BCC’s New Leaders

Jessica Czarnogursky
Editor-in-Chief

It takes a great number of people and a high standard of excellence to keep this campus running as smoothly and successfully as it is. In addition to the esteemed faculty and staff, the Wrenn for BCC’s new leaders also make a great difference on this campus. The three main governing organizations of Bergen Community College are pleased to announce their Fall 2012 E-Board.

MOTION PASSED: Student Rep Allowed Vote, with Exception

David Gomez
Co-Editor

Anthony Szagany
Copy Editor

After months of delays and a tied vote, The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to allow the alumni representative, John Zeuner, voting rights. Eager students pooled into TEC 129 where the Board of Trustees meeting took place on May 1. Students came to voice their support of granting the board’s alumni representative voting rights. However, the students were not satisfied with just the vote, they wanted the voting rights to be a permanent fixture, terms with which the board could not agree.

The play began with Interim President Dr. Jose Adams praising student and institutional affairs, the floor then opened up to the issue that resulted in the enthusiastic turnout. The board of Trustees granted voting rights to the new alumni representative, which was confirmed as Board Chairman E. Carter Corriston spoke of an e-mail sent to all board individuals recommending the notion. As students were given the opportunity to speak to the board, all voices heard were concerned with the chances of the alumni vote lasting only as long as a single academic year.

“We need a student to have a vote,” said Margarita Valdez, the Student Government Association’s new president.

“I want that vote to be here forever.”

Students pressed on the issue for the vote to last, but Chairman Corriston resisted. “We can’t bind a future Board.” This set the stage for what will surely be the keypoint of future debates between the board and student body. While the alumni rep was given a vote, this right is only guaranteed for a year. The language of the proposal states that current representative, John Zeuner, is granted voting rights through June 30. Following this, the new representative, Kathryn Rodriguez, a member for the 2012-2013 academic year.

The problem arises in regards to what will happen when a new board is appointed. While the current board enacted the voting rights, they can be rescinded when Rodriguez leaves the position in June of 2013.

With the uncertainty, only one thing is assured, this issue is now in the hands of the next generation of Bergen’s student leaders, and with them lies the responsibility to continue what the last generation began.

How To: Find a Summer Job

Christina Tzamides
Contributing Writer

Summer vacation is still a few weeks away, however, now is the time to plan and lay a foundation for your summer job you really want.

First, you need to decide on what kind of job you want or need, keeping in mind the type of job, location, hours, and the pay. You may not be able to find a job that meets all of your needs, but, given the current employment situation, you should strive to find one that meets as many as possible.

Secondly, you need to complete a self-analysis. What do you have to offer as an employer? What kind of skills do you have? What other work have you done in the past?

Develop a resume. You will put forth a very professional image if you present a professional-looking resume to potential employers.

Afer completing your resume, talk to your family members, friends’ parents, teachers and any other adults you know and ask them if they have any contacts at your ideal job’s company. Be sure to also give them copies of your resume.

Search the web and read your local newspaper’s classified ads and see if there are jobs awaiting you.

After finding your ideal job, you must prepare for an interview. Make sure you know something about the company and develop answers to common interview questions. Practice putting your best self out there with a family member or friend and do not forget to dress professionally for the interview.

There are a number of places where you can look for a good summer job:

Local merchants: Local stores often need good help
Small businesses: Most towns have a number of small business offices — and your family or friends probably know several owners or office managers. Make connections.

Corporate offices: Many have established summer jobs and internship programs, but often these are the most competitive.

Stores at the mall: Have a favorite store you like to shop at in the mall? Maybe now is the time to get a job there.

Hotels and resorts: Summer is the busy season for most hotels and resorts and help is generally always accepted.

Golf & Tennis clubs: As the weather improves, these clubs are usually looking for part-time help.

Grocery stores: Maybe not the most exciting jobs, but probably the most convenient.

Fast food and restaurants: Local restaurants always need good help — and while not the most glamorous, it is still a job.

Parks and recreation departments: City, state, and national parks and recreation departments often develop special summer programs and thus have job opportunities.

Summer camps: Okay, you want to camp as a kid — now you can go back as a counselor and get paid (and promotion)!

The Web: If you want to work outside your neighborhood, or even your state, the Web is the place for you to explore all sorts of summer job opportunities.

Employers to look for:

Employers want motivated adults who are going to arrive to work on time, have a positive attitude, work hard, work well with others, show leadership qualities, work their full shift, and do the best job they can. You need to show your employer that you are a good investment, for the current position as well as for any potential positions in the future.

Features

Student Activities Board
President: James Rishe概念股
Vice-President: Matt Cordero
Secretary: Elowis Burgos
Publicist: Danielle Morillo

Student Government Association
President: Margarita Valdez
Vice President: Michelle Soto
Chief of Staff: James Borozoff
Treasurer: Stefanj Gjorjevska
Alumni Rep: Kathryn Rodriguez

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President: Margarita Valdez

2012 E-Board: Please to announce their Fall Bergen Community College are governing organizations of this campus. The three main also make a great difference on this campus. The three main governing organizations of Bergen Community College are pleased to announce their Fall 2012 E-Board.
Out of Darkness Walk: A Great Event for a Greater Cause

Alphonse Delgara
Staff Writer

One of the major issues facing society today is suicide. The issues has grown over the past couple of years with recent tragedies, one of the most talked about being Tyler Clementi from Rutgers University. It has come to a point where New Jersey has passed laws combating bullying in schools and colleges.

To stand up against bullying and suicide, S.P.A.R.K (Students Practicing Acts of Random Kindness) and GLBT (Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender) Alliance organized “Out of Darkness,” a walk for suicide prevention and anti-bullying. These two clubs here at Bergen Community College joined forces with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to hold the event, which occurred on Apr 20.

