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THE KNIGHT NEWS



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Breaking News & Video

Journalism in the Interest of the Queens College Community

A LOOK AT THE HISTORY OF QUEENS COLLEGE

A thorough look on the campus and its origins

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Cesar Millan performs at
Colden Auditorium

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EDITORIALS

Nothing rational about tuition hikes

If there is anything Queens College students can agree on, especially those in their first year, it is not raising tuition. Yet, that is what is happening now with another \$300 students must pay for next year.

In 2016, the hikes will end and officials will possibly be returning to the question of tuition hikes as the state continues to provide no major boost in revenue to CUNY and SUNY. Indeed, based on figures compiled by The Chronicle of Higher Education, Queens College lost nearly 30 percent of state funding in the past 25 years.

This begs the question whether it is a smart investment to increase tuition for CUNY and SUNY students. We say no.

Students recently felt the impact of a fare hike by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and there were talks of increasing it to \$3.15 only for Tom Prendergast, the chief financial officer of the MTA, to say it was “unconscionable” and not what the MTA would do.

British economist Michael Roberts warned in a post on his personal site titled “The Next Recession” how current wages for American workers were not enough to pay for expenses and may continue for the next few decades.

“Hourly earnings are crawling along at around 1.5 percent a year and this is before inflation and taxes. Real disposable income is thus stagnating or falling. If people can get extra hours they must work them and if they can get more

than one job in the household, they must work them to make ends meet. This is the long-term future,” Roberts said.

A tuition hike, comically deemed rational, is not the way forward. It is understandable if administrators believe it is a necessary evil, yet no alternatives were considered.

NYPIRG is right to say a tuition freeze is needed. It is not fair, as the labor market slowly recovers, to increase tuition rates. It would exclude students that need a bachelor’s degree to find a, hopefully, good-paying job after graduation.

CUNY students realize how difficult it is to juggle a job, or two, as well as pay for tuition. Adding more to the problems of the CUNY and SUNY students in terms of tuition is not the right option to take.

There is one option Governor Andrew Cuomo can take to ensure funding for SUNY and CUNY—tax the rich. As Bill de Blasio proposed when bringing his free pre-kindergarten program to Albany, taxing the rich is needed in an era rivaling the Gilded Age in terms of income inequality.

It’s not right CUNY and SUNY schools are scrambling to get enough funds and turning to students to cover any missing expenses. Moreover, our professors are operating without a contract for five years. It is insanity.

Enough is enough. Freeze tuition rates.

Can’t say goodbye to yesterday

At the end of “Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons of Liberty,” the famous post-modernist video game created by artist Hideo Kojima, Solid Snake tells Raiden how important it is to create a future regardless of one’s innate selfishness.

“Building the future and keeping the past are one in the same thing,” Snake said.

Over the past year, we’ve aimed to not only keep our past alive, but to innovate with new sections and stories. In the process of discovering new stories, testing out new ideas and creating a new internal structure, we all depended on each other not only as journalists, but as people as well.

Students may not think about how strange the concept of a club is. Indeed, one does not know the countless adventures she or he can experience when first joining a club on campus. Humans are very social and cannot live in isolation for long periods of time.

Last September, we were unsure as to what our future would bring come May. Now that May is here, we look back with fond memories of the accomplishments we made compared to the previous year.

Still, it was a collective effort rather than any individual leading the charge. Everyone on staff committed to writing articles, editing and laying out have come to know each other well as friends. Indeed, coverage of clubs and events on

campus have opened doors to future tales of wonder.

Yet, as with all good things, they must eventually come to an end. The editorial board will see seniors graduating and leaving into the job market. Some of them may stay in New York City and continue their studies, others may move out-of-state and some may decide to get a job.

The current editorial board will miss those leaving The Knight News, while new journalists seek to establish a name for themselves. There’s a key element in building a new structure—patience. Without it, there is no structure.

For those students leaving our paper, Jaime Zahl, Stephanie Davis and Fernando Echeverri, there is a relevant Japanese haiku that all students should keep dear to heart in the face of adversity. There are many translations, but it all focuses on the same thing—overcoming the odds.

“Snail/ever so slowly climb/Mt. Fuji!” the translation reads.

May we wish all of those leaving our staff the most successful climb on Mount Fuji.

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.”

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Corrections: In Issue 10, in our cover story, Jon Khalily was spelled “John Khalily” for the caption. Michael Bento was referred to as the administrator of Queens College Memes. He is left the position months ago. We apologize for the errors.

Queens College Through the Ages

VICTOR HILLEGREN

News Reporter

Queens College, nearly 80 years old, and continues to educate more and more students, both undergraduates and graduation, every year.

The college was most recently ranked by Washington Monthly as second in the nation for the “Best Bang for your Buck,” – essentially providing a remarkable education at an affordable cost.

With dedicated and passionate faculty and an abundance of resources, QC alumni have gone on to become global leaders with highly-touted skills; leaving behind high standards for a diverse student body of close to 19,000 with higher ambitions.

Yet, not many students are aware of the history of QC and the land it is on. From Native tribes to Dutch settlers to a correctional school for boys; from wars, protests, political activist campaigns, and educational breakthroughs; the history of the college is expansive to say the least.

The hill on which QC resides was formed millions of years ago when the last glacier withdrew northbound, leaving behind boulders, gravel, sand and silt, which the nomadic Indians and Native Americans found perfect for farming, hunting and fishing. That was until the Dutch and English colonists came to settle in the 17th century and granted Flushing a patent in 1666. The Natives relocated and the hill where QC currently resides on became rural farmland passed down from family to family.

