



We Are Dedicated

For several years philosophy professor **Christine Vitrano** has been spreading the word in lectures and writing about happiness and its many faces. As you'll learn below, the visages of happiness have changed over the centuries, and not all of them are the smiley ones of popular psychology books. With a focus on ethics, Vitrano joins the ancient and the modern, and she is now (appropriately enough) working on a book about happiness. At our invitation she agreed – happily! – to write the overview you'll read here.

## The Search for Happiness Should Begin with a Question

By Christine Vitrano, *Philosophy*

**All of us want to be happy, but if asked to explain the nature of happiness, we find that this familiar concept becomes obscure.** Perhaps such elusiveness explains the fascination with happiness that extends back to the ancient Greeks.

Although philosophy has had a rich history of theorizing about happiness, today the study of the subject is dominated by empirically minded researchers in other disciplines. The years during which I was writing my dissertation on happiness saw the rise of the positive psychology movement. While I was acquainting myself with the philosophical literature on happiness, I noticed an increasing number of books, magazine articles and television segments focused on this new empirical research. But, although provocative, this new empirical research does not address philosophical questions about the nature and value of happiness. Researchers in this recent field generally assume that the concept of happiness is something that can be measured, and their work usually focuses on the causes of happiness and ways to increase it. In contrast, philosophers adopt a different starting point, beginning with the question: What is happiness?

Through conceptual analysis, philosophers try to provide meaningful accounts of the nature of happiness and the relation of other values such as intelligence and moral character.



**Christine Vitrano,**  
*Philosophy*

Since completing my dissertation, I have continued to work on issues related to happiness, morality and the good life. I have also developed a course on happiness that is now regularly offered by the philosophy



**"Happiness depends upon ourselves."**  
—Aristotle

# The Search for Happiness

In *Nicomachean Ethics*, Aristotle says pleasure is not to be equated with happiness:

Now for most men their pleasures are in conflict with one another because these are not by nature pleasant, but the lovers of what is noble find pleasant the things that are by nature pleasant; and virtuous actions are such . . . Happiness then is the best, noblest, and most pleasant thing in the world, and these attributes are not severed . . .

department. This course typically attracts a broad range of students, many of whom have never taken a philosophy course outside the core curriculum. Teaching this course has heightened my appreciation for the questions and concerns ordinary people have about happiness and has made me aware of how much our view of happiness has changed over time. It has also helped inspire my current research project, which is the longitudinal tracing of the philosophical evolution of happiness, from its ancient roots to its current bloom.

To illustrate the kinds of theories philosophers have offered, I shall contrast two philosophical perspectives on happiness: One equates happiness with virtue, and the other equates happiness with pleasure. These two perspectives represent opposite ends of the spectrum. At one end are objective theories, which require that to be deemed happy one meet certain normative criteria. At the other end are subjective theories, which view happiness as a function of the subject's attitude towards her life. Remaining theories are hybrids, combining both subjective and objective elements.

I'll begin by considering probably the most influential objective theory, that of Aristotle. He identifies happiness as the highest human good, but in what specifically does happiness consist? Aristotle believes that the good of all things resides in their function, so he is led to consider the function of human beings. Just as a good knife is one that cuts well, a good person is one who achieves excellence

in the distinctive human virtues related to character and intellect. Such a person thereby attains happiness. This Aristotelian view is clearly objective, for it places a restriction on the achievement of happiness. If one fails to achieve moral and intellectual virtue, then regardless of how satisfied she is with her life, she will not be happy.

In contrast to the Aristotelian perspective, hedonism views happiness as just an experience of pleasure. Hedonism was endorsed by Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill, who were both utilitarians. Utilitarianism is the moral theory that judges an act as morally right if it maximizes the happiness (or pleasure) of everyone the act affects. According to Bentham, happiness is nothing more than being in the right mental state, namely one with maximum pleasure and minimum pain. Bentham believed all pleasures were alike in quality and differed only in quantity. His hedonic calculus lists several criteria, such as frequency, intensity and duration that should be considered when evaluating comparable pleasures. Bentham's view is subjective because it leaves judgments of happiness entirely to the subject; insofar as one is experiencing pleasure, she is happy.

Bentham believed that all pleasures are alike, meaning that the pleasure one gets from reading a novel or writing poetry is no different in value from the pleasure one gets from playing children's games, his perceived opposites. Critics of utilitarianism found this implication disturbing, because activities that

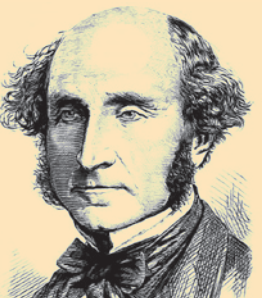
are base, degrading or shallow receive the same moral consideration as activities that cultivate our minds and develop our talents. These critics argue that utilitarianism debases human beings by implying that human life has no higher purpose than the pursuit of pleasure, and they argue it is a moral theory fit for swine, not human beings.

In his reply to these charges, Mill introduced the distinction between higher and lower

Mill's introduction of higher and lower pleasures adds an objective element to his view of happiness. Although Mill is a hedonist who reduces happiness to pleasure, his view is closer to the Aristotelian perspective that connects happiness with what is unique about human beings, namely our intellectual and moral capacities. Like Mill, many contemporary philosophers have been influenced by the Aristotelian conception of happiness, and their accounts often include various normative constraints on how one can pursue happiness.

