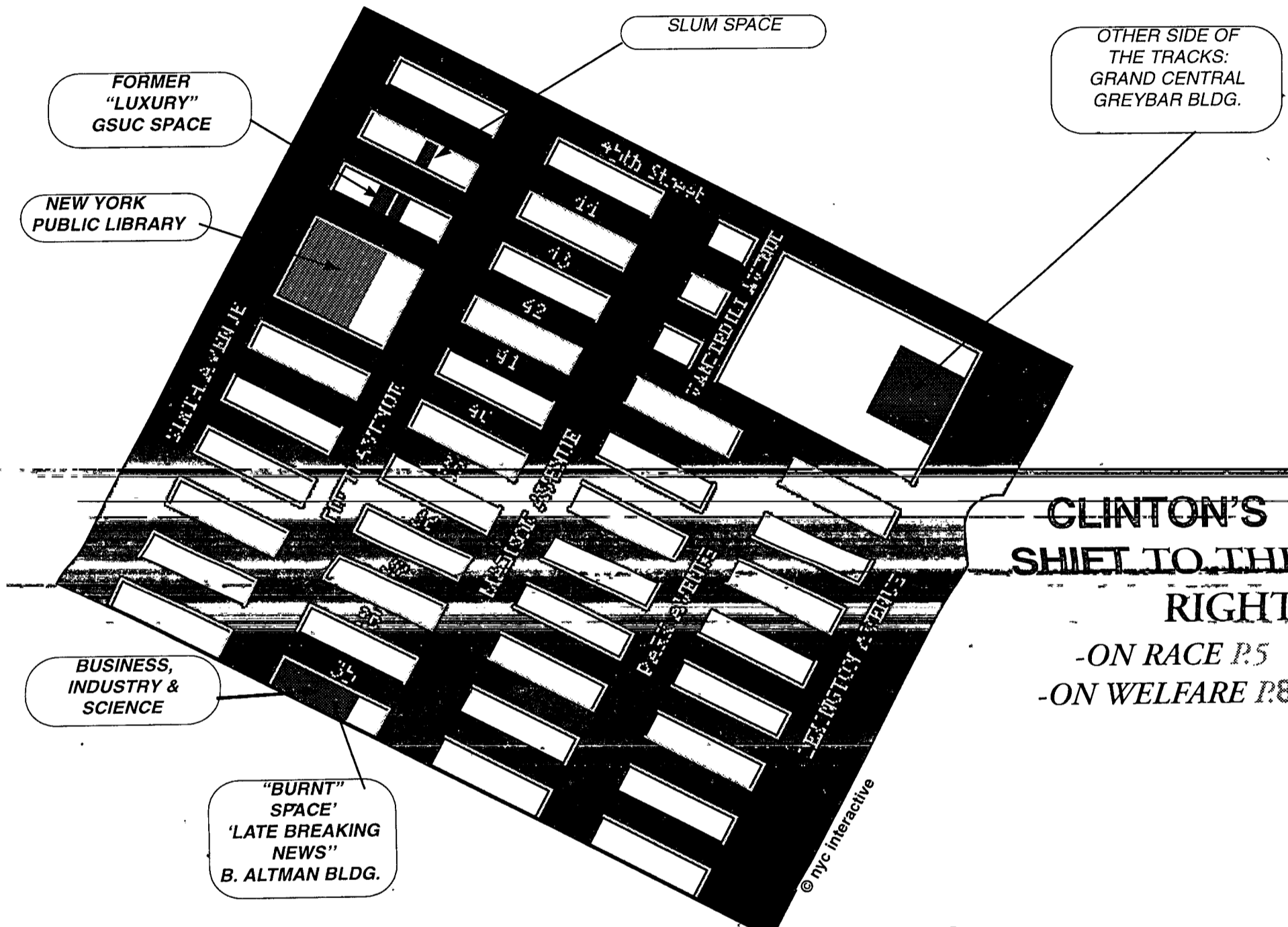


ADVOCATE

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK GRADUATE SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY CENTER

WINNER / 1996 CAMPUS ALTERNATIVE JOURNALISM AWARDS



**CLINTON'S
SHIFT TO THE
RIGHT**
-ON RACE P.5
-ON WELFARE P.8

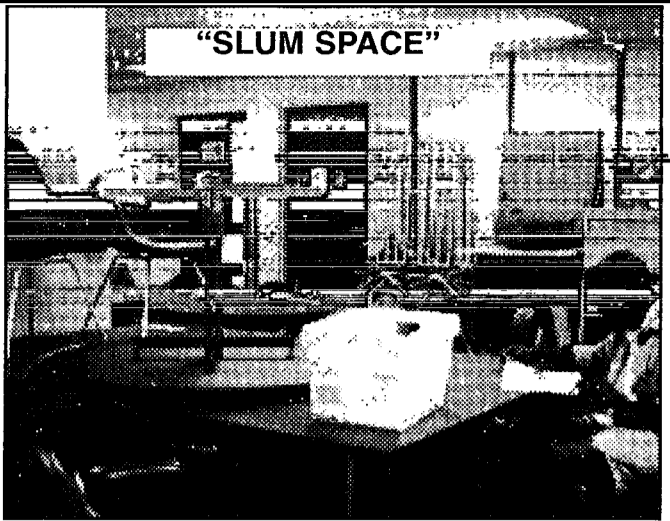
W E L C O M E T O D I S O R I E N T A T I O N

