MONROE COLLEGE

Weekly Observer

"What you need to know…at Monroe"

December 7, 2009

Calendar of Events

For club meetings and activities schedules, visit: www.monroecollege.edu/campuslife/monroeclubs

Monday, December 7

11:30am	Ring Day – King Hall Lobby/BX

Tuesday, December 8

Last Day of Classes

11:30am	Ring Day – King Hall Lobby/BX
Noon	Medical Assistant Luncheon–Annex/BX
12:30pm	Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX
3:00pm	OCA Snack Hour—Main Hall/NR
6:30pm	Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

Wednesday, December 9

Final Exams

11:30am	Ring Day – King Hall Lobby/BX
3:00pm	Weight Watchers–110 Milavec Hall/NR
6:00pm	Bachelor's Program Refreshment Night – Bachelor's Program Office – Jerome Hall/BX

Thursday, December 10

Final Exams

Noon	Bachelor's Program Coffee and Poetry Hour – Bachelor's Program Office – Jerome Hall/BX
2:00pm	International Coffee Hour in the International Student Center – Main Hall/NR
2:30pm	Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX
2:30pm	Weight Watchers – 307 King Hall/BX
6:30pm	Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBABX11:30am

Friday, December 11

Final Exams

Noon	Staff and Faculty College Christmas Party

Saturday, December 12

Final Exams

10:30am	Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

continued on page 4

BUILDING THE BRONX:

President Jerome Leads Business Workshop

On November 18, Monroe College President **Stephen Jerome** led a workshop called *Poised for Growth: Opportunities on the Horizon* at the Bronx Business summit sponsored by Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. at the NY Botanical Garden. In his remarks to business and community leaders, elected officials, and other attendees, President Jerome emphasized the hiring of Bronx college students as one way to spur the local economy.

"The Bronx is the borough of universities," he said, "so it just makes sense that if you're hiring, hire Bronx students, not only after they graduate, but while they are in college. If you do, the entire borough will benefit."

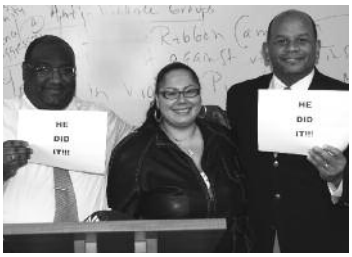
He then described how Monroe has expanded career resources, adding counselors in the OCA because, he said, "students want careers, not jobs."

Also, Mr. Jerome referred to many principles that are familiar to the Monroe community, emphasizing interpersonal communication and a friendly environment, saying these are foundations for success. He also explained the culture at Monroe, including the importance of providing resources and individualized attention to students and treating professional staff and faculty with dignity and respect.

The summit was attended by hundreds of people interested in improving the business climate in the Bronx and was widely regarded as a successful step in the borough's economic revitalization. ■

Monroe Volleyball Coach Receives National Recognition, see p. 4

FACULTY



■ Abbott and Costello, Laurel and Hardy, and Martin and Lewis meet Gilmore and Smith! When schedules permit, Professor **Harvey Gilmore** sits in on Professor **Geoff Smith**'s sociology class or maybe Professor Smith will sit in on Harvey's accounting or business law class.

For students, the double-teaming means double the expertise, double the attention, and even double the fun as the two affable profs keep students interested and motivated with their brand of humor, which is often hard-hitting and designed to emphasize an important point. Both professors derive great satisfaction from being in the classroom and they complement each other so perfectly that their passion gives students a wonderful perspective on the interplay of diverse, yet related disciplines.

Professor Gilmore has been known to bring in cue cards reading "applause," which he holds up when Professor Smith says something of particular significance. Students appreciate the unique routines of this Monroe "odd couple," and the motivation to come to class becomes that much stronger.

Will they get their shot at a TV sitcom? Uh, not likely. But one thing is indisputably clear. They have developed a very loyal fan base of students at Monroe.

