

Report to the General Faculty

Spring 2003

**Division of Student Development:
S.D. Johnson, Ph.D. Vice President**

Offices of the Vice President and Dean of Students

Collaboration is the main order of business in the division this spring as we are actively working on several fronts with the staff in Academic Affairs and the Departments in our schools. Academic Integrity, Freshman Year Experience, Student Engagement, Student Course and Faculty Evaluation, and the full array of Presidential Task Forces have us very busy and involved in managing the changing fiscal climate of Baruch and CUNY. All the while our students continue to demonstrate the value of the changes we have made in standards and programming. Our new building is proving its value as we take advantage of the social niches the 2nd floor "Quadrangle" affords. It has become a true social center for student politics and other activities. The vitality of our student community is extraordinary. The CUNY Honors Undergraduate are moving rapidly into leadership positions across the campus, our relationship with student media has never been better, and our sports teams have expanded significantly due to increases in outreach and student interest. The roles of Both Golden Key and Phi Eta Sigma have been expanded again this year with our highest performing and most service oriented students. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is bigger than ever before. If it were not for the fiscal picture, we would be ecstatic. As we go into the spring our focus is on finding money to improve the quality and scope of our services to students. I am confident that we will find the dollars to make our services as effective as our student deserve. We look forward to a joyous celebration of this spring's graduation

Office of Student Life (OSL)

Leaderquest, the 20th annual Student Leadership Training Weekend was held from October 25 through 27, 2002 at a new location, the Edith Macy Conference Center in Briarcliff Manor, New York. Seventy-five student leaders from student government, clubs, and media attended the retreat.

OSL sponsored two Blood Drives this year. A one-day drive was held on October 3, 2002 and a two-day drive was held on March 5 and 6, 2003.

Undergraduate Student Government Elections are scheduled to take place on April 8-10, 2003. A record number of candidates are vying for positions. There are 97 candidates on the ballot and one student activity fee referendum. The Graduate Student Assembly Elections are scheduled for Internet balloting from April 1 through April 10. There are 11 candidates competing for 9 seats on the GSA Board of Governors and a student activity fee referendum for graduate students.

Five major Auditorium Cultural Programs will be presented this spring beginning March 21 through May 9. These include the African Students Association, Spiritual Vybes, the Asian Students Union, the Caribbean Students Association, and the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. OSL staff will support these large-scale events.

The 25th annual Spring Fling (formerly known as Street Fair) will hopefully return to the streets this year. This annual event sponsored by the OSL, was forced to move indoors into the Lexington Avenue Armory due to the Vertical Campus Construction for the past few years and last year was forced indoors due to heavy rain. Community Board #6 has approved our application to return this rite of spring to Bernard Baruch Way on Thursday, May 1, 2003 from 12 to 3 PM. Free food, games, music will be provided. The 38th Commencement Exercises of Baruch College will be held on Wednesday, May 28, 2003 at Madison Square Garden. OSL will again coordinate academic regalia, commencement tickets and ceremony logistics for either one arena or two theater ceremonies, depending on the fortunes of the Knicks and/or the Rangers.

Athletics:

The opening of the Athletics & Recreation Complex (ARC) had a tremendous effect on the athletic program this year. More student-athletes participated, with more fan interest than ever before. Publicity as

well as media attention and exposure were at all time highs. The pinnacle of this the season was marked with a story on the front page of the New York Times on Nov. 27, 2002. Baruch's new athletic facilities and the plight of the Men's Basketball teams were given three pages of coverage in the accompanying article. There were many photos of Baruch, our facilities, coaches, and teams. The recent success of Ray Rankis and the men's basketball team was highlighted. This coverage propelled the Men's basketball team all the way to the CUNY Championship Game. Although they suffered a tough loss to CCNY, the team entered post-season competition, which ended the Bearcats winning the ECAC Metro NY/NJ Men's basketball championship. The team finished with a final record of 25-5 setting a Baruch College record for wins in one season. The Women's Basketball team also had an outstanding season and finished with a record of 18-9 their best finish in almost 7 years. The Women's Volleyball team, under new Head coach Krishna Dass had its best season in 5 years and finished with a record of 9-12. With new aquatic facilities, Baruch began a men's and women's swim team, and both finished in a respectable 3rd place in the CUNYAC Championships. The Women's Cross-Country team also finished in 3rd place in the CUNY Championships this year and had an outstanding turn-out of women interested in running this year. Soccer, Men's Volleyball, and Women's tennis struggled with young and inexperienced athletes, and all look to have strong rebuilding seasons. The softball team, baseball, and men's tennis teams are just beginning their competitive seasons but all have added expanded rosters due to the interest and enthusiasm generated by the new facilities. Three Bearcat coaches, have already, garnered Coach of the Year accolades in CUNY, Ray Rankis- Men's Basketball, Krishna Dass-Women's Volleyball, and Pushaen Gunasinghe- Swimming. We have assembled an outstanding staff of coaches and with the expanded facilities; we anticipate a bright future for Baruch athletics

Career Development Center

The mission of the Career Development Center (CDC) is to support Baruch College through providing comprehensive career services to Baruch undergraduate students. The Center's two main areas of activity are outreach and services to employers and recruiting and career development activities for students. During the Fall 2002 semester, 150 employers came on campus to recruit for internships and full-time positions. In total CDC staff and employers made over 9000 student contacts. As the fourth most visited website on the Baruch homepage with over 23,000 hits in Fall 2002, the CDC attracts the interest of the entire Baruch community. A more comprehensive report is available upon request from the CDC Office.

