One of the most successful art shows to reach New York in recent years, “The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons” at the Jewish Museum, had the Hunter touch, thanks to Art History Professor Emily Braun.

The show was five years in the making because of an unusual challenge. Historians had long known that a succession of extraordinary Jewish women held salons in their homes beginning in the late 18th century and continuing until about 1950, playing host to the writers, philosophers, artists, poets, composers, and other luminaries of their times. The question was how to turn this into a museum exhibit—how to make the art of conversation come visually alive.

The answer, in the words of Joan Rosenbaum, director of the Jewish Museum, was the “enthusiastic involvement” of Braun and her co-curator, Hunter College High School alumna Emily Bilski. Braun and Bilski devoted four years to assembling the paintings, sculptures, photographs, and other objects that made the exhibit a treat for the eye as well as a stimulus for the mind. Their efforts ranged over three continents and nine countries as they reached out to fellow scholars, personal friends, and descendants of the show’s subjects to assemble the show.
Happenings at Hunter

To see a list of upcoming events at Hunter, go to www.hunter.cuny.edu/events

Edith Everett, CUNY trustee emeritus, joins President Raab on a tour of a biology lab at the Hunter Summer Institute in Math and Science. Over 100 high school students from 31 New York City public high schools spent five weeks at Hunter intensively studying biology, chemistry, matrix algebra, physics, or statistics for college credit. Summer Institute students who go on to matriculate at Hunter receive scholarships to cover their first year’s tuition.

Celebrated British writer Julian Barnes, the 2005 Madeline Sheehan Blair Writer in Residence, spent his day at Hunter teaching an MFA class in creative writing, reading from his most recent collection of short stories, *The Lemon Table*, and signing his autograph for the scores of fans who brought their own copies of his books for him to sign. The writer-in-residence program was established in 1997 by Judge Warren Blair in memory of his wife, Madeline Sheehan Blair, a Hunter alumna (’63) who died in 1997.

Former executive editor of The New York Times Joseph Lelyveld discusses his book *Omaha Blues: A Memory Loop* with Times columnist Maureen Dowd at a “Times Talks” event onstage at the Kaye Playhouse. Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields gave the commencement address at the Hunter College School of Social Work graduation in June. Fields, who holds an MSW from Indiana University, told the graduates that she moved to New York City in 1971 to pursue a career in social work. She previously served as an administrator of social services for the Children’s Aid Society.

Pulitzer Prize winner Jhumpa Lahiri charmed the audience at Hunter’s Distinguished Writers Series when she read from her short-story collection *Interpreter of Maladies*. Following the Q&A portion of the program, Lahiri autographed copies of her book.

Christine Todd Whitman, former governor of New Jersey and former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, speaks with Suzanne Santry, a member of the Hunter College Foundation Board of Trustees, and her husband, David, after spending the day at Hunter teaching classes, meeting with students, and delivering a keynote address on the environment as part of this year’s Presidential Public Leadership Program. Alumnus Mel Tukman (’61) is the sponsor of the program, which brings distinguished public figures to Hunter.

Richard Gephardt, former House Democratic Leader, spoke at Hunter on “Spreading Freedom: A Mission for the American People.” His lecture, held at the Kaye Playhouse in March, was sponsored jointly by Hunter, the Foreign Policy Association, and the National Endowment for Democracy.

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I heard that I’m the first male to win this distinguished graduate award. This is my Halle Berry moment,” said Robert Lopez, the Tony Award-winning *Avenue Q* co-creator upon receiving the 2005 Hunter College High School Distinguished Graduate Award. Lopez, a 1993 graduate of the high school, gave the keynote address at the school’s graduation in June.
The President’s Perspective

The Hunter community joins the nation in mourning the victims of Hurricane Katrina, and the College is doing its part to assist survivors as they begin rebuilding their lives. Our commitment to help has included offering admission into Hunter to the students who attended colleges and universities in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama that were forced to shut down because of Katrina. As this issue of Art 
Hunter went to press, 44 displaced students have applied for admission, 22 have completed their application forms, and 11 have already registered for classes. Six are New York residents, and 12 are from out of state. We have been able to accommodate six of the students in the Hunter residence hall.

We wish these new additions to the Hunter family well, and we know they will find a warm welcome wherever they go. They are joining a campus with a long and honored tradition of providing a home to young men and women who are determined, often against overwhelming odds, to pursue the education that will be their key to the American dream.

Great numbers of the 2,000 students who graduated with the Class of June 2005 are living proof of that, as well as living testament to the Hunter commitment to service. Take the case of Lelanie Alicea, a young woman who survived a near-fatal case of leukemia only because a young man who had lost his mother to cancer came forward at the eleventh hour to make a bone marrow donation. After that traumatic episode, Lelanie came to Hunter determined to dedicate her life to helping others suffering with cancer. She earned her degree in nursing and is now working at one of New York’s major cancer hospitals. Consider, too, John Byrne, who was helping to fund his Hunter education with his National Guard pay. John’s unit was called up and sent to Iraq, where he won a commendation for bravery. Even while in service, John kept in touch with Hunter administrators to guarantee his place upon his return, and he was able to graduate this June. John’s commitment to serve his nation doesn’t end there; however, because he intends to return to Iraq with the Army.

Stories such as these are an inspiration to everyone in the Hunter faculty and administration, as well as a source of pride to all Hunter alumni. It is impossible to know, of course, how long the students displaced by Katrina will remain at Hunter, but if it is all the way until they graduate, we welcome them and wish them the best. Their presence will enrich our community, just as their experience here will surely enrich them.

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Hit Museum Show Spotlights Power Talkers

continued from page 1

For Braun, who has taught at Hunter since 1991, it was a professional challenge, a labor of love—and something more. In the course of her research, she enjoyed an experience that most art lovers can only dream of: the discovery of a lost treasure.

