

November 18, 2015

Volume 22

Issue 5



THE KNIGHT NEWS



theknightnews.com
Breaking News & Video

Journalism in the Interest of the Queens College Community

VETERAN OVERCOMES BARRIERS



Col. Gregory Gadson (right) visited Queens College to talk about his time in Iraq and his injuries.

SEE PAGE 3

Photo by Phil Vallone

Faith groups come together
on climate change

SEE PAGE 5

Food trucks to leave campus
when winter approaches

SEE PAGE 6

EDITORIALS

Policing in New York City needs to change

Sophomore Yibin Mu uploaded a video on Oct. 25 showing an officer apparently placing him in a headlock, a disturbing image for anyone to see.

Mu rode his skateboard at Columbus Circle in spite of signs barring it. An officer, once seeing Mu, immediately tackled him to the ground, according to Mu. In contrast, a spokesperson for the New York Police Department told the Gothamist that Mu refused to listen to the officer, leading to his arrest.

The Knight News was interested in speaking with Mu, but many other journalists from across the world also wanted to as well. Unfortunately, it does not look likely we will reporting on this story.

Regardless of what one thinks about Mu's decisions, use of force by officers is not necessary. Mu was not a danger to anyone and the officer was not threatened. Indeed, the officer pepper-sprayed him despite Mu not having any weapons.

But this is not an isolated incident, especially in New York City. Police, even across the U.S., use excessive force even when it is

not needed. There are many incidents to write about, but not enough space to list them all.

This brings up the question about police and their role in society. David Graeber, an anthropologist at the London School of Economics, wrote a piece in Gawker earlier this year titled "Ferguson and the Criminalization of American Life" about this very question.

Graeber wrote how officers spend 90 percent of the time "dealing with infractions of various administrative codes and regulations." For the other 10 percent, they deal with violent criminals.

"The police, then, are essentially just bureaucrats with weapons. Their main role in society is to bring the threat of physical force—even, death—into situations where it would never have been otherwise invoked, such as the enforcement of civic ordinances about the sale of untaxed cigarettes," Graeber wrote.

Mu is seeking a lawyer and we will follow this case as it develops. In the meantime, we invite solutions to this policing crisis from readers.

Students are right to be concerned

In the past week, college students have been protesting, pressuring and bringing attention to racial injustice on their campuses.

Of course, controversy developed because of this over political correctness and free speech for journalists. At University of Missouri, Tim Tai and Mark Schierbecker, two journalists, were blocked by students for infringing on their safe space. In fact, Melissa Click, a media professor, called for "muscle" to block Schierbecker.

While the professor since apologized and resigned from her position, this issue is not black-and-white. A fitting us-versus-them narrative developed and buried issues of racism, privatization and neglect in favor of political correctness gone wrong and those darn crazy Millennials feeling so sensitive.

As journalists and students, we feel it is our duty to comment on such an issue. Even CUNY Chancellor James Milliken felt compelled to talk about these events as CUNY, in his words, is a "place of inclusion, not exclusion."

"Universities are places where free speech, debate and the open exchange of ideas are not just encouraged, they are necessary to our mission of exploring and understanding a diverse range of ideas and perspectives. And while we will always embrace this openness to many voices, intolerant, hateful and bigoted speech, while it may be legally protected, is anathema to our values," Milliken said.

Since #BlackLivesMatter first appeared, the media intensely vilified it by all means. One story even alleged people tied to Black Lives Matter killed Charles Gliniewicz, a police officer, in Illinois. Gliniewicz actually committed suicide after fearing exposure of his embezzling scheme involving money for youths.

Moreover, journalists at Ferguson, Mo., last year eventually were not welcomed by residents. Ryan Schuessler, a journalist, left the city and gave reasons in a post titled "Why I Left Ferguson" on his personal site.

Schuessler said he left because of incidents ranging from TV crews mocking the spot where 18-year-old Michael Brown died to reporters

hoping to get famous by being arrested. He even overheard one reporter call Ferguson a "networking opportunity."

"In the early days of all this, I was warmly greeted and approached by Ferguson residents. They were glad that journalists were there. The past two days, they do not even look at me and blatantly ignore me. I recognize that I am now just another journalist to them, and their frustration with us is clear. In the beginning there was a recognizable need for media presence, but this is the other extreme," Schuessler said.

There is more to show how the carelessness of reporters would lead to incidents like at Missouri. Journalists require the ability to analyze not only the short-term situation, but also the long-term as well.

We're reporters with the power to shape opinions. We know activists, like all other sources, need to know we are trustworthy and not carrying out a personal agenda. It isn't easy and no one ever said it was.

Langston Hughes, one of America's most famous poets, wrote a short, but timeless poem called "Harlem." In it, Hughes asks "What happens to a dream deferred?" He offers different outcomes, but the last one is the most relevant and chilling of all: "Or does it explode?"

Protests will continue if nothing is done to address racial tensions even beyond college campuses. Talk should not focus on the exaggerated political correctness. Rather stopping racism and creating a democratic environment where students feel comfortable, or not threatened on a constant basis, works.

Before Milliken and the administration talk about CUNY as a place of "inclusion," they should address the spying the NYPD conducts on Muslims at CUNY. They should address the incessant tuition hikes hurting working-class students, which includes those from black families. They should address the lack of a contract for professors and staff.

All of this excludes people from the CUNY community and the administration should be concerned. Because if they're not, who should?

MISSION STATEMENT:

"We aim to serve the Queens College community through a tireless pursuit for truths that may be hidden, obstructed or otherwise unknown, to empower our readers with the information they need to inspire change."

Editor-in-Chief: **Brandon Jordan**

Managing Editor: **Christina Cardona**

Managing Editor: **Yongmin Cho**

Managing Editor: **Candice Samuels**

Photo Editor: **Amanda Goldstein**

Social Media Editor: **Yarah Shabana**

Sports Editor: **Albert Roman**

Reporters

Irving Cruz

Erica Marie Finocchio

Brandon Hernandez

Mahnoor Mirza

Lea Passione

David Rafailovich

Philipp Regala

Shira Rosner

Sara Scheidlinger

Matthew Weinberg

Phil Vallone

Layout/Graphic Design

Devin Lee

Melisa Tekin

Advisers

Gerald Solomon

Sheryl McCarthy

Gavin McCormick

Phone: 347-450-6054

info@theknightnews.com

Logo by: **Konrad Meikina**

Corrections: In Issue 3, Brittany Berke's name is cited as "Brittany Burke." In Issue 4, Erica Marie Finocchio is cited as "Erica Marie Finnochio." The story on midterms included an incomplete sentence in the second paragraph. The story on flu shots spelled the CDC as Center instead of Centers. The film review on "Rosemary's Baby" included "Rosemary Baby's" in the last paragraph. The caption for the men's basketball story misspelled "begins" as "beings." Also, in the story, the word "with how" is missing from the fifth paragraph.

Retired Army officer speaks about overcoming obstacles

PHIL VALLONE

News Reporter

The New York Giants faced the Washington Redskins, their rivals, in the third week of the 2007-2008 season. Before the game, retired Army colonel Gregory Gadson, invited by a former West Point classmate, spoke to them about his time as a football player at West Point, his team's commitment to success and his service in Iraq.

"I told them that, if I could, I would be back with my soldiers in Iraq. But that isn't possible and, if given the chance, I would take each and every one of them with me," Gadson said.

