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Photo by Tess Steinkolk/Brown Dog Productions

Abbe Raven, president and CEO of A&E Television Networks, with Hunter intern Jason Bernstein.

Alumni Help Students Land Top Internships

Four prominent friends and benefactors of Hunter College helped students land top internships in New York City this past summer.

Abbe Raven, president and CEO of A&E Television Networks; Avinash Mehrotra, managing director of Goldman Sachs & Co.; Evelyn Lauder, senior corporate vice president and director of Estée Lauder, Inc.; and Lew Frankfort, chairman and CEO of Coach, Inc., all provided students with incredible learning experiences in their companies.

"It was awesome to work at A&E," said Jason Bernstein, a senior media major at Hunter who spent three months in the cable network's on-air promotions department. "We got to be part of the creative process. They really let us get hands-on experience. Some people there didn't even know we were interns."

"My department did on-air promotion for all the shows that are on A&E and the commercials and the rest. You see these things all the time on TV, but you don't realize how much work it takes behind the scenes. The people were so creative and so capable. The editors are magicians."

Bernstein said his first step toward getting this great job came when he met Abbe Raven — who received her MA in cinema and theater in 1977 from Hunter — after she spoke at the College. The College's Office of Student Services then arranged for him to have an interview that eventually got him the position at A&E.

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Frankforts Give \$1M to Hunter

Teacher training at Hunter College has taken another leap forward, thanks to an extraordinary \$1M gift from Lew and Bobbie Frankfort.

This gift supports an exciting new video system, known as the Frankfort Teacher Video Initiative, that uses state-of-the-art, remote-controlled cameras to record student teachers as they interact with children in classroom settings.

"Because of the Frankforts' generosity," said David Steiner, dean of the School of Education, "Hunter is on the cutting edge nationally in the clinical preparation of teachers."

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Lew Frankfort, chairman and CEO of Coach, Inc.

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Happenings at Hunter

Historic Women's Conference Held Here



Rosie O'Donnell delivers keynote speech.

Liz Abzug, with picture of her mother Bella in background.

Gloria Steinem was a panelist.

Rosie O'Donnell, Gloria Steinem and singer Lesley Gore were among the prominent names who came to Hunter on November 10 – 11 for an historic women's conference sponsored by the Bella Abzug Leadership Institute and 70 other women's organizations.

The conference — "Houston to New York 2007: Freedom on Our Terms" — celebrated the 30th anniversary of the legendary National Women's Conference in Houston in 1977. That was the first and only time the federal government authorized and financed a national gathering to promote equal opportunities for women.

O'Donnell delivered the keynote speech at the Kaye Playhouse for the weekend gathering; Steinem appeared on a panel as one of the delegates from the 1977 conference; and Gore and others participated in a Saturday night concert for the attendees.

Bella Abzug, the late New York congresswoman who was one of the pioneers of the women's movement, graduated from Hunter in 1942 and is one of the College's most famous alumnae. The Bella Abzug Leadership Institute at Hunter was founded four years ago by her daughters, Liz Abzug and Eve Abzug.

Hunter Remembers Jack Newfield



David Strathairn and Helen Mirren.

Nicholas Pileggi and his wife, writer Nora Ephron.

Charles Stuart (l), Tom Robbins and Wayne Barrett.

A gala dinner was held on December 2 to honor the memory of legendary journalist Jack Newfield and celebrate the third year of the Jack Newfield Visiting Professorship at Hunter.

David Strathairn — who starred as Edward R. Murrow in "Good Night, and Good Luck" — read from Newfield's work at the event along with actress Helen Mirren, one of the honorees. Also honored were writer Nicholas Pileggi and Joseph Spinelli, a leading authority and longtime crusader on white collar crime. Other attendees included Emmy award-winning filmmaker Charles Stuart, who is this spring's Jack Newfield Visiting Professor at Hunter; Tom Robbins and Wayne Barrett, the first two Jack Newfield Professors; Janie Eisenberg, wife of the late Jack Newfield.

The Jack Newfield Visiting Professorship of Journalism was created as a legacy for Newfield, who graduated from Hunter in 1960 and went on to an award-winning career as one of America's most respected reporters at the *Village Voice* and *New York Post*. He was also a highly-acclaimed author and documentary filmmaker. Newfield died in 2004.

The program brings an outstanding journalist to Hunter College to teach and mentor students and continue the tradition of investigative journalism and crusading spirit that Newfield represented.

A Report from the President

Opening Up Hunter To the World

By Jennifer J. Raab

Last October, I took part in an historic trip to the United Arab Emirates, a young and wealthy country on the Persian Gulf rapidly modernizing its education system and expanding its presence on the world stage. I was one of approximately 150 foreigners — a group which featured 16 Nobel Prize winners, scholars, scientists, educators and journalists — invited by Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan to Abu Dhabi and Dubai for an ambitious four-day conference called The Festival of Thinkers.

A large portion of the Festival participants consisted of current and former New Yorkers, including JFK speechwriter Theodore Sorenson; Marion Wiesel, head of the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity; Nobel Laureate in Physics Sheldon Glashow; and Jack Rosenthal, president of the New York Times Company Foundation.

"Of ten college presidents to attend, I was the only woman...I was thrilled to be a representative of one of the finest university systems in the world."

The Festival was exciting on every level, but the most memorable and moving moments occurred when the Emirati students assembled to meet and talk with us. Of ten college presidents to attend, I was the only woman. The female students, who were eager to break free from educational and cultural restraints in the Arab world, asked whether it's possible to do it all and how to integrate their cultural expectations into a successful working life. These are questions the entire country is grappling with.



Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, head of the United Arab Emirates' college system, meets with President Raab.

Abu Dhabi and Dubai are two of the seven independent emirates, or sheikhdoms, that comprise the United Arab Emirates. They are currently seeking to take part in the Western enterprise of higher education. As a Festival participant, I was thrilled to be a representative of one of the finest university systems in the world, a model that the UAE may choose to turn to as it expands the educational opportunities of its citizens.

The sheikh's remarkable efforts to make a world-class education available to all his country's citizens — particularly the women — remind me so much of Hunter's own history and its role as a model of progressive, diverse, urban education. I realized how much we can offer burgeoning colleges like those in the United Arab Emirates — and how much they can offer us.

Women make up a substantial percentage of the college population in the UAE, and they are no less ambitious or outspoken than the men. The existence of a number of women's colleges is a sign of the progressive attitudes taking hold. Though much is still traditional — for example, the women still wear the



President Raab joins others from the prestigious group of scholars and leaders who attended The Festival of Thinkers Conference in Abu Dhabi.

traditional dress of black cloaks and scarves — Abu Dhabi is welcoming change much faster than its neighbors, like Saudi Arabia. The UAE knows that its future depends largely upon making opportunities available for every woman who wants to get an education and make a contribution to society.

Here at Hunter, we hope to play a pivotal role in this by sending several students this spring to Insight Dubai — a conference for young women from around the world that will be held in the United Arab Emirates. It will consist of interactive leadership sessions in which female students from Hunter and other colleges throughout the world discuss with young women from the Middle East crucial issues of government and culture. The participants will be introduced to Arabic culture and will debate controversial topics with expert guest speakers.

I will also be traveling to Israel this spring with a group of university presidents from New York State, chaired by CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, as a participant in the Jewish Community Relations Council's 2008 Mission to Israel — another significant global initiative for the higher education community.

A recent report from the New York State Commission on Higher Education states that "New York's leaders must embrace a new reality of global connectedness and competition, of accelerating idea creation and dissemination." The report goes on to list International Education as one of its key recommendations. I wholeheartedly agree that "preparing students to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world is central to the mission of higher education." That is why I have made it my goal to greatly increase the number of Hunter students who will study abroad or take at least one extracurricular trip out of the country before he or she graduates.

"A Hunter education can extend far beyond the boundaries of a New York City classroom. We have already taken some admirable steps in this direction."

Whenever I travel, I feel lucky and proud to represent an institution as globally diverse as Hunter. Yet, ironically, this diversity may be one of the reasons why so few Hunter students travel abroad; financial pressures and the reluctance of many immigrants to explore the globe pose significant challenges to my goal of increasing the number of students who experience foreign travel. But after visiting Abu Dhabi and Dubai, I felt particularly determined to face those

challenges and to ensure that, for any interested student, a Hunter education can extend far beyond the boundaries of a New York City classroom.

We have already taken some admirable steps in this direction. We have hired a consultant to help us establish relationships with select cultural and educational institutions in China, with plans to develop a "Hunter in China" program. We raised private funds to send theater students to China and film students

"Whenever I travel, I feel lucky and proud to represent an institution as globally diverse as Hunter."

to Morocco. In January, a group of students from Hunter's School of Nursing traveled to the Dominican Republic to conduct health clinics and provide nursing care. Over the winter term, Hunter students studied Spanish in Argentina; contemporary drama in London; ethnography in Hawaii; performing arts in Kerala, India; and the Italian Renaissance in Florence. And with a regular Hunter tuition, students can take one or more semesters abroad at our partner universities in London, Madrid, or Australia.

