

THE COMMUNICATOR

September 25, 2017

The Student Newspaper of Bronx Community College

Issue 1, Fall 2017

Two BCC Students Among Kaplan Scholarship Awardees Special to *The Communicator*

Bronx Community College is pleased to announce that two graduates have been awarded the prestigious Kaplan Scholarships. The success of Karen Alvarez Julian and Felix Patawah should serve as inspiration to other qualified Bronx Community College students to apply for a Kaplan award.

Historically, the Kaplan Educational Foundation (KEF) has sought to eradicate barriers to education for underserved students to open pathways for them to become leaders for the global American workforce and civil society. Their mission is to successful transfer “low-income Black, Latino and Native American students of exceptional academic merit from New York City’s community colleges to top four-year universities throughout the country, while preparing them to succeed academically and assume leadership roles in their professions and communities.” Kaplan Scholars have received a wide range of support, including financial and academic, transfer admissions advising, and leadership skills development.

Kaplan Scholars who graduated from CUNY community colleges this year are slated to attend four-year institutions including Stanford, Brown and Syracuse universities, and Wellesley College. Kaplan Scholars have been accepted at numerous selective and elite four-year and graduate programs across the country, and program alumni are employed in fields including education, nonprofits and scientific research, and at Fortune 500 companies. A

number of selective four-year colleges actively recruit and provide substantial aid to Kaplan Scholars, all of whom are drawn from CUNY.

“By providing financial and other support, the Kaplan Scholars program affords low-income students an invaluable opportunity to prepare for and excel in highly competitive colleges across the country,” said Chancellor James B. Milliken. “Congratulations to the newest cohort of Kaplan Scholars.”

The Kaplan Leadership Program, launched by the nonprofit foundation in 2006, provides scholarships, stipends, living expenses, intensive guidance and academic preparation during the Scholars’ community college years, continuing through their graduation from their four-year schools. Foundation Executive Director Nancy Sánchez said that Kaplan candidates, who are identified by their CUNY colleges and receive application assistance from them, are generally students of color who have at least a 3.5 GPA, demonstrate high academic potential and leadership abilities, and have financial need.

“Many of the schools really want these students,” she said. “Unfortunately, students don’t have the resources to apply.” She said she hoped the Transfer Initiative Program would expand in the coming years to accommodate a bigger group of students.



From left to right: Felix Patawah is on the left and Karen Alvarez Julian is fourth from the left.

The foundation’s website has noted that “The Kaplan Educational Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit public charity initially established and supported by a generous endowment funded by Kaplan, Inc. executives with the idea of helping a small group of students in a big way. Kaplan, Inc. and its employees continue to provide financial, in-kind and volunteer support to KEF and our Kaplan Scholars.”

BCC, NYU, and Salzburg Scholar Terrance Coffie Delivers Freshman Convocation Keynote

By Alixan Ducreay

Bronx Community College is so intentional in making newly-minted Broncos feel at home, entering freshmen are treated to a two-phase introduction to the college; and this year was no exception. Freshman orientation is a matter-of-fact, bare-bones introduction to the what and where of the college, while the official Freshman Convocation is a more celebratory affair that puts students in contact with the who of the college—including administration and student government leadership.

As Associate Dean for Student Development, Dean Manny Lopez put it, orientation welcomes the student while the official Freshman Convocation is to tell students, “We support you.” Dean Lopez said this year some 2,000 students have chosen Bronx Community College to begin their tertiary education journey. And, according to Student Life Specialist Yvonne Erazo, while orientation gets students familiar with the college, Freshman Convocation serves to “welcome and motivate” entering Broncos.

And supported and motivated they were. This year’s Freshman Convocation featured BCC alumnus and NYU graduate, Terrance Coffie, whose life story serves as a powerful motivation to Broncos, many for whom college is their only way out of hopelessness, low-expectations, and marginalization. As Erazo told *The Communicator*, this year she wanted students to hear not just from any motivational speaker with whom they cannot relate, but from someone whose “story is theirs.”

Coffie, whose story has been highlighted on television and in *The New York Times*, and several other media outlets, is a former 6-time felon who entered college at 39 armed with a GED and hunger and thirst to turn around a life that had been going nowhere for too long. Sitting



with Coffie before the event began, he told this writer he wanted his story to help students understand “the value of who they are,” and that even if there are forces that seek to “devalue who they may be in the current climate,” they must understand the “big picture, [which is] they are members of this society.” According to the BCC alumnus and twice-selected NYU student of the year, students should challenge the assumptions that the society makes about them because of where they live, what language they speak, and their ethnicity. Overcoming low expectations, “doesn’t come with wishful thinking...[but with] determined action” Coffie said. Students will need to “make effort and focus to understand their purpose.”

Coffie told his felon-to-scholar story with passion and authenticity, while avoiding two pitfalls that bedevil motivational speakers with rags-to-riches, or adversity-to-opportunity stories. He didn’t regale students with accounts of his past life (which he summarized as “another chapter to Terrance Coffie”), neither did he revel in his new status as a self-made super achiever. From the beginning, he said his talk would not be about himself, but focus on the students. And he kept that promise, telling students, “the story that matters today is not mine—it’s yours.” Still, his own story of how education helped him escape the limitations of being a “thirty-nine-year-old body, homeless, six-time felon,” served as a powerful subtext to his elevating speech which was well received by the 300 persons gathers at Gould Memorial auditorium during club hours, Thursday August 31.

