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FREE

Committee calls to lacerate CUNY Report suggests departmental closings at all campuses

By Pam Donovan
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

CUNY Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds has proposed a consolidation plan for the university which would eliminate degree programs on several campuses and decrease the autonomy of each of the nineteen campuses in choosing its program offerings.

On the heels of several years of shrinking budgets and increased demand for services, the Chancellor's office released a report in December detailing a working proposal to eliminate and consolidate academic programs. The Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Academic Program Planning released a 160-page document resulting from the Committee's nine-month assessment of CUNY's program offerings.

The plan would likely force CUNY students, most of whom work while attending college, to study at more than one campus to fulfill requirements, or pursue degrees at more distant campuses. Although it makes no mention of layoffs, the report does not address what would happen to faculty and staff from departments slated for consolidation.

tion.

The Chancellor charged the Committee with formulating a plan to facilitate a "central planning effort" to oversee the University's offerings in an era of shrinking financial resources. Growing out of concerns enumerated in the CUNY 1992 Master Plan, the Committee consisted of six professors and four campus presidents, including Graduate Center President Frances Degen Horowitz.

"The report calls for more central planning power in determining which programs will be offered on each campus."

Criticizing what the Committee calls "rigidly defined boundaries surrounding each college," the report calls for more central planning power in determining which programs will be offered on each campus. CUNY's Board of Trustees must approve any program changes.

In an interview, Horowitz emphasized that the report was meant as a working document, and that it would be up to the campuses to decide on implementation.

"It was not meant to abrogate the right of campuses to decide curricula," Horowitz said.

Although CUNY's doctoral programs were not considered for consolidation, President Horowitz has asked each of the executive officers to assess the possible impact of consolidations upon graduate education.

In reviewing each program, the committee considered the number of section enrollments and majors, and included this information for each program in its report. This data, made available to the committee through CUNY Central, was the basis for the committee's recommendations.

For instance, since there are only a handful of philosophy majors at Baruch College, the plan proposes phasing out the B.A. program, even though more than 200 students at a given time may be attending philosophy courses. Freshman and sophomore instruction would, presumably, remain taught by adjuncts.

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Low cost copying blocked; DSC contract inappropriate

By Christina Pretto
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

While most graduate students would undoubtedly welcome cheaper copying, the Graduate Center administration has refused to honor a contract signed by the Doctoral Student's Council to provide xeroxing at a rate substantially lower than offered at the Mina Rees library.

Technically, the DSC cannot sign lease agreements. The College Association, a new governing body of DSC budgetary decisions, must approve and sign such agreements.

G. Ganter, DSC Co-Chair for Communication, told the administration last November that he was investigating the lease of xerox machines for student use. In giving his approval, one administrator reportedly admonished Ganter, "Read the

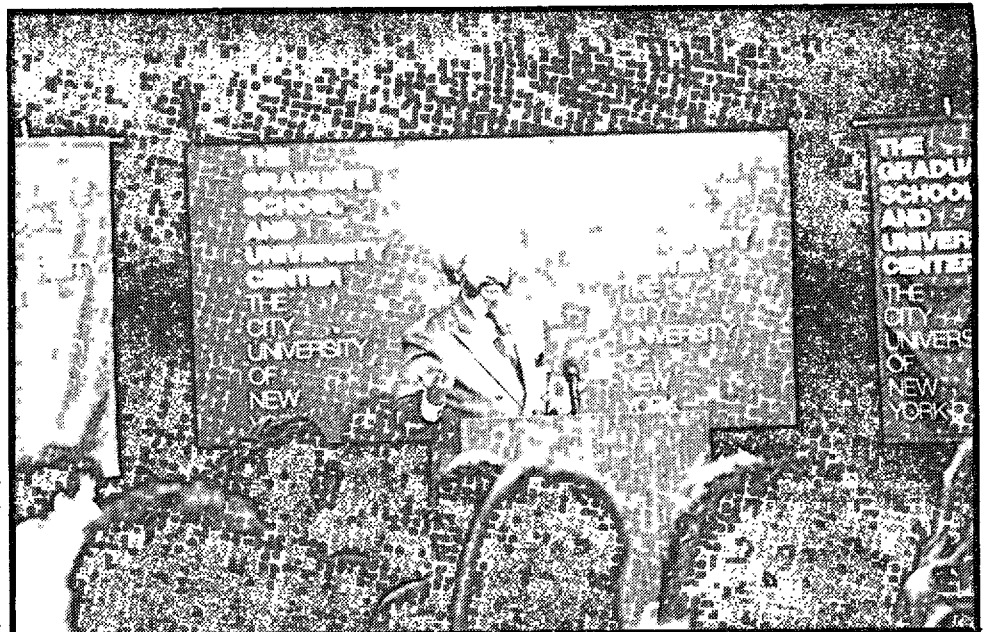
contract carefully and don't get ripped off."