I also want to ensure that even while at home, Hunter students can broaden their experience with foreign cultures. To that end, Hunter has announced an exciting new partnership with the Asia Society, which will provide internships and allow students and faculty to participate in lectures, programs and exhibits.

Educators can also benefit greatly from foreign travel. We are therefore working to expand opportunities for Hunter faculty members to participate in similar exchange programs with their counterparts across the globe. We have begun exploring international faculty research partnerships and joint degree programs, which will demand of faculty members a complete awareness of international developments in their fields.

At Hunter College, we are fortunate to have the world at our doorstep. Every day, both on campus and off, people from every corner of the world come here to live and learn, and we all benefit from it. But what I learned from my visit to the United Arab Emirates is that there is no substitute for sometimes walking past the doorstep and visiting places far away from home. What we bring back upon our return is priceless.

From Fashion Executive to Matchmaker

Hunter grad Lisa Ronis (BA '75) has a full-time job these days playing Cupid to successful single men and women looking for romance.

The onetime fashion executive is now the head of Lisa Ronis Personal Matchmaking — a high-profile role that has put her on national TV. She has also been written about in publications like the *New York Times* and *USA Today*.

"I've always had a knack for connecting people with the right partner," says Ronis, who worked in the fashion industry for 20 years — the last seven as VP of design for fashion accessories at Liz Claiborne — after graduating from Hunter with a degree in fine arts. "I've literally been practicing to be a matchmaker all my life."

Since leaving the fashion world and turning her matchmaking hobby into a thriving business, she has appeared on many top TV shows such as *Good Morning America* and *Dateline NBC* to dispense dating advice. "I just felt there was a need for me," she explains.

"I've always had a knack for connecting people with the right partner."

— Lisa Ronis

She recently became the star of her own TV dating series called *Manhattan Matchmaker*. It was filmed in Vancouver and appeared on the W network throughout Canada and also on the Fox Reality Channel in the U.S.



Lisa Ronis interviews client for a match.

Ronis has also been featured in the national press talking about her top romantic picks for stars like Ben Affleck and Jennifer Aniston; giving advice on how to be a smart cupid in *Redbook*, as a matchmaker on the *Gastineau Girls*; and making numerous other TV, radio and media appearances.

"There are babies born because of me," she likes to tell people, pointing out that her matchmaking has been responsible for many happy long-term relationships and marriages.

Her client list includes top lawyers, investment bankers and other successful 30-plus singles who simply don't have time to find the right romantic match. Describing herself as "a good listener," Ronis determines what they

want and then seeks to find the right match from her ever-changing list of potential dates.

"If there's a guy who becomes single, in 20 minutes I'll know about it," she laughs. "It used to have a bit of a stigma to hire a matchmaker, but now it's not only acceptable but a great way for ultra-busy people to find someone. I do all the work for them."

In addition to fixing up the client on dates, her personalized service at lisaronismatchmaking.com offers them tips on everything from grooming to fitness to diet in order to put their best image forward. "Men are visual creatures," she lectures her women clients. "Get your hair blown, get a manicure, dress up. Do the best with what you've got!"

Ronis herself is single after an early marriage while in college that lasted seven years. She recalls her days at Hunter with great fondness, saying the school helped put her on the path toward all the successes she has achieved.

"Hunter really helped me connect to the world," she says. "I felt that the Art Department was very inspiring. I got a fabulous liberal arts program. I minored in communications and also took some acting and improv classes."

"One great thing about Hunter was that it allowed me to come to Manhattan. I still lived in Brooklyn at the time. Each day I would travel to Hunter and my campus was Madison Avenue and Bloomingdale's and everything else around there. Being at Hunter gave me a taste for fashion, it gave me a broad perspective and it helped shape all the wonderful things I've done since."

She Keeps Order in Judge Young's Court

Hunter alumna Tawya Young (BS '00, MSW '07) plays a bailiff on TV in the new daytime syndicated court show *Judge David Young*. If she seems convincing in the role, that's because Tawya is a real life New York court officer too — a lieutenant assigned to Brooklyn Civil/Small Claims Court.

For Tawya, getting the opportunity to play herself on TV is the best of both worlds: "I'm having a blast," she says. "TV court is different from being in real court though. You don't get to do retakes in real court."

She won the television job last year when she answered a tryout call while working full time as a court officer in Brooklyn at the same time she was about to graduate from Hunter with a master's in social work — and a perfect 4.0 GPA. She had earlier earned a 3.7 GPA when she got her bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology at Hunter, also while working full time in her court job.

"They were looking for someone with an upbeat personality, a quick wit and a good sense of humor," she recalls. "People I worked with said: 'That's you. Go for it!' At the tryout, I was just Tawya. They thought I was hysterical. Judge David interacts with me very often on the show. He'll ask a question or make a comment, and I make a comment. I do a lot of facial expressions too. It could be a silent movie with me."

"Hunter gave me a chance when I really needed one."

— Tawya Young



Tawya Young on the job in Judge David Young's television courtroom.

Judge David Young (no relation) is a former Miami judge with a reputation for being both tough and caring — as well as always entertaining. The show, syndicated by Sony Pictures Television, premiered September 10 during daytime programming on television stations around the country.

"David Young is awesome to work with," says Tawya, who is billed by the show as Young's "vibrant and warm-hearted" bailiff. "We have such a wonderful chemistry."

Tawya Young's story is one of success against great odds. After first enrolling at Hunter in the late '80s, she was forced to drop out of school to help raise her younger sister after her mother became seriously ill. She worked in the advertising industry, then became a New York court

officer in 1996. She was promoted first to sergeant and later to lieutenant, becoming the first black female court officer to ever reach that rank in Brooklyn Civil Court.

After her mother died, she returned to Hunter in the late '90s to get her degree. "My initial professors there inspired me," she recalls now. "They opened my eyes to things I didn't even know about."

Although she lost credit for the courses she took before dropping out years earlier, she praised Hunter officials who helped her to return. "My mother had just died a month before. They understood my situation. Hunter gave me a chance when I really needed it."

That's why when she decided to go back and get a master's degree in social work, Hunter was her only choice. "Hunter has been good to me," she says.

Social work is a big part of what she wants to do in the future. While working as a court officer, she has already done much volunteer work on her own time — such as leading mentor seminars for young girls and women empowerment sessions for female court employees. In 2005, New York State Chief Justice Judith Kaye gave her a special award for her efforts.

Amazingly, she continues to work full time as a court officer while filming the TV show. "I do my job as a TV bailiff and listen to small claims cases," she laughs, "then come to the courthouse and do small claims here."

How do her friends and family and colleagues react to her sudden stardom? "They love it," she says. "They all tell me: 'Let me have your autograph now!'"

Making Music for 'Next Top Model'

Rachel Pastarnack just graduated from Hunter last May, but she has already hit it big as a songwriter for the hot TV show *America's Next Top Model*. Five songs, written and performed by the Hunter theater major, are being played this season on the show, which airs at 8 p.m. Wednesdays on the CW network.

Inspired by last season's finale, Pastarnack created the song "No More Baby Girl," which she sent to the show's producers. After seven months of persistence, the show told her they loved it and wanted to use it, along with four more of her songs. "I remember screaming for five minutes," says Pastarnack. "I called every single family member I have."

Her songs are played on air as contestants from the show compete for stardom in the modeling world. One of the songs, "Bad Enough," has lyrics which Pastarnack says reflect both the drive of people on the show to succeed as models and her own desire to make it as a musician, actress, and dancer.

"They really liked 'Bad Enough' because it's all about ambition and determination — about wanting something so bad that you have to have it," Pastarnack explains. "Those are the qualities I have, so I put them in my song. If the model is crying because she worked hard enough to make it, that's the song they'll play."

Pastarnack credits Hunter with helping her turn her dreams into reality. She said she began writing music in 2002 at the age of 17 after her mother died from breast cancer. "Music saved me," she says. "The arts saved me. I found myself again at Hunter



Rachel Pastarnack plays her favorite piano in the North Building.

because I was given that ability to express myself.

"My mother was the center of my universe. She took me to auditions in New York City every day. After she died, I felt very alone. But, when I came to Hunter, I found a family here. I felt so at home. I want to give back to Hunter what Hunter has given to me. I am Hunter's biggest cheerleader."

During her years at Hunter, she was an honors student in theater and the sole recipient of the Acting Award given out to the most outstanding theater student in the senior class. But, at the same time, she was practicing her music by playing piano in between theater classes.