There was a major turnout from other school clubs such as the Student Government Association and members of the local community. Dr. Jose Alfonso and S.P.A.R.K. advisor, Professor Jamie Keller each spoke before the walk started. Both were moved by the turnout for this walk and commented on walking for a greater cause to increase awareness of such a growing issue. “The students from both organizations (GLBT and S.P.A.R.K.) worked with me diligently for several months to make the walk successful,” said Professor Keller.

There was much star power to be seen at this event, both on the local and national level, one of which was the New York Giants. County Executive Kathleen A. Donovan also visited the event expressing her thanks for the volunteers and signing on the “Wall of Hope.”

The walk itself took place around the main Paramus campus starting from the new student center. The path extended to Ender Hall and curved around to the back of the buildings. Once the walk reached the track field, people walked for one lap before continuing on to the rest of the main campus passing by the back of the Pitkin Building. The total walk length was about two miles.

The walk concluded in front of the library with a large group of volunteers cheering on the walkers. They handed out wristbands as a memento of their commitment to walk for suicide prevention and anti-bullying. Music was played and there were raffles auctioning off autographed pictures from the New York Giants.

The Out of Darkness Walk was met with a huge success as over 130 walkers from the community attended. The members of S.P.A.R.K. and the GLBT Alliance and their volunteers helped make this event happen and through this, they have not only joined a national movement for suicide prevention and anti-bullying, but they have also increased awareness in their own local communities.

BCC Holds 5th Annual Speech Competition

Marisa Anzalone
Contributing Writer

On April 12, Bergen Community College held its fifth annual speech competition in which students entered for a chance to win $2,000 in cash prizes for the top five winning speeches.

The students involved were required to create a persuasive speech—approximately six minutes long—to enter the competition. In the weeks prior to the competition, students from different classes were separated into small groups for the judging process. There were several rounds of elimination before breaking it down to one small group, which would present at the competition itself.

A few people spoke about school related issues. There were many pressing issues presented; as many may have expected, one speech was given on the legalization of marijuana, which has always appeared as a hot topic on college campuses.

The following Thursday was a final round of speeches. Of the speeches, one included the issue of online shopping on social networks and how it seriously affects college students and children. Another speech was on explaining credit scores and how they should not be used against people.

Sixty-eight students presented in total in this year’s speech competition, judged by 22 member of the faculty including members of the Bergen Community College Board of Directors. Professor Jane Phelps was the head of this competition.

There were several categories such as President’s Award, Best Speaker, and so on.

Award Winners:
Photography: Bianco Ho “Seeing Nature From Within”
Visual Art: Christina Matoto “Lost in Her Own World”
Winner: Poem: Kyle Chu “Sometime After Sunset”
Runner Up: Poet: Christina Patullo “He Ran”
Winner: Fiction: Christina Patullo “The Riddle”
Runner Up: Fiction: Amanda Omelanjanik “Beaten Path”
Winner: Non-Fiction: Charles Justin DeLucie “Luna and Me”

Out of Darkness Walk: A Great Event for a Greater Cause

Jessica Czarnogursky
Editor-in-Chief

“Suburbia is fairly new in the scheme of things. We created it to keep our children safe from the sinister urban corners that plague parental nightmares. Block after block...same.” Taken from the introduction to the 2012 Literary magazine “Labyrinth,” editor Charles Justin DeLucie sums up the premise for this year’s publication.

As is tradition, the Labyrinth held their annual “Evening of Readings” on Apr 25 in C-211 at 6 p.m. to mark the completion of another year’s hard work. The event, different from most club events, was an intimate affair amongst the authors and their closest family and friends.

Starting with a light supper and mingling, the evening continued with a handful of authors presenting their published pieces, some reading them in their entirety, others only excerpts and divulging their inspirations for their submissions.

The contents of this year’s Labyrinth are deep and deeply personal, including what can be considered an autobiographical piece by DeLucie. His piece brought many tears and nostalgic thoughts with his reading of “Papa and Me.” DeLucie’s mother, who flew in from California, was also in attendance and was not immune to the overwhelming emotion.

The evening concluded with a presentation of the winners, judging this year by Professor Philip Cioffari of William Paterson University. For more information about this year’s Labyrinth, pick up a copy around campus.

Labyrinth 2012

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“labyrinth” Explores Depths of Suburbia

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Speakers at the Judith K. Winn School of Honors Scholarly Conference

Help the Child Development Center!

Karim Daif
Staff Writer

The Child Development Center, located in Ender Hall, has always been of convenience for parents to leave their children on campus. With recent price reductions however, it is more affordable than ever for both faculty and students alike.

Sally Dionisio, Director of the Child Development Center, shed some light on the direction of the facility. When asked why prices were being slashed, Dionsio said, “It’s hard for faculty and students to go to school and pay for child care. We just wanted to make things easier.”

From the looks of it, they achieved what they set out to do. “Bottom line, students can’t afford it. What student can afford $11.50 an hour?” said Dionsio.

Previously, students were paying $221.30 and staff were paying $269 for full time child care. Now, the prices dropped to $180 for students and just $200 for staff. Part time for students was $165 and for staff, $213.

After the price reductions, part time costs for student child care dropped to $140 and for $160 for staff.

The fact is, child care can be expensive, especially for students who have to juggle expenses. Now that the Child Development Center has drastically cut their prices, many more opportunities can arise for young children to get the support and attention they need while their parents are in school or at work.

