MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am happy to present to you the CSI Foundation Fiscal Year 2011 Honor Roll of Donors.

Your kind and enthusiastic support for the College provides opportunities for our outstanding faculty, staff, and students to engage in their research, and creative and scholarly pursuits. Through your generosity, their contributions to CSI and our global citizenry are a tribute to your commitment to education, to excellence, and to our society’s future. Your support ensures a future of continued accomplishments.

A few of CSI’s most notable accomplishments this year include:

• For the first time in the history of CSI, Mark Barahman, a senior in the Macaulay Honors College and Goldsmith Scholar, was named a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship winner.
• CSI graduate Michael Young ’10 was named a Fulbright Scholar and invited to teach in Madrid, Spain.
• Michal Kruk, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, was named as one of the Top 100 Chemists, 2000-2010, in a special report on High-Impact Chemists by Thomson Reuters.
• Christina Tortora, Professor of Linguistics, was recently awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship for her project entitled, “A Syntactically Annotated Corpus of Appalachian English” (June 2011).

These are only a few of the success stories that underscore the world-class caliber of our students and faculty, and we look forward to continuing this tradition of distinction in the coming year through the dedication of our students, faculty, and staff; the hard work and commitment of the CSI Foundation and The Friends of CSI; and the selfless contributions of our 55,000-member Alumni Association and our generous donors. All of your efforts continue to move the College of Staten Island further into the foreground of academic excellence.

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales, PhD
President
It has been an honor to serve as the CSI Foundation Board President for the past three years. During that time, the Foundation has, as always, worked tirelessly to further the Mission, Vision, and Values of the College of Staten Island, helping to make it a better institution, in service to our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community.

Among our many accomplishments during the past year, we have seen the success of the initiation in 2009 of an annual Celestial Ball where the Friends, Alumni Association, and Foundation work together to enhance scholarship and program support at the College, and which has resulted in the development of a major gift program. In addition, the Foundation began and conducted a feasibility study that surveyed more than 30 individuals, leading to preparation for a capital campaign. Also, with the help of the Alumni Association, we surveyed our alumni, which has led to increased outreach to alumni, both regionally and nationally.

Now, as Dr. Christine Cea assumes the Foundation Board Presidency, I look forward to working with her, as well as CSI President Dr. Tomás D. Morales and Vice President for Institutional Advancement and External Affairs Barbara Eshoo, to further strengthen the Foundation’s efforts to ensure that our College continues to grow and effect positive change for everyone in our community and beyond.

I am proud of the wonderful achievements of the CSI Foundation and it is my pleasure to remain a member of the Board as the College moves forward into a bright future and a new era.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Cutrona Sr.
Immediate Past President, CSI Foundation

In these difficult economic times, the work of the CSI Foundation to secure much-needed support for the College of Staten Island is as important as ever. Thanks to the generosity of our friends, the College is able to continue to fulfill its mission of providing a world-class education to its students, and serving the Staten Island community as the only public institution of higher learning on the Island.

Under the visionary leadership of outgoing Board President Robert Cutrona, the CSI Foundation Board has made great effort over the past fiscal year (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011) to garner the support of alumni, elected officials, and members of the community to enhance CSI’s contributions to the community, resulting in a number of positive achievements, such as:

- the College of Staten Island’s citation by CUNY for the outstanding fundraising success of the Celestial Ball in 2009 and 2010;
- the significant expansion in faculty and staff participation in the CSI Foundation Annual Fund, which raises money for the needs of the College, including scholarships for our students; and,
- the increase in support for the College among Staten Islanders who are concerned about the role of the Borough in higher education.

These achievements and many others, including a wide variety of student success stories, are possible because of contributions from people like you who believe in the positive impact that our institution makes in this borough. On behalf of the Foundation Board, as well as the College’s students, faculty, and staff, I offer a sincere thank you for your generous support. Together we will ensure the continued success of our students, Staten Island, and the world.