"You could always find me at a piano on the fourth floor of the North Building," she laughs. "It's a beautiful

Steinway that I fell in love with. I have a picture of it on my cell phone. If anyone finds my cell phone, they all know it's Rachel's because it has a piano.

"I sort of made up my own major without telling anyone. I called it Pop101 with Rachel. I studied privately with a voice teacher at Hunter, Jan Douglas, from the Music Department. I worked non-stop and loved every minute of it."

When it came time to try to record her music, she raised money for the studio time by working as a greeter at Houston's restaurant on Third Avenue — while she was attending Hunter classes full-time. "I made sure my scholastic work came first and maintained fantastic relationships with my professors," she adds.

Her goal now is to continue pursuing an artistic career in both music and acting. She plans on going to Los Angeles soon to meet people from *America's Next Top Model* and also to audition as an actress for some pilots.

"You could always find me at a piano on the fourth floor of the North Building."

— Rachel Pastarnack

Pastarnack currently hones her musical skills by playing with her band, Rachel Lauren, which is entirely composed of Hunter students. "I am living my dream," she says.

'Saving Grace' Producer Found Inspiration at Hunter

Artie Mandelberg (BA '74) — who is executive producer of the popular new TV drama *Saving Grace* — credits Hunter College with getting him started on his road to success in Hollywood.

A communications major at Hunter, Mandelberg admits that he didn't have much of an idea of what he wanted to do with his life until he enrolled in a TV course here that wound up being a defining moment for him.

"I took communications because it sounded as good as anything else," he recalls. "I didn't really have a clear goal. I was driving a cab at night and went to school during the day. A lot of the film classes were taught at night, but the TV course was in the day. So I took that class, and it had a profound effect on me."

"The energy and the pace of it was an epiphany for me. They had a small studio in the building. I never saw that much energy. I found it intoxicating. It was great."

Today Mandelberg is the executive producer as well as the director of many episodes of *Saving Grace*, which stars Oscar-winning actress Holly Hunter as a dedicated but troubled police officer who needs salvation from an angel sent down by God. The show has been a ratings and critical hit on the TNT cable network, and has already been renewed for a second season. "Things are looking good," Mandelberg says.

Before that, Mandelberg worked as a producer and director on numerous TV shows, including *Moonlighting* with Bruce Willis and *Cybill* Shepherd in the '80s — where his career really took off for the first time. He has been nominated for many TV awards, but he says his favorite show was a Lifetime network production called *Any Day Now* with

Annie Potts. "It really was the first show to tackle the issue of race," he says. "It was on Lifetime so a lot of people didn't see it, but it's a show I'm incredibly proud of."

Mandelberg grew up in Brooklyn, the child of Holocaust survivors. His mother was from Czechoslovakia, his father from Poland — and they had survived 12 different concentration camps to come to America.

"I took a TV course at Hunter...it had a profound effect on me."

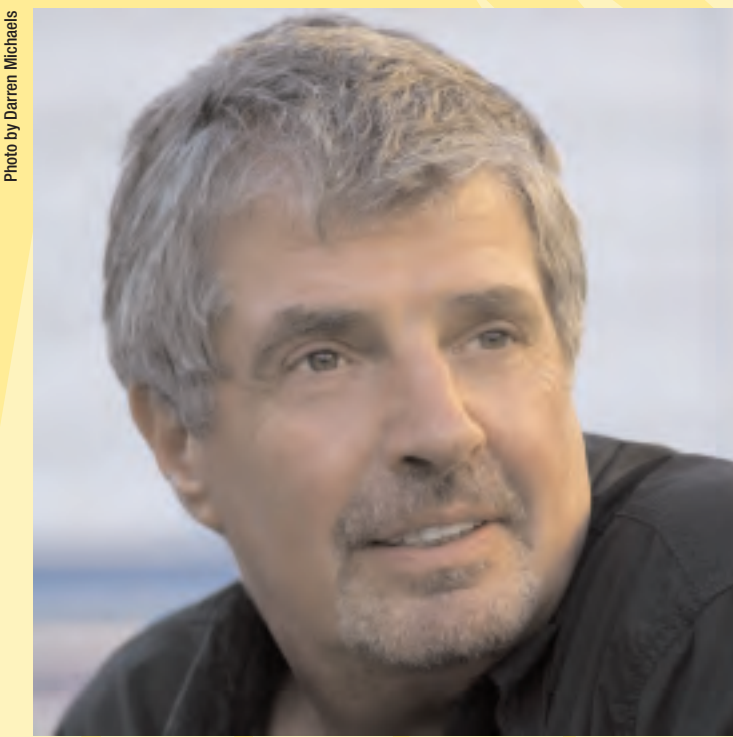
— Artie Mandelberg

At Hunter, Mandelberg concedes that at first he "wasn't a great student," but he was very active in athletics. "I played on the varsity baseball and basketball teams," he says. "I lived at home in the beginning and then moved into the city. I roomed there with another teammate on the baseball team, Bob Lettieri. We are friends to this day."

After graduating in January of '74, he got a job as a page at CBS in New York, then moved to California where he worked his way up the show business ladder.

He said he visited Hunter again recently and was amazed at how different everything was from the way he remembered. "The last time I was in New York about a year ago I took my 10-year-old daughter back to show her where I went to school," he laughs. "The size of the campus was enormous. Everything's changed."

He was reminded of his connection to Hunter again recently when he was interviewed by a writer for a feature



Artie Mandelberg

article in *Jewish Week* because of the enormous success of *Amazing Grace*. "Believe it or not, the writer of the article, Curt Schleier, turned out to be a Hunter graduate too," Mandelberg says. "As a matter of fact, he was the class president. Small world, huh?"

Does he have any advice for film and media students at Hunter who aspire to a career like his in television?

"It's a very tough business," Mandelberg said. "The best advice I can give anyone is to concentrate on material. If you can write, by all means write. If you can't write, then find great material and secure the rights to it. People are always waiting for someone to give them a break. If you can find the right material, you can really further your career."

President Raab, Three Alumnae Named ‘Most Influential Women’

Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab and three prominent Hunter alumnae have been named by *Crain's New York Business* magazine to its list of the “100 Most Influential Women in NYC Business.”



Jennifer J. Raab

In a cover article which came out on October 1, *Crain's* hails President Raab for restoring Hunter to educational prominence since taking over as president in 2001.

“Ms. Raab has made the school competitive in the faculty market by raising \$25 million in private donations for improved facilities, as well as for professional training programs and scholarships,” the prestigious financial publication says. “Additionally, faculty members have received \$39 million in research grants in recent years.”

President Raab told the magazine: “Often the key to success is to change the culture.”

Hunter alumnae named to the *Crain's* list were: Top class-action attorney Sheila Birnbaum ('60), a partner in Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, who has been called the “queen of torts”; Abbe Raven (MA '77), who is chief executive of A&E Television Networks and one of the most successful women in the television industry; and Evelyn Lauder, senior corporate vice president of The Estée Lauder Companies and one of the most

prominent New Yorkers raising funds to fight breast cancer.

Birnbaum was cited for her key role in battling many of the most significant class actions of the past 30 years — with an impressive client list that includes Metro-North Commuter Railroad, Dow Corning, Anheuser-Busch, Copley Pharmaceutical and American Stores. “In a field notorious for its in-your-face personalities, Ms. Birnbaum is known for her quiet pedagogical style,” *Crain's* wrote.



Sheila Birnbaum

“I try to listen hard to people and help them resolve their issues,” Birnbaum said. “I prefer being a problem solver, rather than one who creates more problems.”

Raven was praised for her ability during a 23-year television career to tap “viewers’ appetite for shows that other networks deemed boring or weird,” citing non-traditional shows she has used to resuscitate the A&E Network such as



Abbe Raven

Dog the Bounty Hunter, *Growing Up Gotti* and *Intervention*. “Television executives turned up their noses at shows about offbeat topics like drug interventions and ancient Roman sewers — until Abbe Raven proved that such infotainment was programming gold,” according to *Crain's*.

“There was a lot of skepticism about what we were doing,” said Raven, who now runs a \$1 billion enterprise that operates seven channels available to 300 million viewers.

Lauder was honored not only for her success in the cosmetics world, but for her untiring efforts as one of the most prominent New Yorkers raising funds to combat breast cancer. She and her husband, Leonard Lauder, son of the late founder of the company, obtained the funding to open the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center at Memorial Sloan-Kettering. In 1993, she established the Breast Cancer Research Foundation — which has raised \$180 million for research to fight the disease.

“Ms. Lauder is singularly focused on this battle,” *Crain's* said. “An avid photographer, she has donated \$1 million in proceeds from published photo collections and gallery exhibitions to the foundation.”