The City of New York



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK LEVY

Queens Colleges' CORE participates in The March on Washington in 1963.

obtained the land in the early 20th century and opened a parental school for boys. What was intended to be a sort-of trade school for disobedient boys to learn skills such as carpentry, plumbing and farming became a juvenile center, which administered severe cruelty.

A grand jury investigation led by then-District Attorney Charles S. Colden in 1934 resulted in the closing a year later due to evidence of brutality in the school.

Even with the correctional facility closed, the land and buildings were not available. Later on, then-Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia and Judge Charles Colden established Queens College on Dec. 25, 1936.

Classes began the following

October with Margaret Kiely serving as the first Dean of Faculty and Dr. Paul Klapper serving as the college's first president. President Klapper left behind a remarkable legacy and aspiration for the school — to provide a liberal arts education, producing graduates who understood the world they were about to enter and serve.

Instead of recruiting other CUNY professors at established colleges of the time, President Klapper handpicked each member based on their scholarship and interest in teaching undergraduate students. He also arranged the college's curriculum, unusual in comparison to other schools, by creating renowned music and art departments.

Despite the hardship of the Great Depression, the first students of Queens College were described as enthusiastic for learning even while the college was still being renovated. In addition, students were not required to pay tuition.

During the 1940s, some students signed up for the armed forces to represent America in World War II. Others volunteered to help the college stay open and continued their education. As veterans returned, or didn't return, the college created gardens and memorials.

Most notably, QC was a hotbed of activism in the 1960s. Indeed, it was dubbed “The People's College on the Hill” by

Dr. Klapper.

During this period, students fought for hot issues of the time, which included academic freedom, civil rights and complete equality. Moreover, they participated in strikes, demonstrations, debates and marches, while opposing the military draft and war in Vietnam. Notable QC alum Andrew Goodman formed the Mississippi Summer Project to partake in the civil rights movement in the south. Tragically, he was killed along James Earl Chaney and Michael Schwerner. The Clock Tower of Rosenthal Library is named after the three.

After surviving the protests, marches and financial crisis of the 1970s, QC thrived in the 1980s with a shift in studies. A new emphasis on accounting, economics, and computer science expanded the curriculum. Clubs and leadership organizations also began to form during this time. The campus became a global village with an influx of immigrants from all over the world coming to learn at QC.

Over the years, many now-famous celebrities thrived at Queens College and made a difference in the world post-graduation. Jerry Seinfeld, Paul Simon, and sportscaster Howie Rose are just a few.

Despite countless developments and changes, QC stands today in 2015 as it did in 1937 as a “People's College.”

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NYPIRG calls for tuition freeze to help CUNY and SUNY students

BRANDON JORDAN

News Reporter

Governor Andrew Cuomo signed a plan that included a “rational tuition” plan for CUNY and SUNY schools in 2011 to increase tuition by \$300 every year until 2016.

On the same day, SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher praised the section of the SUNY2020 plan and said she believed it would provide an “opportunity” for SUNY schools to create a “stronger, more competitive New York.”

“[I]n signing the NYSUNY 2020 bill, Governor Cuomo has instituted fair, rational, and predictable tuition reform in New York State, providing peace of mind for SUNY students and their families,” Zimpher said.

Organizations such as NYPIRG are calling for an

immediate tuition freeze to ease the burden on students from families struggling to pay for other costs, such as housing.

“Their rationale is, by increasing tuition, the shortfalls coming from the state would allow them to use tuition money to plug in where they are lacking, such as faculty and ensuring enough classes for students,” said Tiffany Brown, project coordinator and higher education organizer for NYPIRG.

Brown explained how, at the same time the tuition plan was implemented, the state government provided less revenue for CUNY and SUNY.

“Divestment from public institutions by government [is occurring] and the burden is shifting to students,” Brown

said. Based on estimates by the Chronicle for Higher Education, SUNY and CUNY schools are losing a significant share of state revenue. For instance, CUNY York College received 70.8 percent of revenue from the state in 1987, which decreased to 55.1 percent in 2012.

For Queens College, 69.2 percent of revenues came from the state in 1987 only for it to fall to 41.1 percent in 2012. The share of revenue from students in 1987 was 23.2 percent and increased to 28.9 percent 25 years later.

Should New York continue to decrease its support for public colleges, based on current trends, then the state will no longer provide revenue by 2040, according to the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in

Higher Education.

Anthony Patti, a junior, believed a unique part of QC was its affordability and felt any increase in tuition was normal considering the rise of prices for other costs, such as bus fares.

“CUNY's prices right now are very affordable considering what you get,” Patti said.

Brown agreed the affordability of CUNY is good for students, yet stressed it is difficult to pay for it without working or depending on aid.

“Granted it is very affordable, but we have to anticipate a lot of students are receiving a lot financial aid. In addition, for students paying out of pocket, what about those students working two jobs?” Brown said.

Sixty-seven percent of

CUNY students come from households making less than \$40,000, based on the 2014 Student Experience Survey by CUNY. For QC, that number is 53 percent.

Brown recommended students become active in the cause to freeze tuition, as living costs continue to rise.

“A lot of times students don't think their voices matter and they don't care,” Brown said “But they have a lot of voting power and a great chance to influence policies.”

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Event highlights wonders of participatory budgeting and worker cooperatives

BRANDON JORDAN

News Reporter

Worker cooperatives and participatory budgeting were major topics in the discussion hosted by Students on Democratic Alternatives on April 29 at the political science department.

Queens College Professor Ron Hayduk, of the political science department, and Christopher Michael, general counsel of the ICA Group, spoke about the importance of the topics and the sense of democracy each represents for citizens.

