

# eye on CSI

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND • FALL 2013

# CSI: WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

The NSF logo is a circular emblem with a blue center containing the letters 'NSF' in white. The center is surrounded by a golden, sunburst-like pattern of radiating lines.

Three CSI Faculty •  
Are Recipients of  
Prestigious National  
Science Foundation  
CAREER Awards

Dolphin Cove Opens  
Meet CSI's New Residents

Academic Renovations  
New Schools of  
Business and Education

ALUMNI  
PROFILE  
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**Thomas Chin '80**



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There are a number of ways to support the College of Staten Island as it strives to provide its students with the resources they need to find successful careers and effect positive change in our community and our world, and its faculty with the research opportunities to enlighten and find the answers to our most pressing problems.

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Dr. Ken Boyden, Esq., CSIVice President for Institutional Advancement and External Affairs, will be happy to explain how you can provide support to CSI, in perpetuity, through an estate bequest.

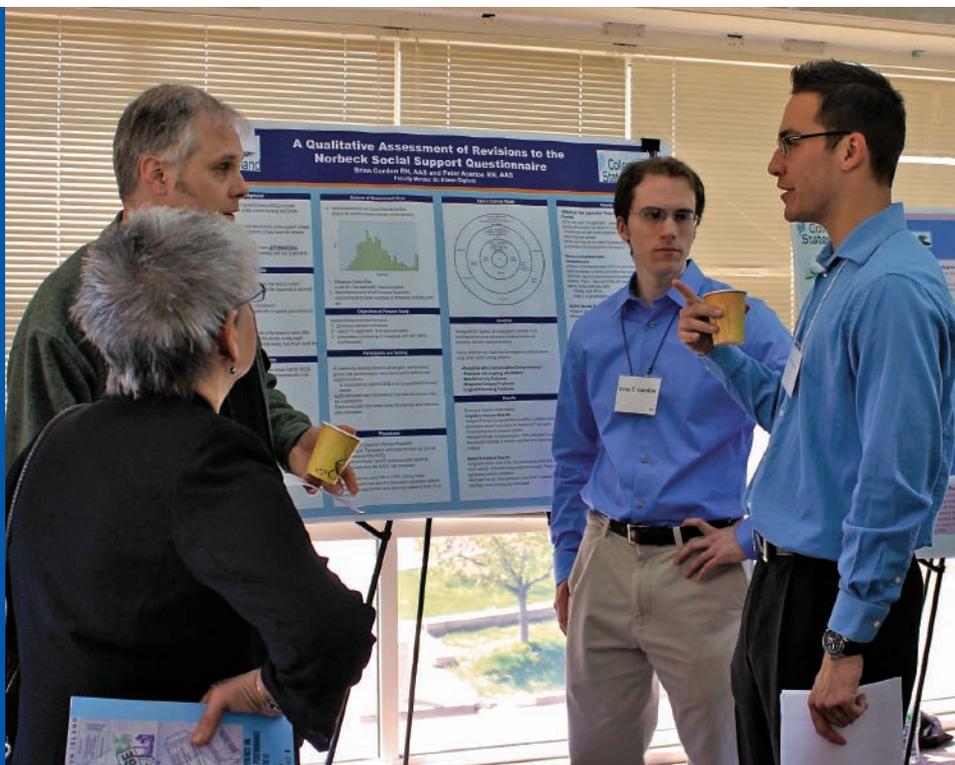
You may call him at 718.982.2365 or reach him via email at [kenneth.boyden@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:kenneth.boyden@csi.cuny.edu).



The College of Staten Island is accelerating its efforts to protect the environment and develop sustainable and responsible patterns of development in accordance with the CUNY's University Sustainability Council, which is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from all campus buildings by 30 percent over the next decade. If you would prefer to receive an electronic version of this publication or future editions via email instead of a hard copy, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at [alumni@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@csi.cuny.edu).

# eye on CSI

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Fall 2013

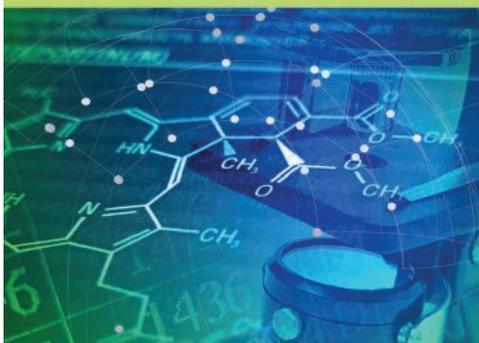


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Eye on CSI.

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

The CSI campus continues its dynamic and evolving nature since admitting its inaugural class in 1993. Dolphin Cove, CSI's first-ever residence halls—a 454-bed capacity, state-of-the-art facility, opened its doors August 2013 to its first residents. To welcome the students and their families into the CSI family, I was delighted to make homemade waffles for all. Our entire campus community looks forward to supporting our students' educational and personal goals.

As part of the College's academic restructuring, the CUNY Board of Trustees, at its June meeting, approved the creation of two new schools: a School of Business and a School of Education. The School of Business will have four departments: Department of Accounting and Finance, Department of Economics, Department of Management, and Department of Marketing. The former Department of Political Science, Economics, and Philosophy divided into three departments: a Department of Philosophy; a Department of Political Science and Global Affairs (both of which will remain in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences); and a Department of Economics.

I have appointed Dr. Susan L. Holak, who formerly served as the Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness since 2009, as Interim Founding Dean of the newly created School of Business, and Dr. Kenneth Gold as Interim Founding Dean of the newly created School of Education. Dr. Gold had served as the Chair of the Education Department from 2007 to 2010.

Furthermore, three of our outstanding faculty have received the prestigious National Science Foundation Early Faculty Development CAREER Award, the most sought-after recognition that a new faculty member can receive:

- Dr. Dan McCloskey, Psychology, examines animal social behavior and hippocampal neuron activity.
- Dr. Vadim Oganessian, Engineering Science and Physics, seeks a greater understanding of the electronic properties of various materials.
- Dr. Sebastien Poget, Chemistry, researches the interaction of snake toxins with several ion channels to better understand channel structure and function.

In addition, thanks to the extraordinary expertise of our Physical Therapy faculty, New York State named CSI a doctoral-degree-granting institution in February 2013. As a result, CSI will soon confer the Doctoral degree in Physical Therapy.

Congratulations to all for advancing the Vision, Values, and Fundamental Principles of our institution.

Best wishes,

William J. Fritz, PhD  
Interim President

## eye on CSI

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## FACULTY FOCUS:

# CSI: WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

## Celebrates Its Three NSF Career Award Recipients

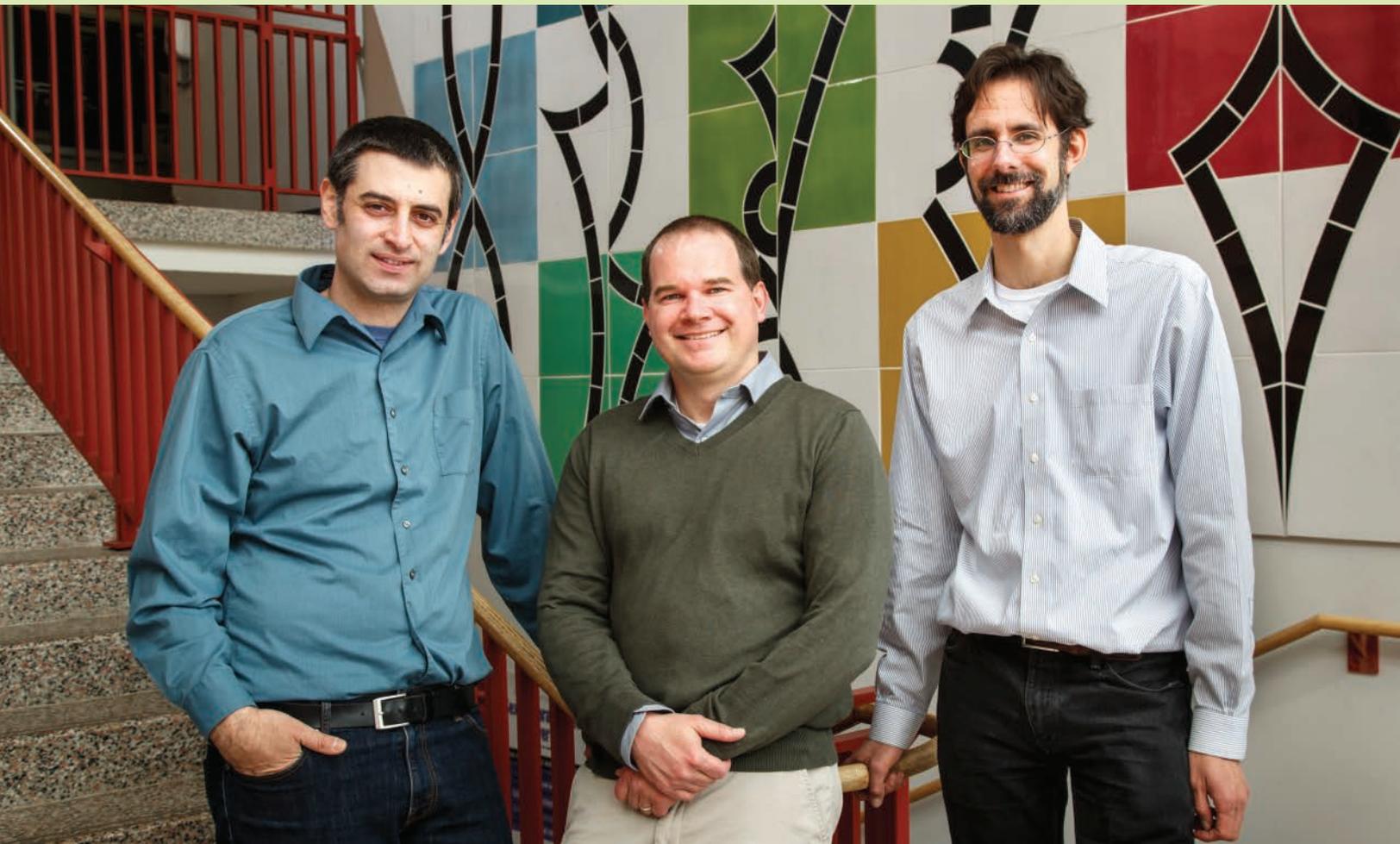
Faculty members at the College of Staten Island are continually gaining recognition for their myriad contributions to academia and education, making the College a rising star in The City University of New York. Over the past three years, CSI has earned another distinguished designation, an institution with three faculty members who have received CAREER Awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The NSF's Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is one of

the Foundation's most prestigious awards, supporting junior faculty members who demonstrate their prowess as exemplary teacher-scholars through exceptional research, outstanding education, and the effective combination of education and research within the parameters of the mission of their organizations. The program provides stable and sufficient support to provide awardees with the ability to develop careers as excellent educators and researchers, who effectively integrate learning, teaching, and discovery.

The College's three CAREER awardees are Dr. Dan McCloskey, Psychology; Dr. Vadim Oganessian, Engineering Science and Physics; and Dr. Sebastien Poget, Chemistry. *Eye on CSI* had the opportunity to speak with them to learn more about their research and how they feel about having received this honor.