Other addresses came from the president of the college, Dr. Thomas Isekenegebe, and Student Government Association president, Mary Martinez. President Isekenegebe officially welcomed the entering students and told them



From left to right: Mr. Clifford Marshall, Mr. Terrance Coffie, and SGA Senator Bright Igbigin.
Photo courtesy of the Student Government Association.

they were embarking on a long process, because “education is a lifelong process.”

Student government president, Mary Martinez, welcomed entering students to “your second home.” To the featured speaker, she said, “Welcome back home.” Introducing herself in both English and Spanish, Martinez, with her characteristic authenticity and personability, had four suggestions for the students, whom she addressed as “my people.” Drawing on her own experience as student leader, tutor, and Phi Theta Kapa scholar, Martinez called on students to ask questions, excel in their classes, get involved, and be their best selves.

Student Andre Cheeks also held to the theme of motivation and support with an energetic musical performance titled, “Anything is Possible.”

If Freshman Convocation is any indication, the class of 2019 is well poised, as Student Life Specialist Yvonne Erazo predicted, to be “happy and successful, ...confident, knowledgeable, and strong.”

Sources and further reading
“The Journey.” <http://www.thejourney.info/about-terrance-coffie.html>.

“The Journey: Educate Don’t Incarcerate.” <https://www.educatedontincarcerate.com/terrance-coffie>



2017-2018 Student Government Association

Executive Board Senators



Mary Martinez-Nuñez
President
mary.martinez-nunez@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Hussein Abdul
Vice President
hussein.abdul@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Dapo Ibrahim
Treasurer
dapo.ibrahim@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Elda Polanco Tejada
Secretary
elda.polanco-tejada@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Wali Ullah
Legal Legislator
wali.ullah@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



2017-2018 Student Government Association

Senators



Malcolm Sowah
Senator
malcolm.sowah@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Michael Akingbade
Senator
michael.akingbade@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Eno Darkwa
Senator
eno.darkwa@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Clertide Dorleans
Senator
clertide.dorleans01@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



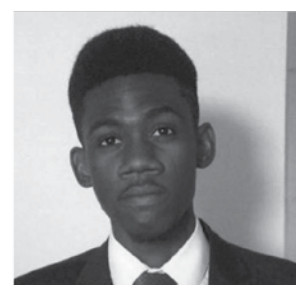
Eroca Arcelay
Senator
erica.arcelay@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Mariama Bah
Senator
mariama.bah05@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Bright Igbiginun
Senator
bright.igbinigun@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Philip Bredu
Senator
philip.bredu@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Juliet Jonadu Arning
Senator
juliet.konadu@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Daouda Diop
Senator
daouda.diop@stu.bcc.cuny.edu



Welcome to Your Second Home and to Your Extended Bronx Community College Family

Bienvenidos a su segunda casa y a nuestra gran familia de Bronx Community College

By Mary Martinez-Nuñez

My name is Mary Martinez, Student Government Association President. I would like to share with you four suggestions that if followed, I believe can support your success at Bronx Community College.

I am, like you, a proud student here at BCC. This fall I'm starting my second year as a C=chemistry major. I am also an ASAP math tutor and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Like you, not long ago, I was a freshman at BCC, and I understand the feelings many of you may have already experienced during your first week of classes. Maybe you are anxious, nervous, excited, or just calm. Those feelings are expected. Fortunately, I developed an important skill-- I asked questions wherever I went on campus. Therefore, I was able to learn the BCC student life and the various opportunities available on campus. So that's my first advice to you: "ASK QUESTIONS." The second advice is direct: "EXCEL IN YOUR CLASSES." We expect you all to graduate from BCC in two to three years from today. We have tutors, success coaches, freshman seminars, ASAP, MEN (the Male Empowerment Network), College Discovery, support services, and excellent faculty to support

you along the way. Your job here is not only to pass your classes but to excel in your classes.

There are many opportunities you can take advantage of that enhance your academic experience in BCC. You can join clubs and honor societies that are related to your major and hobbies, or sport teams that interest you. Another opportunity for students at BCC is to join the Student Government Association. We represent each one of you. Our job is to make sure your voices are being heard and your concerns are being addressed. With this said my third advice is to "GET INVOLVED." My last and fourth advice is "BE YOUR BEST SELF" everywhere you go, not only on campus.

Remember there's always someone watching, you are officially a BRONCO and whatever you do will be taken as a reflection of us. Be authentic and with that authenticity include respect, humbleness and desire to learn. It is your duty to build a strong foundation for your future.

And like author, Nora Roberts said "If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it, If you don't ask the answer is always no and If you don't step forward you're always going to stay in the same place!

Again, welcome to BCC!

Phi Theta Kappa Announces JKCF Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Application Now Open



The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation seeks outstanding community college students with financial need for its Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. The JKCF Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship makes it possible for the nation's top community college students to complete their bachelor's degrees by transferring to a selective four-year college or university.

If you are a student who stands out for your exceptional academic abilities and achievements, persistence, leadership, and desire to help others, please visit the JKCF website to learn more.

The application deadline is October 24, 2017.

Our Mission

The mission of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize academic achievement of college students and to provide opportunities for them to grow as scholars and leaders.

Contact Us

1625 Eastover Drive, Jackson, MS 39211

1.601.987.5741

SAVE THE DATE!