Ganter located an offer that was later approved by the entire council. He then signed the contract, which would have provided copying at three cents per page to all Graduate Center students. Currently, students pay ten cents per copy in the library.

However, when Acting Vice President for Finance and Administration Bruce Kohan saw the contract, he immediately informed Ganter that the University could not honor it.

"The Doctoral Student's Council is not a legal entity," said Kohan. "The University is the only legal entity which can enter into a lease agreement."

Moreover, Kohan said the terms of
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New Hire?

The Graduate Center is recruiting African-American scholar Professor Manning Marable, shown here giving a lecture on Spike Lee's film *Malcolm X*.

Who deserves the First Amendment? Right wing scholar published; one socialist denied space

By Andrew Long
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

Throughout City College Professor Michael Levin's career as a right-wing activist, he has had little difficulty finding a forum for his views which many consider to be deeply racist. Levin has published a controversial op-ed piece in *The New York Times*; he has published his viewpoints in various academic journals; and his provocative letters to the editor are often printed. A November 16, 1992 letter in

New York Magazine is a recent example.

A Levin article entitled "Teaching and Group Ability Differences" was also included in the Fall 1992 issue of the American Philosophical Association Newsletter, which is published at the Graduate Center.

As the title and description suggest, the article elaborates many of the questions which have lingered since Levin won his 1991 lawsuit against the City University of New York.

In *Levin v. Harleston* (Sept. 4, 1991),

Levin's attorneys successfully argued that City College of New York President Bernard W. Harleston, in conjunction with the college administration, systematically violated Levin's rights guaranteed under the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

Specifically, the college established "shadow sections" which allowed students to transfer out of Levin's classes. In addition, CCNY convened a committee to investigate Levin's writings and subsequently started disciplinary proceedings.

When the case went to court, District Judge Conboy stated in his opinion and order that Levin's case went "to the heart of the current national debate on what has come to be denominated as "political correctness" in speech and thought on the campuses of the nation's colleges and universities."

In the aftermath of Levin's court victory against CUNY, questions remain as to how his beliefs, as he states them in his

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FEBRUARY IN THE NEWS

Prof attacked in Post

Nationally renowned anthropology professor June Nash was recently attacked in The New York Post as doing frivolous research at the taxpayer's expense.

Moreover, the article alleged that many of Nash's colleagues were jealous of her current project, which includes spending at least one semester teaching five City College students in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas.

But several University officials have expressed outrage at the Post's gross misrepresentation of Nash's work, its cost, and CUNY's support for her research.

In a letter to the Post, dated January 27, City College Professors Jeffrey Rosen and Carol Laderman wrote that the Post article was "shot full of falsehoods and distortions and unworthy of a responsible newspaper."

Fremont Besmer, who was quoted in The Post as saying Nash's trip was unprecedented, also wrote a letter accusing the newspaper of misrepresentation.

"Few people would be able to coordinate the necessary grants, international academic affiliations, and scholarly objectives, and in that sense only is this trip unprecedented... That I questioned its worth is false," Besmer wrote.

Members of City College's anthropology department emphasized that Nash's reputation as a Distinguished Scholar and her dedication CUNY and its mission made the Post article ridiculous.

"Professor Nash has demonstrated her deep belief... to providing genuine educational opportunity for the people of New York," Besmer wrote. "If we feel any outrage here it is over The Post's completely unfair attack on so valued a colleague."

The only source directly critical of Nash refused to be identified in the Post's story.