One of the "stars" of the salon show was Berta Zuckerkandl (1864-1945), who played a leading role in the cultural life of early 20th-century Vienna. As Braun and Bilski wrote in their excellent catalog for the exhibit, "The causes that Zuckerkandl energetically advocated all her life—the creation of an Austrian avant-garde in art, literature, and theater, liberal democratic politics and social reform—found expression in her salon and in her journalism."

Braun knew that a portrait of Zuckerkandl had once been painted, since a black-and-white reproduction of it was included in her autobiography, My Life and History, published in 1939. But no trace of the portrait could be found, and because Zuckerkandl fled the Nazis in the 1930s, it seemed almost certain that the portrait had vanished in the chaos of World War II.

Then, one evening in 2002 Professor Braun began leafing through the pages of a catalog for an upcoming art auction. The catalog was from Christie’s for a house sale—so hardy expected to come across a missing masterpiece.

But there it was, easily recognized because of Braun’s knowledge of the reproduction: the painting of Berta Zuckerkandl, identified only as “Portrait of a Woman,” by the French artist Eugene Carriere.

Braun submitted a bid for the painting, using the auction house’s low estimate as her guide. Not surprisingly, since Zuckerkandl had been lost to history, Braun was the only bidder, and soon the portrait was hers.

Concerned that what she now possessed was an artwork the Nazis had looted and that Zuckerkandl’s heirs were the rightful owners, Braun tracked down Emile Zuckerkandl, a grandson of Berta’s and a professor of molecular biology at Stanford University. She wrote to explain the sequence of events and offered to restore the painting to him if indeed it had been stolen from the family. The response was a happy one for both sides. Zuckerkandl was delighted that the portrait had been found and was in caring hands, and he assured Braun that it was not stolen: his grandmother had sold it when she was assured of money after World War I.

No mention of this remarkable history was made in the Jewish Museum show. Berta Zuckerkandl’s portrait hung in the area devoted to her life and work, its ownership described only as “Private collection, New York. Formerly in the collection of Berta Zuckerkandl.”

The long list of Professor Braun’s accomplishments—a PhD from the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University; expertise in modern Italian art and fascist culture, 19th-century European painting, 20th-century American art, women’s studies, Jewish history, and contemporary painting and sculpture; and many publications, fellowships and awards—has just grown considerably more impressive.
BROOKDALE CENTER ON AGING: AT THE CROSSROADS

Gala Raises Funds—And Center’s Profile

Hun t e r College’s Brookdale Center on Aging held its annual fund-raising gala on June 15, and in doing so gave New Yorkers a new honor to covet. The Center bestowed “New Yorkers Forever” awards on three living legends: former Governor Hugh L. Carey, social services leader James R. Dampson, and retailing pioneer Lillian Vernon. The awards celebrate “positive urban aging” by honoring “individuals who have long contributed—and continue to contribute—to the enrichment of life in the city.” All who attended the evening at the St. Regis Hotel enthusiastically agreed that each of these three remarkable people deserved recognition, and many of the distinguished New Yorkers who turned out to support Brookdale may themselves be future candidates for “New Yorkers Forever” awards.

The event marked an important milestone for the Center as it pursues its mission of improving the quality of life for the aging. The dinner not only raised substantial new funds for the Center’s educational and research programs, but it also established a tradition that should bring it welcome new attention.

Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, who presided over the evening’s ceremonies, captured the importance of the Brookdale Center’s work: “Americans turning 65 this year can expect to live—on average—until they are 83. But with this good news come challenges. What about the quality of our longer lives? What happens when the baby boom generation, now some 75 million strong, begins to retire in the next five years?”

For more than 30 years, President Raab continued, the Brookdale Center on Aging has responded to such challenges “by identifying the needs of older New Yorkers, training countless professionals who care for the aging, and working in partnership with community and advocacy groups.”

Brookdale Educators

Marianne C. Fahs

“I jumped at the chance when I was asked to apply.” So says Dr. Marianne C. Fahs about the invitation she received last year to join Hunter College’s Brookdale Center on Aging as the director of research and professor of urban public health. Hunter was equally delighted to land her.

Dr. Fahs—“Mimi” to her friends and fans—is a health economist who has had a major impact on public policy at the city, state, and federal levels. What is a health economist? “Someone,” says Fahs, “who looks at health policies in terms of their economic impact, especially on vulnerable populations.”

The results of such studies can be dramatic. For example, 25 years ago it was accepted medical wisdom that women over the age of 65 no longer needed to be screened for cervical cancer. No one questioned this dogma—except Mimi Fahs. She and her colleagues did a study of patients in the Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens.

They found it was true that middle- and upper-income women who had been regularly screened for cervical cancer during their adult years no longer needed testing after 65; the cancer is too slow-acting to be life-threatening at that point. But great numbers of working-class and poor women who lacked health insurance and access to medical care had never been tested. Cutting off screening for them at age 65 just made a risky situation worse.

Fahs then put on her health-economist hat and did a cost-benefit analysis of extending cervical cancer screening beyond 65. Her conclusion: the accepted wisdom was not only wrong in medical...
A head of its class, ahead of its time

An innovative and world-renowned training and research center, think tank, program developer, and advocacy agency, Hunter’s Brookdale Center on Aging has an urgent mission: to enhance the quality of life of the elderly, especially those in urban centers. One of the nation’s first and largest academic gerontology centers and the only one in the New York metropolitan area, the Center carries out its mission through a multidisciplinary team of social workers, nurses, lawyers, educators, and ethicists. It was founded in 1974 and is located at Hunter’s Brookdale Health Science Campus in Manhattan.

