Nursing Science program signs agreement for academic cooperation with school of nursing in Mexico

The doctoral program in nursing science at the Graduate Center, CUNY, has signed an agreement for academic cooperation with the School of Nursing at the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas (UAT), Mexico, and the establishment of an exchange program between the two institutions. UAT is a Mexican public university and has campuses throughout the state of Tamaulipas. One of its four schools of nursing is based in Nuevo Laredo, on the U.S.–Mexico border.
The cooperative program in nursing science is the first of its kind within the doctoral nursing program at CUNY. Dr. Francisco Cadena Santos, director of the School of Nursing at UAT, who was present at the signing, praised the GC for this move, calling it “a great achievement. . . one that many universities in Latin America and the world would like to realize.”

Beginning January 2013, the new agreement permits nursing science faculty and doctoral students at both universities to teach and/or study in the partner institution. The GC nursing science doctoral program plans to sign similar agreements with the University of Antioquia, Colombia, and the University of Panama, allowing students and faculty at both these institutions to participate in collaborative doctoral work.

This important initiative is another step forward for the GC toward establishing its presence in the international academic community and providing a forum for the exchange of intellectual and cultural ideas. “This agreement also recognizes the growing Latino population throughout CUNY and the New York City community and the effects of globalization on health and social justice,” said Keville Frederickson, executive officer of the GC’s doctoral program in nursing science.

News from Susan L. Epstein’s machine learning lab

Susan L. Epstein, a member of the doctoral faculty in computer science, is based at Hunter College, where she runs a Machine Learning Lab. She has had concurrent funding from the National Science Foundation on at least three projects at a time for several years, a record at Hunter College.

The research areas, though quite diverse, are focused on artificial intelligence (AI): constraint satisfaction, human–machine dialogue, human–multirobot search and rescue, and protein–protein interaction networks. Professor Epstein’s interests lie in pragmatic problem solving, where she focuses on how to represent knowledge to a computer and how a machine can learn. She and her students have given a number of talks in 2012.

- “Toward Habitable Assistance from Spoken Dialogue Systems” described a project in which a computer learned how to have a dialogue with people, at Innovations in Applied Artificial Intelligence in Toronto, the world’s premier conference for applied AI.
- “Learning Algorithm Portfolios for Parallel Execution” described work on an algorithm that runs on a CUNY supercomputer to solve constraint satisfaction problems, at the Sixth Learning and Intelligent Optimization Conference (LION-12) in Paris, the international conference for AI and mathematics.
- “Adaptive Parallelization for Constraint Satisfaction Search” described applications of that algorithm, at the Symposium on Combinatorial Search (SoCS 2012) in Niagara Falls, Canada, a cutting-edge conference on pure and applied search.
- “A Hybrid Paradigm for Adaptive Parallel Search” described a paradigm for solving constraint satisfaction problems, at the Eighteenth Conference on Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming in Quebec City, the world’s premier conference for work in constraint satisfaction.
- “Discovering Protein Clusters” described how a computer can drive scientific discovery, at
the AAAI Fall Symposium on Discovery Informatics: The Role of AI Research in Innovating Scientific Processes in Arlington, Virginia, a cutting-edge conference sponsored by the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.

- “Similarity and Plausible Recommendations” described work on constructing plausible book recommendations to patrons of a library, at Advances in Cognitive Systems in Palo Alto, the leading international conference for cognitive science and computer science.

In the past year she has also coauthored three journal papers and nine conference papers with her students and collaborators. For details see publications section.

The accomplishments of the doctoral faculty in the Physics Department at New York City College of Technology, since Fall 2012, include a scholar award, lectures, and presentations outside of the United States, as well as publications in peer-reviewed journals.

The Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics (KITP) in Santa Barbara, California, named Oleg Berman KITP Scholar for 2013–15. There are currently three physics faculty members at City Tech who are KITP Scholars, the others being Giovanni Ossola and Justin Vazquez-Poritz.