The Giants beat the Redskins and later reached the Super Bowl where they defeated the New England Patriots. Gadson later received a Super Bowl ring for his contributions.

Gadson shared this story at the Student Union ballroom on Nov. 2 to a group of veterans and Queens College students where he emphasized the importance of overcoming problems.

"Tomorrow is not promised and the world doesn't follow your plan," Gadson said, "Your character, your ability to persevere and your desire to overcome is what will get you through any challenge."

A Distinguished Service Medal recipient, Gadson accredited his perseverance to three principles: pride, poise and teamwork.

One of Gadson's biggest challenges came when ordered to Fort Riley, Kans., in Aug. 2005.

The fourth individual in a unit eventually growing to 400, Gadson was responsible for manning, equipping and training the group and held accountable for successes as well as failures.

Gadson recalled lessons his former West Point football coach Jim Young instilled in him when leading the unit.

"We had to have an



PHOTO BY PHIL VALLONE

Colonel Gregory Gadson spoke at the fourth floor of the Student Union about the problems he tackled in his life. From left to right: School Certifying Official for Veteran Student Services Lorraine Rosenfeld, retired Colonel Gregory Gadson, Veterans Outreach Specialist Dennis Torres and Executive Director of Student Life John Andrejack

organization that didn't ask what was in it for them, but that asked what could be done for their fellow servicemen and fellow teams. That's what we built 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery on," Gadson said.

Another challenge came in 2007 as Gadson prepared for deployment. But his unit's role would change dramatically.

Originally an artillery unit, it would serve in a direct combat role as provisional, or temporary, infantry during the troop surge. They would step up to the challenge without missing a beat, said Gadson.

"They didn't moan, they didn't gripe and we retrained to perform that mission," Gadson said.

However, on May 7, 2007, after returning from a memorial

service for two fallen soldiers in Iraq, Gadson's life would change forever.

Gadson traveled in a convoy that was struck by an improvised explosive device. He was ejected from the vehicle and laid on the side of the road. He was unable to move and bleeding.

Private First Class Eric Brown immediately responded to Gadson. He applied tourniquets, a device that stops blood flow, on both of Gadson's legs.

"I am here today because my team saved my life," Gadson said.

Within a week of his transfer to Walter Reed Medical Center, Gadson learned doctors amputated his left leg because it could not be saved. Doctors told him they might be able to save the right leg, but it was amputated at his request.

"I redirected myself to attacking life and committing myself to being the best I could be every single day," Gadson said.

Gadson valued his time with the New York Giants and their willingness to make him a part of their team.

"[While recovering in the hospital], I didn't feel like was part of a team. The Giants made me a part of their team during a time in my life when I really needed it," Gadson said.

James Marone, a Marine Corps veteran and vice president of the Veterans Club, said the event helped bridge the gap between veterans and civilians.

"It's important to hold events like these not only to hear an inspirational speech from a respectable service member, but also to create a sense of

community and understanding between the military student body and the entirety of Queens College," Marone said.

Dennis Torres, also a Marine Corps veteran and veterans outreach specialist at QC, said Gadson's speech offered valuable lessons.

"He serves as a role model for the veteran community. His ability to overcome such life-threatening adversity serves as a great motivational tool for all students on campus," Torres said.

Torres said he remembered his own experiences with the Marines after hearing Gadson.

"Colonel Gadson's story was truly inspirational and breathtaking. He's a breath of fresh air and his ability to convey combat experiences brought me back to my own time in Fallujah, Iraq," Torres said.

Earlier this year, Gadson participated in the public art project called "Coming Home: Journey, Community and Dialog." Along with sketch artist Brookie Maxwell, Gadson aimed to connect veterans and their families to communities through art.

"Taking care of our veterans is fundamental to the security of our nation. It is important that our veterans continue to share their experiences and not use them as a crutch. We cannot allow them to disappear into society," Gadson said.

philvallo@theknightnews.com

Caretaker for Live-in and live out positions

Seeking nonsmoking fit women to care for 8 year old non-ambulatory non-verbal disable girl in Queens. Night/day shifts available \$10-\$14/hr. Duties include preparing meals, feeding, dressing, diapering, bathing, assist in walking, playing, cleaning, laundry and ability to learn simple therapeutic techniques. Certification as a HHA, nurse's aide, first aid or CPR and experience in music, dance or special Ed a plus. College/grad credit available. Call Gary at 917-916-4681 or gavriael@aol.com www.martialartstherapy.org

I am also in the process of starting a new club in Queens College called Martial Arts Therapy which is old/new techniques for pain management and rehab. I am seeking student interns to work for me on this project and another with film and media.

www.garymoskowitzfilms.com



Author Joyce Carol Oates discusses memoir at Evening Readings

CHRISTINA CARDONA
News Reporter

Joyce Carol Oates read from her latest memoir, "The Lost Landscape: A Writer's Coming of Age," on Nov. 10 at LeFrak Concert Hall for the Evening Readings Series.

"The Lost Landscape" is a memoir about her childhood and adolescence, exploring the world through the eyes of her younger self. It is her second memoir after the best-selling book "A Widow's Story."

The memoir shows Oates' life growing up on a small farm in upstate New York, where she made friends with a red hen named Happy Chicken. She reflects about her days with Happy Chicken, who disappeared the day the "town grandmother" took Oates to get a public library card.

Oates also writes about the mean schoolboys in her one-room schoolhouse, chronic insomnia growing up, tricky friendships and struggling Hungarian and Irish immigrant relatives. She talks about her sister, both severely autistic and unable to speak.

The author writes about her finding refuge in books. "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and "Through The Looking-Glass," both written by American author Lewis Carroll, influenced her growing up.

During a discussion with Leonard Lopate, host of the Evening Readings, Oates revealed she worked on the book for nearly 15 years.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CARDONA

Joyce Carol Oates holds up a copy of her latest memoir, "The Lost Landscapes: A Writer's Coming of Age," and spoke about it at LeFrak Concert Hall Nov. 10.

"Editors would ask me specific questions like 'write about your first memory,' 'write about your first work,' 'write about your father' or 'write about your mother.' So over time I had assembled a number of essays about different parts of my life. It occurred to me to put them all

together and rewrite it and make it into a more coherent memoir," Oates said.

Lopate asked Oates whether anything bothered her about autobiographical writing. Oates said, over time, stories become less vivid.

Regardless, Oates found

writing a memoir difficult in deciding what to focus on.

"When you look at a photo album of 200 photographs, you only select a few to show people otherwise it's overwhelming," Oates said. "That's the first thing that is troublesome when writing a memoir because you have to

select. You want to tell the truth and you want to put it all down, all the important things."

Oates then read the beginning of the book's introduction, revealing that she always planned her first chapter for years. Whenever she read it, she would feel a thrill and wanted to write more.

"We begin as children imagining and fearing ghosts. By degrees, through our long lives, we come to be the very ghosts inhabiting the lost landscapes of our childhood," Oates said.

Oates also wrote novels like "Them," "We Were the Mulvaney's," "Blonde" and "The Accursed." She also wrote a short story called "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been." It loosely influenced a 1985 movie called "Smooth Talk" starring actors Laura Dern and Treat Williams.

The next Evening Reading will happen Dec. 16 with Zadie Smith. Admission to the event is \$20, but free for those with a CUNY student ID.