Evelyn Lauder

Professor Diana Reiss Has a Way With Animals

Hunter College Professor Diana Reiss has taught dolphins how to use a keyboard, conducted extensive underwater research on how they communicate with each other and led efforts around the world to stop them from being killed.

She also recently completed a groundbreaking study which showed how an elephant is one of the few animals that can actually recognize themselves in a mirror in the same way that a human being does.

Now Dr. Reiss is teaching all about this fascinating world of animals to Hunter students — she began work as a full-time professor this fall in the Psychology Depart-

ment. “They all showed great interest in themselves,” Reiss says. “One elephant actually touched a mark on her head visible only in the mirror, and definitely seemed to see herself there. It was so exciting, my heart was palpating. It was just like watching kids in front of a mirror.”

“I am very intrigued by the social complexity of the elephant and how they seem to show empathy for others of their own kind.”

Reiss has also spent years trying to determine how dolphins communicate. “My research is very much about trying to decode dolphins,” she says. “I thought it would



An elephant looks at itself in a mirror at the Bronx Zoo as part of Dr. Reiss's groundbreaking study.

repertoire of whistles and other signals. One of my aims is to see if there's a specific whistle type, a distress whistle, that they produce when they are ill or in pain.

“I've worked with keyboards for dolphins too,” she says. “Many people find that surprising because they don't have hands.”

Some of her students go on to get doctoral degrees. Others use their master's degree in ABC for jobs in zoological, aquarium or animal shelter settings. They receive a certificate in advanced psychology in animal behavior and conservation. “It really furthers their professional development,” she says.

Reiss's work has been published in numerous international scientific journals and books, and she has been featured on TV shows such as *National Geographic*, *Wild Kingdom* and *The Today Show*. Before coming to Hunter, Reiss was senior research scientist and the founder and director of the Marine Mammal Research Program of the Wildlife Conservation Society. She is also a faculty member in CUNY's Graduate Program in Biopsychology and Behavioral Neuroscience.

And she continues to be involved in worldwide animal rescue efforts. She was active in the recent campaign that got dolphin-safe labels on tuna fish cans showing that no dolphins were harmed in the nets which captured the tuna. And she is now doing work to stop the annual dolphin slaughters in Japan.



Professor Diana Reiss “talks” to a dolphin at the New York Aquarium.

ment as part of the College's Master's Degree Program in Animal Behavior and Conservation (ABC).

“We try to determine not only how animals communicate, but what happens when we try to communicate with them,” Reiss says of the acclaimed animal research work she has done at the Bronx Zoo, the New York Aquarium and other places before coming to Hunter. “All animals communicate, and we are part of the animal world.”

“Anybody who has pets sees this all the time. Most people believe they have some sort of communication with their pets. When your pet looks up at you with big eyes while you're eating, you think you know what he's thinking.”

Reiss has been teaching part-time at Hunter since 2001 when the master's program began. “I worked at the New York Aquarium with students from Hunter and other colleges on projects there,” she explained. “Hunter

be easy, by recording their vocalizations and behavior with a hydrophone and video camera. It wasn't that easy. It's fascinating, but a lot more complicated than we originally thought. We have shown they produce a rich

School of Social Work Helps CUNY War Vets

norms. There's not enough education about what vets can get out of school.”

Kalinowski, for example, did not initially know that all veterans are entitled to free medical care from VA hospitals for two years after their return. She explained that a “prevailing ignorance” prevents many veterans from capitalizing on their health and financial benefits. “If there were more awareness, more veterans would come back to school,” she said.

Jacqueline Mondros, dean of the School of Social Work, says the CUNY-wide program has “three main goals.” “We want to ease reentry into the social and academic environment. We want to improve veteran retention and graduation rates. And we want to acknowledge and foster the unique skills and perspectives they bring to our campuses.”

“These veteran/students deserve all the benefits they are entitled to for their service to our country.”

—Prof. Roger Sherwood

And, by gathering information about these veterans, the program organizers hope to make the reentry into college life easier for future war vets.

“It is well documented that World War II veterans had a relatively easy reintegration, and that Vietnam veterans had a difficult one,” Mondros said. “Our research questions are: ‘What are the risk and protective factors that affect reentry for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan? Are there specific factors which affect female and male veterans?’”

CUNY now has more than 1,600 full or part-time

students who are military veterans — and officials are expecting a large increase in that number in the next few years.

In addition, they say those numbers probably reflect only a fraction of the veterans on campus. “If they don't apply for benefits, we may not know about them,” said Crystal Schachter, coordinator for veteran student services at Hunter.

The program grew out of initiatives developed by Garrie Moore, CUNY vice chancellor for student development; Chris Rosa, CUNY director of student affairs; and Robert Ptachik, university dean for the Executive Office and Enrollment.

Students from the Hunter College School of Social Work, under the direction of Professor Sherwood and Dr. Myra Marcus, the program director, work with veterans at Hunter and other CUNY schools.

“The idea is simple,” Sherwood said. “Utilize the experience and skills of the graduate students in Hunter's highly regarded school of social work to support veterans' services across the CUNY campuses. These veterans/students deserve all the benefits they are entitled to for their service to our country.”

The program is also working with colleagues at the University of Haifa School of Social Work in Israel as part of a joint effort to help returning veterans deal with post-war trauma.

“Probably no country in the world has had more experience with trauma, and particularly veterans with trauma, than Israel,” said Mondros. “Israel makes for an interesting comparison group. It affords us the opportunity to study women soldiers who, like their American counterparts, are serving in non-combat positions but are nonetheless exposed to trauma conditions.”



Hunter student Mariette Kalinowski (right) stands with one of her squad mates in Al-Taqaddum, Iraq, during her tour of duty with the Marines.

The School of Social Work has launched a dynamic new program to help returning war veterans make the transition to a college campus at Hunter and other City University of New York schools.

Funded by CUNY this past fall, the Project for Return and Opportunity in Veterans' Education (PROVE) began working with military veterans on campus — nearly half of whom are women — to identify their needs in returning to college and to seek the best ways to help them continue their education through graduation.

“It's about where do I fit in’ and how do I get started,” said Hunter College Professor Roger Sherwood, a Vietnam-era veteran himself and the principal investigator for the program which will work with veterans throughout the CUNY system.

The goal is to offer needed assistance to students like Mariette Kalinowski, a Marine corporal who came to Hunter after returning from seven months of duty in Iraq.

“The transition out of the military is abrupt,” said Kalinowski. “I left Iraq on March 5, and I was in the States by March 10 and home by the 13th. ‘A little more decompression time’ is a phrase you'll hear tossed around a lot. There's not enough time given to vets to take what they experienced and translate it to social

10 Questions For...

Professor Diana Reiss, Animal Behavior and Conservation

As part of a regular series in *At Hunter* spotlighting members of the Hunter College faculty, Diana Reiss answers 10 questions that we put to her:

1. What do you like to do when you're not teaching?

I spend much of my time working politically to increase public awareness to bring an end to the annual dolphin drive hunts in Japan in which thousands of these highly sentient animals are brutally slaughtered.

2. Accomplishment you're most proud of?

Besides my work in animal welfare and conservation, that would be my daughter, Morgan.

3. Favorite TV show?

The Daily Show with Jon Stewart.

4. Guilty pleasure TV viewing?

Old movies and do-it-yourself house repair shows.

5. What's in your I-Pod?

I like a pretty wide variety of music from rock, to Broadway show scores, to Ella Fitzgerald singing songs from the '30s and '40s.

6. Dessert or junk food you “can't say no” to?

Neither of those but a great French baguette...

7. Tell us something about the master's in Animal Behavior and Conservation program at Hunter.

The program is designed to provide students with career training for staff jobs at zoos and aquariums, companion animal behavior consulting, animal shelter behavior, care of laboratory and livestock animals — as well as research and teaching positions. At Hunter, our students have the unique opportunity to conduct observations in places like the Bronx Zoo and the New York Aquarium as well as the College's labs.

8. How do Hunter students respond to your instruction?

I am fortunate to have a terrific group of undergraduate, master's and PhD students working with me at Hunter who are eager and committed to studying animal behavior. They are gaining the skills to become our future scientists in this field.

9. As someone who works with animals all the time, do you have pets at home?

Yes, I have two non-human members of my family — an extremely large Newfoundland dog named Albert and a smoky grey long-haired cat named Oberon.

10. Tell us something about yourself that your students might be shocked to find out.

I used to work in the theater as a stage designer.

Everyone's Talking About Stone's New Book on Working Moms



Sociology Professor Pamela Stone and her new book.



Some books change the way people see the world, and Hunter sociology professor Pamela Stone has written just such a book — winning her a sheaf of favorable reviews and appearances on national television and radio interview shows.