Summer sessions will be available and service to the community is always welcomed. With prices that cannot be beat, a state of the art safe facility and the friendliest staff anyone could ask for, the Child Development Center is doing their part to ensure the best interests of the students, staff and most of all the children, are met.

Karim Daif
Staff Writer

Canbek Alakay
Contributing Writer

Honors week wrapped up on Apr 6 with a conference, featuring several discussion panels. Topics ranged from women in literature to contemporary issues in our society. The conference was the bookend to a week that included an Honors Program Recognition Ceremony on Apr 2 and a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Programs Panel on Apr 4.

The event highlighted the work of honor students from Bergen Community College, Mercer Community College and Essex Community College. Students presented papers they had written. It was the first time the conference had guest speakers since being established in 2009.

Co-director Dr. Kathleen Williams approved of the idea of inviting guest speakers. “In the future, I would like to see the conference grow in size, increasing the number of presentations from both Bergen and other New Jersey community college students,” said Williams.

This sentiment was shared by fellow co-director Dr. Alan Kaufman. Dr. Kaufman, who has been a director for the honors program since 2002, also suggested another idea. “I want to see more honors professors act as mentors for their students,” he said.

Dr. Williams recalled her favorite part of being an honors director as “[seeing students grow intellectually and make connections with their peers... and] seeing students present at academic conferences.”

Dr. Maria Makowiecka, the moderator for the panel on Women’s Studies, praised the students work. “These are graduate-level papers,” she said.

Students interested in the honors program can visit www.bergen.edu/honors for more information.

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help the child development center!
Dr. Shaheen Aims To Shed Stereotypes

Over the past several decades, Hollywood has profiled Arabs as vicious terrorists outfitted in robes and headaddresses. Dr. Jack G. Shaheen believes this stereotype has existed for too long. In a lecture given in the Ciccone theater on April 26, Dr. Shaheen recalled several inspirational leaders and writers, including Mahatma Gandhi and Sydney J. Harris, whose words remain relevant to today.

Dr. Shaheen, Professor Emeritus at Southern Illinois University, has authored hundreds of essays and a few books, the most recent being “Guilty: Hollywood’s Verdict on Arabs After 9/11.” A native of Pittsburgh, Shaheen worked odd jobs at steel mills and attributes his acceptance of other creeds to his upbringing.

With persistence, any person or group of persons can enact change. This was the central point of Dr. Shaheen’s lecture. “It’s dangerous to let myth take precedence over reality,” said Shaheen. Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the stereotype created by Hollywood expanded and created a greater level of discrimination against Arabs. However, Dr. Shaheen still believes in the upcoming youth generation, saying “[j]images and words teach us who we can love and who we can hate.”

Dr. Shaheen pushed the point of persistence with a few examples of his own. Disney's Aladdin was lauded as a great family film, with critics praising the producers for creating a film showing the world of other peoples. However, Dr. Shaheen pointed out that the film recycled the same stereotypes: angry Arabs in robes and belly-dancing women wearing see-through clothes.

Dr. Shaheen also noticed something amiss in the opening music for the film. “Oh I come from a land, from a faraway place/Where the caravan camels roam/Where they cut off your ear if they don’t like your face/It’s barbaric, but hey, it’s home”. Shaheen wrote to the producers of the film, who failed to return his letters for some time. After a while, Shaheen secured an interview.

Dr. Shaheen recalled the incident, citing an old friend who taught him a tactic. “He told me, if you want to win an argument, walk in, slam your fist on the table, make your point and walk straight out,” said Shaheen, getting a few laughs out of the crowd.

Dr. Shaheen did just that, but later walked back in to speak with the producers. Shaheen pointed out that he found them much more attentive to his needs after that. The lyrics were later changed, and as a result of Shaheen’s work, Disney contacted and worked with several experts on Native American history to create a more balanced view in the film, Pocahontas.

Another example was his essay, “TV Arab”. The article took three years until it was published, making its debut in the Christian Century. It was later published in the Wall Street Journal and expanded into a book in 1984. Until then, Shaheen had received over fifty rejection letters. Dr. Shaheen called on one letter in particular whose editor rejected the essay because it was “too well-written.”

Before lecturing at BCC, Dr. Shaheen had given over a thousand lectures at universities all over the country and in four continents. In addition to his essays and books, Dr. Shaheen works as a consultant with television and motion-picture companies.

Middle Eastern Panel Comes to BCC

One good thing about Bergen Community College, besides the education that they provide for everyone in and out of the county, is the fact that the school has plenty of diversity in it. It is always good to be open to learning about other cultures and how they work. Some may be the same and others may be different, but in the end, everyone is treated as one.

BCC offers their students a chance to see what other cultures are about by hosting events for each culture. From panel discussions to viewing art created from a culture, BCC allows their students to learn about what goes on in other countries of the world.

Dr. Shaheen held a panel discussion on Apr 17 in which the Middle Eastern culture was discussed. During an interview, Professor Melika, Associate Professor, explained that the panel discussion was created to help students see that the Middle East is just as diverse as the U.S. He also explained that there are countless numbers of ethnic groups, languages, religions, and contributions from people in the Middle East in our culture.

Melika also explained that religions are also diverse in the Middle East, just as they are here. And, within those religions, there are several subcategories. In other words, Christians can be Coptic Orthodox or even Catholic.

Language is another large diversity, consisting of Arabic, Modern Hebrew, Turkish, Farsi, and more. Melika also touched on different belief systems, one of which was that of the Bahai. The belief system that they follow says there are many doors that can lead to the Almighty One, which means no one faces discrimination and everyone is included.