On December 21, Giovanni Ossola gave an invited lecture at the “VIII Avogadro Meeting on String Theory, Supergravity and Gauge Theories” at Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy. The title of his presentation was “A New Perspective on Scattering Amplitudes.”

From January 13 to 23, Roman Kezerashvili gave a cycle of lectures and seminars, at Tbilisi State University and the Institute of Physics, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, on two topics: “Solar Sailing: Concepts and New Development” and “Bose-Einstein Condensation and Superfluidity of Exitons and Polari-tons.”

(1. to r.) Justin Vazquez-Poritz, Roman Kezerashvili, Giovanni Ossola, Oleg Berman.

Photo: Courtesy of Physics Department, New York City College of Technology
Meet the American Mathematical Society Fellows

The American Mathematical Society (AMS) selected its first class of AMS fellows to recognize their “outstanding contributions to the creation, exposition, advancement, communication, and utilization of mathematics.” Seven members of the doctoral faculty in the Ph.D. Program in Mathematics at the Graduate Center, CUNY, were selected as inaugural fellows based upon their outstanding mathematical achievements: Gilbert Baumslag (City), Jason Behrstock (Lehman), Linda Keen (Lehman, EO Graduate Center), Alvany Rocha (Baruch), Dennis Sullivan (Graduate Center, Queens), Lucien Szpiro (Graduate Center), and Alphonse Vasquez (Prof. Emeritus, Graduate Center).

Professor Gilbert Baumslag, author of the MAGNUS combinatorial group theory software package, has been at the Graduate Center for many years and is also director of the Center for Algorithms and Interactive Scientific Software at City College. Baumslag’s most highly cited paper (written with colleague Myasnikov and coauthor Remeslennikov) developed a completely new theory of algebraic geometry over groups. This paper led to the solution of the fifty-year-old Tarski Conjecture by his CUNY colleagues: Kharlampovich and Myasnikov. One of his earlier works, jointly with Solitar, introduced key counterexamples now known as the Baumslag–Solitar groups, which are essential to the understanding of geometric group theory. He is also known for his two-part treatise which introduces the parafree groups.

Professor Jason Behrstock is CUNY’s youngest AMS Fellow. His most cited work concerns the asymptotic geometry of the mapping class group and the Teichmüller group. This led to a major paper written with Minsky and published in Annals on the large-scale geometry of the mapping class group $\text{MCG}(S)$ of a compact surface $S$, of genus $g$, and with $b$ boundary components. He was awarded the Feliks Gross Endowment Award for Outstanding Scholarly Achievement in 2009 and a Sloan Fellowship in 2010. In 2011 he gave a plenary address to the AMS on his breakthrough research with Neumann, which provides a quasi-isometric classification of three manifold groups.

Professor Linda Keen is currently executive officer of the Ph.D. Program in Mathematics. Her research concerns Riemann surfaces, hyperbolic geometry, complex analysis, and hyperbolic dynamics. She is particularly famous for the Collar Lemma which controls the areas around geodesics in hyperbolic surfaces; this has applications in a variety of fields including Teichmüller Theory and Complex Dynamics. Her research on the Teichmüller Theory of the punctured torus has led to significant contributions to the study of Kleinian and Fuchsian Groups. In Complex Dynamics she is widely known for her work on the dynamics of entire and meromorphic functions. She is also well known for her work with Series on Pleating Invariants. Among her many honors, Linda Keen gave an AMS Address in 1975 and was selected as the Emmy Noether Lecturer in 1991.
Professor Alvany Rocha has served on the doctoral faculty in mathematics at the Graduate Center, CUNY, since 1990 and as executive officer from 2001 to 2004. She was also a member of the AMS Committee on Science Policy. In 1993 she gave an AMS Invited Address on minimal representations and conformal symmetry. She is most well known for her work computing the characters of the Virasaro algebra. This highly cited work of hers has been applied to compute the energy momentum tensor in conformal field theory.