Opting Out? Why Women Really Quit Careers and Head Home challenges the prevailing belief that large numbers of well-paid professional women are leaving the workplace to become full-time mothers as a matter of choice. Just the opposite, Professor Stone concluded after conducting extensive research — including interviews with 54 women who seemed to fit the popular stereotype. In the great majority of cases, she found, the women were effectively forced from their jobs because employers refused to accommodate their need for more flexible schedules or reduced hours.

The book caused an immediate stir. Stone became a much-sought-after guest on radio and TV, appearing on CBS's *Evening News with Katie Couric*, NBC's *Today Show* and *Weekend Today*, MSNBC's *Countdown with Keith Olbermann*, ABC's *World News Tonight*, NPR and local cable and radio shows.

She was also quoted in a number of newspapers and magazines, including *Time*, *USA Today*, *U.S. News & World Report*, the *Christian Science Monitor* and the *New York Daily News*.

Business Week called her book "provocative, superbly researched." *Publishers Weekly* described it as "fascinating and surprising." And *Salon* said: "*Opting Out?* shows how a mix of forces conspired to nudge women out of their careers, despite the fact that most originally intended to stay in them."

In her book, Stone argues that the modern office has become a high-pressured environment of long hours and frequent travel. Working mothers, she says, are hit with a double whammy: Not only is there little tolerance for

their dilemma, but their better-paid husbands often have work schedules that keep them from fully sharing the child care.

Even when women are able to arrange to work part-time, Stone found, it often boomerangs. Their pay is greatly reduced, but the demands quickly revert to old levels.

Her goal in writing the book was both scholarly and "to engage readers beyond the academy, especially policymakers."

"I'd like to believe that policymakers pay as much attention to data as social scientists, but I've

"Until my study, the story behind opting out has been a misleading and distorted one."

— Prof. Pamela Stone

been doing this long enough to know that to have real impact, researchers also have to tell the stories behind the data," she explains. "Until my study, the story behind opting out has been a misleading and distorted one."

As part of her effort to influence policy, she launched the book with a briefing for lawmakers and staffers on Capitol Hill. But she adds: "Given that so much of work-family policy in the U.S. is made in the private sector, I also want to reach the corporate managers who have the power to make cultural and organizational changes in the way we do business. Making the workplace family-friendly is a true win-win."

In one way, though, Stone's most important appearance was a posting on YouTube, which carried an extended interview she did with CBS. That, she says, significantly raised her "cool" factor with her children.

Brokaw Hosts Opening Roosevelt House Event

TV newsman Tom Brokaw was the host of a discussion about presidential leadership in wartime with two noted historians at Hunter on January 14 — the kickoff to a series of events leading up to the much anticipated opening of a renovated Roosevelt House in 2008.

The ribbon-cutting for Roosevelt House, which will become Hunter's new public policy center to honor the distinguished legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, is scheduled for this fall.

president to use military force without a great deal of disruption to the country. "We can go to war without breaking a sweat," Kennedy said. "It's too easy."

The panel also talked about presidents not always being truthful about the reasons for war. "I think most of them have lied to us," said Hoff, a respected author and distinguished research professor at Montana State University, Bozeman. "They fabricate and fiddle with the facts to go to war...I'm still waiting for an apology for the Vietnam War." Brokaw, a best-selling author himself with recent books



Hunter alumna Phyllis L. Kossoff, who endowed the event, with son Mitchell.

a member of the graduate faculty of the City University of New York. The January 14th event was endowed by Hunter alumna Phyllis L. Kossoff.

"I believe that the Roosevelts saw their dreams reflected in Hunter," Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab told the audience.

Restorations on the historic Upper East Side building at 47-49 East 65th Street, once home to FDR and the Roosevelt family, began in 2005 to turn it into a state-of-the-art facility for teaching, research and public programming.



Tom Brokaw talks to panelists Joan Hoff and David Kennedy.

Brokaw, who served as anchor and managing editor of *NBC Nightly News* for more than 20 years before retiring in 2004, was the moderator of "The President at War" — a talk with historians David Kennedy and Joan Hoff at the Kaye Playhouse about President Bush and other presidents in wartime.

"Nothing gets the blood pounding in a society more than going to war," said Brokaw. "We commit lives and change lives in a heartbeat."

In a wide-ranging discussion about the power of presidents to wage war that looked at FDR, Nixon, Johnson and both Bushes, it was pointed out the U.S. has been involved in 240 armed conflicts in its history — but Congress has only declared war five times.

Kennedy, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and history professor at Stanford University, said present day factors such as the lack of a draft made it easier than ever for a

about the World War II generation and the '60s, concluded by saying "this discussion we had tonight reminds us once again how important this presidential election is this year. The stakes are very high."

Future talks in this Roosevelt House series — presented in partnership with the Aspen Institute, one of the country's premier research and policy institutions — will focus on U.S. presidents in relation to issues of civil rights, the Constitution, and other areas of both current and historic significance. Upcoming guests include U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, *NBC Nightly News* anchor Brian Williams and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin.

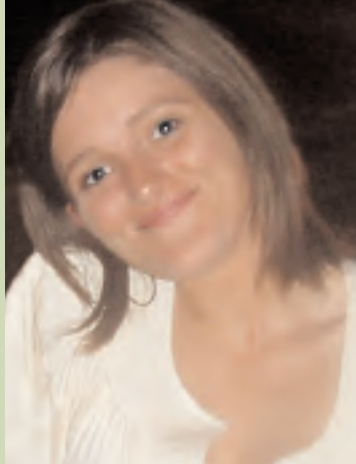
The series, entitled "Aspen at Roosevelt House: Conversations on Presidential Leadership in Honor of Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.," honors both the Roosevelt legacy and the memory of Schlesinger, who was for many years

Summer Internships... continued from page 1

"I loved working there because they treat the interns like kings," Bernstein said. "It was such a positive environment." One of the best parts of the job for Bernstein was that he actually got to make his own on-air promo of a show at the end of the summer. "They made us do it for real, even though it wasn't for real."

Born in Zambia, he came to the U.S. in 2002. He said people at Hunter made him feel so much more welcome than those from some other schools he looked into. "The administration was very helpful, and the professors were intellectually stimulating."

Caroline Generas, a senior in media studies, did her summer internship in the employee relations department of Coach. "I really enjoyed what I did," Generas said. "It was nice to experience what goes on behind the scenes in the corporate field. I sat in on meetings regarding new managers and store



Caroline Generas

openings — and I constructed a guide to assist the employee relations team in training new managers. I was extremely busy."

One of her favorite moments was when Frankfort — the head of Coach, who received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters on the 40th anniversary of his graduation from Hunter this past year — talked to her and other interns about how he had established the successful fashion company. "He told us you have to find something you enjoy doing and work really hard and always be open to learning new things," Generas said. "It was really inspirational. It's definitely a summer I will not forget. Working at Coach gave me the confidence that I'll need to pursue a successful career after I graduate."



Kelle Jacob

parts of the world. I also got to work on the launch of a private collection by Aerin Lauder, Estée Lauder's granddaughter and the creative director. I did planning for the unveiling of the product at Saks Fifth Avenue."

She also met with editors of fashion magazines from around the world; helped plan a launch party at MoMA with spokesmodels like Gwyneth Paltrow; and got to visit laboratories to see how products were made. "I wouldn't let them have a meeting without me," Jacob laughs. "They offered me a job when the internship was over. I like the idea of marketing and advertising — and I hope to continue that at Estée Lauder after my experience there."

Jacob talked about how great it was to meet Leonard Lauder, the chairman of the company, and Evelyn Lauder, who has been one of Hunter's most prominent alumni benefactors. "I got to sit down at a few breakfasts with Leonard Lauder where he gave me and other interns advice on how to become successful in any business."

Kelle Jacob, a senior media major and vice chair of the Hunter College Senate, called her summer at Estée Lauder, Inc., "just a great experience."

"I had the best internship job, in global communications. We came up with strategic public relations plans for launching new products in different

In Memoriam: Floria Lasky '42

Floria V. Lasky, the famed entertainment lawyer and one of Hunter College's most fervent supporters, died on September 21 at the age of 84.

Lasky was the founding chair of the Board of Trustees of the Hunter College Foundation. She also brought her passion for the arts to Hunter by securing major funding from the Frederick Loewe Foundation to create the Frederick Loewe Theatre and Plaza — as well as obtaining generous support from the Jerome Robbins Foundation for the College's dance program.

"The Hunter College community is profoundly saddened by the loss of this extraordinary alumna, our dear and loyal friend," said Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab. "We will always remember Floria's wit, intellect and, especially, her voice."

A member of the illustrious class of 1942, which included classmates Regina Resnik and Bella Abzug, Lasky achieved great professional success while remaining a lifelong advocate of Hunter. She often talked movingly about her memories of Hunter and how important it had been to her — and many other women — during the Depression years.

