

Student Life at BC



THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

**Stop by Room
2113 Boylan
Hall**

**Or Visit Our
Web Site for
More Info:**

www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/offices/studlife

Calendar of Events May Highlights:

- ▶ Volunteer Week **5/02-06**
- ▶ Men's Tennis VS. SUNY
Purchase **5/02**
- ▶ Dean's Hour **5/04**
- ▶ Cut-A-Thon **5/05**
- ▶ Free Mammograms **5/05**
- ▶ BRAVO BROOKLYN
COLLEGE! 75th
Anniversary Celebrations
5/10
- ▶ Blood Drive **5/10 & 11**
- ▶ Study Skills Workshop
5/12
- ▶ Stress Management
Workshop **5/12**
- ▶ Health Fair **5/12**

PACK YOUR (BOOK) BAGS, GRADUATION'S HERE AGAIN:

TIME FOR COMMENCEMENT!

June 2, 2005

Here's What You Need to Know

by **Jack Ucciardino**, Editor

Adapted from Brooklyn College's Commencement Website: www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/commencement

As hundreds of seniors prepare to graduate this year commencement exercises in June loom larger in the horizon. Many students have questions about Commencement. All Brooklyn College students who anticipate finishing their degree requirements within the coming year must have applied for graduation by completing a Diploma Information Form and bringing it to the Registrar's Office by March 15th. A student cannot graduate until they meet the degree requirements of their chosen major.

Once found eligible for graduation after filing, students will get a commencement application postcard in the mail during the first week of May, 2005. They should complete the postcard and follow the instructions in order to receive tickets. Eligible graduating students will receive tickets for themselves and up to three guests. Tickets can not be guaranteed to students once the date deadlines have passed. However, when students have picked up regular tickets, they may sign up for guest tickets to live closed-circuit telecast of the commencement ceremony in Gershwin Hall. By May 6, students should have received a postcard in the mail. Those who haven't should e-mail the Office of the Dean for Student Life at studentlife@brooklyn.cuny.edu or call (718) 951-5352 and leave a message for **Leslie** with your name, phone contact numbers, and e-mail address.



Commencement will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2005, from 10:30 am to noon. Unfortunately, no special parking arrangements are available and space is extremely limited. So those who are driving and arriving by cars should plan sufficient lead-time to find parking. Only graduates with tickets and a gown (information on obtaining the cap and gown can be obtained at www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/commencement or call the College bookstore (718) 951-5150) and guests with tickets will be allowed onto campus and admitted to the commencement area, the Quadrangle. Arrangements have been made to help the elderly and physically disabled. Guests should speak to the peace officers assigned at campus entrances for assistance or ask commencement ushers dressed in black vest and white shirts. As a security precaution NO briefcases, backpacks, briefcases, containers, or packages of any type will be allowed to be brought to the ceremony and all carry in bags are subject to search.

COMMENCEMENT TICKET PICK-UP DATES & TIMES

Graduates should receive the commencement ticket application postcard by May 6. **Graduation tickets will be distributed from the Gershwin Hall Box Office from May 18 to 24, 2005 from 9 AM to 6 PM.** Present the completed application postcard and Brooklyn College ID to get tickets **only** at the designated dates and times. Mail requests must be postmarked on or before **May 12**. Mail requests arriving after this date will not be accepted. Tickets will be mailed only in response to those completed postcards that are accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. **After May 12, you may pick up tickets in person only.** Students who have further questions or would like more information can contact **Leslie** at The Office of Student Life (2113 Boylan) by phone (718) 951-5352 or via Email: Studentlife@brooklyn.cuny.edu

Guests should do their best to arrive well before the start of Commencement because once the academic procession begins, guests will be asked to wait until all the graduates have are seated, before proceeding into the Quadrangle. More information on Commencement can be found by going to www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/commencement on the web or calling the Office of Student Life at (718) 951-5352 and asking for **Leslie**.

Commencement Traditions

Did You Know...?

