



SOTTO VOCE

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE CENTER FOR ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES
AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE**

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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Dominick Carielli, Ph.D.

I am very pleased to have been appointed Director of the Center for Italian American Studies. The Center serves as an important resource for the faculty, staff, and students of Brooklyn College and the surrounding community. The Center conducts and sponsors research on the Italian American population, houses a scholarly library, sponsors educational and cultural events on campus, and provides counseling and advisement to students. The Center also houses two student clubs: The Italian American Student Union; and the Italian Culture Club. Both clubs are very vibrant and active, and sponsor numerous events on campus.

The Center is under the auspices of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Italian American Affairs, and I am a member of that committee. The Center also works closely with the program in Italian American Studies. One of my goals is to help promote the minor in Italian American Studies, and to recruit students for the program. As Director, my mission is to promote and maintain the visibility of the Center. I plan to accomplish this through the development of a brochure, website, and newsletter. I will be conducting outreach to faculty, staff, and students of Brooklyn College through mailings and in-person meetings. I will also be contacting people in the greater Brooklyn community.

I am a counselor with the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, and I am trained as a psychologist. I have been placed at Brooklyn College by the Calandra Institute, which is under the aegis of Queens College.

I have more than 22 years of experience in Italian American affairs, and have worked at several CUNY campuses providing counseling, serving as student club advisor, organizing events, and developing programs. I look forward to developing and strengthening the Center and its programs.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Geraldine DeLuca, Ph.D.



I am very excited to have been elected Chair of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Italian American Affairs and Chair of the Italian American Studies Program. The Committee serves as the board of directors for the Center for Italian American Studies, advises the President on important issues and activities of concern to Italian Americans on the campus, and monitors and supports the college's efforts to attract Italian American faculty, staff, and students. The Committee promotes curriculum development in the area of Italian American Studies, and sponsors and promotes Italian American cultural activities in all areas of the arts. The Committee also seeks to increase the holdings of the Center's library.

Brooklyn College offers an interdisciplinary minor in Italian American Studies, which will soon become a major. The minor is open to students majoring in a variety of disciplines and will be particularly beneficial to students planning careers in teaching, business or finance, international law, and government. The completion of the minor requires 12 credits of study from a current offering of 11 courses. For more information on the minor, contact Dr. Carielli in 1212 Boylan Hall.

In the spring, Dr. Paul D'Agostino will be teaching Interdisciplinary Studies 25, Italian American Relations. Beginning with the great migration and moving forward, the course will examine the now visible and straightforward, now obscure and complex nature of political, diplomatic, and economic ties between Italy and the United States. The course will be offered on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:10 p.m.

I look forward to the growth of the Italian American Studies Program and to working with Dr. Carielli in the Center for Italian American Studies.

ITALIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE MONTH CELEBRATED AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE

Every October, the nation celebrates Italian Heritage and Culture Month to honor the vast contributions people of Italian decent have made to this country. Thanks largely to the Italian American Student Union and the Italian Culture Club, there was a full calendar of events at Brooklyn College. Throughout the month, there was a display of Italian posters and books on the first floor of the Student Center. The students marched in the Brooklyn Columbus Day Parade, and the Wolfe Institute presented a talk on the anti-mafia demonstrations in Palermo, Sicily. There was a presentation on the life of Giuseppe Garibaldi via the music of Giuseppe Verde, and the films “Vendetta” and “Pane e Cioccolata” were shown. The month concluded with students dancing the Tarantella on the Quad, followed by a lavish Italian feast, with music provided by Trio di Napoli. Special thanks to Christina Waszak, Center for Student Development and Leadership, for coordinating the display, arranging for the films to be shown, and for designing and producing the actual calendar of events. Thanks to Vanessa Green, Assistant Dean for Student Development, and Milga Morales, Dean of Student Affairs, for their kind and thoughtful support of our programs.



Professor Robert Viscusi, Dean Milga Morales, and Assistant Dean Vanessa Green show their support.



Charles Mandracchia and Vincenzina D'Amato.



A beautiful day for dancing the Tarantella on the Quad.

REDEDICATION OF THE CENTER FOR ITALIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

On November 13, 2007, the Center for Italian American Studies honored Senator Martin J. Golden of Brooklyn for his generous support of its programs. Senator Golden gave a grant of \$10,000 to the Center, which is being used to launch new courses and to provide recognition and support to outstanding students. The ceremony in his honor also served as a rededication of the Center in its new office, 1212 Boylan Hall,

Professor Geraldine DeLuca, Chair of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Italian American Affairs, thanked President Christoph M. Kimmich for his continuing support of the Center's activities. President Kimmich then presented a plaque to Senator Golden commemorating his support and the gratitude of faculty, staff and students at the college.

Senator Golden greeted the large group of guests assembled in the hall, speaking of his long and fruitful relationship with the Brooklyn College community. Together with President Kimmich, the Senator then cut the ribbon to commemorate the official opening of the new space.

The Center established two new awards for undergraduates in Senator Golden's name. Shawn Simpson-Smith received the award for academic excellence. Charles Mandracchia received the award for leadership.

Professor Robert Viscusi, one of the Center's founders, introduced Anthony J. Tamburri, Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute of Queens College. Dean Tamburri spoke briefly about the growth of the programs in Italian American Studies at CUNY, and the Center welcomed its new Director and counselor, Dr. Dominick Carielli, a staff member of the Calandra Institute, who now works full-time with the Italian American program at Brooklyn College.

Following the ceremony, the guests moved to the nearby Faculty Lounge for refreshments. Father Richard Long of the Newman Center said grace in Italian for the bountiful lunch provided by the two Italian American student organizations, The Italian Culture Club and the Italian American Student Union. Two members of the Trio di Napoli (Nick Manelli and Joe Pierini) played Italian and American standards on the guitar and mandolin. And there was a joyous sense among faculty, staff, and students that the program is on its way to establishing a major at Brooklyn College.



President Kimmich, Senator Golden,
Dr. Carielli, and Professor DeLuca.



Dean Tamburri, President Kimmich,
and Senator Golden.

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REDEDICATION PHOTOS

(Continued from p. 3)

Right: Professor DeLuca looks on as President Kimmich presents the plaque to Senator Golden.

Below: President Kimmich, Senator Golden, Yevgeniya Aronova, Shawn Simpson-Smith, and Professor DeLuca.



Above: President Kimmich , Senator Golden, Dr. Carielli, Yevgeniya Aronova, and Charles Mandracchia.

SPECIAL THANKS

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