Sincerely,

Christine Cea
CSI Foundation President
Welcome to the Honor Roll of Donors for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Here you will find the names of individuals, organizations, and businesses that have generously contributed to the College of Staten Island. In addition, you will find here a list of scholarships and the recipients who have benefited from the great generosity of our many scholarship donors.

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The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) have declared that 2011 is the International Year of Chemistry.

One of the many special events being held this year is the publication of the *Top 100 Chemists, 2000-2010, Special Report on High-Impact Chemists* by Thomson Reuters.

Dr. Michal Kruk, Associate Professor of Chemistry at the College of Staten Island, received the distinction of being included on this list, which celebrates the scientists who have achieved the highest citation impact scores (number of citations per paper) for chemistry papers published since January 2000.

Thomson Reuters, one of the most reputable agencies that compiles rankings in the sciences, measures the impact of all chemistry papers published by each scientist. According to Thomson Reuters, “Citation impact is a weighted measure of influence that seeks to reveal consistently superior performance.”

Dr. Kruk was ranked 72nd on the list with an impact score of 61.39 (the average for chemists over that span was 11.07). Approximately one million chemists were recorded in the journal publications indexed by Thomson Reuters during the last decade.

Dr. Kruk was modest upon hearing of his placement in the ranking, saying that he “did not expect such recognition” and considered the achievement a “great distinction.” He was also quick to credit his colleagues and students, “I have worked with a number of excellent scientists.”

Dr. Michal Kruk received his MS degree in Chemistry from Maria Curie-Sklodowska University in Lublin, Poland in 1994 under the guidance of Dr. Andrzej Patrykiejew. His PhD dissertation in Chemistry under the guidance of Dr. Mietek Jaroniec was defended at Kent State University (Kent, OH) in 1998. Dr. Kruk continued working with Dr. Jaroniec as a postdoctoral fellow from 1998 to 2003, after which he joined Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, PA) for two years, working with Drs. Krzysztof Matyjaszewski and Tomasz Kowalewski as advisers.

Dr. Kruk, whose work is supported by grants from the Petroleum Research Fund (PRF) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), joined CSI as an Assistant Professor in September 2005 and has been actively involved in research, teaching, and service to CSI and the scientific community. “The faculty as well as the administration of CSI and CUNY are very supportive of my research program,” he said.

The focus of Dr. Kruk’s research is primarily on high-surface-area nanoporous materials with pores from two to 50 nanometers (nm) in diameter, which are arranged in ordered arrays, much like microscopic honeycombs. The surface area of these solid materials measures several hundred square meters per gram, the equivalent of a basketball court in one gram of material.

This area of work is of significant interest due to the fact that these materials can be used in the removal of toxic substances from water and air, energy storage, electronics, and the controlled release of therapeutic substances. At CSI, Dr. Kruk, along with two postdoctoral fellows, five graduate students, and about 20 undergraduate students, has been working on the synthesis of these materials as well as their functionalization.

An important aspect of earning this achievement is that it “gives exposure to the remarkable research that takes place at CSI, and in our Chemistry Department in particular,” noted Dr. Kruk, who is enthusiastic about his future work at CSI. “The College of Staten Island has been a great place to advance research with bright and extremely dedicated students.”
Mark Barahman, a senior with the Macaulay Honors College at the College of Staten Island (CSI) and a Goldsmith Scholar, was named a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship winner, a first in the history of CSI.

The Goldwater Scholarship was established by the United States Congress in 1986 and is the premiere federally funded undergraduate award of its type. It is designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers and PhDs in the sciences, engineering, mathematics, computer science, and related fields. Only 300 students nationwide earn this prestigious distinction.

Dan Feldman, also a senior in the Macaulay Honors College at CSI, is majoring in Physics with a concentration in Astronomy. He has received an Honorable Mention for the Goldwater Scholarship. Only 150 students receive an honorable mention award.