Outreach to Faculty and Students

In an effort to bolster recruiting and to simultaneously prepare students for their job search, outreach by CDC staff to employers and students has been intensified.

Recruiters from both current and new companies are being contacted by telephone, email, and postal mail and encouraged to participate in various on-campus activities and to post both full- and part-time positions and internships. Over 1200 letters and 2000 emails were sent, and 300 phone calls made, inviting companies to participate in our on-campus recruiting program.

Services to students are always a focus of activity in the CDC and are provided for students beginning in their freshman year through their graduation. Over 50 career development and skill building workshops were offered in Fall 2002 and 18 class visits were made to inform targeted groups of students about specific opportunities. Twelve events were co-sponsored with student clubs to insure maximum participation. Ten corporate presentations, 14 company information sessions prior to on-campus interviews, and 104 interview schedules for 1053 interviews provided 2000 student contacts. Overall, staff and employers made almost 9000 contacts with students through the CDC during the fall semester.

Internship Stipends

Last summer, the CDC received funding for students working in unpaid internships from the Jewish Foundation for Education of Women (JFEW). Ten freshmen, sophomore, and junior female students received \$2500 stipends, worked in a variety of agencies and corporations, and gained invaluable experience. Additional workshops and activities provided an enriched experience for these young women who will participate for a second summer in 2003. Ten additional women will be selected this spring for summer 2003 internships.

Alumni Career Services

Former students are returning as alumni and are coming to the CDC for career counseling and to participate in a weekly free job search group. Over 175 alumni have made appointments for counseling or vocational testing and 41 have participated in the Job Search Group. (Since its inception in January 2002 over 100 alumni have participated in the Job Search Group for unemployed alumni) Six alumni career seminars attracted 57 participants.

Data Collection

Throughout the College, there is a need for better outcome statistics in order to monitor utilization of services by students. The CDC is among the first offices to install a new card swipe system making it possible to gather information on students and to identify what services they are using. This system has enabled us to manage our resources more effectively and to better serve students. We can now receive almost immediate information about the number of students who attend Career Day including the numbers from each class, gender, and flow of entry, majors, and school. We also can report with confidence that 1672 students made almost 3500 visits to the CDC including 677 students who made 1406 visits for career consultations between June and December. This information informs the staff about whether we are reaching our target populations for various services and events or if we need to change our methods of outreach or programming.

Spring 2003

- Beginning this year, school entry requirements into the Schools of Business, Liberal Arts, and Public Affairs will affect the ability of students to enter a particular school. They are no longer automatically guaranteed entrance into the school of their choice and many students need career counseling to help them as they begin the process of choosing a major and a career. For the second time, this spring the CDC will administer the Strong Interest Inventory online to second semester freshmen and deliver workshops to interpret the results and to help students with their major and career decision-making. Last year, almost 600 students took advantage of this program.
- Our Internship Fair was held on February 14, 2003 and attracted 40 employers and 700 students.

Summary

The CDC is committed to providing high quality career services to the over 12,500 Baruch undergraduate students. The following summary of highlights is a report of the activities of the CDC during the period from June 2002 through December 2002.

- Recruiting for full-time positions continues to be in decline because of the downturn in the economy. There were 1053 on-campus interviews for full time positions during Fall 2002. (Compared to 1700 in Fall 2000 and 1000 in 2001).
- Recruiting for internships is on the rise. Between Fall 2001 and Summer 2002, there were over 400 reported internships 25% more than in the previous year. Employers are desirous of the added value of the work of interns who are cheaper to employ and whose skills are on the cutting edge in their field.
- A major focus of activity in the CDC during fall '02 and spring '03 is outreach to employers for both internships and full time jobs. Over 1200 letters and 2000 emails were sent, and 300 phone calls made, inviting companies to participate in our on-campus recruiting program. Twenty new companies came on campus to recruit for full-time jobs.
- A card swipe data collection program was initiated in June 2002 that greatly enhanced the quality and quantity of information known about the users of Career Development Center services. 1672 individual students made over 3400 visits to the CDC from June through December of 2002.

- Career counseling and skill-building workshops supplement recruiting activities in the CDC to insure that students choose satisfying majors and careers and are competitive candidates for good jobs and internships in the marketplace. 3564 students attended 60 workshops and employer-sponsored events.
- The CDC continues to work with campus organizations to provide them with corporate recruiters and alumni as presenters and to maximize outreach to students. Over 1000 students attended events co-sponsored by 15 student organizations.
- In order to accommodate the specific needs of several large companies with early internship deadlines, the CDC hosted an Internship Jumpstart panel presentation to 151 students featuring internship opportunities at Credit Suisse First Boston, Deloitte & Touche, JP Morgan Chase, Lehman Brothers, PricewaterhouseCoopers and two prestigious internship sponsors INROADS, and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity.
- Staff in the CDC is supplemented through trained Peer Counselors in the Peers for Careers Program and through the Counseling Internship program which employs 4 Masters' and Doctoral level counseling interns working in the CDC for the semester.