Distinguished Professor Dennis Sullivan holds the Einstein Chair of Science at the Graduate Center, CUNY. Among his many awards are the 1971 Oswald Veblen Prize in Geometry, the 1981 Prix Élie Cartan of the French Academy of Sciences, the 1994 King Faisal Prize, the 2004 National Medal of Science, the 2006 AMS Steele Prize for Lifetime Achievement, and the 2010 Wolf Prize in Mathematics for “his contributions to algebraic topology and conformal dynamics.” His work led to the complete classification of simply connected manifolds with a given homotopy type. He also proved the Adams Conjecture. His Rigidity Theorem for Kleinian Groups has applications in Thurston’s Geometrization of three manifolds, and his No Wandering Domains Theorem lead to the classification of the dynamics of iterated rational maps of the Riemann sphere. He is currently the principal investigator of an NSF FRG grant on Algebraic Topology.

Lucien Szpiro was appointed Distinguished Professor at the Graduate Center, CUNY, in 1999. He specializes in Commutative Algebra, Diophantine Geometry, and Arithmetic Algebraic Geometry. He is currently the principal investigator of an NSF FRG grant on Number Theory which funds a postdoc in the mathematics department as well as three doctoral fellows. He won the Fondation Doistau-Blutel Award in 1987 “for his work in Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Geometry and for his contribution to G. Faltings’ proof of the Mordell conjecture.” Szpiro is also widely known for his 1997 paper (written with Ullmo and Zhang) on the uniform distribution of small points. More recently Szpiro has written fundamental papers on elliptic curves and on rational functions.

Alphonse Vasquez, professor emeritus at the Graduate Center, CUNY, gave an invited AMS plenary address in 1982 on his collaborative work with Thomas on Hilbert Modular Varieties. He is also famous for his work classifying flat Riemannian manifolds with Charlap and related results with Raymond. In addition to his theoretical academic research, Vasquez has worked directly with mathematicians at IBM’s Watson Labs and has spent many summers conducting classified research at the Institute for Defense Analysis. He also worked on the design of a radiation shield for the first nuclear-powered surface vessels at Bethlehem Steel’s Fore River Shipyard.
Fourteen CUNY doctoral students were selected to participate in “Boosting the Power of SUNY and CUNY: A Celebration of Graduate Research,” held in Albany on February 26. Noah Burg, Rebecca Croston, Carlos Penaloza, Corinna Singleman, Melissa Russo, and John McLaughlin represented the biology program; Bryce Peterson, the criminal justice program; Sam Friedman, computer science; Tetiana Nosach, Michael O’Keeffe, Arthur Parzygnat, and Stephanie Fiorenza, physics; and Susan Gray and Sarita Austin, the speech-language-hearing sciences program.

The one-day event was sponsored by the SUNY University Faculty Senate in partnership with CUNY faculty and took place in the Legislative Office Building. During the course of the event, members of the state legislature and the visiting public had the opportunity to view a selection of student posters featuring a wide variety of graduate research at CUNY.

**About the graduate students’ research**

Rebecca Croston (Hunter) presented “Spectral Tuning and Foreign Egg Rejection in American Robins (Turdus migratorium): Implications for Coevolutionary Theory.” Advisor: Mark Hauber (Assoc. Prof., Hunter, Biology and Psychology)

Noah Burg (Hunter) presented “Predicting the Ecological Impact of an Introduced Parasitic Bird (Vidua macroura) and Its Hosts.” Advisor: Mark Hauber (Assoc. Prof., Hunter, Biology and Psychology)

Carlos Penaloza’s (Queens) poster was titled “Mechanisms for Sex Dimorphic Cellular Sensitivity.” Advisor: Zahra Zakeri (Prof., Queens, Biochemistry and Biology)

Corinna Singleman’s (Queens) poster was titled “Investigating the Effects of PCB Pollution in Our Waterways Using Zebrafish as a Model.” Advisor: Nathalia Holtzman (Asst. Prof., Queens, Biochemistry and Biology)

Melissa Rosso (Hunter) presented “Exploring Mechanisms That Inhibit Growth Arrest and Death of Cancer Cells.” Advisor: Jill Bargonetti-Chavarria (Prof., Hunter, Biochemistry and Biology)

