

# Advocate

<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/advocate>

## City College Reinstates CCNY Four, But Charges Still Pending

JAMES HOFF

On Wednesday March 9, City College public safety officers arrested three students who were part of a larger group of students and faculty peacefully protesting against the presence of Army National Guard recruiters on their campus. Nick Bergreen, Justino Rodriguez, and Hadas Thier, all full-time students at City College, were arrested and charged with, among other things, assaulting an officer, resisting arrest and disturbing the peace. Carol Lang, a program secretary in the theatre department, long-time CUNY activist, and thirty-year member of the City College staff, was later arrested and charged with assault after security officers showed up in her office the following Friday. According to Lang the officers refused to allow her to call her attorney and immediately escorted her to a waiting NYC police vehicle. Lang was suspended for an entire month without any conviction and without pay. While she was allowed back on campus on April 11, her second criminal hearing, which was scheduled for April 21, was postponed for negotiations with the DA. Thier, Rodriguez, and Bergreen have also recently been allowed



(L to R) Nick Bergreen, Hadas Thier, Justino Rodriguez

back on campus after having been suspended and barred from campus since their arrests. The three had pending criminal hearings scheduled for the 21 of April, which have also been postponed. The DA recently offered the three a reprimand with a verdict of not guilty.

The day after the arrests, City College president Gregory H. Williams, in a public

statement issued to the campus community, offered the unqualified assertion that, after the students were asked to leave the Great Hall, "The confrontation escalated and several of the demonstrators grabbed and hit the officer." (See side panel for more information on the President's statement). The President's office has refused to offer any further insight into who "the officer" in question was or any actual proof of injury, but security report forms for March 9, obtained by the Advocate report that it was a Lt. Doug White who was reportedly attacked. In addition to Lt

White, Sgt. Emmanuel Jalpaui was reportedly admitted to his private physician with "a pain in his right hand" after supposedly being attacked by Carol Lang.

Contrary to President Williams's statement, however, which has been widely criticized by journalists and activists, witnesses say it was the public safety officers that incited the violence and not the students. According to witnesses who were

**AELLA Photo Exhibit**

**The Cult of Institutions**

**Two Views of Pope John Paul II**

**Two Documentary Film Reviews**

**No Dental Insurance? Have Rotten Teeth Pulled!**

**Don't Hate Her, She's Showing Us**

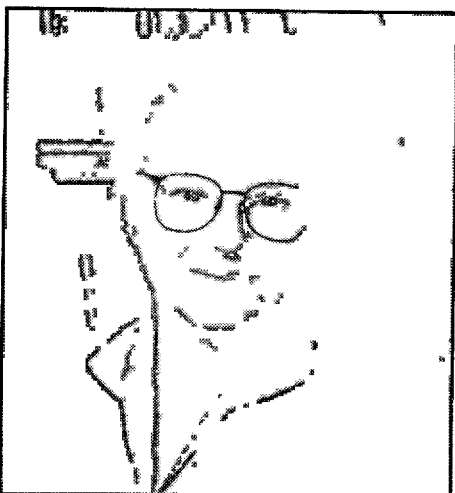
present that day, it began when a group of students, faculty, and staff, who had been organizing against military recruitment on campus, decided to protest at the campus job fair on March 9. Protestors were reportedly angry about the presence of military recruiters on a predominantly minority and working-class campus, where they felt students could be easily manipulated by promises of college tuition

see *CCNY Four*, page 7

## Frances Degen Horowitz to Step Down as GC President

Since 1991, Dr. Frances Degen Horowitz has tirelessly advocated for The Graduate Center and the students and faculty of this She also managed the GC's move from 42nd Street to 365 Fifth Avenue - no easy task, but one that President Horowitz handled with skill. At every opportunity she had, Dr. Horowitz spoke of the need for tuition remission for GC graduate students

who teach at CUNY campuses. Recently, she forged a valuable tie with Ronald Canestrari, the Chair of the Higher Education Committee of the New York State Assembly). Students were present on several occasions as she explained to Assemblyman Canestrari the inequitable situation in which GC students operate in comparison to SUNY graduate students and others around the country. These meetings laid the groundwork for greater recognition for the GC in the state legislature and may prove crucial in the years to come. Dr. Horowitz will also leave the GC's Foundation with a respectable \$28 million. In general, students will remember Frances Degen Horowitz as a mild-mannered, pleasant administrator whose office was always open to students. This sort of open-door, student-friendly presidency is one which students hope will continue with her successor. There will be a concert and reception in her honor on Thursday, May 19, 2005 (see page 6 for details).



## April PSC Contract Update

MARIYA GLUZMAN

Last month, CUNY management withdrew its 1.5 percent salary increase offer (with an extra 1 percent funded by productivity savings) and made an improved offer to the PSC. Though the new offer of 6.75 percent over four years is a step in the right direction, the union says it still falls short.