Brookdale Bestows Three “New Yorkers Forever” Awards

Hugh L. Carey

Hugh Carey will long be remembered as the governor who saved New York City from bankruptcy and launched the world-renowned “I Love New York” campaign. Under his two-term gubernatorial leadership, sweeping reforms were made in the care of the developmentally disabled and in other social and health programs.

Carey began his political career in 1960 when, in his first political campaign, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he served seven terms. Returning to private law practice after serving as governor, Hugh Carey has been called on by presidents, governors, mayors, and church leaders for his wise and incisive counsel.

James R. Dumpson

New York’s beloved social services pioneer Jim Dumpson has brought great honor to each post he has held: as commissioner of welfare under Mayor John Lindsay, commissioner of social services and human resources administrator under Mayor Abraham Beame, and chairman of the Health and Hospitals Corporation under Mayor David Dinkins.

Between stints in government service, Dr. Dumpson served as associate dean of Hunter’s School of Social Work and dean of Fordham’s School of Social Services, where an endowed chair has been named in his honor. Forever active, Dumpson is senior consultant at The New York Community Trust. Under the auspices of the Trust’s Center for Policy on Aging, he recently edited a five-volume study on growing older in New York City.

Lillian Vernon

The genius of Lillian Vernon lies in her uncanny understanding of her customers. In 1951, working at her kitchen table and using $2,000 in wedding gift money, she launched the company that would become the Lillian Vernon Corporation, now a leading national catalog and online retailer of gifts, housewares, and children’s products.

Vernon and her family fled Germany before WWII and settled in New York City, where she attended Hunter College High School. Through her company and personally, she has given back to New York City in many generous ways with her thoughtful philanthropy. Indefatigable, Lillian Vernon continues to play a leading role in her company, traveling around the world in search of new products.

Kodner Appointed Delegate to WH Conference

Dennis L. Kodner, executive director of Hunter College’s Brookdale Center on Aging, has been named by U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney as a delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging.

The conference, to be held October 23-26, will generate recommendations to the president and Congress to help guide the nation’s policies for the aging.

“I hope to add my voice to the emerging debates on Social Security, Medicare, and the need for a national long-term care program. With the first wave of baby boomers preparing for retirement, this year’s conference provides an especially important opportunity to take a fresh look at aging and how to better the lives of older Americans,” said Kodner.

Have National Impact

terms, but exact high social and financial costs, too.

The Elmhurst study was a small one, but when Fahs published the results in the Journal of the American Medical Association, the impact was immediate. She received calls from Washington asking her to conduct a national study as part of a proposed overhaul of Medicare benefits. The study confirmed her original conclusion, and in 1991 the Medicare law was changed to provide screening benefits to women over 65.

More such studies followed. One involved occupational diseases that go undetected for years before appearing—for example, carpal tunnel syndrome in women who spent their lives pushing cloth through sewing machines in garment center factories. Because of that study, the New York State Legislature established six occupational health centers across the state. After 9/11, New York City set up a similar center for those working at Ground Zero.

Now that Fahs has joined Hunter, her pioneering research continues on a variety of projects that offer the aging the promise of a better life. Among them is a study on the cost-effectiveness of community-based smoking cessation programs among Chinese-Americans in New York City.

A visitor to Fahs’ office is bound to be intrigued by how this warm, charming but soft-spoken woman has been such a force in public health policy, an arena in which many well-known national figures have suffered frustration and defeat. A few minutes of conversation provide the answer as she ranges with encyclopedic knowledge over a wide variety of issues—from changing the Social Security law (she believes the current debate in Washington is distorting by “four myths about aging”) to the costs and benefits of making city neighborhoods “elderly friendly.”

A glance at her extraordinary résumé offers further insight into her effectiveness: service on the faculties of the University of Michigan, the CUNY Graduate Center, Columbia University, NYU, and the New School; appointments to Mount Sinai Medical Center’s departments of community medicine and geriatrics; service on a long list of national advisory committees; and authorship of more than 100 articles and reports on health services.

But the best explanation for her success comes from Fahs herself as she describes the mixture of careful scholarship and political practicality that drives her work: “I want to make our research policy-relevant, not only for New York City but nationally, by simultaneously meeting the highest academic standards and focusing on the important policy questions.”

With Mimi Fahs on board, it’s small wonder that the Brookdale Center on Aging is a national leader in its field.
Leonard Lopate, the host of the acclaimed public radio talk show on WNYC, The Leonard Lopate Show, addressed graduates and their families at Hunter’s 191st Commencement, held on June 8 at Radio City Music Hall. Lopate, who studied with artist Mark Rothko in Hunter’s MA Program in Art from 1968-1971, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab.

Class valedictorian Ruben Pinkhasov came to this country from Kazakhstan when he was 11 years old, not knowing any English, but realizing that he wanted to be a doctor. Pinkhasov graduated with an impressive 3.97 GPA and departmental honors in biology. Named an honorary CUNY Jonas E. Salk Scholar, he also received a Hunter College Scholarship and Welfare award for graduate study, which he is using as a first-year medical student at Drexel University Medical School.

Service to country is something John Byrnes knows about. He matriculated at Hunter College in 2000, funding his education with GI Bill payments from a stint in the Marine Corps and direct payments from the New York National Guard. His Hunter career was interrupted when his National Guard unit was mobilized, and in March 2004 he began a 10-month tour of duty in Iraq. Among his many exploits, he won an Army Commendation Medal for saving the life of a wounded Turkish truck driver while under fire from insurgents.

Even as he was carrying out his duties, Byrnes kept in regular e-mail contact with Hunter faculty and administrators to ensure that he could register for his next semester. He returned to Hunter in January and graduated in June with a degree in special honors from the Thomas Hunter Honors Program and political science. Byrnes’ story of service does not end there. He has reenlisted in the Army for three years and expects to be posted to Iraq or Afghanistan.