*L-R: Dr. Vadim Oganessian, Dr. Dan McCloskey, and Dr. Sebastien Poget*



### **Dr. DAN McCLOSKEY**

Although he first set foot on the CSI campus in 2002 while he was working on his doctoral thesis, Dr. McCloskey joined the CSI faculty in 2007 as an Assistant Professor. Discussing his area of expertise, he states, "I study how groups of brain cells coordinate to produce behaviors. Sometimes those behaviors are beneficial, such as learning and memory, and other times they are detrimental, such as epileptic seizures. There are similarities in how the brain processes both."

Dr. McCloskey notes that his NSF CAREER Award is for research that is "looking at how brain cells coordinate on two levels. The first is actually looking at groups of brain cells across an entire circuit, called the hippocampus, and determining whether a hormone called oxytocin increases their coordination. The second is looking at groups of animals and determining whether the same hormone coordinates their social behavior. Both approaches use a truly unique animal, the naked mole-rat, which is a highly social small rodent with some pretty amazing brain cells."

According to Dr. McCloskey, his research is going smoothly as a result of being at CSI. "I am fortunate to have outstanding high school, undergraduate, master's, and PhD students working in the lab who allow me to teach and do research at the same time. They are the ones who are making the progress... In addition, CSI has some resources that we utilize that make the work possible. There are four top-notch facilities with outstanding staff that make our research go: the animal facility, advanced imaging facility, the CUNY High-Performance Computing Center, and the Center for Developmental Neuroscience. They are all critical to the success of our research, and I am truly grateful to have access to them."

As for his team's progress, Dr. McCloskey reports that "we have made great advances in tracking animal movements and interactions to study social behavior, and have developed new approaches to analyze the activity of

large groups of brain cells. Soon, we will be sharing some of these data, in real time, through Web resources and social media."

### **Dr. VADIM OGANESYAN**

Originally from Baku, Azerbaijan, Dr. Oganessian has been a member of the CSI faculty since 2008, when he began as an Assistant Professor. He notes that his specialty area is "theoretical condensed matter physics. I study collective quantum physics of matter, often new and technologically promising materials and devices."

**"The research program aims to develop tools for understanding interesting dynamical phenomena in condensed matter (solids, liquids, gases)."**

DR. VADIM OGANESYAN

As for the research that he is undertaking with the NSF CAREER grant, he explains, "The research program aims to develop tools for understanding interesting dynamical phenomena in condensed matter (solids, liquids, gases). Some of these projects may find applications in material science and quantum device engineering, but they are mostly motivated by basic physics. This is a five-year grant...longer in duration than a typical NSF grant of two to three years."

In discussing his progress, so far, Dr. Oganessian states that "the proposal consisted of three essentially independent parts—unusual metallic behavior of materials, so called "bad metals" (which happen to include compounds of interest, e.g., superconductors with a high transition temperature), many-body localization, and transient dynamics of highly coherent excitations in solids. The originally intended direction for Part 1 has not been pursued, largely because other related projects, including one in collaboration with Brooklyn College experimental physicist Greg Boutis, took precedence. The other two parts are



moving along rather nicely, with various publications either out or underway. Much of this work is theoretical and/or simulation based. Connecting it to existing experiments or stimulating new ones is part of the effort in the coming year."



Although he has been conducting much of this research away from the CSI campus, Dr. Oganessian states that "CSI is an exciting campus of CUNY with many new promising developments, as far as the level of research activity, recent faculty hires, and build-up of computational facilities."

**“We have made great advances in tracking animal movements and interactions to study social behavior, and have developed new approaches to analyze the activity of large groups of brain cells.”**

**DR. DAN MCCLOSKEY**

#### **Dr. SEBASTIEN POGET**

Dr. Poget joined the CSI faculty in the spring of 2009 as an Assistant Professor. His areas of expertise are protein chemistry, biophysics, and structural biology.

component from the venom of the eastern green mamba snake, which increases the activity of potassium channels. This is a very unusual effect for a toxin, most of which block the channels, and has therefore caught our attention. We are using different biophysical techniques to understand how exactly this toxin exerts its activating function. In particular, we are using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, a technique that is related to MRI but allows us to observe structural information for individual atoms in the channel and toxin molecules. We expect to derive a detailed understanding of how potassium channel function can be modulated from this project, which can later serve as the basis for the design of drugs against such diseases as epilepsy and fatal cardiac arrhythmias.”

great colleagues throughout CSI have significantly contributed to the development of my own research program.”

So far, according to Dr. Poget, the preliminary phase of the research is progressing smoothly. “The research team that will work on this project has been mostly assembled. Protocols have been established to obtain the snake toxin using biotechnological methods (as opposed to isolating it from crude snake venom), and an ideal system for studying the interactions between the toxin and channel is being established.”

**“Our research project focuses on a specific component from the venom of the eastern green mamba snake, which increases the activity of potassium channels.”**

**DR. SEBASTIEN POGET**

In describing his (five-year) NSF CAREER Award research, he explains, “Potassium channels are large protein molecules that sit in the cell membrane of nerve cells (and many other cell types). They facilitate the flow of the electrical signals in our body that ensure communication to and within the brain. Many animal venoms contain molecules that prevent the flow of these electric nerve signals by disrupting the normal function of potassium channels. Our research project focuses on a specific

Dr. Poget notes a number of benefits of conducting his research at CSI and CUNY. “The availability of state-of-the-art equipment here at CSI and at other CUNY campuses and New York City research institutions is an essential factor in being able to carry out our experiments. Also, the presence of talented and motivated undergraduate and graduate students who choose to participate in this research is a very important component of the research. Lastly, the support of and discussions with

# Two New Schools Change the ACADEMIC LANDSCAPE

The College of Staten Island is charting an accelerated course of transformation under its new Strategic Plan, *ManyVoices, One Vision*, and its new Facilities Master Plan. In regard to the latter document, our 204-acre campus has incorporated brand-new residence halls for our students and is currently undertaking the completion of a new building to house the CUNY Interdisciplinary High-Performance Computing Center.

Besides physical construction, CSI is also conducting academic construction, under its Strategic Plan, with the creation of new schools within the College, the first being the School of Business and the School of Education. Other schools, including one for health-related disciplines, are forthcoming.

## School of Business

The School of Business at CSI will be headed by Interim Founding Dean Dr. Susan L. Holak.

Commenting on the importance of the new School for the College and its students, Dr. Holak states that “The formation of the School of Business sets a new paradigm for the College. With a more defined department structure, faculty will be better able to keep pace with dynamic changes in business and economics disciplines, more effectively serve the approximately 2,400 students enrolled in business and economics majors, and maintain connections with alumni. The College will also be poised to

pursue accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).”

Committed to its mission of offering rigorous business education that fosters intellectual growth and career advancement for students of diverse academic and cultural backgrounds, the School offers a wide array of programs with specializations in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Management, Marketing, and International Business. Degrees awarded include the Bachelor of Science in Business, the Bachelor of Science in Accounting, the Bachelor of Science in Economics, the Bachelor of Arts in Economics, the Master of Science in Business Management, and the Master of Science in Accounting.

While newly formed, the School of Business has historical roots spanning more than four decades, as the College has evolved and matured into a comprehensive institution of The City University of New York. With an alumni base dating back to 1959, the School of Business has a strong and growing network of professionals who have taken their place as leaders in prestigious organizations that include CitiGroup, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, New York Life Insurance, Ogilvy Worldwide, PricewaterhouseCoopers, United States Trust Corporation, and Vanguard Capital; as entrepreneurs; in government and non-profit sectors; and as career resources for current students.

To complement its students’ classroom experience, the School of Business offers leadership opportunities in career-oriented clubs and societies, and international experience through the School’s current partnerships with the Institut de Préparation à l’Administration et à la Gestion - IPAG (France), the Dublin Institute of Technology (Ireland), and the University of Canberra (Australia). New international collaborations are developing, and closer to home, our students have the opportunity to interact with the Borough’s New York State Small Business Development Center (SBDC), housed in the School of Business.

The School of Business at CSI is proud of its full-time and adjunct faculty, who demonstrate a commitment and dedication to rigorous instruction, innovative pedagogy, and mentoring. Faculty members have earned distinction in their academic disciplines and have gained recognition as Fulbright Scholars, National Science Foundation grant recipients, National Endowment for the Humanities grant recipients, and National Academy of Sciences expert panel members. They hold positions on journal editorial boards; occupy leadership roles in professional organizations; and consult to federal, state, and local governmental agencies.

Dr. Holak has been a member of the College of Staten Island faculty and has served in campus leadership positions, such as Director of the William E. Macaulay Honors

College of CUNY at the College of Staten Island, and most recently as Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness. In that role, she recently directed the College's successful decennial Middle States reaccreditation process.

Dr. Holak earned a BS in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where she graduated magna cum laude and was named to Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honorary society. She received her MPhil and PhD degrees in Business from Columbia University. As Professor of Marketing, her research interests include new product development, consumer behavior, and cross-cultural marketing.

#### **School of Education**

The College's new School of Education will be led by Interim Founding Dean Dr. Kenneth M. Gold.

Discussing the significance of the new School, Dr. Gold noted, "As a School of Education, we can offer the same high-quality instruction for teachers and school leaders while expanding our program and extending our reach into local schools, policy discussions at the city and state levels, and research areas of national and international significance."

Restructuring the Education Department as a School of Education with two initial academic departments (Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Studies) will enable the College to broaden and deepen its work in teacher preparation and educational research. More precisely, the School will locate new funding sources, draw a greater allocation of resources from existing revenue sources, establish new partnerships with Staten Island schools, improve organization for assessment and reaccreditation from relevant national associations, provide an apparatus by which new programs may be more easily created and guided through a complex approval process, and make the College more central in discussions of education policy within CUNY, New York, and the nation.



**Interim Founding Dean  
Dr. Susan L. Holak**

The School of Education will continue the work of the College's nationally accredited programs in teacher education, which are committed to the development of intellectual autonomy and professional responsibility in students of diverse academic and cultural backgrounds. The School will continue to offer a wide array of programs, including early childhood, childhood, and adolescence education at the undergraduate level, and childhood, adolescence, and special education at the graduate level. It will retain programs for a certificate in Autism and a sixth-year professional certificate in School Leadership at the school and district levels. It will continue to work closely with faculty in the arts and sciences to ensure the success of programs like the Teacher Education Honors Academy.

CSI has nearly 700 of its graduates since 2005 teaching in Staten Island public schools today, more than 500 others found in positions elsewhere in the city.

The School of Education at the College of Staten Island is home to an esteemed faculty, who collectively has authored



**Interim Founding Dean  
Dr. Kenneth M. Gold**

groundbreaking monographs, best-selling textbooks, and scholarly articles in leading journals in their fields of expertise. Faculty members serve on the boards of prestigious academic associations, present papers at leading national conferences, and engage in the public discourse on leading educational issues of our day.

