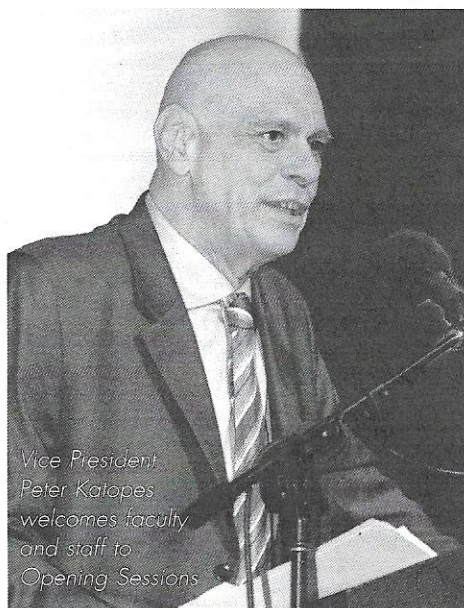


College Begins Spring Semester By Hailing Accomplishments of Faculty and Students

By Staff



Vice President Peter Katopes welcomes faculty and staff to Opening Sessions

Vice President Peter Katopes kicked off the spring 2007 semester at Opening Sessions by recognizing several LaGuardians who have been honored this year by national institutions.

Pitch hitting for President Gail O. Mellow who was out of town, the vice president acknowledged Paul Arcario, dean for Academic Affairs; Ellen Quish, an Adult Learning Center instructor; and Aaron Hudson, a student.

Dean Arcario was named an Outstanding First-Year Student Advocate from the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. Dr. Arcario, who was one of 10 award recipients and the only educator from a community college, was selected among a group of 116 educators.

"Much of what goes on in the college has been the result of his dedication and hard work and his intelligence," said Dr. Katopes.

Ms. Quish was the recipient of the first *New York Times* ESOL Teacher of the Year Award. The honoree could not attend the opening day event because she was on a field trip with her students. (see story on page 3)

Mr. Hudson, a computer networking administration major and honors student, was selected as a Kaplan Educational Foundation Scholar. The program will provide Mr. Hudson with not only financial support throughout his college experience, but also with academic assistance, leadership development training, and cultural enrichment. (see story on page 4).

Dr. Katopes related a recent conversation he had with the student scholar. "Aaron said to me, 'before I received the award my life was going this way,' gesturing sideways, 'now it is going this way,' pointing upward."

"This is a good analogue of what we do here and what we hope to do here, and that is to change peoples' lives," Dr. Katopes added. "The opportunities for him and his family have opened up tremendously not only because of his efforts but because of your efforts."

In the college-wide awards category, the vice president said LaGuardia received the "highly competitive" Bellwether Award for exemplary "Instructional Programs and Services" for its First Year Academy and ePortfolio system. The

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LaGuardia Wins 2007 Bellwether Award

By Staff

The Community College Futures Assembly has announced that LaGuardia is the winner of the 2007 Bellwether Award for Instructional Programs and Services. The Bellwether Awards were established to recognize outstanding and innovative programs that are leading colleges in the 21st Century.

The Community College Futures Assembly issued a call for Bellwether Award nominations in the fall of 2006. Based on Dean Paul Arcario's proposal, LaGuardia was selected as one of 10 finalists competitively chosen from a national pool of applicants for the Instructional Programs and Services category, which recognizes programs and services that foster or support teaching and learning in the community college. All finalists presented at the Assembly in Orlando, Florida, this past January, where LaGuardia was selected as the winner. Vice President Peter Katopes, Dean Arcario, Assistant Dean Bret Eynon, and Professor J. Elizabeth Clark presented on behalf of the college.

LaGuardia's presentation, "First-Year Academies: Facilitating Engagement and Success in the First Year of College," described the college's First Year Academy/ePortfolio program, which provides a comprehensive first-year experience for students focused around their chosen discipline areas and enhanced by the development of student electronic portfolios.

"LaGuardia's First Year Academies," said Dr. Clark, faculty leader for many first

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STUDENT ESSAY

ECLC Makes It Possible

By Aaron J. Hudson, Student

As a student of LaGuardia, I try to remain focused and put forth 100 percent into my education. I also have my 4-year-old daughter, Melina Rose, who remains number one in my life. You may already realize the question I am posing to other parents who may be in a similar situation, "How does one manage to go to school full time and have peace of mind that his or her child is properly cared for?" Fortunately, LaGuardia offers an exciting, convenient, and rewarding program designed to assist these needs of student parents.

The Early Childhood Learning Center of LaGuardia Community College answers the concerns and worries of parents who want to further their education but feel it's not an option. Licensed by the New York State Department of Education, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, and the New York City Department of Health Bureau of Day Care, ECLC provides all the needs you, as a parent, would want for your child when they are not in your care. Under the guidance of Associate Director Heather Brown, the administrative staff, and the classroom teachers, this program is also accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, which acknowledges the high quality standards of early care.

Oh wait, did I forget to mention that this program is located within the college community? Knowing that my daughter and I are on the same campus while I attend my classes allows me to have a worry free mentality while I focus on my studies. ECLC is not just any day care; it's a learning environment geared to equip the children for their future education. So Melina and I are going to school and learning at the same time. Her schedule is based on my class schedule. The program uses

the same facilities of the college that I have access to as well. Every day, the classroom is divided where half the children go to the gym and the other half swims at the pool. They are provided three meals a day with a snack time set aside after they awake from their nap.