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES / BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Art & Music Fall Concert Series

September 28, 2017 at 12pm

Roscoe C. Brown Playhouse
Ali Bello and The Sweet Wire Band
In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month

October 26, 2017 at 12pm

Gould Memorial Library Auditorium
Palisades Virtuosi

November 30, 2017 at 12pm

Gould Memorial Library Auditorium
Oliver Markson, pianist

The BCC Concert Series is funded by the BCC Inc. Music and Art Consortium, the Office of Academic and Student Success and the Art and Music Department of Bronx Community College.

Celebrating International Education Week November 13-17, 2017

Dreamers/DACA Panel Discussion
Thursday, November 16th

12-1.30 PM

Location: to be announced

Where I Come From
Tuesday, November 14th

12-1.30 PM

Location: to be announced

These programs are curated by Mr. Eugene Adams, Director, Collaborative Education, and Co-director, Science and Technology Entry Program; Ms. L. Vicki Cedeno, Academic Programs Specialist, Office of Academic Affairs; and Professor Andrew Rowan, Department of English.

Society of Plastics Engineers Spotlights BCC Student - ROBERT JOSMAN

Reprinted with permission from *Plastics Engineering* / July-August 2017
www.plasticsengineering.org

My name is Robert C. Josman and as a student at the City University of New York, I'm a double major in Nuclear Medicine and History. I have received an Honors History degree, but have been a bit delayed completing my Nuclear Medicine degree, as I have been taking care of my elderly parents. My father passed away about two years ago and my 84-year-old mother is critically ill. Although it has been a hard road with my father passing and now my mother, it has had a silver lining, though it sounds odd to put it that way. It's as though they have done one last bit of parental guidance by giving me the time to be exposed to educational/career opportunities that I would not have been able to pursue had my educational timeline not been extended due to their illness.

Although my major is Nuclear Medicine, I have been drawn into the medical uses of plastics over the past couple of years. Polymers in medicine are no longer just limited to the physical machines. Corn based polymers are used in medicine, on a nanoscale, for the delivery of virus mimicking particles, and the targeted delivery, on a cellular basis, of life saving drugs and treatments like chemotherapy. Once the body is fooled into creating antibodies to the "virus" or the chemotherapy is delivered, the body can breakdown the corn based polymer through its normal processes. Although I started with an interest in medicine, my interactions with SPE have helped me tailor my interest into using polymers on the nanoscale to enhance surgical processes. By using polymers in this way, we will have better patient outcomes as well as being able to lower the ever-increasing cost of care across the medical spectrum.

As part of my medical program I had the great luck to take several classes with Dr. Vicki Flaris, a full Professor in the Chemistry department. Professor Flaris does research on campus and I quickly joined her research group and have subsequently done my own research into the antimicrobial

properties of ion infused polymers and the antimicrobial effects of medium-chain triglycerides in polymers. I have presented both research topics at ANTECs. Dr. Flaris has become not just a professor and mentor, but also a friend.

The Society's annual ANTEC conference is an immense help for students, both undergraduate and graduate. It gives the students a venue to present their research at a professional conference and interact with the various parts of the polymer industry. The educational and career opportunities that the conference provides are extensive. I plan to become more active in the SPE "NexGen" group this coming year and encourage other students and professionals to do so as well. I am also an officer for the SPE NY Section.

We have all heard about the problems with plastics, but I see the industry trying to be proactive. For example, you can now buy garbage bags made from a biodegradable corn based polymer. When one thinks of the plastic industry one must consider all the products we use directly and indirectly that allow us to function as individuals and as a society. These products have allowed us to greatly enhance the quality and capabilities of our daily lives.

As the President of the college's SPE chapter I have been aggressive about increasing our profile on campus. The chapter was established in 2005 and has been growing in size and scope. The administration and the college community have been pleased with our efforts on behalf of our students as well as the college itself. We regularly



Robert Josman

are asked to be representatives of the college, this year we represented the college at a legislative conference in Albany, as well as several other conferences and events. I have received a highly competitive City University of New York Research Fellowship to continue my plastics research on campus. The college presented me with this year's Emerging Leadership award, as President of our SPE chapter, "in recognition of your valuable contributions to the social, cultural and academic life at the college". They also honored the entire chapter with a special award for its work on behalf of the students.

As the President of the SPE chapter I realize that it is important to keep bringing in new students. As I was mentored when I joined SPE, I have done that with the newer students, encouraging them to join our research group. Having attended several ANTECs, I truly feel that as many students as possible should be able to have the opportunities I have had through my research. Therefore, this year I paid my entire cost to go to ANTEC in Anaheim, as well as seven registrations, to allow us to take an additional two students from the team for a total of seven.

As President of the college's SPE chapter I started doing informational demonstrations of what SPE is all about on campus. It's with a profound sense of pride when the students join our team and go from asking, "how do you do that?" to "I can do that", to "I have achieved my dream". Thank you SPE for all the wonderful opportunities you have provided me to grow.



Bronx Community College Accounting Majors Attend AICPA Leadership Workshop Houston, Texas

By Melody Atumah and Tawfic Siiba

Bronx Community College Accounting Majors; Tawfic Siiba, Melody Atumah and Marlene Gomez were selected to represent the college at the 2017 AICPA Accounting Leadership Workshop which was held from May 17th through May 19th at Houston, Texas. Accounting Scholars Leadership Workshop "ASLW" is an annual, all-expenses paid program, open to ethnic minorities who demonstrate a strong desire to pass the CPA exam and an interest in pursuing a career in Accounting.