By Christina Pretto

Circulation chief dies

By Tom Burgess
OF THE ADVOCATE STAFF

With the death of Carol Fitzgerald, the CUNY Graduate School has lost one of its most tireless workers. As a circulation librarian, Professor Fitzgerald made our underfunded Mina Rees library a scholastic resource through her rigorous attention to detail and her willingness to go the extra mile to solve a problem. Her efficient and methodical approach drew on the science aspect of library science. Professor Fitzgerald was also a scholar of American history. And it is as a scholar of American history scholarship that she was particularly innovative. In this latter endeavor, she developed bibliographies of historians, laying the ground for future studies on the production of influential history.

Professor Fitzgerald's influence was felt far beyond CUNY as founding editor of three bibliography series and a bibliographical yearbook. The measure of her deep and diverse interests was reflected by her professional memberships in the Presidency Research Group of the American Political Science Association, the Association for the Bibliography of History, and the Center for the Study of the President.

Although she received her Master's in library science at Columbia, she also earned MA's in both American history and political science at NYU.

Her two NYU degrees stood her well in founding the series, *Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States*. As a political science realist and an American historian, Professor Fitzgerald recognized the US presidency as an institution channeling immense political economic power. As a historian she recognized the presidency to be occupied by a series of political actors who suddenly, and for short historical periods become central pivots of their times. The resultant notoriety guarantees that actions and evasions are watched closely, recorded, and debated well beyond the actor's lifetime. Although the examination of one-term presidencies certainly obscures long-term trends, the compilation of various biography and career documents reveal anomalous encounters that through further investigation reveal those trends. Although a focus on the famous overlooks the everyday life and differential living conditions of history, the examination of life history, can nevertheless reveal the ideological underpinnings of the powerful, and how those contradictions that surface are resolved. (Hence the relevance of another Fitzgerald series, *Bibliographies of American Notables*, beginning with Daniel Webster.)

Professor Fitzgerald was quick to take advantage of

See FITZGERALD, page 8

She ain't into education, guys

In a cynical time, Ann Reynolds is a cynical master of manipulating images. Posing as the bearer of "Progress," Reynolds knows how to play the press.

We at CUNY need to create counter-images by which we can unmask Reynolds before the people of this city for the barbaric hatchet-lackey that she is. Reasoning with or lobbying her, the Board, Albany, etc., telling these yuppie creeps that this isn't "Progress," is like the three little pigs asking the Big Bad Wolf (dressed up of course as Grandma) to go away. Unless we organize to fight back, "Granny"'s going to eat us for breakfast.

Reynolds's recent proposal is no exception. Her new report says that CUNY must be made more "efficient." Right now, CUNY is, not as you and I probably see it, a beautiful forest of sequoias under attack by profit-hungry logging companies. No: CUNY is a rotting stump. The

TOMFOOLERY

By Tom Smith

dead wood of our humanist sentiments must be cut away by wise woodswoman Reynolds to permit the healthy growths to survive and flourish. What is healthy; what is alive? Whatever can be served up for use by Reynolds's idols: Technology, the Free Market, and the Twenty-first Century. We must re-image-ine ourselves. When we look in the mirror, we must no longer even whisper,

What a piece of work is a man!
How noble in reason!
How infinite in faculties!

but instead, ponder how we, newly Calibanized, may better service the Machine.

When I heard about this report, an image from one of my favorite 60's television shows, Patrick McGoohan's The Prisoner, popped right up.

The Prisoner was none other than John Drake from the prequel series, Secret Agent. In the Prisoner, after Drake resigns in disgust from the "M-5," he is whisked away to a place called the "Village," a technologically sophisticated concentration camp, which renames Drake "No. 6," and attempts to break him and force him to reveal some very dangerous, but highly useful, secrets to his captors.

In the episode, "Schizoid Man," the Village presents a carbon copy of No. 6 to No. 6. They tell him that his Doppelganger is the real 6, and that he, Drake, is the fake.

This is the one attempt that almost works. Torture someone, rob them of the necessities of life, and they may

survive: but rob them of their very identity—and you destroy their will to resist.

Drake realizes what these bastards are up to, however. When a friend of his asks which is which, he replies, "I'm the original. He... is the 'economy pack'."

"The economy pack:" how appropriate as a description of the Chancellor's plans for us! Firstly, and most insidiously, Reynolds presents us with—ourselves, with CUNY. But this is a vision of ourselves suitably cut down to size, streamlined, like a smaller pack of cigarettes, more acceptable to the more "economy" minded corporate "public" out there.