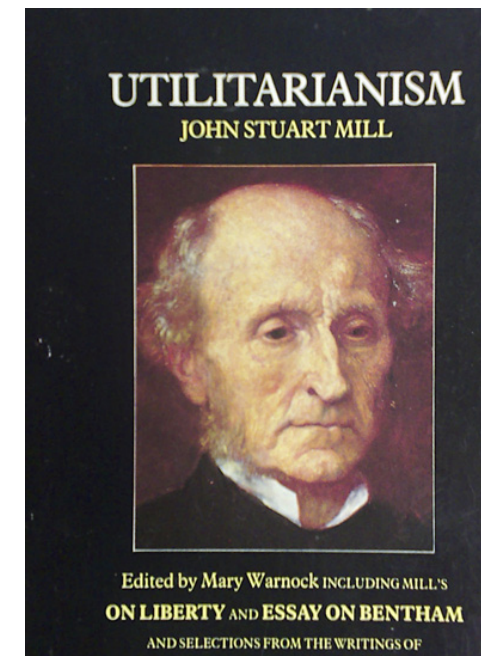
My own view is that happiness is best represented by the life satisfaction view, a subjective theory that judges a person as happy when she is satisfied with her life or views it positively. The more positive her outlook, the happier she will be. According to the life satisfaction view, when we say that someone is happy, we imply nothing about the goodness of her life independent of her own perceptions. Happiness represents an independent evaluative domain, which is distinct from a person's moral and intellectual character.

The Aristotelian perspective denies the happiness of anyone who fails to achieve a life of moral and intellectual virtue, but I believe this approach fundamentally misconstrues ordinary people's behavior and motivations, resulting in a theory that is severed from reality. After all, we do find "happy" immoralists, people who knowingly break the rules of society and appear unaffected by it. Furthermore, we frequently understand people's behavior by referring to their belief that such behavior will increase their happiness, even when that behavior is self-destructive or immoral. If we cannot explain their motivation in terms of happiness, how can we explain why they act immorally or contrary to their own well-being?



"Actions are right in proportion as they tend to promote happiness; wrong as they tend to produce the reverse of happiness. By happiness is intended pleasure and the absence of pain.

—John Stuart Mill



pleasures. Mill argues that all pleasures are not equal, for some pleasures are intrinsically more valuable than others. According to Mill, higher pleasures, which involve the intellect, are intrinsically better than lower pleasures, which arise from bodily sensations and are typically enjoyed by animals. We can evaluate the merits of the two kinds of pleasures by appealing to someone who has experienced both, for, according to Mill, no person would be willing to trade a higher pleasure for the lower, even if the higher is more difficult to obtain.



"Happiness is the greatest good."

— Jeremy Bentham



# The Search for Happiness

"My own view is that happiness is best represented by the life satisfaction view, a subjective theory that judges a person as happy when she is satisfied with her life or views it positively."

— Christine Vitrano

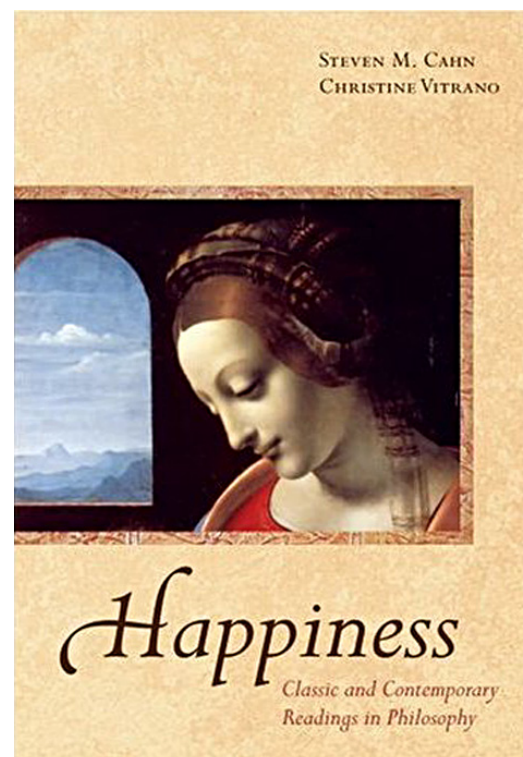
One reason many philosophers find the Aristotelian perspective appealing is that it makes all immoral behavior irrational. Once you recognize the independence of morality and happiness, you introduce the possibility that one can have rational reasons for behaving immorally, and you must face the dreaded question of why one should be moral, if being moral doesn't make one happy. The Aristotelian outlook offers an easy reply: Being moral will make you happy. But let's be realistic: Using the terms "moral" and "happy" in a modern context, and linking them in an Aristotelian way, clashes with life as we know it today. People have reasons for acting immorally, and we should not pretend we live in a world in which all happy people are moral, and all immoral people are doomed to unhappiness.

Therefore I believe that recognizing the independence of happiness provides philosophers with the resources needed to characterize accurately people's motivations and behavior. The claim that happiness is an independent evaluative domain implies that considerations of happiness may provide one with reasons for acting that conflict with other considerations, such as moral or prudential duties. The upshot of the life satisfaction view is that while happiness is widely desired, it is only one good among others.

I would like to conclude by relating an experience I had while traveling in East Africa. Our party had the opportunity to visit a traditional Maasai village in Kenya, and on the way our tour guide gave us a brief lesson on their culture. He explained that the Maasai have a nomadic lifestyle revolving around their cattle. The Maasai live in small huts made out of cow dung and sleep on beds made from the cowhides. The cattle also provide food for the Maasai, whose diet consists of cattle meat,

milk and blood. So the wealth of the Maasai is measured solely in terms of their cattle; amassing other material possessions is useless.

As we approached the village, our guide issued a stern warning: "Do not pity these people. They are happy." I was just completing my dissertation at this time, and I took to heart what he meant. He was urging us not to judge the Maasai on their comparative lack of material possessions but to look instead at how they live, and more importantly, to appreciate their lives from their own perspective. When we met with the Maasai, it was clear they were happy, taking great pride in their traditional lifestyle. In short, the satisfaction they found in their ways is after all the essence of happiness.