Dr. Gold has been a member of the CSI faculty since 1995 and has previously served as Deputy Chairperson of the Education Department, Chairperson of the Education Department, member of the Institutional Planning Committee, and most recently as Vice Chair of the College Council. As Chairperson, he oversaw the Department's successful 2010 reaccreditation by the National Council for the Assessment of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Dr. Gold earned a BA in History from Princeton University, where he graduated cum laude. He received his MA and PhD degrees in History from the University of Michigan. His specialization is in the history of American education.



Residence hall helpers (with the CSI Dolphin) are ready to help the new tenants move in.

The new residents check in prior to their first view of their new dorms.

Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz (right) and his wife Dr. Bonnie Fritz add a personal touch to move-in day by serving waffles.



# MEET DOLPHIN COVE'S



Justin Ortiz [L] with his mother, Dawn



Diamalatu Ziallo [R] with most of her family



Marisa Toth

### JUSTIN ORTIZ

Freshman/Music from the Bronx

"I thought it would be a new experience living on my own. I'm a little nervous, but I just have to go with it and try new things."

### DIAMALATOU ZIALLO

Freshman/Nursing born in Brooklyn, but her parents are from Ghana

She moved to Dolphin Cove because "The dorms are new. I like new stuff."

She wants to learn "how to be on my own and learn my own responsibilities."

### MARISA TOTH

Freshman/Computer Science from SI

"I think it would be a good experience to be home away from home and have more freedom to do certain things.

"I hope to meet a lot of great people and learn a lot."



# Dolphin Cove

The months and planning and construction paid off on August 25 as the College of Staten Island welcomed its first-ever student residents to Dolphin Cove, the College's new 454-bed residence halls. Students from as close as ten minutes away on Staten Island to as far away as France and Australia arrived on campus on a beautiful sunny day that was perfect for moving in and beginning a new life on the CSI campus. CSI Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz, and his wife, Dr. Bonnie Fritz, were busy working behind antique waffle irons, treating the students to a homemade breakfast.

Although the obvious reason for many who were coming to Dolphin Cove was to forego a long and difficult commute to campus, *Eye on CSI* had the opportunity to speak with some of these students as they lugged their belongings, and parents and siblings, behind them, to get a better understanding of who they are, where they come from, and what they hope to take away from the Dolphin Cove experience.

# NEW RESIDENTS



Rebecca Joseph

## REBECCA JOSEPH

*Freshman/Cinema Studies from Brooklyn*

"I want to be closer to classes so I'm not late because it's very important for me to be on time. I've never been in this borough, so if I stay here, I would be able to commute to other places on Staten Island."

She hopes to get "a better experience of independence" at Dolphin Cove.



Lauren Sciorcino [L] and Lena Apostol [R]

## LAUREN SCIORCINO

*Sophomore Early Childhood Ed. with Psych minor from Franklin Square, LI*

She is moving into Dolphin Cove "for the full college experience. I graduated from Nassau Community College and did my two years, so I figured that I'd do something different now."

She hopes to make "memories and friends."

## LENA APOSTOL

*Sophomore/Biochemistry major with Geology minor from Secondary Ed. from SI*

"I really want to try to live on my own, but I really don't know how to live on my own—this is kind of in the middle for me—so I can get the full experience, but not burn the house down."



Jessica Nowack [L] with her mother and boyfriend

## JESSICA NOWACK

*Freshman/Business/Marketing from Mystic, CT*

"I was really impressed with how the dorms were going to look and the way things were run, so I figured it would be a nice place to live."

She says that she's looking for "the typical college experience, living on her own."

...response to their  
 ...ative companies then  
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 ...how perceptions of  
 ...panies are shifting  
 ...esses to reflect these  
 ...e following key areas:

...the way we do business, make products,  
 ...ource ingredients, use our voice  
 ...ve're different because of our values

AGAINST ANIMAL TESTING    SUPPORT COMMUNITY FAIR TRADE    ACTIVATE SELF ESTEEM    DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS    PROTECT OUR PLANET

...es  
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Corporate Social Responsibility

- New Click Foundation
- Stop Violence in the Home

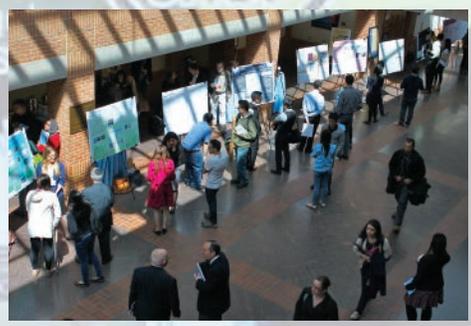
Saaf SkinCare



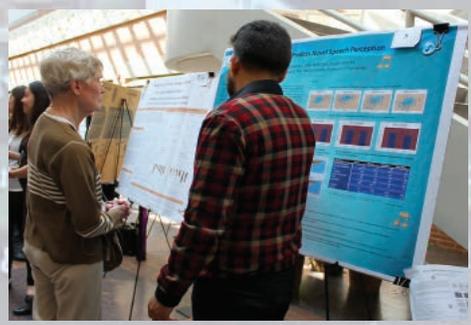
Emerging Competitors in Organic Cosmetics



# TWELFTH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE SHOWCASES STUDENT TALENTS



The College of Staten Island gave the College and Staten Island communities the opportunity to experience the rich and diverse talents of its students, last spring, at the 12th Annual Undergraduate Conference on Research, Scholarship, and Performance, held in the Center for the Arts.



With an emphasis on collaboration between students and talented and dedicated faculty mentors, the Conference showcased 96 research posters, seven oral presentations, and six panel discussions, as well as performances from 83 Music and Dance students, and works by 33 students of the Visual Arts.

When asked how they felt about the chance to participate in this year's Conference, students were positive, but they emphasized a variety of points.

Some students, like Katherine Brigandi, a graduating Accounting/Finance/Economics major whose poster was entitled, "Estimating the Financial Impact of Superstorm Sandy on the Regional Housing Stock—New York and New Jersey," emphasized the importance of students being able to view each other's work. "I was walking around and looking at all the different research that I wasn't aware that students were doing...I think it's a very good event and it's good to promote all the student research."

William Alesi, a Macaulay Honors College student with a triple major in English, Political Science, and Philosophy, who presented, "War, Drugs, and Human Rights in Columbia," expressed a similar opinion. Of the participants, he stated "They're all obviously very intelligent people. They have

Educate to help consumers make wiser decisions.  
 Satisfying consumer desire for beauty, health, and cultural sensitivity.

research and I think that a lot of this can be implemented in the real world.”

Other students, like graduating senior History major Marwa Janini, whose poster was “Reviving Identity: How the Living Conditions of Refugee Camps in Lebanon Reinforce Palestinian Nationalism,” hoped to inform others about their research. “I feel great presenting my research for the first time to an audience that maybe doesn’t know what’s going on,” she noted.

There were also students who felt as if they had grown academically as a result of the Conference.

“To me, my role in this project, to represent this as an undergrad student, is really great

The Conference began in the morning with a well-attended chamber music recital that showcased some of the exceptional talents of the College’s Music students.

The afternoon started with panel discussions and paper presentations and a Plenary Session that included remarks from Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz and Interim Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Fred Naider. In his remarks, Dr. Fritz emphasized the importance of having an excellent mentor, citing the examples of both Charles Darwin and his own studies, where a mentor had a profound, positive effect. Dr. Fritz then focused on the Conference, saying, “This [Conference] gives our students the edge in

Group Art and Sculpture students, and another opportunity to experience CSI’s Dance students. The Conference concluded with an exciting concert by the CSI Big Band and Jazz Repertory Combo, led by Professor Michael Morreale.

This year, CSI Undergraduate Research Awards supported 20 of the Conference’s research projects. The Conference was sponsored by the CSI Division of Academic Affairs, with funding from the CSI Office of Alumni Relations.

**With an emphasis on collaboration between students and talented and dedicated faculty mentors, the Conference showcased 96 research posters, seven oral presentations, and six panel discussions, as well as performances from 83 Music and Dance students, and works by 33 students of the Visual Arts.**

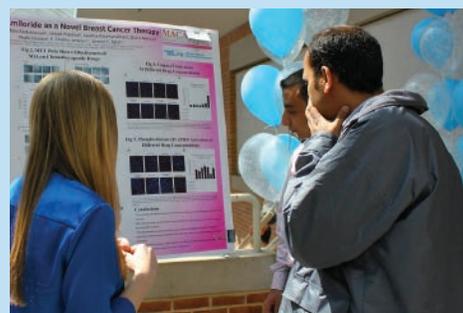
because since last year, I have progressed so much. Last year, I had no publications...but today I feel that I can speak on this [research] with confidence....,” said graduating senior Clinical Laboratory Science major Anita Mata, who presented “Formulation and Characterization of a Curcumin-based Cream for the Treatment of HPV-mediated Cervical Cancer.”

Junior Political Science major Matthew Palliant, whose poster was entitled “A Nation Divided: Haiti and the Dominican Republic,” also emphasized the impact of the Conference on his “major and intended career. I know that I’m going to have to present and speak publicly and be comfortable doing that. So, I’m very grateful to have that opportunity as a part of this Conference.”

getting into graduate and professional programs and jobs.” That edge, according to Dr. Fritz, resulted in a CSI graduate being accepted to Harvard, another CSI student winning a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, and a recent Chemistry graduate being accepted to six of the top doctoral programs in the nation.

The Plenary Session concluded with electrifying performances from CSI Dance students and the CSI Gospel Choir.

For the remainder of the Conference, attendees were free to explore the poster presentations in the Atrium and East and West lounges, with the chance to engage the College’s student researchers about their work. In addition, there were more paper presentations, another session with the CSI Gospel Choir, art exhibits from both Spring



## AROUND CAMPUS

### Nursing Sim Lab Advances Elder Care for CSI Nursing Students



A Simulation Lab for the Education of Nurses in the Care of Older Adults was recently inaugurated last semester with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Marcus Hall, home of the CSI Department of Nursing.

The lab, funded by the Brooklyn Home For Aged Men, is a state-of-the-art facility where nursing students can learn about geriatric home care without ever leaving the CSI campus. It is a self-contained lab that completely simulates a room in a nursing

home or the home of a potential patient. It is fully furnished with a bed, lavatory, and mannequin, as well as top-of-the-line nursing equipment—anything that a practitioner may have in a real-life situation. The room is even furnished with a two-way mirror and video-recording equipment so the nursing students can receive immediate feedback from their instructors.

“The Simulation Lab will help keep CSI as a leader in nursing education and will benefit generations of residents of the Island and the entire region,” said CSI Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz in his welcoming remarks.

The construction of the lab was made possible by a grant of \$100,000 from the Brooklyn Home For Aged Men, represented at the ribbon cutting by George Schaefer, Gerard Bruno, and Erika Hellstrom. They were joined by Interim President Fritz, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Fred Naider, Chair

of the CSI Nursing Department Dr. Mary O’Donnell, and other College representatives.

Nora Maloney, a Lecturer for the Nursing Department, guided attendees on a tour of the lab and discussed the importance of such a facility. “Most elderly patients are choosing to stay in their homes,” she told attendees. “Students will learn how to care for patients as well as monitor their daily needs; this is very important,” she stressed. “Many illnesses elderly patients have need to be monitored very closely.”