- B** The first commencement took place in the old Brooklyn Academy of Music, in 1931, and was made up of a class of 89 students.
- B** The number of each year's commencement has reflected six extra midterm ceremonies that took place in the early years of the college. Therefore, while 2004-2005 was the college's seventy-fifth year, the **80th** commencement will be celebrated in June.
- B** Students receiving their master's degrees wear traditional black robes and undergraduates receiving their baccalaureate degrees wear maroon robes in the school's traditional color.
- B** The school motto, ***Nil Sine Magno Labore*** (nothing without great effort) appears on banners hanging from the buildings and held by student marshals.
- B** The ***Ephebic Oath*** recited at every commencement has its origins in ancient Athens and signified the laying of the new duties of manhood upon young men, who were taken in charge by the state, then armed and educated both physically and mentally to prepare them for the duties of citizenship.



"Get Caught" in All the Clubs & Organizations at the W.E.B.



The West End Building (W.E.B.) is located past Roosevelt Hall next to the Athletic Field

On Tues. March 22nd, the students clubs and organizations located in the W.E.B. (West End Building) opened their doors to the Brooklyn College campus. During May of 2004, they were moved from numerous places on campus affected by the West Quad project. These clubs were present at the open house with music, cultural items, and club information. Members of the Desi Culture Club provided free henna tattooing and cultural food, while the Chess Club was ready for a chess challenge! While waiting on line for food in the conference room, many attendees either learned more about the area or

caught up on current campus events. For more information on any of these organizations, contact the Office of Student Development in room 302 of the Student Center, 951-5712, or feel free to stop by the W.E.B. club complex! To get to the W.E.B. you can either go straight through Roosevelt Hall or walk through the athletic field. Here is a directory of the W.E.B. club rooms:

135	Desi Culture Club	142	Black Family
136	Sci-fi & Fantasy Society	143	Islamic Society
137	Indowest Indian Movement	144	Student Development CUNYCAP
138	Chinese Christian Fellowship	145	Veteran Students Organization
139	Chess Club	146	Conference room
140	Student Union for Bilingual Education (SUBE)	147	Black Students Union (BSU)
141	Law Society	148	Latin Women's Group
		149	Puerto Rican Alliance (PRA)
		150	Caribbean Students Union (CSU)
		151	Dominican Student Movement (MEDO)
		152	United Students League (USL)
		153	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance (LGBTGA)

The Speech & Hearing Societies Broadens One's Range

Students in the Speech & Hearing Department have active clubs for both undergraduates and graduates. The Undergraduate Speech & Hearing Society is a part of the Academic Club Association (ACA). Through numerous programs and networking opportunities, undergraduate students of the department are exposed to issues of both the program and the field. The Graduate Speech & Hearing Society unites graduate students in the program by holding seminars and other functions on subjects of professional and academic interest to its members.

You can contact the Undergraduate Speech & Hearing Society through ACA in 0239 Ingersoll Hall, at 951-4190, or at <http://students.brooklyn.cuny.edu/aca/>.

For the Graduate Speech & Hearing Society, contact the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) in room 308 of the Student Center or at 951-5503.

Academic Excellence and Civic Engagement: Students who make a difference!

Ms. Vanessa Taylor and Ms. Shira Einhorn are the Brooklyn College recipients of the CUNY Annual Student Leadership Awards for 2005 and will also be recognized on May 4 at CUNY's Central Offices.

Ms. Vanessa Taylor coordinates The Orientation Project (TOP), a student life student retention initiative at Brooklyn College. She is the President of the Seeds of Hope student organization whose members act as ambassadors of good will and she also presides over the Pan-African Student Alliance. She is a talented poet and volunteers her time for many charitable events on and off campus. While active in student life, she also maintains a grade point average of 3.8.

Ms. Shira Einhorn serves as the President of the evening student government (SGS) at Brooklyn College. She participates in the College's Policy Council and also contributes to the development of other student organizations including Night Call, the news organ of the evening students. Shira maintains a 3.7 grade point average even as she hastens to complete her law school applications. She is a fine example of a student leader who is dedicated and committed to giving back to Brooklyn College.

Note: Review the USS.CUNY.EDU website or visit the Office of Scholarships at 0416 James Hall...for information about scholarships for student leaders, for international students, and for students with disabilities. The deadline is fast approaching!!!!

Spread the Good News about The Chinese Christian Fellowship

The Chinese Christian Fellowship (CCF) holds numerous events throughout the semester to provide an athletic, cultural, educational, scientific and social atmosphere for their members. During meetings

there is an assortment of activities such as songs, prayer time, skits, and game days. One day you find the students quietly praying; the next day you may find them singing and playing guitars! Most of these events occur in the Student Center on

Tuesdays and Thursdays during common hours (1:30-3:30pm), so take a look at the weekly events to find out where CCF will be next! You can also visit their club office in room 138 of the W.E.B. Building.