For more information on the Evening Readings series, visit www.qcreadings.org.

christina@theknightnews.com

Proposed Senate bill offers discount MetroCards

BRANDON HERNANDEZ
News Reporter

The wallets of college students may become thicker because of a bill introduced by Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

The University Transit Rider Innovation Program offers a 25 percent discount to college students across the nation. This includes MetroCards for CUNY students.

"The point of this legislation is to give college students some relief, because so many are working so hard to pay tuition and are also taking on large amounts of debt to get by, while at the same time working to ensure cash-strapped transit agencies like the MTA don't have to shoulder the burden," Schumer said.

The bill is only a proposal and Congress is expected to deal with federal funding for transit fare next month.

While there are programs in universities to give MetroCards with limited rides, it is not enough for students. Plus, unions, grade schools

and some jobs already provide students discounted MetroCards if they commute.

A 30-day MetroCard costs \$116.50, which is over \$1,300 per year. If the proposal is approved, a monthly MetroCard falls to nearly \$90.

"As one of the many students who take the bus to and from school daily, I spend a lot of money on MetroCards each year. It's fair and I'll gladly take saving 25 percent. It would be great for me and others," Joe Sirianni, a senior, said.

Additional federal funding is offered to transit agencies that provide discounts to college students.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which spends nearly \$11 billion to operate, does not profit from MetroCards despite the millions of New York City residents using subways and buses every day.

Stefani Greenstein, a junior, felt the reduction was not enough for students.

"I didn't find out transportation wasn't included at CUNY until my first day at Queens College. I think all CUNY students deserve free transportation. Reducing the fee by 25 percent is not enough to help cover college costs and still leaves a spending of at least four dollars a day," Greenstein said.

However, Greenstein noted more efforts are needed to alleviate costs, like tuition and textbooks, on students.

"It's a start, but isn't enough," Greenstein said.

bhernandez@theknightnews.com

THE ELIE WIESEL FOUNDATION PRIZE IN ETHICS ESSAY CONTEST 2016



The Prize in Ethics Essay Contest is an annual competition designed to challenge college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today's complex world.

Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and describe what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.

Full-time Juniors & Seniors at accredited four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. are invited to enter.

FIRST PRIZE: \$5,000
SECOND PRIZE: \$2,500
THIRD PRIZE: \$1,500
TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS: \$500 EACH

ONLINE ENTRY & GUIDELINES:
www.ethicsprize.org

DEADLINE: ONLINE BY
DEC. 14TH, 2015, 5PM PST
www.eliewiesel.com

Faith groups provide local solutions to climate change

BRANDON JORDAN

News Reporter

Religious and secular groups joined together on Nov. 11 at the Blackbox Theater in Rathaus Hall to talk about climate change and solutions to it.

The Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding, along with other city-wide groups, created the event to unite groups of different faiths—Christianity, Islam and Judaism—as well as non-religious groups, like the New York Public Interest Research Group.

Yael Rosenstock, director of programming at CERRU, said the organization's fourth Innovation Exchange program is different than before, as it would feature different sessions.

"This year, we decided to transform the structure into a more participatory event. That's why, when the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding and the Central Queens Y approached us about doing an Interfaith event on climate change, we felt it was a perfect opportunity to pilot our new model for the Innovation Exchange," Rosenstock said.

Climate change refers to long-term changes to the Earth's climate. Stephen Pekar, a Queens College geology professor and a speaker at the event, described some effects, like an abnormal rise in sea levels or record-breaking temperatures, as consequences of global warming.

"You can't blame this on Mother Nature," Pekar said.

Pekar additionally referred to the upcoming negotiations in Paris where all countries will meet to discuss an international



PHOTO BY BRANDON JORDAN

The Center on Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding organized an event on faith-based responses to climate change where speakers offered their solutions to it. From left to right: Peggy Kurtz, Daisy Khan, Sister Carol DeAngelo and Rabbi Lawrence Troster.

response to climate change. He said both the talks in Paris and the event highlighted the importance of working together.

"It's going to be through cooperation, not through competition, that we're going to solve this problem," Pekar said.

A main part of the event was a panel moderated by Peggy Kurtz, a librarian and greening coordinator at Central Queens Y. The panel mainly dealt with recent and future acts of religious groups in response to climate change.

Sister Carol DeAngelo, director of Peace, Justice and

Integrity of Creation for Sisters of Charity of New York, spoke on Pope Francis I's recent encyclical titled "Laudato Si," Latin for "Praise Be."

DeAngelo urged the audience to read the pope's encyclical, which offers lessons for all Catholics and non-Catholics in changing their life.

"This is a call to action for all people on the planet," DeAngelo said.

Daisy Khan, executive director of American Society for Muslim Advancement, warned climate change may led to conflicts

over resources. She referred to the Syrian civil war, as an example, where a drought, caused by climate change, was a factor leading to it.

"The erosion of the climate is going to create wars over resources," Khan said.

Rabbi Lawrence Troster, co-founder of the GreenFaith Fellowship Program, urged unity to launch an effective response to climate change before it was too late.

"We stand together as human beings and I think our message is more powerful because of that," Troster said.

Afterward, the event held six breakout sessions to learn more about topics like climate science or campus organizing.

Grace Magee, a project coordinator at NYPIRG, organized one session with Ali Kirkpatrick, also a project coordinator, about efforts in politics to act.

Magee said rejecting the proposed Port Ambrose pipeline, vetoed by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo on Nov. 12, was one way people can act on climate issues.

"It supports liquefied natural gas that encourages fracking and other sources of dirty fuel. We really need to move away from that to clean sources of energy," Magee said.

Overall, Magee said students should not feel apathetic as they could make a difference on climate change.

"We have a responsibility in this generation to think outside the box for everything," Magee said.

brandon@theknightnews.com

Students share their lives with diabetes

SHIRA ROSNER

News Reporter

November is Diabetes Awareness Month, which highlights a disease at least 29 million Americans have, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

There are two main types. Type 1 diabetes is when the body cannot produce enough insulin, the hormone absorbing glucose. Type 2 diabetes is when the hormone cannot effectively work.

Nathaniel Schwartz, a senior, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when he was nine years old.

"There isn't an hour that goes by that I don't think about my blood glucose levels" Schwartz said.

Type 1 diabetes is usually diagnosed early. It is not

preventable and there is no cure. But there is a stigma attached to diabetes.

A marketing company called dQ&A released a study last year that found 76 percent of people with Type 1 diabetes agree there is a social stigma with it. For those with Type 2 diabetes, 52 percent concur.

One senior did not provide her name, but said she was diagnosed when she was seven years old and affected her everyday ever since.

"It affects every decision I make and every activity that I participate in, including travels, physical activities, standardized tests and parties," she said.

She also said she feels incapable of performing mundane tasks, like reading or remembering, when her blood sugar is low.

Moreover, Schwartz felt there were misconceptions about diabetes that still exists, including whether diabetics are allowed to eat sugar.

"Yes [we can], people. Yes," Schwartz said.

Schwartz carries a bag of sugar on him in case his blood sugar gets too low, which can create confusion.

"At a club, I got patted down. Upon being searched, the bouncer took a bag of white powder. It took a while to convince him it was sugar," Schwartz said.

However, there are positives living with the disease. The anonymous senior appreciated the help given by people, especially when she is offered food to prevent low blood sugar.

"I always feel extremely lucky and blessed to live in a time

where science is at its peak, and treatments and devices have been created to ensure that I can live a normal and healthy life," the source said.

