York), Sen. Michael Tully (R-C Nassau), Sen. Kemp Hannon (R Nassau), and Sen. Anthony Massiello (D-L Erie). Witnesses who were invited to attend included CUNY Board Chairman James Murphy, Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds, Presidents Harleston, LeClerc, Kenny, and Meredith, as well as faculty and student representatives. USS Chair Jean LaMarre was invited but did not attend.



Have you no sense of decency, sir?: Kenneth LaValle

In his announcement for the hearings LaValle dispenses with bureaucratic politesse and states that these "public hearings" are part of a process with which he and his fellow senators will "make certain that agencies and programs serve the purpose we intended." The reference to "the purpose" echoes the now conservative (and decidedly paternalist) position that the Supreme Court must limit its activities and rulings to the spirit of the "founding fathers". The crucial distinction here is that LaValle's "we" refers specifically to the State legislature, and his own committee who repeatedly claim power on behalf of the notably absent "taxpayer", the (amorphous) entity whom they represent.

LaValle's rhetoric takes a chilling turn, however, when he finally reveals the purported cause for these hearings: "As my staff and I have prepared for these hearings,

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## CUNY NEWS

## Hearing on Changes in Disciplinary Code

• • • Pamela Donovan • • •

The CUNY Board of Trustees held a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17 to address item 6b the Board's proposed changes to the student disciplinary code. The CUNY administration proposes these changes, according to the written explanation, "to clarify the disciplinary and hearing procedures, strengthen due process, and make the hearing procedure more effective and organized." Both the composition of the campus disciplinary committees, their decision-making powers, and their latitude in enforcing the disciplinary code would be affected by the proposed changes.

The current code, known as the Henderson rules, has been in effect with minor revisions since 1969. The adoption of the Henderson rules followed the Open Admissions strike of that year at City College, led by Black and Puerto Rican students. The Henderson rules apply to all of the colleges, but allowed for campus control, as it called for the disciplinary committees to be made up of students and faculty from the same campus as the students charged, and allowed them latitude in determining procedure. The proposed changes would make the disciplinary process more centralized and uniform across campuses, and would take power out of the hands of campus administrations and concentrate it with the office of the Chancellor.

Currently, each campus committee is composed of three faculty and three students drawn from an elected body of twelve people, half students and half faculty. The six that are chosen for a particular set of hearings choose a chair from among the six remaining. A quorum consists of at least two students and two faculty.

If the proposed changes are accepted by the Board of Trustees, the total hearing committee would be cut from seven to five. It would be made up of two faculty and two students, who would still be elected. However, the college president would now appoint the chair, who would no longer be required to be associated with that particu-

lar CUNY campus. The proposal suggests that a group of staff and faculty could be trained for such procedures and rotated among campuses. Any three committee members, including the chair, could serve as a quorum, which would not necessitate a student member to be present.

Under the current code, the committee as a whole decides on questions of procedure, evidence, sentencing, and the impartiality of committee members. The new code gives this responsibility entirely to the unelected chairperson. The remaining members of the committee would act as a jury, albeit with the power to ask questions of witnesses and make recommendations.

The new disciplinary code would also direct the committees to determine guilt by "a preponderance of the evidence." Previously, the committees determined for themselves in advance what standard would be used in evaluating evidence. Attorney Ron McGuire, who defended students last spring, describes the preponderance standard, as the standard most favorable to the prosecution, and calculated to increase guilty verdicts, because "the tribunal could decide that, although there remained substantial doubt about the prosecutor's version of the facts, the prosecution was, on the whole, more believable than the defense." (See Ron McGuire, "New Anti-Protest By-Laws," *Graduate Student Advocate* December-January 1991-92). In addition, specific types of evidence would be explicitly removed from consideration until after a verdict has been reached. Character testimony, according to proposed Section 15.3(f)(8) is the sort of evidence that would be delayed; this stipulation takes aim at the heart of a necessity defense. A necessity defense, which claims that the person acted in such a way, because no other options for redress of an inequitable situation existed, was successfully used by many student protesters last year.

At the same time, the student's right to counsel would be diminished. The new code requires the student to pay for his or

her own counsel, and those that cannot afford it have no recourse. In the past, some student governance organizations have appointed and paid for counsel.

The new code also gives the Chancellor, along with any college Dean, the right to suspend students or campus organizations temporarily during "emergency" conditions. Right now only the college president or a full Dean can take such an action.

At the hearing, students and faculty generally spoke against the proposed changes, while several college presidents spoke in favor. Both supporters and detractors of the new code tied the impetus for a new code to the lack of suspensions connected with the strikes last spring. While over 200 students strikers were brought up on disciplinary changes, only one was suspended. Students successfully argued their cases as justifiable civil disobedience (the "necessity" defense) before some of the college-based disciplinary committees.

Attorney McGuire told the Board of Trustees at the public hearing that the proposals represented the Chancellor's attempt to win by fiat what she lost by due process last semester. Robert Nisonoff, of the Hunter College Evening Student Government, commented that the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees are simply "sore losers" whose move to usurp student and faculty power is "unprecedented nationwide." Professor James Young (English, City College), who is serving on the Faculty Senate, said that the current system, unlike the proposed new code, "takes its moral authority [from] a college-based system." The proposed changes to the disciplinary code were condemned by the Uni-

versity Faculty Senate unanimously on January 29th.

A number of CUNY college presidents spoke in favor of the changes, nearly all of them citing difficulties with the current standards for quorum, which became apparent to them during last spring's student strikes. Charles Meredith, President of City Tech, told the Board he supported the changes because he was concerned about the "timeliness" of the hearings and that disciplinary committees were delayed because they found it difficult to arrange the required quorum. Similarly, William Hamilton, LaGuardia Community College President, said that his support for the changes stemmed from a dual problem on that campus: a lack of interest in serving on the disciplinary committee and scheduling problems. Roscoe Brown, President of Bronx Community College, and Paul LeClerc, President of Hunter College, said there was a need for chairpeople who are trained in legal procedures and in hearing procedures, adding that the procedures of last spring exposed the problems with the current system.

Negative reaction to the proposed changes to the CUNY disciplinary code came from public officials as well. City Council member Tom Duane wrote in a letter to the Secretary to the Board, Genevieve Mullen, that he regards the proposals as an affront to "a basic tenet of democracy, self-government, which is central to the enlightened principles of institutions of higher learning and the Constitution of the United States."

Pamela Donovan is a PhD student in Sociology

## Board Hearing Goes Up in Smoke

• • • Ian McGowan and Pam Donovan • • •

234 students, faculty, administrators, and members of the public preregistered to speak at the CUNY Board of Trustees public hearing on February 18th, to speak on the proposed changes to the disciplinary code. This marked the largest speaker list known in the history of Trustee hearings. The hearing ended unexpectedly when a thick cloud of smoke cascaded into the chambers.

Procedural regulations were juggled so that three college presidents could speak out of order of registration, interspersed among the first dozen student speakers. These presidents were Roscoe Brown, BCC; Paul LeClerc, Hunter; and Charles Meredith, NY Tech. Despite Faculty Senate opposition on record, all three presidents supported the disciplinary changes. This presidential trio also represented the Chancellor's point-of-view at the LaValle hearings (see related story in this issue).

The proceedings were disrupted several times by a small group who attempted to drown-out speakers and heckled the moderator. Other students in the hearing room, most of whom had prepared statements against the proposed disciplinary changes, were unable to quiet the disruptive people for more than a few minutes at a time.

The five Board members in attendance abruptly left the chambers at 6:10 pm when a non-explosive smoke bomb was set-off in the adjacent stairwell, after 29 people had spoken. City police arrived at the CUNY headquarters, but no arrests were made. The disturbance was apparently created by a political group having no association with any CUNY student organization. Most people waited, expecting the hearing to continue after the chambers were cleared of smoke, but the Trustees did not return. The hearing was never rescheduled.

## Your Representatives React

Resolution of the Doctoral Student Council of the City University of New York regarding proposed changes in student disciplinary procedures

Passed February 10, 1992

Whereas: The proposed changes to the CUNY disciplinary procedures would remove basic rights that are currently accorded to students.

Whereas: The proposed changes to the CUNY disciplinary procedures would erode the autonomy of individual campuses, infringe upon the democratic structure of the disciplinary committees on individual campuses and establish centralized, autocratic control.

Whereas: The Chancellor and Board of Trustees should be engaged in working with students to stop the cuts in CUNY's budget proposed by the Governor rather than restructuring the disciplinary code.

Resolved: The Doctoral Student Council is adamantly opposed to the proposed changes in the CUNY disciplinary procedures.

The University Faculty Senate of the City University of New York at its 197th plenary session passed, without dissent, the following resolution:

Resolution of the University Faculty Senate of the City University of New York regarding the proposed changes in student disciplinary procedures

January 29, 1992

Whereas: the proposed changes to the CUNY disciplinary procedures would infringe on the rights of the individual college; and

Whereas: the current disciplinary procedures when appropriately implemented have more than adequately served the University for almost twenty years; and

Whereas: students and faculty will be adversely affected by the proposed changes; therefore be it

Resolved: that the University Faculty Senate is adamantly opposed to the proposed changes in the CUNY student disciplinary procedures.

This resolution speaks to proposed action by the Board of Trustees to amend its Bylaws with regard to student disciplinary procedures.



## CUNY NEWS

New York State  
Shortchanges CUNY

A lawsuit, filed February 26, in the State Supreme Court in New York County charges that New York State illegally discriminates in the way it treats its two systems of higher education, the State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY). The law suit, which is being handled by lawyers from the Center for Constitutional Rights, demonstrates that New York State funds CUNY at a lower level than it funds the State University of New York (SUNY) and charges that this disparate funding violates the constitutional right to equal education opportunity at CUNY, and that African American and Latino students are particularly harmed.

The case, being brought by the non-profit CCR on behalf of nearly 50 individual class plaintiffs and the CUNY coalition of Concerned Faculty and Staff, names as defendants, Governor Mario M. Cuomo, Comptroller Edward Regan, and other top state officials, and members of the State Legislature.

The ethnic/racial composition of the student populations differs markedly between CUNY and SUNY. African American and Latino students comprise 54% of CUNY's student body but only 9.5% of SUNY's, nearly a six-fold difference. While 86.8% of SUNY students are white, only 37% of CUNY's students are white. While SUNY and CUNY are both open to all residents of New York State, the majority of CUNY students, 78% of whom earn less than \$16,000 per year and 50% of whom come from households with earnings less than \$20,000 per year, are generally unable to pay the additional expenses for room and board, and, therefore, cannot attend SUNY even if they wished.

Just as there are ethnic/racial differences between the two systems, so too the senior colleges and the graduate school of CUNY relative to the senior SUNY colleges have been funded at very different levels per student even though both sets of institutions have been completely financed by the state since 1982. For 1991 alone, if the state had funded the CUNY senior colleges at the SUNY level, it would have allocated in excess of approximately \$66

million more to the CUNY senior colleges and graduate school. The funding discrepancy is approximately eleven times the difference in tuition between CUNY and SUNY senior colleges. Furthermore, for the past two years, 1990 and 1991, the state has refused to provide the \$23 million necessary for CUNY associate degree programs of study at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and at New York City Technical College, both senior colleges, despite the fact that the state funds associate degree programs at comparable SUNY senior colleges. It is noteworthy that the student population of John Jay is 37% African American and 30% Latino and that New York City Tech is 53% African American and 22% Latino.