The Chinese Christian Fellowship at work

Activities and Services on Campus

Check Out the BC Health & Wellness Fair

The Brooklyn College Health & Wellness Fair will be held on Thursday, May 5th, 2005 right on the Quad (in case of rain it will be take place in the Student Center).

Sponsored by the Health Programs Office of the Division of Student Life and co-sponsored by numerous organizations and clubs, both on and off campus, the Fair will provide free screenings for cholesterol, high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, and vision and hearing. A free mammogram screening will be available as well. Students will also have the opportunity to help save lives by donating blood. Then perhaps relax with a free massage from a Licensed Massage Therapist! There will be free music as well provided by KTU Radio 103.5 FM.

Take this opportunity to help protect your health and well being. Stop by the Quad during Common Hours 1:30-3:30 p.m. on May 5th. For more information stop by 0708 James Hall or call (718) 951-4505.



Participants in the Civic Engagement Breakfast

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME - SIGN UP WITH SERVA!

SERVA stands for Students Engaged in Responsible Volunteer Action. It's a program designed to recognize volunteer service by students. Any enrolled graduate or undergraduate student can join **SERVA**.

To qualify for **SERVA** recognition, students must volunteer to work in a not-for-profit supervised activity, on or off campus, and in service to others that is not part of the requirements of their academic major. **SERVA** volunteers can not get academic credit for their work or wages or stipends of any kind.

Other requirements to keep track of your **SERVA** activities include keeping a service log, having it validated and then returning the completed log to the project supervisor at 2113 Boylan Hall to get it verified. Volunteers must also complete at least *four service training units* at sessions given by the Division of Student Life or other organizations and

programs. Students are expected to be in good standing with a G.P.A. of 2.0 or higher to be eligible for various benefits.

What exactly are those benefits? Well, in addition to the pleasure one gets from helping others, there is a **SERVA CERTIFICATE** upon completion of *30 hours of service and four training units within two straight semesters*. There's also a Student Life **HONORS** notation on the transcript of students with a G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher, at least *100 hours of service and six training units within two straight semesters*. Not only will volunteers have some excellent career experience to put on a resume, some eligible students will get a mention in the **Commencement Program**.

You can volunteer anytime, so for more information call **SERVA** at (718) 951-5352 or e-mail SERVA@brooklyn.cuny.edu

SERVA VOLUNTEERS IN TRAINING



GETTING INVOLVED AT THE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT BREAKFAST!

On Friday April 8, 2005, the Division of Student Life's Office of Student Development, and its Student Campus Information and Participation Program (SCIPP) in conjunction with the Academic Club Association, held a "Civic Engagement Breakfast" between 8:00 -10:00 a.m. in the State Lounge of the Student Center.

Students, community leaders, and elected officials were brought together to share ideas for voter and civic engagement projects. The main goal was to encourage Brooklyn College students to become more civically and politically engaged through round table discussions and by listening to the various speakers as they spoke of their own experiences and offered words of advice for students.

The program was introduced

by Assistant Dean Vannessa Green, Dean Milga Morales and President Christoph M. Kimmich. It was moderated by Loretta Chin. The round table discussions covered a variety of topics. Among the discussants were Congressman Edolphus Towns, Assemblyman N. Nick Perry, Council members Yvette D. Clarke and Kendall Stewart, and representatives from the offices of Senator Martin Golden and Borough President Marty Markowitz. Also present were representatives of NYPIRG, the Edward T. Rogowsky Internship in Government and Public Affairs Program, University Student Senate, USS and alumni. They discussed the following questions with students:

- What will motivate CUNY students to vote? What are the challenges?
- What is the relationship

between citizenship and voter empowerment?

- How do we get civically engaged: on campus/off campus?
- What is the proactive role of students in student elections?
- What can we do to improve communications with our elected officials and community leaders?

Each group came out of these discussions with three main themes that they shared with the rest of the audience. Students pledged to become more actively engaged. They were provided with information about activities ranging from NYPIRG, to internship programs, Student Campus Information and Participation Projects, and ways to contact elected officials, and much more. It was a great chance for students to meet leaders in the local community and become more involved.