## We Have Concluded: Brooklyn College Professors Are the Happiest of All

Miguel Macias,  
Television and Radio

By Ron Howell



I came away from Christine Vitrano's thought-provoking piece believing college professors – lovers of knowledge, music, rocks, canals and pretty much anything else – must be the happiest people around, by the standards of anyone, Aristotelian or hedonistic.

And I also came to believe that the center of academic pleasure was a campus in Brooklyn.

To confirm my theories, I rushed to the outsized virtual Gothic library known as Google, and I plugged in the words "college" and "professors" and "happiness."

Up popped a notice of 17.5 million results; and the very first one was, yes, our very own Christine Vitrano. What *εὐδαιμονία*! Excuse me, I mean what happiness!

Clearly this meant Brooklyn College possessed the secret to true joy.

Ah, but ever the doubter, I soon felt rising in me the need for further proof.

So on a spring break day, I sauntered over to Whitehead Hall to find more evidence for my hypothesis, and there I found my friend and colleague, Professor Miguel Macias, of the department of television and radio, at work.

On entering his office, I exchanged greetings with Miguel and told him what brought me there – my quest to prove our college was home to the happiest professors in the country.

Graciously taking a break from the computer, Miguel agreed to answer a few questions.

**Faculty Newsletter:** *What are you doing on campus during spring break?*

**Macias:** This week mainly I'm meeting with students and also grading some of their assignments. I give a good number of assignments, probably a total of 10 a semester, maybe more. So every given week I have maybe two batches at a time to look at. For every assignment, I send the student an e-mail with comments . . . because I've decided that the only way to do my job properly was to provide them feedback for every assignment . . . But, of course, that generates a tremendous amount of work.

**FN:** *Does doing this make you happy?*

**Macias:** (In summary) Not necessarily.

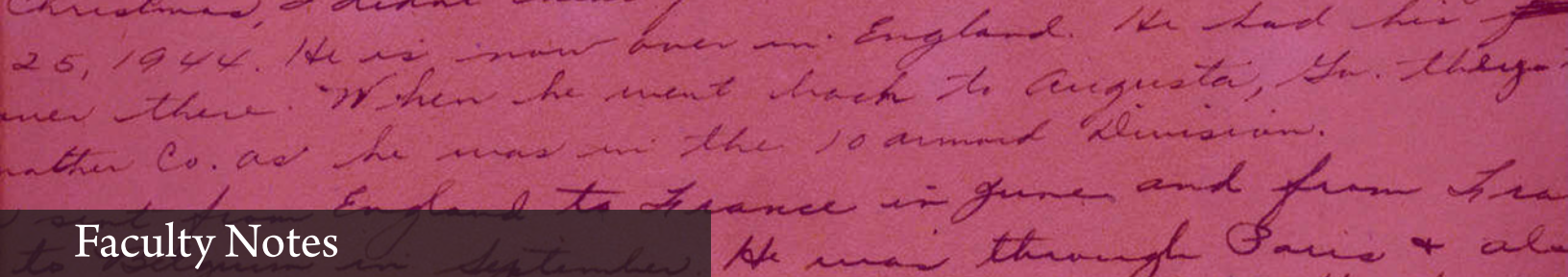
So we talked a little more about Aristotle and I wondered: If happiness isn't the doing of Aristotelian duty, like grading a gazillion papers, then what is it? I glanced over at the guitar case sitting near Miguel's desk. I recalled the time when Miguel spoke of playing pop rock onstage. Hmmm.

**Macias:** Obviously I have moments of joy while I'm teaching or meeting with students on campus. [But] it's more a sense of duty . . . I have an idea of what doing my job well means. I have my idea, and it's a pretty strict one. . . . To a certain extent I would not be at peace with myself if I didn't feel I was doing my job right. That gives me peace of mind, and then I can move on and try to find things that give me personal happiness. So it's like a "prereq" for me to be able to go on and find happiness.

Well, that settled it as far as I was concerned. Neither Aristotle nor I need million-dollar surveys to confirm truth when we hear it and recognize it. College teaching is happiness of the old and the new sort. Its essential pleasures are not adorned in a plethora of colors, nor hungered after by the purveyors of reality shows. But it's ever open to a happy tune. And it's finest expression is in Brooklyn.

This is something that I instinctively knew, and I now feel compelled to thank Professor Christine Vitrano for making me more aware of it and for teasing me into adding Aristotle, and her, to my summer reading list.





# Faculty Notes

## Faculty Notes

**Isabelle Barrière**, Speech Communication Arts and Sciences and Linguistics Program, wrote the article “L’Haïtianophonie aux Etats-Unis” (“The Haitianophone World in the United States”) for *Haiti-Liberté* (December 22-28, 2010). She gave invited presentations on “The Acquisition of Yiddish by Hasidic Toddlers and



Isabelle Barrière,  
Speech Communication  
Arts and Sciences and  
Linguistics Program

Preschoolers: Insights into Bilingualism from a Natural Psycholinguistic Experiment,” to the Judaic Studies program at Drexel University, Philadelphia, in November 2010; on “The Nature of Early Linguistic Representations: Evidence from the Acquisition of Subject-Verb Agreement by French-Learning Toddlers” at the Brooklyn College Department of Psychology’s Cognition, Brain & Behavior Colloquium Series (February 2011), and a workshop on “Fostering Successful and Long-term Bilingual Development,” which was organized by the Family Program of the Edith & Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst for Russian- and Hebrew-speaking parents (March 2011).

**Elisabeth Brauner**, Psychology, chaired the session “Team Outcomes over Time” at

the Small Group Meeting “Time and Change in Teams” held in Chemnitz, Germany, and organized by Drs. Christine Gockel and Bertolt Meyer on behalf of the European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology (February 24-26, 2011).

