



Welcome to the Spring 2019 Academic Semester

The Division for Student Development and Enrollment Management (SDEM) along with its sister divisions have worked tirelessly to improve services for our students. The past several months have presented some challenges such as the threat of Government shutdowns and University wide new student admission procedures. However as always, Hostos continues to move forwards despite the obstacles, providing vital services and access to higher education for our community. Many thanks to all involved in this major effort in helping us enroll well over 7,000 students this new year.

As we move forward this semester, there are key areas of focus for SDEM that include and are not limited to summer enrollment, student communications, advisement services, and access to student support services, with emphasis on customer service.

Please pass the word along.

Best Wishes,
Nathaniel Cruz
Vice President for Student Development & Enrollment Management

OP-ED

THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS, NEW AND IMPROVED

On June 1, 2018, the City University of New York (CUNY) unveiled the new CUNY application for spring 2019 admission. The new application has been overhauled from the previous application and presents a more “user-friendly” design.

New features of the process include:

- ability to upload personal statements, portfolios, resumes, digital media and other documents.
- electronically request letters of recommendation and provide us with additional information about their personal interests and participation in extra-curricular activities.
- check the status of their application on the self-service page for each college and program selected on the application.
- the self-service page will also display admission decisions and give students the ability to accept or decline an acceptance offer.
- Students will still be able to apply to a maximum of six colleges for a freshman application and four for a transfer application.

The order of college choices for each applicant is no longer tracked on the new application. This creates both a challenge and an opportunity for Hostos Community College to compete with other CUNY colleges for each applicant. The Student Development and Enrollment Management (SDEM) division is leading the charge in introducing the new application process across the Hostos community. An enrollment group was created to assess and implement enrollment processes to ensure a successful transition from applicant to enrolled student. —**Carlos Rivera**, *Director, Admissions & Recruitment*



Key Student Dates to Keep in Mind and Share:

SDEM 11th Annual Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS) — If you want to be eligible for a FREE LAP TOP complete SSS by May.

F19–20 FAFSA — If you want to have money on time to purchase your books complete process by July 1
If you want to work on campus (Federal Work Study) complete your process by March 1
If you want your tuition funded in time for Fall Registration meet the priority deadline of March 1

Free Tax Filing — Free Services with Single Stop USA in the Savoy building by 4/15, for students only.

The S·D·E·M Gazette

SDEM Welcomes You! New Hires in 2018...

OVP

Allison Dillon, *Administrative Coordinator*
Mayi Libfeld, *Scholarship Coordinator*
Zussy Lopez, *Hobsons Coordinator*
Janice Serrano, *CUNY Office Assistant*

ARC

Marie Ortiz, *Student Disability Specialist*

Admissions

Marsha Milan-Bethel, *Admissions Advisor*
Nicole Flint, *Admissions Advisor*
Katherine Sosa, *Admissions Recruiter*

Student Life

Juana Minaya, *Student Life Specialist*
Jennifer Reynoso, *Transfer Coordinator*

SSCU

Flor Araujo-Payano, *Foundation Coach*
Amanda Fousse-Lugo, *Foundation Coach*
Cesar Garrido, *Junior Coach*
April Gopie, *Foundation Coach*
Siddique Mohamed, *Associate Director*

CUNY EDGE

Veronica Vidal, *Director*

College Discovery

Maria Cano, *Director*
Catherine Hilyard, *CD Counselor*

Counseling Services

Allison Dee, *Mental Health Counselor*
Michael Martinez, *Mental Health Counselor*

Financial Aid Office

Toya Pigford, *Financial Aid Specialist/Work Study Manager*

Registrar

Dielka Aguasvivas

And we will miss you! Newly Retired in 2018...

Nelida Pastoriza, *Director, Office of the Registrar*

Sandra Lacay, *Transfer Credit Evaluator, Office of the Registrar*

ESP TOY DRIVE AND WINTER FESTIVAL

Empowering Student Parents Program and Club hosted its annual Winter Festival where students and their children celebrated the holiday season together on campus. The festivities began with a toy drive in November where a total of 186 toys were donated by faculty and staff. The toys were wrapped and ready to be delivered by the in-house Santa for the December 12th winter festival.

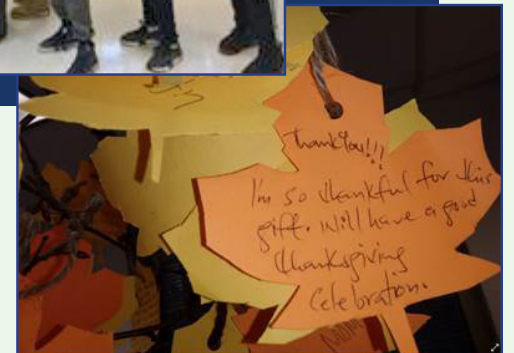
Workshops were offered during the event on toy safety, poison control, safe sleep and CPR. Student parents participating in the workshops were also eligible to enter a raffle for a chance to win 1 of 2 laptops. Two focus groups were facilitated by ESP grant partners at Cornell University, to better understand the barriers that may impede them to succeed in college and what solutions can be provided.

Thank you to all our co-sponsors, volunteers, and donors for making the event a success! The toys left over were donated to two community partners, LIFT who provides services to families with children under 7 years old, and VIP Shelter which provides services to families affected by domestic violence.