Also, like other countries around the world, many Middle Easterners immigrated to the U.S. to start new lives. Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, was born to a Syrian father, which many people may not know. Ahmed H. Zewail, a scientist who won the Noble Prize in California in 1997, is Middle Eastern. Magdi Yacoub, who had many different contributions including the first heart transplant in the U.K., is also Middle Eastern.

There is a lot to learn about every country all over the world. With the help of BCC and the events that are hosted there, every student should take the time to learn a little about the many cultures that make up our country.
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Claiming the Throne and Other Words of Wisdom

Jessica Czarognisky
Editor-in-Chief

A fortune cookie once told me “Trust your intuition. The universe is guiding your life.” Now while any of you reading this are probably questioning my sanity, by this point, I am here to tell you that the low calorie snack had a decent point.

While my head and my generally introverted personality told me to blend into the carpeting, my intuition said that taking a chance here would lead to bigger and better things. Taking the opinion of the latter, it has lead to opportunities and a path I never saw coming at 17. This past semester has not only been the most convoluted of the four I have spent at Bergen, but also the most rewarding, exposing me to the most diverse and unique set of people I have ever had the pleasure of coming in contact with in the last decades. Despite hiccups, and even a few curves, I have learnt some valuable life lessons and can confidently take more than just a diploma away from the colored halls of Bergen on May 17.

Two years have flown by as cliche and as fast as everyone said that it would. Like high school, or college, or even life, it’s exactly how fast growing up is. In the blink of an eye, time moves four times as fast after the comfort of youth and your parents’ obligatory guidance is gone.

Unlike high school though, the sense of security is completely different. While here, you establish friendships, contacts, join clubs and maybe even become a leader. Upon graduating and moving forward, you are back at square one, but this time with confidence and a sense of direction. For those readers who came here in the fall straight out of high school, or those who will see this on the racks when they come to apply for financial aid in August, I give you the same credit many people gave me when I did see the same. While there are those people in your life who disappoint you, and those you don’t even like, I always try to make you think about the enrichment value of it, my eagerness to convert people to an open-minded view on world views has vanished.

Not to say I am not still filled with opinions (I wouldn’t be writing this if I was not), but I have abandoned my childish defusions that I could somehow rid the world of its arrogance. Of course I did not think I could actually accomplish this, but something was fulfilling about this delusion. I was aware I had, as if pursuing it would make me feel discouraged; the movement that attracted to its counterculture was born; the youth taking control of the era in which it was in, like the civil rights movement in the 60’s, it was something to fight for.

While there are I found myself engrossed in brochures and other handouts, I began to realize that I was not the one thing that I thought I would be. As everyone sat on the floor of the park, a woman yelled, “Mic-check!” And what would follow was a thirty-minute discussion on what to do with the laundry, which piled somewhere under the stage. The movement may have been anybody’s problem but the individual’s.

And so it was with controversial issues to come, I would notice people scrambling to a side so that the shouting matches could quiet. And I eagerly give my insight in what I thought was being avoided, and whatever vice led to brush positions on the matter. Some of the most contemptible acts of bigotry are done as to conform to one side. If you have driven past several towns in Bergen County lately, you may have seen the anti-Obama flocks that congregates in front of local post-offices. These are people who are part of the Laffonche PAC (Lyndon LaRouche is a candidate running in New Jersey’s 5th Congressional District) with signs that read “Stop World War III: Impeach Obama” and depict President Obama with a Hitler moustache, much like 9/11 truthers would do with George W. Bush.

I believe it would be beneficial for everyone if the initial obligation to pick a side were discarded. In studying several different theories in philosophy, I have found that virtue ethics would be the most plausible foundation from where one would derive their reasoning. It is a theory, in which wisdom, rationality, courage, and honesty are attributes of moral character, and it employs the “golden mean,” which is a balance between extremes of any of these characters. If you think for yourself, and don’t focus on what it is you are supposed to think, a lot more reward for moral courage will be gained.

Contrary to the OWS allegiances most of my generation has, I could not identify with this group. In a way that seemed opportune, the group thrived only on the fact that it could call itself a movement—and bad mouthing FOX News and Andrew Breitbart types. But it was solely the movement that discouraged me: their cause was certainly a noble one, but in terms of supporting the movement, I have always felt a mixture of growth that I would not have. I had gone looking for a job and, as a result, became the owner of my own business.

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Cost Effective Ways to Get Ahead in School: The CLEP

Michael Bull
Contributing Writer

A relatively jobless economic recovery and stagnant growth across most industries does not bode well for any college student. Whichever the position, it is clear that a larger amount of students will have to work harder to achieve more, both academically and professionally, to fill a smaller amount of vacancies in an increasingly competitive workforce.

In short, many students will thus have to attend school longer. Rising tuition costs are not helping the problem and many college graduates are already drowning in debt. For many, paying for college is an untenable prospect.

However, there are in fact many ways to save time and money while still obtaining a high quality education. One of the most potentially integral and useful to BCC students is the College Level Examination Program, better known as the CLEP.

The CLEP is a credit by examination program administered by College Board that lets you test out of courses and in turn receive transfer credit. Most students are familiar with the Advanced Placement (AP) Exams, and may have taken a few in high school. The CLEP works the same way, only the tests are significantly easier, and can be taken at any time by a college student.

Taking the CLEP tests are a great way to supplement going to more affordable schools. BCC alone accepts 45 transfer credits towards an associate’s degree. In theory, a student can have all of their transfer credits come in from a bunch of CLEP tests.

When I was a full-time BCC student, I personally earned 39 CLEP credits from which allowed me to graduate the college a year early. With me taking 10 tests at a rate of $77 a pop (not including study material costs and test center fees), the CLEP’s cost benefit was tremendous compared to even BCC’s relatively low tuition rates.