"We took a sandwich in a little brown bag and we took a quarter," Lasky recalled. "Ten cents for carfare back and

forth, five cents for milk and ten cents was luxury. The education at Hunter was wonderful. It was free. You didn't pay for books. And those of us who could not have had an education unless the education was without cost except for that quarter...we just would not have had that schooling."

"They really empowered the women," she said. "They made women feel capable."

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to Hunter, the College honored her with a President's Medal and a Doctor of Humane Letters. She was elected to the Hunter Hall of Fame in 1992.

After graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in German, Lasky attended New York University Law School, where she was first in her class and editor in chief of the *Law Review*. She went on to become a senior partner in the law firm of Fitelson, Lasky, Aslan & Couture, where she specialized in entertainment law and literary and copyright law.

Her prominent clients included Elia Kazan, Jerome Robbins, Frederick Loewe, Motown Records, Mary Martin, The Theater Guild, Circle in the Square, Tennessee Williams and Burl Ives. She also was a



Floria V. Lasky 1923 – 2007

lecturer on entertainment law at NYU Law School and Rutgers University Law School.

Lasky was a pioneer in the field, the first woman to become such an influential legal figure in the theater world.

She was married to David Altman, former chairman of the board of Altman Stoller Weiss Advertising, Inc., who died in 2000. Their two daughters, Emily and Dara, are both lawyers.

Do You Remember Eleanor Roosevelt at Hunter?

Hunter College is collecting stories about Eleanor Roosevelt.

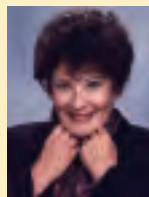
Do you remember when she came to visit Hunter? Perhaps you had tea with the First Lady at Roosevelt House? No detail of any experiences you might have had with Mrs. Roosevelt is too small to share. We would also like to hear from anyone who was at Hunter in 1942 when President Franklin Roosevelt dedicated the theater which is now The Kaye Playhouse.

To contribute your memories, please send them to *At Hunter*, 695 Park Avenue, Rm. 1301, East Building, New York, NY 10065 or email them to publications@hunter.cuny.edu

Class Notes

Please keep us — and your fellow alumni — informed about your accomplishments by e-mailing your news to alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu. Or you can update your contact information and submit a Class Note at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni. Share your stories with us and the Hunter College community. You can even post a picture of yourself!

1940s



Molly Lippenholtz Starkman (BA '47) leads a singers' workshop at Gilda's House in White Plains. She has long balanced a career in opera, theater, and cabaret with marriage and motherhood.

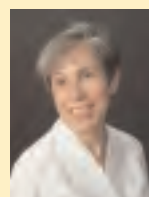


at City College. He is the author of numerous mathematics books and is a frequent commentator in newspapers on education-related topics.

written several other books, including *The Zen of Organizing* and *The Idiot's Guide to Decluttering*. Leeds credits her mother with instilling within her the value of cleanliness and order in everyday life.



Beverly Slomka (BA '70, MS '76) has written a book entitled *Teens and the Job Game: Prepare Today — Win It Tomorrow*, published in November. Slomka was inspired to write the book



Martha Snegroff (BA '65) recently won a Siemens Science Teacher Award, which recognizes exceptional achievements in science, math, and technology. Snegroff, who has been an educator for over 40 years, teaches both science and English at Ardsley Middle School in the Lower Hudson Valley.

Daniel Domenech (BA '67) has received the 2007 Excellence in Education Latin Pride National award from *Latin Pride Magazine*. For nearly 30 years, Domenech has worked to improve public education, and currently serves as senior vice president of McGraw-Hill Education's Urban Advisory Resource. He was formerly superintendent of the 12th largest school system in America — the Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia.

by her years of working as a business manager and recruiter at Merrill Lynch & Co., and in the health care field.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) honored **Evan R. Chesler** (MA '73), presiding partner of the law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, with the 2007 ADL Human Relations Award. The award recognizes his efforts in building diversity in the workplace and in the legal community.

Kathy Boeschstein (MA '73) is the new vicar of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Westcliffe, Colorado. Formerly a psychotherapist, Boeschstein was ordained into the Episcopal Church in 2003, fulfilling a long-held dream. Boeschstein holds a bachelor's degree in language and literature from City College and a master's degree in counseling from Hunter.

Phyllis C. Murray (BA '68, MSEd '73) recently received the United Federation of Teachers' Ely Trachtenberg Award. Murray is a literacy teacher and UFT chapter leader in the New York City public school system.



Longtime educator **Marcia Lyles** (BA '74) is the new deputy chancellor for teaching and learning for New York City. Lyles, who began her career 30 years ago as an English teacher, has served as the

Daniel B. Krantz (BA '67) is the president-elect of the New Jersey Dental Association for the 2007-2008 year. He is a general dentist practicing in Somerset, and a delegate of the NJDA Council on Dental Benefits. After September 11, 2001, Krantz served as a member of the dental ID team.

As president and chief executive officer of Universal Studios Japan Co., **Glenn Gumpel** (BA '69) spearheaded the revival of the company's Hollywood theme park in Osaka in 2004. *The Wall Street Journal Asia* reported that his leadership has brought a turnaround for the park, as it has seen increased attendance, reduced debt, and its first annual profit.

Regina Leeds (BA '69) is the author of *One Year to an Organized Life*, published this year. She has



For the past 58 years, the Scholarship and Welfare Fund has played a crucial role in helping Hunter students get an education — and our work has grown so much over the years. When we started, our goal was to help the most needy and bright undergraduates — and today that is still our main purpose. As time went on, we saw that many of these graduates were at a disadvantage in their search for a job because they did not have the added skills that a master's degree or time spent out of New York City bring to a young adult. They were finding it difficult to continue their dream by going on to graduate schools.

And so we decided that our job was not over when students left Hunter, but that we would also help many of them continue on with their education — either at Hunter, another CUNY school or someplace else.

I am proud to say that we now support over 100 students each year with graduate grants to places as far away as California, London and Paris.

If you would like to help us with this mission or any of our other programs, please write to me at: **Scholarship and Welfare Fund**
695 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10065
or e-mail S&W@hunter.cuny.edu

Congratulations to Ruofan Li '01 on her promotion to Executive Director of The Scholarship and Welfare Fund.

CELEBRATE YOUR MILESTONE! CELEBRATE HUNTER'S BIRTHDAY AND THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S BIRTHDAY!

Join us on Sunday, May 18, at the Grand Hyatt New York to celebrate your milestone reunion, the 138th Birthday of Hunter College, and the 136th Birthday of the Alumni Association.

If you are a member of a class whose graduation year ends in 3 or 8 (e.g., 1943, 1958, 1963, 1978, etc.), you will be celebrating your milestone this spring — so make sure to mark this important date!

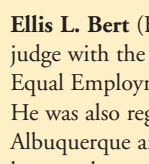
Sunday, May 18, 2008
Grand Hyatt New York
109 East 42 Street
at Grand Central Terminal
New York City

Class Reunions at 11 am
Luncheon at 1 pm

Reservations are \$75.00 each. Please make checks payable to The Alumni Association of Hunter College and send to: Alumni Association of Hunter College, 1314 East Building, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10065

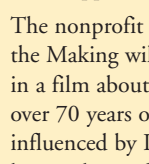
1950s

Ellis L. Bert (BA '50) is a former administrative judge with the Dallas Regional Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He was also regional counsel with the agency's Albuquerque and Atlanta Regional Offices where he served as supervisory trial attorney. He was awarded the Certificate of Service from the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union for his service as a volunteer attorney for the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project.



The nonprofit volunteer organization Years in the Making will feature **Marlene Siff** (BA '57) in a film about Westport artists who are over 70 years old. Siff, whose work has been influenced by Italian futurism, has exhibited her work in solo and group shows throughout the U.S. and Japan.

Norma Broude (BA '62) is a feminist scholar and professor of art history at American University, was a co-curator of the exhibit "Claiming Space: Some American Feminist Originators." On view at the American University Museum, the exhibit focused on 19 founders of the Feminist Art Movement in America.



Alfred S. Posamentier (BA '64) has co-authored *The Fabulous Fibonacci Numbers*, recently published by Prometheus Books. Posamentier is a mathematics education professor and dean of the School of Education

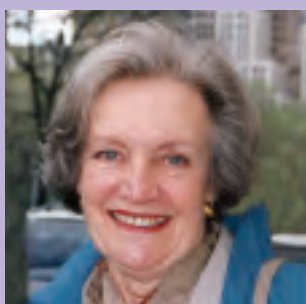
1960s

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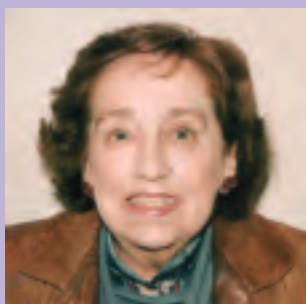
Dorothy Jones DeRenzo (BA '64) is the author of *One Year to an Organized Life*, published this year. She has

In Memoriam



Dorothy Jones DeRenzo
1926 — 2007

In announcing the creation of the Dorothy Jones DeRenzo Fund at Hunter to encourage and help other bright young women interested in science, DeRenzo's daughters said: "Mom valued, and taught us to value, education above all else besides family. So we think this will be a fitting tribute to her and her memory and we delight in the possibility that Mom will help yet another young woman accomplish her goals." Contributions in her memory can be made to the Dorothy Jones DeRenzo Fund c/o Hunter College Foundation, Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10065.