The ICA Group, founded in 1977, is an organization that promotes worker cooperatives and democracy in the workplace through business development and evaluating for firms.

Alexander Kolokotronis, student coordinator for New York City Network of Worker Cooperatives, spoke about SODA along with the importance of an event highlighting the values of participatory budgeting and worker co-ops.

“One thing we hope to get across with SODA is that we’re all political actors. It’s not just politicians and it’s not just people that talk. We all can have a say and power in pushing for initiatives that can benefit us and our community,” Kolokotronis said.

Hayduk began by describing what participatory budgeting is and its impact in New York City.

Participatory budgeting is



PHOTO BY BRANDON JORDAN

Christopher Michael, right, explained to students how a worker cooperative functions and its differences with a traditional capitalist firm.

a process where local community members vote on what ideas can be funded after brainstorming. It first began in 1989 where citizens in Porto Alegre, Brazil, decided to tackle issues in their community and soon spread throughout the world.

Hayduk emphasized the essential component of worker cooperatives and participatory budgeting — democracy.

“Democracy is such a wonderful word. It really captures people’s hearts and minds. It has

meaning,” Hayduk said.

In New York City, as Hayduk noted, participatory budgeting quickly became popular with nearly half of New York City residents over 16 and eligible to participate in the process. City lawmakers were also on board. He also spoke on its appeal of a communal decision on local projects.

“What would you do with a million dollars? That’s not a bad pitch [for participatory budgeting],” Hayduk said.

Hayduk also spoke about problems associated with participatory budgeting in which certain areas were overrepresented and how ideas were selected.

Michael then spoke about worker cooperatives and how they are an alternative to the traditional hierarchical structure of a firm.

A worker cooperative is a firm where the workers are their own bosses and decide decisions through a democratic process.

Michael stressed how worker cooperative were still

hierarchical to an extent, yet were better than the current way jobs where workers feel powerless in traditional capitalist firms.

“That feeling gets worse and worse when you get older,” Michael said.

The Mondragon Corporation was cited by Michael as one example of a successful worker cooperative. The federation, founded in 1956, operates from the Basque region in Spain and includes different firms from supermarkets to a university where workers are in worker co-ops.

Last year, the New York City Council allocated \$1.2 million to develop worker cooperatives in the city in the fiscal year budget. Michael said, for the upcoming budget, even more money could be allocated.

“The city council could continue to give us money to build these companies and operate these companies,” Michael said.

Michael highlighted how “cooperative” was not a feel-good term and the importance of the word in describing collective efforts.

“It’s not a kindergarten word. It’s not that sharing and we’re in love with each and just hanging out,” Michael said. “It is how we’re working together.”

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Discussion raises questions surrounding President Obama’s executive order on immigration

ALEX ALMANZAR

News Reporter

The Economics and Business Club at Queens College hosted an event to discuss President Barack Obama’s executive actions on immigration on April 29.

Professors Francisc Ortega and John Devereux, from the economics department, met at Powdermaker Hall 333 and led a panel discussion about the potential outcomes of the new initiatives on immigration

Obama’s executive actions, announced on Aug. 14, 2014, aimed at establishing restrictions on illegal immigration at the U.S.-Mexico border. These restrictions include: the deportation of felons instead of families, imposing requirements for undocumented immigrants to pass criminal background checks and to subsequently pay taxes and stay in the U.S. without the fear of deportation.

Ortega elaborated on what he considered to be the most

important points of Obama’s executive action towards immigration.

His points included extensions on the Deferred Action for Children Arrivals program, which helps protect families with undocumented members, awards two-year work permits, which would open possibilities for higher earnings as well as giving undocumented workers more bargaining power.

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services said immigrants who entered the U.S. as children and meet specific guidelines may apply for consideration for DACA status for a period of two years, subject to renewal. They are also eligible for work authorization permits.

“DACA allows for individuals that arrived in the country as children before a certain date to obtain a two-year work permit and an extension from deportation,” Ortega said. “For that period you could work legally

and you won’t be deported. It does not facilitate a path to citizenship, and at the end of that period you could apply again.”

In addition, Ortega highlighted new legislation implemented by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio designed to stall deportations, therefore reducing cooperation with immigration and customs enforcement detainers, unless a warrant is issued by a federal judge.

“These legislations go in the spirit of the executive order so they avoid deporting people who are not a threat, and focus resources on those who really are a threat,” Ortega said.

Aside from positive scenarios such as a 10 to 20 percent raise in wages, workers with families that qualify for permits may experience less stress and fear in their daily lives. Their young children may also benefit from more relaxed parents who can now help them do better in school, further improving the welfare of families.

Equally important, Devereux believes that the executive actions towards immigration are positive, due to the fact that they address the issues concerning the welfare of the immigrants that are already established in this country; the hardworking people who made the choice to come to the U.S. and, unless these policies are addressed with critical commitment, there’s going to be a lot more undocumented immigration, therefore prevent the process to reach positive the developments.

In the context of a defective immigration system, unless a strong belief to reform the whole system is established, Devereux is certain that reforms may not be the best path to follow if satisfactory results are expected.

“My complaints are not about the amnesty. Who could be against it? They are about the fact that they are taking place inside a fundamentally flawed system,” Devereux said.

Moreover, Devereux

continued in his analysis of the executive actions by briefly mentioning economist George Borjas, who conjured interesting calculations about the effects of increased immigration, mainly undocumented, for the income of African Americans. Such calculations estimate that African Americans income could be affected roughly by 8 to 9 percent.

In Devereux’s view, there are questions on whether the system can be reformed.