The Brooklyn Home For Aged Men has supported CSI’s Nursing program with several grants. This financial dedication was echoed by George Schaefer in his remarks. “The best part of this facility is not the equipment we see here. The best part is the dedicated faculty who will be teaching here. I have seen the instructors and professors at work: for them, this is more than a job...it is a calling.”

### CSI Honors Students Take Center Stage

The College of Staten Island honored 485 of its top students at the Sixth Annual Honors Convocation last spring, and featured Christina Terracino, BA, English, as the 2013 CSI Salutatorian.

After Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. A. Ramona Brown welcomed the honors students and their friends and families, and Honoree Samantha Frank sang the National Anthem, Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz offered the day’s greetings.

In his remarks, Dr. Fritz asked the honors graduates to recognize “your family, friends, and other loved ones here today” for providing the students with “invaluable support in coping with the many personal demands and challenges you faced. And our outstanding faculty and staff have taught, mentored, assisted, and inspired you to reach the heights of excellence that we honor here tonight.”

Dr. Fritz also quoted last year’s Salutatorian,

Daniel Feldman, who referred to a term coined by Pauline and Suzanne Imes in 1978 called the Imposter Syndrome, a phenomenon in which people are unable to believe that they deserve the success they achieve. “Dan went on to explain that many successful people suffer from this syndrome, many of them most likely in attendance at the Honors Convocation, but,” Dr. Fritz concluded, “they should all be viewing the awards ceremony as proof that you are not an imposter...your attendance here is a testament to your success.”

Christina Terracino, the 2013 CSI Salutatorian and graduate of The Verrazano School Honors Program, then discussed the growth that she has experienced at CSI, referencing the novel *Jane Eyre*, Charlotte Brontë’s “journey of maturation, self-discovery, and increasing confidence.” During her address, she spoke about how “English literature has always been my passion and I discovered that, early



*Christina Terracino delivers the Salutatorian address.*

on in my college career, it helped me understand multiple perspectives, a skill that is truly remarkable.” She also encouraged her fellow honors recipients to “follow your own path” and said “I am confident you will all reach the aims you are reaching for.”

Vice President Brown then presented the Student Dolphin Award to Elizabeth Che, who also received the Student Government Service Award and a first-place award at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference.

## Governor Cuomo's Signature Ushers in a New Era at CSI



*NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo and Dr. Maureen Becker*

The College of Staten Island was officially registered as a Doctoral-degree-granting institution in New York State on February 5, when Governor Andrew M. Cuomo approved the amendment to the long-range Master Plan of The City University of New York (CUNY). The completion of the three-year process from proposal to signature now allows CSI to join the ranks of Hunter and City colleges as the only CUNY campuses other than The Graduate Center to confer doctoral degrees on their students.

Since 2006, students who were studying for their Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) at CSI were officially earning their degrees from The Graduate Center, CUNY. As of September 2014, when the first DPT cohort at CSI enrolls, students will study and receive their degrees solely from CSI.

"This is a momentous occasion for the College of Staten Island, with profound implications for the future," commented Dr. William J. Fritz, Interim President of CSI.

"I am very proud of the academic excellence of CSI and gratified by the confidence placed in the future of the College and the University by Governor Andrew Cuomo."

"The College of Staten Island being awarded doctoral-granting status speaks volumes to the academic rigor of our curriculum and the expertise of our faculty," commented Dr. Fred Naider, Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Alex Chigogidze, Dean of Science and Technology and Professor of Mathematics at CSI, stated, "I cannot overstate the significance of this achievement... This means that the College can grant doctoral degrees not only in Physical Therapy, but in other fields as well. We are now the only senior college within CUNY that offers a truly full spectrum of courses and programs, spanning from college-readiness courses to doctoral programs."

Dr. Maureen Becker, Acting Chair of the Physical Therapy Department and Director of Clinical Education, commented, "This is a historic event for CSI."

As the program has worked since its inception, all coursework and study occurs on the College of Staten Island campus, allowing all students full-time access to the expertise of the faculty. The Fall 2014 cohort of admitted DPT students will continue with the same model; however, their degrees will be issued from the College of Staten Island and not The Graduate Center.

## Mrs. Rose Volpe



It is with deep sorrow that we mourn the loss of Mrs. Rose M. Volpe, a founder of the Friends of CSI and wife of the late Dr. Edmond L. Volpe, the first President of the College of Staten Island.

Mrs. Volpe was a visionary activist who dedicated her life to improving and enhancing Staten Island and the College. Her longtime

commitment to the College by way of organizing the Starlight Ball is evident in the continuing tradition of excellence of the College's Celestial Ball. She was also very active in encouraging extracurricular music and theater programs at the College, and in bringing cultural exhibitions and productions to the campus. The International Festival was a highly anticipated cultural event during its many years of celebrating diversity on Staten Island, while also facilitating a number of CSI scholarships.

Mrs. Volpe was presented with a College Award for Community Service in 1999, and the President's Medal in 2011. For nearly four decades, she attended and planned many important College and community events, always bringing her inimitable grace, dignity, and charm.

Dr. and Mrs. Volpe's family includes daughters Lisa Volpe and Rosalind Volpe Goodwin, and two grandchildren. Although originally from New Haven, CT, Mrs. Volpe's heart always seemed to belong to Staten Island, and our Island has benefited greatly from her passion. Mrs. Volpe was a strong advocate for developing the National Lighthouse Museum, and actively supported the Staten Island Chamber Music Players. Recently, she was instrumental in ensuring that the troupe's most valuable gifts, more than 750 pieces of the actual sheet music from which they played for 35 years, were donated to the College as an archive and resource for students.

The College, as well as Staten Island, will forever reap the rewards of Dr. and Mrs. Volpe's dedication and commitment to our community.

Donations in Mrs. Volpe's memory can be made to The Rose Volpe Music Scholarship. Call the CSI Office of Institutional Advancement at 718.982.2365 for more information.

## Graduates Honored at 37th Commencement



A very warm and sunny day greeted the College of Staten Island's 2,345 graduates and their families, friends, and supporters from the College community and beyond last spring at CSI's 37th Annual Commencement.

After acknowledging the dedicated efforts of the CSI community in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz listed some of the characteristics that make CSI unique, like its 204-acre campus and the fact that it is the only public institution of higher learning in the Borough. He also mentioned some of the College's recent achievements, such as the construction of the new student residence halls, the creation of new professional schools in business and education, and the forthcoming building to house the Interdisciplinary High-Performance Computing Center.

In closing, he shared his philosophy regarding the connection between alumni and their alma maters, "There are those who view colleges and universities metaphorically as living entities with the alumni forming the

soul of the institution. I subscribe to this notion as well. As alumni, your achievements become our achievements. Your prominence builds upon our prominence and prestige. Your philanthropy and humanity become our contribution in kind to a better, more compassionate, and caring world."

This year, the College was honored to have two valedictorians, Christopher Bitetto and Evelyn Okeke, both graduates of The Verrazano School Honors Program.

Bitetto reflected on his time at CSI "What I am most proud of as I get set to graduate is that I was a member of the CSI family. Even under the worst circumstances, like Hurricane Sandy, members of the Staten Island community came together to volunteer their time and donate their food and clothes because we all come from the same place. That's what makes the College of Staten Island student body so special. We have arrived at a point where we see the value in giving back to others. We all have overcome obstacles, and as a group, we demonstrate that nothing shall keep us from succeeding as long as we work for it."

Okeke, originally from the former East Germany, emphasized the role of The Verrazano School in her academic and personal path. "Being a part of The Verrazano School also fostered my college career by providing me with a family of students and caring mentors who assisted me throughout every step of my college years. When I was a scared freshman, they welcomed me to my new country and helped me adjust to the many cultural differences. Through The Verrazano School, I volunteered my time and engaged in making my community a better place to live."

Also in attendance at the ceremony and offering their support to the graduates were U.S. Senator Charles Schumer; CUNY Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning, Construction, and Management Iris Weinshall; and CUNY Trustee Rita DiMartino '76.

The Commencement ceremony also bestowed honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees upon Elizabeth A. Dubovsky, Executive Director at The Staten Island Foundation, and Distinguished Professor Toyin Falola. In addition, Dr. Fritz recognized the latest recipients of the President's Medal, Robert S. Cutrona, Sr., President of Project-One Services, Inc., a founding Director of Victory State Bank, and a longtime member of the CSI Foundation Board; Norma D'Arrigo, a community leader on Staten Island, founding member of the Friends of CSI, and former member of the CSI Foundation Board; and Dr. Alfred Levine, Professor of Engineering Science and Physics and the Director of the Center for Environmental Science at the College of Staten Island.

Later in the day, the CSI Library hosted the annual Dolphin Awards ceremony, which honors outstanding contributions to the College by faculty, staff, and students.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Alumni Join Commencement Celebration



*Members of the Class of 1963 reunite at the College's 2013 Commencement.*

CSI alumni returned to campus last May to join in the College's 2013 Commencement festivities. For the second year in a row, alumni celebrating special class years were invited back on this special day to mark the anniversary of their own graduations.

The alumni began their day in the Center for the Arts Atrium cheering on the 2013 graduates as they marched behind the banners of their areas of concentration. The alumni then joined the procession behind signs denoting their class years, from anniversaries in increments of five years, beginning with 1963.

After the ceremony, the CSI Alumni Association (CSIAA) hosted a special lunch, which gave everyone the opportunity to catch up and share memories. Old yearbooks were out on the tables and everyone seemed to enjoy looking at the pictures from their college years. CSIAA President **Dr. Arthur Merola** '84, '85 thanked the alumni for attending and for making the trip to campus. For some, it was a short trip, but for other alumni, it took some planning, traveling from

Texas, Florida, and Vermont to be with their former classmates.

The largest anniversary-year group to march was the Class of 1963, celebrating 50 years since their graduation. Some members of this class assisted the Alumni Office by personally calling their friends to encourage them to attend.

After the ceremony, many alumni decided to extend their Commencement celebration by wrapping up their reunions at local restaurants.

Plans are already underway to make next year's celebration even more successful. If you graduated in a class year ending in a 4 or 9, contact the Alumni Office at [alumni@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@csi.cuny.edu) or 718.982.2290.

### Alumni Association Holds Year-end Meeting, Elections

The College of Staten Island Alumni Association held its Annual Meeting on June 17, 2013, where new members and officers were elected. This meeting is a celebration of the year and the Board welcomes all who have been a part of it.

**Dr. Arthur Merola** '84, '85 called the meeting to order and thanked all for attending. He then reported on the many initiatives the Board took on over the year and thanked all of the members for their service.

**Dr. Kenneth Boyden**, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and External Affairs, was next to offer remarks on behalf of Interim President **Dr. William J. Fritz**. Dr. Boyden shared some highlights of the College's year and thanked the Alumni Board for all of their hard work.