The unequal and strikingly lower funding that CUNY receives from the state constitutes an attack on CUNY and, therefore, also on the population that CUNY seeks to serve. The lower funding erodes the ability of CUNY to educate New York City's working people and their children. Students often cannot complete their degrees in a timely fashion because necessary classes cannot be offered; classrooms and laboratories lack minimal equipment; class size mushroom; buildings are poorly maintained; library holdings fail to keep up with new publishing and hours are decreased; few new faculty, who would introduce new scholarship to students, are hired; there is more reliance on part-time faculty, many of whom are not provided with offices and who cannot meet easily with students outside of class; security, secretarial, and technical services are diminished.

A successful conclusion of the suit, which would bring the funding level for CUNY up to that of SUNY, would promote equal educational opportunity for African Americans and Latinos, but would also aid members of other ethnic groups and, indeed, of all CUNY students. The struggle for racial justice has historically benefitted all Americans. For example, the campaign to expand political and civil rights for African Americans during Reconstruction led to the first free, tax-supported public education system in the South that benefitted whites as well as African Americans. Just as open admissions to CUNY increased access for students of all races, so too halting and reversing the decline of educational funding at CUNY would be advantageous for white students as well as students of color. Further, equitable funding would greatly

improve the ability of faculty and staff to serve all CUNY students.

CUNY and SUNY are separate, outstanding institutions that have important missions to fulfill. Both require significant funding if they are to provide a higher education that can inform citizens and equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to contribute to intellectual and economic progress.

Some will argue that it is not possible to ask for more money for education when we desperately need various social services. Asserting the importance of higher education in no way suggests that other needs such as housing, health care, or job creation are any less vital. The plaintiffs agree that more funding is needed in these areas and stand with those who are fighting for greater funding of all human services.

## The Five Principal charges in the CUNY Law Suit

1) CUNY and SUNY have vastly different racial/ethnic composition since CUNY's minority students cannot afford to live away from home.

2) The State has underfunded CUNY senior colleges by more than a half a billion dollars since assuming full fiscal responsibility in 1982-83.

3) Tuition scholarships and fellowships for graduate students at CUNY are only one sixth that at SUNY. This has had a devastating impact on the ability of minority students to pursue the PhD degree.

4) Graduate education, in general, at CUNY is grossly underfunded compared to SUNY.

5) The Associate Degree programs at New York City Tech and John Jay are treated differently than at SUNY.

CUNY Coalition of Concerned Faculty and Staff/CUNY Legal Action Committee

Editorial note: On Feb. 27, the Doctoral Students' Council endorsed this lawsuit.

## Take a break on the 18th floor !!

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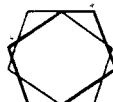
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## Letters &amp; Commentary

## Psychiatric Report Used to Fire GSUC Worker

To the Editor:

This letter will bring the Graduate School & University Center/CUNY community up-to-date concerning my conflict with the GSUC officials who, in the Fall semester of 1991, decided to side with the fascistic violator of our rights and vicious harasser of our community, whom I caught in the act on September 12, 1991, and made sure that security identified him. This developing scandalous story was first reported in the Dec. 1991-Jan. 1992 Advocate in my letter, and in Tom Smith's "Defense of Free Speech: Cause for Psychiatric Treatment?" and in the "Editor's Note". As I stated in my letter, our "authorities" are unwilling to properly investigate, expose, and discredit the 9/12 perpetrator of acts in violation of our First Amendment rights, abuses which either he alone or with had been committing since Fall 1990; instead, through our new "Human Resources" Executive Director, Yosette Jones Johnson, without good reason they moved to do me harm as a worker, and to terminate me as an employee here.

As soon as Jones Johnson received psychiatrist Stanley Brodsky's entirely negative - and entirely dishonest - "report" regarding my "mental fitness" to perform my office work duties at the GSUC, she immediately and without question ordered me onto an "involuntary leave of absence" on psychiatric grounds, provided her by Brodsky: "Psychiatric Diagnosis: Axis I: Psychotic Disorder Not Otherwise Specified. R.O. Delusional Paranoid Disorder. Mixed Type: Persecutory and Grandiose. Axis II: Personality Disorder NOS. with Obsessive Compulsive and Schizoid features." The only problem with their procedure is that Brodsky's "report," which itself is loaded with demonstrable factual errors and laden with lies and distortions about my responses to interview and exam questions and our exchanges, unscrupulously reflects Jones Johnson's November 7 "document" to him; her by-now notorious "Attachment A," which itself involves systematic lying.

Two (board-certified) psychiatrists have said to me that there is nothing in Brodsky's clinical summary or details of his clinical description to warrant his diagnostic bottom line about me, viz., "psychotic"; moreover, there is nothing in his clinical details that would or should in any way affect the performance of my job du-

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## Art History Dept. Silences Students

To the Editors:

Last week marked the end of the Department of Art History at the Graduate Center — financially, intellectually, and otherwise. Perhaps this is a bit melodramatic; for those students and faculty who have been watching the events of the past several years, however, you are well aware that the department has been slowly weaned of its renowned faculty and funding, much to the well-concerted dismay of its vociferous student body and certain members of its faculty. Just to give you an idea of the situation's gravity: Linda Nochlin, eminent feminist, marxist, 19th-century scholar, was successfully wooed away by Yale University last year; following closely on her heels, Barbara Weinberg, distinguished Americanist, departed to head up the American Wing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Eugene C. Goossen, critic and historian of post-war American art retired; Robert Pincus-Witten, critic since the 1960s, followed his heart to the high-stakes gallery world; esteemed critic and editor Rosalind Krauss departs at the end of this semester to Columbia University, where she is already lecturing; historian of 19th century art, Patricia Mainardi, interviews anxiously at the Institute of Fine

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## No Reason to Threaten Job

To the Editor:

It was deeply disturbing to read in the students newspaper of the action taken towards threatening the employment and livelihood of one of our co-workers at the Graduate School, Brian Guerre.

We have known Brian for three years and he has in that time always been reliable and helpful. Although he appears constantly busied with his office work, he nevertheless invariably turns from his typing to give us his full attention when we have on occasion come to him with a question or request or other business. We take this as an indication of his intelligence, ability, and considerateness. While we are aware - from the buttons on his bag - that he has strong political views, he has never mentioned them in the course of conducting business with us, nor do we consider his personal politics our affair.

It is unfortunate that Brian has become entangled in a dispute. The fact that he has

*continues on p. 11*

## Self-Styled Leader Pushed Own Agenda

To the Editor:

I am glad to see that Michael Weinstein has a future as a writer of fiction as shown by his article, "A Scene from the Multi-Cultural Battlefield", since his potential as a historian is probably negligible as evidence by the way he totally misrepresented the departmental meeting held by the Ph.D. Program in History on December 3rd.

It is true that the meeting was particularly contentious over the topic of the lack of course offerings in Latin American history. However, the lack of civility in that room was the result of the rude behavior of Mr. Weinstein. Any practical suggestion that were offered, such as the possibility of taking courses through the consortium with New York University and Columbia were shot down by Weinstein, who seems to have anointed himself the leader of the students in that specialization. With his refusal to listen to any practical ideas, it became readily apparent that he was far more concerned with pushing his own political agenda than with any real desire to study Latin-American history.

The part of Mr. Weinstein's article that was most reprehensible was his cowardly insinuation that Professor Trefousse attacked a student at the meeting because the student was black. Professor Trefousse's anger was over the rudeness that the student displayed in his verbal attacks on the Executive Officer, as well as on other professors, and had absolutely nothing to do with the color of the student's skin. Weinstein knows this, but he probably felt that throwing in an accusation of racism into his story would make for better reading. In addition, his comment that

## It Can't Happen Here!

To the Editor:

I have just finished wading through the editorial which leads the December-January issue of our otherwise commendable student newspaper ("Cuomo Plays the Tune for CUNY's Dance Macabre"), growing increasingly frustrated and irritated with each haranguing phrase. While the editors must be credited with having their hearts (if not their heads...) in the right place by so militantly opposing further cuts to the already savaged CUNY budget, the clearly reactionary tone of their latest 'call to arms' does little to solve the enormous problems facing our besieged university.

## Groundless Charge

To the Editor:

I found it strange to read in Michael Scott Weinstein's recent attack on the History Program in general and on myself in particular that "even within American history courses... the historical experience of people of color, women, and gays and lesbians have been relegated to the margins and effectively degraded." In view of the fact that I have written a number of books on the Civil War and Reconstruction in which the main point has always been the centrality of the problem of the Afro-Americans, a point which I have equally stressed in my classes, I can hardly be accused of belittling minority experiences. The accuracy of the rest of the article may be judged by this groundless charge.

Hans L. Trefousse,  
History Department

school security guards were almost called in to throw out that very same student is simply a lie.

The Ph.D. Program in History should offer courses in Latin American history it appears that steps are being taken to ensure that students who are interested in this area of specialization will have their needs met. Fortunately for those students, their desire to learn was not jeopardized by the ridiculous behavior of Michael Weinstein, self styled leader of oppressed students everywhere.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Pearl  
Ph.D. Program in History

Like so many of the bad pieces of writing to come out of the left-leaning press in recent years (the direction to which I also heavily lean), the editorial rants and raves about disastrous budget cuts without proposing any (never mind viable) alternatives to the cuts. For example, should state and city taxes be raised? If so, which taxes and who, specifically, should pay them? Perhaps the other cuts are best directed at other areas in the state and city budget. If so, then which areas? If we are to effectively prevent further budget slashing here at CUNY, my Grad. Center brethren, then we must devote our energies to the development of alternative solutions to the state and city's budget mess. Whining and gnashing our teeth about the CUNY cuts

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## Attention All Writers!!

The Advocate welcomes all letters and article submissions. Letters should be brief. The Advocate will withhold the identity of letter writers if requested, though all letters must be signed. Articles should be single spaced, no longer than 2500 words; the Advocate will no longer accept contributions unless on a computer disk. The editors reserve the right to refuse and edit all submissions.

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The opinions expressed in The Graduate Student Advocate are those of the individual contributors and in no way reflect the opinions of the Doctoral Students' Council, its officials or representatives.

## New York State Committee on Higher Education Holds HUAC-type Hearings on CUNY

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we have found evidence of intimidation in the college community. Students, faculty members and administrators have talked of being victims of acts of intimidation — an ugly virus that threatens to destroy a great university system." Despite this assertion, at no point in the press release does LaValle cite a specific incident. Rather, in the next paragraph he refers to the anti-budget cut student strikes, Prof. Leonard Jeffries, and the USS spending scandal (which this newspaper helped expose) and the CCNY tragedy. Four entirely separate moments in CUNY's recent history are hereby conflated, though it is clear from the press release that it is the strikes which he and his fellow senators have targeted in particular. LaValle ominously intones, "We have heard talk of a small handful [sic], a small minority [sic] of the CUNY student body, which appears to exert an undue amount of control over some parts of the system."

This "small handful"/"small minority"/"small cadre" of students are, of course, those "demonstrators" who "were practically treated with kid gloves;" and he adds, "[t]hey were granted amnesty for actions which I believe the public at large views as inappropriate behavior." This last statement is incorrect and misleading, however, for the only students who were granted amnesty were those involved in the strike at the Graduate Center. At the undergraduate campuses students successfully fought administration disciplinary and civil charges, largely because their fellow students and campus faculty agreed with their assertion that protests were taken as a matter of necessity, in the defence of a vital institution: CUNY. As expert witnesses detailed in these hearings, such protest actions are well grounded in English Common Law, the antecedent of our own constitution, and decidedly mediated many moments in American history, from the Revolution to the (ongoing) Civil Rights struggle.