“It is more important to have a system that works. The United States has a system that doesn’t work,” Devereux said.

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Former U.S. Coast Guard warns about overconsumption and sustainability

ARIEL BAGLEY

News Reporter

D.C. Anderson, a former captain for the U.S. Coast Guard, spoke at the Science Building on Earth Day, April 22, to discuss the consequences of ignoring climate change as a result of vested interests money.

Anderson first opened with some very bleak information highlighting the limits of natural resources.

“Half the world’s oil is gone. Because of special interests, specifically Big Oil, in Congress, we have no sustainable plan for changing that in the future,” Anderson said.

Moreover, Anderson criticized consumption and its impact on the environment.

“If you just look at the room we are sitting in, you’ll see the direct correlation between bad environmental practices

and our life. These lights and air conditioning system all destroy the environment,” Anderson said.

Anderson shared his own personal history and how he became active in promoting environmental sustainability.

After graduating from SUNY Maritime College with a Masters in economics, Anderson served as a Coast Guard officer around the world. During his service, he invented the first auxiliary propulsion ship.

This ship was designed to run as a more environmentally friendly alternative to the regular, diesel-fueled ships the Coast Guard was using at the time. There was only one problem; it was slightly more expensive than the already existing systems.

After the 1973 oil embargo, when oil prices skyrocketed, the Coast Guard embraced Anderson’s

ship idea. But once prices started to fall later that year, the Coast Guard quickly abandoned his idea and went back to the old ships, which confused Anderson.

“Why is it that people do not see that paying a little bit more now would ensure we give to our descendants the same Earth we inherited?” Anderson asked.

Anderson said he then decided to become involved in changing this attitude, by engaging the same power group he was involved with — students.

“I realized that what we were doing was suicidal, and felt the need to change it, the same way I did as a student,” Anderson said.

He said how the student body was more politically active when he was a servant and actually changed public policy from the bottom-up.

“When we were students, we

would be marching half a million strong against the war in Vietnam and the draft, and we actually got LBJ to listen to us,” Anderson said.

The key to solving the problem of climate change, Big Money, and all of its side effects is to harness the power of students to change the way we elect our officials, he said.

“Right now, you have corporate hacks going through a revolving door between government and the corporate board. So they aren’t accountable to us,” Anderson said.

Anderson proposed that we need to try a student-run, sustained grass-roots effort to change Congress via petition. These petitions would go to the local, state and federal bodies and call for our elected officials to propose to us, the citizens, ways to make our officials accountable to

us.

One way to do this, Anderson said, is to have prospective candidates to send their resumes to a local committee of professionals in their district, with them vetting the finals candidates on the ballot. After their term is over, they would be assessed by the committee and judged on if their can run again.

“None of this could happen unless the student body of the world, people like you, organize for a sustained and disciplined movement for your own future,” Anderson said.

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Kupferberg Center Presents “Cesar Millan LIVE!” at Colden Auditorium

CHRISTINA CARDONA

News Reporter

The renowned ‘Dog Whisperer’ Cesar Millan enlightened Queens College with his knowledge of canines and how to create happier and healthier human and dog relationships at his show “Cesar Millan LIVE!”

The event was held on April 19 at Colden Auditorium. It was a full house, which contained people of all ages gathered together to see the Dog Whisperer in action with actual dog demonstrations.

A woman in the audience was wearing a t-shirt that said “Proud Animal Rescuer” and a man was wearing a t-shirt that said “I Heart Pitbulls.”

On the stage there was a black couch and a table with a potted plant on it. There was a screen which displayed questions that Millan could answer if you texted the number on the screen.

Millan was introduced and as he ran on stage his Pomeranian, Benson, and his pit bull, Junior, ran with him. Millan was wearing a black t-shirt and red pants.

He started off the show expressing the idea of how important and unique the human to dog relationship is.

“Our dogs have only one goal in life, which is to fill our life with happiness,” Millan said.

He talked about his childhood in Mexico, and how he grew up on his grandparent’s farm. He connected a lot of topics throughout the show to his upbringing in Mexico.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CARDONA

Colden Auditorium was packed with people eager to see the “Dog Whisperer” live on April 19.

“My grandfather always said to me ‘never work against Mother Nature,’” Millan said.

He mentioned two things that he learned in Mexico that will stay with him for the rest of his life and formed the foundation of his training. The first was pack leadership.

“I learned about pack leadership from my father, I always felt very protected around him and he made me feel very confident,” Millan said.

Millan said animals respect their pack leaders, and it’s important as a dog owner to show you are assertive.

The second thing he learned

was the understanding and respect for the instinctual world.

“In order to connect to dogs, us humans must connect with our instincts,” Millan said.

Millan said thousands of years ago people grew up in an instinctual world, and great minds today rely on their instincts and this why they are successful.

“They said this about Michael Jordan, Steve Jobs and all the great people, but no one has ever said that about the Kardashians,” Millan said.

At 21, he left Mexico for the United States to pursue his dreams. That is when he decided he wanted to train people and

rehabilitate dogs.

He has gained his success through his hit TV shows such as “Cesar 911,” “Leader of the Pack,” and his most popular show “Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan.”

Millan said that since dogs rely mostly on their instincts, they know how humans are feeling.

“If the human is anxious, the dog will be anxious while going on a walk,” Millan said.

Millan brought out four dogs to demonstrate how to be calm and assertive during different situations. All of these dogs are up for adoption through the North Shore Animal League, who sponsored this event.