This was the 23rd year that the AICPA has held the ASLW Program, which emphasizes the variety of opportunities that the CPA profession provides and how to make a positive difference through leadership development. Students were selected to represent a diverse range of backgrounds from colleges and universities across the United States and Puerto Rico. Three weeks before the start of the program, all attendees received a book titled "Emotional Intelligence" by Travis Bradberry and Jean Greaves. All attendees were to read the book and complete a couple of assignments before the start of the workshop. The assignments were a great tool to help students be aware of not only their strengths and weaknesses, but also be mindful about time-management strategies.

The workshop started on May 17th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The first event on the agenda was for all participants to get a headshot photo to update their LinkedIn profile picture. A networking session followed so participants could get to know one another.

During the workshop, we had the privilege to listen to distinguished professionals in the field of Accounting. On the first day, the chairman of AICPA Kimberly N. Ellison-Taylor, CPA, CGMA spoke to us about "winning with your "A" game". She said we should assess every reason why and why not a business would want to hire us. She talked about knowledge, attitude, accountability, and skills acquisition required to win in a competitive world.

Also on the first day, with our various color codes,

which was attached to our nametags, we had to attend different sessions. First session was from Kemberley Washington, CPA, who talked about "Smart Money Decision." The next session was from Tatia Granger, PHD, who spoke on the topic "from classmate to colleagues." At the end of the day we had a lovely three-course dinner where we thought we were going to be just eating but instead we had a presentation on eating etiquette for a business dinner, which was very interesting and useful for our professional careers.

The second day started with a panel discussion from various minority professional chapters. We had representative from NABA: National Association of Black Accountants, ALPFA: Association of Latino Professionals for America and Ascend: Pan-Asian Leaders

After the panel discussion, we broke into groups based on our nametag color codes. We received a presentation from Anthony Fletcher, who talked about the culture of business and the most critical things to do when pursuing your dream job. After that informative presentation, we had a talk about successful networking from Jonna Martins. She discussed the power of networking and how to network effectively. The last presentation was from Patrick Connally who spoke about personal branding.

We had a presentation during lunch from Billy Williams "Boss". He is a partner at KPMG, which is one of the top four accounting firms in the world; He spoke about building your own story, and the road that took him from

being a football athlete in college to becoming a partner at KPMG.

To conclude the three-day workshop, the organizers invited Mr. John O'Leary, a motivational speaker who survived a near death fire accident as a child. He stated that the only thing that can stop us from achieving our goal are the limits we set for ourselves. Which mean we can succeed if we believe in ourselves, and that we should always remember that one person who inspired us to be our best. With that, we will be able to keep pushing through the storm.

Sincere thanks to our professors Howard Clampman, Paul Jajairam, and Clarence Perkins for their encouragement and contributions.

NYPIRG News

Reported by Tammie David
tdavid@nypirg.org; 718-289-5409



As interest and excitement build for the upcoming citywide elections, the Bronx Community College chapter of the New York Public Interest Research Group kicked off a seven-week campaign to register 1000 students to vote on their campus and ensure that student's voices are heard this November.

Their efforts are part of NYPIRG's campaign to register thousands of college students to vote across New York State. "Eighteen to twenty-four year olds are the lowest percentage of registered voters in this country," said NYPIRG Project Coordinator Tammie David. "We are working to change that."

We have been making presentations to classes and student organizations about how to register and the importance of voting. Students were also given information about their voting rights and will be signing up to help assist voters on Election Day.

"Regardless of who's on the ballot, it should remain clear that your vote does count. Some politicians are corrupt? Sure. The political process can be frustrating? Sure. But that only gets worse when we don't involve ourselves in the political process. When we don't get involved and know what our 'representatives' are doing, we cannot hold them accountable. Above all the political issues on the national

front such as healthcare, college affordability and climate change, political illiteracy is our biggest challenge as a lack of knowledge of policies and events that impact the issues we care about taints democracy for years to come," said Wali Ullah, BCC student & NYPIRG Board of Directors member.

"Registering voters is vital because it liberates citizens to take action in a firm and stable way. It makes it clear to our government that we will hold our politicians accountable for making important decisions that impact everyone in very concrete ways. We as young voters have a substantial amount of power to improve the state of our and other countries. That power is in voicing our concerns, researching issues and prominent figures, and gathering as communities to go out and vote. I can tell voting is an important power because discriminatory national and statewide policies have historically disenfranchised minorities, and continues to do so today. They don't want us voting...and we have to

ask ourselves why", said Santana Alvarado, BCC student & NYPIRG Board of Directors member.

NYPIRG will be leading efforts across the state to register thousands of new voters for the November general election. Volunteers will be trained and get to participate in this non-partisan effort. Efforts will include community and campus efforts including for National Voter Registration Day on September 26th. Interested students can contact

Throughout the next five weeks, the BCC NYPIRG chapter will set up tables, hang posters, make classroom presentations and speak one-on-one to students about this issue. Students can also go the NYPIRG office to register to vote or ask questions. NYPIRG's voter registration efforts are strictly non-partisan. The deadline to register for the November Election and to enroll or change party enrollment for future primary elections is Friday, October 13th.