**Donna Garambone**, Alumni Affairs Coordinator, presented the 2013 CSIAA Outstanding Student Leadership Award winners: **Meagan Derbyshire** '13, **Matthew DiRusso** '13, and **Jose Saltos** '13. This award is given to students demonstrating leadership qualities, and who have a record of service to the community and a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Dr. Merola then thanked outgoing Board members for their service to the Alumni Board and the College. They were **Carole Gervasi** '02, **Susan Pace** '02, and outgoing Second Vice President **Vullnet Kolari** '98. Dr. Merola added that a donation would be made in their names in recognition of their service.

Finally, **Carole Gervasi**, Nominating Chair, presided over the elections. Members elected to their first term include **Clare M. Bonafede** '84, '87; **Patricia Carroll** '85; **Elizabeth Renee Davis** '12; **Krystian Gargas** '06; **Christine Marie Giordano** '03; **Vera Majewski** '72; **Bob McGee** '72; **Olusoji Oluwole** '06; **Dawn Picone** '84; and **Stacey Wainwright** '03. **Maria Hoffmann** '93, '07, '13 was elected to her second term.

Executive Committee members who were elected to their second term include **Arthur Merola** '84, '85, President; **Theresa Marro** '85, '89, Vice President; **Phyllis Mincapilli**, '86, '91, Treasurer; **Linda Dianto** '69, '71, '74, Assistant Treasurer; **Marietta DeLuca** '74, '85, Recording Secretary; and **James Raggi** '68, '70, Corresponding Secretary.

## CSIAA Congratulates Newest Alumni at Barbeque

The Campus Center Park Café was the setting for the First Annual Barbeque for graduating seniors, which took place last May. The CSI Alumni Association hosted the event, which also welcomed back recent alumni of the past five years. The evening provided a great opportunity for members of the Alumni Board to get to know our most recent group of alumni and to welcome them into the Alumni Association.

Guests were treated to a barbeque buffet and desserts catered by Dining Services. Feel the Beat Productions provided the music and set the tone for all to celebrate. Trivia contests and a dance contest, which became the highlight of the night, served as some entertainment. Alumna **Elena Solitario '83** provided gift certificates to her business, Pilo Arts Day Spa, to the contest winners.

Alumni Affairs Coordinator **Donna Garambone** remarked, "This is an event that we wanted to do for some time, something casual for the graduating seniors to relax after all their hard work and for them to know that we are proud of their accomplishments."

As the evening ended, CSI Alumni t-shirts were handed out to the newest alumni and plans are already in the works to make next year's event even more successful.



College of Staten Island  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
Live Green, Embrace Pink!  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5**  
*Breast Cancer Walkathon*  
To Raise Funds and Awareness for the Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative

For information, call 718.982.2365 or visit [www.csitoday.com](http://www.csitoday.com)

# eye on CSI

## What's New with You?

"Keeping Tabs" is always happy to hear the latest news from our alumni! Do you have a new job or did you receive a promotion? Are wedding bells in your future? Are you expecting or have you just had a baby? Have you received any recent honors? Have you moved or retired? Let us know and we'll tell your fellow alumni.

Email your latest information to [alumni@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@csi.cuny.edu).

## Alumni Association Hosts Defensive Driver Course



The CSIAA partnered with Liberty Mutual to offer a Defensive Driver Course last spring. As part of an initiative of the Benefits Committee, this course was offered to CSI alumni and their family and friends, with the added convenience that it was offered on the CSI campus. The six-hour class was under the direction of the National Traffic Safety Institute. For their successful completion of the course, attendees were given a ten-percent discount on their auto insurance while they also refreshed their driving skills and learned

techniques for collision prevention.

CSIAA Second Vice President Theresa Marro, '85, '89 was on hand to welcome the group of over 45 alumni and friends. The class was so successful that a date is being selected for another class.

Liberty Mutual offers benefits to CSI alumni. To see a list of all Alumni Benefits, go to [www.csi.cuny.edu/alumni](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/alumni).

## Fourth Annual Savor the Flavors Raises Funds for CSI Students



As in past years, the CSI Alumni Association's Fourth Annual Savor the Flavors event, held in early April in the Center for the Arts Atrium, dazzled taste buds and raised much-needed funds for student scholarships.

The event, sponsored by Liberty Mutual, and chaired by **James McBratney '05**, CSI Alumni Board Member and President of the Staten Island Restaurant and Tavern Association, attracted more than 200 guests.

Besides supporting CSI students and giving attendees the chance to sample some of the Island's best cuisine, Savor the Flavors continued the tradition of providing awards to some of the best dishes, as judged by Rob Burmeister, Eddie Canlon, and John Sierp from the Food Network's *Chopped*.

### Best Dish Winners:

- 1st Place: Port Richmond High School Culinary Arts Program (Gnocchi Pesto)
- 2nd Place: PepperJack Grill (Pulled Pork)
- 3rd Place: Delish Dishes (Ravioli Blue Cheese)

### Best Dessert Honors:

- 1st Place: BeerGarden (Beer Cake)
- 2nd Place: Lee Sims Chocolates (Jordan Cracker)

### People's Choice Award:

- PepperJack Grill

### Best Table Décor:

- Joe Mozz Gourmet Shop

Beyond the winners, other businesses that generously donated food for the event were Afternoone's, Alfonso's, Blue, Bridge Tavern, Canlon's, Da Noi, Dosa Garden, Hungry Sombrero, Jimmy Maxx, Joe's of Avenue U., Lobster House Joe, The Lake Club, Manor Restaurant, Nucci's, Oriental Plaza, Paesano's Pizzeria, Park Café, Pink Lady Cakes, R. Ippolito Distributing (specialty beers), Randall Manor Tavern, San Rasa Sri Lankan Cuisine, Tapas, and Vino Devino Wines.

Coca Cola provided some of the beverages for the event, Feel the Beat Productions entertained the attendees with music, and Paul Caminiti from the CSI Photography Club was the event photographer.



## KEEPING TABS

**Thomas Bennett – '02, '03, '05** is an adjunct professor at a local county college.

**Deanna Budge – '08** I am presently the full-time charge nurse of the ER at RWJ. I am enrolled at Drexel University to receive my BSN via the online program. I took Laura Gasparis' review course May 23, to prepare myself to take the CEN mid-summer. I am also TNCC certified.

**Lawrence Furman – '81** I've been speaking to elected officials on energy, the economy, and the environment since 2004, and am now running for NJ General Assembly... Running to build more solar, wind, geo-thermal, and efficiency.

**Frank Gennaro – '96** I became a certified public accountant in October 2003.

**Flora Goldston – '91** I have a Master's in Nursing Education from Lehman and I returned last year as a Head Nurse/Supervisor. I am the Health Coordinator at my church. I am a CPR/first-aid instructor, and a 23-year breast cancer survivor. I volunteer at one of the Montefiore oncology clinics and I am a Reach to Recovery volunteer and a navigator for the American Cancer Society. I also work with the Bronx Health Reach faith-based organization.

**Yvette Jackson – '75** I have worked for the Duke health system for the last 15 years as a Clinical Supervisor and Manager for Duke home health and hospice. I completed my BA in Health Care Management and am currently working on my Master's in Nursing. I left NY in 1980 and worked for ten years at Georgetown University as a

CCU charge nurse, prior to moving to NC. I am known as a lifelong learner, mentor, and coach to my staff at Duke home health and hospice.

**Louis Pulice – '03** celebrated ten years with CBS last May as executive morning show producer for WCBS-FM.

**Alicia Rebelo – '11** At CSI, I was the Editor-in-Chief for *Serpentine* magazine for about five years. I wouldn't be where I am without the education and experiences I've had at CSI. I currently work at HarperCollins Publishers as a Production Associate for the mass market.

**Tim Tuite – '72, '80** I was an SLS major and I also earned a Master's degree from CSI. I am about to retire from teaching after almost 42 years in the profession. I worked in Special Education and the Court School programs of both NY and CA and I am forever grateful for the education I received. The staff of both SICC and Richmond College were fantastic... Now, I may not be an academician, but I want the panelists to know that I went on to make a big difference in so many lives because of the opportunities the SLS program provided. I have taught students from three to 20 years of age, and I had to be a generalist to meet their needs. SLS was, to my way of thinking, the best preparation, along with the minor in Education, that I could have chosen. Thank you to all the faculty.

**Diane Tyson – '89, '91** I thought you would like to know for your "Keeping Tabs" page that my husband Robert and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on June 8, 2013.

## Jerod Loeb '71 Honored as First Alumni Fellow



*[L-R] Provost/Senior VP for Academic Affairs Dr. Fred Naidler, Dr. Jerod Loeb, and Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz.*

CSI welcomed its first-ever Alumni Fellow, Dr. Jerod Loeb '71, to campus last spring.

Dr. Loeb is Executive Vice President of The Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies more than 20,000 healthcare organizations and programs in the United States. Joint

Commission accreditation and certification are recognized nationwide as symbols of quality that reflect an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

An alumnus of Richmond College, Dr. Loeb has demonstrated distinguished leadership in identifying, evaluating, and implementing performance measures across the wide spectrum of Joint Commission accreditation and certification programs. He is involved in a variety of national and international initiatives associated with performance measurement and patient safety.

Dr. Loeb spent his day on campus speaking to 55 students in the Nursing Department and meeting with College faculty and administrators, as well as CSI Alumni Association President Dr. Arthur Merola, DPM '84, '85.

The keynote event of the day was Dr. Loeb's afternoon lecture in the Center for the Arts Williamson Theatre, "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly." He began his talk with a discussion of his days at Richmond College. He then discussed the current state of healthcare in the nation. He presented sobering facts and examples of the multiple opportunities for error in the U.S. healthcare system, from incorrect and potentially life-threatening dosages of medication prescribed, to patients receiving the wrong operation.

He also said that the business of healthcare often gets in the way of the delivery of healthcare, noting that many medical decisions track back to money and that the current reimbursement system in the U.S. is still problematic.

The lecture concluded on a more personal note, as Dr. Loeb discussed his own journey as a cancer patient, outlining "the good, the bad, and the ugly" of his personal experiences, treatment regimens, and his plans for the future.



## Donna Fauci '96, '03 and Pasquale Meleleo '04



Donna Fauci '96, '03 and her son-in-law Pasquale Meleleo '04 are related by marriage *and* alma mater, as they are both graduates of CSI. Fauci, who worked in the Office of Recruitment and Admissions as an Admissions Officer for 12 years, received a BA in Sociology and Anthropology in 1996 and a Master's in Liberal Studies in 2003. Meleleo, who is currently the Medical Director and owner of Pleasant Plains Animal Hospital on Staten Island, received a BS in Biology in 2004, and went on to graduate from the DVM program at Cornell University.

Fauci, who is currently a member of the CSI Alumni Association Board of Directors, and a former Tri-chair of the Celestial Ball, says that her favorite aspect of CSI was "the diversity of the student community. Since I am a Brooklyn girl, born and raised, I tend to flourish in this culturally rich environment. I found this type of community was a great

breeding ground for an exchange of knowledge and ideas and therefore allowed me to become a more well-rounded student." Meleleo comments that "the best aspect of the CSI academic experience was the quality of professors, especially in the Biology Department. They set the bar very high and expected students that graduate from the program to work extremely hard for the degree. I had taken undergrad courses at other universities before and was pleasantly surprised by how much more work was required of me at CSI. I feel that I was exceptionally prepared for what was expected of me at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine."