**Sarah J. Christman**, Film, exhibited her short documentary film, *Broad Channel*, at the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival (February 12, 2011), and at the Ann Arbor Film Festival (March 25, 2011). The film examines the nuances of everyday activity along one narrow stretch of public shoreline in Jamaica Bay. The project was partially funded by a PSC-CUNY Research Foundation Award.

**Patricia Cronin**, Art, had two paintings and a bronze sculpture (“Memorial to a Marriage”) purchased by (and entered into the permanent collections of) the Corcoran Museum, Washington, D.C., and the Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, Scotland. Numerous works by her were also included in group exhibitions: “Sex Drive,” at the Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery, Haverford College, Philadelphia, Pa. (January 28-March 9, 2011); “Put Up or Shut Up,” at the New York Academy of Art, New York, N.Y. (February 9-March 9, 2011) and “The Narcissism of Minor Difference,” at The Decker Gallery, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Md. (December 9, 2010-March 13, 2011). On December 7, 2010, Cronin gave a lecture, “That Is Then, This Was Now: Harriet Hosmer’s Rome and Memorial to a Marriage,” at Fordham University, Lincoln Center Campus, New York, N.Y. She also presented “White Marmorean Flock, Then and Now,” on a panel, “The Feminist Breast: Women, Nudity, and Portraiture,” at the College Art Association Annual Conference, New York, N.Y. (February 13, 2011).

**Joshua Fogel**, Finance and Business Management, wrote “Instant Messaging Communication: Self-disclosure, Intimacy, and Disinhibition,” *Journal of Communications Research*, 2 (1) (2011) which was also published in *Internet Policies and Issues*, Vol. 7 (Nova Science, 2010).

**Ellen Fried**, Children’s Studies, was a principal speaker at the panel discussion “Modern Slavery: The Trafficking of Women and Children,” as part of the Justice Speaks Lunch Series at New York Law School (October 13, 2010).

**Yu Gao**, Psychology, received the Young Experimental Scholar Award from the Academy of Experimental Criminology, at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, held in San Francisco, Calif. (November 19, 2010). Gao also gave a talk, “Early P300 Reduction Predisposes to Criminal Behavior in Adulthood,” at the conference.

**Brian Gibney**, Chemistry, wrote “Metallopeptides as Tools to Understand Metalloprotein Folding and Stability” in *Protein Folding and Metal Ions – Mechanisms, Biology and Disease* (CRC Press, 2011) and presented the lecture entitled “Developments of an electrochemical method to predict ferric and ferrous heme binding constants in heme proteins” at the 241st National Meeting & Exhibition of the American Chemical Society on March 27, 2011. He was also elected secretary of the New York Local Section of the American Chemical Society.

**Alexander Greer**, Chemistry, wrote “Photosensitizer Drug Delivery via an Optical Fiber,” *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 133 (2011).

**Christian Grov**, Health and Nutrition Sciences, wrote “Risky sex- and drug-seeking

in a probability sample of men-for-men online bulletin board postings” in *AIDS and Behavior*, 14, 1387-1392 (2010).

[The following entry was omitted inadvertently from the previous newsletter.]

**Shang E. Ha**, Political Science, presented “Personality Traits and Political Behavior,” Department of Political Science, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea (August 2010) and won a PSC-CUNY Research Grant for his work on voting behavior in local elections (April 2010).

**Katie Hejtmanek**, Children’s Studies and Anthropology, wrote “Caring Through Restraint: Violence, Intimacy, and Identity in Mental Health Practice” in *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 34:668-674 (2010), and presented “Because of my anger: Narrating the self in an adolescent total institution,” for the Society for Psychological Anthropology Biennial Meeting, Santa Monica, Calif. (March 31-April 2, 2011).



Rosamond King,  
English

**Natalie Kacinik**, Psychology, presented a colloquium talk on “Investigating the Processing of Literal and Figurative Language” at the City College of New York on March 29, 2011.

**Rosamond King**, English, received a 2011-2012 Career Enhancement Fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, which she will use to complete a manuscript entitled “Island Bodies: Transgressive Caribbean Sexualities” (March 2011). Also in March 2011, King gave



the keynote speech, “Transforming Silence: Memory, Remembrance and Resistance in the Narratives of Caribbean Women Writers,” at the First Annual Caribbean Women Writers Conference, Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, N.Y. In December 2010, she lectured on “The Cult of True Oomanhood: Caribbean Women Sex the Bildungsroman,” which was part of The Distinguished Lectures in Caribbean Studies Series at Rutgers, New Brunswick, N.J. On February 15, 2011, she gave a performance, “Spectacle/Spectacular” for “Body of Words: The Critical and Kinesthetic Intersection of Text and Physical Performance,” curated by Belladonna and presented by Dixon Place Theatre, New York, N.Y.; and on February 27, she did a poetry reading with Jayne Cortez at A Gathering of the Tribes, in New York, N.Y. A performance of King’s, “Suppliant,” was screened as part of “Trapolim,” Galeria Homero Massena, in Vitória, Brazil, in January 2011.

**Sandra Kingan**, Mathematics, wrote “Stabilizers for GF(5)-representable matroids,” which appeared in the *Australasian Journal of Combinatorics*, Vol. 49, 203-207, 2011. On March 24, 2011, she gave a talk titled “Excluded minor results in matroids” at the Queens College Math Colloquium.