Tragedy stuck Lelanie Alicea when she was diagnosed with leukemia at 22. Her future looked bleak. She needed a bone marrow transplant to survive, but no one in her family was a match. And doctors said her Puerto Rican heritage reduced the chances of finding a compatible donor.

Alicea spoke at Hispanic community events to raise awareness of the importance of bone marrow donations and to plead for her own life, but without success. Then, just when all hope seemed gone, a young African-American man who had lost his mother to cancer came forward. Alicea’s experience inspired her to enroll at Hunter as a nursing student, and last year she received a scholarship from the National Association of Hispanic Nurses. After graduating in June, she began work as a cancer nurse at New York Presbyterian Hospital. Over the years, Alicea came to think of the man who saved her life as part of her family. He responded in kind and flew in from California to join her family in celebrating her graduation.

For These Two, It’s All About Service

With their eyes on the prize—fabulous futures made possible by all they learned and experienced at Hunter—the Class of June 2005 celebrates those hard-won diplomas and the stores of knowledge they represent. Highlights of their Commencement ceremony included the presentation of President’s Medals to New York City Council Member Eva Moskowitz and Acting Associate Provost L. Michael Griffel as well as the award presentations pictured on this page.
In Memoriam

Evan Hunter ’50

The Hunter College community was deeply saddened by the death of one of its most celebrated alumni, the author Evan Hunter, who died on July 6 at the age of 78. Born Salvatore Lombino in New York City, he changed his name to Evan Hunter in 1952 and became famous under that name in 1954 when his novel The Blackboard Jungle was published. Based to some degree on Hunter’s own experiences as a young teacher in an urban school, the book was later turned into a successful movie. Other best-selling novels followed, including Mothers and Daughters (1961) and Last Summer (1968).

But it was under the name of Ed McBain that Hunter gained perhaps his greatest renown. As McBain, beginning in 1956 with the book Cop Hater, Hunter wrote scores of police procedurals featuring the detectives of the fictional 87th Precinct in the metropolis of Isola, which suspiciously resembled New York. Critics and readers alike praised McBain’s prose as well as his characterizations and narratives, and in 1986 he received the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award for lifetime achievement. He was also the first American to receive a Cartier Diamond Dagger from the Crime Writers Association of Great Britain.

Among his more than 70 screenplays was the one for The Birds (1963), which he and Alfred Hitchcock adapted from a story by Daphne du Maurier. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Hunter with a major in English and psychology, Evan Hunter was a loyal supporter of his alma mater. In 1992 he wrote a letter on behalf of the College’s Annual Fund in which he said, “Hunter made the difference for me…It introduced me to a world I had never known.”

The Hunter community will miss Evan Hunter, and we send our sympathy to his family, his friends, and his millions of admiring readers.

Ruth Block ’45

Hunter College mourns the loss of alumna Ruth Block, who died on June 21 at the age of 84. A longtime photo editor of The New York Times Magazine, where she worked from 1946 until she retired in 1991, Block was a highly talented professional, a serious scholar, an avid photographer, a passionate advocate for causes she considered just, and a loyal alumna.

Like many of today’s students, Block attended Hunter for more than the “standard” four years: she took night classes for six years, usually working full time, and became a day student only in her last year. After earning her BA in classics, she got a job as a secretary at The New York Times Magazine and eventually was offered a professional position on the picture desk. She later became an assistant photo editor, supervising the cover selection when the Magazine began its move into the world of color and winning a number of Publisher’s Awards for her layouts. She also wrote occasional reviews and “Topics of the Times” columns and is well-remembered for a Times article on the joys of being an aunt.

Much as Block believed in the newspaper where she spent her entire career, she also believed in justice, and she was an active member of the Women’s Caucus of the 1970s that fought—and eventually won—more equality and opportunities for the Times’ women employees.

Always a supporter of her alma mater, Block made generous gifts to the Thomas Hunter Honors Program, Roosevelt House, and the Classics Department, and through the Scholarship and Welfare Fund she established two scholarships named for her mother, Bertha Block. And ever the scholar, after her retirement she continued her study of the classics, taking several courses in ancient Greek.

We are proud that Ruth Block was a member of the Hunter community, and we send our deepest condolences to her family and many friends.

Student Lounge Gets A Face-lift

The Thomas Hunter Student Lounge recently got an extreme makeover, thanks to a $25,000 gift from Hunter alumnus Deboros Breton ’62 and a $7,500 contribution from New York State Assemblyman Jonathan Bing. At a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 20, Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab, along with Breton’s family, Assemblyman Bing, students, faculty, and friends, celebrated the contributions of those whose generosity made the renovation possible.

With the help of the Hunter Undergraduate Student Government, the student lounge was completely renovated in May. Breton died in March 2004, but members of her family attended the ceremony and spoke to those gathered in the student lounge about Deboros’ love of Hunter.

The lounge now features new flooring, furniture, and track lighting, fresh paint, a refurbished counter area, window treatments, shelving, and storage space. There are plans to renovate the restroom, making it ADA-compliant. The lounge, which students use every day, is a welcome space for club meetings and events, theatrical performances, poetry readings, and other campus activities.

Help Students Build Their Future!

To learn more about the mentoring program, contact Julie Wolpov at julie.wolpov@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3956.

BE A MENTOR!
One of the highlights of Alumni Weekend was the presentation of two special Alumni Association awards:

Virginia Clare Shields (BA’59), a long-time committed supporter of her alma mater, received the Award for Distinguished Service to the Association and the College. Member of the Alumni Association board, she has chaired the Birthday Luncheon, developed a computerized system for the Association and taught the system to volunteers, co-chaired alumni cancer conferences, served on the Hall of Fame Committee, and co-chaired Alumni Homcoming in 1992. She is also a member of the committee planning her class’s 50th reunion in 2009, the board of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund, and the executive committee of the Friends of the Library. A retired advertising executive, Shields was partners-director of network operations for BJK&E, a division of BellSouth Worldwide, and a senior vice president at NW Ayer.