CLEP tests are additionally great in getting out of general education requirements, especially for courses you do not find very useful or interesting. Most CLEP tests are introductory material, so there is a wealth of manageable tests to choose from. While the benefits of the CLEP are obvious, there are a few words of warning as well. If you are not entirely sound with the material on a certain test, you may benefit from taking the actual course. At the end of the day, no one test can replace what you can learn in a lecture. This is true especially if the course material is a key base component of later coursework.

You will also have to make sure your tests and credits will transfer if you plan on continuing at a four year university. Every school is different in this regard; some are very liberal and will accept all credits. Many universities are very strict and do not accept any CLEP credits. Before you take any CLEP tests, you should have a reasonable range of schools you want to transfer to and contact the appropriate personnel to determine their CLEP policy.

All things considered, CLEP tests may be one of the best kept secrets of the college world. It is true over six million people have taken at least one since the program’s inception in 1967. Even then it is still only a drop in the bucket compared to those who can, especially when compared to AP test figures.

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Contributing Writer

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IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO APPLY

MMC is still accepting applications for Fall 2012 & Spring 2013. Transfer scholarships and need-based financial aid is available to those who qualify.

Bring a completed application, academic transcripts, and your judicial form to receive an on-the-spot admission decision!

Instant Decision Days - Every weekday during the months of April & May

Call 1-800-MARYMOUNT for an appointment.

Apply at www.mmm.edu/apply

This is Marymount Manhattan
a college of the liberal arts

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My political science major is truly the place where I have honed my leadership skills and put them to great use. I've enjoyed every experience I have gained while my career at Bergen Community College progressed. My confidence. Starting at Bergen two years ago, I never saw the future. What will you take out of the Bergen experience? What can I say, I've met some of the most interesting people I'll ever meet in my entire life. Did I envision ever joining a club when I started here in the Fall of 2010? Of course not, but Professor Keller got me involved and my beliefs as well as the connections I have made along the way have truly helped shape me, and allowed me to develop the confidence and assertion I now have. To all my mentors, thank you for your guidance and advice. I will take away the leadership skills that I have gained. I also take away the confidence to believe in myself and my dreams. I am excited about the new opportunities that will arise in my next destination. I am looking forward to getting involved in SPARK A Change and it has been an interesting experience for me since. I will be excited about in your next step? I will be studying Aviation Management and learning advanced types of flying. I already have my Private Pilot License. I plan to finish my Bachelor's and put the knowledge I've gained from Bergen to the test. My educational career and hopefully better the University for future students. Where is your next destination? Even I am not sure yet! The next ones will lead me on paths I never originally anticipated, I'm excited to see where they are to go. I am eager to begin at a new school and start from scratch. I am determined to leave a legacy behind and hopefully better the University for future students. One message to all: Learn from the past. Embrace today. Strive for the future. Make history!

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Student Leaders Take "The Next Step"

Khanh Ta
Broadcasting

What are you excited about in your next step?

What will you take out of the Bergen experience?

Where is your next destination (Next College)?

University of California, Los Angeles

What are you excited about in your next step?

What will you take out of the Bergen experience?

Where is your next destination (Next College)?

Albertus Magnus College

What are you excited about in your next step?

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Some forms of entertainment have shows that made me wonder where what I did see are some reality TV used to play music videos? I cannot remember the last time I may be manipulated if they are their real names, but even names thing these actors get to keep are get casted in the show can be undergone by saying that Jersey Shore is a bad example of reality another. Welcome Week, in January, consisted of our Club Days, karaoke, bingo, and the very popular Carnival Day! February, had the annual rose sale, along with the giant games and giveaways. BCC’s Mascot, the Bergen bulldog, popped his head in as well and played a few games with the students. March was a jam-packed month with Spring break; we had diversity weekend, which everyone who attended loved and a lot of people made some great friendships there as well. Jamie Kurtz, S.A.B. President

John Sapida

Features Editor

Do you remember when MTV used to play music videos? I cannot seem to remember the last time I saw a music video there. However, what I did see are some reality TV shows that made me wonder where some forms of entertainment have gone. Do not get me wrong, I still enjoy reality TV shows competitions, such as “The Voice” and “Hell’s Kitchen,” but there is a difference between reality TV competitions and what is supposedly “real life” as presented by some shows like Jersey Shore and Real Housewives. I may make enemies by saying that Jersey Shore is a bad example of reality TV, but when you think about it, some of the characters we see on reality TV shows are different from who they are in person. Some might say that Snooki is still Snooki outside the TV show, but the fact that these characters had to send audition tapes to get casted in the show can be interpreted as drifting from the reality factor. Actors have some creative power on how they portray their characters, but in the end, writers and producers have a higher authority. What it comes down to is whether writers and producers have a higher authority. What it comes down to is whether writers and producers have a higher authority. What it comes down to is whether writers and producers have a higher authority. When writers and producers say it, actors do it, unless they want their character to suddenly “leave” or “move away” in the next episode. Some may argue that the only thing these actors get to keep are their real names, but even names may be manipulated if they are found unappealing.

In an article from msnbc.com, J. Rupert Thompson, director and producer, who has worked on shows such as “Big Brother” and “Fear Factor,” said, “Certainly, reality TV is a very manipulated format where the basis of it is that real people are put into unreal situations to create a story.”

We have to be aware of the definition of reality TV. While it can be sold as a show with no manipulation from writers or producers, it can really be partially scripted. Bringing different situations to see how characters will react is one thing, but when these actors are told how to react or are coerced to do things as their “characters” would, it takes the sense out of what pure reality TV should be. Entertaining? Yes. Real life? Not really.