CAMPUS NEWS

CUNY EDGE PRESENTS
The Third Academic and Professional DEVELOPMENT FAIR
Thursday, October 5, 2017
Colston Hall [CO], Lower Level | 12:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Opportunity knocks at this exciting afternoon of information and networking! Learn about the many resources available to BCC students interested in:

- Affordable Housing
- College and University Transfer
- Employment and Internship
- Professional Development
- Volunteer Work
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)
- Leadership and Extra-curricular Activities

Facilitated by CUNY EDGE
In collaboration with the MEN: Male Empowerment Network

For more information, contact: Alex Luna, Marketing Associate
Phone: 718.289.5100 ext. 5045 | Fax: 718.289.6487 | alex.luna@ccny.edu

Bronx Community College - CUNY EDGE Program
Division of Academic and Student Success
Barbara Martin, Project Director | CUNY EDGE | Loew Hall [LJ], Room 105-A
2155 University Avenue | Bronx, NY 10453 | Phone: 718.289.5849 | Fax: 718.289.6487

美德 | Dr. K. York & Noelle Chynn
CUNY Ethics and Morality Essay Contest: Virtue

Submission Deadline
Monday, October 9, 2017

Open to all CUNY undergraduate and graduate students!

Prizes

- Best Essay (\$1,000)
- First Runner-up (\$300)
- Second Runner-up (\$200)

The goal of the Chynn CUNY Ethics and Morality Essay Contest is to stimulate college students to ponder the topic of morality, and to broadcast the best essays, in an attempt to promote the teaching of morality in American education.

In today's modern society, virtues have slowly begun to lose their importance, or oft forgotten, in the busy daily goings of people's lives. By recognizing the importance of virtues in our lives, it will lead to better communication, understanding, and acceptance between us and our fellow man.

Select one Virtue to discuss in detail.

Seven Virtues

- Prudence/Wisdom
- Justice
- Fortitude/Courage
- Temperance/Self-control
- Faith
- Hope
- Charity

Five Constant Virtues

- Ren (Benevolence, Love)
- Yi (Righteousness)
- Li (Propriety, Loyalty, Filial Piety, Chastity, Respect)
- Zhi (Wisdom)
- Xin (Integrity, Honesty, Fidelity)

Please incorporate all of the following points in your essay:

- Tell us about your own experience in practicing the Virtue you have chosen to write about and what personal reward or satisfaction have you gained from it.
- Why did you think the Virtue that you chose was an important one to practice in your life?
- What obstacles did you encounter in practicing this particular Virtue and how did you, or do you, still strive to overcome the difficulties?

Full rules and application available online.

AAARI CUNY
www.aaari.info
Phone: 212-859-0182 / 0187
Email: info@aaari.info
Facebook: aaaricuny
Twitter: aaaricuny

Join a Club at
Bronx Community College!

The Communicator Editorial Policy and Disclaimer

The Communicator urges students to submit articles and editorials to the newspaper. We also encourage students to respond to the articles and editorials found in this newspaper.

The views expressed in by-lined articles and in published letters are solely those of the writer, and they do not necessarily represent the view of The Communicator.

We reserve the right to edit any article or letter submitted due to space considerations. No article or letter will be published unless the author submits his or her name, email address, and telephone number.

Please submit all articles and letters to the following email address: andrew.rowan@bcc.cuny.edu.

NOTES:

JPEGs must be submitted as email attachments and should not be embedded in the Word copy.

If you are interested in having an article, editorial, letter or announcement included in the November issue of The Communicator, it must be received no later than Friday, November 10th.

Please note that The Communicator reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission due to space considerations or if the submission is deemed inappropriate because of profane language, verification problems, and/or slander.

Join The Communicator Staff

The Communicator is seeking interested and committed editorial staff members. We need news (campus events, including sports, club, and cultural events), editorial columnists, creative writers (poems, short stories, and memoirs), photographers, and proofreaders as well as an office manager (someone who is eligible for work study would be perfect).

Senior colleges, as well as scholarship sources, love to see campus involvement such as working for the college newspaper on your applications.

Please contact Professor Andrew Rowan if you are interested: andrew.rowan@bcc.cuny.edu.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Alixan Ducreay, *Editor-in-Chief*

Demier Hassell

Robert Josman

Elizabeth Lopez

Andrew Rowan, *Faculty Advisor*

CUNY-BC Study in China

Winter 2018 (Jan 1- 23) to Five Renowned Chinese Cities:
Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing, Suzhou & Shanghai

留學中國



Students choose 1-2 courses of study from the following:

1. ARTD 1035 – Development of the Silk Road
2. ARTD 3108 – Art of Ancient China
3. BUSN 3175 – Asian Business
4. CHIN1010, 1020, 1030 (Levels 1-3) & CHIN 2024 Advanced Chinese Skills
5. CHIN 2110 – Classical Culture of China
6. HIST 3005 – The Shaping of the Modern World
7. HIST 3534 – Revolutionary China
8. PHIL 3722 – Asian Philosophy
9. SPEC 1619 – Intercultural Communication
10. SPEC 2623 – Business & Professional Communication
11. TVRA 3871 – Elements of TV Field Production
12. SPEC 7296X – Special Topic Course for Graduate Students

Program Fee: only \$3,350

Including round-trip international tickets, hotels & meals, etc.