With this press release in mind, it is significant that neither Prof. Leonard Jeffries or his supporters and none of

the students who were involved in the strikes were invited to attend this particular hearing. This hearing was held in Albany and was called by a committee which is largely comprised of conservative Republicans who are not from the five boroughs: CUNY's constituency.

Tape recordings of the hearings reveal that the primary subject of the committee inquiry was Prof. Leonard Jeffries, though hardly anything new was revealed. Instead the senators, many of whom have been on the education committee for a long time, repeatedly asked Reynolds and Murphy questions about tenure procedures, the rights of a tenured professor, and the process whereby department chairs are appointed. Board Chair James Murphy did reveal his belief that the Chancellor and her office were the "employees" of the board of trustees, and then revealed that the board asked the Chancellor to formulate (we can infer) pro-administration changes to the CUNY disciplinary code.

The only moments of high drama came when Senators LaValle and Halperin referred to a letter which the committee received, wherein the (then) unidentified writer recounted that Jeffries commented in class that "Jews are dogs". This letter was subsequently released to the press and the author was identified. At another moment Senator Stavisky repeatedly asked Chancellor Reynolds for her "personal opinion" on Jeffries' actions and statements. To her credit the Chancellor twice countered with "I was summoned here as the Chancellor of CUNY", and finally added that she would be glad to share her personal opinions with the senator, at a later point.

The student strikes were mentioned by several senators only in their preambles or to set up questions about the newly enacted changes to the CUNY disciplinary procedures. All of the senators went out of their way to condemn the strikes as "illegal" forms of protest even as they offered reassurances that they supported students' rights to "legal" forms of protest; though none of them suggested

what this might or might not include. When one senator asked about the disciplinary measures taken against last years student protesters, the Chancellor cited the requisite statistics; but did not elaborate on the committees' and courts' pro-strike judgements.

The January 28th hearing was clearly not a good-faith investigation of any of the four announced issues: the strikes, Jeffries, the CCNY tragedy, and USS/LaMarre. Again, key participants were not invited while the questions which the senators asked primarily referred to procedures, or to the well documented events of the Leonard Jeffries controversy, and so only seemed to serve as excuses for political pontification and grandstanding. The conflation of the four separate issues and the special attention given to Jeffries, in the midst of a devastating budget crisis, suggests that the libidinal and divisive character of the latter's comments was manipulated for diversionary and coalition splitting purposes. We should remember that the press release particularly targeted the strikes, a high water mark in local anti-austerity politics.

Students and members of the CUNY community should, therefore, be concerned that the hearing was itself a form of intimidation, a part of the mechanism by which power is undemocratically exercised through a purportedly democratic structure. The conjunction of Jeffries and the charged rhetoric which ranged from Murphy's red-baiting (reference to Bolsheviks cited above) to the latent homophobia of the CUNY "virus" comment, smacks of tried and true demagoguery (Senator LaValle's "virus" reference was picked up by Senator Stavisky who referred to a "cancer" which was eating at CUNY).

Demagoguery is a compound of the ancient Greek noun *demos*, the people, and *agein*, the verb to lead. In 5th century Athens a demagogue was, according to Websters, one who "championed the cause of the common people", while in contemporary usage it refers to "a leader who makes use of popular prejudices and false claims to gain power." The second sense of demagoguery, does not, however, retain the sense of political representation, of a leader who claims to represent another group of people, who, in the case of ancient Greece, could not speak for themselves. We now know this phenomenon as "the silent majority", "the taxpayer", and "the majority of students".

## CUNY Administration Prepares to Take Control of Student Activity Fees

• Ian McGowan •

At its February 24th meeting, in the absence of any significant student presence, the CUNY Board of Trustees (BOT) served notice of their intention to amend the University's bylaws to give administrators control of the campus associations, which control the allocation of student activity fees. The BOT is scheduled to vote on the proposed amendments at their March 30th meeting.

[Editor's Note: Students as well as faculty and community supporters are urged to call the Board at 794-5450 by 4:00 pm on March 13th to speak at the March 16th hearing against this latest assault on CUNY student rights.]

The Graduate Center is the only CUNY campus whose student government is not overseen by the President's Office, and therefore does not have a campus association. Hence, this proposed change in the bylaw would not effect the student activity fees of the Graduate Center.

A University press release states that the amendments would: "reorganize college associations on individual campuses in order to insure that student activity fees are appropriately and properly spent in the best interests of the student body... Both students... and the public expect the Board to insure that expenditures are made for programs and services which are educationally-related, safe, and administered in a way that protects the college from misuse and unlawful use of funds."

The proposed amendments to the campus association structure come after intense pressure from Albany and the media to tighten control over student activities, following the death of nine people at a celebrity basketball game sponsored by City College's Evening Student Government, and the spending scandal of USS Chair Jean LaMarre.

Campus associations are currently mandated by State Education Law to have a majority of students, as a result of intense political pressure from the University Student Senate in the early '80's. The proposed changes to the bylaws would give campus presidents authority to appoint the chair of the associations, a position which has traditionally been held by students, and standardize the composition of the associations with six students, three faculty members, three administrators and the chair.

### EDITORIAL, from p. 1

A recent New York Times editorial, "Mopping Up the CUNY Slush," written about the USS scandal, implies through its headline that CUNY has more money than it needs during a time of proposed budget cuts. What? In this underfunded school? Secondly, the text of the editorial links the USS spending scandal with the tragedy at CCNY, as representing student power gone hog wild. The NYT editorial claims there is was a runaway student senate. But this couldn't have happened without a runaway Board of Trustees!

But finally the aim of the editorial is to cast aspersions upon the USS and student governments as an institution, questioning whether student money should be spent on lobbying or a celebrity basketball game. Lobbying, correctly pursued, is an activity of real benefit to students. If a celebrity basketball game open to the community is not of real benefit to students, then neither is the CCNY basketball team. Following the Time's logic further, it stands that we should get rid of basketball courts. But since they've already been built, why not rent them out? This is ridiculous. Lehman rents out its performance hall for Doo-Wop & Salsa concerts; this performance hall was built with the notion that it was for the citizens of the Bronx, not just the students of Lehman.

As for abusive spending we'd love to audit W. Ann Reynolds. And why not audit Arthur Ochs Sulzberger's expense account at the Times? The Times doesn't care about wastefulness it's uppity students playing a rich man's game. Surely the Times could find other \$350,000 budgets to write corruption-exposing editorials about, but that'll be the day.

Ironically, the audit of the USS was triggered by news reports, not from the Times, but from Newsday, not discovered by Newsday reporters but given them by Ian MacGowan of Student Leader News Service and Tara McGann of The Advocate. What is really ridiculous is that LaMarre was intentionally exposed to the Student Leader News Service by the USS Treasurer. Now the Times thinks the USS should be effectively banned.

#### What We Can Do

We contend that the travesty of the USS came about because of an anti-democratic structure in which accountability to students was nearly structurally impossible. The recent move to suspend funding to the USS has given the central CUNY administration the opportunity to use the LaMarre administration to effectively shut down the USS. After LaMarre's highly questionable reelection student leaders from around CUNY called upon the central

CUNY administration to call for re-elections. The Office of Student Affairs instead certified LaMarre's election. Students laboring to reform the USS with no help from the central CUNY administration have seen their efforts go to waste.

The moves by the central CUNY administration to monitor the College Associations is a demagogic argument. Rather than bringing about greater accountability to students, and greater democratic control, it is quite clearly part of several manoeuvres that concentrate power centrally with CUNY administrations, and fits in with an anti-democratic rhetoric.

In New York City and New York State we constantly confront governmental bodies which are appointed, such as the MTA, the Port Authority, MAC, and our own board of trustees, and are not accountable to the people whose lives they govern. It is these unelected entities which should be held accountable. Their ultimate project is to privatize our city government and institutions, and haul off the prizes for a smaller, pro-business government.

In the near future we, CUNY and NYC, are likely to suffer severe set-backs. The Board has demonstrated that they are prepared to do whatever Cuomo and right-wing senators such as LaValle and Stavisky ask. Still there are moves which students can make to eventually reverse some of these changes and cuts. An important step in that is to reorganize the USS. We must democratize this body so that it is fully responsive to CUNY students and their needs. No more spending sprees in the midst of a budget crisis. We must also take legal action to free this body and its fee collecting ability from the clutches of the Board and CUNY Central. This is a time consuming legal process, but it is essential. Management should not run our organization.

The second move concerns the reappointment of three Board members. The terms for James Murphy, Edith Everett and Sylvia Bloom expire this June. The first two are appointed by the Governor and the last by the Mayor. We must publicly and loudly lobby both politicians to appoint reformers to the Board, who are New York City citizens, who are not comprised by their jobs, and who are prepared to defend this institution and its students. Both politicians should be held accountable for their appointments. During the recent media and legislative onslaught this particular Board has put up a weak, half-hearted fight, and acquiesced to vicious and racist depictions of CUNY which were spewed about this city. It is clear, then, that in the distant future we must work to abolish the Board of Trustees and replace it with a new body which would be more democratic and responsive to the needs of CUNY's constituency.



## Cuomo Calls for \$800 Tuition Hike at University Centers Students at SUNY/CUNY Colleges to Pay \$500 More

• • • Student Leader News Service • • •

Governor Mario Cuomo, who once called raising SUNY and CUNY tuition "an outrage," has asked for an \$83 million tuition hike for SUNY starting next fall - which translates to an annual raise of \$800 for the four University Centers and \$500 for the SUNY and CUNY four-year colleges.

Community colleges raise tuition at the discretion of the local administration and the local boards of trustees, and are not directly affected by the proposal.

At the same time, Cuomo also proposed a lump-sum cut of \$60.4 million from SUNY in his 1992-93 Executive Budget.

The governor is, in effect, asking that SUNY students pay \$83 million more for at least \$60 million less education. His proposal calls for layoffs of hundreds of faculty and staff positions, while countless other jobs will be lost to attrition, or non-replacement of workers who leave.

If approved by the state legislature in the coming months, this will be the third increase in tuition at SUNY over the past two years. In the Fall of 1990, a year's tuition was well under half of that, at \$1350 per year. If Cuomo gets his way, it will be \$2950 at the university centers next year.

Under state law, the governor is required to propose the state budget in January, then, the state legislature modifies this and is required to issue final state budget

legislation by April 1. For the past eight years, the legislature has missed its deadline, releasing its latest budget July 3, the last day of the 1991 session.

### Differential Tuition

Charging different prices for different SUNY campuses would represent a major change in philosophy for the state. The SUNY Board of Trustees first raised the possibility at its January meeting last week. But, this has been strongly advocated by SUNY Chancellor Bruce Johnstone, and was recently proposed officially by trustees.

A major concern of many observers is the rift that will develop between SUNY colleges if the proposed plan, known as "differential tuition," is implemented. Peter Shipley, the executive chairman of the University Fiscal Action Committee, fears negative long term effects of this proposal. "Different tuitions will create a different SUNY system," Shipley said. "What we will have is economically upper class students attending the University Center and lower class students going for the [Colleges]."

