

# The ADVOCATE

The City University of New York Graduate School and University Center

V o l u m e 6 N u m b e r 7

## Henderson Suspensions at BMCC Lifted: Victory for Student Government

Tom Smith

On November 29, 1994, BMCC's Acting Dean of Students Daisy Alverio suspended each of the four-member executive committee of BMCC's Student Government Administration (SGA): Candice Camilo (President), Manuella Jean-Pierre (Vice-President), Denise Esposito (Executive Secretary), and Camille Wynn (Treasurer). They had led demonstrations of hundreds of students on the BMCC campus, and organized the same numbers to participate in City Hall rallies, to protest Giuliani's new \$1 billion round of massive budget cuts, totalling \$7 million for CUNY. In what were obviously form letters, dated November 28, Alvario accused the students of "dangerous and disruptive behavior on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 22 and 23, 1994," on which days, alleged Alvario, each of these students "blocked students' entrance and egress from the third floor South entrance and closed the doors to the escalators on the second and third floor South." In addition, each of the students were told that they had allegedly and repeatedly "entered almost all of the classrooms on the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth floors of the college demanding that the instructors and the students leave their classes in protest of the proposed budget cuts." Their actions were thus, according to Alverio, "in violation of Henderson rules # 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7." A disciplinary hearing was scheduled for December 2nd.

The Henderson rules were passed in 1991 by the Administration in response to the CUNY takeovers in protest of yet another round of Cuomo's budget cuts and tuition hikes. The rules for which these students were specifically found in violation forbid University members to

#1. "interfere with the institution's educational processes"

#2. fail "to comply with lawful directions issued by" University officials.

#3. occupy without authorization "University/College facilities or blocking access to or from such areas."

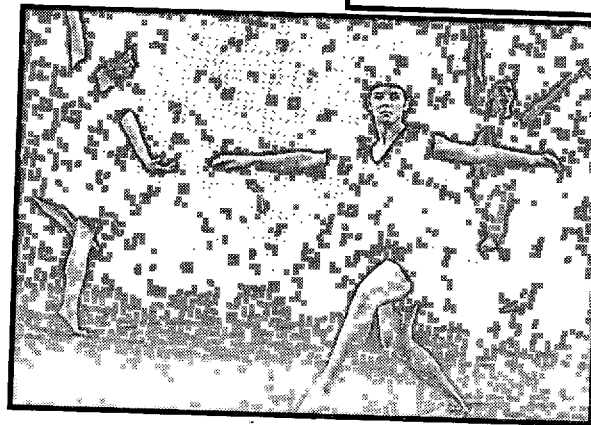
#7. engage in "disorderly or indecent conduct."

In addition, rule #6 states "Action may be taken against any persons who have no legitimate reason for their presence on any campus. . . ." Presumably this rule is being interpreted to hold the student leaders responsible for outsiders' actions. Thus these rules, especially under such free interpretations, provide extremely severe restrictions on students' exercise of their constitutional right to political protest.

According to these students, escalators were not blocked for any length of time sufficient to threaten anyone's physical safety (nor have any medical reports of injury been produced as yet by the Administration). In addition, the demonstrators blocked escalators and entrances only until guards asked them to leave: then they stopped.

The students charged are all from the Nursing Program, which would be most heavily affected by the cuts as proposed by the Mayor. The program already has very stiff entrance requirements: a 3.4 GPA, for example. These cuts would make it even more difficult for many impoverished students to enter this very popular career-track field.

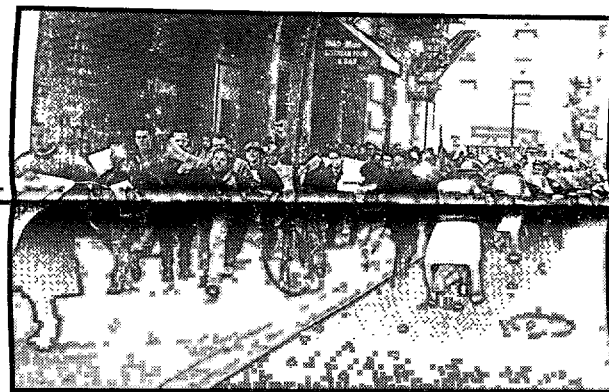
The BMCC budget alone will be cut \$1.5 million. As a result,



Perspectives on Movement:  
Interpretation of Dance through Writing  
Article Page 11



Garbage!  
Exhibition review, page 10



## Student Rally at City Hall Draws Crowd

Michael Spear

On November 23, while the City Council met inside City Hall to consider Mayor Giuliani's budget proposal, including over \$7 million in cuts to the CUNY junior colleges, nearly 700 CUNY students including a dozen or so from the Graduate Center demonstrated outside to protest the proposed cuts. Besides demonstrating for over four hours at City Hall, the students marched to the nearby campus of Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC).

Despite the fact that this proposed round of cuts would affect only the CUNY junior colleges (7,000 students forced to defer entry, over 1,000 classes cut, and the literacy program eliminated), students from many of the senior colleges came out to the demonstration in anticipation of future cuts that no doubt will target them.

The demonstration was one of several in recent weeks opposing the \$1.1 billion reduction proposed by Giuliani to reduce the City's deficit. In all, more than 3,000 people have demonstrated against the cuts at City Hall in the two weeks running up to the November 23rd City Council meeting. Groups protesting included the Council on Alcoholism, the United

## New Directions for Computing at the GSUC

by David Kirschenbaum

A report has been issued about the state of computing at the Graduate Center leading to the organization of a Task Force to discern in which direction the University's computing should head. The Treitman Report, a \$12,000 study, was compiled by a firm which two years ago did not exist, has previous ties to the University, and was not subject to competitive bidding.

Put together by Treitman Research, Incorporated, with a full title of Strategic Re-Alignment of Information Services, Computing and Network Resources, the report was issued this past May. Richard Treitman interviewed a number of students, faculty and computer center representatives, to help establish the proper path which the University should take toward increasing the viability of its computer services.

The University has worked with Robert Treitman, the owner-operator of Treitman Research, Incorporated, before. As an IBM employee he helped the University obtain a number of computer stations for the Computer Science Department, according to Pam Reid,

Continued on page 8

Continued on page 5

Continued on page 8

# Editorial

## The Message from BMCC

Thirty years after the student Free Speech movement at Berkeley, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are again under attack at the City University of New York. After three successful rallies and a walkout to protest Mayor Giuliani's proposed budget cuts to the CUNY community colleges, on Monday November 28th the four members of the executive branch of the Borough of Manhattan Community College student government arrived on campus and were promptly served with suspensions by the college administration. BMCC's Acting President Marcia Kiezs invoked emergency measures to suspend the four students without a hearing.

CUNY-wide regulations require a prompt hearing in cases of suspension. As soon as the hearing was convened, on Friday, December 2nd, the BMCC administration lifted the suspensions. The independent hearing panel then granted an adjournment requesting the University 1) to produce a "bill of particulars" itemizing the complaints against each defendant, and 2) to submit to the defense a list of witnesses along with 3) a promise not to prosecute *post facto* any students who might come forward to testify for the defense. All three requests were later rejected by the University's legal counsel.

The BMCC administration maintains in the suspension papers that the four women violated several sections of the Henderson rules which govern conduct on campus. Without particular charges directed at the individual defendants, the executive branch of the student government at BMCC is effectively being charged with a conspiracy complaint and is being held responsible for actions taken by other students during the organizing of the protests and the mobilization of the student body.

On the part of the four student defendants, the protests could not have been better-intentioned or targeted to a more legitimate cause. The Mayor's \$7 million cuts to the community college budget will force the University to cancel many course sections, decrease student services, and even close entire programs, the Adult Literacy Program among them. These cuts will deeply compromise the academic integrity of the community colleges and possibly bring de-accreditation.

The implications of the BMCC administration's interpretation and implementation of the Henderson rules could not be clearer nor more ominous. If you and I were to be held responsible for every mishap indirectly resulting from our exercise of the right to assemble and speak out, the First Amendment would amount to nothing but words on a piece of parchment. Plainly, the intent of the BMCC administration is to silence the voice of student protest. As a voice of student advocacy it is the duty of this newspaper to condemn that effort and denounce the threat it poses to the future of a student movement so crucial in a time of crisis to the University.

## Letters

To the Editor:

One Fag to Another: A response to Hollander's "The Personal and the Political: Silence and Shrieking Cries" (November Advocate, p.8)

I was dismayed at Robert's view that his loss of a CUNY friend to AIDS was in no way political, but in "the domain of affect...a kind of aesthetic loss." As if emotions and art were not political. First, in another case, a memorial was not held because the administration refused to mention that the student had in fact died of AIDS—a clear case of homophobia.

If it does not become as normal to say that someone died of AIDS as it is to say that someone died of pneumonia, then people with AIDS will continue to be marginalized and stigmatized. Silence allows us to believe that none we know have AIDS, that AIDS happens to other people—to gays, people of color, drug users. Silence = Death = Politics.