**Jerome Krase**, Sociology, wrote: five biographical entries for *The Polish American Encyclopedia*, (McFarland, 2011); “Diversity and Urban Living: Ethnic Crossroads - Visualizing Urban Narratives,” *Orte der Diversität*, (VS Verlag, 2010); “The Jordan Family as a Worm’s Eye View of Machine Politics,” *Small Towns, Big Cities*, (American Italian Historical Association, 2010); “Shark Tale—‘Puzza da Cap,’” *Anti-Italianism Essays on a Prejudice*,

(Palgrave Macmillan, 2010); and “Seeing the Past, Present, and Future of North Denver’s Little Italy,” *Italian Passages* (American Italian Historical Association, 2010). He presented “Contested Terrains: Visualizing Glocalization in Global Cities,” at the Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, Pa., February 2011; “Discovering My Sicilian Roots,” at the Forum on Italian American Criticism, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y., March 2011; and “Does Being Italian American Matter in New York City Politics?” at the American Italian Historical Association, November 2010. At the same meeting he participated in a roundtable discussion on anti-Italianism. He also lectured on “Seeing New York City Change” for The New York Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, St. John’s University, Queens, N.Y., November 2010, and spoke at “The Bridges Across Brooklyn Faculty Fellows 2009-2010 Share Their Work” at the Roberta S. Matthews Center for Teaching, Brooklyn College, November 2010, and on a panel, “An Interview with Pioneers in Ethnic Paradigms,” at the Italian American Mental Health and Wellness Conference, The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY, New York, N. Y., in October 2010.

**Gertrude Lenzer**, Children’s Studies and Sociology, spoke at a panel discussion on Children’s Rights hosted by Amnesty International Group in New York City on December 8, 2010, an event that focused on global children’s rights, especially as they pertain to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. Lenzer was also a panel participant at The CUNY Black Male Initiative Fifth Annual Conference, which was called to examine “The Politics of Progress from Abolitionist Frederick Douglass to President Barack Obama.” The

conference was at LaGuardia Community College on October 1, 2010, and Lenzer’s session was entitled “Mirror to America: The Life and Legacy of John Hope Franklin.”

**Tomás López-Pumarejo**, Finance and Business Management, wrote “Television and New Media:



**Tomás López-Pumarejo**,  
*Finance and Business Management*

U.S. WebNovelas,” in *Guionactualidad*, the online journal of the University of Barcelona’s master’s scriptwriting program, (October 5, 2010); also in *Guionactualidad*, on October 10, 2010, he wrote “Shopping and the U.S. Hispanic’s Cultural Citizenship,” which was about Brooklyn College Professor Irene Sosa’s documentary, *Shopping to Belong*. (Sosa is in the Television and Radio Department.) He was a primary source for an article headlined “Expert Forecasts that by 2017 People Will Watch More Series on Cell Phones than on TV,” which ran on the Web site Emol in October 2010. He was also an interviewed source for an article in *La Nacion*, October 12, that was headlined “Latin America Foresees Better Public Television,” as well as for an ABC Hoy October 13 article titled “By 2017 People Will Watch More Series on Cell Phones than on TV.”

**Janet Moser**, English, presented “Using Nabokov to Teach Composition” at the College English Association Conference in St. Petersburg, Fla. in March 2011. She also wrote “Playing for Keeps: Using Nabokov to Teach Composition,” in *CEA Forum*, 40.1 (Winter/Spring 2011).

**Yusheng Peng**, Finance and Business Management, published an article, “When formal laws and informal norms collide: Lineage networks versus birth control policy in China” in *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 116, No. 3, Pgs. 770-805 (November 2010).

**Helen Phillips**, English, wrote: “Lux et Veritas,” *Brooklyn Magazine*, #1 (March 2011); “Twenty Tales of Natural Disaster,” *American Fiction Volume 11: The Best Previously Unpublished Short Stories by Emerging Authors* (New Rivers Press, 2010); “The Disappearing Bride and Other Stories,” *PEN America Journal*, #13 (Fall 2010); and “The Helens,” *Sonora Review*, #58 (Fall 2010).

**Margaret-Ellen Pipe**, Psychology, gave an invited presentation, “Do Best Practice Interviews with Child Abuse Victims Influence Case Outcomes?” to the Federal Interagency Workgroup on Child Abuse and Neglect, held in Washington, D.C., January 11, 2011.



**Helen Phillips**,  
*English*

## Faculty Notes

**Tanya Pollard**, English, spoke on “Drugs, Witches, and Tragicomedy” after a performance of Thomas Middleton’s play, *The Witch*, at the Red Bull Theater, New York, N.Y., February 2011.

**Jeremy Porter**, Children’s Studies, and Finance and Business Management, wrote the following: “Tracking the Mobility of Crime: New Methodologies and Geographies in Modeling the Diffusion of Offending,” for *Cambridge Scholars Publishing* (in the United Kingdom) (11/2010); “Identifying Within County Spatio-Temporal Patterns of the Articulated Mobility of Criminal Offending: An Application of Multivariate Spatial Clustering Techniques” for *Systems Research and Behavioral Science* (01/2011); “Context, Location, and Space: The Continued Development of our ‘Geo-Sociological’ Imaginations,” for *The American Sociologist*, (02/2011); and “Religion AND Politics: Understanding the Effects of Conservative Origins on Contemporary Patterns of Human Development,” for *Quality and Quantity* (02/2011).