Schwartz also felt changes in society made his life with Type 1 diabetes easier.

"Advances in technology have made it so much easier to track and control blood glucose levels. I'm thankful for the hardworking biomedical engineers who drastically improved my life. They are the real unsung heroes," Schwartz said.

Queens College offers resources for students with diabetes like the Office of Special Services, which serves all students with disabilities.

Gail Reischer-Formato, assistant director of Special Services, said students with diabetes

are offered breaks for exams, food for low blood sugar, early class registration, transportation and even a place to rest at the office.

The director also noted accommodations for diabetic students are different depending on the circumstances. However, she felt all students deserve an equal opportunity with education.

"People are not knowledgeable of the disease and, just because people don't see it, it does not mean it's not there," Reischer-Formato said.

shira@theknightnews.com



Feminist Press still relevant after 45 years

YONGMIN CHO

News Reporter

At the CUNY Graduate Center is a small, educational non-profit organization that fought and still fighting for big social changes.

The Feminist Press, located at 365 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5406, publishes feminist classics, offers new international pieces, elevates silenced voices and promotes social justice.

“FP is not just a business. You have a business with values,” Lauren Hook, managing editor, said. “We’re not just saying how much this book is going to make, but what the book means, what does it represent, why is it important and why does it deserve to be in print.”

Florence Howe, an author and professor, founded the organization in 1970 because of the lack of academic texts as women’s studies programs developed across the country and to advance women’s rights.

The organization publishes about 15 books a year including reprints, academic text, fiction, novels, and works in translations.

It recently expanded to children’s books with their newest series called “Ordinary Terrible Things” by author Anastasia Higginbotham.

The first of the series is called “Divorce is the Worst” and the next book will focus on death. The series emphasizes the importance of talking to children about every day issues.



PHOTO BY YONGMIN CHO

The Feminist Press was founded in 1970 and became a part of CUNY in 1985. They publish books by feminist writers and organize programs for young girls.

Sarah Schulman, distinguished professor of humanity at the College of Staten Island, will have her upcoming novel, “The Cosmopolitans,” released in March. It is her 17th book and an adaption of “Cousin Bette” by French playwright Honore de Balzac. It tells the story of an unmarried woman scheming to ruin her extended family.

CUNY partnered with

Feminist Press in 1985 and offered support to them.

“CUNY houses us. Basically they support us by giving us this beautiful office space. Otherwise, we could never really afford to be in a town,” Hook said.

“They have been really great allies for us. We’ll often have launch events in CUNY spaces,” Kait Heacock, Feminist Press’ publicist, said.

The Feminist Press also offers reprints of female authors to make readers aware of them.

“We’re always doing reprints, like finding authors, because they’re women. They were just lost to the dustbin of history so to speak. Part of our mission statement is to get this silenced history and finally give them a voice that they deserve,” Hook said.

Feminist Press also offers events and programs like their annual conference STEMinism, a mentoring program where girls are linked with professors in different fields.

Moreover, the organization fights against structural gender inequality. Heacock, before a writer at another publishing firm, said there are gender disparities in the publishing industry. There are salary differences between men and women that go up to \$25,000. Plus men benefit from published books and awards than women.

“I feel like coming here offered the environment where everyone is conscious of that and wants to affect change in the industry. It’s a kind of thing that you have to change from the inside,” Heacock said.

The word feminism is growing in pop culture as, Hook pointed out, it no longer “conjures an image of someone burning a bra in the seventies.” Rather an artist like Beyonce comes to mind when the term is brought up.

“Big publishers like Random House and others, because it is popular, are publishing books that, maybe before, they wouldn’t, but that doesn’t mean it will always be that way. I think it’s really important for us to be here because we’re always publishing things that are always on the margin. We’re still as relevant as ever,” Hook said.

yongmin@theknightnews.com

Winter is coming, but food trucks are going

SARA SCHEIDLINGER

News Reporter

The distinct smell of Shah’s Halal Food on The Quad at Queens College will soon disappear as winter approaches.

During the winter, a few trucks will not appear on campus. However, they will return in the spring.

“I’m definitely going to miss the quality food from Shah’s Halal cart,” Joseph Vincent Palermo, a freshman, said.

The Dining Services, in response to season, opened a Shah’s Halal Food cart at the Midway Court in the Dining Hall. It is open Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. as well as Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

However, Wafels & Dingles may stay a little longer. Carlin Gilchrist, an employee, said a chili dish to the menu may appear in the menu.

Regardless, Gilchrist said he enjoys working at QC and felt



PHOTO BY BRANDON JORDAN

The food trucks, like Shah’s Halal Food, will soon leave because of the winter season.

comfortable at the campus.

“My job is easy and there are no worries. Waffles, toppings and great customer service. What more

could you need?” Gilchrist said.

The Wafels & Dingles truck appears at QC once a week from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Owen Ranft, director of Dining Services, said the college would provide at least four food carts when the spring semester

begins. However, it would create a plan for the winter session.

“During the winter break, when there is less foot traffic on campus, we’ll try and gauge what number of carts works best for the campus community. At this time, we expect La Bella Torte to be among those present during the winter break,” Ranft said.

Despite winter approaching, Aman Khan, a first year employee of Shah’s, said he liked the college’s atmosphere.

“I like it, there’s no headache. Students are respectful and friendly,” Khan said.

sara@theknightnews.com

FILM REVIEW

“Beasts of No Nation” provides insight for fighting in West Africa

DAVID RAFAILOVICH

News Reporter

There are more than 120,000 child soldiers under the age of 17 enlisted in rebel and government fighting forces in West Africa.

Americans may ignore that fact. They may even feel surprised and cite it as a reason why the world sucks.

But “Beasts of No Nation,” a 2015 film written and directed by Cary Fukunaga, is a beautiful and brutal film that reminds people of the troubling fact.

“Beasts of No Nation” is a hard, but worthwhile film to watch as it does more than entertain; it educates and challenges the viewer to empathize.

The film, based on Uzodinma Iweala’s novel by the same name, begins with an honest and universal portrayal of Agu, played by Abraham Attah, a young African boy and his family. Agu is from a family valuing hard work and education, and, although they live in a poor situation, their future is bright.

The portrait of the family is sad, funny, heartwarming and overwhelmingly universal. They are relatable for everyone at some level.

There is the grandfather who suffers from severe dementia, bitter parental arguments and punishment from Agu’s father. There is the mother who works hard to support her daughter. There is the older brother who tries to impress girls with his muscles and dance moves.

Audience can empathize not because of the family’s

righteousness, but they see part of themselves in the characters.

Agu’s fate unravels after a report of an upcoming rebel attack reaches the village. Women and children are packed into flat-bed trucks like sardines and sent to a safe village.

To Agu’s misfortune, his father is unable to get him on a truck. He is left to defend the town with other adults.

The next day, the rebels invade and shoot at civilians. Despite Agu escaping to the forest,

his father and brother are brutally killed.

In the forest, Agu crossed paths with a ragtag group of young soldiers led by the Commandant, played by Idris Elba, a charismatic leader who supports these young soldiers’ frustration and passion for revenge with guns.

While in the unit, Agu’s youth and childhood are stolen from him as he becomes apathetic and jaded to killing, dead bodies and the destruction of war.

While the directing of this

film is bold and beautiful, the heart of this film comes from the writing and performances from Attah, the young and first-time actor, playing Agu and Elba, the experience star, as Commandant.