When asked why alumni should support the College, Fauci states that the College's growth factor is an important reason. "CSI is expanding exponentially and therefore money is needed so that our students can have the facilities and faculty that are necessary to compete on a worldwide level. The College needs capital in order to attract the finest faculty and students." For his part, Meleleo recalls that the affordable tuition at CSI didn't leave him burdened with debt, so he was able to establish his successful practice. "Examples like this clearly illustrate why we *must* support CSI. Providing affordable world-class education to Staten Islanders pays dividends back to the community for years to come, making Staten Island a better community for us all."

## Meet BiBi Ghafari: Dedicated to Improving Our World



CSI senior Biochemistry major (with a minor in Literature) BiBi Ghafari is committed to helping people in our community, and throughout the world, and she has applied her academic work and personal life toward that end.

Ghafari, who is a Student Ambassador, a member of the Emerging Leaders Program, and a former member of the Dolphins Cross-Country team, is currently working on two projects. The

first is the completion of a documentary that spotlights the plight of the Island's homeless population, including those who lost their homes in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, which she hopes to screen at next year's Undergraduate Conference on Research, Scholarship, and Performance.

Her second project won first place in a CUNY-wide UNICEF-sponsored challenge where students designed a product or policy that can be implemented in a developing country of their choice. She, along with three other CUNY students (mentored by Chemistry Professor Alan Lyons), formulated a plan to improve water quality for families in Kenya with a film that they designed that could be placed in plastic bottles to sanitize drinking water. Now that the plan unanimously won first place, Ghafari and her colleagues will be given the opportunity to go to Kenya and implement the plan.

In addition to these projects, Ghafari and two fellow students also devised an economical and environmentally safe method to degrade dye used in undergraduate laboratories prior to drainage. This process, which, according to Ghafari, could save the College \$2,000 per year, has already won first-place honors at the New York State Prevention Institute's Research and Development Student Competition.

Ghafari explains why she feels that service is important. "Service is the most direct method of effective communication. Making conjectures about how we could help the world is easy but it takes dedication and creativity to mold these ideas into a project that can be used to help our campus and the international community. Ultimately accepting a challenge and embracing the obstacles is important because it makes every student appreciate the complexities that await our futures after we graduate."

When she graduates, Ghafari plans to spend the first half of her gap year studying for the MCAT's and the second half engaged in medical internships with a focus on sports medicine. She also anticipates filming more documentaries in the future.

# EVENTS

## Superstorm Sandy Forum Informs the Community



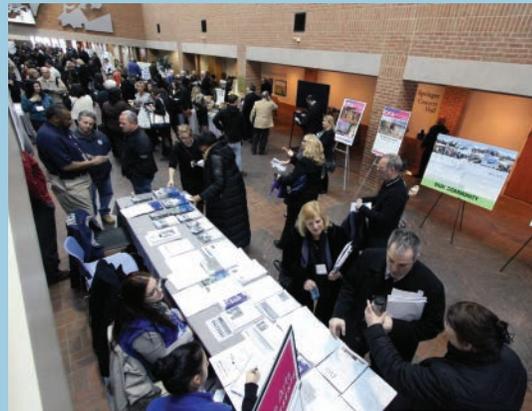
*Dr. William J. Fritz addresses the attendees of the Superstorm Sandy Forum in the CSI Center for the Arts.*



*Panel discussions with a wide variety of academics, experts, and politicians addressed the impact of the storm and what the community can do to prepare for future extreme weather events.*



*A wide variety of Staten Islanders attended the Forum.*



*The Forum also featured a Superstorm Sandy research poster session in the Center for the Arts Atrium.*



*CSI geologist Dr. Alan Benimoff '67 gives an interview at the Forum.*



## Phi Beta Delta Honor Society Holds Induction Ceremony

*Last spring's induction ceremony for the Eta Lambda Chapter of the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars welcomed 43 new members.*





## New York Philharmonic Brass at CSI

*CSI Foundation President and NYS Regent Dr. Christine Cea '88 (second from left) and CSI Alumni Association President Dr. Arthur Merola '84, '85 (far right) pose with two members of the New York Philharmonic Brass after the ensemble's performance last July in the Center for the Arts.*



## College Community Joins Relay for Life

*CSI hosted the Relay for Life last May to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.*

## Ball Field Dedicated

*Former CSI President Dr. Tomás D. Morales (far left) throws out the first pitch at a CSI Dolphins baseball game after the dedication of the College's ball field in his name.*



## Sigma Beta Delta Holds Honors Induction Ceremony

*The CSI chapter of the Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society for Business, Management, and Administration inducted its newest members in a ceremony last May.*

## CLUB NEWS

### ASL Club Brings the College Community Closer Together

In her explanation of the purpose of the CSI American Sign Language (ASL) Club, Club President Natalie Piccione underscores not only the importance of communication, but also that of drawing people together. “We encourage the use of ASL as a means of communication, consequently promoting unity with deaf and hearing students.” She adds, “Our motto is, ‘We don’t bite, we sign.’”

According to Natalie, the “Club cultivates a safe and nurturing environment for all students to come explore, learn, and use American Sign Language. We promote positive fellowship, skill-building exercises/activities, and informative sessions among students in order to encourage



communication between deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing students. As a result, the Club fosters and will continue to pursue the development of healthy relationships within the College community.”

One of the ways the Club achieves these goals is through “Sign-A-Palooza,” an annual talent show-like event that

encourages less-experienced ASL “students to get involved and perform a song, a poem, a story, and whatever literature they like to do in American Sign Language,” Natalie says. Last year’s event was a success, according to Natalie, with more than 180 (hearing and deaf people) in attendance.

In the future, Natalie says that

the Club will work to further develop its “Let’s Make a Signer” mentoring program to hone students’ signing skills while increasing their understanding of deaf culture. She also notes that “we would like to host more Q&A panels and more cultural awareness events on the CSI campus to close the gap between the deaf and hearing worlds.”

### CSI Marketing Association Suits Up Tomorrow’s Professionals

The CSI Marketing Association continually concentrates on giving CSI Marketing students the resources and skills that they need to succeed in today’s competitive business climate. According to Association President Mabel Lam, the group “enables students with an interest in marketing to network and discover career opportunities through guest lectures, career workshops, and professional organizations.” She adds that it is also “one of the largest and most active clubs at CSI.”

One of the Marketing Association’s premiere events each year is “How to Dress for

Success.” Noting that the event takes many months of hard work and planning, Mabel says

that its purpose is “to educate the student body at CSI on how to dress professionally for job

interviews and what are the common mistakes interviewees make when they go for their interview.” There was plenty of audience participation, Mabel notes, as we got [them] to... point out the mistakes of each model. Audience members were also given our promotional items.”

Summing up this year’s event, Mabel points out that the fashion show was fun and informative. Over 100 students attended and we got much outstanding and positive feedback from faculty members and students.”



# SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENTS

## Faculty/Staff Publications

June 4, 2013: **YING ZHU**, published "China Travels Back Down the River" on *The Wall Street Journal's* "China Realtime Report."

June 1, 2013: **WILLIAM J. FRITZ** and **ALAN BENIMOFF** were featured on NPR Radio's "Remapping Our Awareness of Storm Surge Danger," *Weekend Edition*, National Public Radio. Copyright ©2013 NPR.

May 30, 2013: **KRISTEN GILLESPIE-LYNCH** was the featured expert in the article "A Better Predictor of Autism" in *ScienceNOW* on the American Association for the Advancement of Science Website.

May 26, 2013: **KEN GOLD** was the featured expert in the *Washington Post* article "Ready, Set, Relax: Memorial Day Starts the Clock on Summer."

May 17, 2013: The New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants (NYSSCPA) presented **CYNTHIA SCARINCI** with its 2013 Dr. Emanuel Saxe Outstanding CPA in Education Award.

May 15, 2013: The New York State Grand Lodge Order Sons of Italy in America selected **CHRISTINA TORTORA** as the 2013 recipient of the Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Award.

April 30, 2013: **WILLIAM J. FRITZ AND ALAN BENIMOFF** were the featured researchers for "Safety from Storm Surges, on a Budget" in an article on *The New York World Website* that asks "Could something as simple as street signs help protect New Yorkers from the wrath of future hurricanes?"

April 26, 2013: **YING ZHU** appeared on TriStates Public Radio for a segment entitled "China Seeks Soft Power Influence in U.S. through CCTV."

April 24, 2013: **MING XIA** was the contributing author to the Dharamshala launch of the "Tibet Burning" issue of *Seminar Journal*.

April 23, 2013: **SAADIA TOOR** discussed Pakistan at Mellon Foundation Lecture Series.

April 17, 2013: **FRED NAIDER** was a distinguished guest from the scientific community attending the Weizmann Institute of Science's New York Gala at The Pierre, entitled "In Celebration of Science."

April 17, 2013: **RICHARD FLANAGAN**, author of *Staten Island: A Conservative Bastion in a Liberal City*, moderated a Political Science Department event at CSI that gathered five democratic mayoral hopefuls for an evening of insights and discussion.

April 16, 2013: **MICHAEL KRESS** and **WILLIAM DUDLEY** toured Sandy-impacted neighborhoods with NY1.

April 8, 2013: Buzz Aldrin and **CHARLES LIU** were featured on the front page of *The Montclair Times* in the story "Failure to Launch: Aldrin, Liu Sound off on NASA's Outreach Cuts."

April 5, 2013: **WILLIAM FRITZ** keynoted the Rebuilding NY conference hosted by *Crain's New York Business*.

April 2, 2013: **NAN SUSSMAN** was named President-elect of the International Academy for Intercultural Research.

March 19, 2013: **WILLIAM FRITZ, MICHAEL KRESS, AND ALAN BENIMOFF** appeared on The Weather Channel's *Wake Up with AI* program.

March 16, 2013: **JONATHAN PETERS** was quoted in "Rebuilding Staten Island after Sandy," a featured article in the March 16, 2013 edition of *The Economist*.

March 15, 2013: **SARAH SCHULMAN** appeared in *Tablet* magazine, after being interviewed at New York City's LGBT Center in downtown Manhattan, where the author discussed her new book, *Israel/Palestine and the Queer International*.

February 16, 2013: **CHARLES LIU** was featured on the *CBS Evening News* with Scott Pelley, discussing the meteor that exploded over Russia.

February 15, 2013: **EMILY L. RICE** appeared on *Lou Dobbs Tonight* providing insights on the asteroid that flew close to the Earth and the meteor that crashed in Russia.

February 8, 2013: **KATHLEEN M. CUMISKEY** was featured in *The NY Times* for her expertise on the psychology of social media.

February 5, 2013: *The Five-Point Plan for Rebuilding Staten Island*, as detailed by **WILLIAM J. FRITZ**, was featured in the February 11 and 18, 2013 anniversary Issue of *The New Yorker* magazine.

February 4, 2013: "Annie Pearl's Arethabops," by **PATRICIA SMITH**, was featured in the latest edition of *Brilliant Corners: A Journal of Jazz & Literature*.