The first dog that was brought out was Rex and he was a four-month-old pit bull who was too excited. The second dog was a black lab mix named Henry, who was hyperactive. The third dog was Effie, a great bernese and chow mix who was food obsessed. The fourth dog was a border collie mix named Pebbles, who was obsessed with tennis balls.

Millan said the reason why these dogs have behavior problems is because they are not getting what they need.

“To have a happy dog, they need three things: exercise, discipline and affection,” Millan said. “If they are missing one of these things they are unbalanced, which leads to an unbalanced house.”

Millan also showed his comical side when he took a selfie with the audience, showed the audience a clip from an episode of “South Park” he is featured in, made references to celebrities, and even twerked.

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QC SPRINGFEST



Photos by Amanda Goldstein



THE CALL

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Comedian Maysoon Zayid visits QC to talk about comedy and cerebral palsy

NINA BAKOYIANNIS
News Reporter

Comedian Maysoon Zayid, on April 22, came to Queens College to perform her one-woman comedy act, "I got 99 Problems... And Palsy is Just One." The comedy show was at Rosenthal Library and organized by the Committee for Disabled Students to celebrate Disability Awareness Month.

Zayid shared her life experiences growing up as a disabled Muslim woman in New Jersey. Her humorous anecdotes detailed both experiences unique to her life as a Muslim woman in America and the more mundane events that make up her daily life,

including her childhood, marriage and acting career. Her stories feature a keen balance of humor and candor that kept the audience in stitches throughout the show.

She was born with cerebral palsy, a disability that affects her muscle movements, so she constantly shakes. Zayid is considered the first Muslim woman comedian and the first person ever to perform standup comedy in Palestine and Jordan.

"When I was growing up, my friends never made fun of me [because of my disability and ethnicity], they always treated me equally, and I always knew I deserved to be treated equally," Zayid said, whose family was the only Arab family in her town.

Zayid discussed how overused the word "inspirational" is in the disabled community,

"It's not okay if I inspire people because I wake up everyday and walk out the door. What happens quite often to people with disabilities, is that I'm in the mall and someone sees me and they're just like 'You're so inspiring' and I'm like 'Dude, I'm buying socks.'"

While some of the topics, including the stigmas surrounding both the Muslim and disabled communities, can be considerably sensitive, they were handled expertly with both humor and grace. She was simultaneously able to communicate her challenges to the audience while

giving them permission to find comic relief without the self-consciousness of sympathy.

Zayid graduated from Arizona State University with a BFA in theatre. As an actress, she is very passionate about including disability on television and in movies.

"Here's the problem: When we turn on Sesame Street, none of the adults on the show have a permanent disability. When we turn on ABC Family, Nickelodeon, all of these people are abled bodied. There is no positive representation of disability for children," Zayid said.

Zayid has appeared in some of New York's best comedy clubs, including Caroline's, Gotham and

Stand Up NY. She presented at the TED annual conference, starred in the Adam Sandler movie "Don't Mess with the Zohan," and more.

She emphasized how her disability is just one aspect of her everyday life.

"Often times we are reduced to our disability, but I don't want anyone in this audience to ever feel bad for me because I have a disability. I got 99 problems and palsy is just one," Zayid said.

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Club Spotlight on the Israel Business Club

ARIEL BAGLEY
News Reporter

The Queens College Israel Business Club is a unique club seeking to engage students with the Israeli start-up economy.

It was founded in January, by Max Fruchter and Leeora Margelovitch, freshman and sophomore, respectively.

The club engages students in three specific ways: educating students about the Israeli economy, offering hands-on lectures by professionals in the field and for the purpose of engaging them hands-on with business opportunities.

"We found that many clubs had some but not all of the QC IBC. Some

clubs were pro-Israel and politically active and other clubs just focused on the general concept of 'the economy,'" Fruchter said.

This micro-macro combined strategy allows them to engage with both students who wish to become active with Israel and those who are just generally business oriented. The strategy paid off, as the club hosted several events this semester alone, ranging from lectures by young professionals and bankers to sponsoring career-building events with other groups.

This approach ensured the club never competes and only collaborates, which made it popular.

The ultimate goal of the

club is to grow large enough as to be incorporated with the TAMID Group, a non-for-profit with chapters in colleges all across America that provides hands-on exposure to the Israel start-up scene. By joining, it would receive benefits including internships, consulting opportunities, and free fellowships in Israel.

"Bringing TAMID in would basically turbo-charge what we are already doing and give us the chance to give students an experience that cannot be duplicated in the classroom," Fruchter said.

Not everyone at the IBC is business-oriented. David Gutenmacher, currently the head of social media/communication with the

club, joined because he saw the IBC's online work and wanted to get more involved.

"I always loved communications and because the IBC makes heavy use of their Facebook page, I knew that it was a natural fit for me to join," Gutenmacher said.

The club is anticipating an event on May 13 titled "Shark-Tank Invitational," and, just like the hit ABC show, would-be entrepreneurs can present their business idea and hear immediate feedback from the "sharks," or the panel members, which includes bankers, venture capitalists and investors - all of whom deal in the Israeli economy.

"When we came up with the

idea for the shark-tank invitational, we wanted an event that engages business and Israel-minded student with professionals," Fruchter said.

This also is of interest to business student who otherwise are not engaged with the club or Israel because of the feedback it provides.