Attah’s performance wonderfully portrays the transition from a lively child to apathetic war-torn soldier. Attah evokes the most powerful emotion from the audience by his lack of emotion in response to the horrific situation around him.

Elba, when the

Commandant, is magically charismatic as he rallies his unit and gives them blind loyalty. Yet Elba also exhibits the character’s weaknesses through jealousy and pedophilia. It makes the audience realize that he too is a pawn like the child soldiers he recruits.

“Beasts of No Nation” is available to stream on Netflix and the first feature release of the company.

But this is a film that does what other ones should do—educate and empathize. The film is beautiful and brutal; it is worth a watch.

david@theknightnews.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF NETFLIX

“Beasts of No Nation” is the first feature film by Netflix and deals with the horrors of war in West Africa.

NABA helps students with business opportunities

IRVING CRUZ

News Reporter

During the 1960s, many black accountants felt there were not enough promotions for them in the corporate world. However, in 1969, nine people decided to create NABA to help members network and challenge discrimination.

Forty-six years later, there are more than 20,000 members with chapters set up at over 150 colleges and cities across the country, including at Queens College

The QC chapter was inactive for many years but returned in November 2013. Kevin Lee, a senior and vice president of the club, said NABA was a vital organization to have for students.

“[The] chapter was re-established two years ago by Nigel Barker, current president of NABA QC, and me with the help of three other students. NABA QC’s objective is to bridge the opportunity gap for the students of QC and to create business leaders. It was created because we felt the need for professional development at QC,” Lee said.

The organization’s logo is two hands lifting each other up with their slogan “Lifting as we climb!” written at the bottom. The two hands represent NABA’s goal of helping the careers of future generations and the struggle of its founding members.

The club’s room is located at Student Union LL13. It is used to register any interested students and to plan for future events.

The chapter’s events include resume and professional development workshops. They also invite special guests to help guide students on their career paths. Moreover, it provides an opportunity to learn about corporate culture in different industries.

Barker said these events offer a rare chance for students to advance in their ideal career. “The purpose of our events is to expose our members to potential job opportunities, expand their

network and to help them develop and hone their own skills,” said Barker.

One specific event organized by NABA for Oct. 28 dealt with Bank of America. Five employees of the company came to the college and shared their career experiences. They also offered advice to students interested in banking. A networking hour was made at the end with a recruit collecting resumes and talking about the firm’s internships.

Barker said being with the chapter helped him start a career in finance.

“NABA QC helped me secure an internship with JP

Morgan and obtain scholarships for school. I was able to build my network and hone my skills to become a better professional. I love the organization and enjoy giving back to younger students,” Barker said.

For more information on NABA’s QC chapter, email nabaqueenscollege@gmail.com.

irving@theknightnews.com



RIGHT WRONGS

You have the passion... we have the tools.
Gain the skills to fight social injustice.

NEW [FULL-TIME & PART-TIME, EVENING PROGRAMS AVAILABLE]

The City University of New York

CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

Law in the Service of Human Needs



law.cuny.edu/prospective

Have a comment about

one of our stories?

Want to write an op-ed?

or send a letter

to the editor?

Email us at

info@theknightnews.com

Dealing with gender and sexuality in education

EDIS RADONCIC

News Reporter

Queens College Professor Leslee Grey spoke with students on Nov. 4, at the "Multiplicities in the Classroom: Understanding Gender & Sexuality Among Multiple Identities" event held in Powdermaker Hall.

Grey discussed the gender roles in the classroom, especially how students identify them.

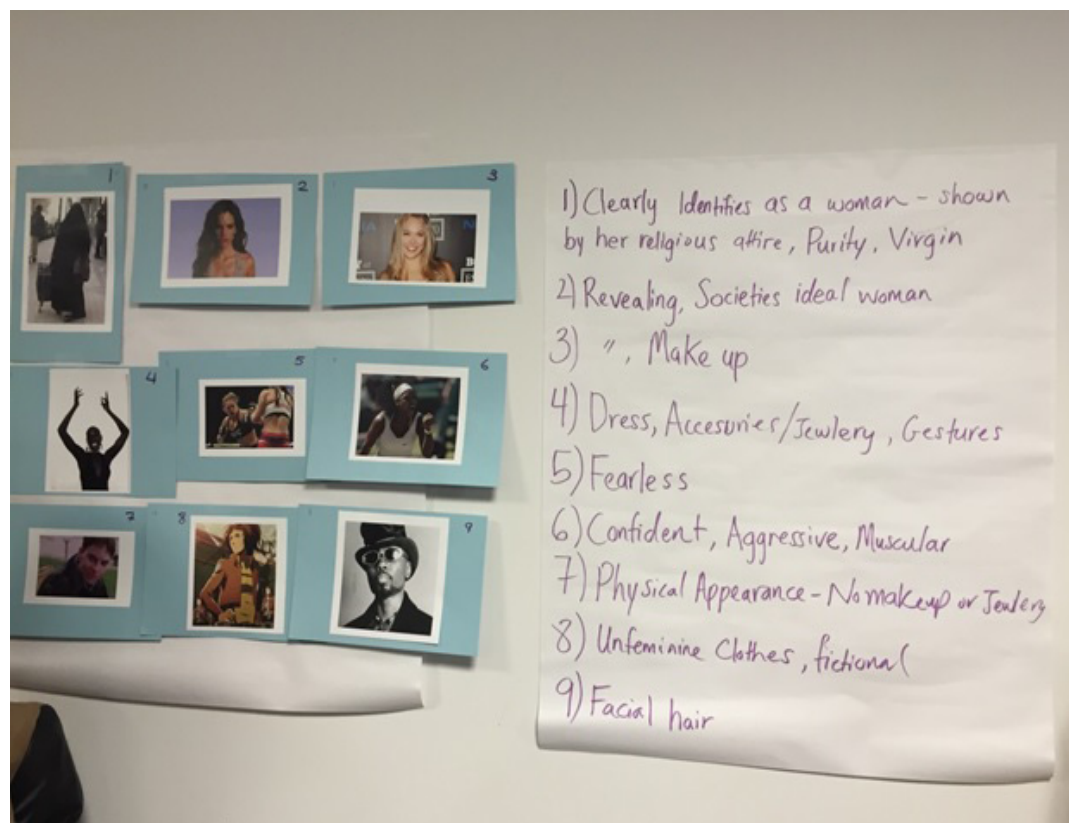
"It is going against cultural and social norm. Not all of us consider being different people," Grey said.

Grey noted how society changes and defines what is the norm.

"We don't think about heterosexuality because we think it is normal," Grey said.

Grey arranged the audience into groups and provided nine photos of women. She asked each group to rank the photos from most feminine to the least feminine with an explanation to see what everyone thought about the subject.

After the students completed their rankings, Grey showed a video of Alexa Espinado, a teacher living in Mississippi, who struggled to adjust after moving from New York City. The teacher, a lesbian, worried that revealing



Students in attendance were broken up into groups and asked to rank photos of women from least feminine to most feminine.

her sexuality could lead to her being fired.

She openly and directly addressed homophobia to her students.

"One boy said, 'Being gay is a sin.' I had to say something.

I said 'Don't ever say that. You need to show respect no matter what you think about the other person,'" Espinado said.

Grey praised Espinado's decision, especially as a teacher to her students.

PHOTO BY EDIS RADONCIC

"I think she did the right thing. It is important that she did not change his mind and his beliefs but rather framing it," Grey said.