In March, the PSC made a counterproposal, seeking further improvements - both economic and otherwise. The breakdown of the economic demand is as follows:

- Year 1:** 1.25 percent across-the-board increase to salary rates applied annually to the PSC/CUNY Welfare Fund, effective November 1, 2002.
- Year 2:** 3.5 percent across-the-board increase, to salary rates effective November 1, 2003.
- Year 3:** 3.75 percent, compounded, across-the-board increase to salary rates effective November 1, 2004.
- Year 4:** 3 percent, compounded, across-the-board increase, effective November 1, 2003.

The union is also calling for a university-wide professional/office hour per each 3-hour course taught for all teaching adjuncts, sick leave for teaching and non-teaching adjuncts, and a seniority/hiring preference system for part-time instructional staff.

In a statement on April 15, Vice Chancellor Malone claimed that the union's counterproposal is unrealistic, stating that it does not follow any of the established economic patterns.

She wrote, "For more than 30 years, pattern bargaining has shaped negotiations in the New York State public sector. Historically, the economic pattern established at the University in bargaining with its unions has reflected the patterns that both the City and State established in their respective rounds of bargaining.... In the current round of bargaining, the University has offered a package that represents a hybrid of the State and City economic patterns, although it favors the State pattern in terms of duration and across-the-board salary improvements.

see *PSC Contract Update*, page 10

# Editorial

## Farewell Letter from the Editor

My two years as editor-in-chief here at *The Advocate* have been something of a wild ride. Alternately militant and hilarious, depressing and encouraging, radical and bureaucratic, the heading of a paper like this one is nothing if not a learning experience. However, the wide road ahead beckons the feet to move on and besides it's time to let a new voice take the helm here at the Graduate Center's in-house Ministry of Propaganda. As this will be my last issue as the editor around here, I'd like to offer a few thoughts on where we've been and where we might want to go. One basic recommendation I would make is that a portion of ad revenues—which currently go directly to the DSC's general fund—be folded back into developing *The Advocate*. This would help create a greater incentive for staff members to bring in ads, simultaneously setting the paper on a course of growth.

When I first came onto the paper staff as layout editor three years ago, the main goal was to rescue a paper that was barely functioning. The staff was exhausted, the design was not professional, and the student body had an attitude of complete disregard for the paper. Our first task was to reconceive, redesign, and rethink the paper from mastheads to back page. We wanted the paper to be a radical voice, but we also wanted to stay open to any viewpoint that GC students might have. We wanted the paper to reflect the intelligence and sophistication of a student body of PhD students, but we also wanted to offer a respite from the sometimes-stifling seriousness and scholarliness of graduate school life. And we wanted to bring in student writers, photographers, and activists and get them involved in the paper. At a time when the phrase "GC Community" was practically an oxymoron, we wanted to be a force working in that direction. In the effort to achieve this last goal, all three editors have been working overtime, trying to convince already-overworked students to send us articles, reflections, poems, collages, cartoons, ANYTHING to help display the intellectual vibrancy that exists here, and which we wanted to put on display.

The results have been exciting. We've been able to run original investigative pieces on important events, including protests, labor relations, CUNY politics, and international conflicts. We've seen several of our regular contributors go on to pursue careers in professional journalism. We've established regular features such as the student forum, which are aimed at making life at the GC a little more fun. Our Web site now features all articles that run in the paper (and some that don't), and includes complete archives going back more than a year. We can all be proud of these achievements.

**THE ADVOCATE**  
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*The Advocate* is the student paper of the CUNY Graduate Center and published six times a year. Publication is subsidized by the Doctoral Student Council.

*The Advocate* accepts contributions of articles, poetry, illustrations, photos and letters to the editor. Please query the above email address. Articles selected for publication will be subjected to editorial revision. Payment for articles ranges from \$30 to \$75, depending on the time commitment.

Shorter articles should be between 500 and 1,000 words; features may run up to 1,500 words. *The Advocate* is published six times each year; submission deadlines are the 25th of the month before publication.

And yet, the thought I want to leave you with is that *The Advocate* could still grow into something bigger and more significant. In recent months, people have been asking me why we don't send more copies to the other CUNY campuses, why we don't distribute a little more widely. To this I say, Let's hope the next staff makes it happen. Basically, *The Advocate* is almost fully supported by DSC funds and *The Advocate* spends many times more money paying staff and contributors than it does on printing costs. If we're going to spend all that money on talent, why not think of a way to get the message out a little louder?

The right direction for *The Advocate* would include some of these steps:

- \* Bring in a higher-profile guest writer every now and then, as our pay scales are good enough to do this
- \* Restructure the selling of ads so that a portion goes back to development of the paper. This might allow printing of more copies, printing the cover in color, or other improvements
- \* Another thing future staff members might want to consider is the hiring of an ads manager to handle the complex task of selling and keeping track of ads. In the past the other staff members have resisted this duty.