Lorraine Monroe (BA’56, MA’75), who received the Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement, is the founder of the Monroe Monroe Institute, which supports public school leaders committed to leading consistently high-achieving schools. Monroe was also the founding principal of the Frederick Douglas Academy in Central Harlem, widely praised for innovation and excellence, and the founder and director of the Center for Minority Achievement at Bank Street College. A national and international consultant whose work has been featured in The New York Times, on 60 Minutes, and in other major media, Monroe is a former executive of the Board of Education and gained firsthand experience in New York City public schools as a teacher, dean, assistant principal, and principal. The author of the books Nothing’s Impossible: Leadership Lessons from Rocks and Outside the Classroom and The Monroe Doctrine, Monroe holds master’s degrees from both Bank Street and Hunter and an EdD from Columbia Teachers College.

Helen Gross was escorted by her son-in-law, Harvey Schulweis, to her 75th Hunter reunion, where they heard from President Raab about the changes the College has undergone, especially since 1930, the year that Gross graduated from Hunter.

Four hundred Hunter alums from all over the country gathered during Alumni Weekend 2005 to greet former classmates, hear about the College’s latest projects and plans, and pledge renewed support to their alma mater. This annual event, sponsored by the Alumni Association, took place Friday and Saturday, May 5-6. The induction ceremony for new members of the Hall of Fame, held Friday evening in the Hunter West Building Lobby, opened the weekend’s festivities. (See new Hall of Fame members below.) The weekend continued the next day at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, where members of this year’s milestone classes (years ending in 5 and 0) met in hotel suites to update one another about the triumphs and trials of the last 10, 30, or 70 years—and regale one another with anecdotes beginning “Remember when…”.

Among the highlights of the weekend was President Jennifer J. Raab’s announcement that Hunter’s newly launched Mother’s Day Scholarship Fund was off to a great start. “Having a mother who received a Hunter education makes a huge impact,” said Raab, adding: “The Fund is a wonderful way for sons and daughters to honor their Hunter mothers by helping to make this

Joe Ayevainen (BA’70, MA’72), Hunter’s vice president for student affairs and dean of students, began her Hunter career in the former Communications Department, where she taught, advised students, and served as deputy chair. Named assistant provost in 1996, she spearheaded the Block Program and was involved in key aspects of student academic life. Since assuming leadership of Student Affairs, Ayevainen has overseen the expansion of her division, which now includes admissions, registrar, and financial aid, and she has led initiatives that have improved advising, counseling, and other student services.

Marilyn JS Goodman (BFA’67), a specialist in arts and museum education, was the first director of education at the Guggenheim Museum, where she launched educational initiatives in New York and Bilbao. Before joining the Guggenheim, she was the founding executive director of the Children’s Museum of Cincinnati and, earlier, the director for programs and education at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum. She has lectured and written for publications in the U.S. and abroad, and has taught at City College and Rutgers. She has an EdD from the University of Massachusetts.

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Ella Ayevainen (BA’70, MA’72), Hunter’s vice president for student affairs and dean of students, began her Hunter career in the former Communications Department, where she taught, advised students, and served as deputy chair. Named assistant provost in 1996, she spearheaded the Block Program and was involved in key aspects of student academic life. Since assuming leadership of Student Affairs, Ayevainen has overseen the expansion of her division, which now includes admissions, registrar, and financial aid, and she has led initiatives that have improved advising, counseling, and other student services.

Marilyn JS Goodman (BFA’67), a specialist in arts and museum education, was the first director of education at the Guggenheim Museum, where she launched educational initiatives in New York and Bilbao. Before joining the Guggenheim, she was the founding executive director of the Children’s Museum of Cincinnati and, earlier, the director for programs and education at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum. She has lectured and written for publications in the U.S. and abroad, and has taught at City College and Rutgers. She has an EdD from the University of Massachusetts.

Ella Ayevainen (BA’56, MA’75), who received the Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement, is the founder of the Monroe Monroe Institute, which supports public school leaders committed to leading consistently high-achieving schools. Monroe was also the founding principal of the Frederick Douglas Academy in Central Harlem, widely praised for innovation and excellence, and the founder and director of the Center for Minority Achievement at Bank Street College. A national and international consultant whose work has been featured in The New York Times, on 60 Minutes, and in other major media, Monroe is a former executive of the Board of Education and gained firsthand experience in New York City public schools as a teacher, dean, assistant principal, and principal. The author of the books Nothing’s Impossible: Leadership Lessons from Rocks and Outside the Classroom and The Monroe Doctrine, Monroe holds master’s degrees from both Bank Street and Hunter and an EdD from Columbia Teachers College.

Ella Ayevainen was escorted by her daughter-in-law, Harvey Schulweis, to her 75th Hunter reunion, where they heard from President Raab about the changes the College has undergone, especially since 1930, the year that Gross graduated from Hunter.

Four hundred Hunter alums from all over the country gathered during Alumni Weekend 2005 to greet former classmates, hear about the College’s latest projects and plans, and pledge renewed support to their alma mater. This annual event, sponsored by the Alumni Association, took place Friday and Saturday, May 5-6. The induction ceremony for new members of the Hall of Fame, held Friday evening in the Hunter West Building Lobby, opened the weekend’s festivities. (See new Hall of Fame members below.) The weekend continued the next day at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, where members of this year’s milestone classes (years ending in 5 and 0) met in hotel suites to update one another about the triumphs and trials of the last 10, 30, or 70 years—and regale one another with anecdotes beginning “Remember when…”.