"I shared with him an indifference to self-politicization. I have never viewed my own sexuality or sexual preferences as any more political than the color of my eyes...I never experienced the least discrimination or hardship on account of my sexual preference." These statements are tantamount to a black person saying that racism is not a problem because she had never personally experienced an overt racist act. Really Mr. Hollander! If you had lived in a society where the color of one's eyes determined power/hierarchy, then you would not be so cavalier about eye color. We do live in a society where power is structured along lines of gender and sexual orientation. Who one goes to bed with is a matter of (hetero)normative sanction, of life and death, of politics. Alas, we do not live in a world where one's sexuality is as unimportant as one's eye color. Which transcendent realm does Bobby Boy exist in?

"Unless you make a point of it, most people neither know or care". Is

Robert suggesting that gays hide their sexuality in the closet? Straight people make a point of it all the time. If Robert really believes that most people neither know nor care, then I dare him to make out with another guy on an escalator in rush hour traffic. Robert goes on to say that "gayness is easy to hide. No one has to know, and by and large, unless you tell them they don't know until they get really close, and even then they can only guess." Contrary to his disclaimer that he's not advocating a closet, he is indeed doing so. Why should we have to hide gayness? Why should it be something that no one has to know? Because it's easy for some to "pass"? Why should anyone have to pass for something they're not?

Robert's position is not far from that of Bruce Bauer who suggests that gays would be accepted by mainstream society if only there were no flamboyant drag queens in the Gay Pride Parade. If the "fringe" of the gay society

Continued on page 4

## Advocate

### Staff

#### Coordinating Editor

Robert Hollander

Robert Egert,  
Design

#### Contributing Editors,

David Kirschenbaum

Terence Kissack

Indra Laban

Andrew Long

Susanna Miller

John Robinson

Julia Miele Rodas

Craig Scull

Tom Smith

Michael Spear

The  
Advocate  
welcomes  
submissions,  
letters  
and  
opinions

#### The Graduate School

Advocate

33 West 42 Street

New York, New York

10036

212.642.2852

**Ask** most CUNY graduate students and they will tell you that the Mina Rees Library (the Graduate Center library) is a daunting place to conduct research. Although the library houses quite a respectable reference collection, specialized research tasks meet with obstacles at every corner, those obstacles coming in the form of the library's dolefully limited collection of books and periodicals.

Last semester, while undertaking weekly research assignments for a very demanding class in literary scholarship, the library's lack of resources drove me almost to distraction. But as one of the Reference Librarians at the Mina Rees reminded me, our library is the youngest in the CUNY system, and after all, a great collection is not built overnight. I decided to have patience. There is a limit however, to what one can endure. And many of us, already stressed from trying to meet the demands of our programs, of our teaching assignments, and frequently of other work as well, are unwilling to have patience with a collection that fails to meet our most basic needs.

Putting aside the often esoteric research assignments that I had to complete last semester, let us consider a more mainstream example. For the Milton course which I am currently taking, the professor provided a bibliography of recommended texts on Milton. Of the 29 books listed, 23 are available within the CUNY system, but only six are in the Mina Rees collection. Of the texts which are not owned by the graduate center library, some are available in *multiple* copies at undergraduate schools within the system. In addition, our library subscribes to only one of the two major journals dedicated to Milton scholarship.

Students in other departments report similar problems. Hugo Benavides, a student in the Anthropology department reports that he has a very difficult time finding materials relating to his research in archaeology. Things have gotten so bad, he says, "I don't even try anymore. Queens has a much better library; I can usually find what I need there." Like many students, Hugo identifies two serious deficiencies: the library does not subscribe to the journals he needs for research; and the collection is particularly bare of recent works in his area.

Hollis France, a student in Political Science who also works in the Mina Rees Library, isn't too upset about the graduate center's limited holdings; he simply uses other libraries. He does say that he has to "run around trying to find basic resources" for his research, but he's grown accustomed to using the

libraries at Brooklyn College and Baruch. He acknowledges that "we don't really have any periodicals," but points out that the New York Public Library does.

for the library was to have them put on reserve, Ms. Geels says that typically, fewer than half the institution's faculty members put books on reserve for the classes they teach at the Graduate

## Bibliographically Challenged:

### Everything's in Short Supply at the Mina Rees Library—Books, Periodicals, Hours ... and Community Interest

Among those who have been forced to rely on other libraries, Andre Minott, a student in Environmental Psychology, has become an expert. Andre states bluntly, "I never found anything that I needed there." The only reason he uses the Mina Rees at all, he says, is to find out where the texts he needs are located. He conducts most of his research (in tourism, historical preservation, culture, and aesthetics) at the libraries of other universities, notably Columbia and NYU.

Andre raises some other issues surrounding the Graduate Center's modest library resources. His experience is that other scholars sneer at our library and his impression is that the meager holdings and subterranean nature of our research facility do not inspire the confidence of other scholars. Andre says that his friends at NYU, who disdainfully refer to our library as "the basement," call into question the credibility of an individual who conducts his research in such an environment.

In a recent interview, I confronted the library's Marilyn Geels (Acting Head of Readers' Services) with some of the problems identified here, and her response was largely sympathetic. Prior to the interview, I had expected that an inappropriately limited budget was probably the sole cause of the dearth of books in the library, but Ms. Geels believes this situation is only *part* of a problem that extends far beyond the Graduate Center's restricted budget. That problem is based in large part on the fact that there is a disturbing lack of interest in the library on the part of the would-be users.

Ms. Geels pointed out that the library has very few active faculty users. Despite the fact that, for a number of years, the only way to order new books

Center. And in fact, budget conditions have changed dramatically; the library currently has a budget surplus. But when the library sent a letter to departments asking them to submit book orders, the response was very poor.

Unfortunately, past financial limitations and the uninviting location of the library have contributed to the situation of faculty neglect. Since the budget in most years is lower than it ought to be, since the collections are so scanty, and since the library is in such a remote location, the Graduate Center community begins to consider the library a kind of lost cause.

Faculty members who conscientiously order books for their "home" libraries forget that they have the same responsibility at the Graduate Center. Faculty who are well aware of gaps in the Mina Rees collection send their students to the New York Public Library, to other university libraries, or to libraries on other CUNY campuses, all the while omitting to place book orders that would begin to fill these gaps. In one case, a faculty member has even made it a policy to lend his personal Columbia University library card to students in his department so that they can conduct research and borrow books from that school's much larger collection. Faculty members in one department (and probably in others) have worked together to build a kind of private departmental collection to meet the specialized needs of their students. While circumstances like these show a commendable interest and involvement on the part of faculty members, they also work to confirm the library's condition of neglect. If we all had full access to a library like Columbia's Butler (with its two million volume collection), why on earth would we have any interest in develop-

ing the resources of the Mina Rees with its scant quarter-million volumes?

Along these same lines, Marilyn Geels and I also discussed the Graduate Center's library hours. After all, one of the things that keeps both students and faculty away from the Mina Rees is that it's not always open when we need it. The Graduate Center library hours are from 10am-9pm Monday-Thursday, from 10am-5pm on Fridays, and from 10am-6pm on Saturdays; there are no hours on Sunday (one of the few days when most CUNY graduate students do not have other working commitments) nor are there any additional hours for use of a quiet study area, reserve items, or reference materials. Now compare current library hours at Columbia University's Butler Library: from 9am-11pm Monday-Thursday (Reading Room and reference collection open until 1am), from 9am-9pm on Fridays, from 11am-6pm on Saturdays, and on Sundays from 12n-11pm (again, the Reading Room and reference collection are open until 1am). In addition, the University provides a 24-hour study area within Butler Library while school is in session. At New York University's Bobst Library, hours are from 8am-11pm Monday-Thursday, from 8am-7pm on Fridays, from 8am-11pm on Saturdays, and on Sundays

**W**hile keeping our library open more hours would certainly be a challenge to both the budget and the library personnel, that's not even the biggest problem. According to Ms. Geels, about four years ago, at the behest of student activists, the library conducted an experiment, significantly extending its hours for a one- or two-week period. At the conclusion of the experiment, both students and librarians agreed that student presence during the extended hours was so limited that it wasn't worth the money and the effort to try to put a permanent program of extended hours into place. But again, the condition of limited hours is self-perpetuating. Since students and faculty have grown accustomed to the fact that the Mina Rees keeps relatively early hours, they learn to rely on other libraries when they are working on time dependent projects (which among graduate students is almost always).