Bob Guay, Student Association president at SUNY Geneseo feels that even with 64 diverse SUNY campuses the differential tuition plan will still cause problems. "I'm concerned about it," Guay said. "Some students who need to go to a higher priced SUNY are just going to be shut out. It won't be good for anybody."

University officials say that it costs more for a student to attend one of SUNY's four university centers: Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, or Stony Brook. But according to Shipley, whose statewide organization monitors SUNY and CUNY spending, much of that cost is associated with research activities conducted at the university centers, and not the educational costs.

### CUNY Will Be Cut

Along with the proposed cuts to the City University of New York system, Cuomo also proposes to have CUNY funded directly from State resources. This shift in funding echoes a proposal by City Council President Andrew Stein, which called for shifting more authority over CUNY to the state government, and away from the ailing city government. "Most importantly," Cuomo says, "the CUNY expenditures can be regularly monitored."

The proposal, however, strikes fear into the hearts of those who fear that ultimately, CUNY will come under the control of SUNY.

### Financial Aid

As a result of the recession there were more students eligible for TAP in 1991, and a growth of more than \$100 million in awards occurred. TAP is considered an "entitlement" under state law, and students who qualify cannot be denied access to the program.

Awards for the 1992-93 fiscal year will be protected at the 1991-92 levels, under the governor's plan. Last year, the maximum tap award of \$4125 was reduced by \$75, and those students receiving a \$350 minimum award received just \$100. Reductions of \$145 to \$425 were applied to all other TAP awards, according to income.

Other cuts in financial aid would include a reduction of 20% for Aid for Part-Time Students (APTS) and a 50% reduction in Bundy Aid, private school aid which is given out directly to colleges and universities according to the numbers of degrees awarded. The Empire State Challenger Scholarships and Fellowships as well as State participation in the non-federal share of College Work Study would be eliminated entirely for a combined savings of \$10.2 million.

Cuomo's plans for budget cuts represent the sixth cut in the past four years. After getting hit with nearly \$200 million in cuts since 1988, SUNY students still had to pay out \$100 million more tuition back to the state.

## The Privatization of the Public University

• • • Student Leader News Service • • •

Governor Mario Cuomo's proposed 1992-93 budget, which calls for cutting CUNY at the same time asking for tuition-increases, proves the point that a tuition hike and a budget cut are really the same thing.

It seems like consumer fraud: the governor is asking that CUNY students cough up more for at less. The final amounts of the tuition hike and the budget cut will be decided by the state legislature, but the bottom line is that individual CUNY students or family can expect to shell out at least \$500 more in tuition.

Consequently a greater portion of funding for a government-operated university is shifted away from the state treasury and put directly onto the people. In essence, each year that tuition is increased and the budget is cut, CUNY becomes less the City University of New York and more the Private University of New York (PUNY).

### From CUNY to PUNY

Add to that the fact that CUNY now has cafeterias operated privately; photocopying services run by vendors; and "self-sufficient" dormitories. None are supported by the government.

Thanks to increased tuition and fees, students today pay more than twice as large a share of their educational costs as did students just two years ago. In the 1989-90 academic year, students started the year paying about 15%

of their educational costs. If the governor's proposal goes through, students will be paying closer to a third of the costs of their education.

In a very real sense, this makes CUNY less a public institution, because it is funded at a lower level by the public, and as a result, is less accessible to the general public. Yet CUNY is for the general public, not the elite public, the rich, or the advantaged. And clearly, by expecting the users of the system to pay more and more, the state is restricting who can attend the university on the basis of their financial status.

Privatization is a convenient situation for Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds. The more she relies on students and their parents for money, the more stable her cash flow. The less she's at the mercy of the state, the more she's in control of CUNY.

And of course, it's convenient for the state because CUNY, despite being one of the state's most valuable resources, can take hefty budget cuts, yet the blow is absorbed by people who have linked staying in CUNY with their own economic survival. At the same time, it erodes CUNY's crucial mission of "access" and sends a message to legislators that it's okay for the state to have only a limited role in funding state education.

### Annual CUNY Political Science Conference

Individual and Group Rights in the 1990's:  
Domestic and International Dimensions

March 26th, 1:00 to 6:15 p.m.,  
reception at 6:30 p.m.  
March 27th, 9:00 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.,  
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For additional information call  
Ms. Neil at 212-642-2355

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### FYI From Financial Aid

Beginning with the academic year 1992-93, the Graduate School will participate in CUNY's central financial aid packaging process for the College Work Study Program. The aim of our participation is twofold. First, to increase the total number of College Work Study dollars flowing to Graduate School students and second, to ensure an equitable distribution of those funds.

All students who apply for federal financial aid, and who request college work study (US citizens and permanent residents) via the Federal Aid Form (FAF) and qualify will be offered College Work Study awards based on their relative financial need and the funds available. These awards are not subject to adjustment. Therefore, students are urged to complete and submit the Federal Aid Form (FAF) as soon as possible, but no later than March 15, 1992. The Federal Aid Form (FAF) determines actual eligibility for all federally funded programs. It is essential that all students bring their Student Aid Report (SAR) to the Office of Financial Aid along with a copy of their 1991 IRS 1040 form no later than April 15, 1992. The Federal Aid Forms (FAF) can be obtained in the Office of Financial Aid for those students who have not received one.

## CUNY Moves to Reduce Faculty Through Early Retirement: Is Retrenchment Around the Corner?

Ken Stein

In recent weeks, faculty around the university have been mumbling about contract buy-outs and a second early retirement initiative. While CUNY Chancellor W. A. Reynolds says proposals for a second early retirement initiative have been brought to the Governor's Office of Management and Budget as well as the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, the Professional Staff Congress says nothing is definite.

After first stating that another Early Retirement Initiative is "strictly rumor," Carlissa Weiss of the PSC admitted such proposals exist, but cautioned, "It's not a given." Weiss who maintains she doesn't know all the details of the second initiative, says it may go into effect as early as August 31st of this year. The new initiative may be offered to those faculty who are aged 50 and older. The first initiative went into effect in September 1989, and took 18 months to fully implement. The first initiative was offered to faculty aged 55 and older.

Lehman President Ricardo Fernández has admitted that if Lehman College has to cut \$3 million, as the governor's proposal would call for, tenured faculty might be fired. Currently, tenured faculty must have a year's notice before they are fired for budgetary reasons.

In the meantime, Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Matthew Goldstein, who is also serving as acting president of Baruch College, will head up a "blue ribbon panel" that will draw the blue prints for streamlining the University. Whether this committee's work has anything to do with the impending fiscal crisis is unclear. Chancellor Reynolds has said the committee, "made up of distinguished faculty", will evaluate the effectiveness of departments at the different schools. As Reynolds put it, "students wanting to study geology would just simply travel another subway stop to another campus."

*CUNY-Lehman student, Ken Stein, edits the Lehman Meridian and serves as NYC bureau chief of the Student Leader Press Service.*

## CUNY Under Siege

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net cut to CUNY Senior and Community Colleges' operating budgets (\$38.5 million net cut to Senior Colleges, \$2.8 million net cut to Community Colleges). Counting the shortfall in funding that the tuition hike will cover, and the budget cuts together, the cuts in reality are in excess of \$90 million. These cuts are in addition to the \$44.6 million net cuts to this years (1991-1992) total operating budget (Senior & Community Colleges combined).

- At least 780 full-time faculty and staff position and vast amounts of adjunct/part-time positions would have to be cut CUNY-wide.
- Elimination of funds for John Jay College and New York City Technical college's associate degree programs (\$13.1 million cut).
- Aid to Part-time Study Programs (APTS) cut 20%, to \$9.4 million State-wide. Approximately 50% of the CUNY student body attends part-time.
- Maximum TAP awards and income ceiling for entering freshmen would be reduced.

### New York State's Commitment to Higher Education:

- New York State is ranked 47th in the percentage of state and local tax revenues appropriated to the Public Higher Education system.
- In New York State an average of 3.8% of the taxes are used for Education — the National Average is 6.9%
- In New York State, the percentage of tax revenues appropriated to the Public Higher Education System dropped 29.6% since 1980/81. The National Average dropped only 15.8%.
- Appropriations per student in New York have dropped 17.1% since 1977/78. The National Average dropped only 5.7%

Source: State Profiles: Financing Public Higher Education, 1991

## Need for Higher Activity Fee to Expand Services

Michael Glassman

At the first meeting of the new semester the Doctoral Students Council voted by acclamation to call a referendum on raising the student activity fee from its current \$7.50 to \$18.75.

The reasons for this are myriad. Most important is the need for all of us, as a community to protect our fellow students. First and foremost on our minds was the deepening health crisis and how it is affecting our fellow students. A large number of students are walking around without any health care coverage whatsoever. This is a frightening situation of time bombs waiting to go off. The administration has been working towards bringing a nurse practitioner to this campus since September. This of course does not solve the problem, but it offers at least partial help, and it is an important step for the Graduate Center taking responsibility for its students. But an important aspect of this plan is that the students also need to take responsibility for fellow students. We need to offer to pay partial cost for this nurse practitioner in order for it to become a reality. Approximately half the money from the activity fee increase will be used to help support this service.

For those of you who wonder why students must pay, and why the administration does not bear the whole cost, the answer is that, at this point, there is no other way. Rather than haggling over who should and should not contribute money, the important idea is to get the service on campus so that students without health care coverage can live in a little less fear. The nurse practitioner would be located here at the Graduate Center, because the building is centrally located.

The rest of the money will be used for what we feel are essential services to students, and to build a community. A portion will be used to put a lawyer on retainer for graduate students. The reason for this is obvious; in this litigious society any person who is unable to afford legal help when in trouble has basically lost the right to function as a free agent. This lawyer would be especially important in helping foreign students solve visa problems and in things like landlord tenant disputes. If you doubt how important this is, you should spend some time in the Doctoral Students council office when we get desperate appeals for some type of legal help and are unable to do anything in response. It is important that students are protected emotionally, intellectually, physically, and legally. Without protection in all these areas, day to day living becomes a matter of teetering along an abyss of circumstance.

Money will also be used to increase the student travel fund. This is important because we all need to find jobs when we leave this place, something we often tend to ignore while we are here. One of the best ways to establish contacts for jobs is to present papers at major conferences in our respective fields (job interviews often held at these conferences.) Unfortunately, many students are held back because of the tremendous expense. How many times have you heard the phrase, "Well, I would go, but I just can't afford it." The addition to the travel fund would help us increase the allocation and enable more students to have increased opportunity.

The rest of the money will be used to help increase the budget of the newspaper, which has been crawling along at austerity for too many years, to help develop a more comprehensive cultural affairs calendar, including a film series, and to help defray the costs of increased postage, supply and copying costs of the Doctoral Students Council, because costs do go up.

It is important that we not be caught in the trap of believing that we owe nothing to the other members of our community, that there is no need for us to offer money for the common good, that we are responsible for nobody but ourselves. We are responsible for each other, the moment you decided to become a student here at the Graduate Center, you made a commitment to be part of a community. Although responsibility for our community is often not practiced by faculty, and was sometimes ignored by administrations past, we sow the seed for our own.