Among the highlights of the weekend was President Jennifer J. Raab’s announcement that Hunter’s newly launched Mother’s Day Scholarship Fund was off to a great start. “Having a mother who received a Hunter education makes a huge impact,” said Raab, adding: “The Fund is a wonderful way for sons and daughters to honor their Hunter mothers by helping to make this

Lorraine Monroe (BA’56, MA’75), who received the Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement, is the founder of the Monroe Monroe Institute, which supports public school leaders committed to leading consistently high-achieving schools. Monroe was also the founding principal of the Frederick Douglas Academy in Central Harlem, widely praised for innovation and excellence, and the founder and director of the Center for Minority Achievement at Bank Street College. A national and international consultant whose work has been featured in The New York Times, on 60 Minutes, and in other major media, Monroe is a former executive of the Board of Education and gained firsthand experience in New York City public schools as a teacher, dean, assistant principal, and principal. The author of the books Nothing’s Impossible: Leadership Lessons from Rocks and Outside the Classroom and The Monroe Doctrine, Monroe holds master’s degrees from both Bank Street and Hunter and an EdD from Columbia Teachers College.

Helen Gross was escorted by her son-in-law, Harvey Schulweis, to her 75th Hunter reunion, where they heard from President Raab about the changes the College has undergone, especially since 1930, the year that Gross graduated from Hunter.
same wonderful education available to the next generation.” (See story on page 12.) Another highlight was the Spotlight Series—three “crash courses” given by Hunter faculty members which allowed alumni to experience the joy of learning without having to take exams. One class, given by Professor Emily Braun (Art), dealt with the Jewish Museum exhibition co-curated by Braun, “The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons.” Also in the series were an exploitation of “The Future of Social Security: Political Myths and Economic Realities” led by Professor Marianne Faku (Urban Public Health), and a discussion of “The U.S. Civil Rights Movement” with Professor Jonathan Rosenberg (History) at the helm. (See story featuring Professor Braun on page 1, and story about Professor Faku on page 2.) Winding up the day’s festivities, President Raab pointed to several recent students and graduates—one born in Eastern Europe, one from Vietnam, and one from a poverty-stricken background in America—and concluded: “At the heart of these stories is Hunter’s mission—which remains remarkably unchanged through the generations. Hunter continues to make the American dream come true.”

Pioneering Professionals

Barbara Barone (BA ’77, MSE ’79), director of Hunter’s Dokani Mathematics Learning Center, has helped thousands of students hone the mathematics skills essential to many careers and all of 21st-century life. Associated with the Learning Center since 1974 and the Center’s head since 1989, Barone is also a longtime adjunct lecturer in Hunter’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and she lectures and publishes in the field of mathematics education. In addition, she has served and led scores of committees concerned with security, disabled students, remediation, and other College-wide issues.

Elizabeth A. Capezuti (MSN ’84), a certified geriatric nurse practitioner, has gained international renown for research aimed at developing methods of preventing injuries among older patients while enhancing their mobility and dignity. An advocate as well as a scholar, she has worked with lawyers, social workers, scientists, and health care experts in her efforts to improve hospital-bed safety and change safety regulations. Now an associate professor of nursing at NYU and co-director of the John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing at NYU, she holds a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.

Alfred Posamentier (BA ’64), a professor of mathematics education and dean of the School of Education at City College, is a leader in mathematics education in New York State and works with math teachers throughout the U.S. and abroad to help them improve their effectiveness. The author or co-author of 35 math books, Posamentier is quoted frequently in the media about education-related issues. Posamentier, who earned his PhD at Fordham, began his career as a high school teacher and has been at City College since 1970; he has also been a visiting professor at universities in Austria, England, Germany, and Poland.

Myrna Raeder (BA ’68) is a nationally recognized expert in legal evidence and procedure and a leader in promoting gender equity in the criminal justice system. A professor at Southeastern University School of Law, Raeder has won awards from the American Bar Association and the Women Lawyers of Los Angeles for her contributions to the legal profession. Earlier in her career, she taught at the University of San Francisco School of Law and was a practicing attorney. The author of scores of scholarly articles, Raeder has been president of the National Association of Women Lawyers and chair of the ABA Criminal Justice Section.
Alumni News

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Elected Members For 2005-2008

Officers:
President: Agnes A. Violenus
1st Vice Pres.: Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey
2nd Vice Pres.: Barbara R. Jones
3rd Vice Pres.: Jane Oppenheim
4th Vice Pres.: Kathy Leak
Secretary: Patricia Budden
Assistant Secretary: Lara Sidorowicz
Treasurer: Doris Bruntel
Assistant Treasurer: Nicholas Giannini

Members:
Marie Cobelli
James Davis
Francesca Ferey
Georgette Gittens
Phyllis Grantz
Eve Hoberman
Catherine Healy
Suzanne Jary
Sylil H. Landau
Glendon McLeary
Les Marshall
Joan Market
Lisa Mercer
Essie Owens
William Perry, Jr.
Anne Seifried
Virginia C. Shepard
Grace Smallwood
Sandra Toussaint

The Alumni Association of Hunter College is pleased to announce that the Annual Spring Alumni Birthday Luncheon, which will be held at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; and at my church, I am a lector and server on the Parish Council.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors is planning to pursue a twofold program for the coming year. First, the program will include the traditional activities that we have enjoyed each year such as the Fall and Spring Luncheons and the Holiday Party. The program will also include other activities in which members have indicated interest, such as participation in committees on government relations and on finance and investments.

As the second part of our twofold program, we encourage all graduates to make a special effort this year to become knowledgeable about and to be prepared to share information on the status of public higher education in your state. We have all enjoyed and benefited from the excellent opportunities that our Hunter College education afforded us. As alumni we should try to ensure that these same opportunities are available to those who plan to enter the college community in the future and will need the support of institutions of public higher education. Even as the years since our own personal graduations roll past year after year, let us not forget our Hunter College motto: “Mihi Cura Futuri...the care of the future is mine.”