One of the reasons that students and faculty give up on the Mina Rees so quickly is that the collection of periodicals doesn't begin to meet the needs of the people who would otherwise study there. According to Acquisitions Librarian Ofelia Rabassa, that situation is one dictated exclusively by financial considerations. Ms. Rabassa explains that the library has two separate acquisitions budgets, one for

books (monographs) and the other for periodicals. While the library does entertain requests for new subscriptions (from Department Heads), Ms. Rabassa makes it clear that she is forced to maintain a fixed number of subscriptions; if you add one on, another must be canceled. The obvious problem, Ms. Rabassa argues, is that subscriptions are not one-time purchases, but rather are an ongoing cost, and one that frequently increases from year to year, even without additional purchases.

While the expense of maintaining (or increasing) periodicals holdings is considerable, an improvement in this area may be the rehabilitative acts that spurs a kind of renaissance for our poor, neglected library. A superior periodical collection would be of such value to our users that any increased cost would certainly be justifiable, and the resulting increased use of our facility might well spark interest in improving the quality of other collections as well.

There are, of necessity, numerous issues surrounding these questions which I have been unable to address herein. And though they may be most noteworthy, I have chosen instead to focus on what I believe is the key consideration for the Graduate Center community: it is neither healthy for us, nor healthy for our institution for us to continue to rely so heavily on the resources of other libraries. While we ought, certainly, to have access to and a knowledge of other research facilities, failure to invest in the one under our noses simply hurts everyone.

It seems that the Mina Rees Library is laboring under a number of crippling restraints: too few books, too few periodicals, too few hours, too little money, too dark and recessed a location, and too little interest altogether. Unsurprisingly, these conditions are, in turn, adversely affecting the ability of Graduate Center scholars to conduct their research. Worst of all, things don't seem to be on the road to improvement. For many, if not for most, the library and its collection is a lost cause. So, not only are we denied a fitting research facility, but future generations of CUNY scholars will also have to live without the books we ought to be collecting for them right now. Indeed, a substantial library is a key element in attracting top-quality graduate students, so our failure to build a collection could result in a lowering of CUNY's academic reputation, something that certainly affects us all.

*[Significantly, Sundays were not included in the experiment with extended hours. Had they been, the results might have been more positive.]*

# Letters

Continued from 2

is not demarginalized, then the straight world will divide and conquer all of us.

Finally, I found Robert's equation of the opposite sex with mystery an interesting imagery. Are women like the dark continent of Africa, fit territory for colonization?

Robert's follow up to Tracy Morgan's article misses her point that there is repression of gays at the Graduate Center and the world outside. Are gay students losing dissertation committee members because of their HIV status? Is there any consideration of illness with respect to dissertation completion deadlines? These are the issues his article should have covered. Instead we get an accommodationist apology by a butch gay white man.

Wayne Marat Vansertima, The Berdache

To the editors:

Living in Harmony? (Response to Robert Hollander)

Last issue ("Letters" November *Advocate*), I proposed direct elections of the DSC executive, and a public campaign process, which would make the DSC democratic." Robert Hollander replied as follows:

"The DSC is more about advocacy than about governance"

"The student body is not characterized so much by competing interest

groups as commonality of general interests"

these interests are served by the DSC's present activities: "free photocopying," "health services," etc..

it is "not . . . possible at the Graduate Center for the general student body" to implement "participatory . . . democracy." For Robert is "less optimistic" than myself "regarding the possibilities of politicization of students at a North American academic institution" ("Letters," *Advocate*, December 1994, p. 3).

With all due respect, Robert (and I've developed a lot, in the short time I've known you), this is strangely reminiscent of what C. Wright Mills called "crackpot realism" — otherwise known as "American pluralism." Under the guise of a worldly pessimism, you get all your answers ready-made — before you engage seriously with the radical possibilities and alternatives. In actuality, this line of argument serves as apologia for middle-level cliquism. However undemocratic, the existing "countervailing" structures — trade union bureaucracies, for example — are defended as "the best of all possible worlds," not only against the powers above, but from criticism and dissatisfaction below.

Unfortunately, such "realism" prevents the reforms desperately needed to strengthen the DSC. It is also based upon a complete neglect of the historical record. While apathy, bureaucratic cooptation, inertia, and hopelessness have generally prevailed in the post-war period, the "American century" has frequently been punctuated, in

North America as well as anywhere else, by massive protest movements of both workers and students. Have you never heard of FSM, SNCC, or SDS? Or how about the massive demonstration of CUNY students, faculty, and staff in 1989 which closed down Wall Street? Or the daily 400-strong meetings held during the strike here at the GSUC in 1991?

We certainly do have a common interest. It is in halting the destruction of CUNY, of our educational rights, and of our careers, as much or more as it is in free copiers. But this common interest does not translate automatically into fact. This depends upon whether the structure of representation is or is not democratic. The ideal of democratic representation is not a utopia, as you make it out to be (in order to knock it down). It is a practical necessity. Otherwise, the egoistic desire for privilege and power, no matter how illusory or trivial this may seem at the level of the DSC, tends to get in the way.

The long and sad history of the University Student Senate provides example after example of the consequences of non-representative "advocacy." As for the DSC, let's take, for example, the 1987-88 DSC administration: the year after the present charter was ratified. Anyone who tried to criticize the overwhelmingly turgid writing and pro-lobbying reformism in the paper, then called BM04, or the functioning of the DSC, was subject to intimidation and ridicule. A year later, we learned that the DSC had been audited for that year. The results, according to the *Advocate* reporter, were not pretty. They amounted to a

"bleak picture," and to "fiscal mystery." "The Council's 1987-1988 fiscal records lack many payment vouchers\_receipts for money spent on DSC functions such as program allotments, chartered student organizations and cultural affairs programs. " This "in turn invites questions of impropriety never asked by the auditors" (Al Cofribas, "CUNY Audits 1987-1988 Doctoral Students' Council: 'Serious Shortcomings' or Gross Mismanagement?" *Advocate*, February, 1990)." From what little records that were kept, sources saw many personal dinner bills for the leaders of these organizations and programs, paid by the DSC. Some of these bills were quite expensive.

Let's take another case, much closer to home. The Students for Educational Rights (SER) was the group which occupied the building in 1991 and held those big democratic meetings. I was a member and wholehearted supporter of SER, for its highminded "advocacy" of students' rights. However, this group had the dubious fortune to take over both the *Advocate* and the DSC that same year. I say "dubious" because no one seemed to have any awareness of the dangers involved, let alone any plan to reform the DSC. Thus "governance" — how to hold on to it, how to defend it against all comers — very quickly took first priority.

In the words of the *Advocate's* editors themselves at that time, the DSC was "one of the few loci of student power [emphasis mine]"; therefore, the editors implied, any and all criticism was deplorable, because "destructive." ("Cronies Are Us," *Advocate*,

September 1991, p. 10). While opponents and critics were vilified, their actual arguments were almost completely ignored. Despite the frequently excellent quality of the *Advocate's* investigations of Chancellor Reynolds's and the Board of Trustees's nefarious schemes, a strident tone crept into the exclusively pro-strike editorial page. For fear of rocking the boat — of losing power — no one else among SER's DSC majority ever protested any of this.

Consequently, the "advocacy" of the strike, and of those big democratic meetings — the mutualism, the tolerance for dissent, dialogue, and general student solidarity — went out the window. SER lost its militancy to become a clique within the belly of the DSC beast. Consequently, we lost the chance to reach out to and to build a real movement among the moderate majority of students at the GSUC.

These moderates supported the goals of the strike, but not the strike itself. They might have been recruited. Because they were not, SER has now collapsed. For there can be no movement without dialogue. And dialogue is certainly not encouraged by the cliquism encouraged by the present structure of the DSC.

We need to have open campaigns and direct elections for the DSC. To pretend that the DSC is representative now is hypocrisy. It is just as hypocritical for the unelected Administration to use this fact as a "red herring." On these we both agree, Robert. But, my friend, to pretend that we don't need, or worse, are not capable of, democratic representation, is not just an insult, it is a capitulation to this cliquism.

## An open letter

**From  
Q.U.N.Y:  
The Organization  
for Bisexual, Gay,  
Lesbian, and  
Transgender  
Concerns**

The Graduate Center's current student health insurance policy is both inadequate and discriminatory. Presently students who wish to provide benefits for their domestic partners are unable to do so. As a

consequence these students face potentially ruinous health care costs. Students whose partners find themselves in need of health care may find their ability to remain in school compromised. Married students do not face this threat. The current student health insurance policy allows them to provide for their partner's insurance needs. In contrast to the inequities of the new student health care plan, the Graduate Center employee insurance plan will allow Faculty and members of the administrative staff to cover the health insurance needs of their domestic partners.

The Graduate Center is in the process of renegotiating the student health insurance contract. Domestic partner benefits should be offered in the new contract. This would equalize benefits offered to students by extending to

the student body the insurance package currently offered faculty. Since the cost of this option would largely be born by those students who wish to pay for it, such a plan would not present an additional financial burden on the student body. On the contrary, it would assure that students with domestic partners would no longer face the possibility of medical and financial disaster.