I hope that I have enlightened some of the students in the college community who may not be aware of what LaGuardia has to offer. These services are here for us to use, let's take advantage of them. Let's make others aware. Our children should be recognized as blessings in our lives, not obstacles that we have to maneuver around to enhance or continue them. LaGuardia and the ECLC program understand this; let's help get the word out to others so everyone else does as well.



Chinese Club Marks Lunar New Year

By Kenneth Yin, Lecturer, Department of Education and Language Acquisition

On February 7, the college's Chinese Club held a celebration in the Poolside Café to mark Lunar New Year 4705, the Year of the Pig (or Boar). Lunar New Year officially began on February 18 this year, and it represents the most important holiday among Chinese families as a time for reunion and thanksgiving. The traditional two-week observance of Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, culminates in the Lantern Festival with the appearance of the full moon. The Year of the Pig, the last in the 12-year zodiac cycle, is considered a particularly auspicious time to have children and start a business.

The participants in the college's celebration enjoyed guest speakers, traditional Chinese food, games, raffle drawings for prizes, music and dancing, and other entertainment. The traditional Chinese performers included the folk musician Mr. Yong Li Zhang and the magical "face-changing" performer Mr. Guanwen Wang. A colorful segment about the college's Lunar New Year celebration aired on February 7 on the Chinese-language Sinovision Nightly News, broadcast locally on the WMBC television station.

Among the Chinese Club officers who organized and hosted the festivities are Ru Hai Chi, president; Ding Lin, vice president; and Huàn Sherman and Yang Jiao, club representatives to the Student Advisory Council. As the club's faculty mentor, I invite all students interested in learning more about the Chinese Club to attend one of the open meetings on Wednesday afternoons in spring 2007.

Left: At the Chinese Club's Lunar New Year celebration, an entertainer performs in a traditional costume.

LaGuardians Attend Chinese Business Gala

By Kenneth Yin, Lecturer, Department of
Education and Language Acquisition

On January 26, several LaGuardia faculty members, staff members, and student leaders attended the Twenty-Fifth Annual Fund-Raising Dinner Dance of the Flushing Chinese Business Association (FCBA), Inc. This year's gala, held at Terrace On The Park, marked the Lunar New Year 4705, the Year of the Pig.

The evening's keynote address was delivered by Senator Charles E. Schumer, who was also this year's recipient of the FCBA Outstanding Leadership Award. The award was presented to him by Peter Koo, who is the FCBA president and serves on the LaGuardia Foundation Board of Trustees.

In addition to me, the LaGuardia faculty and staff members at the fund



Attending the Chinese business gala were, left to right: Brian Gurski, interim acting director of the Small Business Development Center; Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion Jr.; Ru Hai Chi, president of the college's Chinese Club; Huan Sherman, Chinese Club representative; Steven Hitt, managing director of LPAC; Senator Charles Schumer; Peter Koo, president of the Flushing Chinese Business Association; Kenneth Yin, lecturer in Education and Language Acquisition; Angela Wu, assistant professor of Accounting and Managerial Studies; and Ding Lin, vice president of the Chinese Club.

raiser included Liz Carrillo (Alumni Affairs and Foundation Office), Brian Gurski (Small Business Development Center), Steven Hitt (Performing Arts Center), and Angela Wu (Department of Accounting and Managerial Studies). As the faculty mentor for the Chinese Club, I was especially pleased

that several of the club officers were in attendance. These student leaders are Ru Hai Chi, president of the Chinese Club and student senator; Ding Lin, vice president of the Chinese Club; and Huan Sherman, Chinese Club representative to the Student Advisory Council and student senator.

YOUR HEALTH

By Amy Ma, FNP, Health Service

The Pap test, also called a Pap smear, checks for changes in the cells of your cervix. The cervix is the lower part of the uterus that opens into the vagina. The Pap test can tell if you have an infection, abnormal cervical cells, or cervical cancer.

A Pap test can save your life. It can find the earliest signs of cervical cancer - a common cancer in women. If caught early, the chance of curing cervical cancer is very high. Pap tests also can find infections and abnormal cervical cells that can turn into cancer cells. Treatment can prevent most cases of cervical cancer from developing.

Getting regular Pap tests is the best thing you can do to prevent cervical cancer. About 13,000 women in

All About the PAP Test

America will find out they have cervical cancer this year. And in 2004, 3,500 women died from cervical cancer in the United States.

It is important for all women to have pap tests, along with pelvic exams, as part of their routine health care. You need a Pap test if you are:

- ✓ 21 years or older
- ✓ Under 21 years old and have been sexually active for three years or more.

There is no age limit for the Pap test. Even women who have gone through menopause need regular Pap tests. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommends the following schedule for PAP testing:

- ✓ If you are younger than 30 years old, you should get a Pap test every year.

✓ If you are age 30 or older and have had three normal Pap tests for three years in a row, talk to your doctor about spacing out Pap tests to every two or three years.

Some other medical conditions require you to have PAP test more often, please ask your health care provider for more information.

The LaGuardia Community College Health Service clinic offers free PAP test and chlamydia, gonorrhea screening to all our students. For March, these tests will be offered on the 19th, 21st, and 22nd. Please call ext. 5280 or come to the Health Service at MB40 to make your appointment.