CUNY tuition not included

Some scholarships & Financial Aid available for eligible students

Application Deadline: Oct 24, 2017 (first come first served)

- All courses are taught by Brooklyn College faculty for CUNY credit
- Travel by group to 5 famous Chinese cities: *Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing, Suzhou & Shanghai*
- Lectures and academic discussions at sites throughout the program in all cities
- Visit historical & cultural sites (Tiananmen Square, Great Wall, Forbidden City, Terra Cotta Warriors, Buddhist Temples, Synagogues & Mosques, Silk Factory, Shanghai Bund Financial Center, etc.)
- Experience Chinese culture, interact with local people & immerse yourself in everyday Chinese life
- Side trips to Hong Kong, etc.

Program Website: depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc-china

(Program is open to all graduate and undergraduate students across the U.S. inside & outside CUNY)

Questions?

E-mail Prof. Lu at CUNYinChina@brooklyn.cuny.edu; Tel: 718-951-5225

JOIN A CLUB AT BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- There are more than 35 clubs and organizations at the College connect students to BCC's academic, cultural, and social campus life.
- Students can join an existing club or start a new club with other students based on similar interests.
- A club consists of at least 10 students and a faculty advisor. Clubs are entitled to an annual budget of \$1000, which is derived from student activity funds.
- A College-wide organization consists of at least 15 students and a faculty advisor. A College-wide organization focuses on providing some type of service to the campus community. College-wide organizations are entitled to an annual budget of \$2,000, which is derived from student activity funds.

The benefits of club membership include:

- Opportunities to explore many academic and social programs
- Making lifelong friendships
- Numerous leadership opportunities
- Professional and social networking
- School spirit

ART CLUB/ SOCIETY FOR ARTIST - Gather as artists to support and help broaden student skills with artistic projects. (Advisor: Mary Jo Ben-Nun, maryjo.ben-nun@bcc.cuny.edu)

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY - To support scientific inquiry in the field of chemistry. (Advisor: Vicki Flaris, Vicki.flaris@bcc.cuny.edu)

BCC BUSINESS CLUB - To provide a network and information for students across the business and information systems' curriculum. (Advisor: Harini Mittal, Harini.mittal@bcc.cuny.edu)

BCC MEDIA AND DIGITAL FILM CLUB - Students with a passion for the movies can share their love of film and get a chance to participate as paid production assistants and major pictures and television shows filmed on campus. MTFs members also produce their own short films and video for the annual BCC Film and Video Festival and enter them into national and international film festivals. (Advisor: Jeffery Wisotsky, Jeffery.wisotsky@bcc.cuny.edu)

C.A.M.E.O. - A creative group of students whose goal it is to share their appreciation for Japanese art and host annual video game tournaments. (Advisor: Mary Jo Ben-Nun, maryjo.ben-nun@bcc.cuny.edu)

CHI ALPHA EPSILON HONOR SOCIETY (XAE) - Recognizes students who excel academically, promote academic excellence in others, and to help those who genuinely aspire to the same goal. (Advisor: Cassandra Bellabe- Rosenberg, Cassandra.bellabe@bcc.cuny.edu)

THE COMMUNICATOR - Bronx Community College student newspaper. To inform, update, educate and inspire the College community. (Advisor: Andrew Roman, Andrew.roman@bcc.cuny.edu)

CREATIVE WRITING CLUB/THESIS - To create and nurture a vibrant community of writers, reflecting the cultural, social, and political diversity of BCC and publish the literary magazine (Thesis). (Advisor: Melissa Coss, Melissa.coss@bcc.cuny.edu)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLUB - A forum of support for students entering the vibrant field of Criminal Justice. (Advisor: Tamar Montuma, Tamar.montuma@bcc.cuny.edu)

DANCE WORKSHOP - To learn and perform various dances for the College and local community. (Advisor: Kelvin Cooper, Kelvin.copper@bcc.cuny.edu)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLUB - To provide a network and information for students interested in entrepreneurship. (Advisor: Harini Mittal, Harini.mittal@bcc.cuny.edu)

FOOD AND GARDEN CLUB - To provide an understanding of self-sufficiency in the urban environment, provide experience in gardening and create a sustainable food system. (Advisor: Charmaine Aleong, Charmaine.aleong@bcc.cuny.edu)

FUTURE LEADERS OF S.T.E.M.M. - To recruit and retain students pursuing careers in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine. (Advisor: Karen Registe, Karen.registe@bcc.cuny.edu)

MATH AND COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB - Students will be given opportunities to investigate critical thinking skills, compete, take on leadership roles and improve mathematical & problem solving skills. (Advisor: Evangelia Antonakos, Evangelia.antonakos@bcc.cuny.edu)

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN (MLT) CLUB - To ensure that people who have a passion for Medical Laboratory Science can obtain the information needed to progress academically and professionally. (Advisor: Diane Price, Diane.price@bcc.cuny.edu)

MUSIC PRODUCTION CLUB - Provide knowledge and practical applications in music production. (Advisor: Clifford L. Marshall, Clifford.marshall@bcc.cuny.edu)

MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION - To provide information and education about Islamic culture to non-Muslim students and people of other cultures and to develop understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims. (Advisor: Hiseine Faradj, Hiseine.faradj@bcc.cuny.edu)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK ACCOUNTANTS (NABA) - Developing, encouraging and serving as a resource for greater participation by African Americans and minorities in the accountant profession. (Advisor: Clarence Perkins, Clarence.perkins@bcc.cuny.edu)