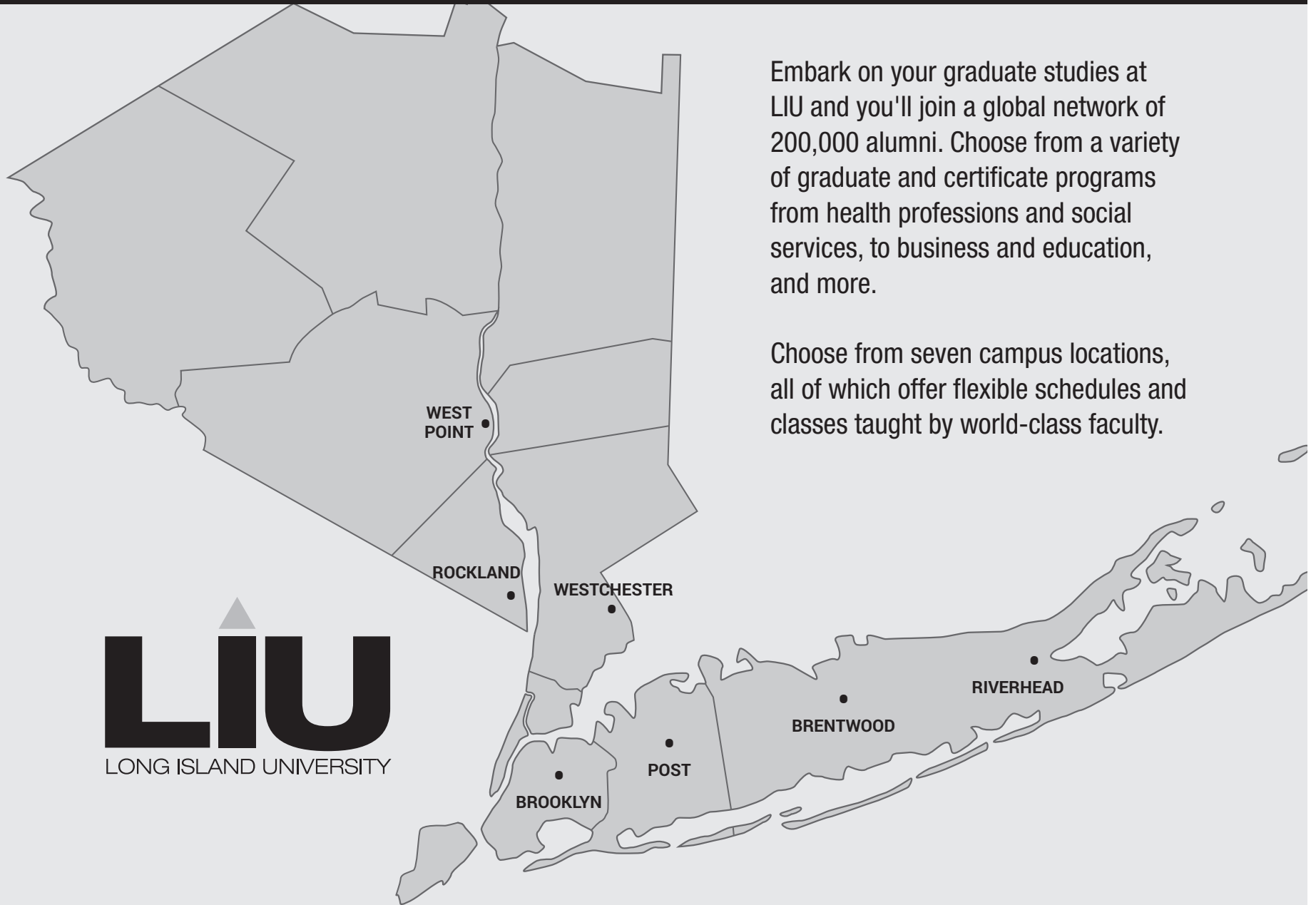
"What most people don't realize is that the opportunity to have professionals giving immediate constructive criticism is quite literally a golden opportunity," Margelovitch said.

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SPORTS

That's a wrap: A quick recap of QC sports

ALBERT ROMAN

Sports Reporter

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

On Jan. 8, The Lady Knights defeated Immaculata 76-60 in the Maggie Dixon Classic at Madison Square Garden. The game celebrated the 40th anniversary of the first women's game played at MSG between both teams.

The team captured their second East Coast Conference championship by coming from behind and defeating NYIT 65-63.

With the victory, they received an invitation to the NCAA East Regional; however, they fell to fourth-ranked seed Stonehill, 80-66.

Sophomore guard Madison Rowland scored her 1,000 career point on Feb. 18 against NYIT. Madison led the conference with 125 steals and 244 field goals made. She ranked second in the league in scoring and fourth in rebounding and assist.

She received a number of awards for her outstanding season. She was named the 2014-15 ECC Women's Basketball Player of the Year and along with the Darktronics/Division II CCA All-American Third Team.

She was also honored with the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association Co-Player of the Year. Madison and her sister, Mackenzie, made the First and Second All Met Division II Women's Team, respectively. The team finished with a 22-8 record.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Senior guard, Jeremiah Mordi received the honors of All Met, Second Team and All ECC Second Team.

Mordi scored his 1,000 career points on Jan. 22 against Dowling. Mordi became the 12th player in Queens College basketball history to surpass the 1,000 milestone.

He finished his career with 1,243 points, surpassing QC Hall of Famer Geoff Maloney, who was the first player to have his number 22 retired.

The team's head coach, Darryl Jacobs was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Congress.

They finished with a 6-21 record.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Head coach Amy Delmore led the Lady Knights to their second straight NCAA Championship appearance.

They defeated LIU Post 2-0 to win the ECC Championship.

The tournament's most

outstanding player, senior Monique Roberge drove in a run and came out of the bullpen to earn the win in relief. The first basemen led the team with a 394 average, 15 homeruns and 58 RBIs.