February 3, 2013: *The Journal of Historical Geography* recognized **CARY KARACAS** and his co-authored paper, "A Cartographic Fade to Black: Mapping the Destruction of Urban Japan during World War II" (JHG 38, 2012, pp. 306-28) as making the greatest contribution to the advancement of scholarship in historical geography for 2012.

January 10, 2013: **KATHLEEN M. CUMISKEY** appeared on NY1 as part of its ongoing coverage regarding "Hundreds Of Nonprofit Workers Help[ing] S.I. Homeowners Patch Up Sandy Damage."

January 7, 2013: **ATHANASIOS KOUTAVAS** was a featured expert in the article "A Tighter Global Warming-El Nino Link" in *Climate Spectator*, a *Business Spectator* publication.

January 5, 2013: **FREDERICK KAUFMAN**, author of *Bet the Farm: How Food Stopped Being Food*, appeared on C-SPAN's *Washington Journal* program.

## FOUNDATION NOTES

### Jay Chazanoff '65 Is Newest Member of CSI Foundation Board



*Jay Chazanoff (right) and his wife Lucille*

CSI alumnus Jay Chazanoff has recently joined the CSI Foundation Board of Directors.

Chazanoff earned an Associate's Degree in Business from Staten Island Community College in 1965; a BBA degree from Pace University in 1967; and an MBA degree from Long Island University in 1970.

He began his career as a Certified Public Accountant with the international accounting firm of Ernst & Ernst. From 1972 to 1991, Chazanoff climbed the corporate ladder of a multi-billion-dollar New York Stock Exchange-listed financial services company, Integrated Resources, Inc., to become its President and Chief Operating Officer. After a corporate reorganization in 1994, he co-founded a technology-based claims management company, BSI, Inc., to service the corporate reorganization industry, where he served as the Chairman of the Board and CEO. BSI, which grew to become the nation's largest claims administrator within its industry, was sold in 2003 to EPIQ Systems, Inc., a publicly traded company.

In 1995, Chazanoff became a partner in Pembroke Companies, Inc., a real estate investment management holding company that acquires companies that own real estate, and helped build its investment portfolio. Today, Pembroke Companies, owns or controls approximately 8,000 apartments in metropolitan New York City and more than two million square feet of commercial retail and office space throughout the U.S.

Jay and his wife Lucille are actively engaged in many charitable causes. Jay currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center on Staten Island (JCC). He was a member of the Board of Trustees of St. Vincent's Hospital, Staten Island until 2000 and served from 2004 to 2006 as Vice Chairman of the Board for the Staten Island Heart Institute. He is also a past President of Richmond County Country Club.

Jay was inducted into the College of Staten Island Hall of Fame in 1984.

### Nakao '71 Endows Scholarship to Benefit CSI Students



Full-time undergraduate students in science, engineering, and mathematics at CSI can now secure financial assistance to pursue their studies, thanks to the establishment of a \$100,000 fully endowed scholarship by CSI alumnus Dr. Michael Nakao.

Dr. Nakao, who has been a practicing physician in Albany, NY for 30 years, and who is on the clinical faculty of Albany Medical College, explains why

he decided to establish the scholarship. "Very talented young people can sometimes not afford college. When I went to college in Staten Island 35 years ago, I paid no tuition. I had made some bad choices and [CSI predecessor school] Richmond College gave me a second chance when all other doors were closed. In Staten Island, I had a high level of instruction and the College had liberal policies that allowed me to develop into a good student, good enough to be admitted to medical schools."

Addressing the critical need to support institutions of higher learning, Dr. Nakao discusses the reasons why CSI alumni should support their alma mater. "Public colleges and universities provide students who are less well off and who have interruptions in their education with a chance for higher education, which has become essential for a successful career. The cost of that education, although reasonable, is no longer free or nearly free. Also, the quality of public education has to keep pace with the quality of education at the finest private colleges and universities so that it is not viewed as second class."

As a result of Dr. Nakao's generosity, one or more students per year will share approximately \$4,000 from the scholarship fund. Besides full-time status and major, academic merit and financial need will be considerations for potential awardees.

## SAVE THE DATE!

**AN EVENING ABOVE FOR CSI  
to Benefit the College of Staten Island**

**Tuesday, December 10, 2013**

**Staten Island Hilton**

**Tickets are \$150 per person.**

**For more information, call the Office of Institutional  
Advancement at 718.982.2365.**

## Celestial Ball Raises Support for the College's Greatest Needs



The College of Staten Island succeeded in raising much-needed funds for its greatest needs last spring at the Fourth Annual Celestial Ball. The event, held at the Richmond County Country Club, was a resounding success, as a record number of tickets and journal ads had been sold and more sponsors than ever signed on to support the Ball.

The Ball was also well attended, as approximately 250 people—from community and business leaders to students, faculty, staff, and friends of the College to honorees and their family members—were in attendance. Although the guests thoroughly enjoyed the evening, the College was the greatest beneficiary, as the proceeds will be used to address all aspects of the College—from student and faculty support through infrastructure and everyday needs. This is especially important in the current trying economic climate, where the percentage of state funds in the institution's budget has been severely reduced in recent years.



Three prominent individuals, Robert Cutrona, Sr., President, Project-One Services; Norma D'Arrigo, Community Leader; and Dr. Alfred Levine, Professor, Engineering Science and Physics, and Director, Center for Environmental Science, College of Staten Island, also received the President's Medal at the event for their significant contributions to the College and Staten Island communities. The Medals were presented to the honorees by CSI Interim President Dr. William J. Fritz, with the assistance of Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Fred Naider.

Attendees were also treated to remarks from Dr. Christine Cea '88, New York State Regent representing Staten Island, President of the CSI Foundation, and Scientist at the Institute for Basic Research, who also presented a brief video spotlighting the progress on CSI's first-ever residence halls. Dr. Fritz also provided a progress report on the College, emphasizing that this important work can continue thanks to the generous support of private donors.

In addition, then Student Government President Michael Allamby represented the student body, discussing how the College of Staten Island, and in particular, an internship opportunity from a particular CSI alumnus, made a difference in his life.

This year's Celestial Ball was chaired by Marilyn Caselli, Senior Vice President for Customer Operations, Consolidated Edison, Inc., and a member of the CSI Foundation Board of Directors. The Honorary Chairs were the Hon. Rita DiMartino '76, Trustee of The City University of New York, and the Hon. Kathleen Pesile '73, Trustee of The City University of New York and Principal Owner, Pesile Financial Group.



# SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

## CHARLES GOMES NAMED NEW INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



Charles Gomes was appointed the College of Staten Island's Interim Athletic Director, effective April 29, 2013.

Gomes brings a vast amount of experience to the Athletic Director position. Before coming to CSI, he served in various roles for the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame's "Play It Smart" program for nearly a decade.

From 1998 to 2001, Gomes served as an Academic Counselor at Springfield College's Center for Youth Development Through Sport, where he worked with student-athletes at several NYC public schools. In 1997-1998, he was an academic counselor for the Division I Men's and Women's Basketball programs at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Gomes has also consulted for several National Football League youth initiatives and special events, and for the past 11 years, he has coordinated a free football camp with Dallas Cowboys Head

Coach Jason Garrett, hosting more than 300 student-athletes from the tri-state area annually at Princeton University.

Gomes received his MEd in Athletic Counseling and Administration from Springfield College and BA in Psychology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

He served as the Director of the College Now program at CSI since 2009 and under his leadership, College Now has experienced a doubling in enrollment and a 94% student success rate.

## CUNYAC CHAMPIONSHIPS HIGHLIGHT CLOSE OF ATHLETIC YEAR

The College of Staten Island could not have had a finer close to the 2012-2013 academic year, scoring a pair of CUNYAC championships on the baseball and softball diamonds in early May. The Softball squad clinched its sixth NCAA Division III National Tournament berth in the process, while the men finished their year at 30-12, their second-highest win total in program history.

CSI's season ended there, as the

team was locked out of an at-large bid to play in the very selective NCAA National Tournament. Still, CSI collected 30 wins for only the second time in program history, and their 16 CUNYAC titles are more than any other CSI program.

Over on the softball diamond, the very young Dolphins shined and set the tone for quality campaigns in years to come. The 2013 collection boasted no seniors and just one junior on its roster of 14 total players. Still, the Dolphins overcame a tough start to post a 21-14 regular-season record, complete with an 11-1 mark in the CUNYAC.

The Dolphins entered the tournament as the No. 2 seed, losing the first seed to Baruch College on a tiebreaker. The seeding proved moot, however, as the Dolphins ran the table in the postseason, scoring three straight wins, including an extra-innings thrilling final over Hunter College to notch its 15th CUNYAC title and an automatic trip to the Nationals.

CSI fell in the NCAA Regionals, but for skipper Dr. Stella Porto, getting to the big tournament primes the

team for a promising future.

Returning its entire lineup in 2014, CSI Softball should once again be a force to be reckoned with.

## FALL PREVIEWS

The College of Staten Island will be ringing in its busiest season with a lot of excitement and promise in 2013. CSI's lot of head coaches are all returning in 2013, along with a healthy majority of returning talent.

### Men's Cross-Country

One of CSI's newest sports, MXC, came aboard in 2008 and four years later the team captured its highest finish, placing second overall at the CUNYAC Championships. Three runners, Andrew Pate, Samuel Obesanya, and Keith Grossman, all finished in the Top 10, and all return for CSI in 2013. The team is expected to contend for a title this season under Head Coach Robert Russo, who will bolster the roster and continue to add depth.

### Men's Soccer

Under first-year Head Coach John Tardy, the young Dolphins scored an 11-11-1 finish a year ago, a tremendous accomplishment given the team's tough schedule and the loss of as many as six starters due to injury. With a full off-season conditioning program and recruiting cycle, the 2013 installment of the Dolphins promises to be that much better. The team graduated four players from 2012, including CUNYAC leading scorer and Player of the Year Nedgy Nazon and four-year standout and goalkeeper Ahmed El-Ghareib, so the team will have its challenges as well.



Captain Alfonso Castaneda is a notable returner, as are freshman standouts from a season ago: Ryan Miller, Brandon Cadmen, Horatio Reid, and Betsam Sosa. CSI ushered in the season by hosting the Second Annual Kick-Off Classic at CSI that began August 31, and the season will culminate with the CUNYAC Championships taking place at Brooklyn College in mid-November.

### Women's Cross-Country

On paper, the Women's Cross-Country unit had a rebuilding year in 2012, having placed eighth among nine teams at the CUNYAC Championship a year ago. Hidden beneath the details, however, is that CSI shaved nearly 14 total minutes off of their collective race time over the course of the year, and the new and inexperienced bunch returns all of its major runners in 2013 including CUNYAC All-Star Victoria Barry.

With an influx of new talent and a new outlook for 2013, the team expects to turn the corner and post a solid season, once again setting its mark toward a potential championship run.