Abigail Agostino, one student in attendance, offered her

opinion on gender identity and sexuality.

"I definitely think that it is a hot topic these days. I have an open mind about the subject. I am an accepting person towards homosexuals and I think that there should no longer be anymore judgment towards them. Love is love," Agostino said.

Denzil Charles, another student, touched upon society's reluctance to talk about the subject.

"I think it is a complex topic for social norms. And I think people are afraid to speak about it," Charles said.

Ray Desena, an undergraduate, said there were no problems with femininity in general.

"I think femininity is beautiful and it is just a part of who you are. There is nothing to be ashamed of about it," Desena said.

edis@theknightnews.com

Harvard professor talks about Guatemalan archives

BRANDON JORDAN

News Reporter

Historian Kirsten Weld visited Queens College to discuss archives found in Guatemala, specifically ones during its civil war.

Weld, a history professor at Harvard University, released a book last year titled "Paper Cadavers: The Archives of Dictatorship in Guatemala." In it, she explains the history of Cold War-era Guatemala during the 20th century and discovery of the archives. The title of the book comes from her research in the country.

"I found a transcript of a meeting of Central American archivists in the late 1960s," Weld said. "A Salvadorian representative at this meeting said the documents, under the collective care of these archivists, were 'paper cadavers in need of resurrection.'"

From 1960 to 1996, Guatemala suffered a civil war, where the government targeted leftist groups. The government eventually targeted civilians and violated human rights. As a result, more than 200,000 civilians in the country either died or disappeared, Weld said.

In June 2005, Guatemala's Office of Human Rights discovered documents at a military base by accident. They immediately worked to identify all of them, a

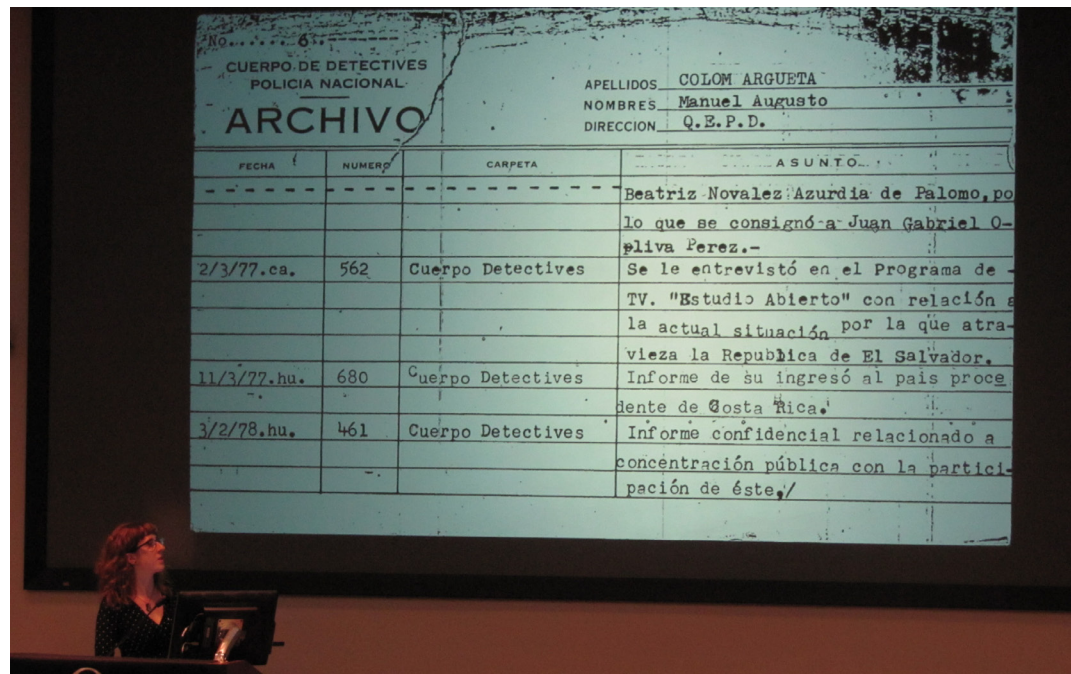


PHOTO BY BRANDON JORDAN
Historian Kirsten Weld showed one document she found when digging through the Guatemalan archive from the mid-20th century.

process still happening today.

Weld said dictatorships usually document their activities, like former East Germany's Stasi. In this case, Guatemalan authorities wrote everything down and were taught by U.S. forces.

"You can't run a counter-insurgency state without a good archive," Weld said.

The archives total over 75 million documents, which Weld noted makes it the largest discovery of state archives in history.

"This is a place, when you went there at the beginning, feels like it has ghosts," Weld said.

Discovery of the archives led to prosecutions of figures involved with human rights violations during the civil war, viewed as improbable before 2005.

"Ten or 15 years ago, no one in Guatemala or anyone else with familiarity of recent Latin American politics and history would imagine this thing to pass," Weld said. "This was an

unthinkable situation.

The Guatemalan government denied any help in uncovering the documents. Without government support, Weld said this responsibility was left to private non-government organizations from Scandinavian countries.

In addition, Weld highlighted how people working at the archives came from different parts of Guatemalan society. From activists to students, Weld saw

a community form around the archives.

"When I was working on this project, I was hanging out with these people. It was really amazing to watch a particular worktable of inter-generation experiences," Weld said.

Weld said disclosures, like NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden's documents, are similar to the archives found in Guatemala as they influence a country's politics.

However, she stressed the discovery in Guatemala could not directly lead to justice for crimes committed during the civil war.

"It doesn't guarantee transparency or justice. Those are things that have to be fought for incredibly hard," Weld said.

Johnathan Thayer, visiting lecturer at QC and coordinator of archives certificate at the Graduate School, helped organize the event with funding from the Pine Tree Foundation. He figured, along with others involved, students and faculty would enjoy an interdisciplinary event with a focus on Latin American studies.

"The archives is a nice, central site where a lot of faculty and students studying different things can come together on," Thayer said.

brandon@theknightnews.com

Queens College is center of America's Got Talent auditions

ERICAMARIEFINOCCHIO

News Reporter

Jugglers, singers, musicians and break dancers were some of the 1,600 applicants at the Q Cafe and Rathaus Hall on Nov. 14.

They all were applying for America's Got Talent, the popular reality show on NBC that first began in 2006.

Contestants registered online and received an ID number before coming to Queens College. After waiting three to four hours, those officially registered needed

to sign a waiver.

Judges call 100 people at a time and each person shows their talent.

Michael Philidor, a rapper from New Jersey known as "Mikenificent," applied twice before for the competition and went for a third audition.

"This is what I live for and this is the air I breathe. What keeps me coming back is the million dollar prize plus the fame. It's so exciting, this is second nature for

me," Philidor said.

Terrel Chapman, 22, and Joseph Chapman, 20, from Baldwin, N.Y., were first time applicants for America's Got Talent. While Terrel Chapman played the piano, Joseph Chapman used a steel pan.

"We are playing 'Man in the Mirror' by Michael Jackson. We've been playing together for 15 years and we want to show our talent to the world. We play every type of music. It's diverse," Terrel

Chapman said.

Because of attacks in Paris, judges Howard Stern, Heidi Klum, Howie Mendel and Mel B did not appear.

Melissa Rodriguez, a 30-year-old from South Richmond Hill, Queens, said the audition was important to her fiancée, Steven Vilsant, whom performed a dance to the judges.