Michael Glassman is a student in the Ph.D. program in Psychology and a co-chair of the Doctoral Students Council

## DSC Proposes Increase of Antiquated Activity Budget

The Doctoral Students Council proposes a raise in the student activity fee in order to meet very real needs of the community. The fee raise would be from the current Graduate School requirement of \$7.50 per student per semester to \$18.75 per student per semester. The amount of money available as a result of student fees would rise from \$60,000 per semester to \$150,000 per semester. The money would be used to provide a minimal safety net for members of the community as well as enhance student life at the Graduate Center and for all Graduate School students. The following is a proposal of how the money would be spent:

\$50,000 - Nurse practitioner on campus.

A nurse practitioner's office would be established for walk-in service for students. The nurse would be able to deal with most minor illnesses as well as provide gynecological care.

\$10,000 - Lawyer on retainer.

This would provide for a lawyer that could help students with legal difficulties such as immigration problems, landlord-tenant, disputes, unfair harassment by creditors. It would provide a place for students in crisis to turn.

\$10,000 - Additional contribution to student travel and research fund.

This would increase the DSC contribution to this fund three-fold. We are hoping that with additional administration support the maximum a student could receive for travel would be increased to \$350 (about enough to fly anywhere in the continental United States.)

\$10,000 - Copying/Printing/Stationary/Postage.

Part of this money will be used to subsidize the laser printing of students in the computer center. Part of this money will be used to cover increased postage and stationary costs of the DSC.

\$5000 - Increased funding for the student newspaper.

\$5000 - Cultural Affairs/Film Series

This money will be used to establish a strong film series here at the Graduate Center.

### BE HEARD:

## PUBLIC HEARINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### SPEAK AT HEARINGS MEETINGS:

FRI. MARCH 13  
MON. MARCH 16  
MON. MARCH 23  
FRI. APRIL 10  
MON. APRIL 13  
MON. APRIL 27  
FRI. MAY 15  
MON. MAY 18  
TUES. MAY 26  
FRI. JUNE 12  
MON. JUNE 15  
TUES. JUNE 22

ALL MEETINGS AND HEARINGS ARE HELD AT 535 E. 80TH ST.

In order to address the public hearing, you must call the Office of the Secretary to the Board at (212) 794-5450 the Friday before the hearing.



## USS No Longer Has Budget

• • Tara McGann • •

The corruption riddled University Student

Senate has lost the Fall portion of its 1992 budget. The CUNY Board of Trustees voted to suspend the University Student Government fee of 85 cents per semester, per student, paid by all of the 200,000 students of CUNY, at the February 24th Board meeting. This will be effective Fall 1992.

The student activity fee, which comprises the nearly \$350,000 yearly budget of the USS, is collected each semester. The move by the Board to suspend collecting the fee deprives the USS of half of the budget they were expecting for 1992. University spokesperson, Rita Rodin, commented, "They will be asked to adjust their budget and their spending. They will have access to money collected spring semester. They're going to have to make that last for the whole year."

The Board gave as the reason for this action that the "functioning and accountability of the USS no longer justified the mandatory student fee." When asked whether a reformed CUNY-wide student government would be refunded, Rodin said that the Office of Student Affairs would hold hearings to address the question of refunding the USS. Suspension of fee collection for the USS will have no effect upon the Chairperson of the USS, Jean

LaMarre, remaining the student trustee to the Board of Trustees.

LaMarre has been at the center of allegations that the USS went on a spending spree during his 1990-91 tenure. When these allegations were made public, LaMarre faced stiff competition for reelection from a reform candidate. LaMarre won in an election tainted with charges of corruption and rigging. USS Senator Michael Yomi, from the Graduate Center found the election questionable and highly irregular and was among those who called upon the Office of Student Affairs to disqualify the election.

Despite these allegations, the Office of Student Affairs did not call for a re-election. Since LaMarre's re-election, members of the USS opposing him have charged that he manipulates parliamentary procedure to cancel meetings if insufficient numbers of his supporters are present, so as to achieve a voting majority for himself. Yomi and others contend that it was with these methods that LaMarre succeeded in gaining a voting block on the eight member steering committee. This steering committee formulated, and the senate approved a 1992 budget that included among other items \$10,000 for car leasing.

Stipends to the Chairperson and the eight vice chairpersons of the USS will continue to be paid through July 1.

## USS Delegate Switch-hits LaMarre

• • J. Van Horne • •

Ralph Theano, a USS senator and acting president of the Lehman College student government, along with other members of the USS Steering Committee, is circulating a petition among USS delegates for the impeachment of Chairperson Jean LaMarre. Last year student press investigations revealed his large expenditures of student monies on limousines, hotel bill, and a trip to Africa. These expenditures remain under investigation by the City Office of Internal Investigation.

The petition cites five instances where LaMarre failed to fulfill his duties as USS Chair:

- In the last few months, LaMarre missed several meetings of the CUNY Board of Trustees and failed to attend the USSA conference.
- On February 12, LaMarre called a meeting of the Steering Committee, then failed to show up.
- LaMarre failed to conduct research before developing USS policy proposals.
- LaMarre has failed to maintain good public relations on behalf of the University and failed to maintain the University Student Press Service.
- LaMarre appointed several students to various USS committees without seeking the Senate's approval.

Theano's opposition to LaMarre is an about-face from his days as a LaMarre supporter, and comes as a surprise to many of his colleagues in the USS. Last year Theano ran on the same slate as LaMarre and helped re-elect him. In a recent interview, Theano said that he supported LaMarre only because he was "the best of the worst." Graduate Center USS senator, Michael Yomi, had earlier tried to impeach LaMarre, but did not at that time receive

support from Theano. According to Theano, LaMarre has been steadily losing support within USS.

In order to impeach LaMarre, 28 of the 38 USS delegates must sign, then convene an impeachment hearing. If 2/3s of the USS vote for impeachment, LaMarre will have to step down or request a formal trial with legal counsel. Theano says he has been getting a favorable response to the petition. He expects to begin impeachment proceedings within three weeks.

But in a related development....

### USS Delegate Confiscates Student Newspaper

Feb. 27, Ralph Theano, Acting President of the Lehman College student government, reacting to a critical editorial and discrediting article, confiscated thousands of copies of the *Meridian*, the Lehman newspaper, and took them off campus apparently in the trunk of his car.

When students attempted to block his car, Theano accelerated striking one student and forcing others to jump. Ana Ayala, President of the Puerto Rican Students Association at Lehman suffered a leg injury and was taken to North Central Bronx Hospital. Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Joan Roper pulled another student out of the path of the car to save him from being hit.

The editorial, published in that day's issue of *Meridian*, charged Theano with "turning a deaf ear" to student needs. An article elsewhere in the issue, quoted Theano condemning Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide: "If I could, I would kill Aristide myself." Theano denies the quote. Theano has publicly condemned *Meridian* for exposing the spending scandal of CUNY's University Student Senate, of which he is a delegate.

J. Van Horne writes for the *Meridian*.

## New USS Budget is More of the Same Includes \$10,000 for Car Leasing

• • Student Leader News Service • •

The CUNY-wide University Student Senate (USS) voted to approve the budget proposed by USS Chair Jean LaMarre, which includes \$10,000 for "Car leasing for the Senate," "\$10,000 for "Local travel, Transportation, Hotel," and \$24,768 for "Fringe Benefits."

The \$345,000 budget passed line-by-line with general approval of the majority of the delegates present. The LaMarre budget includes items such as: \$123,700 for personnel salaries, \$42,444 for stipends, \$20,000 for "conference, seminars, rallies and all projects that the USS either organizes (sic) or participates in. . .", \$24,768 for "fringe benefits," \$10,000 for local travel and transportation, and \$6000 for "Steering Committee reimbursement."

Days later, the Student Affairs Committee of the CUNY Board of Trustees moved to enact tighter control over the USS. LaMarre made headlines in September for his abuses of student activity funds, including authorizing spending of \$13,000 for limousines, \$4500 for a trip to Africa for his friends, and a \$55,000 conference which included \$24,000 in banquets.

The USS meeting, which was held at John Jay college of Criminal Justice, began at approximately 2:45 pm with a brief speech by Assemblyman Ed Sullivan, chairman of the Higher Education Committee. Sullivan warned delegates not to "Fall into the trap" of failing to "follow democratic procedure."

The meeting ended abruptly six hours later, after much budget wrangling, when one LaMarre supporter, Francis Ngadi from John Jay, called for a quorum count and walked out. Quorum, which is one half plus one of the eligible forty senators must be attained for the senate to vote, and was broken by Ngadi's departure. LaMarre and his supporters have consistently staged walkouts once their agenda items are dealt with.

One shocked observer said, "This guy [LaMarre] would do well in Haiti. He's a good dictator."

LaMarre's supports have successfully stifled discussion at USS plenary meetings before by walking out and breaking quorum. The senate has not successfully completed a plenary session, addressing all agenda items, since the USS spending improprieties were revealed last September.

Ken Stein, Student Leader News Service City Bureau Chief, and Lehman *Meridian* editor, was accused by LaMarre of dis-

rupting the meeting and showing disrespect for the Senate when he distributed copies of the University's Office of Internal Audit report on USS spending. The audit reveals numerous violations of spending guidelines by LaMarre.

Many senators verbally supported Stein's dissemination of the report, expressing outrage with LaMarre for not making the audit available to the full senate when it was released in early December. The report, entitled, "An examination of the University Student's Operating Account at the City University Research Foundation for the period January 1 through September 26, 1991," was conducted by the University's Office of Internal Audit.

The report strongly criticizes LaMarre's administration, stating that, "The actions of a few USS officials to determine the USS budget allocation and to run the USS operating account like their own personal checking account remained unchecked. . . This small group of officials realized that student apathy or indifference along with Office of Student Affairs inaction made existing controls irrelevant."

After reading the report, one senator, who has been a strong supporter of LaMarre, expressed outrage with LaMarre. The senator, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, claimed that LaMarre had asked his supporters to stage a walk-out as soon as the budget was approved.

At one point in the budget debate, LaMarre called CUNY Graduate Center delegate Michael Yomi out-of-order, and told him he would not be recognized by the chair for the remainder of the meeting. Yomi, who has been a staunch LaMarre opponent, said, "Oh really! Are you our dictator?" LaMarre replied, "Yeah, I am." At another point, LaMarre threatened to have Yomi removed from the meeting by the "Sergeant-at-Arms."

According to Lehman college delegate Ralph Theano, who ran for a vice-chair position on LaMarre's slate and lost, LaMarre threatened that if his sister, Elizabeth LaMarre, was not re-hired by the USS senate, he was going to effectively "shut down USS."

Many senators privately alleged that in addition to re-hiring his sister, LaMarre is attempting to hire his uncle to fill the highest paid USS position of "General Manager" at \$29,000, formerly held by a close associate of LaMarre's, Aston Greene.

### OMBUDS OFFICER SEARCH

Part-time position which offers 1/3 release time for current GSUC faculty or staff person. Initial one-year appointment which is renewable.

The Ombuds Officer serves with total impartiality in listening to complaints and in taking into account the rights of every person involved in a given circumstance. The Ombuds Officer reports directly to the President and does not arbitrate or engage in any investigatory proceeding but, in a manner consistent with the principles of confidentiality and impartiality, identifies to the President problematic areas where further investigation may be warranted.