As alumni you are entitled to participate in the activities of the committees of the Association and in the events planned by chapters of the Association. One of the major priorities of the Alumni Association is to plan programs and events that will attract the interest and participation of new graduates. Latest news on committees and chapter activities is posted on the Alumni Web page: www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni; a few of the events now planned are listed on page 11. If you wish to participate, please call the Alumni Office at 212-772-4007.

Meet Julie Wolpov

Julie Wolpov joined Hunter in June, and she’s already well on her way to strengthening the ties that bind its graduates, young and old, to the College.

Her first goal, says Hunter’s new director of alumni relations and annual giving, is to use e-mail to make Hunter more accessible to alumni. One innovation is “e-news blasts” to give graduates updates on College events, student highlights, and alumni spots.

Wolpov’s long-term goal is connecting recent graduates to the great Hunter alumni tradition. That means, in part, informing them about the many benefits of keeping in touch with the College, from networking to library access. It also means persuading them to stay engaged in the life of the campus, particularly as mentors to current students.

Wolpov, who is a native New Yorker and holds a master’s in social work from Hunter, has a strong background in organizing and fundraising, most recently as executive director of Hillel at Barnes and Hunter.

Julie Wolpov can be reached at: 212-650-3956 or by e-mail at: julie.wolpov@hunter.cuny.edu.

To learn about the Hunter College Alumni Association Constitution, go to http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni
Submit a Class Note at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni. You can even post a picture of yourself!

Please keep us her contributions to physics. Dresselhaus, a professor of physics and Inez New York University. Inez has won Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships.

Francesca Mary Baker (BA’64), a psychiatrist and epidemiologist, is a professor of psychiatry at Columbia University and the director of the Lower Shore Clinic, a mental-health facility in Maryland. Baker earned her medical degree at the University of Rochester and also holds a master in public health in epidemiology and an MS in clinical epidemiology.

Called “the best doctor in town” (Danbury, CT) by her many patients, Lorraine Brazo (BA’64) retired from her pediatric practice this summer. Kocar revitalized her role as her medical expertise and compassion. Bras speaks Spanish and Portuguese and understands most Slavic languages—an ability appreciated by her multilingual patients. Gifts, handmade cards, and visits from several generations of patients marked her retirement party.

Carol Liederman (BA’72), a professor of anthropology at City College/CUNY, has received awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Rockefeller Foundation, among others. The author of Wives & Mothers, Thinking of Women, and Life of a Language as well as her medical expertise and compassion, Bras speaks Spanish and Portuguese and understands most Slavic languages—an ability appreciated by her multilingual patients.

Music critic Anthony DeCurtis (BA’74) recently published a book, The History of Rock and Roll, as well as a film about the history of rock and roll.

The Educational Alliance recently appointed Lawrence J. Lee II (MSW ’75) to the position of chief executive. Lee, a former associate commissioner of the Child Care and Head Start Division of the New York City Administration for Children’s Services, is the founder and chairman of the Shumin Ween Academy, a Mandarin/English dual-language and dual-culture public school.

John Survoli (BA’76) has been named chief business officer of Boren Pharmaceuticals, a biotechnology company based in Cambridge, MA. Survoli earned a PhD in immunology from the New York University Medical Center.

The new chief executive officer of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals is John U. Sepulveda (BA’77), previously director of industry and housing outreach at the mortgage giant Freddie Mac.

Valerie M. Russo (BA’80) is a senior copy editor at a New York publishing company and contributes to the newspaper The New Yorker. Her poetry will be included in Refigos Only, an anthology to be published by Little Bear Press later this year.

Bianca Colon (BA’81) and Darren Rivera (BA’81) both work at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City. They met while employed at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City. They met while employed at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City.

Vanessa Rutia (BA’99) received a PhD in neurobiology from Rockefeller University in June 2003 and will begin a postdoctoral fellowship at Columbia University in fall 2003. She recently won a Harold M. Weintraub Graduate Student Award, given by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle.

Adriana Lomondo (BA’99) joined the Ms. Foundation for Women as the director of major gifts. She previously served as a director of major gifts and the annual fund for the New York Hall of Science.

Daisy L. Mackado (MSW ’78) has joined the staff of the Lexington (KY) Theological Seminary as vice president for academic affairs, the second highest administrative position in the institution. Mackado, who has a doctorate in theology from the University of Chicago Divinity School and is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will also teach church history at the seminary.

Richard J. Maylan (BA’30) is president of Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, fabled both because it is the burial place of some 5,000 Civil War veteran, including a regimental color bearer (including Robert R. Morrow, and Edible Baker) and because it contains architecture and sculpture created by master artists.

In her new post as executive vice president, music strategy and relations for MTV Networks, Salatina Silverberg (BA’76) will oversee strategic music-related transactions and policies for all of MTV Networks’ channels and businesses worldwide. Silverberg, who earned her JD degree from NYU School of Law, has been with MTV Networks since 1994 and was previously an attorney for the National Broadcasting Company.

Rachel Weinberger (BA’87, MPP’99) was appointed an assistant professor of city and regional planning at the University of Pennsylvania.

Columbist Diane Glass (BA’90) is one of two women of opposing political views who will write for the weeklong column “Women to Women” recently launched by Universal Press Syndicate.

Edward J. Gulnaga (MF’98) is a technical advisor for the U.S. Department of Labor in Cleveland. Previously he was the chief of operations for the Department’s New York City district office.

Sarah Schecteler (BA’92) can be addressed as Captain, Chaplain, or Rabbi Orchids, a rabbinic program at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, to which she also earned an MA in Hebrew letters and an MA in Jewish education, she entered the military in 2002 and is the first woman rabbi to serve in the United States Air Force.