Welcome class of the year 2000 to disorientation! You along, with approximately 3500 students, now occupy our temporary "swing" space. If all goes as planned, in January 1998, the GSUC will move to the B Altman Building. In the interim students and faculty will be scattered to various sites in the mid-town area (see map), at a considerable loss to space and services. GSUC President Frances Degan Horowitz's rationale is the savings from expensive office rents earned from the new tenants: the SUNY School of Optometry. But her office of course does not bare the brunt of the move. The President has not had to give up her spacious executive suite overlooking Bryant Park and all of the executive offices moved across the street into suites with full on-line hook-up. The clubs and research programs, three months after the move, have yet to be put on line with the computer center and the new student space is a dump. The student

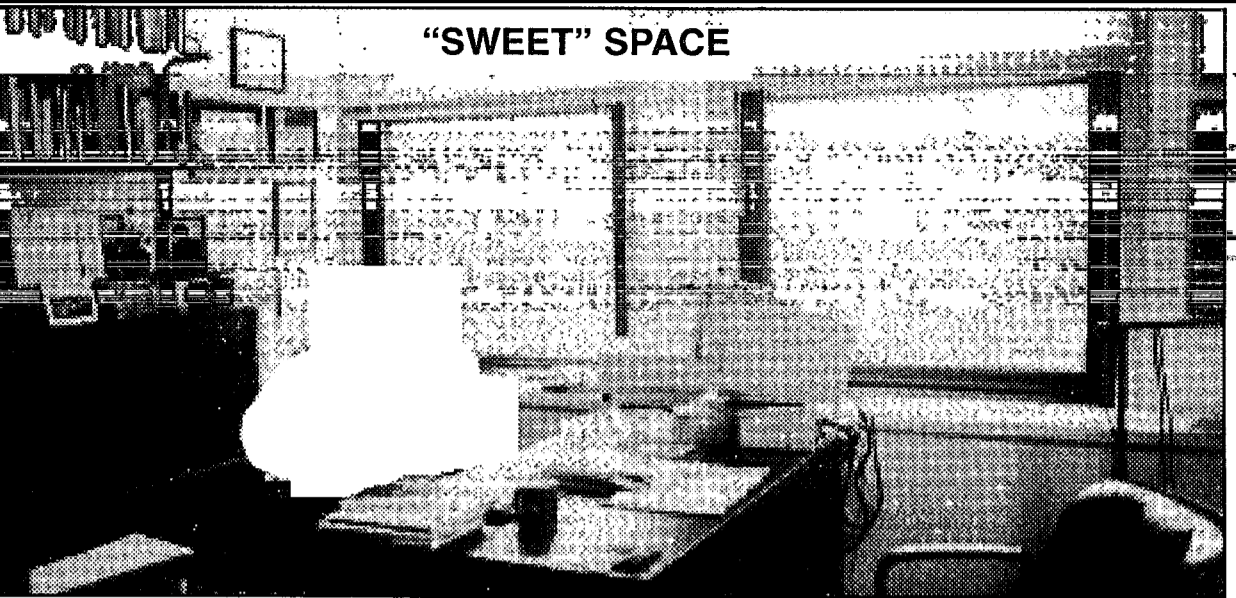
government and student organizations, on the bottom wrung of the swing, are squeezed into a 'slum' space with piles of office furniture left (in flight?) by previous tenants, as many as six clubs share one office, and there are none of the former frills—vending machines, micro wave and lunch room, drinking fountain, free photocopying, large club and conference rooms. Steve Levine, History student and member of the Democratic Socialists of America Club refers to new space as "a furniture ware house." He complains of its inaccessibility and relatively small space for clubs but does appreciate the windows. On the bright side, no sign of the mice or asbestos that we endured in the Basement Mezzanine and one member of the Doctoral Student Council actually prefers it here. He says "the space is the best thing that ever happened to students because we now have 24 hour access." Although, as another student put it "none but the brave and committed

would venture in here after dark." For those remaining in the old GSUC they will be exposed to potentially hazardous conditions while the building undergoes remodeling to make room for the SUNY School of Optometry. Of course no-one comes to CUNY expecting Ivy League facilities; most are here because of its reputation as a progressive institution of higher learning offering innovative instruction (or you were rejected from Columbia). But what many entering students may not have expected was to be impacted directly by the nation-wide downsizing crisis afflicting of state and city schools nation-wide. In the past year the GSUC has been hit with a \$1,000 tuition hike, staff reductions, threatened Department closures, shrinking resources, and financial aid cutbacks. Most of you will become adjunct lecturers in the CUNY system which means you do all the work of a tenured faculty at a tenth of their salary with no job security. In this light the GSUC "Swing" space move is part of a CUNY-wide retrenchment package

CONTINUED IN EDITORIAL P 2



"SLUM SPACE"



"SWEET" SPACE

Editorial continued from front page

Executive suite 18th fl. 25 west 43rd st: not all "swing" into same space.