John McLaughlin’s (Hunter) poster was titled “Developmental Regulation by Small RNAs during Drosophila Oogenesis.” Advisor: Diana Bratu (Asst. Prof., Hunter, Biochemistry and Biology)

Sam Friedman (GC) presented “Modeling Cities by Integrating 3D and 2D Data.” Advisor: Ioannis Stamos (Prof., Hunter, Computer Science)

Michael O’Keeffe’s (Lehman) poster was titled “Magnetization and Rotations on the Nanoscale.” Advisor: Eugene Chudnovsky (Dist. Prof., Lehman, Physics)

Arthur Parzygnat’s (City) poster read “Configuration Spaces.” Advisor: V. Parameswaran Nair (Dist. Prof., City, Physics)

Tetiana Nosach (Hunter) presented “Multinuclear Solid State NMR Studies of Materials Related to Electrical Energy Storage.” Advisor: Steven Greenbaum (Prof., Hunter, Chemistry and Physics)

Stephanie Fiorenza (CSI) presented “Carbon Abundances from SDSS Globular Clusters: Exploring the Origin in the Large Spread in [C/Fe].” Advisor: Charles Liu (Assoc. Prof., CSI, Physics)

Susan Gray (GC) presented “Exploring the Potential Morphological Instruction in Adult Literacy.” Advisor: John Locke (Prof., GC, Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences)


Standing (l. to r.): Michael O’Keeffe, Carlos Penaloza, Sam Friedman, Noah Burg, Melissa Rosso, Arthur Parzygnat, John McLaughlin, Bryce Peterson. Sitting (l. to r.): Corinna Singleman, Rebecca Croston, Tetiana Nosach, Stephanie Fiorenza, Sarita Austin, Susan Gray. Photo: J. Heffler
Graduate Center, CUNY, collaborates with CapraCare on a medical mission to Haiti

A collaboration between the Graduate Center, CUNY, and the nongovernmental organization CapraCare resulted in a health assessment trip to Fonfrede, Haiti. On February 16, twelve health care providers and volunteers traveled to Fonfrede. On the team were nursing faculty, political science faculty, and doctoral students in nursing. The attendees included Martha Whetsell (Assoc. Prof., Lehman, Nursing Science), two other members of the nursing faculty from Lehman, students Judith James Borga and Darcel Reyes, and other volunteers. The leaders of the team were Keville Frederickson, executive officer of the nursing program, and Jean Pierre-Louis, a graduate of Brooklyn College’s master’s program in public health, who is also CEO and president of CapraCare. Accompanying them were William Ebenstein (University Dean for Health and Human Services, CUNY) and François Pierre-Louis (Assoc. Prof., Queens, Political Science), who also serves as senior advisor to the Chancellor’s Initiative in Haiti. Among the group were five Haitian Americans assisting with translation.

Over the course of five days, the group examined more than five hundred children between the ages of six and ten at five schools. The primary needs among the children were treatments for ringworm, intestinal parasites, undernourishment, anemia, and ear infections. Two exceptions were noted: a boy showed symptoms and signs of rubella, and a girl had a severe navel hernia.

The group also examined adults during the length of their stay there, and found that their primary health problems were high blood pressure, skin lesions, vaginitis, and dental problems. One of the volunteers, a master’s student in public health at Lehman, is a dental hygienist. She provided dental evaluations and cleanings to nearly a hundred students and adults.

In all, the medical mission addressed the needs of over 1,100 children and adults. The highlight of the trip, however, was meeting and providing a health assessment of Jean Pierre-Louis’s 113-year-old grandmother. She was found to be in excellent physical and mental health and reported that her only problem was indigestion after she eats too much. Although blind from cataracts, she refused to consider surgery for their removal—apparently hospitals are not a good place to
spend any time!