Deadline for submission is Friday, March 27, 1992.  
Mail c.v. and statement of qualifications, or names of nominees who are willing to apply to:  
The Graduate School and University Center  
Ombuds Officer Selection Committee c/o Office of the President  
33 West 42nd Street, Room 1800  
New York, New York 10036



## IN REVIEW

## Apocalypse MAUS

• • • Jenny Bucket • • •

In Review: MAUS: A Survivor's Tale, II: And Here My Troubles Began, by Art Spiegelman, Pantheon, 1991, \$18.00

Sigmund Freud, Harold Bloom, and Walt Disney would all love Art Spiegelman's *MAUS* project. Recently completed by *MAUS: A Survivor's Tale, II: and Here My Troubles Began*, this is sequential visual narrative in a very tense space. It's a comic book about the Holocaust. It's about a guy and his father. It's got mice.

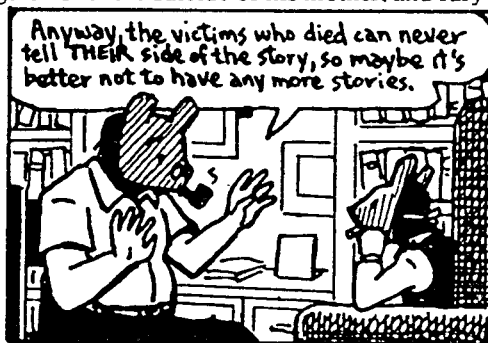
*MAUS* is a very anxious work. It can never manage to be merely comic or tragic, or overtly ideological. It is simply the evidence of Spiegelman trying to map the tension between himself and his father Vladek, a Holocaust survivor. It is a portrait of the artist, trying to subdue a father's ghost, struggling to get on top of history. Spiegelman "survives" Vladek by making him into a cartoon character, and using him to "see" the atrocity he himself never lived through. Point of view flickers between father and son, the setting between Vladek's retirement cabin in the Catskills, and Poland in 1944.

In tiny, heavy, beautifully drawn pictures, Vladek's life at Auschwitz is recounted. The pictures of the Jew-mice in their striped uniforms are like black and white photographs, plain and documentary. The mouse faces are innocent and inscrutable. The text is hideous and intrusive: "THOSE WHO FINISHED IN THE GAS CHAMBERS BEFORE THEY GOT PUSHED IN THESE GRAVES. IT WAS THE LUCKY ONES. THE OTHERS HAD TO JUMP IN THE GRAVES WHILE THEY WERE ALIVE. . . PRISONERS WHO WORKED THERE POURED GASOLINE OVER THE LIVE ONES AND THE DEAD ONES. /AND THE FAT FROM THE BURNING BODIES THEY SCOOPED AND POURED AGAIN SO EVERYONE COULD BURN BETTER."

The story is so horrifying my mind can't stand it, yet the pictures are tender and plain. The pages are soft, the outer book colorful and enticing. Like memory, this book is a sensual lure toward what is real and frightening. Spiegelman melds genres in a hypnotic way: a pretty kid's

book is a gruesome horror tale; Jewish history is personal confession; pictures are words; parents are children. The mesmerizing story that *MAUS* weaves can only exist in the kind of text it is, in the format it creates.

In its nearly 300 pages, the entire *MAUS* document is Spiegelman's guilt at surviving a fucked-up father, anguish over the suicide of his mother, and fury at his father



copyright Art Spiegelman 1991

for burning her Holocaust journals. It's hardly surprising when the comic artist is seen going to his shrink on page 43 to deal with cartoonist's block. Spiegelman draws himself child-size, and sits in a huge chair with his feet sticking out. He wears a tied-on *MAUS* mask and says things like: "I just lie on my couch for hours and stare at a small

grease spot on the upholstery." His mouse shrink looks like Vladek.

A theme in *MAUS II* is that despite one's bodily "survival" of hideous events, one does not escape them thoroughly. Spiegelman's father is sometimes depicted as a son-of-a-bitch, so stingy his wife steals his car and empties his bank account. *And Here My Troubles Began*, like the first book, shows the cartoonist to be also a victim of his history, stuck with the unwelcome legacy of his parents' nightmarish past. Spiegelman is shown being interviewed by the press: "Could you tell us if drawing *MAUS* was cathartic? Do you feel better now?" In a spiky scream balloon, the artist cries "WAH!"

What will happen to *MAUS*? Is it an important artifact for an Oedipal war-crazed culture? Is it pop? Will it "survive" in a Bloomian sense, influencing other artists to remake or outdo it? MOMA exhibited all the original *MAUS II* artwork last month, not much to anyone's surprise.

*MAUS* may be a weird, smartass thing to do, but it comes in such an attractive package. Ultimately, it is almost mild-mannered. It pays its respects to father, doesn't get profane, has no sex, and ends happily when Vladek reunites with his wife after the war. I doubt other talented cartoonists will be paid the attention Spiegelman receives: the Hernandez brothers' *Love and Rockets*, and Julie Doucet's *Dirty Plotte* are both excellent (and apocalyptic) works, but

much too nasty for MOMA or Pantheon. Spiegelman's work is curious because it is so subtly appalling, holding our attention gently in one hand, injecting its version of history into us with the other.

Jenny Bucket is a writer and a cherry picker.

## Love Letters to Lurlene

• • Jarrod Hayes • •

In Review: Vested Interests: Cross-dressing and Cultural Anxiety, Marjorie Garber, Routledge, 1992, \$35.00

"Cross-dressing is about gender confusion. Cross-dressing is about the phallus as constitutively veiled. Cross-dressing is about the power of women. Cross-dressing is about the emergence of gay identity. Cross-dressing is about the anxiety of economic or cultural dislocation, the anticipation or recognition of 'otherness' as loss. All true, all partial truths, all powerful metaphors. But the compelling force of transvestism in literature and culture comes not, or not only, from these effects, but also from its instatement of metaphor itself, not as that for which a literal meaning must be found, but precisely as that without which there would be no such thing as meaning in the first place" (390).

Cross-dressing in Marjorie Garber's *Vested Interests* comes to be about quite a bit. Encyclopedic in its wealth of examples and anecdotes, her study examines the cultural and literary manifestations of transvestism, manifestations she sets up as texts to be read. And read them she does. Within the multiplicity of meanings she attributes to these texts, one meaning, one interpretation, returns time after time, the meaning of meaning itself, of signification. Not only the cross-dresser, but also the text and its mean-

ing are in drag, masked. Garber's unveiling reveals little more than that they were veiled to begin with.

*Lurlene, the night I first met you, you made your appearance as Angelo (pronounced remarkably like Angela in Southern). They whispered: that's Lurlene. And your name was enunciated as a secret. And the secret circulated as a whisper between them. What will he do when he enters her apartment? What will he do when he sees her dresses, her mini-skirts, her 70's clogs and flowery, balloon-sleeved blouses? What will he say? What will he think? But I asked myself other questions. What is she thinking? What is hidden behind her gaze? Will she love me?*

For Garber, the transvestite is a sign of instability, and perhaps, of subversion. She names this disruption "category crisis." Category crisis occupies, in the economy of her analysis, a similar function to that of genderfuck in recent works in Queer Studies. One is reminded of Judith Butler's parody, proliferation, and excess. The anxiety Garber's category crisis elicits recalls Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick's homosexual panic. But what are the implications of a move away from homosexual panic (which has been used as a legal defense of queer bashers and murderers) towards anxiety over categories - away from genderfuck to category crisis? The danger, I think, is that anything or anyone becomes an occasion for cross-dressing - including "Culture" itself:

"The rest of this book will be devoted to the exploration of the logics, and the effects, of cross-dressing as an

index, precisely, of many different kinds of 'category crisis' - for the notion of the 'category crisis,' I will contend, is not the exception but rather the ground of culture itself" (16).

From Shakespeare to Peter Pan, from Elvis to the Big Bad Wolf, from nuns to detective fiction and slave narratives, the drag queen becomes an artefact offered up to the interpretive gaze of the cultural critic, and becomes cultural capital introduced into the marketplace of Cultural Studies. Not that Garber doesn't deal with the way cross-dressing is fetishized in cultural discourse, a fetishization that, according to Garber, mimics the fetishization of women and the production of Woman as artefact; she does. But she crosses the fine line between studying the artefact and producing the artefact herself. As with Peter Pan, the drag queen risks disappearing, being disappeared:

"The fantasy child is the ultimate 'transvestite effect,' the figure that comes between demand and desire, the signifier that plays its role for something that is not there. For if it were there, it would not be what is desired" (92).

*Lurlene, since our night together in Atlanta, I've been looking for something to remind me of you. J. gave me a picture of your eyes, made up with liner, shadow, and mascara. You look out with the same gaze as the first time. He gave me pictures of you in clogs, the divorcee from Dunwoody. The second night you said you didn't want to. I remembered. He kissed her. Your soft body keeps me warm in your cold apartment. She touched him. You never called again.*

It's not that Garber doesn't deal with the specifics of cross-dressing; she does. She describes in detail techniques of "passing" as a member of the opposite sex and how one changes sex on the operating table. It's not that

continues on p. 12

## Arts &amp; Events

## MIGRATION SONGS

Thomas Burgess

**Pierce Turner** St. Patrick's Day 3/17 @Tompkins Sq. Cafe, 9th & Ave A.

**Black '47** St. Patrick's Day 3/17 @LoneStar 52nd (B'wy&8th).

& @Paddy Reilly's, Wednesdays & Saturdays 10pm. \$5.

That which is currently hyped as worldbeat is not new to New York. It is basic. Our city has been a transnational musical migration station for some time. With good reason. With the rapidity of club openings and closings, anyone without stagefright can get a gig. Claims of mediahype to the contrary, New York audiences are much too generous with their applause to be considered the Occam's Razor of musical discrimination.

In the early '80s, in the East Village, genre-bending was approaching critical mass. Funk bands took up hardcore punk. Hardcore took up heavy metal. Metal took up garage. Africa took up Jamaica. Minimal went into texture. Within this context, an Irish folk duo, **Kirwan & Turner of Wexford**, went disco! Not-quite-one-hit-wonders, the new band nevertheless commanded a regular audience of raving New Wavers. And minor poets of Loisaidea never held a candle to **The Major Thinkers**, any major dude would tell you. Not Major Dad, skinhead! Check out these lyrics. "If you want to have C go to Avenue C! If you want to O/D go to Avenue D! If you want to find me go to Avenue B! Avenue B. Is the place to be." (Followed by some rockin' Gregorian chants!)

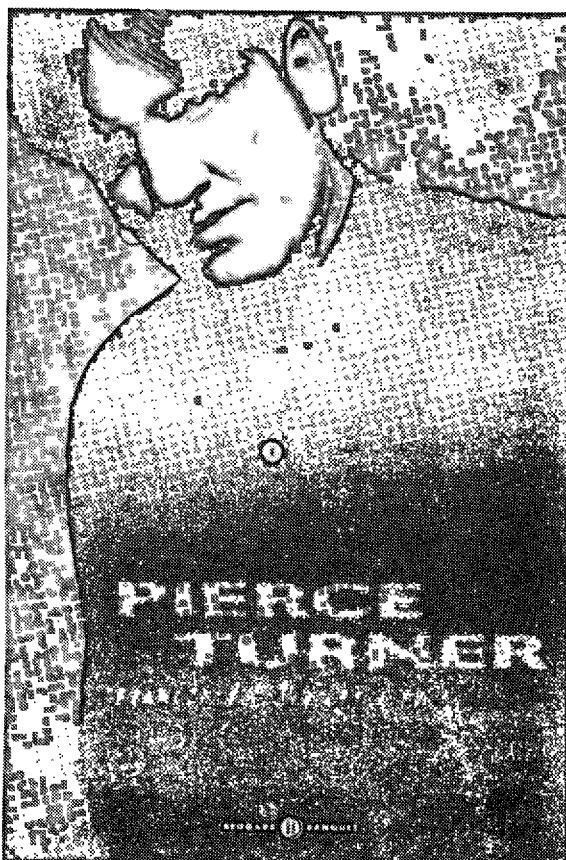
Despite the Major Thinker's eclectic appeal, they were trapped in the musical Hell's Kitchen of Irish music. The financiers of New York music don't really have time to listen to the undertones. One gains an edge by one-minute management. Decisiveness abhors complexity. Two guys with synthesizers and Irish accents must be folk-rock. One books them as local openers for Irish folk-rock imports like **Moving Hearts** and **Stockton's Wing** every St. Patrick's Day.