NURSING CLUB - To educate BCC about health related issues and give back to the community through volunteerism. (Advisor: Virgena Bernard, Virgena.bernard@bcc.cuny.edu)

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE CLUB - To increase peace consciousness in its members and among the campus community. (Advisor: David Blot, David.blot@bcc.cuny.edu)

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY - To recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development. (Advisor: Tiffany Dubon, Tiffany.dubon@bcc.cuny.edu)

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB - To educate BCC students of the importance of politics and to motivate them to be active citizens. (Advisor: Alex Wolf, Alexander.wolf@bcc.cuny.edu)

RAINBOW ALLIANCE - Provides resources and extracurricular activities that address the needs of LGBTQ students as well as the greater campus community. (Advisor: Edwin Roman, Edwin.roman@bcc.cuny.edu)

SEEKERS CHRISTIAN CLUB - To share the benefits and teachings of the gospel of Christ. (Advisor: Timothy Sedore, Timory.sedore@bcc.cuny.edu)

SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY - To promote an understanding of human cultural linguistics and biological diversity from prehistoric and present. (Advisor: Stefan Bosworth, Stefan.bosworth@bcc.cuny.edu)

SPANISH CLUB - To promote an understanding and practical application of the Spanish language in a group setting. (Advisor: Laurie Lomask, Laurie.lomask@bcc.cuny.edu)

SOCIETY FOR PLASTIC ENGINEERS (S.P.E./ NANOSCIENCE) - To enhance the study of the plastic industry by increasing awareness among students, faculty and staff of the diverse ways in which the study of plastic is helping improve our lives. (Advisor: Vicki Flaris, Vicki.flaris@bcc.cuny.edu)

SPOKEN WORD - To express, improvise, recite and relay feedback of your works with friends. (Advisor: Janet Robertson, Janet.robertson@bcc.cuny.edu)

SPEECH, DRAMA AND DEBATE - To provide BCC students with a platform outside of the classroom in which to practice, perform, and gain proficiency in oral communication (Advisor: Carmen Meyers, Carmen.meyers@bcc.cuny.edu)

TAU ALPHA PI HONOR SOCIETY - Promote and encourage scholastic achievement and to recognize high standards of scholarship among students among students in engineering technology programs. (Advisor: Hamad Khan, Hamad.khan@bcc.cuny.edu)

TENNIS CLUB - Promote and encourage the practice and learning of tennis among students. (Advisor: Jonathan Scott, Jonathan.scott@bcc.cuny.edu)

THEATER WORKSHOP - Perform and assess theatrical performances and encourage theatrical involvement of the BCC campus community. (Advisor: John Socas, John.socas@bcc.cuny.edu)

THE PEACE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUB - To increase peace consciousness in its members and among the campus community. (Advisor: David Blot, David.blot@bcc.cuny.edu)

Contact:

Ms. Yvonne Erazo-Davila
*Student Life for Inter-Organizational
Council Office
Inter-Organizational Council Office
Roscoe Brown Student Center [BC]
Room 309*

(718) 289.5201/5962/5194

September 2017 Monthly Horoscopes

By Demier Hassell

Aries: March 21 - April 19

Take a minute to slow down and see the bigger picture. You can't always rush into things so quickly without stopping to smell the flowers.

Taurus: April 20 to May 20

Now is a wonderful time to enjoy nature. Go outdoors and breathe some fresh air

Gemini: May 21 to June 20

It's time for you to think clearly. Shut out all external influences and find your peaceful state of mind.

Cancer: June 21 to July 22

There's no need to put yourself down. Listen to some beautiful songs to help return to a good state of mind.

Leo: July 23 to August 22

There's nothing wrong with a little planning. Get as much detail as you can to ensure the best possible outcomes.

Virgo: August 23 to September 22

This is no time for slacking. Keep your goal in sight and make the effort reach it.

Libra: September 23 to October 22

You should start opening up to others. You may need some help from time to time to get things done.

Scorpio: October 23 to November 21

Don't stop believing in yourself. Keep fighting for what you want and you will receive it.

Sagittarius: November 22 to December 21

Outer forces are at work. Let things fall into place on their own and you'll be fine.

Capricorn: December 22 to January 19

Loved ones will seek to give you advice. Make sure their advice is reliable and not opinion based.

Aquarius: January 20 to February 18

You may have lots of options to choose from. Follow your heart with the choices you make.

Pisces: February 19 to March 20

You have all the tools in your arsenal. Pave your own pathway to a better life.

Another insightful conversation I had was with a German receptionist in the Schloss Leopoldskron from Bavaria who professed he worked there to have discussions that would expose him to other perspectives. We had political discussion over the ideas of universal healthcare, political participation, and even postsecondary education. He provided anecdotes with respect to political life in both Germany and Austria.

When we engage in conversations of humankind's problems, we must not talk in divisive language, categorizing and distinguishing between people, because all of our experiences and capabilities are the same. The Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site visit helped me realize that the same capacity high cultured Germans in the twentieth century had to produce a systematic and cruel form of mass extermination is the same way the Rwandan genocide was able to be carried out. Yet, this same capacity for evil can be channeled for a greater good as well. The color of our skin is superficial and is simply an adaptation to environmental changes. Therefore, in order to have conversation about solutions to humankind's problems we need to have holistic conversations that overlook skin color.