The work added value to the mission of CapraCare, which is to develop sustainable community health programs assisting school-age children between five and nineteen and their families living in Fonfrede, which has a population of 20,000 and was devastated by the 2011 earthquake. One of CapraCare’s volunteers remarked that the work accomplished with CUNY’s support added much needed credibility to CapraCare in the community.

Research Center in Barbuda

Barbuda, home of a GC-CUNY experimental station, is the smaller sister island of the Caribbean nation of Antigua and Barbuda. The station is home to collaborating anthropologists, archaeologists, biologists, education specialists, geographers, and environmental scientists, as well as artists in residence. Scientists at the station are studying long-term human ecodynamics, or the relationships between people, place, and the environment—from initial peopling of the island to today. Field methods, tools, and technologies from many fields are brought together to form a transdisciplinary initiative that will further our understanding of climate change and sustainable solutions for populations at risk.

The initiator of the Barbuda collaborative studies is Professor Sophia Perdikaris, director of the Human Ecodynamics and Research Center (HERC) at the GC and professor of anthropology at Brooklyn College. She began her archaeological research in Barbuda in 2005. Over the last seven years, a number of scholars from a variety of disciplines have visited Barbuda. In an effort to integrate research with community need, Sophia Perdikaris and John Mussington (principal of the Sir McChesney George Secondary School in Barbuda), who leads many other community initiatives, and Dr. Reginald Murphy (Secretary General UNESCO for Antigua and Barbuda and Associate Director of HERC GC) began working together to integrate scholarship with sustainable island living. As a result of this collaboration, the Barbuda Research Complex (BRC) was formed.

The BRC is the “home base” for a variety of projects and programs in Barbuda that focus on sustainability and resilience. In order to investigate human ecodynamics with both academic and practical implications in mind, local experts and US college students and faculty came together in summer 2012 and January 2013 in the first Geographic Information Systems (GIS) field schools in Barbuda to collect
quantitative and qualitative data investigating the connection between the human ecodynamics of the past to those of the present.

Sophia, John, and Reginald are also using BRC to facilitate a number of outreach and education projects, including the research station (Barbuda Archaeological Research Center or BARC), an aquaponics research facility, three museum spaces (Barbuda Museum, Barbuda Children’s Museum, Traveling Exhibition Space), land for the creation of a culturally and historically relevant botanic garden (currently in the planning stages), and an artists’ residency and studio space, as well as collaborating with solar engineers for applications of sustainable power solutions.

On January 18, 2013, the first Barbudan museum and an aquaponic research facility opened. The museum spaces will house documents and computers allowing Barbudans to access various maps, historical documents, and archaeological artifacts pertinent to Barbuda’s history, natural environment, and cultural heritage. This space will also exhibit artwork produced by the efforts envisioned in the artists’ residency program. Barbudans and visiting artists will explore themes of landscape, seascape, sustainability, and people-environment interactions.

The BRC aquaponic facility was built in direct response to curricular needs by the Sir McChesney George Secondary School and to government initiatives that have identified aquaponics as a livelihood initiative countrywide. BRC’s facility is the first and only research facility in the country that allows local secondary school students the use of the facility for fulfilling their curricular requirements. This facility is critical for exploring options toward food security and locally based sustainable solutions that will enable the production of food without further taxing wild resources.
Jia Ma wins Horst Schulz Prize for 2013

The Ph.D. Program in Biochemistry held its fifth annual Horst Schulz Prize on February 22 in the Elebash Recital Hall. Named in honor of Professor Emeritus Horst Schulz, the prize is awarded to a doctoral student in biochemistry for the best peer-reviewed paper as first author. Current or recent graduates of the Ph.D. Program in Biochemistry compete annually for the prize.

The 2012 winner was Jia Ma for his first-author paper “Fe\(^{2+}\) binds iron responsive element-RNA, selectively changing protein-binding affinities and regulating mRNA repression and activation,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS) 109:22 (May 29, 2012), online May 14, 2012. PNAS, the official journal of the United States National Academy of Sciences, appears weekly in print and daily online and provides results of vital research in the biological, physical, and social sciences.