"He started dancing [since he was] 11 years old. He combines dances such as ballet

and Hip-Hop. What drew him more toward dancing was when a hurricane hit Haiti and killed his parents. So right now all he has is dancing. One of the things that he promised his mother before she died was that he would apply to America's Got Talent," Rodriguez said.

erica@theknightnews.com

CUNY affiliates with The Rubin Museum

PHILIPP REGALA

News Reporter

Students and faculty could, on a Friday night, learn about West Asian culture thanks to a recent partnership between The Rubin Museum and CUNY.

"What this partnership provides, which is really exciting, is that in addition to the free admission provided to CUNY students, faculty and staff, we offer complimentary tours, up to 100 during our financial year from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016," Laura Lombard, head of the Adult and Academic Programs, said.

"Many faculty have already taken advantage of this and so far we've already had 30 tours out of the 100 booked."

The Rubin Museum, founded in 2001, holds a collection of art from northern India, Nepal, the Tibetan Plateau and Mongolia.

Donald and Shelley Rubin, both philanthropists, founded the museum after collecting Himalayan and Asian art for over 30 years.

"The story goes that as Donald Rubin was traveling down 17th street, he saw a bankruptcy

sign on the window of a building, which would later be the museum. When he stepped in and looked up at the ceiling from the ground floor, he felt a connection with this place. He called his wife and told her that he had found a place for their art," Lombard said.

In addition to free admissions, the museum also offers student rush tickets, referring to programs available at a discounted price.

"We have a lot of films and talks during the year, we also hold events in our theater downstairs

where we hold musical programs and a ton of different series. So, in addition to the art, we have a lot of other things going on that we want to share with the colleges," Robin Carol, public relations and marketing manager, said.

The museum attracts younger crowds not only with their historical art pieces, but also with works from contemporary artists.

"I think that the Power of Masks, which showcases masks from all around Asia, exhibits their cultural and religious

significances, and the Steve McCurry photography exhibit will be a great hit with college kids that come to visit in the future," Carol said. "On Friday nights, the dining area also gets turned into a lounge where we do offer drinks and food, so it's a perfect place for college kids if they want to just come and hang out and de-stress."

phil@theknightnews.com



College students struggle to balance jobs and education

BRANDON JORDAN

News Reporter

Frank Rodriguez, a senior, applied to four to five jobs since his freshman year. For him, it was difficult selling himself to employers.

“The hardest thing when applying for jobs and internships, for me, would be the process of making resumes,” Rodriguez said. “I have always been awful at talking myself up.”

Rodriguez, majoring in psychology and sociology, found a job at a hookah lounge, which he called an interesting experience. But he felt worried about finding a job in his studies even in the future.

Rodriguez is not alone as other college students struggle to find a worthwhile job in college. Sometimes, finding a job may consume their time.

CUNY’s Office of Institutional Research, based on data for the fall 2014 semester,

reported 30.3 percent of undergraduate students at senior colleges work more than 20 hours per week for pay. It is slightly up from 30.1 percent the year before.

Nicole Smith, an economist at Georgetown University’s Center on Education and the Workforce, recommended students get a job or internship relevant to their field.

“Maybe you can find some way to marry what you learn in the classroom and what you’re doing in the office,” Smith said.

Smith co-authored a recent report titled “Learning While Earning: The New Normal.” It found, over the past 25 years, more than 70 percent of students work.

Smith said this new normal may force students to choose between their grades and pay.

“We have been trying to push that as the new normal. We want people to recognize students have so many burdens and pressure on them,” Smith said.

Michele Jackson, a senior

majoring in political science and philosophy, is one student who struggled balancing both a job and her education.

“[Working at Uniqlo] took away from my studies. I was forced to work mainly on the weekends, which would have been the only optimal time I had to complete my work,” Jackson said.

Jackson now works at a law firm and intends to apply to law school. However, she did not forget her job as a sales associate at Uniqlo.

“It was my least favorite job because I felt as though my wage wasn’t worth the amount of work that was required, both explicitly and implicitly,” Jackson said.

She said her former employer did not provide her a work schedule ahead of time but often got it the day before.

“My managers tended to wait until Sunday to post the schedule for the upcoming week. It was very difficult for me to plan

anything outside of work. I felt as though there was little I could do or say to change my predicament until I quit,” Jackson said.

At least 17 percent of workers in the U.S. experience the same, according to an Economic Policy Institute report released earlier this year titled “Irregular Work in the U.S. and its Economic Consequences.”

Companies like Starbucks pledged to end this practice because of its controversy, but it still exists not only in the service industry, but also other ones as well.

Rodriguez now works part-time as a carpenter. He recommends that students in their first year at Queens College should utilize the college’s resources, like the Office of Career Development and Internships, to get a job in the future. Although, they need to know what their interests are first.

“The pressure can be a lot in finding a career, but just try

different things and find a job that will make you happy,” Rodriguez said.

brandon@theknightnews.com

“The Cherry Orchard” teaches lessons on regrets and letting go

LEA PASSIONE

News Reporter

The Department of Drama, Theatre and Dance and the Kupferberg Center for the Arts held a production of Anton Chekhov’s “The Cherry Orchard,” directed by Lisa Rothe earlier this month.

At Rathaus Hall M-11, the play first ran from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1 and again from Nov. 5 to Nov. 8. “The Cherry Orchard” takes place in Russia during the early 1900s. Lyubov Ranevskaya returns from Paris poor and her family intends to sell their cherry orchard. She resists the idea, a metaphor for missed chances in her life.

Compared to Chekhov’s

other serious works, “The Cherry Orchard” is a comedic play.

The scenery of the play contains both a classic and elegant touch. Moreover, the house shown to the audience gives the impression the owner is rich.

Rina Dutta, a senior, played Anya, Ranevskaya’s daughter, and George Pedraza played Firs, the oldest serf in Ranevskaya’s household. Both had different experiences preparing for their respective roles in the show.

“I prepared for my role by going through the table reads, going through exercises by our director and listening to the group/ I also walked around the room to build relationships with the other

actors and their characters and build trust with them,” Dutta said. Pedraza physically prepared for his role as the 87-year-old Firs, something he never did before.

“In the beginning, I observed old people. I watched how they talk, use their canes and move. My director gave me a note to slow down in rehearsal. I’m always a fast paced person. Firs is in no rush and has nowhere to go since his life is his work, so I was allowed to take my time,” Pedraza said.

Pedraza said it was his first experience with not only Chekov, but also a classic theater piece and he experienced new things.

“It allowed me to stretch and to try something that was ahead

of myself, since I am not 87 like the character I’m playing,” Pedraza said.

Dutta said she learned more about herself through the play and grew as an actor.

“I learned to trust myself fully and to trust the material and the instructions of the director. Working with whatever I had made me believe that I’m living as this character without hesitation,” Dutta said.

Dutta added the play is relevant for audiences because of problems in society.

“Even though the play is set in 1861, it is relevant to us now because it is about people and how they react, cover, hide and hold on

to what they have because they are afraid to let go,” Dutta said.

lea@theknightnews.com

Humans of Queens College created to highlight student stories

MAHNOOR MIRZA

News Reporter

Humans of Queens College is a thing.

An adaption from Humans of New York, the popular blog which highlights the lives of New Yorkers, HOQC seeks to exemplify the concept for QC students.

Shiran Cohen, junior, Solomon Shapiro, freshmen, Sophie Sassouni and Sam Abaev, sophomores, are behind the new page.