Virginia Clair
1919 — 2007

Clair was a reporter and editor for the *Standard Star* and a chain of 13 other newspapers for 25 years. She later did public relations for New York University, covered health issues as a freelance writer, and taught writing at the College of New Rochelle.

Dorothy Jones DeRenzo '45

A scholarship fund to help exceptional female science students at Hunter has been established in memory of Dorothy Jones DeRenzo ('45), who died on October 22 at the age of 81. DeRenzo graduated from Hunter with a BS in chemistry and went on to earn a master's in biochemistry at Fordham. She worked as a biochemist at Pfizer and Killian Research Laboratories until taking time off to raise her four daughters. Her accomplishments were even more impressive because she was one of the few women to pursue a career in the sciences during the 1940s. She later returned to work as a technical editor for Noyes Data Corporation in Park Ridge, N.J.

While at Hunter, she was a member of Alpha Sigma Rho sorority. The summer after graduation, by working seven days a week for Western Union, she was able to make enough money to attend graduate school that fall at Fordham — where she met her husband of 38 years, Edward C. DeRenzo. He died in 1988.

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Virginia Clair '42

Virginia Clair ('42), a pioneer for female journalists who was profiled in a recent issue of *At Hunter*, died on August 14 at the age of 88.

TV newswoman Andrea Mitchell praised Clair as a role model in her best-selling book *Talking Back*, saying: "I idolized [Clair] as a tough wisecracking newspaperwoman in a man's world. I wanted to emulate Miss Virginia Clair."

They met in the 1950s when Clair was the schools' editor for the New Rochelle *Standard Star* and Mitchell was an elementary school student who wrote about her school for the paper. Mitchell sent a copy of her book to Clair with this inscription: "For Virginia, whose encouragement set me on this course and made all these adventures possible."

Clair was a reporter and editor for the *Standard Star* and a chain of 13 other newspapers for 25 years. She later did public relations for New York University, covered health issues as a freelance writer, and taught writing at the College of New Rochelle.

assistant principal of Erasmus Hall High School and principal of Paul Robeson High School. Her experience as both a student in city schools and an educator in the system was covered in a *New York Times* article entitled, "A New Role, but for Her, Familiar Turf."

For the third time, New York Secretary of State **Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez** (BA '75) has been named one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in the United States by *Hispanic Business* magazine. She is the first Hispanic to occupy the position of New York Secretary of State.

Sr. Ann Marie Damiani (MS '76) was honored at St. John Villa in Staten Island as part of the school's Alumnae Association Homecoming Day. Damiani previously served as a teacher and administrator at St. John and is currently provincial secretary of the Sisters of St. John the Baptist.

Donna Pizzi (BA '76) and her husband Philip Clayton-Thompson run a small ad agency, Blackstone Edge Studios, which creates websites, films, podcasts, ad campaigns, print ads, posters, and promotions. Last fall, they won the 37th Creativity Annual Awards' gold trophy for their intro to Ralph Wells' documentary "Farewell, Vienna!" about the life of Eric Wolfgang Korngold.

Thomas J. Drury (BA '77), a senior partner and the chair of the general litigation department of Damon & Morey LLP, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2008*. Drury, who works in Buffalo, NY, is a member of the Erie County Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, and the American Bar Association.

Anne Stavola (BA '78) has been named vice president of East Coast Publicity for Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures. She is responsible for developing and implementing publicity strategies and campaigns for motion pictures released under the Walt Disney Pictures and Touchstone Pictures banners.

Accomplished interior designer **Marcia Weese** (MA '79) has been appointed the director of design of 4240 Interiors for 4240 Architecture Inc. Throughout her 30-year career in interior design, Weese has served as a visiting juror, art instructor, and art teacher at the Illinois Institute of Technology and the Art Institute of Chicago.

1980s

Cushman & Wakefield Retail Services announced that **Beth Greenwald** (BA '80), a Manhattan real estate professional, has joined the firm as a director. She previously served as a director for Newmark Knight Frank Retail and as leasing agent for Harlem USA, the retail and entertainment development project on West 125th Street.

J. Lance Mallamo (MUP '80) is the director of the Office of Historic Alexandria, Virginia. He is responsible for the city's museums, historic sites, and historic districts. Mallamo was formerly the executive director of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum.

The New Jersey Art Therapy Association has elected **Maria Regina Lupu** (MFA '84) to its executive board. She is the creative arts therapies coordinator at the Atlantic Mind Body Center, in the Integrative Medicine Division.

Kevin Law (MS '84) is the chair of the Long Island Power Authority's Board of Trustees, and chief deputy county executive and general counsel for Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy.

Julia Veinus BA '34
Sally Buegeleisen BA '44
Eva Cecile Carr BA '46

Conservation artist **Barbara Roux** (MFA '85) is exhibiting her ecology-based photographs, sculpture and narratives in several shows, including "Barbara Roux: Evidence from Nature" at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum in Connecticut, on view from October 12, 2007 – February 25, 2008. Roux is the author of *Under Cover of Trees*, which was published this summer.

For the third consecutive year, **Chris Seeger** (BA '87) has been named in *The Best Lawyers in America*, an annual referral guide that evaluates attorneys in 78 practice areas. Seeger — a 2006 Super Lawyer in the states of New York and New Jersey — is a founding partner of the plaintiffs' law firm Seeger Weiss LLP, which has been named to the *National Law Journal's* prestigious Plaintiffs' Hot List for 2007.

1990s

Anne Flash (MFA '91) teaches art in Provincetown, Cape Cod, at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum School. She was profiled in the *Cape Cod Chronicle* in an article entitled "Artist, Teacher, Chef: Anne Flash is Harwich's Renaissance Woman."

Ingrid Reneau (BA '91) serves as an education officer in Sudan in partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Sudan, the Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, and the Association of Christian Resource Organizations. Reneau will help expand the church-sponsored school system, improve its administrative capabilities, and strengthen its teaching methodologies. Reneau has an MA and a PhD from Rutgers University. Hunt Adkins, a Minneapolis based advertising agency, has hired **Faith James** (BA '93) as its chief strategy officer. Formerly an independent consultant, James has held positions at Ogilvy & Mather, McCann Erickson, and Carmichael Lynch.

Kieran McGonnell (BA '93), an artist born in County Cork, Ireland, and based in New York, returned to his hometown on October 27 to exhibit his latest paintings. McGonnell's work is included in numerous corporate and private collections, and has been featured nationally in venues such as Arctcenter in Miami, Florida, and the Kennedy Center Festival in Washington, D.C.

International sound-based artist **China Blue's** (MFA '94) one-person exhibition "Negative Ellipse" was on view in Dijon, France, from September 22 to November 17. Additionally, on September 28, Blue documented, through acoustic recordings, the sound and vibrations of the Eiffel Tower's 2,500,000 rivets and 18,038 pieces of steel.

Ceramics artist **Eve Behar** (BA '95) married Alphonso Anthony Scotti on September 14. Behar, the daughter of comedian Joy Behar, holds a certificate in ceramics from the Studio Art Centers International in Florence and a diploma in crafts and design from Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning in Oakville, Ontario.

Dicicco Battista Communications recently promoted **Bryan Evans** (BA '95) from senior account manager to account supervisor in its public relations division. Evans previously worked at Buckley Global Communications, the Alliance for Downtown New York, Inc., and Proact Technologies Corp.

Lea Geronimo (BA '95) is a co-founder of the Beyond Ground Zero Network, an advocacy organization working with low-income and immigrant communities suffering health

problems from the WTC disaster. An executive assistant at a Wall Street brokerage firm, Geronimo has suffered from numerous illnesses she believes were caused by toxic dust from ground zero.

Jeanine Bari Primm (BA '98) married Samuel Kenneth Franklin Jones on September 16. Primm is the co-owner of Health Disparities Services, a Baltimore company that provides speakers to address medical issues with patients and health care providers.

Paintings by **Kim Sobel** (MFA '99) were on view last fall at the Mandell Jewish Community Center in West Hartford, Connecticut. Sobel, who has exhibited her work in New York, Europe, and New England, currently teaches at Manchester College.