We urge students and Graduate Center employees to call or write to:

Ann Reynolds  
Chancellor  
CUNY  
535 East 80th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-794-5227

Elsa Nunez-Warmack  
Vice Chancellor for Student  
Affairs  
CUNY  
535 East 80th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-794-5428

Sheila Thomas  
Assistant Dean for Student  
Affairs  
CUNY  
East 80th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-794-5508

Robert Diaz  
Vice Chancellor for Legal  
Affairs  
CUNY  
535 East 80th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-794-5430

Frances Degen  
Horowitz President, GSUC  
33 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036  
212-642-2000

Carlotte Frick  
Office of Student Services  
GSUC  
33 West 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10036  
212-642-2827



# Henderson Suspensions at BMCC Lifted: Victory for Student Government

Continued from 1

according to Nursing program Faculty Advisor James Blake, BMCC will have to shed 7,000 in enrollments, and 1,500 classes. In addition, BMCC hires the most adjuncts in the CUNY system. Most of them will have to leave as well. And, of course, more hours of library and other services will be cut.

Blacks and Latinos, the majority of the BMCC student body, are especially targeted by these cuts. Thus, these students charge, the cuts are by their very nature racist. Their chief attorney, Ron McGuire, who also defended the CUNY strikers of '91, charge that it is Giuliani who is acting illegally with these budget cuts. According to State Education Law, the Mayor is not permitted to make such cuts. He must provide 27% of the funding for CUNY. The students were simply attempting to stop illegal action by the Mayor — action which will risk disaccreditation of their school.

During the initial disciplinary hearing, McGuire noted the "symbolic" nature of these suspensions. While hundreds of students participated in these demonstrations, only the Executive Committee of the student government was suspended. In addition, each of these students received virtually the same letter. Each was charged, therefore, with all the charges, including entering "almost all of the classrooms" on three floors. It is highly improbable, McGuire implied, that each of these four individuals accomplished all of these charges. These suspensions amounted to "selective prosecution," in order to "decapitate the student government and thus the political leadership of the movement." McGuire's assistant counsel, Mr. Roger Wareham, agreed, stating that these reminded him of "conspiracy charges."

Despite Acting Dean Alverio's threat to keep the hearing closed, the chair, Austin Williams, decided to open the hearing. Sixteen students coming late from Lehman and Queens Colleges were denied entrance, however, even though they counted "fifteen empty seats" in the auditorium. They were even told by security guards that this was not a

public meeting.

At the hearing, the students pled not guilty. McGuire moved for immediate dismissal of the charges and the students' reinstatement, since the charges were obviously meant to repress the political movement these students organized. These charges were not to be taken seriously as actual violations performed by each of these students themselves. Failing dismissal of the charges, McGuire motioned dismissal of the suspensions and a postponement of the hearing. Because the charges were so vague, McGuire demanded time for "discovery": a revelation from the prosecution of the evidence and witnesses they would present, so that "trial by ambush" might be avoided. Further, McGuire demanded a "bill of particulars," to clarify the specific charges presented against each specific individual. Wareham made a further motion that, given the political nature of these charges, students stepping forward to testify for the defense, who participated themselves in these demonstrations, be granted immunity from prosecution for this protest activity.

The lawyer for the prosecution was Mr. Esrat Tulier, Assistant to the CUNY General Council. McGuire pointed out that Tulier is also the legal advisor to the Disciplinary Committee — a clear conflict of interest. Tulier stated immediately that he had no objection to lifting the suspensions and to adjourning the hearing to a later time to allow for discovery. He was less accommodating to McGuire's request for a bill of particulars, claiming that the charges were clearly stated and that to specify them further would be to "go outside the four corners" of the present charges, and thus to introduce new charges against the defendants.

The Disciplinary Committee agreed to lift the suspensions and to adjourn. The next hearing will be held Friday, December 9th, at 4 p.m.. The students plan to hold a CUNY-wide rally at 2 pm in front of the building, to protest this political repression in the service of the Mayor's austerity program.

▼

## NEW YORK / PARIS

### EXCHANGE PROGRAM

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK / THE UNIVERSITIES OF PARIS

*Study in Paris for up to two semesters*

Graduate level credits may apply to your degree

Tuition based on CUNY full-time cost

TAP accepted

Placement based on proficiency in French and specialization

Dormitory housing (\$350-\$425/month)

Resident Director from CUNY will help with accommodations and registration

Program coordinators and representatives on each CUNY campus in New York

Fall Semester begins Sept. 1st, Spring Semester begins Feb. 1st.

For more information call 718-997-4608 or write to:

New York/Paris Exchange Program

Queens College

English Department

65-30 Kissena Blvd.

Flushing, NY 11367-1597

*\$50 administrative fee required plus statement indicating that you can support \$750/month during your stay.*

## Student Health Servicers (SHS)

located in room 1414 offers a variety of services to all registered students of the Graduate School at no or low cost.

### AVAILABLE SERVICES:

**episodic treatment**

**health screenings**

**laboratory services\***

**exams (including physical, gynecological, breast and testicular)**

**pregnancy testing**

**flu shots \***

**confidential counseling\***

**health workshops**

**referrals**

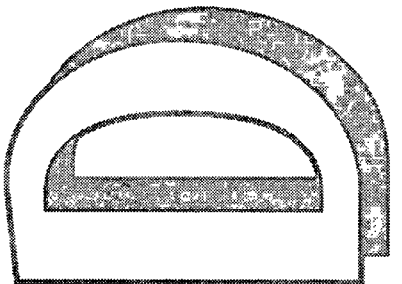
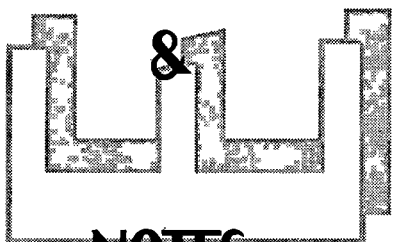
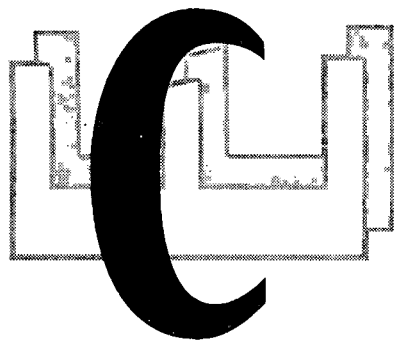
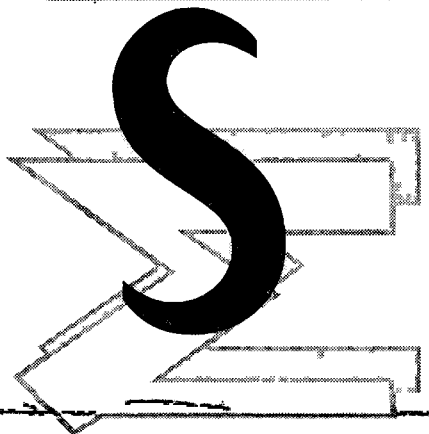
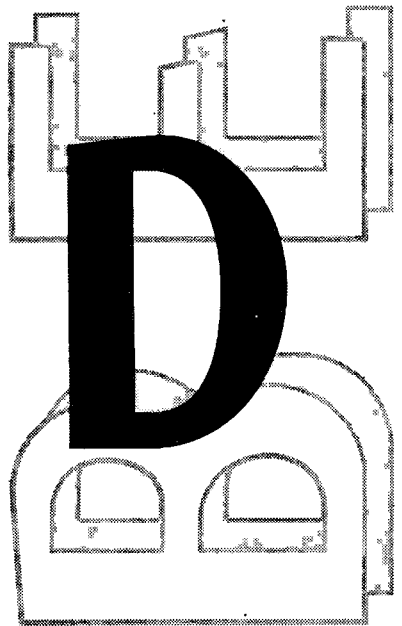
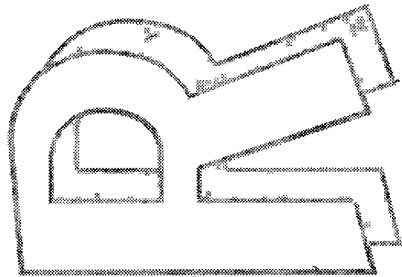
**maintenance of immunization records for all Graduate School students**

Mary Clancy, Nurse Practitioner, is available Monday 10-6, Wednesday 9-6 and Thursday 9-5. Karen Faber, Medical Assistant/Immunization Coordinator, is available Monday through Friday 9-5 to schedule appointments, and answer general questions. Appointments can be made in person or by telephone — walk-in appointments are available on a limited basis.

Please feel free to contact our office at 642-2199 with any questions, comments or suggestions concerning our services.

\*fee required

\*administered seasonally. Contact office for available times.