Thanksgiving, care of Single Stop

156 students shared a total of 150 food pantry bags, 50 turkeys and 50 chickens. Food was donated from Goya, and the rest was purchased from Food Bank of New York. A great time was had by all!



MORE THAN ONE WAY TO ACCESS

Scholarships

The goal of the scholarship office is to help students identify and apply to internal and external scholarships, and provide support services when applying. The scholarship office helps students develop a scholarship portfolio and provides assistance in the application process. In addition to office hours, the scholarship office has a **Scholarship on Site Team** located on the AC-Building Bridge Monday-Friday from 10AM-4PM providing remote assistance to students. All scholarships are posted on AcademicWorks-Hostos Scholarship Database website.

The S·D·E·M Gazette

CHILDREN CENTER OPEN TO HOSTOS CHILDREN

Hostos Children's Center understands the importance of child care in the workplace. For instance, it supports increased employee retention, improved performance, greater connection to the job, and better timeliness and attendance. Therefore, Hostos Community College Children's Center, Inc. has opened their doors to serving the children of faculty & staff. Children of Hostos Community College faculty & staff, who are residents of New York City, can enroll their child in the **free Pre-K for All** (age 4) or 3k for All (age 3) programs via NYC Department of Education. Limited seats are available for children age 2.



SDEM promotes access to Hostos staff



SDEM promotes diversity and global awareness

New Flags for the C Atrium

The Four Honored Countries, and their nominators presented 8 facts on their flag:

Dominica

Christiana Burton, S.O.S. Team Member

Mali

Oumar Diaby, SGA Treasurer

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Karen Mardenborough, Hostos alumna

Sri Lanka

Mohamed Sajath, President of the Robotics Club

GOLF OUTING

On Friday, September 21, seven members of the SDEM team teed up in support of the 12th Annual Scholarship Fund Golf Outing Classic which raised a record-shattering \$104,690.



SDEM helps raise funds for student scholarships

CORNER

STUDENT

MEET COLLEGE DISCOVERY'S STUDENTS OF THE SEMESTER

EDWARD JENNINGS • GPA 3.6 • Digital Music Major

I'm a native of the South Bronx. My late mother, Lillian, was a school bus matron and Assistant Chef, and my father, Edward Jennings Sr., was a World War II veteran. Although the '70s and '80s were turbulent times, my parents did their best to shield me from the streets. I attended and graduated from I.S. 162 located on the corner of East 149th Street and St. Ann's Avenue. I also attended Morris High School and then subsequently received home schooling from my mother. Wisely, my mother steered me into activities that would engage and keep me away from the temptations. One of these activities was the Fresh Air Fund which became a refuge and led to an internship with a law firm. The law firm promised me a full-time position after the completion of my GED.

I began my career as a law clerk for Becker, Ross LLP at 19. I also became interested in music, specifically the drums. I was eventually offered professional work with various bands. I worked for the law firm for 27 years, and thoroughly enjoyed my work, both as a law clerk and a drummer. When the firm closed its doors in 2014, I realized that I wanted to pursue my career in music with a degree. Researching my options, I found a great fit with Hostos Community College. Hostos offered an A.A.S. in Digital Music and had a stellar reputation. And it was in my old neighborhood.

My college career at Hostos started smoothly, but sadly, my mother passed unexpectedly during my first semester, and 6 months later my fiancée was hospitalized for three weeks. Throughout these difficult times, I have received and been blessed with the prayers of my church family, the support of my fellow students, and the staff of College Discovery and Hostos. The support system has been invaluable and irreplaceable. A man of deep faith, I am convinced that I will continue to be on the path that God has set before me, and remain dedicated to being successful in my studies and in my chosen career path.



RAYSA ROSARIO • GPA 4.0 • Liberal Arts Major

I am originally from the Dominican Republic. Since I was in middle school, I was always interested in math and biology. I loved that everything in the world could be explained with a fact or theory and solved with a formula.

After graduating high school in the Dominican Republic I decided to come to the United States to go to college. Coming here was my first big decision. It was hard to leave behind my family and friends but this was something that I did for my future and myself. I had to wait one semester to enter college because the registration period had already passed. When I took the CUNY tests in January, I failed the CAT-W and I had to spend another semester working on my English. Later on, I took it again and I failed it one more time. I was disappointed; I wanted to go back to my country because I thought that I was wasting my time trying to enter college here when I could have been taking classes there. In spite of these things I tried to be calm and remember why I was doing all of this, so I took the test again. A week later I got the results and I passed. I was relieved and very happy; all my effort had finally paid off. I also noticed that those months that I spent studying to pass the test helped me a lot. Now I can say that I have no problems taking classes in a language that is not my first.

These new changes in my life affected me in a good way. I learned to do things by myself without expecting someone to do it for me. Also now I am more independent, mature, and I have more perseverance. I thank College Discovery for helping. I want to become the person that I always wanted to be: a successful and independent woman, with a stable job. I want to be happy while I am doing something that I like and I know I'm on that path now.



A Million Voices

The Admissions Office hears a million voices,
Listens to a million stories,
Inspires a million ideas,
Stimulates a million viewpoints,
Elicits a million interpretations,
Guides a million goals,
And assists in realizing a million dreams.

Albeit, upon completion, one degree.

—Rafael Quiles, Senior Advisor, Admissions & Recruitment

As always, stay tuned for our next issue!