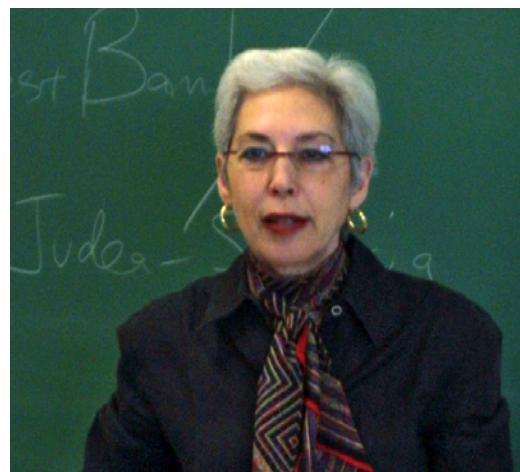


Michael J. Rawson,  
History

**Michael J. Rawson**, History, gave a talk at Harvard University on December 11 and at Bowdoin College on February 16, 2011, on his new book, *Eden on the Charles: The Making of Boston* (Harvard University Press, 2010). On

November 8, 2010, Rawson presented a paper entitled “Thinking Nature, Making Cities” at the 2010 CUNY Environmental Sciences Forum at the Graduate Center, and on March 31, 2011, he gave a talk entitled “City, Nature, Utopia: Environmental Thought in Historical Perspective” at the Whiting Foundation Seminar, Ethyl R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, Brooklyn College.

**Sara Reguer**, Judaic Studies, presented “The Cairo Geniza: The World of Jewish Women,”



Sara Reguer,  
Judaic Studies

to the African and Middle Eastern Division of the Library of Congress, in Washington, D.C., October 25, 2010.

**Laura C. Reigada**, Psychology, presented “Preparing for and Attending College, Special Considerations for Youth with IBD” at Crohn’s and Colitis Third Annual Research Day, in New York, N.Y. (October, 2010).

**Corey Robin**, Political Science, wrote: “Easy to be Hard: Violence and Conservatism,” in *Performances of Violence* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2011); “You Say You Want a Counterrevolution: Well, You Know, We All

Want to Change the World,” in *A Century of Revolution* (Duke University Press, 2010); “The Party of Loss,” *Harper’s* (December 2010); and “Why Conservatives Love War,” *Chronicle Review* (October 24, 2010). He gave a talk, “The Reactionary Mind: Conservatism from Burke to Palin,” at the Conservative Movements Workshop at the University of California at San Diego (February 2011) and at the Political Theory Workshop at Yale University (March 2011).

**Barbara Rosenfeld**, Education, contributed “The Challenge of Teaching Ethics in Technology,” to the *NERA Conference Proceedings 2010*. Paper 13. Rocky Mount, Conn., October 2010.

**Laurie Rubel**, Education, authored “Is 7/10 always equivalent to 700/1000?” in *Mathematics Teacher*, Vol. 104, Issue 2 (September 2010).

**Viraht Sahni**, Physics, wrote “Density and Physical Current Density Functional Theory” in the *International Journal of Quantum Chemistry*, Vol. 110, pgs. 2833-2843 (2010). He presented two papers at the American Physical Society meeting in Dallas, Tex. in March, 2011: “Generalization of the Hohenberg-Kohn Theorem to the Case of the Presence of a Magnetic Field” and “Quantal Density Functional Theory in the Presence of a Magnetic Field.”

**Alex S. Vitale**, Sociology, published “The Politics of Protest Policing” in *Sociologists in Action: Sociology, Social Change, and Social Action* (Pine Forge Press, 2010); and “The Safer

Cities Initiative and the Removal of the Homeless: Reducing Crime or Promoting Gentrification on LA’s Skid Row?” in *Criminology and Public Policy* (November 2010). He presented: “The Failure of Urban Liberalism: Dinkins as the Obama Mayor” at the Left Forum: Towards a Politics of Solidarity, held at Pace University, New York, N.Y., March 2011; “An Analysis of Protest Policing by the Korean National Police during the G20 Summit in November 2010” at Korean National Police University, Seoul, South Korea, 1 February 2011; and “The Impact of Stop and Frisk Policing” with State Assembly member Hakeem Jeffries, at Fort Greene SNAP, Brooklyn, N.Y., in January 2011.

**Jocelyn Wills**, History, wrote “Innovation in a Cold [War] Climate: Engineering Peace with the American Military-Industrial Complex” in *Enterprise & Society* 12:1, pgs. 120-174 (March 2011).

**Howard Zeng**, Physical Education and Exercise Science, attended the 2011 American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance National Convention and presented a research study, “Principals’ Physical Education Perception in New York City Public Schools,” in San Diego, Calif. (March 31, 2011.) Zeng also attended the 2010 Association Internationale des Ecoles Supérieures d’Education Physique World Congress held in A Coruña, Spain and presented two research papers: “Attitude of High School Students toward Physical Education and Activities Preference” and “A Survey of Principals’ Perception on Physical Education and Self-Evaluation to Their School Physical Education Programs” (October 22–29, 2010).



## Collaborations

**Isabelle Barrière**, Speech Communication Arts and Science, co-wrote “Comprehension of infrequent subject- agreement forms: Evidence from French-learning children” with co-authors Geraldine Legendre, Johns Hopkins University; Louise Goyet and Thierry Nazzi, Paris Descartes University and CNRS, published in *Child Development*, 81, 6 (December 2010). She also coauthored “New Evidence of French-Learning Infants’ Sensitivity to Irregular Subject-Verb Agreement at 18 Months” with Goyet,



Matthew Crump,  
Psychology

Nazzi, Legendre and Sarah Kresh of the CUNY Graduate Center. That paper was presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development at the Palais des Congrès de Montreal, Canada, March 2011.

**Elisabeth Brauner**, Psychology, along with Dr. Rommel Robertson, Farmingdale College, presented their collaborative research at

the colloquium “Work and Organizational Psychology” of the Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland, on March 11, 2011. The title of the presentation was “Measuring Transactive Memory in Groups and Organizations.” As a member of the scientific advisory board of the Courant Centre Evolution of Social Behaviour, Brauner was invited for an interim evaluation of the performance of the research groups in February 2011, in collaboration with board members Dr. Joan Silk (UCLA), Dr. Joanna Setchell (Durham University, U.K.), Dr. Redouan Bshary (Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland) and Dr. Robin Dunbar (University of Oxford, U.K.).