Reynolds is not only economizing, she is packing us and our aspirations up for the Market Economy. She proposes to restructure this University in order to destroy its liberal educational project, to fit us all into more specialized slots, so that all we may do with our entire lives is to "compete more effectively," with each other, in the current marketplace (of no jobs or shit work).

"Reynolds's CUNY is the "economy pack," the handy dandy tool kit that will, supposedly, better enable us to compete better in an increasingly dehumanized and brutal job market. In return, all that our masters ask is that we relinquish our community, our mission, and most of all, our collective will and potential, as the only urban working class liberal arts University in the United States. We must now lock up all these critical faculties in our New CUNY Pack, smile, and learn to say, "YESSUH, BOSS!"

Adam Smith wrote that economic "efficiency" (for whom, though, for what purpose?) is always enhanced by the further division and subdivision of labor. In Reynolds view, to "serve" the "students," CUNY must divide and subdivide, specialize and subspecialize. Each student, in order to become genuinely competitive, must become proficient in one and only one field.

The liberal arts at CUNY will be appended to this merciless process. No longer will the arts "round out" the specialized personality—let alone incite that personality to throw off its specialized shackles. Arts and Letters must now be treated simply as additional subfields at which, likewise, only a few may be given the chance to become competitively expert. Thus the various liberal arts disciplines will be assigned to only a number of campuses. Further, there will be only one major campus for each liberal arts department: a bantustan for philosophers, a bantustan for literature professors and their students, and so on.

The racist and elitist nature of Reynolds's "vi-

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EVENTS THIS MONTH

Announcement The Graduate Center Administration and the DSC would like to form a joint committee to study the use of space at the Graduate Center. Concerns include: new student lounge, mail improvements, departmental space for students, lockers, and more. Interested in participating? Contact the DSC in Room SC001 or call 642-2851.

Free Writing Workshop Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m., and Wednesdays, 9-11 a.m., in Room L-36 (in the library microform area). Drop-in or by appointment.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

President's Day. The Graduate School is closed.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Classes to follow a Friday Schedule.

CUNY Board of Trustees Public Hearing in Room 104, 535, East 80 Street. Persons wishing to speak on items on the February 22 meeting calendar are to contact the Board Secretary before 4 p.m., February 11. If no one requests to speak, the hearing is cancelled.

Feminist Student Organization Meeting. 5:30 p.m., room SC009, Basement Mezzanine, Graduate Center. Items for discussion: stronger CUNY-wide sexual harassment policy and a Family Values Film Festival. Information: 642-2696

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Chemistry James Canary, New York University, will give a talk entitled, "Synthesis and Host-Guest Synthesis Chemistry of Metalloprotein Site Models." 3:30 p.m., Brooklyn College, Ingersoll Extension, Room 432.

Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies Dag Strand Nielsen will give a talk entitled, "Gay and Lesbian Scholarship in Norway." 7-9 p.m., Graduate Center, Room TBA. For more information call 212-642-

2924.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Women's Studies and the Center for Jewish Studies Tamar Zelniker, University of Tel Aviv, will give a talk entitled, "Women in IMUT (Mental Health Workers for the Advancement of Peace): Profiles of a Jewish and Arab Psychologist and Their Role in Promoting Dialogue and Equality." 2-4 p.m., Grace Building, Room 40-68.

Music CUNY Composers Concert. 7 p.m., Graduate Center, Third Floor Studio.

New York Consortium in Evolutionary Primatology — New York Regional Primatology Colloquium Alison Richard, Yale University, will give a talk entitled, "History, Phylogeny, and Lemur Ecology." 7:45 p.m., Graduate Center, Room 1100.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Deadline for filing changes in course registration, level, or residency for the Spring semester.

Biochemistry Goeran Claeson, Thrombosis Research Institute, London, will give a talk entitled, "Enzymes of the Blood Serum Coagulation Cascade." 9:30 a.m., Grace Building, Room 15-00.

Women's Studies Certificate Program and English E. Ann Kaplan, SUNY Stony Brook, will give a talk entitled, "Mothering in the Movies: Race, Psychoanalysis, and Feminism." 1:30-3 p.m., Graduate Center, Harold M. Proshansky Auditorium, Room 207.

Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies P.E.N. Writers Conference Lesbian Literature. 9 a.m., Graduate Center, Harold M. Proshansky Auditorium. For more information call 212-642-2924.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22