## DSC UPDATE

For several hours Thursday December 1st, the DSC office may have seemed unusually hectic. We were hosting BMCC's student government Executive Committee for the duration of their suspensions — which were promptly, though none too soon, lifted the next day. As you may have read in the front page article by Tom Smith, these four students were suspended for little more than organizing a rally to oppose Mayor Giuliani's cuts to their school's budget. You'd think the University would be thankful for

their efforts to raise the visibility of CUNY's needs. Instead their administration is grasping for anything to keep them in line.

Despite the ordeal of being suspended just prior to final exams, all four were bright, sharp, spirited, together and very organized. We got our money's worth for our fax machine that afternoon. It was an inspiration to us to have them around, and they are welcome to come back and organize *for us* anytime.

## Nurse Practitioner Survey

Dear Student,

We at the DSC are concerned that the nurse practitioner service is underused. We plan to make improvements based on your comments.

Please take a minute to fill this out and get it back to us as soon as possible.

Mail or hand deliver to DSC in the Basement-Mezzanine Student Center, rm. BM01, GSUC CUNY, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

Were you aware (prior to reading this) that the Graduate Center offered the services of an on-site Nurse Practitioner?

yes

no

Do you know what a Nurse Practitioner is?

yes

no

Do you know what services the Nurse Practitioner offers?

yes

no

Are there services that are not offered that you would like to see available?

yes

no

What are they?

What hours would be most convenient for you to see the Nurse Practitioner?

(circle as many as apply)

mornings

afternoons

evenings

If you've been to the Nurse Practitioner, have you been satisfied with her service?

(circle one only)

very satisfied

somewhat satisfied

not satisfied

What's the average amount of money you spend each year on minor health care?

(round figure)

Any other comments:

# WE NEED YOU!

The Doctoral Students' Council (DSC) is currently engaged in a massive Adjunct Organizing Project. The project's ultimate purpose is to improve the pay, benefits, and working conditions of adjuncts CUNY-wide. The first step in this project is to survey all adjuncts to find out who they are. We must get the following questionnaire to every part-time

teacher in the CUNY system. Your help is needed in organizing the adjuncts. Please channel your anger, frustration, or dissatisfaction by contributing in these three ways:

1) JOIN THE UNION. The Professional Staff Congress (PSC) hasn't done enough for adjuncts yet because you are not a member. The dues are under \$8 per paycheck. There is no reason to start up a new union when there is already a union that represents us whether we are members or not. Membership cards are waiting for you in the PSC office, 25 West 43rd Street, 5th floor, and in

the DSC office (in the Basement Mezzanine room BM01).

2) FILL OUT THE SURVEY and return it to the DSC office. Please use either the form printed below or the one you receive in your mailbox where you teach. At work the survey will come with a postage-free reply envelope, so there is no excuse for not replying. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

3) DISTRIBUTE THESE SURVEYS. We need people to stuff the mailboxes of all part-timers in their departments. To do that, first find

out exactly how many part-timers teach where you teach. Then come to the DSC office (BM 01) at any time. Fill out a form telling us your name, the department you are covering and the number of adjuncts there. We'll happily give you the surveys.

These basic steps are the minimum level of action that we need to take before the lot of the adjuncts in CUNY will improve. They do not call for a major expenditure of time or effort, even to distribute the surveys. If you take these steps and encourage one other person to do so,

we'll soon have a powerful movement going.

*Please type or print clearly. Add any additional comments at the bottom. Return to the DSC office at the Graduate Center room BM 01.*

## PART I (Personal)

1. Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

2. Campuses at which you currently teach (including non-CUNY):

3. How many years have you been a part-time teacher at CUNY:

4. Degree(s) completed:

5. Graduate School(s) you currently attend, and degree sought:

6. Department or Program in which you study:

The purpose of this questionnaire is to organize and better inform the part-time faculty at CUNY. All information will be kept strictly confidential by the Doctoral Students' Council of the CUNY Graduate Center.

## PART II (Working Conditions)

1. Please list courses taught (indicate department and intro/upper level):

2. To what degree do you have input in deciding what courses you teach:

3. How long have you been teaching at the same campus:

4. Average number of credits you teach each semester:

5. Briefly describe your office space:

6. Do you have health insurance through your job as an adjunct:

7. Do you have any income outside of your adjunct pay:

8. To which teachers' union(s) do you belong (e.g. the Professional Staff Congress/CUNY):

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY RETURNED A SURVEY, PLEASE DO NOT FILL OUT A SECOND. THANKS!

# Student Rally at City Hall Draws Crowd

Continued from 1

Literacy Workers, and various organizations that work with the homeless.

The CUNY demonstration was organized by the student governments at many of the CUNY campuses, the University Student Senate, and CUNY branches of the International Socialist Organization. ACT-UP, Housing Works, and CIR (the union representing interns and residents in the public hospitals) participated in and endorsed the demonstration.

The Doctoral Students' Council and the GSUC branch of the ISO also lent their support to the rally.

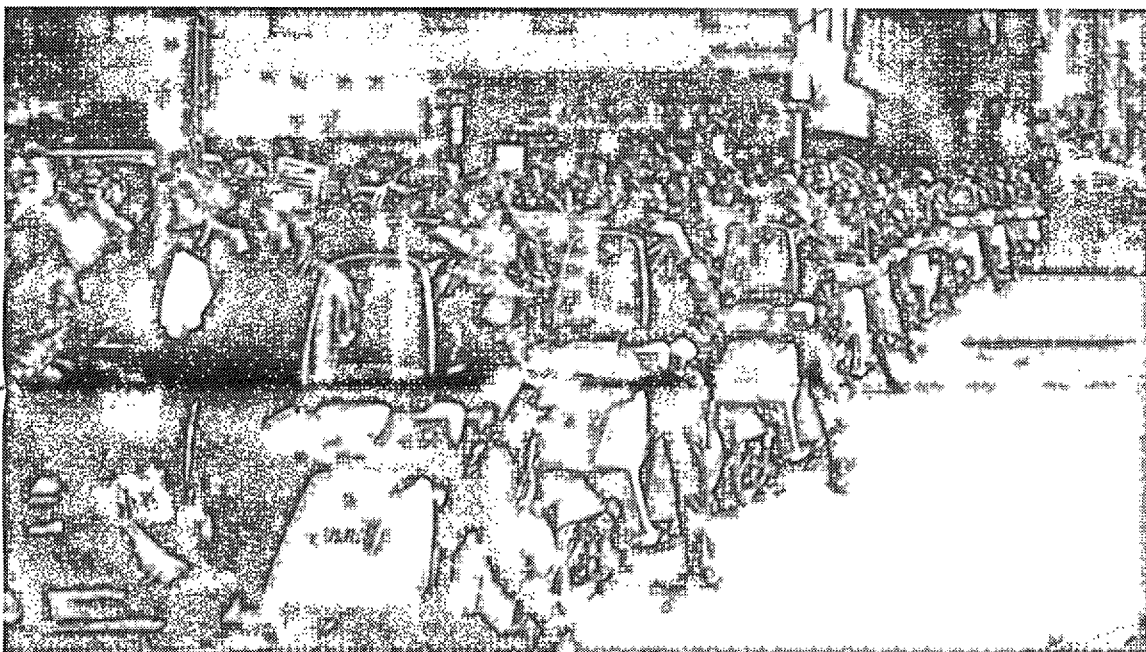
While the marchers rallied outside City Hall, inside the City Council

proposed an alternative budget to Giuliani's, asking him to restore \$2.1 million for soup kitchens, \$10.3 million for programs for the mentally retarded and substance abusers, and \$24 million for schools. Still, the Council's alternative budget would cut \$800 million — including \$5 million from the CUNY junior colleges.

The Mayor has vowed to ignore the City Council's alternative. Whatever the outcome of Giuliani's haggling with the Council over the size of the cuts, it is clear that there will be more cuts to CUNY this Spring and therefore it is essential that activists within CUNY use the recent demonstration to begin building a City-wide coalition to defend our university. **V**



Photos by Craig Scull  
Left: Protest at city hall  
Below: March to BMCC—police out in full force.



## New Directions for Computing at the GSUC

Associate Provost. It was that relationship which led to his selection, she added. "[We selected Treitman] because he was highly recommended and knowledgeable about CUNY," she said, adding that "He was coming from outside of [our] perspective...[but] he wasn't coming in totally naive to CUNY."

Treitman, however, didn't think his previous relationship with CUNY at all influenced his obtaining the contract, contending that it was really 80th Street which obtained the machines. "I don't think that all had anything to do with me securing the contract," he said. Treitman added that he was informed of the need for the report by Provost and Vice President Geoffrey Marshall who was acting on a recommendation from the Central Office. "I'm unaware of

any competitive bidding," he added.

The firm, Treitman explained, is an outgrowth of an old IBM higher education organization, with a varying number of employees. For this project he did all the primary interviews and hired several writers and students to perform other tasks. His fee was originally set at \$15,000. With the help of the Provost's office, he added, it was reduced to \$12,000.