**Matthew Crump**, Psychology, co-wrote, with Gordon D. Logan of Vanderbilt University, “Cognitive illusions of authorship reveal hierarchical error detection in skilled typists,” which appeared in *Science*, 330 (October 2010). He also co-wrote with Logan: “Response to M. Ullsperger and Danielmeier’s E-Letter,” in *Science E-Letters* (February 9, 2011); and a chapter titled “Hierarchical control of cognition and action: The case for skilled typewriting,” in *Psychology of Learning and Motivation* (Burlington: Academic Press, 2011). Crump presented “Keeping an Eye on Guitar Skill: Visual Representations of Guitar Chords,” at Psychonomics, in St. Louis, Mo., in November 2010, with Logan and Jerry Kimbrough, also of Vanderbilt University.

**Joshua Fogel**, Finance and Business Management, co-wrote with Jennifer Humensky, VA Hospital in Hines, Ill., Sachiko A. Kuwabara of Johns Hopkins University, Corrie Wells, Brady Goodwin and Benjamin W. Van Voorhees of the University of Chicago, “Adolescents with depressive symptoms and their challenges with learning in school,” in

the *Journal of School Nursing*, 26(5) (October 2010). Fogel co-wrote with Sandra Fajiram, Brooklyn College student, and Phyllis D. Morgan of Walden University, “Sexual health information seeking on the Internet among college students,” in *ABNF Journal*, 21(4) (Fall 2010). He also co-wrote with Nava R. Sifton of Marymount Manhattan College, “Religiosity, empathy, and psychopathology among young adult children of rabbis,” *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*, 32(3) (2010); with Sam Shlivko, former Brooklyn College student, “Singles seeking a relationship and pornography spam e-mail: An understanding of consumer purchasing behavior and behaviors antecedent to purchasing” in *Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace*, 4(2) (2010) and “Singles seeking a relationship and spam e-mail for romantic relationships or matchmaking,” *Journal of Internet Business*, 8 (2010); with Christopher P. Siemer and Benjamin W. Van Voorhees, both of the University of Chicago, “Telemental health and web-based applications in children and adolescents” in *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, 20(1) (2011); with Mayer Schneider, former Brooklyn College student, “Credit card use: Disposable income and employment status,” in *Young Consumers*, 12(1) (2011); and with Laura A. Rabin and Katherine E. Nutter-Upham, both of Psychology, “Academic procrastination in college students: The role of self-reported executive function,” in the *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 33(3) (2011).

**Brian Gibney**, Chemistry, co-wrote with David R. Benson and Hao Zhu, the University of Kansas, “Study of the individual cytochrome b5 and cytochrome b5 reductase domains of Ncb5or reveals a unique heme pocket and

a possible role of the CS domain,” which appeared in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, 285, 30181-30191.

**Alexander Greer**, Chemistry, with Suzanne Slayden of George Mason University and Joel F. Liebman of University of Maryland-Baltimore County, wrote “Peroxy-nitrogen: A Study of Nitrogen/Oxygen Heterocycles with N-O and O-O or N-O-O Bonding” in *The Chemistry of Functional Groups. The Chemistry of Hydroxylamines, Oximes and Hydroxamic Acids*, Volume 2; Z. Rappoport and J. F. Liebman, Eds.; Wiley: Chichester (2011), pgs. 549-576. With Adrian L. Schwan of the University of Guelph, Greer wrote “Synthetic Scope, Computational Chemistry and Mechanism of the Base Induced 5-Endo Cyclizations of Benzyl Alkynyl Sulfides,” in *Tetrahedron* 67 (2011).

**Christian Grov**, Health and Nutrition Sciences, co-wrote with Brian Mustanski, Michael Newcomb, Steven DuBois, and Steven Garcia, University of Illinois at Chicago, “HIV in young men who have sex with men: A review of epidemiology, risk and protective factors, and interventions,” which appeared in the *Annual Review of Sex Research*. 48, 218-253 (2011). Among numerous other articles since last fall, Grov also co-wrote with Brian Gillespie and Tracy Royce of the University of California and Janet Lever of California State University, Los Angeles, “Perceived Consequences of Casual Online Sexual Activities on Heterosexual Relationships: A U.S. Online Survey,” which was published in *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. 40, 429-439 (2011). Among numerous appearances, Grov co-presented (with Ana Ventuneac, Bryant Porter, and Ruben Jimenez of the Center for HIV/AIDS Educational Studies and Training; Jose Nanin of Kingsborough Community

Olympia  
Hadjiliadis,  
Mathematics



College; and Jeffrey Parsons and Sarit Golub of Hunter College) three papers ("Brief Video-Based HIV Prevention: First Look at an Online Intervention Tailored for Bisexually-Active African-American Men," "Adapting Time-Space Sampling for an Online Environment to Recruit Sexually Active Gay and Bisexual Men," and "Size Matters: Gay and Bisexual Men's Experiences with Condoms"), at the Eastern and Midcontinent Regional Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, March 3-6, in Philadelphia, Penn.

**David Grubbs**, Conservatory of Music, performed concerts in Italy in November 2010, and presented a collaborative performance with Susan Howe at Wesleyan University in December 2010. With Columbia University's Branden W. Joseph, he co-curated the three-evening event "Theoretical Music: No Wave, New Music, and the New York Art Scene, 1978-1983" at ISSUE Project Room in November 2010. His recent public talks include the Goethe-

Institut (New York), Wesleyan University, the EMP Pop Conference at UCLA and the CUNY Graduate Center. His solo-guitar composition "To Know a Veil" appears on the soundtrack album *Strade Trasparenti* (Staubgold, 2011).