We recognize that almost everyone watches reality television, but what many people wonder is the effect it can have. Whether you love them or hate them, you cannot help but to agree that reality television has completely changed how we view the television programming landscape.

“Reality television is reality television, it’s what you do with what you’ve seen, that’s how you learn from it,” says Ashley Bukovsky. Reality television is fun to watch, but it can also be productive in that it teaches real-world skills. Shows like “Survivor” focus on people’s relationships, talent programs, like American Idol, focus on abilities like modeling, singing and dancing, and criminal reality satisfies the desire to get a close up view of real criminals in action from the safety of one’s couch.

“Reality TV has been around for decades, we can’t hate it, it was made to keep open our eyes about what goes on around us” says Désirée Alessandra.

Most people will never see a real crime or chase scene, but with series like “Cops” or “America’s Most Wanted” they can feel the experience. Those shows allow the viewer to see the truth of crimes, criminals, arrests, in addition to being educated.

Reality television and its role in society has been significant. It is fascinating to see how people speak and behave in unusual situations. Reality television teaches us about human nature and broadens our horizons. Thus, reality television shows that if you work towards your goals, you can accomplish them.
Haikus
By: Alphonsus Delgra

Fitness Obstacle
Common obstacles
Obstruct my path to fitness
Damn potato chips

Crumbling Under the World
I feel like Atlas
With the world on my shoulders

How can I survive?
All-Night Gaming
Play some Tekken 6
Battling players worldwide
From night to day-light

Someone to Reflect With
Looking at the stars
Wondering about my past
Wishing you were here

Transfer to NJIT for the Edge in Computing

Hot new careers are emerging every day for those who know how to apply computer technology to everything from scientific research to movie animations. Offering pioneering faculty, real-world experience and opportunities to participate in cutting-edge research, NJIT gives you an edge in job the market.

Here is a sampling of some of our exciting computing majors:
- Bioinformatics
- Computer Science
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Information Technology
- Business and Information Systems
- Computing and Business
- Information Systems
- Web and Information Systems

Find out about transferring to NJIT at http://www.njit.edu/transfer or call 1-800-925-NJIT.
**Pursuing the Fiercely Independent Jessica Czarnogursky Editor-In-Chief**

For those among you gentlemen not looking to ‘prove’ your manhood by how many girls you can bed—where virginity is taken or held onto with a death grip, but if you do decide to have it, you can’t ignore it. If you think the soft brain is easy to trick, you are being used for talking about study sessions and that great big love of your life, you probably have been more useful to get people into relationships or that being true.

It has been a fun ride (pun intended) being the college’s first sex columnist. It was important to me, something that I somewhat fell into, that I be curious and ask for an article about the health benefits of sex I eagerly took the article. The rest is history. Some have written about men’s birth control, the Kama Sutra, and sex under various influences.

I have received hate mail that they have used my articles in their research papers! All without my consent and I now feel actually thankful…

One thing that I learned is that being a sex columnist is more difficult, than ADD. Ritalin has potential for abuse and for physical and psychological dependence. It is dangerous and very real. Not many people who do not have ADHD. Continued Ritalin use will result in higher tolerance to the drug and eventually require larger doses to reap the same effects. Once discontinued, withdrawal effects such as depression may occur.

Next time you are feeling depressed, these drugs off the list to help students get by and students are pulling all-nighters, and fear will lead to a let down.

Second, a casual and more friendly atmosphere is probably your best bet. No independent women is going to be pounced on, so take things slow. Build up your friendship first, and always remember the key to any girl’s heart is to tell her that you like her smile. While the build up may be slow and painstaking at times, be patient and vigilant; she notes your efforts, even if she gives no hint.

Last, if you find yourself at a dead end in your pursuit of supergirl, do not be dismayed—as the saying goes: many will try, few will win. While you may be the best guy friend she will ever have, perhaps a happily ever after will you, or possibly anyone, is not among her priorities. But continue the friendship—provided of course, that being in her presence is not going to send you into cardiac arrest. It is important to remember for your own peace of mind that if she turns you down, it is not so much a rejection, but a decline. Any girl with that much drive knows exactly what balance of brains and romance is going to float in her world, and she has enough sense to decline you before she breaks your heart two days into the relationship.

If you are the alpha male you have built yourself up to be, then carry on and continue to strut your stuff. The future holds bright and glorious things for those willing to find them.

**Let’s Talk About Sex Nita Lim Sex Columnist nlim@ume.bergen.edu**

Sex. I am having it and most of you are too! There is sex going on in the college demographic and there are no signs of it slowing down. Bergen may not be a college or university with dorms, which entail more amateur sex than study halls, but where virginity is taken or held onto with a death grip, but if you do decide to have it, you can’t ignore it. If you think the soft brain is easy to trick, you are being used for talking about study sessions and that great big love of your life, you probably have been more useful to get people into relationships or that being true.

Young adults feel so much pressure from society to look good, get good grades, and to be successful, that they feel the only way to obtain this is with a little help from drugs such as Adderall, Ritalin, Concerta, and Concerta.

According to healthyahorns.utexas.edu, these drugs are prescribed to treat Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and aid a person’s attention span, impulse control, self-discipline, and hyperactivity. However, students without either disorder are using these drugs to increase concentration and stamina during the last weeks of finals.

Adderall combines four drugs from the amphetamine family. According to ctd.ca, amphetamines are major stimulants and can come in the form of tablets, crystals, or powder. Some street names for these drugs are speed, ice and crystal. Healthyahorns.utexas.edu states that the side effects of Adderall can be devastating; it consists of irregular heartbeat, increased blood pressure, anxiety, nervousness, headache, dizziness, insomnia, dryness of the mouth, and unpleasant taste in the mouth. Diarrhea, constipation, impotence or changes in sex drive. Overdosing symptoms include: include restlessness, tremor, rapid breathing, flushing, hallucinations, panic, aggressiveness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, irregular heartbeat, and seizures.