Voll Information Sciences, Inc., has named Michael Gleason (BS’95) director of the Business Assurance and Consulting Group. Gleason, a certified public accountant, has been with Voll since 2001.


A solo show featuring paintings by Lauren Gabara (MF’99) was held last winter at the gallery Metaphor Contemporary Art in Brooklyn. The exhibition, titled “New York Feathers,” consisted of paintings of feathers picked up primarily on the streets and sidewalks of New York. Many of the paintings were purchased by the U.S. State Department and will be exhibited at the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria.

The East-West Gallery at the Romanian Cultural Institute in New York was the site of “Fractures,” a one-person show of artworks by Ana Golici (MF’99). The show, held this spring, included watercolors, woodcuts, etchings, lithographs, and digital prints. Golici is the graphic designer of At Hunter.

Adriano Lomondo (BA’99) joined the Ms. Foundation for Women as the director of major gifts. She previously served as a director of major gifts and the annual fund for the New York Hall of Science.

Words and Music

The Friends of the Hunter College Library invite all friends and supporters of music and literature to enjoy a Literary Musicale—a presentation of poetry and other literary writing set to music and performed by students in the Hunter College Music Department. The event will take place on November 3, 2005, at 8:30 pm in the Live Book Hall (North Building, 4th floor). The event is co-sponsored by the Library’s collection. For more information call 212-772-4897 or check the alumni Web site at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni.
Thanks to your generosity, Hunter College is alive and vibrant. Please continue to support Hunter College’s Annual Fund. Your gift is meaningful and vital to the success of our students. Please send your gift to Hunter College Foundation, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

“Hunter had an enormous and positive impact on Lisa, and therefore on me and the kids and our family.”

—Richard Witten
Husband of Elizabeth H. Witten ’81

New Fund Embraces Moms

A special half-page ad in The New York Times on Mother’s Day to honor 26 Hunter moms and their families—each of whom established a scholarship in their mother’s name to pass on the gift of education to the next generation of Hunter grads.

It’s also certainly a first, because Hunter appears to be the only school in the nation to use Mother’s Day as an occasion to publicly applaud mothers and the generosity of their families, who were changed by their moms’ education.

The inspiration for this unique enterprise grew from Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab’s observation that when she was a student, “My mother went to Hunter.” She also heard about aunts, grandmothers, and sisters who went to Hunter. What followed were often descriptions of how these women passed along to their children the love of learning that they acquired at Hunter and how they instilled a desire to excel in life.

President Raab quickly recognized the pattern—and its potential. Clearly, great numbers of New Yorkers owed much of their success in life to Hunter mothers. Just as clearly, they were proud and grateful.

The result was the creation of the Hunter College Mother’s Day Scholarship Fund. And the outcome is an important new source of support for Hunter: the campaign has raised some $400,000.

Foundations News

This Is No Ordinary ‘How I Spent My Summer Vacation’ Story by Jane Elkina

Landing a job as a summer intern at Coach, Inc., was a matter of good news and bad news. The bad news (which wasn’t so bad at all) was that many of the 34 other interns were from some of the nation’s leading business schools. That could be intimidating for a Hunter senior majoring in math and Spanish, and the only intern there from Hunter.

But the good news was that the people at Coach’s Manhattan headquarters were youthful, approachable, and friendly. From the start, they made me feel welcome and at ease.

That’s not to say there wasn’t plenty of intensity. Naturally, working for an international corporation with 4,500 employees and $1.7 billion in annual sales demands a lot of hard work and professionalism. But I was comfortable with everyone, even the executive who built Coach up from a cottage-industry manufacturer to its current preeminence, Chairman and CEO Lew Frankfort.

True, Mr. Frankfort is a Hunter alumna himself, but it was his relaxed, down-to-earth style, not our college bond, that made me feel at ease whenever I encountered him.

My work with the specialist team in the Human Resources Department was fascinating and challenging, so the summer went quickly. But the impact will stay with me for many years to come.

Wherever my training in mathematics takes me, the real-life experience at Coach gave me a deeper understanding of the world’s complexity and some of what it takes to make things right.

Feeling at Home on An Ivy League Campus by Gwendolyn Williams

It’s a thrill to be chosen from among more than 200 applicants worldwide to attend a special program at Princeton University. But how I spent my summer vacation. The program, run by Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School, is one of five Junior Summer Institutes (JSI) in the U.S. The other 34 students came from colleges across the United States, Africa, and Asia.

The program gave me the chance to work with young people who I know will be the leaders of tomorrow. And I am proud that I was able to show people from Princeton and the other universities that Hunter students can contribute as much as anyone else to the world. We may be a CUNY school, but we are definitely Ivy League material!

The JSI mission is “to increase leadership opportunities for future global policy leaders.” For me, it was a challenging and life-changing experience because it made me realize how my desire to pursue a career in medicine can be combined with a career in international public health and policy.

I took a variety of classes during the intensive seven weeks, including a workshop on the intercultural dimensions of policy-making, led by two mediators, including Hunter Social Work Professor Willie Tolliver. Most challenging was the policy workshop, which focused on juvenile justice and disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in New Jersey. It was the core of the program, since it required all 35 of us to work collectively on a report recommending ways to decrease DMC in New Jersey. Our clients were New Jersey’s attorney general and juvenile justice executive director.

It was exciting and somewhat overwhelming to give a presentation to these two important men. But they took our proposals seriously. And the final report and presentation were “beyond graduate-level work,” our instructor said.

Most important was my interaction with other students, who challenged me and helped me grow. I learned to think about issues in political and economic terms, not just from a medical or psychological perspective. Yet as a pre-med student and psychology major, I contributed my own perspective, which was well received.

A friend once told me that I was born to be more than a doctor. Now I see the truth of that. My time at Princeton made me realize how my desire to make things right.