[The following entry was omitted inadvertently from the previous newsletter.]

**Shang E. Ha**, Political Science, co-authored "Yes, But What's the Mechanism? (Do Not Expect an Easy Answer)" in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 98, no. 4 (2010), with John G. Bullock and Donald P. Green, Yale University (April 2010). He also presented a paper, "Personality Traits and Correct Voting" (co-authored with Richard R. Lau, Rutgers University), at the 2010 Annual Meeting of American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C. (September 2010). He received a Social Science Korea Research Grant (2010-2013) from the National Research Foundation of Korea for a team project on the causes and consequences of inequalities in the Web-based social networks. (The principal investigator is Yong-Hak Kim of Yonsei University, Korea.)

**Olympia Hadjiliadis**, Mathematics, co-presented "Sequential Classification in Point Clouds of Urban Scenes" with I. Stamos of Hunter College, at the Proceedings of the Fifth International Symposium on 3D Data Processing, Visualization, and Transmission, in Paris, France. The presentations were published by the organizers in October 2010.

**Natalie Kacinik**, Psychology, co-authored "A bad taste in the mouth: Gustatory disgust influences moral judgment" in *Psychological Science*, 22, 295-299 (March, 2011), with her

doctoral student Kendall Eskine, and Jesse Prinz, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Graduate Center.

**Jerome Krase**, Sociology, co-presented with **Timothy Shortell**, Sociology, "Seeing Everyday Multiculturalism," at the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences Inter-Congress, October 2010, Antalya, Turkey; "Place, Space, Identity," at the European Sociological Association Research Network, Sociology of Culture, Milan, Italy, October 2010; and "Seeing Islam in Global Cities," at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 2010.

**Gertrud Lenzer** and **Loretta Chin**, Children's Studies Center, presented testimony (pgs. 70-74 and 113-119) on behalf of the Children's Studies Center at the New York City Council Juvenile Justice Committee and General Welfare Committee Public Hearing on "Oversight: The Mayor's Proposal to Overhaul the New York State Juvenile Justice System," concerning Bill A00644, for an independent Office of the Child Advocate for New York, requesting the committee to consider "an entity of oversight for the protection of the civil, constitutional and human rights of all children and youth in the systems of dependency and juvenile and criminal justice" (January 26, 2011).

**Tomás López-Pumarejo**, Finance and Business Management, presented with Héctor López-Pumarejo (Graduate School of Planning, University of Puerto Rico), "Exploring the Green Business Models: The Bicycle Rental Programs of Paris, New York, Montreal and San Juan, Puerto Rico," at the 2011 Midwest Business Administration Association International Conference, Chicago, March 25, 2011. There

he also presented, with **Veronica Manlow**, Finance and Business Management, "On Cluttered Outdoors Advertising: Making Sense at Time Square." With **Myles Bassell**, Finance and Business Management, on March 24, he presented "Inventory Management Accounting for Eggs."

**Michael Meagher**, Education, presented "'When will I learn to be a mathematics teacher?': Alternatively certified teachers, a case study," with Andrew Brantlinger of the University of Maryland at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education in Columbus, Ohio, in October 2010.



**Margaret-Ellen Pipe**, Psychology, co-wrote, with Debra A. Poole from Central Michigan University and Maggie Bruck from Johns Hopkins University, "Forensic interviewing aids: Do props help children answer questions about touching?" in *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 20, 11-15, 2011; and with Karen Salmon at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand,

Michael Meagher,  
Education



## Collaborations

"Asking Parents to Prepare Children for an Event: Altering Parental Instructions Influences Children's Recall" in the *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 12, 80-102, 2011.



Betty Wolder Levin,  
Health and  
Nutrition Sciences

**Laura A. Rabin**, Psychology, published "Academic procrastination in college students: The role of self-reported executive function," with co-authors J. Fogel, Finance and Business Management, and K. Nutter-Upham, Psychology, in the *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, Vol. 33, pp. 344-357. She also published "Introduction of a journal excerpt activity improves undergraduate students' performance in statistics" with co-author Nutter-Upham, in *College Teaching*, Vol. 58, pp. 156-160 (2010). She co-authored "Development and initial evaluation of two new instruments for dementia assessments" with D. Bateman and R. Santulli, Dartmouth Medical School, presented at the 2011 Meeting of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, San Antonio, Tex.; "Convergence across a performance-based executive function measure and behavioral rating scale of real-

world executive functions in a college sample" with K. Eskine and J. Mishaan, Brooklyn College, presented at the 2011 Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Boston; and "The effect of Lee Silverman Voice Therapy (LSVT) on masked facies in Parkinson's Disease" with A. Dumer, J. Borod, H. Oster, J. Speilman, and L. Ramig (Queens College and NYU) presented at the 2011 Movement Disorders Conference, Moscow, Russia.

**Barbara Rosenfeld** and **Sharon O'Connor-Petruso**, Education, contributed "Rudeness in the Classroom: A Survey of College Students' Perceptions of Inappropriate Use of Technology" in the *Thirty-third Annual Proceedings of Selected Research and Development Papers*, for the 2010 National Convention of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, 2, 263-266, October 2010.

**Nira Reiss**, Children's Studies Center, and **Betty Wolder Levin**, Health and Nutrition Sciences, presented a paper at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, La., November 2010, titled "Circulation and the Definition of Death: Coming around to 'cardiac death' in the context of organ transplantation."

**Deborah J. Walder**, Psychology, co-authored with Maureen P. Daly and Luz Ospina of The CUNY Graduate Center, "The Relationships Among Schizotypal Traits, Dermatoglyphics, and Neurocognition Among Healthy Young Adults," a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology in Seattle, Washington (October 7-10, 2010).