Because *The Advocate* is well-subsidized by the DSC, I'd like to see it become a little better known around CUNY and New York City in general. In 1996, for instance, *The Advocate* printed 4,000 copies—four times as many as today. In these times of reaction in the United States, our city can use all the informed radical voices it can get.

While I step down today, I hope to remain available as a grandpa/tech support/dart-board target-figure for future generations. Let's show 'em what analysis is all about!

James Trimarco  
 Editor-in-Chief

# Letters

*The Advocate's* articles about the food services at the Graduate Center have generated quite a bit of noise of late. Restaurant Associates has also requested a meeting in the fall to discuss some of these matters. With the RA contract up for renewal in 2006, we're excited about this. Here are some of the interesting items *The Advocate* has received:

## Sytrofoam Cups at 365 Express

April 19, 2005 9:02 a.m.  
 To: Charles Hunter, Food Director, Restaurant Associates  
 From: Abigail Schoneboom, Student, GC  
 Subject: Styrofoam use in GC Café

Dear Mr. Hunter,

I am the Graduate Center webmaster in the Publications department and I am also a Doctoral student here at The Graduate Center. As a staff member and student, I was very disappointed to see that there has been a switch to Styrofoam containers in the first floor café. Staff in the café told me that this is a permanent switch, not just a temporary measure. I have always respected Restaurant Associates' decision to use paper cups as I thought it reflected enlightened views regarding landfill and health effects of Styrofoam packaging. For example:

Health Effects: [www.ejnet.org/plastics/polystyrene/health.html](http://www.ejnet.org/plastics/polystyrene/health.html)  
 Ecological effects/Landfill: [www.epa.gov/grtlakes/seahome/housewaste/house/plastic.htm](http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/seahome/housewaste/house/plastic.htm)

I and other colleagues/members of the student body would like to know why this switch has been made. I will not be purchasing food from the cafeteria until a return to paper is implemented. I look forward to your response and hope that we can restore paper cups as soon as possible.

Regards,  
 Abigail Schoneboom

## Charles Hunter responds, with a summer reading list!

Fri 4/22/2005 4:06 PM

Dear Abigail Schoneboom,

Thank you for your interest in foam cups. Just like you, Restaurant Associates cares about the environment. Hear (sic) are the top reasons we made a deliberate and thoughtful decision to go with foam, rather than paper cups.

Life cycle analyses suggest that foam holds many other advantages over paper disposable. Professor Martin Hocking, an associate professor chemistry at the University of Victoria, British Columbia has performed a study of foam and paper disposables. The results of his study were summarized succinctly in a *Wall Street Journal* article in 1991: Hocking's analysis...finds that the environmental impact from the chemicals and energy used in making paper cups, as well as the emissions from incinerating or burying paper cups, exceeds the impact of making and disposing of cups made of plastic foam.

- The insulating properties of foam cups keep beverages, whether hot or cold, at their proper serving temperature. It's not necessary to "double cup" or use a wasteful extra wrap to hold a hot beverage comfortably in a foam cup.
- The brand of foam cup we use is not made with chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) or any other ozone-depleting chemical.
- Plastic-coated paper cups pollute more, and use more energy than foam cups in their manufacturing process. Using two resource-intensive plastic-coated paper cups to hold one serving of hot coffee more than doubles the environmental impact of that drink, compared with the same drink in a single foam cup.
- Plastic-coated paper cups don't biodegrade in a meaningful timeframe in either a land fill or if littered. And plastic-coated paper cups are rarely, if ever recycled.
- Polystyrene foam foodservice products comprise a fraction of 1%, by both weight and volume, of our country's municipal solid waste that is land filled.
- The manufacture of foam cups and containers uses six times less the amount of raw materials, requires 30% less energy, and produces 46% less air pollution, 42% less water pollution, and 75% less pounds of industrial waste than an equivalent sized paper container.
- Foam cups do not impart any odor or taste to the beverage. They will not get soggy. There is no wax coating to flake into the drink.
- In cola comparison tests, after 15 minutes of elapsed time, cola in foam still had more carbonation than cola in a paper cup had at the end of only two minutes.

## Correction

The review of the Museum of Sex in the March 2005 issue of *The Advocate* incorrectly identified the regular admission price as \$18; it is \$14.50 + tax. Additionally, the "Vamps and Vigin's, the History of the American Pinup" exhibit is open until June 12, 2005 - not March 30th, as we printed. MoSex also asked *The Advocate* to notify our readers that a \$5 discount coupon is available online at [www.museumofsex.com](http://www.museumofsex.com). *The Advocate* staff regrets the errors and begs not to be spanked for them.