During the rest of the year, Pierce Turner made demo tapes to purvey his songs. Larry Kirwan wrote and produced *Liverpool Fantasy*, a play that examined the relations between instruments of culture and power at all levels. It was not a musical, but it used as its premise, "What if the Beatles had been one-hit-wonders?"

Among the bridge and tunnel regulars was the Queens-born and starborne **Cindy Lauper**. She taped a Thinkers performance and played it for a Philly band commanding, "Listen up. Play like these guys and we'll make a hit record." The rest is history. From the sanctity of their headphones, the uptown critics cried, "How delightfully innovative! Fresh!" What some call a rip-off, other call sampling. Plagiarists just want to have fun.

Cindy went platinum and those Philly rockers had the opportunity to commodify a New York innovation. Recording a Biblical social critique as **The Hooters**, "All You Zombies in High Places" had its 15

minutes as an '80s "Times They Are a Changing." The uptown critics cried, "What an interesting mix of electric, elec-



Photography: Kevin Westenberg

tronic, and "acoustic" instruments! What a contemporary blend of dance music and folk idiom!"

The Major Thinkers, innovators of that particular approach to music, were lost in the shuffle. But only to be resurrected one

Easter like Jesus X himself. And there are two resurrectees to boot. For Larry Kirwan has organized **Black 47**. And partner, Pierce Turner has organized himself as **Pierce Turner**!

Royalties from songs and an off-off-Broadway play may not pay your rent, but they'll buy a few rounds of Guinness. Awakening one Easter in a drunken stupor, the lads discovered they had overslept their stop and ended up at the Bronx end of the D Train line. As they went out that morning to breathe the air around Bainbridge Avenue, to their shock and horror, they discovered yet another round of the Irish Diaspora. A settlement of Irish emigrants and INS agents right there in the Bronx! "It was rather like Brigadoon all over again," recalled Pierce, "except with a New York accent."

It seems that traditional opportunities for Irish youth in Britain's reserve army of labor had been suddenly closed-off as a result of rampant Thatcherism. Youth took a lesson from 1847. They did not wait for Britain to exercise its neo-colonial prerogative and make them go hungry. An entire generation fled to the US to become construction workers and nannies.

At that point only dimly aware of these political/economic subtleties, our daring duo stumbled into the Village Pub to ward off rapidly approaching hangovers. Putting his last quarter in the jukebox, an in-

spired Pierce mounted the bar, regaling his captive audience with a perfect lip-synch of Christy Moore's hit "The Wicklow Hills" and was treated to many pints of Harp for his efforts, which his partner Larry imbibed. Larry in turn used his own last quarter to play that song again, encouraging Pierce once more to sing, "Tell everybody! I'm going away for ten years! I'm going to wander among the Wicklow Hills," as he leapt from table to table. Just then the owner of the bar stepped in, and being from County Wicklow himself, a tear slowly fell from his eye, and he immediately offered Pierce an engagement as a one-man cover band. "Well, I'll have to think about it," says Pierce. "A man of my talents needs an opening act!" And the bar owner turned to Larry Kirwan, who after all this time was still lugging around his drum machine and says, "Tell me lad, can you play any songs like Cindy Lauper?"

The years have come and gone. Pierce and Larry do quite well for themselves as two groups rather than one. The truth is that they share the same bassist between them, but he's a trombone player. There's no end to the tricks the versatile Freddy Parcells can do with a slide trombone, the original voice-activated bass. And who says you can't sing through a trombone? This all complements Pierce's vocals which are influenced by **Ian Hunter**, **Steve Winwood**, and the obscure Roger Chapman of **Family**. More significantly, Pierce's vocals complement his lyrics. Their literary quality reminds us that there is a lot more to Irish culture than the past. "The dead we will always have with us!" cried Peadar Kirby. Like Joyce, however, Pierce Turner and Larry Kirwan suggest we remember the past, only that we are enabled to move forward.

## The Burgess 10

## Where it's @!

It's a busy month. The Ides of March (the old New Year) get totally overlooked while all attention goes to Intl. Women's Day, Ireland, & Mardi Gras. These holidays provide gigs across the Eastern seaboard for musicians associated with the events. They all must pass through NYC. So if you survive the computer virii of 3/6&13, party on! #1 **St. Pat's w/o the Parade** The season officially began 2/26 w/ Lir, Chanting House, & Spier Mor @various venues. Catch up fast.

3/4 **Horseflies** @CBGBs. Pre-U-2 r&r band.

3/19 **Stiff Little Fingers** @Marquee. Belfast hardliners.

@Tramps 45 W21 (5&6th) 727-7788.

3/5 **Sharon Shannon** x-Waterboy. & your 2nd chance for **Chanting House**.

3/13 **Shane McGowan** w/o the Pogues. 757-5318, \$20 benefit.

3/16&17 **Stockton's Wing**. Must be Irish folk-rock!

#2 **Convergence of Forces**

3/3-4 **Richard Thompson & Dave Alvin** @Bottom Line, 15 W4th, 228-6300, 8&11.

\$15. X-Fairport Conventioner meets x-Blaster for roots showdown.

3/5 These fellows will join **Allison Moyet** & **Barrett Strong** for a discussion & sam-

pling of songwriting. Hosted by x-Omni writer Vin Scelsa.

3/6 Ms. Moyet will then be @the Marquee w. Jules Shear.

#3 **Supernovae**

4/12 **Pearl Jam** @Limelight. Seattle band overtakes Nirvana. Can Sadhappy be far behind?

4/13 **Psychedelic Furs** w **Eye & I** @Academy, 43rd. The latter BRC members recently opened for Billy Bragg.

#4 3/7 **Olympics of the Bands**

**Meat Puppets** @Wetlands, below Canal.

**Steel Pulse** @Roseland, B'way.

#5 3/13&14 **Olympics of the Bandleaders**

**Hugh Masekela** @Club Harambee, W43rd(B'way & 6th)

**Otis Clay** @Chicago BLUES, 8th Av & 14th.

#6 **Olympics of the 6-String Dinosaurs**

4/15 **Lonnie Mack** @Manny's Carwash \$14. Best known for his instrumental hit "Memphis", this Telecaster virtuoso is equally at home in blues & country. vs:

3/14-19 **John McLaughlin** @Bottom Line \$15. Mahasaurus.

#7 **Jones & 'Bones** @Blue Note, 131 W3rd St, 475-8592, 9 & 11:30.

3/3-8 **Elvin Jones Jazz Machine** w Ravi Coltrane & Sonny Fortune filling the elder Coltrane's shoes. Now that Fred Parcells

has shown us just how hip the trombone is, catch opener **Steve Turre** on 'bone & conch w violinist John Blake. & furthermore:

3/10-15 **JB's Horns & Johnnie Johnson** Respectively, the men behind James Brown & Chuck Berry. Trombonist Fred Matthews, is joined by PeeWee Ellis & Maceo Parker. Johnson's piano lines put the magic in Berry's driving songs.

#8 **Electric Light Opera**

3/6-8 **Anthony Davis's** opera *Tania* @St. Ann's, Montague & Clinton, B'klyn Hts. Thulani's jazzician bro stages the life of Lt. Hearst of the SLA

3/1,4,6,8 **Diamanda Galas** @The Kitchen, 512 W19, 255-5793 8:30 \$15. Performs *Vena Cava*. A tour of clinical depression & contemporary dementia.

#9 **Inarticulate voices**

**Debra Turbeville** of Guatemala @Staley Wise Gallery 560 Bway & Prince 966-6223 **Jeff Wisniewski's** Briarcliff Manor turned to sawdust @Nordenstad-Skarstedt Gallery, 49 Greene, 274-1747. An Environmental Psych-outing.

#10 **Soundbytes** @theaters somewhere.

**Ornette Coleman** in *Naked Lunch*. **Fred Frith** in *Beyond the Fringe*. **Cameroon village children** in *Until the End of the World*.



## It Can't Happen Here!

from page 4

without bringing any better ideas to the table only serves to harden the hearts of those in power in Albany and galvanize whatever genuinely "anti-intellectual" and "fascist" (gimme a break...) forces there may be there in state and city government.

The editorial justly trashes the recent *Daily News* editorial which "demagogically denounces lazy and overpaid professors" and "questionable" courses some teach. It is indeed ludicrous to propose that any CUNY instructor is coddled, and equally absurd for the editors of a second rank tabloid like the *News* to set themselves up as arbiters of effective university curricula. What the editors of *The Advocate* fail to realize, however, is that their editorial succeeds only in answering demagoguery with demagoguery (or are we to believe that only conservative viewpoints can be so labeled?). Similarly, filling the space of a well-read student newspaper with paranoid fantasies regarding evil conspiracies cooked up by business leaders, politicians, and journalists does little to advance the

argument regarding how best to resolve the ever-expanding budget crisis.

What is needed in these desperate times are voices of reason presenting useful alternatives to radical policies proposed by those whose agenda is loaded too heavily to the left or right. The *Advocate's* editors correctly recognize that a force of some 200,000 students, faculty, and concerned alumni can be organized into an effective unit to oppose the budget cuts. It will be recalled, however, that the numerous and wide-spread student protests which preceded the first round of budget cuts did little to stop their implementation. If the weight of 200,000 minds is brought to bear on this issue prior to the implementation of the mid-year budget cuts, let's hope that more than statements of protest are developed. Let's hope that reasonable solutions are developed and offered to our legislators.

Christopher Kaufman, Ph.D. Program in Social Personality

## Editors Respond:

## You'll Get Pie, In the Sky, When you Die, That's a Lie!

Is this guy for real? Never mind his sexist (GSUC "brethren") and "I'm a leftist too" rhetoric (this is reminiscent of the "I was on the bridge at Selma, but..." line), as well as the preposterous suggestion that a student newspaper propose a counter-budget (after all, the NYT rode into town only to support Felix Rohatyn and his MAG posse — a lot of good these Wall Street cowboys have done!!), Kaufman's ideological blindness to the function of politics in the academy, press, city, nation, state, etc., is astounding. We never stated that there is a Wall Street conspiracy but rather pointed to the obvious: that CUNY and SUNY involve large amounts of money and involve major political stakes, such as the funding of public institutions. After all, to whom does he pay his GSL debt. Especially since the age of Reagan, public education in this country has been increas-

ingly privatized.

Wall Street is right to want "their men" at the helm of this institution for it serves their best interests at both a financial and ideological level. This is no conspiracy. Finally, Kaufman's "conspiracy statement" hints at his servile notion of democracy where citizens must constantly persuade and placate the powerful, and his reduction of politics to a matter of personal behavior and politesse. His use of "conspiracy" to frame and then dismiss our critique is a rhetorical device to cloak himself in the mantle of the "reasonable", and underscores his resistance to engage in political analysis — hence his notion of the "gunpowder plot" conspiracy. Rather we are caught within a structure, namely capitalism. As opposed to Kaufman we don't believe we'll get ours in heaven.