### Task Force Established

A Task Force has been established to obtain feedback on Treitman's findings. The report was issued in response to "complaints about the computer center not meeting our [the Graduate Center community's] needs, our research needs, our administrative needs,"

according to Associate Provost Reid. Problems within the various departments which she supervises, among them the Computer Center, were witnessed by Reid, also serving as an impetus for the report.

The 15 member Task Force, composed of faculty, administration, and students and chaired by Reid, will seek to distill Treitman's advice into a manageable plan for the Graduate Center's computer services. Data Communications Manager, Steven Yoman, a member of the Task Force, said there were a couple of focal points which the Task Force should concentrate on.

"I think some of the things that he talked about, in terms of really concentrating on academic development, is probably at the core of what needs to take place here," Yoman said. He added that reorga-

nizing the way that day-to-day work is performed is also a high priority.

"I'm fairly optimistic," said Yoman regarding the introductory meetings of the Task Force. For now, he said, the group is focusing on ideas and looking at other Universities, among them Rutgers and the Universities of Michigan and Minnesota, which have published their activities. However, he is quick to add that they are also focusing on Emory and Babson, since these schools better parallel the Graduate Center in size.

Key to any recommendations which result from the Task Force is the problem of implementation and funding. As Yoman said, "There has to be a recommendation for goals and among those goals has to be a recommendation regarding funds."



# Food

## Survival!

Julia Miele Rodas

Suppose, for the moment that you have set aside five minutes between classes and commuting for the pleasures of the palate. Behold, you turn out your pockets and find a lone quarter (emergency phone call money). On days when you are wealthier, perhaps you might find as much as three dollars. That's enough for a slice of pizza and car fare home — no beverage.

But take heart! There is still a way to survive. No matter how busy you are, there's always one point during the week where there's a lull. It's the day when you've gotten enough sleep the night before and you don't have anything due tomorrow, and you're too exhausted to face anything academic. That's the day you cook. At my house, almost all the cooking happens Saturday afternoon. The menu varies, but everything is done with an eye towards weekday lunches and dinners; the focus is always on things that can be eaten quick, cold, and cheap.

Despite variations from week to week, one thing is always at the top of the list — Sweet Potatoes. You will need: several sweet potatoes (with nice firm flesh), vegetable oil, an oven. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Wash/scrub sweet potatoes and damp dry them. Lightly oil and place in the oven with some space between each one. No baking sheet is necessary, but if you don't use one, you may get some drippings on the floor of your oven. Cook for approximately one hour, or until a slim knife blade or skewer goes smoothly through each potato. You can then stick these in a bowl or bag in the fridge and grab one on your way out the door. Great for breakfast (with a cup of tea or coffee), for lunch or dinner (reheated and mashed or sliced), or cut into a vegetable broth with beancurd, vegetables, and noodles.

Plain boiled potatoes are also an amazingly cheap, easy, and nutritious way to go. All you need to do is boil as many potatoes as you

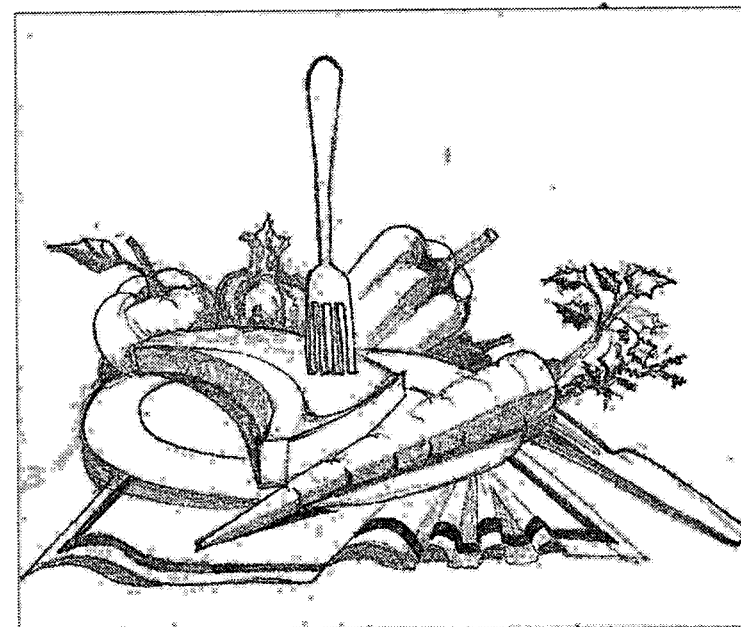
want in a tub of salted water. They should generally cook 20-30 minutes, or until a slim knife blade or skewer can go smoothly through one of the potatoes. These can then be eaten cold with a dressing made of mustard, olive oil, and balsamic vinegar. They can be re-heated and served with butter, salt, and pepper. They can be tossed into soup. There are about a million variations.

**...the incomplete from last term that's hanging over our heads like the Sword of Damocles.**

And speaking of potatoes, here's an amazingly simple late night dinner made from stuff you probably have in the house anyway. I stole the recipe from my great heroine M.F.K. Fisher. For her, it was a wartime dish, so I think she would understand our situation. For M.F.K. Fisher's potato soup, you will need: a couple of plain white potatoes, an onion (optional), some butter or margarine, a bowlful of milk, salt & pepper, a grater, a frying pan, a small pot to heat the milk. Coarsely grate one or two potatoes (depending on how hungry you are) and saute the grated potato immediately in a pan with butter or margarine. Make sure there's enough butter so the potato doesn't stick too much. When the potato is just starting to brown, cover the pan and let it cook another five minutes or so, until the potato is tender. While that's cooking, heat milk in another pan, until it's just hot, not boiling. When the potatoes are cooked and the milk is hot, empty both into a bowl and add salt &

pepper to taste. Eat with a hunk of bread if you have one. (Some people also like to grate and cook an onion with the potato.)

**Soup** is probably the best possible food to make ahead and keep in the fridge for the week. Although potato soup is usually something one wants to make and eat fresh, there are a number of simple soups which keep remarkably well. Among these, pasta e fagioli (pasta fazool in my house) is perhaps my favorite. Using some of the cheapest foods imaginable (pasta and beans), this soup (really more like a stew) is really tasty, very filling, and incredibly versatile. For the basic recipe, you will need: any mixture of uncooked pastas broken into roughly bite-size pieces, some extra virgin olive oil, a couple of large cloves of garlic, some precooked (or canned) white kidney beans (cannellini), fresh or dried rosemary, a few small coarsely chopped tomatoes (fresh or canned), salt & pepper, grated cheese (I prefer Pecorino Romano). Cook the pasta pieces in rapidly boiling salted water. Rinse with cold water and set aside (or put away). Peel the garlic and bruise it with the side of a knife. In a soup-size pot, heat some olive oil and throw in the bruised garlic cloves and some rosemary. When they are just starting to cook, throw in the chopped tomatoes and stir around. Mush up some of the beans so that some are pasty and some are whole. After about 10 minutes, add these to the pot with enough water to make it look soupy. Cook for about 40 minutes and up to an hour. When you're ready to eat (at any time during the week), just reheat the soup, throw in some of the precooked pasta, add a dash of olive oil, salt and pepper to taste, and top with grated cheese. The great thing about this recipe is that you can vary the quantities to suit your taste or circumstances. It can be made with almost no tomatoes. It can be served thick like stew or thin like soup. You can use pasta shells or ditalini or combine dital-



ini and shells with the macaroni left over from yesterday. You can substitute some other kind of bean. You can even fry up some bacon and crumble the crispy pieces on top.

**one thing is always at the top of the list — Sweet Potatoes.**

I also make a lot of chicken soup, but with a twist. If you've never made chicken soup, don't be intimidated. It's much easier than you might think. And the great thing about it is that you can make a whole bunch and freeze it, or you can at least freeze some of the broth and use it as a base for other soups. The way to make chicken soup: Use a Bell & Evans chicken from a reputable butcher shop (of course, you can use a regular supermarket chicken, but your soup won't be as tasty), two fresh carrots, two stalks of celery, a few peppercorns, some coarse salt (not too much — you can always add more later), one whole washed onion with the skin on. Cut up the chicken and throw away the skin. Put all the ingredients in one big pot, with cold water to cover. Cook over medi-

um heat until the water boils, then lower the heat and simmer for about 45 minutes. This is a very good, easy-to-make chicken soup, and you can eat it just like this, out of the pot. It's also very nice with some noodles (cook separately), or with potatoes. For those of you who are bored with plain old chicken soup, try the following twist: serve it with chunks of yucca (sold frozen in most supermarkets — follow the directions on the package), slices of avocado and tomato, and a generous squeeze of lime.