Recruiting Data

- In Fall 2002, 4,696 students used our online recruiting program eRecruiting including 1297 seniors who participated in our on-campus recruiting program.
- 426 jobs and internships were posted online from September through December 2002 and hundreds more were posted in our binders and on bulletin boards.
- 10,512 job and internship applications were submitted through our online recruiting system eRecruiting.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center remains under the direction of Dr. David Cheng, and Dr. Elisa Brunelle, the Assistant Director. Our adjunct clinicians who supervise our interns and externs as well as provide direct student services are Dr. Jairo Fuertes, Dr. Toni Heris, Dr. Elizabeth Merrick, and Mr. Anthony Liotta, C.S.W. Our psychiatrists, Pauline McHugh, M.D. and Alexandra Bertini, M.D., have been instrumental in providing psychiatric consultations and prescribing medication to students already being treated in the center.

Our internship and externship programs continue to attract excellent doctoral and masters level psychology graduate students from the best training programs in the region; Columbia, Fordham, Seton Hall, St. Johns, and NYU are represented in the training groups that consult with our students in the Counseling Center. Interns and externs also work in Freshman Seminar, Helpline, Peers for Careers, the Early Childhood learning Center and the Career Development Center. After the success of last year, we again have 2 full time pre-doctoral interns who will be completing their internship training requirements at our counseling center. We have been accepted for Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) membership and accreditation.

The Counseling Center continues to serve increasing numbers of serious cases. We have experienced an increase in demand as well. Nearly one hundred hours of direct service are provided weekly. In addition to working with individuals, the Center continues to offer a variety of services, such as testing, assessment, group counseling, evaluations for learning disability, support groups for international students and disabled students.

The Center staff is prepared to initiate other groups, as needs emerge. Recent mental health screenings have identified depression, alcoholism/chemical dependence, and eating disorders in our student population. Student mental health is a matter of great concern for the center.

This spring's workshops will include Time Management, Stress Management, and Test Anxiety.

Screenings are available throughout the year at the Counseling Center. We are in the process of revamping our workshop and outreach offerings to collaborate through the Health and Wellness Committee in an attempt to increase our involvement with students. We are open to suggestions from students regarding particular topics for workshops.

The Counseling Center maintains a page on the Student Development Web Site. Students can sign-up online there for various groups and workshops. We continue to utilize interactive e-mail for students as needed. We will continue to monitor the needs of the Baruch community and to outreach and develop opportunities for coping with the long-term effect of terrorism and continued threats to our safety.

Finally, we continue to offer in service training for our interns and externs and for faculty and staff. Some of our recent and upcoming topics include intake interviewing, Psychopharmacology, Suicide Prevention, Substance Abuse, Group Counseling, Character Disorder and Multicultural Issues.

SEEK

In December, SEEK students who were reinstated for the spring 2003 were required as part of their conditions of reinstatement to attend a workshop especially designed to guide them back to academic good standing. In addition, SEEK students who had not passed the qualifying exam needed as a prerequisite for CIS 2200 were offered a workshop during January. This workshop focused developing skills in EXCEL. Special Programs of New York State will be hosting the seventh biennial conference of The Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education on March 30-31st. Members of the SEEK staff will be presenting on two panels: one on Baruch's successful program entitled, Born Again Program and the other on the Academic Survival Program for Probationary Students

SEEK will work with the Office of Admissions on a workshop for perspective SEEK students for Fall 2003. The spring semester of Sake's yearlong freshmen seminar (FRO 2000S) will focus on career exploration and counseling. In addition, special tutorials were included to assist students with Psychology 1001, art history and for preparation for passing the qualifying exam in EXCEL, the prerequisite for CIS.

A program to lend graphic calculators to SEEK and non-SEEK students enrolled in math 2001, 2006 and 2010 remains in place this semester. Also continued will be the funding of review sessions for large sections of economics courses.

Another SEEK counselor continues to coordinate Baruch's Test Prep Program providing test preparation for the GRE, LSAT, and GMAT for SEEK students as well as non-SEEK students at a reduced price.

The SEEK Peer Mentoring Program continues to recruit and train high achieving SEEK students to mentor and tutor other SEEK students. Current emphasis is on supporting students in the freshman year. Mentors work with freshman seminar courses.

This year's SEEK Awards Ceremony is scheduled for May 2nd.

Office of Services for Students with Disabilities

During this period, approximately 34 students with disabilities were newly identified. We are seeing an increase in the number of students with psychological disabilities as well as students with attention deficit disorder. Generally, people with these disabilities are particularly challenging to serve.

We are in the second year of providing career counseling/services to students with very positive results. In February, we began participation in a new program called "Getting Started". This is a new VESID employment readiness program designed to support CUNY students with disabilities. Because Baruch students have been working with our career counselor, they are well prepared to take advantage of this opportunity. We are very concerned that we can continue to fund our career counselor next year.