Ma’s research was the result of collaboration between seven scientists in four national institutions: the Graduate Center and Hunter College, CUNY; Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute, Oakland, CA; School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH; and University of California, Berkeley. Ma conducted his research in the Hunter College lab of his mentor Dixie J. Gross, professor of Chemistry.

The selection committee for the prize consists of the program’s admissions committee: eight members of the doctoral faculty in biochemistry and one biochemistry doctoral student. Past award recipients include biochemistry alumni Drs. Leah Cohen, Kelly Levano, Prerna Kaur, and Katrina Caroccia.

The prize ceremony began with greetings and welcome from Biochemistry’s Executive Officer Edward Kennelly and Associate Provost and Dean for Doctoral Sciences Adjie Henderson, following which Ma presented his research and fielded questions from the audience. Ma then received the prize, consisting of a certificate and $1,000, from Professor Emeritus Schulz. The ceremony was followed by a reception.
Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

BIOLOGY

Anjana Saxena (Asst. Prof, Brooklyn, Biochemistry and Biology) received the AACR Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) Faculty Scholar Award in Cancer Research, to participate in the AACR 104th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 6–10, 2013.

Frank T. Burbrink (Prof., CSI, Biology) received a $650,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, Systematic Biology section, for his project titled “An inclusive phylogeny for the Pseudoxyrhophine snakes in Madagascar.” The project involves collaboration with co-PIs Christopher Raxworthy and Richard Pearson of the American Museum of Natural History. Prof. Burbrink has also received $150,000 in funding from CAPES–Science Without Borders as a Special Visiting Researcher in Brazil. His co-PI on this project is Adrian Garda (UFRN-Brasil).

Presentations

COMPUTER SCIENCE


PHYSICS

Alexander Lisyansky (Prof., Queens, Physics) gave two invited talks:

Tetiana Nosach, a graduate student in physics (mentor Prof. Steven G. Greenbaum, Hunter, Chemistry and Physics) presented “Single Crystal NMR Investigation of LiMPO4.” The Fall 2012 Materials Research Society Meeting, Boston, December 2012.

PUBLIC HEALTH

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Susan L. Epstein (Prof., Hunter, Computer Science) has published a number of journal and conference papers recently:


EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES


PHYSICS

Oleg Berman (Asst. Prof., NYC College of Technology, Physics) and Roman Kezerashvili (Prof., NYC College of Technology, Physics) published the following papers:


Steve Greenbaum (Prof., Hunter, Chemistry and Physics) published the following papers:


Roman Kezerashvili (Prof., NYC College of Technology, Physics) and Justin Vazquez-Poritz (Asst. Prof. NYC College of Technology, Physics):


Kezerashvili, R. Ya., and Vazquez-Poritz, J. F. 2013 “Can Solar Sails be used to Test Fundamental Physics?” *Acta Astronautica* 83: 54–64.

Vadim Oganesyan (Asst. Prof., CSI, Physics) and Gregory Boutis (Asst. Prof., York, Chemistry and Physics):


Giovani Ossola (Asst. Prof., NYC College of Technology, Physics):


Allen Tesdall (Asst. Prof., CSI, Physics):


Publications cont’d.

**Bo Wen** (Physics, February 2013 alumnus) and **Ms. Shiqi Li**, graduate student in Physics (mentor Dist. Prof. Myriam Sarachik, City College, Physics):


**Zhibai Zhang**, graduate student in physics (mentor Prof. Justin Vazquez-Poritz, NYC College of Technology, Physics):


**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Nick Freudenberg** (Dist. Prof., Hunter, Psychology and Public Health) and Michele Simon: “Newtown Massacre as a Public Health Failure—and Opportunity” for the *Huffington Post* (Dec 19, 2012).


**Nick Freudenberg** (Dist. Prof., Hunter, Psychology and Public Health) wrote a letter to the editor in the *New York Times* titled, “Reversing Childhood Obesity.”