There are those who will never understand what the Graduate Center's own Professor Richard McCoy once described as the "bone-crushing" demands of graduate student life. It is not merely the reading that has to be done tomorrow or the presentation that's due next week, or even the incomplete from last term that's hanging over our heads like the Sword of Damocles. It's also sitting up until two in the morning grading papers we have to return to our own students; it's preparing last minute lesson-plans; it's dealing with the crises of relationships brought on by the fact that we have no time or energy to devote to lovers or friends; it's dealing with the crises of loneliness brought on by the fact that we have no time or energy to devote to finding lovers or friends if we haven't got any.

No doubt about it, graduate school ain't no bed of roses. But if we plan carefully, it can still be a picnic. **V**

# Art

## Garbage!

An exhibit in photographs and text at the  
New York Public Library (through February 25, 1995)

For us postmodern, post-technology, post-nuclear habitues of a terminally media-saturated world, the story of *Garbage!*, an exhibit on the history and politics of trash in NYC now showing at the New York Public Library is not exactly anything new.

Garbage anxiety is just one constant worry in the cumulative make-up of the modern neurosis, whether you trip over it in the street, watch a homeless person scramble for it in the gutter, or have to find room for it in a recyclables box in your closet.

**citizens  
were reputed  
to have  
developed  
the habit of  
adding  
French  
brandy or  
gin to make  
their water  
safe to drink**

What the *Garbage!* exhibit appearing in the Gottesman Exhibition Hall on the Main Floor of the Library does for us is place this concern in a historical context going back through the 19th century. In doing so, the Exhibit highlights the frustrating complexity of a web of socio-cultural forces that have carried us to our present position at the brink of ecological disaster.

Examining the subject of garbage as a medium of history in that epitome of American urban life, New York City,

the Exhibit is divided into five thematic sections extending from 1840 into the 1990's. The first, "Dirt and Disease: Conditions of Urban Life 1840-1920" conveys an extremity of malodorous filth in the tenements of the immigrant poor that we are told would be considered unthinkable today. In an era before germ theory, and insidiously reflecting on current views of class-based worth, the pestilential vapors produced by slaughterhouses, tanneries, fertilizer and "nuisance" plants were seen at once as a major cause of disease and death, and at the same time as deserving punishment of the immoral, immoderate poor.

Viewers are brought by pictures, text and sound into the wretched life of the tenements, where children died by the thousands, particular those of foreign birth; where mortal diseases like consumption and tuberculosis, lung inflammation, scarlet fever and starvation spread like brushfire; and where minute proportions of tenement dwellers had access to a bathroom.

In section 2, "Public Health and Sanitary Reform 1840-1920," the sanitary reform movement is recorded as emerging from the dawning realization that the dirtiness of the poor might not be caused by their inherent moral defect but by their lack of private baths and toilets. A Mayor's Committee inspecting more than 255,000 inhabitants of tenement housing in 1897 reported that only 306 had access to bathrooms in the house where they lived.

Interestingly, the exhibit records that women were hired as inspectors for the NYC Tenement House Department on the grounds that women were considered on the whole to be extremely satisfactory workers, more careful than the men and requiring less discipline.

Water purification, however, reflected more primitive means. Faced with inferior and inadequate water supplies, citizens were reputed to have developed the habit of adding French brandy or

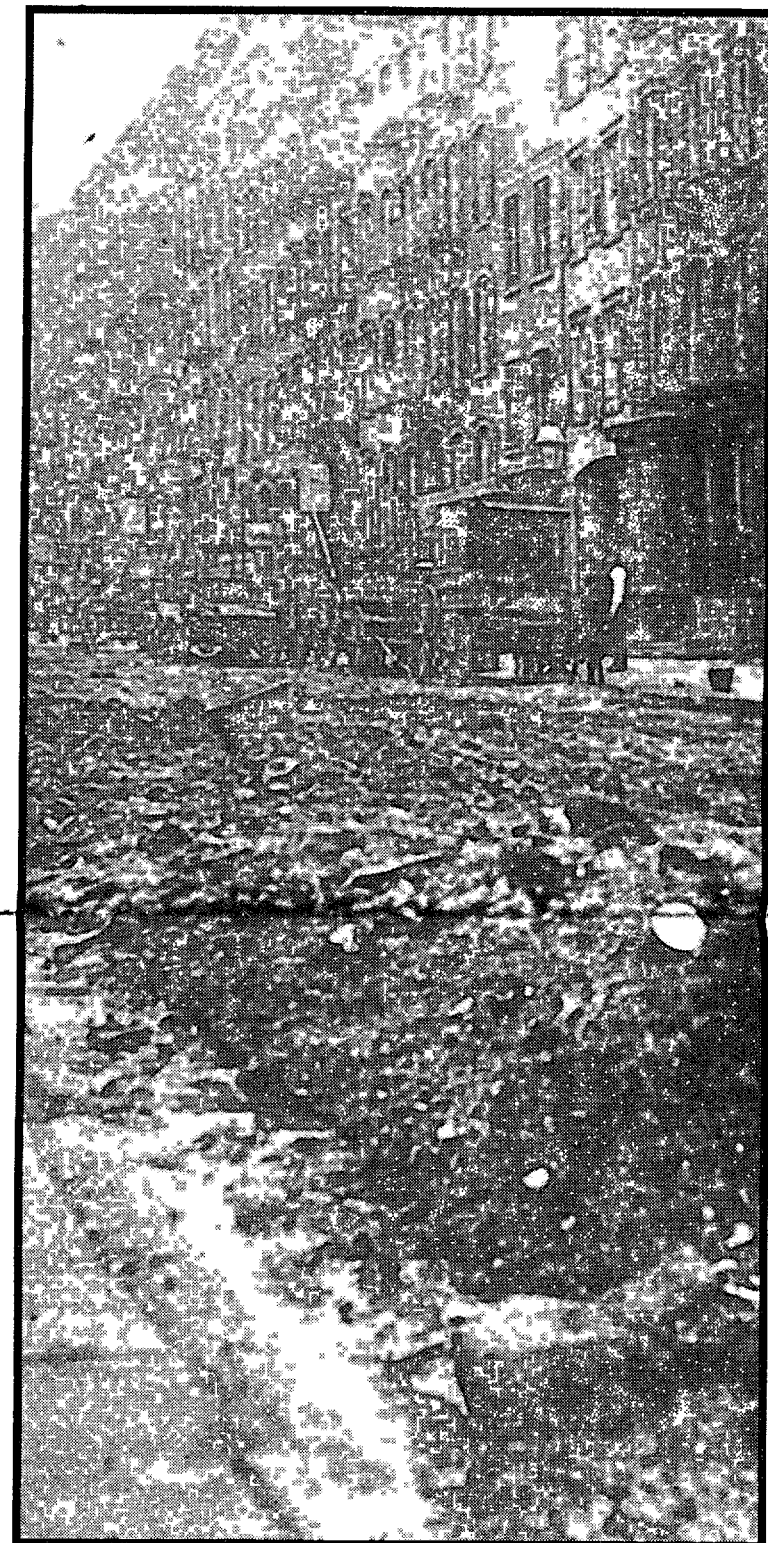
gin to make their water safe to drink.

Section 3, "Who Should Clean the Streets and Collect the Garbage? 1860-1994" explores the private/public-sector battle which fueled the central debate throughout the 19th century, exacerbated by anxious regard for the huge piles of money at stake. Regardless of the debate, the streets continued to be generally filthy, with an exception of the years 1895-97, when the "Apostle of Cleanliness" Colonel George E. Waring Jr. reigned as the Commissioner of Street Cleaning. A proud officer of the Fourth Missouri Cavalry during the Civil War, Waring brought such military discipline, perfectionist standards, and publicity savvy to the job of street cleaning that even his political enemies acknowledged his unprecedented success.

Politics, as usual, played a major role in the vociferous discontent expressed in the editorial columns and cartoons of the day. Anger over the politicization of garbage collection for personal ends reflected the reality of ineffective street-cleaning, the results of which were often dismal.

Highlighting the close relation of poverty to equal rights is a series of photographs commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King's last March in Memphis, Tenn., where striking sanitation workers carried signs with the bluntly eloquent words, "I am a man." These workers exemplified the new self-assertion of African-American workers who, demanding an end to discrimination, inspired the civil rights struggles of the 1960's.

In section 4, "Garbage Disposal: Sea, Land and Air 1860-1994," the ominous repercussions of disposal are represented: ocean dumping, an early method popular until the trash started washing back with the incoming tide; landfills, another early and important method although very unpopular with communities living near the dumping grounds; and incinerators, which



reached a peak use from the late '40s to late '60s, when a dozen incinerators collectively disposed of over 35% of the city's annual refuse.

Recycling also makes its appearance here, having been used in colonial days, and being utilized in turn-of-the-century NYC to extract grease, oils and fertilizer from its garbage. After World War I, with the rise of new synthetic materials and changes in production, recycling became less profitable and less popular. Only in 1989 did the City again adopt an official recycling plan.