Roberge and Senior Samantha Mattsson were named to the All First Team Ecc, while teammates Sophomore Kayla Morrissey earned Second Team honors. Valeriano also won the ECC Rookie of the Year.

Coach Delmore took the Coach of the Year title.

The team concluded the season with a 35-14 record.

MEN'S BASEBALL

The Knights celebrated Senior Day by outscoring Mercy College 23-3 in a Conference Doubleheader. Seniors C.J. Gerdowsky, Francesco Monastra, Joseph Paparella, Dan Walsh, Crissandry Javier and Greg Gonzalez were honored.

The team ended their season winning five of their last six games and finished with a 13-22 record.

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

The team competed against schools from Division I, II and III in the 2015 Penn Relays at Franklin Field in Philadelphia on April 23-25.

The team placed in third in the CTC 4x400-meter relay.

They also competed for the ECC Championship on April 18 and earned 70 total points for a fifth place finish. Graduate student Ashley Armand placed first in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:20.47.

For the first time in the history of the team, they competed in a competition outside the region. They participated in the Florida Relays in Gainesville, Fla., hosted by the University of Florida.

The relay team of senior Anita Korosi Armand, junior Tshani Mitchell and freshman Terrilyn Britton broke the school record for the 4x400 and sprint relay with a time of 3:57.25.

Four Lady Knights received the honor of All-First Team. Mitchell was selected First Team for two events, the 200 and 400-meter dashes. Armand and Britton earned a spot as well.

All-Second team honors included junior Kymberly Johnson for the 3,000-meter steeplechase, freshman Jewell Jacobs for the high jump competitions and junior Danely Rodriguez for the hammer competitions.

Two relay teams were selected in the 4x100 relay and 4x400.

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

The men's team also competed in the 2015 Penn Relay. The team finished eighth with an overall time of 3:33.36.

They placed second in the ECC Championship trailing Roberts Wesleyan 233-161 points on April 18.

A total of ten Knights received All ECC First Team honors, while ten others were selected to the Second Team.

Throwers junior Angel Alers-Rosario and sophomore Christopher Pensa, middle distance runner Junior Michael Camacho, sprint runner Sophomore Skandal Delince, distance runner Senior Andrew Nadler and the 4X400 relay of five were selected.

Second Team honorees included throwers juniors Liam O'Connor and Michael Glanz, jumpers junior Eli Joseph and sophomore Paul Little, mid-distance runner sophomore SerJunior Joseph, distance runner senior Tyler Bay and the 4x100 relay team of four.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Lady Knights shut out Stonehill, 5-0, in the first round of the

NCAA Championship. The Knights were ranked 29th in the nation and third in the East. They trailed NYIT and Concordia.

The team finished the regular season 16-4 and posted notable victories over Division I opponents, St. Peter's University, eighth-ranked in the East, and fifth-ranked Chestnut Hill.

Head coach Alan Nagel earned his 10th ECC Coach of the Year award. Four players earned all ECC accolades including senior Yevgeniya Plevako to the First Team. Sophomores Cami Abdallah and Angelika Sobiecka and junior Andrea Samson were named to the Second Team.

MEN'S TENNIS

The team defeated District of Columbia 5-2 in the ECC Championship semi-final; however, they fell to NYIT in the final on April 2.

They lost to Chestnut Hill in the NCAA East Regional on May 2.

The team ranked fourth in the East. They finished the final month of the season with eight victories in 10 games to an overall record of 13-6.

Junior Ryan Frankel and sophomores Sharvill Nawghre and Federico Toscano were selected for the All-Second Team. First season head coach, Somadi Druker was named the ECC Coach of the Year.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Senior Taylor Martello joined the list of QC athletes to make All-ECC Second Team. She led the team with 40 goals, 55 points and 15 assists.

Head coach Todd Kaiser and the team hosted lacrosse clinics on April 9 and Feb. 22.

WOMEN'S FENCING

The fencing team competed in the NCAA Regionals on March 9 hosted by NYU. QC had six qualifiers and despite tough bouts they were eliminated.

In the Epee weapon, Sophomore Rochelle Reyes placed 56th. Senior Cartier Alonzo and sophomore Angela Acevedo followed with the 57th and 58th spots, respectively.

Sophomore Klaudia Morelowsa finished 44th in the saber competition.

Seniors Katie O'Hara and Kathy Chan finished in 42nd and 43rd in the foil competition.

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SPORTS

QC softball team wins ECC championship after a decade

HANS THEMISTODE

Sports Reporter

Queens College women's softball team continued their strong season by bringing home the 2015 East Coast Conference championship on May 2.

The Lady Knights defeated LIU Post 2-0. This championship is the team's first since 2001. The Lady Knights pushed their overall record to an impressive 35-14.

They came into the championship matchup against a tough LIU Post team with winning on their minds.

Senior first baseman Monique Roberge set the tone by hitting a solo homerun in the bottom of the fourth, giving the team a 1-0 advantage. The Lady Knights went on to score again in the bottom of the sixth when Senior Samantha Mattsson doubled to left center scoring Sophomore Alicia Gonzalez.

Roberge played masterfully all season long. She led the conference in homeruns with 15 and 58 RBIs and was also selected to the All-Conference First Team. She added to her collection of accolades by being awarded the MVP award after she closed out the victory with four shut out innings, allowing one hit and seven strikeouts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL BALESTRA

Monique Roberge, senior, led the conference in homeruns and RBIs.

Coach of the Year, Amy Delmore knew she had a great team on her hands and had high expectations for the team from the very beginning of the season. One of the objectives was win the school's first ECC championship after over a decade of falling short.