So you may be paying \$1300 more in tuition than the entering class of '96, but your services will be considerably less.

Yet, despite all, CUNY Graduate Center, in the heart of New York City, is still one of the most politically and culturally dynamic places where you can get an education.

For cutting edge intellectual debate the school journal *Found Object*, seeks submissions for its bi-annual publication. The school paper *The Advocate* is always looking for contributors. Academics of national prominence such as Francis Fox Piven, Stanley Aronowitz, Bell Hooks, Michelle Wallace offer courses here every semester.

The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies is pleased to have the annual Gay and Lesbian national conference at the Graduate Center this year. The Black Student Alliance and Association of Latino and Latin American Students (AELLA) looks forward to new students joining their clubs. There are clubs for International students, Feminists, and Gay and Lesbian Students. The International Socialist Organization, which recently held a conference on the recent church burnings in the south, will offer future forums at the Graduate Center on important political issues and is always looking for students to join the club and get active. The Democratic Socialists of America Club is actively seeking students to help in the organization of its annual Socialist Scholars Conference. In its recent history the Doctoral Student's Council and other Graduate Student activists have been at the forefront of a student movement to stop retrenchment at CUNY.

CUNY has a proud history, its mission has been and hopefully still is to educate the poor and working class of New York City. It has turned out more Nobel Laureates and Black Scholars than any other institution and it still remains one of the finest institutions available for working class students to get an education.

So welcome to The Graduate Center, in spite of retrenchment CUNY prevails. But a word of advise to the nouveau: hope for the best, expect the worst, and maintain your sense of humor.

A D V O C A T E

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Letters must be 500 words or less and they must be signed and submitted on diskette. The opinions expressed in the *Graduate Student Advocate* are those of the individual writer and in no way reflect the opinions of the DSC.

**CLOSED
ADMISSIONS**

**TOUGHER ADMIS-
SIONS STANDARDS
AT QUEENS COL-
LEGE: FRESHMEN
ENROLLMENT
DROP 17%**

**Harvard.
Yale.
Columbia.
Queens.**
What's so funny?

By Mohamad Bazzi,
CUNY BA Student

Queens College has adopted the toughest admissions requirements in the entire CUNY system — a move that could lead to a 17 percent drop in freshmen enrollment next fall.

"We wanted to bring in an academically stronger freshman class that would not need remedial coursework," said Susan Reantillo, executive director of admissions at Queens College. "We have made a larger leap than most other senior colleges."

The current admissions standards at most of CUNY's 11 senior colleges require incoming freshmen to have at least an 80 academic average or a minimum score of 1,020 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test or a rank in the top third of a graduating class.

Reantillo said Queens College will focus more heavily on an applicant's grade-point average and academic preparation. Reantillo said the tougher standards will translate into a smaller freshman class next fall. She said the college would not be likely to accept applicants with lower than a B average, even if their SAT scores exceed the CUNY-wide minimum. Admission officers will no longer take class standing into consideration.

Queens College will focus more on an applicant's grade-point average and academic preparation

"Using SAT scores or class rankings as a sole criterion has brought in very weak students," said Reantillo, who proposed the tougher standards to the college's Academic Senate last fall. The senate, which is composed of faculty and student representatives, approved the changes in February.

"I think in a way people who get into Harvard, Yale, and Columbia, will most likely go there and not to Queens College" said Allan Van Capelle, senior at Queens College and former vice president of student government.

"QC really attracts the brightest of those students who can't afford to go to those institutions. I want to make sure that mission is protected."

The whole idea of CUNY is that it offers a better chance of getting into college... students will now have

to begin their careers at a Community college and its going to be harder for them to make it in to a 4 year college," said Scott wolf, senior QC.

Reantillo said the college has accepted 2,200 students this year, compared with 2,600 acceptances last June, a 15-percent decrease.

She projects that next fall's freshmen will be more academically prepared than the current class. She said 80 percent of the students registered last fall had an academic average of 80 or above; she expects 95 percent of next fall's freshmen to achieve that standard.

"I want to make sure that mission is protected"

CUNY spokeswoman Pam Bayless said she could not confirm that Queens College has adopted the toughest admission standards in the system. She said other four-year colleges have been emphasizing academic averages and preparation over the other two criteria in recent years.

None of the CUNY colleges requires applicants to take the SAT, but students with a lower than B average could win admission if they score above 1,020 on the standardized exam.

Queens College will no longer use that criteria, according to Reantillo. "We will not automatically admit anyone just on the basis of SAT scores," she said. "We're looking for a strong B student with a solid academic program."

Bayless said many CUNY colleges are paying special attention to the range of courses taken by applicants during high school. She said the university plans to implement a new admissions program by the year 2000 that will require all incoming freshmen to have completed a core curriculum in six academic disciplines.

The "College Preparatory Initiative" requires students to complete four years of English and Social Studies, three years of Math, two years of lab sciences, a foreign language and one year of fine arts.

"A number of our four-year colleges have revised their admission requirements to emphasize the CPI courses," Bayless said.