A Biochemistry major at CSI, Mark has worked in two prestigious laboratories—the neuroscience lab of Professor Abdeslem El Idrissi and the chemistry lab of Professor Alan Lyons. He currently works with Dr. Lyons on research related to super-hydrophobic surfaces.

Mark’s most notable accomplishment during the summer of 2009 was the construction and programming of a robotic printer that prints in three dimensions (3D) on a microscopic scale.

“Commercial 3D printers are available, but they are often extremely expensive, fragile, and very limited with respect to the building material,” notes Barahman. “We needed to build something that would allow us broad applicability and flexibility, while also being inexpensive and scalable to industrial-size processes.”

“He programmed the robot early that summer and quickly developed two printing methods to produce ‘super-hydrophobic surfaces,’” commented Dr. Lyons. “One method used highly viscous materials that deposited drops similar to a chocolate kiss, and the other method used a lower viscosity material that printed thinner, pancake-shaped layers.”

Both of these methods created super-hydrophobic surfaces, three-dimensional surfaces that hold droplets of water on multiple microscopic “spikes.” This surface prevents the water droplet from strongly adhering to the surface, allowing it to roll rather effortlessly, while maintaining the integrity of its spherical shape.

When these surfaces are used, the fluids are able to effortlessly move along the surface with minimal force. These surfaces can be applied to facilitate transportation of fluids in the medical profession.

The next challenge was controlling the direction of the water droplet flow on these super-hydrophobic surfaces.

Looking to nature, Mark became inspired by the water-shedding properties of the butterfly’s wing. When a butterfly lowers its wings, the water rolls off onto the ground. When the wing is raised, the water is pinned and does not roll down the wing onto the body of the butterfly. This adaptation keeps the butterfly’s body dryer and lighter.

Mark experimented with multiple concepts, and learned that by programming the robotic printer to deposit the 3D “kisses” and “pancakes” at an angle, the water droplet would flow easily in one direction, and with great difficulty in the other direction.

On the microscale, Mark had developed a synthetic material that emulated the water shedding effects of the butterfly wing. This new biomimetic surface, containing angled “spikes,” acted as a “one-way” sign or “liquid ratchet” controlling the directional flow of water, using only the interactive properties of the fluid with the solid.

Whereas super-hydrophobic devices allow for the easy transportation of fluids within many applications in the medical field, these new directional devices may transport cooling fluid in micro-electronic devices without back flow. This could minimize the size and heat-producing pressure often needed for the transportation of fluid, and allow for a 360-degree application environment without the chance of backflow.

“I am exceedingly proud of Mark’s important research at CSI,” said Dr. Lyons. “He is a serious scientist who works very hard and thinks deeply about problems. I expect that when he enters graduate school he will rank amongst the top echelon of all graduate students.”

“I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mark Barahman for his well-deserved distinction,” said CSI President Dr. Tomás D. Morales. “He has forged a place for himself in the history of the College by being the first Goldwater Scholar at CSI, and has earned himself great honor and national recognition. I offer my thanks to his faculty mentors for supporting Mr. Barahman’s academic goals, and challenging him to succeed. Together we are bolstering CSI’s national and world-class reputation.”

“Winning the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship would not have been more than a dream without the guidance and teaching of my mentors and professors at CSI,” Barahman states. “The scientific training and opportunities at CUNY are first class. I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to work with experienced and distinguished scientists like Dr. Alan Lyons, and to be taught and guided by Dr. Fred Naider, Dr. Charles Kramer, and Dr. Abdeslem El Idrissi. I am excited about winning this award, as it reveals the terrific opportunities CSI offers and the world-class science taking place at the labs.”

Mark’s professional aspirations include obtaining an MD/PhD in the field of Biomedical Engineering.
The College of Staten Island Foundation is the exclusive channel for all gifts to CSI from individuals, trusts, estates, corporations, and foundations. Our professional team stands ready to assist you in making sound decisions on how to achieve a meaningful gift to CSI and your philanthropic goals. Please call 718.982.2365 with general inquiries or send us an email at foundation@csi.cuny.edu.

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