"Our mindset has always been setting goals, talking about those goals and making sure we're setting them week by week and our overall goal was to win the ECC championship. That's been

our approach the whole entire season," Delmore said.

Despite heading into the biggest game of their season, coach Delmore looked at it as just another game and wouldn't allow the pressure effect her players or coaching staff.

"We tried to keep the same mindset we've had in all of our games which is to be laid back, relaxed and have a confident mindset," Delmore said.

The players responded well

and seemingly adopted coach Delmore's swagger and confident attitude.

"They're definitely a great team and there's no denying that but we knew we had it. We were just going to come out and play our game. We were very confident," Senior Isabelle Yaroch said.

Yaroch started the game and pitched three shutout innings.

Now the team shifts its attention to the next task at hand - the

NCAA tournament.

"Right now I think we're living in the moment and looking to finish this season off strong," Delmore said.

The Lady Knights' next game is the NCAA East Regional First Round against sixth-ranked LIU Post at Manchester, NH on May 8.

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QC men's tennis serves up successful season despite loss

PHILIPP REGALA

Sports Reporter

The Queens College Men's tennis team fell to NYIT 5-0 in the East Coast Conference championship game on April 25.

The loss concluded the season for the Knights, who ended their season with an overall record of 13-6, including defending home court advantage with a 9-3 home record.

This season saw a change of leadership as Coach Somadi Druker took over for former coach Patrick Letson. During her first season as coach, Druker led the team to an impressive eight back-to-back victories before their loss to NYIT. Her peers named her the ECC Coach of the Year.

"We were lacking a little depth in singles but despite that the team played well," coach Druker said.

Coach Druker also found success when she was a player for the Knights. As a student she was one of the Knights' top singles and doubles players and had two consecutive NCAA II Division

appearances. Her drive to win pushed the men's tennis team to new heights.

Along with the strong team performance, athletes Miguel Bendito, sophomore, and Ryan Frankel, junior, had an incredible season. Frankel posted a 9-1 and an 11-2 overall record in singles respectively.

Frankel, born in Bournemouth, England, earned ECC Player of the Week and a spot on the All ECC Second Team. He was joined by teammates sophomores Sharvill Nawghare and Federico Toscano.

Along with these accomplishments, Frankel finished with an impressive 13-1 doubles mark, an area in which the team struggled with this season.

"Doubles has been tough spot for us and we could definitely improve on it if the season continues for us and we are asked to be part of the NCAA tournament or for next season in general," Bendito said. "We want to do the best we possibly can and

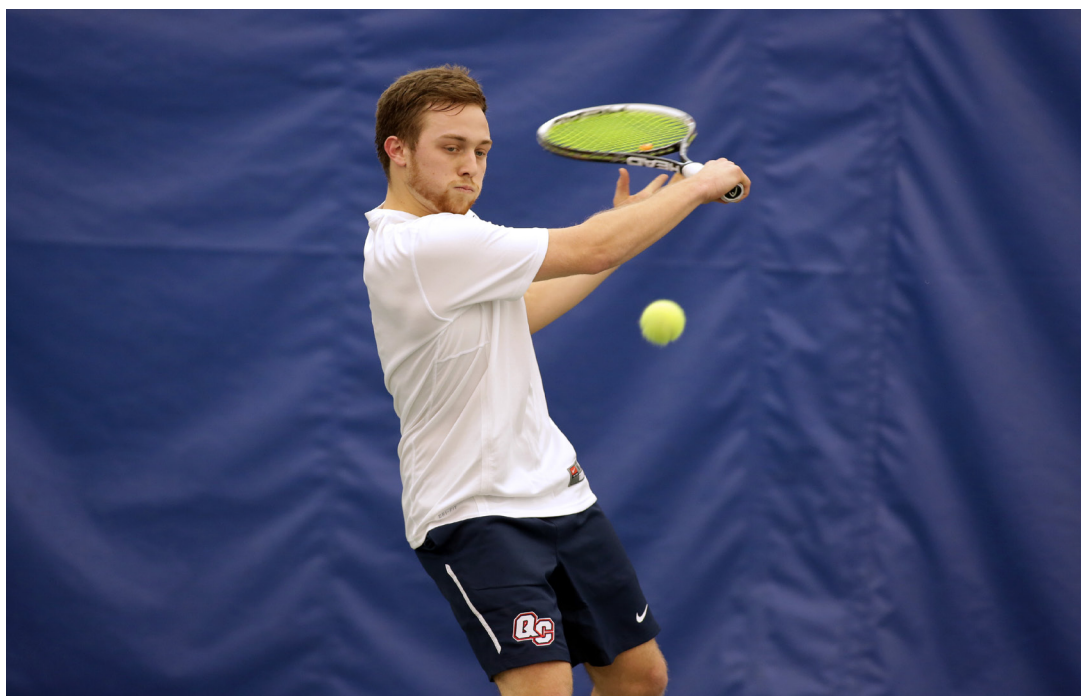


PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL BALESTRA

Ryan Frankel, above, finished the season strong with a 13-1 record for doubles mark.

win."

The team received an invite to the NCAA East Regional Tournament. The team tried to leave the grueling match to NYIT in the past and drew their attention

to the match up against Chestnut Hill on May 2. The Knights fell 5-2.

Despite the loss they aren't ready to call it quits just yet. They will shift gears to next season and

hope to use the individual success as motivation to bring home the ECC victory for QC.

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KNIGHT NEWS SPORTS

THE CHAMPS ARE HERE

QC women's softball brings home ECC championship



SEE PAGE 11

Photo courtesy of Michael Balestra

A recap of the year in sports

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