--Andrew Long, Tara McGann

Art History Dept.  
Silences Students

from page 4

Arts after flirting with Williams College and Princeton, seldom having taught at the Graduate Center in the last three years. Talk about greener pastures!

Last week, the remaining faculty voted to alter ["expand" into pre-modern] the department in a way that is neither financially feasible, nor intellectually prudent. This vote comes at a time when the department is grossly understaffed in modern, American, and criticism, its supposed current areas of specialization which are advertised and thus, contractually promised to students who apply. Talk about breach of contract!

To the credit of students and some new faculty who persisted, next September feminist scholar Carol Armstrong, formerly of Berkeley will be joining the staff — we are sorry to say she enters a largely defunct department, probably to be stampered by droves of intellectually starved students who can barely find courses or constitute examination and dissertation committees in their major fields. Gee, sounds great.

We lament the demise of our historically critical and uniquely focused department, which in former times helped to shape the direction of criticism and feminism in art history. However, we also openly acknowledge its current lack in certain spheres which students have lobbied to include, namely feminism, non-Eurocentric aesthetics, criticism, and photography. These spheres are grossly under-represented, if not recuperated within conventionalist discourse, by the advocates of the so-called expansion. Chances for the kind of expansion that students would like to see in the department are, therefore, diminished or denied wholesale in the face of the CUNY-wide budget cuts and as a result of the department faculty's recent vote in favor of expansion. The latter event clearly establishes an imperative to direct available funds toward rounding out the white, Eurocentric and patrilocal canon, starting with Renaissance art.

And so we share the despondency of many students who are desperately trying to get out — many considering transfers, others dropping out altogether, many bringing suit against the department, some catatonically unable to move. As the department will surely fail to publicly acknowledge its recent/fatal vote, fully aware of the financial upshot of students no longer applying or remaining part of a depleted department, students must assume the onerous burden of spreading the news, however much it seems that their tongues have been severed by the faculty's decision. We must prevent more students from suffering the false promises of the Graduate Center — and in this, we know that the Department of Art History is certainly not alone. Thank you to Jack Flam, Diane Kelder and Rosalind Krauss for opposing this decision in the face of Provost Steven Cahn, and art history professors Rosemarie Bletter, William Gerds, Mona Hadler, Rose-Carol Washton Long, and Marlene Park who sold us out for reasons of personal endeavor.

Yours truly,

Philomela Collective

Psychiatric Report Used to Fire  
GSUC Worker

from page 4

ties according to the pertinent job description. These psychiatrists, and a psychologist (Ph.D.), a chair of a social science department at a major university, have described the content of Brodsky's "report" as "claptrap" (cheap, pretentious *artifice*) and Brodsky (who described himself to me as an "Independent Third-Party Evaluator") as "a company hack," as "bought and paid for," and as "a hired gun." A number of professionals and other lay-people — myself included — consider Brodsky's "report" to be a joke, a malicious joke indeed, but laughable all the same. (I intend to share it and my own 10-page, point-by-point refutation of it with our community eventually.)

In a few weeks a "due process hearing" will take place (unfortunately for me, within a quasi-judicial CUNY framework) regarding the decision, which is not Jones Johnson's alone, to force me out on a leave of absence; I will present a psychiatric "second opinion" which will effectively counter Brodsky's contrivance; and if GSUC officialdom is not successful at the hearing, it is a practical certainty that they then will attempt to bring "disciplinary charges" against me.

In the meantime, members of the GSUC/CUNY community should be aware that, with their feigned ignorance in their statements to *Advocate* reporter Tom Smith, both Associate Provost Geoffrey Marshall and Security Director Joseph Schaefer have been most dishonest with us; and so has Dean for Student Affairs Floyd Moreland. At my 9/24 meeting with Marshall I fully informed him about the numerous acts of abuse which had taken place over the past year at the GSUC, acts which are in several senses of the term "crimes" against the University Center and its members. Indeed, at that meeting Marshall did not have to tell me that he would find out for me what the administration could and would do, through law, about the perpetrator. Marshall was well aware of, but made no mention to me of, the "Rules and Regulations for the Maintenance of Public Order Pursuant to Article 129A of the Education Law (see pp. 420-3 of the *GSUC Bulletin*).

As for Schaefer, as is indicated in my previous letter to the *Advocate*, our officials have been given plenty of evidence incriminating the perpetrator of 9/12 — who admitted to his acts in the presence of Security Supervisor Mr. Vincent Caligiuri and a guard, acts in violation of the Rules and Regulation — and they've been given plenty of ground for investigating him. Clearly, however, it is just as I have said: for whatever the reasons (which I and diverse others believe are seriously *political*), our officials have chosen to wide with, and are perhaps protecting, Jones Johnson's pet "GSUC visitor" and, perhaps other fascistic individuals associated with him in his offenses against our institution.

Brian Guerre

College Office Assistant Level III

## No Reason to Threaten Job

from page 4

worked here as part of the Graduate Center community without incidents for eleven years not only speaks well for him, but suggests that something has gone very wrong. From the account of events given in your pages by Mr. Smith, Brian appears to have been the victim and not the perpetrator. But even if he were in some way at fault, we are only human, and such things can happen to anyone. It hardly seems cause for threatening someone's job security, nor excuse for the truly appalling and fearful measures aggressively adopted by the Office of Human Resources against one of our rank.

Sincerely yours,

Marsha Frankel

Program Assistant, Linguistics Doctoral Program

Robert Hollander

College Assistant, Linguistics Doctoral Program

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## DSC UPDATE

**GOOD NEWS** - Graduate Center students can use the gym facilities at John Jay College for \$75 a year. Call Bob Fletcher 237-8399 for more information.

As you know, Governor Cuomo has proposed severe budget cuts for CUNY and a \$500 tuition increase for 1992-93 (see "CUNY Under Siege" on page 1). On February 20th, the DSC sponsored a forum on this issue. Two more forums will take place in March: one on March 4th and one on March 24. Both will be at 6:00 pm in the basement auditorium. If you cannot attend either of these forums, please call the DSC office to find out how you can get involved in fighting the proposed budget cuts.

The DSC agreed to endorse a CUNY-wide student convention which would give CUNY students the opportunity to work on finding a solution to the USS crisis and to mobilize against the proposed budget cuts. This convention will take place in March. If you are interested in helping with the organization, contact Michael Yomi, the Graduate Center's USS representative.

The DSC made the initial steps to call a referendum to increase the student activity fee in order to meet the very real needs of the community at the Graduate Center (see article by Michael Glassman on page...). We need over 400 student signatures in order to bring the referendum to the vote of the general student population. Stop by the DSC office to sign a petition. Your signature does not mean that the activity fee will be increased, only that it will be brought to a vote before the general student body.

**Announcements:** A search is going on for an Ombuds officer at the Graduate Center. Nominations and/or applications are due in the President's Office by March 27th.

Nomination ballots for the DSC elections have been

sent out. Please return nomination forms no later than March 20th to the DSC office.

If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please stop by the DSC office, Room SC 10 or call 642-2851.

### HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE GC MALL?

In order to formulate a position on the Mall (the open passageway between 43rd and 42nd Streets) which will reflect Student needs, desire, and preferences, the Doctoral Students Council is soliciting your views on it. If you have any suggestions or impressions, please drop off a note in the DSC office, room 001 SC or call 642-2851 and make your feelings known.

### Announcement:

Conference to examine 'Racism in the Post-Modern Era'

Nearly 30 years after the height of the civil rights movement, this nation and our City is continuously convulsed with the pain of 'racial violence'. On April 4th and 5th, a group of America's leading scholars, community leaders and thinkers will gather to examine the themes of racism, politics, spirituality, and social transformation. When public discussion centers on presidential politics, taxes, welfare, crime, rights or values, the underlying issue or subtext is race.

The conference, *Racism in the Post-Modern Era* will be held on Saturday, April 4th, at the Graduate Center, 33 West 42nd, and April 5th at Canaan Baptist Church. The Conference is sponsored by CUNY's Black Student Alliance with co-sponsoring organizations including the Harlem Valley Churches, the Manhattan Borough President's Office, Jews for Racial and Economic Justice, District Council 37, and the Doctoral Students Council, among others.

If you are interested in combatting racism sign up to volunteer for the Black Student Alliance's conference on Racism in the Post-Modern Era, April 4-5, 1992. Leave your name and number with the BSA office, 642-2545, to be called for a volunteers meeting. Your support is appreciated.

## Love Letters to Lurlene from p. 9

she doesn't deal with political realities (homophobia, queer bashing); she does.

*Lurlene, I desire to escape their colonializing gaze. Do[nt] wa[nt] no drag-queen action on my bed. Do[nt] wa[nt] no make-up on my sheets. Ya[ll] gonna haf to go somewhere else to do tha[t] stuff. My enamoration is more than category crisis (last year two drag queens were gunned down in Atlanta). I see you gazing from behind the mask. You steal my self-control. I desire. And then he kissed her.*

Garber's discussion of cross-dressing and crossing racial lines offers insights into how the instabilities (and the anxiety thereof) of categories of gender and race can appear combined at a single locus. However, it seems to me that different categories can not always be collapsed into one another. Crossing racial lines may not always be as easy as cross-dressing and passing. And vice versa. I would have liked to see more discussion of the ways different categories come into crisis in different ways. Garber claims neither that cross-dressing is inherently subversive, nor that it is inherently misogynistic or self-hating. She allows for both disruption and recuperation.

I find, finally, that Garber's criticism of other discussions of cross-dressing applies also to her own study:

"I began this book by noting how frequently the phenomenon of cross-dressing, or transvestism, is looked through rather than at in critical and cultural analyses - how often, indeed how insistently, cultural observers have tried to make it mean something, anything, other than itself." (389).

*Jarrod Hayes is a doctoral student in the French department, and a Southern belle.*

## Join the March of Discontent!!

**Rally at Lehman College**  
on March 31st, 1992, at 12:00 p.m. and tell the  
Democratic Presidential candidates that CUNY  
and New York City  
will not absorb more cuts.

**Demand** that budget cuts to CUNY and all social services cease  
and that this city, state, and nation change its disastrous and  
inhumane policy of budget austerity and provide for its citizens.

**Demand**  
Housing  
Education  
Healthcare  
Jobs and Job Security

Take the #4 train to Bedford Park or contact the Coalition of the CUNY  
Community (CCC) at 650-3924 for details on free buses and further  
information. Endorsed by your Graduate School DSC. This ad is sponsored by the editors of The Advocate.

**DOCTORAL STUDENTS' COUNCIL  
DEADLINE FOR DSC  
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TO RM. SC 001**

## See you at the Bar!

Come and join the  
Graduate Center community  
at the Bar  
located on the 18th floor.

### Recession Buster Meals!!

On Mondays and Tuesdays eat dinner at the bar.  
Get 50% off all items on the bar menu.

This offer is only available from  
5:00 to 7:00 p.m. daily  
so be sure to be there on time  
for this sensational price reduction.

Also, watch for the \$2.50 beer of the day,  
our daily special drinks,  
and the ever changing list of wines in the 1/2 bottle.

The Bar is open 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m..

**Take a break on the 18th floor!!**