Ritalin, Concerta, and Deseril are amphetamine-like prescription stimulants as well but are used for ADHD, rather than ADD. They share similar side effects and overdose symptoms, but young adults still abuse them without cautioning about these risks. These drugs have a high dependency rate and healthyahorns.utexas.edu explains, “Like Adderall, Ritalin has potential for abuse and for physical and psychological dependence. It is dangerous and very real. Not many people who do not have ADHD. Continued Ritalin use will result in higher tolerance to the drug and eventually require larger doses to reap the same effects. Once discontinued, withdrawal effects such as depression may occur.”

Next time you are feeling depressed, these drugs off the list to help students study, how else can we get the boost and concentration we need? Well, http://web.ohio has “77 Ways to Learn Faster, Deeper, and Better.”

**Drugs: Can They Help You?** Jamie Kurtz Health Columinist

**OKAY, JUST FOR THIS ONE PAPER**

**WHY DON’T YOU PAY ATTENTION TO ME?**

**OKAY, JUST FOR THIS LAST QUIZ**

**DON’T JUST DO THIS CONVERSATION**

**Student’s dependence on a drug study turn out the lights, this helps you focus and is ideal for kinesthetic learning. Take a shower. This will clear your head and make you more receptive to recognizing brilliant ideas.**

Self-Motivation Techniques: Set a goal. W. Clement Stone once said “Whatever the mind of man can conceive, it can achieve.” Think positive. Give yourself credit and prepare yourself.

**Sex is not anything new, but our generation is definitely making some striking changes by using terms such as “Facebook Official” and just “hooking-up.” Heck we might be the generation that changes relationships all together. When even the old and original information is just mixed up with the stated of technology and hearsay, who knows what people might know to be true or come about (cough, Richard Palen).**

When sex is such a universal act it is unusual that speaking of it is a taboo. Sex should be spoken about freely and often and most importantly accurately. As Dr. Ruth says “the most important six inches are the ones in between your ears.**

**Drugs: Can They Help You?** Jamie Kurtz Health Columinist

This is the time of the semester when the school library stays open later and students are pulling all-nighters, and fear will lead to a let down. When even the old and original information is just mixed up with the stated of technology and hearsay, who knows what people might know to be true or come about (cough, Richard Palen).**

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In the midst of a recession, looking at the number of job openings in a particular field before you dive in it is probably a good idea. Despite news that the economy is improving, people are going back to school to make themselves more marketable and picking up second jobs, showing that the economy is still relatively weak. While many other industries face the problem of having more than enough workers, the five careers below are begging for more people. Here are the careers that are highest in demand:

**Registered Nurses:** By a hefty margin, registered nurses take the number one spot in the number of job openings. There are expected to be about 711,900 job openings between 2010-2020. The retiring baby boomers have created a desperate need for nurses. If you want to have an impact on people’s lives, but are not up for the 12 years of school or the pressures of making the big calls doctors go through, nursing is a good option. Even though nurses do not make as much as doctors, people in nursing are more likely to get hired. Median pay for nurses each year is $64,690.

**Post-Secondary Teachers:** Post-Secondary Teachers come in at number two, with about 400,000 job openings. Between 2010-2020 the field will have an estimated 305,700 available positions. Whether you want to teach to inspire students and unlock their potential, or you just want the summers off, you will most likely be employed. Unlike the registered nurses, though, who require an associate degree for an entry-level position, professors, or post-secondary teachers, require a doctorate or a professional degree. The median pay of $62,050 with much of the summer time to yourself.

**Accountants:** Accountants are notoriously known for being anti-social and sitting in front of the computer all day. But is not that what a lot of people do already when they are playing video games? Many accountants say that they like their job because of the feeling of accomplishment when year-end reports are finished. Whether the job is more fun, or monotonous than they say, there is no doubt that accounting is a stable job. Would you take the job if it is recession-proof, currently has a large job opening (950,700 between 2010-20 to be exact,) and pays approximately $61,690 per year?

**Management Analysts:** Management Analysts are probably the least known in the list of careers with the highest demand. Their job is to observe the operations of a company and find ways to make it more efficient. The job also requires a lot of traveling, which could make or break the deal depending on your preference. If you are in the former, hey, why not become a management analyst, travel, and get paid $78,365 per year? Also, you would have a much easier time finding a job than your peers. The career has 157,200 openings between 2010-20. One downside to the job might be that you will probably be working more than the usual 40 hour-week. But remember that you will be working long hours because you are technically still on the job when you’re traveling!

**Physician/Surgeon:** To become a physician or surgeon, you would need to go through more or less 12 years of studying and training after high school. Even though the career requires a lot of after-high school work, it is definitely a satisfying one. You will never be bored and will greatly impact a person’s life. Not to mention, your employment will be stable and financial life will be more than average. There will be 168,300 openings between 2010-2020 as a physician or surgeon, you would get paid about $80 per hour, which adds up to about $166,400 a year.

“Told have to say, that ultimately, all of us are philosophers. Some to a greater scale, some to a lesser scale, but we’re all in the quest of knowledge together.” –Melanie Torres

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Laura Madera
Ad Manager

Controversial issues, which are normally paid little attention, take place each week during meetings coordinated by the philosophy club, also known as, Logos. Logos is an open and tolerant place to engage in philosophical conversation without promoting a specific religion or belief. Topics that have been discussed include the nature of love, Buddhist ethics, the philosophy of language, existentialism, the existence of God, ethics, the influence of Religion in politics, ethics and education, and much more.