“I like the idea of a whole new look on life and I got that through Humans of New York. When I came to Queens College

and saw its extreme diversity, I thought this has to be done,” Sassouni said.

Despite their initial problems, Sassouni formed the group to help interview students and manage their page, which already received 800 “likes.”

In the interview process, HOQC first introduces themselves and eases into a conversation before asking personal questions. As of yet, the organization did not face any negative reactions. Moreover, they felt talking to random strangers is a learning experience.

“It seems that what HOQC is showing to me is that people

aren’t really that afraid of each other,” Shapiro said. “If you just go and try to talk to them, the odds are that if you are nice, they will welcome you into a conversation. So far, I have been turned down a couple of times, but the majority of people said ‘Why not, let’s talk.’”

The quarter’s acknowledges the evident scarcity of campus life in a commuter school but they also took the initiative to induce change starting with HOQC.

“I like it here so far. I guess people say that it’s tough to be social here because it is a commuter school. I kind of take that as a cop-out. It is hard but not if you try,”

Shapiro said.

Additionally, Sassouni understands the numerous opportunities QC offers.

“Don’t be intimidated by the fact that this is a commuter school. Don’t let that stop you from excelling on campus. Even though I live on campus and that’s a huge help, it’s possible to become just as involved as me for a commuter. I think people should take advantage of that because the school has so much to offer. You just have to go into it, you cannot be afraid,” Sassouni said.

The group already interviewed many students, including Student Association

President Christopher Labial. They hope to talk to President Felix Matos Rodriguez in the future.

Their webpage can found at www.facebook.com/HumansofQC.

mahnoor@theknightnews.com

OP-EDS

It's another fumble by the NFL

BY ALBERT ROMAN

The NFL is a financially successful business that continues to grow at a rapid pace. The league brought in \$7.3 billion dollars in revenue during the 2014-2015 season and shared it among the 32 teams. Each team received \$226.4 million, an increase of 21 percent from the previous year. That's an awful lot of money to wrap our heads around.

Among these teams is the Dallas Cowboys. That are "America's Team" despite not winning a Super Bowl since 1995.

Owner Jerry Jones and the "Boys" are media superstars even if they posted a 0-16 record. Positive or negative attention, the team will have its national televised games on Sundays or Monday nights.

Lately the team idin the media spot light for all the wrong reasons.

On March 18 signed defensive end Greg Hardy to a one-year deal worth up to \$13.1 million with incentive. All the money is non-guaranteed and must be earned.

What makes this more than a regular football transaction is Hardy was arrested on May 13,

2014, on misdemeanor charges of assault. Cocktail waitress Nicole Holder, 24 and Hardy's girlfriend, alleged Hardy threw her on a couch covered with assault weapons. According to her, he possessed, 25 to 30 firearms including AK-47s.

Hardy was demanded to surrender his firearm. Then in July, he was found guilty of assault and his attorney, Chris Fialko, said he would appeal. Not only did Hardy allegedly commit domestic violence, but also he had a ton of firearms. These things just don't add up.

After playing one game against the Carolina Panthers, he was placed on the Commissioner's Exempt List because of these issues. He was still being paid to stay away. What a nice thing to have.

Jones should have never signed a player going through all of these problems. The worst part is the comments by Jones following the 27-20 defeat to the New York Giants. In post-game press conference, Jones called Hardy leader.

"Real leaders are really outstanding football players. So they get it done and through that

they earn a great deal of respect by their teammates," Jones said.

Leaders have to be outstanding people to society as well. Being a leader isn't only about on-field ability, but conduct of it as well.

The Dallas Cowboys shouldn't be endorsing Hardy no matter his ability. The NFL has been in a similar type of situation previously with former All-Pro running back Ray Rice's situation.

The NFL made a complete mess of this. After being arrested and a video of Rice dragging then fiancée Janay Palmer from an Atlantic City Casino elevator surfaced, Ray Rice was given a two-game suspension.

About two months later a video surfaced, which showed Rice punching his wife. On that same day, the Baltimore Ravens released him. Sports Illustrated journalist Peter King reported that the NFL saw the entire video of the incident. Seems like the NFL tried to sweep this incident under the rug and make it all better with a two game suspension.

A month later, Goodell admitted the league handled the situation wrongly. A new

domestic violence policy was endorsed, and a whopping six-game suspension would be given, which could be longer depending on circumstances.

Six games without pay is the punishment for any player that is involved in a domestic violence or sexual assault. For a player making 13.1 million a season, how much financial damage could that do? This is similar to a child being put in time-out for a few hours after bullying and punching someone on a playground. A six-game suspension out of 16 games is only 37.5 percent of the season. Significantly less than half! The punishment just doesn't seem to fit the crime.

Cheating in no way, shape or form should be allowed, especially in sports. New England quarterback Tom Brady was handed a four-game suspension for allegedly being apart of what become known as "Deflategate." The NFL launched an investigation into whether Brady and the Patriots had knowledge of playing with under-deflated footballs in the AFC Championship game against the Indianapolis Colts, which is against the rules. A massive shockwave of reports began to arise. The media would cover this story, for what seemed like forever. Brady appealed his suspension. Goodell even said he would serve as the arbiter in Brady's appeal. The entire case was even heard in a courtroom in New York City.

When Hardy had his suspension lowered from 10 games to four games, Harold Henderson was the arbiter in this case.

The time the Patriots were accused of cheating to Brady winning his appeal to nullify the suspension, lasted about seven months. For seven months, everything spoken on the NFL was about deflated balls.

Some of this may have to do with Brady being a superstar of the league; however, this is beyond ridiculous. Domestic violence is a very dark and negative topic to discuss, but is one that needs to be heard. There has to be a better way to deal with this issue.

The NFL is a violent game that leads to many players having concussion and possibly brain damage for the rest of their lives. Get rid of the NFL? How could I even say such a thing!

The NFL could start by banishing players such as Hardy and Rice forever. Does this fix the problem of domestic violence in the league? Not necessarily, but it's a start. The league needs to send a message to future violators. One offense and your NFL career become sacked. Leaders are not only produced on the gridiron, but off the field as well.

Albert Roman is the Sports Editor for the Knight News. He can be reached at albert@theknightnews.com

Winter ❄️ net

The Coolest Season at SUNY Ulster

Earn 3 Credits in 3 Weeks!

- Reduce your Spring course load
- Complete a required course
- Credits transfer back to your own school

December 26 to
January 16, 2016

Register by December 18

Registration is Easy!

Find the course you need at
www.sunyulster.edu/winternet
Call 1-800-724-0833 x5075
Email reginfo@sunyulster.edu

ONLINE COURSES*

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN BUSINESS
BUSINESS LAW I & II
INTRO TO MACROECONOMICS
WESTERN CIVILIZATION I
ANCIENT ROME
INFORMATION LITERACY
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
ELEMENTARY SPANISH II
INTERMEDIATE SPANISH I

Low \$95
per credit
tuition

*Online courses cost an additional
\$10 per credit.

SUNY Ulster
Start Here. Go Far.



**Interested in
Journalism?
Photography?
Graphic Design?**

JOIN THE KNIGHT NEWS



**ADD US
TO YOUR
PORTFOLIO**

**FIND US/
Student Union
LL 35**

**EMAIL/
info@TheKnight
News.com**



THE KNIGHT NEWS



THEKNIGHTNEWS.COM