

Report to the Baruch College General Faculty
Submitted by Arthur Downing
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William and Anita Newman Library

Library Master Plan – The architects (AECOM) provided a preliminary report of the findings from the research phase of their work on the master plan. Their analysis included data from a survey that yielded over 2,000 responses from students and faculty, time lapse video recordings of the use of library spaces, on site observation, focus groups, and individual interviews. The findings guided a creative “sandbox” session involving faculty, staff and students. AECOM also conducted an analysis of the physical building and its systems, including a report on the lighting conditions in the Library. AECOM is on schedule to deliver its final report by June 30th.

Institutional Repository - The Library has set up a committee chaired by Jessica Wagner (Digital Initiatives Librarian) to develop our instance of the Institutional Repository that CUNY has licensed for all campuses. The overall goal is to provide an open digital repository of the scholarly and creative works of the members of the Baruch College community. To get a sense of what the repository can do and how it might be organized, see the Graduate Center’s repository, “Academic Works” (<http://works.gc.cuny.edu/>).

Institute of Public Administration Collection – The Library is completing its grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to process and preserve the archives of the Bureau of Municipal Research/Institute of Public Administration. The project team (Sandra Roff, Ralph Blumenthal, Jessica Wagner, Aleksandr Gelfand, and Steven Calco) have been documenting their work on the project blog, “An Adventure in Democracy” (<http://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/ipaprocessing/>). The Carnegie Corporation has invited the Library to apply for additional funds to begin the next phase of the project, which involves the digitization of the collections. Digitization of this collection will be an enormous undertaking that will require several years and additional sources of extramural support.

New Media Artspace – The current exhibition is *Zachary Fabri: X Black Y*, which “presents nine videos spanning a decade of projects by performance and media artist Zachary Fabri. Referencing coordinate points to mark a location, place, or home, X Black Y also implies the process of moving from point X to point Y, a trajectory for travel or dislocation. The exhibition maps the artist’s journey to locate Blackness and abstract qualities of racial identity in the US. With persistent poetics, Fabri stretches the notion of identity into something at once heavy and ephemeral, at once immutable and nimble, at once distant and close.” The exhibition, curated by Prof. Katherine Behar (FPA), runs through April 27th.

Baruch Computing and Technology Center

Annual Technology Conference – The College’s 18th annual Teaching and Technology Conference will be held on April 17th in the Newman Vertical Campus. This year’s keynote speaker will be Gary E. Miller, Executive Director Emeritus of the Penn State World Campus, the e-learning campus of The Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Miller’s address will be, “Looking Ahead: The Second Generation of Online Learning”. The program includes presentations by faculty, staff, and students across a wide range of topics:

- *E-Ship at Baruch: Competition, Opportunity and Technology* - Stuart Schulman (Management) and Lou Anne Flanders-Steck (CUNY Center for Student Enterprise)
- *Hybridization in the Weissman School of Arts & Sciences* - Antonietta D’Amelio (Modern Languages and Comparative Literature), Caryn Medved (Communication Studies), Miciah Hussey, Cheryl Smith, and Nicole Zeftel (English)
- *Tech for Clear Speech: Innovative Resources for ELL Success at Baruch* - DJ Dolack, Alexandria Hadden, Julie Lee, Derek Santos, Tristan Thorne (Tools for Clear Speech), and Joyce Mandell (Communication Studies)
- *New Initiatives in Geospatial Data Resources* - Frank Donnelly and Araby Smyth (Library)
- *Bringing Makerspace Technologies into Your Class* - Monica Dean, (Lawrence N. Field Center for Entrepreneurship), Allison Lehr Samuels (Management), and Zoë Sheehan Saldaña (Fine & Performing Arts)
- *Process and Product in Baruch’s Hybridization Project* - Luke Waltzer, Kate O’Donoghue, (Center for Teaching and Learning), Elizabeth Heath (History), Jessica Lang (English), and Sonali Hazarika (Economics & Finance)
- *Light in a Darkroom: The New Media Artspace as a "Minor" Development* - Katherine Behar, Michael Blaine, Ivan Calderon, Yuna Chong, Mohamed Hasan, and Erica Ly (Fine & Performing Arts)
- *Introducing Vocat 3.2* - Craig Stone and Anderson Evans (Center for Teaching and Learning)
- *Blackboard Collaborate: Teaching Beyond the Classroom* - Kevin Wolff (Baruch Computing and Technology Center)
- *The State of Blogs@Baruch* - Craig Stone, Christopher Silsby (Center for Teaching and Learning), Cheryl Smith (English), and Mitchell Trinko (Center for Teaching and Learning/Journalism)
- *Hybridization in the Zicklin School of Business* - Kannan Mohan, Radhika Jain (Statistics/Computer Information Systems), Theodore Joyce, Laetitia Placido (Economics & Finance), Kate O’Donoghue, and Luke Waltzer (Center for Teaching and Learning)

The abstracts for the sessions and the online registration form are available on the conference web site: <http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/teachtech>.

Password Expiration – The University has revised its security requirement on password changes, so that passwords must be changed at least every 180 days. Passwords on Baruch systems are now set to expire at 180 days, except for IT administrator or “privileged” accounts, which still expire after 60 days.

CUNYfirst MyInfo - CUNY has launched a service called CUNYfirst MyInfo that allows important information, such as class rosters and class schedules to be viewed outside of CUNYfirst. Faculty may use their CUNY Portal credentials to log into this service. For more information go to:
<http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/bctc/myinfo.htm>

Office 2013 – A message will be sent to the College community soon regarding the schedule to upgrade Microsoft Office on computers in labs and offices, and on other College-owned equipment.

Office of Institutional Research and Program Assessment

The Office has been involved in a number of projects beginning last fall and continuing into this spring. The projects are summarized below:

- Data to support decision making at the College including data collection for AACSB re-accreditation and the Middle States Periodic Review Report; data relating to the performance of students participating in online courses; data for the creation of the College Portrait for the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA/SAM).
- Institutional Research developed a longitudinal retention model for new students which included both transfers and freshmen from the fall 2007 incoming cohort. The students were tracked for six years and outcomes including retention, graduation and transfer-out were included in the dependent variable. The study found that covariates strongly associated with retention included admission to the Zicklin School, full-time study, GPA, and financial aid in the form of grants. Major risk factors for dropping out included course withdrawal, course failure, and incompletes. Students were also more likely to leave following the spring term than after the fall, and older students were more likely to drop out than younger students. We anticipate developing a predictive model by incorporating the fall 2008 incoming class and extending the model using NYSDOL employment data.
- This spring we will again be administering the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as well as the Noel-Levitz student opinion surveys. In addition, CUNY Central's Office of Institutional Research is conducting two surveys: (1) the COACHE Faculty Survey; (2) a Student Campus Climate Survey.