Technology Marketing Corp. of Norwalk has named **Brian Solomon** (MA '99) one of its new web editors. Solomon formerly worked on the editorial staff in WWE's publications department.

2000s

Jennifer McArdle Hoppa (MUP '00) has been awarded the Frederick O'Reilly Hayes Fellowship for 2007. The Fellowship honors emerging leaders in New York City government who have demonstrated excellence in improving the delivery of public services. Hoppa is currently the Deputy Administrator for North Manhattan Parks for the City's Department of Parks and Recreation.

Guy Moshe's (BA '01) first feature film, *Holly*, opened in November at Clearview Cinemas in New York City. Moshe wrote, directed, and co-produced the movie, which examines the growing international atrocity of human trafficking. The film was shot on location in Cambodia and features actors Ron Livingston, Thuy Nguyen, Udo Kier, Chris Penn and Virginia Ledoyen.

Tomas Hinojal's (BS '02) eco-spot *This is Not a Test* was selected as one of 23 semi-finalists in Current TV's contest, *60 Seconds to Save the Earth*. Current TV — Al Gore's Emmy Award-winning independent media company — and the Alliance for Climate Protection challenged people worldwide to create provocative short video messages that inspire action with regards to the climate crisis.

Reina Mukai (MA '06) won the 2007 Arthur Leon Horniker Memorial Award for her work entitled "Effects of Strategic Response on Stated Willingness to Pay: Do WTP Values Vary According to a Respondent's Perceived Payment Obligation?" Mukai is a research associate at the Foundation Center, the nation's leading authority on philanthropy.

Maya Tskenis (BA '06) received the Social Work Student of the Year Award from the New York State Social Work Education Association (NYSWEA). Tskenis is a second-year master's degree student at Fordham University's Graduate School of Social Service.

Marianne Bee (Professional Certificate '07) is the founder of the Garden City-based Geriatric Care management practice, Bee Well Elder Care, LLC.

Writer, director, and producer **Alex Patos'** (BA '07) short film, *Tom's Place*, debuted at the Long Island International Film Festival.

Krystin Suarez (BA '07) has entered the Police Academy as a recruit with a promotion status she earned while in the Cadet Corps. Suarez played varsity basketball for Hunter and graduated cum laude.

Geraldine Young MA '74
Barbara J. Whitehall MSW '96

Alumni Association Events

For information on all alumni events, please check our website at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni

GREATER NEW HAVEN CHAPTER

February 25: Executive Board meeting
Time: 11:30 am; Whitney Center, Hamden
Contact: Beth Schaefer
203-795-4236

LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

May 6: Annual Luncheon
Time TBA; location: Roslyn
June 24: Evening meeting
Time TBA; location: East Meadow
Contact: Helen Gittleman
516-705-6277; Rhona Goldman
516-599-2719 or
rhonagoldman@gmail.com

NORTH BROWARD CHAPTER/FLORIDA

February 29: Annual Luncheon
Time: 1 pm; Mythos Greek Tavern, Coral Springs
March 24: Discussion on "Normal Aging" led by Phyllis Antis ('60), adult nurse practitioner and geriatric care manager
Time: 1 pm; North Broward/BCC Library, Coconut Creek
Contact: Naomi Weintraub
Lubarsky 954-971-4596;
Edythe Werner Rishin
954-978-9824

PALM BEACH COUNTY CHAPTER

March 14: Birthday Luncheon
Time: 12:30 pm; Duffy's Sports Grill, Boynton Beach
Contact: Ellen Rice Brotman
ERbrotman@aol.com (Please put Hunter in the subject line.)

QUEENS CHAPTER

March 4: Meeting featuring Bea Klier speaking on her travels
Time: 1:30 pm; Kew Garden Hills Library
Contact: Shirley Zimmet
718-268-7278

WISTARIANS CHAPTER

March 12: Black Scholars Lecture with guest speaker Dr. Jill Bargonetti, Hunter professor of biological sciences
Time: 6 pm; Faculty Dining Room, Hunter College
Contact: Grace Smallwood
212-222-4048

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month except February, August, and December. The group meets from 7-8:30 pm in the Archives Room of the Hunter Library, on Level Two of the East Building, except for January and July, when it meets in 1315 East Building.
March 19: *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

Lew & Bobbie Frankfort's \$1M Gift For Teacher Training Video System



Bobbie Frankfort (center) with Wei-Ee (Katie) Cheng and Ian Docherty, two graduate students who are enthusiastic users of the School of Education's new video system.

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The Frankforts are important donors to Hunter. They helped create the Mother's Day Scholarship Fund and play a key role in that effort as part of their continued support for the College. Frankfort ('67), the much-admired CEO of Coach, Inc., praises Hunter "as my gateway to opportunity."

"I feel strongly about giving back to Hunter, not only to express my thanks for the great education it gave me, but also to help provide the same kind of opportunity to aspiring young people from working-class backgrounds," said Frankfort, who received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the College in May.

Bobbie Frankfort has a double connection to Hunter — through her husband and through her mother, who was a member of the Class of '42 and, in Bobbie's words, "a proud graduate and big cheerleader" for the College.

An expert in the field of education — she holds a PhD from NYU in the history and philosophy of education — Bobbie is a strong proponent of the videotaping system.

"Hunter already has a first-class School of Education,

led by a dean who is wonderfully innovative," she said. "This system is an invaluable new tool in helping to prepare teachers for the challenges they are going to face."

One of the graduate students involved in using the video system, Ian Docherty, who is a teacher at Public School 156 in Brooklyn, called it "invaluable." He added that it creates an unexpected fringe benefit: "Young students gravitate to technology, so it helps me motivate them to work."

The establishment of the Frankfort Teacher Video Initiative at Hunter — which is being phased in this year for 100 of the School of Education's 500 students — is a development with far-reaching national implications.

The video cameras capture training sessions with student teachers on what are known as flash memory cards. Later, faculty members can sit down with the student-teachers one-on-one to watch their performances and offer pointers — thus turning the memory cards into highly individualized teaching tools.

In the absence of this kind of video system, the only way to observe student teachers is to have adjuncts watch their training sessions and take notes. Elaborate steps

are taken to keep the adjuncts' observations fair and objective, but inconsistencies and subjective judgments inevitably creep in. The all-seeing cameras of the Frankfort Teacher Video Initiative eliminate such problems.

If the system catches on as expected, teacher training will never be the same.

The flash memory cards will serve other purposes, too. The School of Education can pull out two or three-minute "slices" from individual cards and show them to other student teachers to illustrate classroom problems and what to do (or not do) to deal with them.

As they accumulate over the years, all the cards will be indexed by subject matter so that they can be identified and used by scholars in case studies.

And, as Hunter's new School of Education graduates go into the world, they will be able to turn their personal memory cards into electronic portfolios to apply for jobs — the 21st century version of a résumé.

Kaufman Laboratory Dedication



Lucille Duke Kaufman ('47) and her husband, Theodore, are all smiles at the dedication of Hunter's newly refurbished biology laboratory. The facility has been renamed the Lucille and Theodore Kaufman Laboratory in appreciation of their \$100,000 gift to help make the modernization possible.



Susie Peterson Case Joins Foundation Board

Susie Peterson Case — a prominent educational activist, management consultant, public speaker and philanthropist — was named to the Hunter College Foundation Board of Trustees.

Case has served as chair of the Hunter College Foundation's Career Services Committee and as a member of the External Relations Committee, the Gala Committee and the Roosevelt House Committee.

Her support for Hunter is part of a lifetime dedicated

to public service and higher education. She has served on the boards of Global Leadership, Nyack College and the Committee to Visit the College at Harvard. She is currently on both the board and the faculty of the Center for Social and Emotional Education, which helps schools integrate social and emotional learning with academic instruction. She has also taught as an adjunct professor at the Columbia Business School.

Her interest in Hunter dates to when she first arrived in New York in the 1980s and lived near the campus. "I could see immediately," she says, "that it was a very exciting school in a unique urban setting."

Serving a six-year term on the board at Harvard gave her a strong sense of what a trustee should and should not do to be an effective adviser to a university, and she wanted to apply the lessons she had learned to Hunter.

The relationship has been a success for both sides. "I have become an evangelist for the CUNY system in general and Hunter in particular," she says, adding she

finds the Hunter faculty "amazing — everything I would want my professors to be" — and the students "just extraordinary."

Case received her BA and master's at Harvard in decision sciences and an MBA from the Harvard Business School. Her husband, Robert, is a leading member of New York's financial community.

Case began her career on Wall Street as an equity analyst. Just three years later she was elected to Institutional Investor's All-American Research Team and voted one of the top 10 analysts for client service. She went on to work and consult in the corporate and nonprofit sectors.

She is a much sought-after public speaker and has given more than 250 talks to business and community groups on such topics as leadership, time management, career management and parenting.