From the Dean's Desk by Milga Morales Ph.D., Dean for Student Life



*A Message from Dean
Morales*

As we approach commencement I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the many students who have been active in student life activities at Brooklyn College. The vast numbers of activities are too many to enumerate but as we become engaged in the college's strategic planning process for the year 2005-2010, I bring to your attention some of those programs which may provide us with opportunities to work collaboratively with academic departments at Brooklyn College in addressing the general education learning goals for all students.

Asian Heritage Month in April was marked by festive and educational activities on the quad and in the Student Center. One event allowed students who attended to explore a variety of instruments and to dialogue with the musicians. For the coming year we are looking forward to coordinating this type of concert,

sponsored by the Academic Club Association and other organizations, with the Music Department and with other interested academic departments. Engaging students in this type of activity early on allows for them to acquire more knowledge about themselves, about Asia, and about Asian Americans as well as providing a place for active learning outside the classroom.

The **Second Annual Civic Breakfast** provided an opportunity for students to hear various elected officials speak about their involvement in civic affairs and for students to raise questions about the origin of their involvement. Representatives of the Edward T. Rogowsky Internship Program in Albany attended this event with their faculty mentor, Prof. Emmanuel Ness. Next year we will approach several departments and gauge their interest in this type of event. We look forward to working with NYPIRG, USS, student governance groups and departments such as Political Science and Speech in

order to engage students in the organization and implementation of such projects.

The **Health Clinic's Anniversary Symposium** brought to campus Brian Lehrer from WNYC. The Health and Nutrition Sciences Department as well as the Women's Center, participated in the Symposium affording students and other guests the opportunity to dialogue on issues of health care. We expect that this relationship with these departments will be augmented in the future as the Health Clinic anticipates increased collaboration.

We invite departments and programs at Brooklyn College to consider recommending some of the programs mentioned here as well as to approach the Division of Student Life for additional information. We look forward to working together toward a student-focused campus.

Finally I extend my congratulations to '05 graduates! Bravo!

STUDENT FOCUS

Ms. Margaret Cox has been recognized by CUNY and the Vice Chancellor's Office for Student Development and Enrollment Management for her dedication to the students of the City University of New York. Margaret will receive the Angelo B. Proto CUNYCAP Award at CUNY's Annual Student Leadership Awards Ceremony on May 4 at the University's Central Office. We congratulate her and wish her well as she graduates with a Master's Degree from Brooklyn College.

A Graduate Remembers by Margaret Cox

In addition to being a student at Brooklyn College for the past two years, I have worked in the Office of Student Life as a CUNY CAP. The CUNY CAP program enables graduate students to obtain work experience while receiving a salary as well as tuition reimbursement for up to six course credits.

I am also an active member of Seeds of Hope which is a club that strives to promote student volunteerism and good will in the Brooklyn College community and beyond.

My experience at Brooklyn College has prepared me for the future.

It has built my confidence. I have become a better listener, which is a necessity in every field. I anticipate that there will be many obstacles to overcome. However, the insight that I have gained at Brooklyn College provides me with the necessary means to face any challenge.

Calendar of Campus Events for May*

May 2-6 – Volunteer Week

May 3- Seeds of Hope Meeting

May 4 & 5 – Blood Drive

May 4 – Dean's Hour

May 5- CUNY Wellness Festival

May 5 – Holocaust Remembrance Day

May 5 – Academic Achievement Workshop

May 5 – Time Management & Procrastination Workshop

May 5 – Cut-A-Thon

May 10 – Test Anxiety Workshop

May 10 – Brooklyn College's 75th Birthday

May 12 – Study Skills Workshop

May 12 – Stress Management Workshop

May 12 – "Living Room" with PHD/USL

May 14 – Hall of Fame Evening

May 17 – Test Anxiety Workshop

May 17 – Seeds of Hope Meeting

May 18-24 – Commencement Tickets Distribution

May 19 – Dean's Awards/Student Recognition

May 19 – Reading Day

May 25 – Faculty Day

May 20-27 – Finals

May 28 – Washington DC Memorial Day Trip

June 2 – Commencement!

**Subject to Change*

For more details email: studentlife@brooklyn.cuny.edu

Comments may be sent to:
Student Life Newsletter,
Office of the Dean for
Student Life, 2113 Boylan
Hall, 2900 Bedford
Avenue, Brooklyn, NY
11210, or visit our website
at
www.brooklyn.cuny.edu