### Women's Soccer

The Women's Soccer program has won six of the CUNYAC's last nine championships, but the 2013 Dolphins will be coming into the season with a feeling of unfinished business. The squad trampled the conference competition last year, but, in what was perhaps the biggest CUNYAC Championship upset in some time, the team was bounced by CCNY in the title game, 1-0, shutting the Dolphins out of a potential NCAA postseason berth.

The good news for the Dolphins is that they graduated only a single player last year in role player Christina Jacob, and the team promises to be bigger and better.



*Demi-Jean Martorano*

Leading scorer Demi-Jean Martorano, the all-time goals leader at the College, is the focal point, while fellow forward Samantha Wysokowski is coming off of a huge sophomore season that saw her lead the team and set a school record for single-season goals with 26. Junior Melissa Gelardi, who led the entire nation in assists, is also on hand, as is Victoria Donegan, goalkeeper, who missed a majority of the 2012 campaign due to injury.

The Dolphins have not lost a regular-season conference game since 2010, making them, once again, the hands-down favorite in 2013.

### Women's Tennis

After a tough start in 2012, the CSI Women's Tennis squad bounced back to post an incredible season, one that included a nine-game winning streak that only came to an end in the CUNYAC Final at the hands of Baruch College. Like their fall counterparts, the team returns plenty of star power in 2013, including all four CUNYAC All-Stars led by senior Ilona Stoyko and CUNYAC Rookie of the Year Mediha Mulla.

With the addition of a handful of new faces, the Dolphins again expect to contend to the highest degree, and this year will serve as CUNYAC Championship hosts at the National Tennis Center in late October when the Finals come around.

### Women's Volleyball

Under third-year coach Atef Dosse, the team has made big strides in each of the last two years. Still, the team has been in rebuilding mode, and the staff is eager to turn the page and become a consistent force in the CUNYAC and beyond. The team posted a 6-13 record a year ago, but the squad was peaking by the end of the season.

Unfortunately, Superstorm Sandy wiped out the final few games of the season, and CSI never did get a chance to go to the postseason and show its improvement. That should change this year.

The team will be tested, however, as the squad will play a majority of its games in the CSI Auxiliary Gymnasium, as renovations are set to take place on the main competition floor.

## CSI AWARDS DESERVING STUDENTS AT END- OF-YEAR GALA

In the latest installment of a great tradition at CSI, the Athletics program spotlighted a host of its student-athletes, coaches, and distinguished staff members with its annual Athletics Awards Banquet on May 17. More than 80 award winners were highlighted as part of the gala, among them members of CSI's 14 teams in 2012-2013.

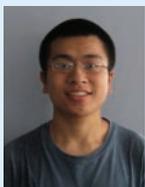
Major awards were presented to Female Athlete of the Year Victoria Procopio, sophomore pitcher and outfielder for the CSI Women's Softball team. CSI Baseball hurler Richard Anderson earned Male Athlete of the Year honors. CSI Scholar-Athlete of the Year honors were given to Women's Basketball star and senior Olivia Tierno.

All told, the rousing event was a great success, according to David Pizzuto, Associate Athletic Director, principal organizer, and host of the event each year, who was also honored with an appreciation award at the dinner.



*(L-R): Charles Gomes, Victoria Procopio, and Richard Anderson*

## RISING STARS



DENNIS LAM '16

*Major:* Biochemistry

A Verrazano School and STEAM honors student, currently researching with Dr. Sharon Loverde using molecular dynamics to calculate the strength of the chemical interaction between two Paclitaxel drugs. He was a Summer 2013 Undergraduate Research

fellow and a recipient of the STEAM Scholarship, Bernard Blau Memorial Scholarship, and the Student Government Scholarship.

*A favorite aspect of CSI:* "CSI has an open and welcoming environment."

*Future plans:* After he receives his Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry, his plans are to look for a career either in the pharmaceutical field or the medical field.



ELIZABETH CHE '14

*Major:* Psychology and Political Science with Studio Art and Chinese minors

A Macaulay Honors College student, her most current research is with Professor Irina Sekerina, where she is examining whether viewing paintings may increase creative spontaneous thinking

abilities. She received a 2013 student Dolphin Award and a student service award. She has participated in Student

Government, among other administrative organizations, and she is the founder and President of the Japanese Visual Culture Club.

*A favorite aspect of CSI:* "I enjoyed the classes that I took and am happy to have met such wonderful faculty, staff, and students. What made it more enjoyable was being part of the Macaulay Honors College...."

*Future plans:* She would like to attend graduate school for psychology and work toward a doctorate.



MAYS JUMAH '15

*Major:* Biology (pre-dental)

A SEEK student who is on the Dean's List and is a member of the Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She is a Jeannette K. Watson Fellow.

*A favorite aspect of CSI:* "My experience at CSI has been excellent so far—great staff, very helpful and always smiling."

*Future plans:* She hopes to finish college in the next two years, graduate with honors in Biology, and apply to dental school.



THOMAS VUOLO '15

*Major:* Physics with Mathematics minor

A Teacher Education Honors Academy (TEHA) and Dean's List student who has taken part in many events at the College, such as the Student Conference and Student Orientation, to help promote the TEHA.

*A favorite aspect of CSI:* "My experiences during student observations allow me to integrate the education I have gained from the classroom and apply it when I am working with my students."

*Future plans:* Once he receives his bachelor's degree, he plans to work toward a master's degree. He hopes to eventually become a teacher.

### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Dolphin Cove: One Semester On
- CSI/SIUH Join Forces to Combat Cancer
- Alumni Profile: Laurie O' Byrne, Business Executive



## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Join us for a day of fun on the CSI campus, including the Alumni Association Hall of Fame Induction and the Annual Walkathon to benefit the Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative.

Call 718.982.2365 for more information.

### Contact **Eye on CSI:**

COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND  
Alumni Relations Office  
2800 Victory Boulevard  
Building 1A, Room 111  
Staten Island, NY 10314

Telephone: 718.982.2290  
Email: [alumni@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@csi.cuny.edu)



THOMAS CHIN, who graduated from CSI in 1980 with an Associate's degree in Electronics Engineering, was an ideal candidate to speak at last June's Induction Ceremony of Phi Beta Delta, the Honor Society for International Scholars, as he is currently the Vice President of Infrastructure Operations, Latin America and Canada, for JPMorgan Chase. Chin is responsible for the day-to-day technology operations in multiple countries and major cities in the region.

Discussing his often challenging role, Chin explains, "My job is very dynamic and my day can sometimes be very unpredictable. My duty is to manage our region's technology infrastructure to support our users' business functions. I never know what and when an incident can strike, but when it does, it is my job to manage the situation and get the problem fixed as quickly as possible so the users can go back to their Business as Usual operations. And that is the fun and challenging part of my job—always being ready to tackle different problems and situations. You sometimes feel

like you are sitting behind a race car on the starting line waiting for the flag to drop."

Looking back on his college and life experiences, Chin notes that CSI laid the foundation for his success, while simply living life in our complex world helps him to grow professionally. "I personally don't think you will be able to learn everything from school, as there is so much to learn in this world of ours. There are new technologies and apps by the hours or minutes. But I know CSI gave me the good start I needed—my baseline knowledge, how to think logically, and the technology concepts. After CSI, I still need to expand my knowledge and continue my learning skills from my industry peers and colleagues on the job."

Chin was happy to have the opportunity to return to his alma mater last June. "It was great coming back to CSI after 33 years! CSI looks great—from the moment I came through the gate and got lost looking for the right parking lot—it is so big. The campus buildings are beautiful and I would have

loved to have time to check out the tech labs. Even though it is not the same campus I graduated from, I still got chills stepping into the auditorium and speaking in front of the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society members and their families."

He also had a positive experience meeting CSI's international scholars at the Induction Ceremony. "When I talked to the students about my job and my career and saw that they were so interested, it really made me feel good. I loved speaking to young people as I do with many of the young entry-level members of my staff. I enjoyed passing on my work experience to them and sharing with them the different situations that I have faced, how I would handle situations, and what my thinking was behind taking certain actions."

Fortunately, this visit went so well that the future might hold more trips to campus for Chin. "I enjoy being a mentor," he says, "and would love to provide any assistance to my fellow CSI students."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

September 16, 2013  
7:00pm  
Building 1A, Room 406

### CSI DOLPHIN DAY

October 5, 2013

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

November 18, 2013  
7:00pm  
Building 1A, Room 406

### MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

November  
TBA

### AN EVENING ABOVE FOR CSI

December 10, 2013  
Staten Island Hilton

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

January 13, 2014  
7:00pm  
Building 1A, Room 406

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

March 24, 2014  
7:00pm  
Building 1A, Room 406

### SAVOR THE FLAVORS

April 6, 2014  
CFA Atrium

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2014  
7:00pm  
Building 1A, Room 406

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

June 16, 2014  
7:00pm  
TBA

*If you would like to receive  
email announcements of  
upcoming events, please  
send your email to  
[alumni@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@csi.cuny.edu).*

For information on upcoming performances at the CSI Center for the Arts, go to [www.cfashows.com](http://www.cfashows.com) or call 718.982.ARTS. Receive a \$2 alumni discount off performances. Limit two discounts per performance.

Keep up with the latest CSI Athletics news at [www.csidolphins.com](http://www.csidolphins.com).

Present your Alumni Photo ID for a membership discount at the CSI Sports and Recreation Center. Call 718.982.3161 for more information.

## Alumni Gifts to the Annual Fund Make a Difference!

Each year, we reach out to our alumni to request a gift to the CSI Annual Fund. You may receive a mailing, email, or phone call asking for your help in the form of a donation to your alma mater. These collective gifts from our alumni family form a foundation of crucial support for the greatest needs of the College, our students, our faculty, and our beautiful 204-acre campus. Gifts of any amount are appreciated and help us to provide scholarships to deserving students, giving them an opportunity to pursue knowledge, achieve a college degree, and make an impact that will benefit society.

**This year, our goal is to increase alumni participation in the Annual Fund to its highest level yet. With a record 60,000 alumni, the potential to make a difference and transform CSI is greater than ever!**

Alumni participation:

- increases the value of your degree. *U.S. News & World Report* rankings factor alumni giving as a measure of a college's strength;
- helps deserving students with scholarships and research opportunities; and
- is crucial when foundations and corporations decide whether to support research and programs.

Public funding has not kept pace with increasing needs and record enrollment. Alumni gifts go a long way in providing necessary support for a wide range of needs, including campus research labs, faculty-student research studies, and Library resources. A vigorous Annual Fund enables CSI to offer a world-class learning and research environment for our 14,000-plus students and 351 faculty.

Alumni gifts help us grow as an institution of higher learning and ensure that CSI is a strong and vital college. As we begin a new academic year, we are counting on our alumni, who know the value of a CSI education, to help grow a tradition of giving to the Annual Fund. Stand up and be counted by giving to the CSI Annual Fund this year. It will make a lasting difference.

To make your gift online, visit [www.csi.cuny.edu/foundation](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/foundation), click on "Make Your Gift Online," and select "Annual Fund" from the drop-down menu. For questions about the CSI Annual Fund, please call Jennifer Lynch, Associate Director of Annual Giving, at 718.982.2293 or email her at [jennifer.lynch@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:jennifer.lynch@csi.cuny.edu).