The program is both physically and mentally demanding, yet, so much is given for our success. The biggest takeaway from this trip is the philosophical questions it provoked me to face consistently. These are questions I often ponder, the program offered a space where I could delve into these topics which include: Who am I? (The very first question posed to us by Jochen Fried).

LARA B. SAAVEDRA

It is very interesting when at your 23 years of age, you find yourself confined with the smartest people that you have probably met in your entire life: the faculty advisors, the students, and the lecture facilitators. It is also interesting when you are selected randomly to work with 8-10 students that you have only met briefly at the pre-session mixer in Queens to agree on what type of world issue your group presentation will be about. It is even more interesting when you are a student from BCC and your group is the smallest (only four BCC students went on the trip), and so you are divided, and each one of you is placed in separate groups. Therefore, while all the other schools knew their partners, we [BCC students] did not know anyone well.



When you have to do group work, you have to agree to disagree. We are supposed to be grownups. There is no fighting, or pettiness, none of that. You have to get the job done. To me, a South American woman who is extremely passionate, this was a challenge. In the end, even though we got loud sometimes, even though we talked over each other, in the end, we came to an understanding. We all thought that our issues to solve to help make the world a better place were important, and we each pitched in. We compromised.

After we came back, we missed our trip. However, we were also exhausted. The GCA was hard work, but amazing hard work. Everything that we learned in our global citizenship class at BCC prepared us for the best week of my life. Once we were there, we noticed how well informed we were. We shined extremely bright because out of 30 students that went to Salzburg, only four were from BCC. We truly were the best of the best.

It has opened my eyes to different realities, and it has given me a more meaningful view of the world. It has awakened me. Now, I know that I have to do something to be an active member of the world. Now, I know that it is not about individualism; it is about collectivism, because we are all interconnected. All of our actions and choices, no matter how meaningless they might seem, matter. Now, I feel more prepared to face on the world, and to know and identify what I seek in my own path. I feel as if I have found myself in this journey, and what I can now give back. I think that education is one of the most

important things any human being can have, especially for women.

There are no words to describe how grateful and blessed I feel. I will be forever grateful to BCC, President Isekenegebe, Professor Rowan, the Salzburg Selection Committee, and to Dr. Elizabeth Hardman and Dr. Laura Barberan, who recommended me for the seminar. Thanks to Dr. Jochen Fried, Ms. Astrid Schroder, and Mr. David Goldman, as well as the entire seminar faculty, for a life-changing experience.

Alixan DUCREAY

One of the unshaken experiences I had throughout GCA 8 was the feeling that everything that had happened thus far (following the UN debate on the "Sustainable Development Goals," taking Urban Politics, getting selected for interview, and ultimately being selected to attend GCA 8) fitted as part of a grand design in which I was an all-too-willing passive agent. That included all the lectures and presentations—they all seemed part of a finely woven quilt. This makes it difficult to highlight a single facilitator or lecture/presentation that had the greatest impact on me. GCA is well put together with a team of first-rate lecturers with cutting-edge presentations that are interesting, relevant, and challenging. Identifying one that impacted me seems like pulling the thread in a major seam from that quilt. Knowledge is power, and one of the greatest benefits of GCA is the empowerment through knowledge that the presentations and lectures afforded us.



I believe the Dachau visit serves as a valuable education and reminder of the depths to which enlightened, scientific humanity can go if not guided by a spiritual and ethical consciousness of the interlocking, interdependent, mutually inclusive nature of our life as humans, and of all life. The attempts to pigeon-hole science in competing political and ideological camps is a concerning development. Dachau, and the Holocaust, in general, is a tribute to the viciousness that can ensue when science is subservient to ideology. Dachau, therefore, is as much about the present and future as it is about the past.

Group-project work was an important part of the intellectual and social experience at GCA 8. One of the things I looked forward to before leaving for Salzburg was the opportunity to meet with other students and to learn from them and build networks and community. I was not disappointed. The selection committees of the various colleges represented at GCA were to be commended for their selection of students. I was impressed by the knowledge, willingness to learn, and commitment to developing as global citizens of all the members in my group.

In finishing my honors research paper on global civics I have availed of the thought strategies and competencies that I have gained at GCA, and the insights and guidance provided by our global civics professor, Andy Rowan. I believe our global civics class was the perfect way to be introduced to and transition into the GCA program.

In our global civics class, the writings of thinkers such as Hakan Altınay, David Orr, and Amartya Sen helped to give direction and framework to a variety of issues, but, there too, none of these authors dogmatically spelled out a definition. I believe then as now that was a wise approach. It freed me to keep an open mind and continue to struggle with the question of what it means to be a global citizen, and how understanding and perceiving myself as a global citizen make me part of the responsible solutions the world will need. I am more convinced now after the class on global civics and attending the GCA that understanding that global citizenship and global civics involve more than focusing on human problems. The concepts must embrace concern for other life forms and for the proper stewardship of abiotic individuals within our global ecosystem. Global citizenship must account for the worth and place of every aspect of material reality, living and non-living.

For more information about the Salzburg Global Citizenship Alliance and the Global Citizenship Seminar, please contact Professor Andrew Rowan (andrew.rowan@bcc.cuny.edu), 612 Colston Hall.