Section 5, "Contemporary Issues: Pollution, Technology, and Social Commentary 1960s-1990s" brings us depressingly up-to-date with the reali-

ty of oil spills, toxic contamination and nuclear waste. The arduous efforts of environmental organizations and activists, the consciousness-raising efforts of garbage artists and sculptors, are given due recognition as regards the growing awareness of the links between waste production, environmental safety and public health.

Still, there is no simple answer to the monstrous task of coming to terms with a total national production of over 180 million tons of trash yearly, broken down into four pounds per average individual per day. At the very least, exhibits like this bring clearer vision to the socially-constructed problems of promoting responsible forms of production and consumption, and forging partnerships to foot the bill. **V**

# Dance

## Conference

The Colloquium Committee of the Department of Comparative Literature at the Graduate School is coordinating a conference on dance and writing scheduled for March 14 and 15, 1995. A number of departments and institutes at the Graduate School are co-sponsoring the conference, including the Humanities Center, the Doctoral Students Council, the Peyre Institute, the Certificate Program in Film Studies, the Certificate Program in Medieval Studies and a half dozen different academic departments. As well, the conference is externally co-sponsored by the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts Dance Collection.

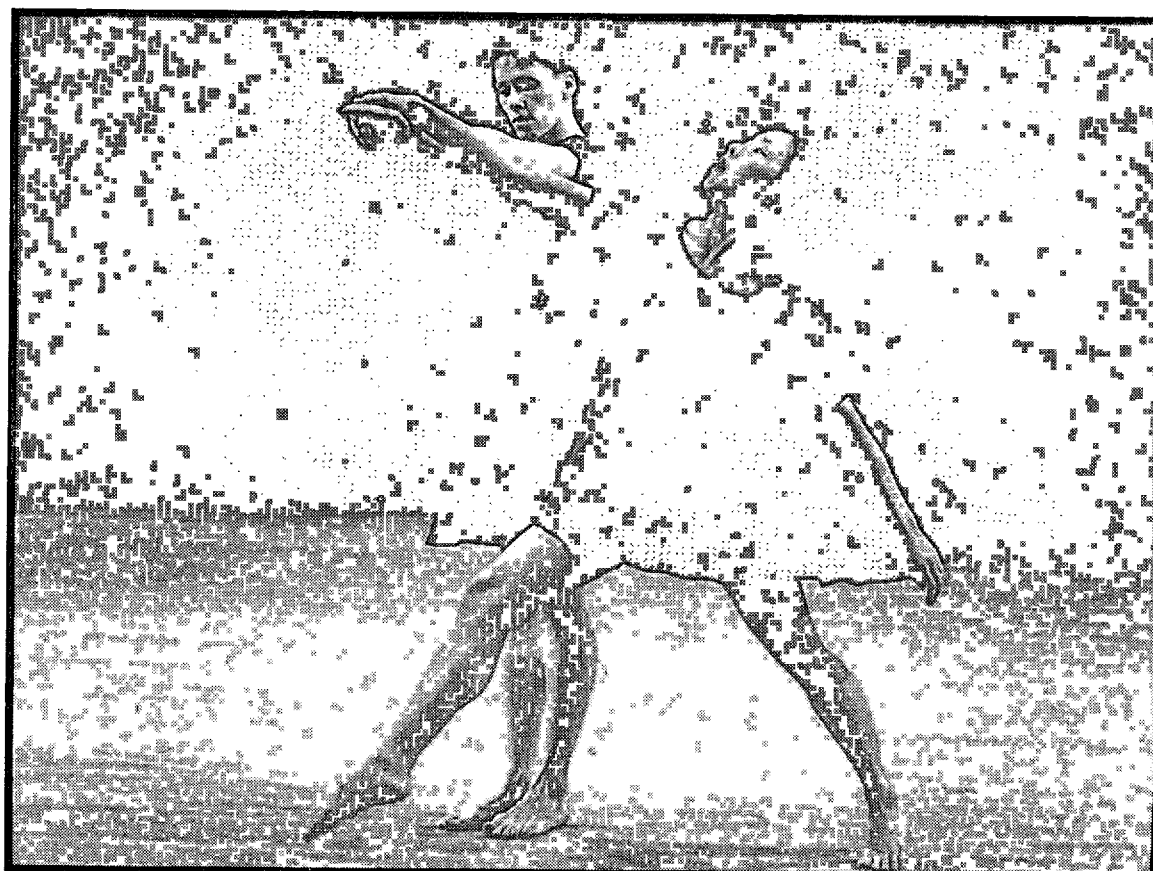
The conference will focus on correspondences between writing, literature, and dance, specifically addressing questions that investigate the narrative nature of dance, and the choreographic, "action" nature of written texts. The focus will be on the relation of written languages and literatures to bodily (gestural) languages. Notational systems will be examined for their signification, and the problems they pose for the medium of dance. The role of description, judgement, representation, analysis, sensation, emotion, and nuance in language will be discussed. As well, the nature of language as a choreographic activity, as a "grammar itself in motion" will be examined, following French theorist Paul

Ricoeur's ideas of "text and action."

The conference "Perspectives on Movement: Interpretation of Dance through Writing" is free of charge and open to the general public, and will include dance critics, CUNY professors and students, and professors from throughout the country who will give papers or workshops, and sit on panels. Keynote speakers include Senior Dance Critic from the *Village Voice* Deborah Jowitz, and Parisian dance theoretician Isabelle Ginot. The conference will also include lighting designers, dancers, dance photographers, choreographers, composers, poets, and painters.

The conference will be held at the Graduate School from 10-5 on both days. As well, dance performances are scheduled at 8pm on both evenings at the John Jay College Theatre at 899 10th Avenue.

Panel topics are literary, historical and crossdisciplinary: "Renaissance Body Expressivity," "Dancers' Personal Notational Systems," "Choreographic Languages," "Recursive Movement Language in Lyric Poetry," "Choral Dancing and Text in Greek Tragedy," "Dialogue, Text, and Dance," "Problems for Dance Collections in Academia," "16th Century European Dance: Problems of Textual Sources," "Meter, Rhythm, Prosody, Dance Steps," "Writing and Central



European Ballet in the Late 19th Century," "Sexuality in Dance Expression," "Polish Theatre Language in Dance," "Healing and Movement in H-IV Analysis," "Dance, Music, and Trance," "The Poetics of Physical Space," "Writing, Dancing, Hovering, Ascending, and "Bodily Inscription: Writing on Paper/Writing in Space."

For additional information, or if you would like to help with the conference, contact John Robinson Appels at (212) 2421664. **V**

Upcoming conference:

### Perspectives on Movement: Interpretation of Dance through Writing

Panels, papers, workshops

March 14 and 15, 1995

Graduate school 10am-5pm

Dance performances

March 14 and 15, 1995

John Jay College Theatre 8pm

Sponsored by the Colloquium Committee of the Department of Comparative Literature





DOCTORAL STUDENTS' COUNCIL  
BASEMENT MEZZANINE rmBM01

Officers  
*Student Affairs:*  
Andrew Long  
*Communications:*  
Robert Hollander  
*Finance:*  
Eric Marshall

Steering Committee  
Denise Hurd  
Nancy Lopez  
Tara McGann  
Dicky Paria  
Catherine Sears  
Wayne VanSertima

FREE  
PHOTO  
COPYING  
FOR GSUC STUDENTS  
DURING  
DSC OFFICE HOURS  
INTERSESSION OFFICE HOURS WILL BE POSTED

LEGAL REFERRALS  
\$200 REIMBURSEMENT  
(inquire during office hours)

DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS  
MON&TUE: 1-4:00  
THURS 10-1:00  
Ask for Peter

# HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday, December 15

in the Student Center

Basement Mezzanine

6:00-10:00

Food, Drink, Music,  
and Dancing

Sponsored by the DSC

**The Coalition Against Western Intervention in the  
Former Yugoslavia  
and  
The GSUC Marxist Working Group  
present**

## The CIA War in Bosnia

Important news about the growing U.S. military involvement  
in the Bosnian conflict.

What's the U.S. secret role in Bosnia?

Why is NATO divided?

What's the solution?

## Forum

Friday, December 16, 1994

6:30pm room 207

**Radmila Milentijevic**

Historian and Author on Yugoslavia, Professor Emeritus at  
CCNY

**Sean Gervasi**

Economist and Author, Professor at the Institute for  
International Political and Economic Problems, Belgrade

**Samori Marksman**

Program Director of WBAI, International Affairs Programing  
for Pacifica Radio

**Sara Flounders**

Coordinator, International Action Center

## HIV Positive / People with AIDS

The Advocate is interested in gathering information on your Graduate Center experiences. Confidentiality is guaranteed. Please leave your phone number with Tracy Morgan at  
(212) 642-2852

## WANTED: EDITOR

of the

Graduate Student Newspaper  
**THE ADVOCATE**

\$700 per issue

(one issue per month)

Duties include: hiring staff, soliciting articles, writing, copy editing.

Call 212-642-2852