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/14/opinion/reversing-child-obesity.html?_r=0

**Steffie Woolhandler** (Prof., Lehman, Public Health) and **David Himmelstein** (Prof., Hunter, Public Health) published “Canada’s Health Costs for Seniors Rising Slowly: Points Way to Medicare Solvency.” The article compares Canada’s health care costs to the United States’.

http://eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2012-10/pfan-chc102412.php

**Bill Sothern**, a public health graduate student, was featured in the *Daily News* (Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013) for his work on preventing mold growth resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

Appointments and Honors

PUBLIC HEALTH

Washington Heights CORNER Project, northern Manhattan’s only harm reduction–specific social service agency, has named Taeko Frost, a public health student, as executive director starting January 2013. She has been serving as program director since 2009, overseeing the development of on-site medical and primary care services, case management, quality assurance, and evaluation. Taeko is also a member of the Community Advisory Board of Community Healthcare Network.

Jose Nanin (Assoc. Prof., Kingsborough CC, Public Health) was appointed as codirector of the college’s Community Health AS degree program.

Other Achievements

PUBLIC HEALTH

In November, the Environmental Occupational Health and Safety (EOHS) faculty at the CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter College in association with the Metropolitan New York American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) collected and distributed Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for the Sandy Relief and Assistance Efforts.

May May Leung (Asst. Prof., Hunter, Public Health) and the graduate student Nutrition Club at Hunter visited several classes at the Global Technology Preparatory Middle School in East Harlem and handed out approximately 125 apples to community members outside the Silberman building, affirming the Nutrition program’s commitment to promote healthy eating in the community.

Franklin Mirer (Prof., Hunter, Public Health) was a member of the working group for International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs Volume 101. The monograph, which classified eighteen chemicals as carcinogens, was authored by the members of the working group. Dr. Mirer had substantial input into the assessments of DEHP (a plasticizer and suspected environmental estrogen widespread in the environment) and diethanolamine (an ingredient and contaminant in personal care products and metalworking fluids), as well as general comments on the cancer epidemiology of metalworking fluids. For more information see: http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Monographs/vol101/index.php
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Factoid: There are over five hundred members of the CUNY doctoral science faculty associated with the Graduate Center—a richness of intellectual capital that few other universities can match. This consortium, along with institutions such as the Brookhaven Laboratories, the New York Botanical Garden, and the American Museum of Natural History offer a unique combination of wide-ranging, interdisciplinary research and training possibilities as well as focused areas of concentration.

Spring 2013 Events

FRI., MAR. 22, 4:30–6:00 pm
**Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.) Program**
Venue: Rm 8301, GC.
Please RSVP by Mar, 15 to nursing@gc.cuny.edu

FRI, MAR. 22, 1:30-4:30 pm
**Steps in STEM: Promoting Women within Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Careers.”**
Venue: Proshansky Auditorium, GC. A panel discussion and career fair for all including high school and college aged students.

**ITS Events**
**Seminars in theoretical and computational chemistry**
Venue: Rm 4102, GC, 3:00–6:00 pm
WED, APR. 10, Jeff Neaton, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. Andrew Rappe, University of Pennsylvania.
WED APR. 10, Benedetta Mennucci (University of Pisa, Italy) Troy van Voohis (MIT)
Visit https://sites.google.com/site/itsgccuny/theoretical-and-computational-chemistry for up-to-date information

MON., MAR. 25–THU., MAR.28
**Frontiers of quantum condensed matter physics: light, matter and unusual devices of equilibrium**
Venue: Rm 4102, GC, 9:00 am–6:00 pm
This workshop will bring together a diverse group of experts working in the burgeoning area of research into quantum dynamics of disequilibrated many-body systems.

Rapid advances in fields of cold atoms, ultraclean semiconductor devices, nuclear magnetic resonance and structural dynamics necessitate a meeting such as this that will focus on some of the most recent and exciting developments both in experiments and theory. Organizational emphasis is placed on spontaneous small group discussions rather than dense presentation schedule. Lunch and coffee breaks will be served.

Registration is required for this event, please contact vadim.oganesyan@gmail.com