During the presidential elections of 2008, the topic of politics was mainly discussed; however, during another semester, philosophy and film were more popular. Student members or club officers dictate the topics of conversation, so the power lies within the individuals in the club. Sometimes BCC professors present and lead discussions during meetings on a topic of their own choosing.

“Every semester, Logos invites guest lecturers from other colleges to speak on philosophical topics here on campus. These lectures are free and open to the public. Some very big names have spoken at BCC over the past 20 some years, including John Searle, Hilary Putnam, Peter Singer and Michael Slotnick. In addition, last Fall, Logos, working with Hillel, ran a holiday fundraiser which collected over $600 for Hilltop Family Haven Shelter in Paterson,” said Assistant Professor Jennifer Lyden of the Philosophy and Religion Department, the faculty advisor for Logos.

The spring student officers for the club consisted of Paul Fernando, Melanie Torres and Sam Nieves. When asked about the benefits for students gain with the Logos philosophy club, Melanie Torres said, “It is necessary for our intellectual development to always be exposed to thought provoking discussions and perspectives different than our own and the Logos experience makes sure we are at the very least getting a weekly dosage of it!”

Logos meets from 12:30-1:30 every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday during the fall and spring semesters.
Didion Fades To Blue

Jamie Kurtz
Staff Writer

When you were a kid, did you ever wish to become an astronaut or travel to outer space? Well now you can, but it might be the most expensive trip you will ever take. Commercial flights to space are predicted to start in the next decade. The Federal Aviation Administration believes that this travel can become a billion dollar industry and with technology booming, it is not that hard to conceive such an idea.

Space Adventures is just one of the organizations involved in space tourism. They first started on this innovative project in 2001, when a man named Dennis Tito wanted to play astronaut for a day. He had friends in high places who were able to jump in on the departure from the International Space Station. This trip cost him 20 million dollars and he spent approximately 6 days there. Now, a trip like this would cost you 50 million dollars for an additional 5 days at the International Space Station, which will train and certify you for space exploration.

With those previous figures, you are probably thinking that it is impossible for any average person to do this. Well, although the next trip is pricey, it is still considered to be budget friendly. Space Adventures partnered with Armadillo Aerospace to provide a suborbital spaceship for the cost of only $102,000. More than likely, the flights will get more affordable as they become more common. Another space company has already been reserved for this trip as well. Another space company offers similar accommodations but with the down payment of $20,000 and a ticket price of $95,000. However, the flights only lasts 30 minutes and they depart at XCOR Aerospace, which based in the Mojave Desert in California.

“So who do we know of that is taking this spaceflight adventure? Ashton Kutcher for one was, astonishingly, the 500th person to purchase a ticket for this trip, which cost a whopping $200,000 with a deposit of $20,000. The most popular company in this business as of now is Sir Richard Branson’s Virgin Galactic, where Kutcher and other celebrities purchased their ticket.”

Didion here presents the worst of two worlds pertaining to her situation while she answers the question put to herself, “…when we talk about our children, when we talk about our children what are we saying?”

She admittedly cannot claim to fully believe her answer, but throughout the book she equates these lines to past events in order to reach some sort of flawless worldview, which she feels she lacked before. Understanding is her utmost priority. “The question of self-pity” no longer plays a major part in Blue Nights, but dealing with losing a loved one, part of your life, and being condemned to keep living still remains the author’s focus and struggle. As long as she has her memories, it’s the life she’s prisoner to.

“ ‘You have your wonderful memories, people said later, as if memories were solace. Memories are not. Memories are by definition of times past, things gone. Memories are the Weslake uniforms in the closet, the faded and cracked photographs, the invitations to the weddings of the people who are no longer married, the mass cards from the funerals of the people whose faces you no longer remember. Memories are what you no longer want to remember.’ ”

“In her last chapter of ‘Mourning Becomes Electra’, Didion here presents the ‘magical thinking’ that goes into it, but the actual honesty. Though both equally lacking before. Understanding is her utmost priority. “The question of self-pity” no longer plays a major part in Blue Nights, but dealing with losing a loved one, part of your life, and being condemned to keep living still remains the author’s focus and struggle. As long as she has her memories, it’s the life she’s prisoner to.”

Want to Fly to Outer Space? It’ll Cost You!
See Through Cameras Could Come to Phones

Anthony Sganga
Copy Editor

It would be entertaining to be able to interview the innovators behind the first cell phone; what they most likely had in mind was a simple device, allowing you to communicate with others on the go.

Today, with smartphones being the epicenter of social lives and technology, it is hard to imagine what is next.

This question, however, can be answered with two words: see-through. According to scientists from the University of Texas at Dallas, the technology to allow smartphone users to be able to see through objects is cheap enough for the consumer.

The impetus behind this is an imaging chip that measures invisible terahertz light waves. For those without a degree in electrical engineering, this means allowing enough light in so that the object behind can be projected, like holding an envelope up to a lightbulb.

Uses for this kind of technology include detection of skin cancer, finding studs in walls and authenticating documents. However, the largest concern appears to be if this will allow users to see through others clothing, giving peep shows to unsavory characters.

Fortunately, consumers will not have to stock up on chainmail and prepare restraining orders—the scientists behind the project have put privacy into consideration. To be used properly, the device must be aimed within a distance of 10 centimeters, so anyone with misguided intentions would have to be very obvious about them.

The chip is expected to be released into the market in about two years. So, with all concerns aside, it appears the era of x-ray phones is near.
TORCH SPORTS

A Semester in Review

Photos courtesy of David Gonzalez