■ Prof. D. **Jeanne Ross** and the students in her French I and Speech classes recently went on a "double date" to the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) and the Paris Theater. The group met at MOMA to first visit the Water Lilies installation featuring French painter Claude Monet, as well as Van Gogh, Picasso, Matisse and Cezanne before strolling up 5th Avenue to the historic Paris Theater to see the French film, *Coco Before Chanel*, a biopic that traces the legendary designer's early years before her rise to fame.

■ Professor **Don Genio** recently took his Pharmacy Practice I and II classes to Prescription Center, a pharmacy in New Rochelle, to introduce his students to a busy community pharmacy environment. Students spent several hours exploring all aspects of pharmacy operation. The pharmacy owner, Mr. Popat Patel, talked with students about patient confidentiality, insurance and billing, customer service, and more.

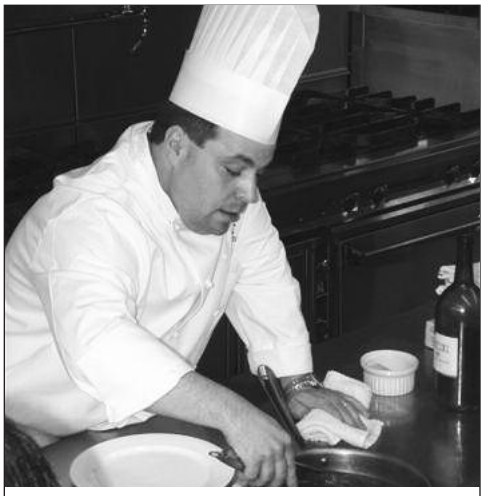
■ Prof. **Taoufik Ennoure** and Prof. **Mohamed Benzizoune** of the Mathematics Department presented a workshop entitled, "Mathematical Mysteries: Famous Number Theory Conjectures –The Goldbach Conjecture" at the Region IV NYSMATYC conference that was held on November 1, 2009 at the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

■ During the month of November, the Bronx Evening Division sponsored a series of Meet and Greet sessions for evening students to meet with their dean in an informal setting. Because many evening students rush directly from their jobs to class, the meet and greets gave them a chance to catch their breath before beginning their evening classes. The deans entertained questions from students, and refreshments were served. Feedback was very positive, and these sessions are likely to become a recurring activity.

continued on page 4

OCA

On November 5, the Office of Career Advancement presented *Interviewing Do's and Don'ts*, a lunchtime workshop at the New Rochelle campus. The don'ts included: don't give your age or heritage and don't volunteer too much information about job reservations during the first interview. OCA observed National Career Advancement Month with a series of nearly daily events, including a *Best Dressed for Success* photo competition and free *Keys to Success* stress balls. For information on getting your career started call 888-MY-OCA or visit the OCA on any Monroe campus. ■



CULINARY

On November 19, Chef **Robert Rainone** of the Larchmont Yacht Club, treated culinary arts students to a mouth-watering demonstration —and lunch—with his preparation of braised veal cheeks during a "Sharing the Passion" demonstration, a series on visiting chefs in the Culinary Arts Center. ■

INTERNATIONAL

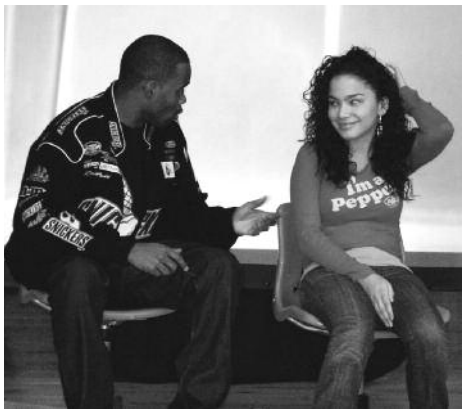
Fifteen international students from all over the world dove head first into the tradition of Thanksgiving and on November 19 put together a scrumptious feast for 150 family, friends, students, staff, faculty, and even a special guest of honor, the Vice Consul General of Jamaica, **Cecile Christie**. Each of the cooks created authentic ethnic dishes that they enjoy in their home country.

"Preparing and sharing food from your home country is a great way to communicate with people from other cultures," said **Angelyn Forbes-Freeze**, associate director, International Student Services. "When I first planned this event, four years ago, I had about 30 students participate in a pot-luck dinner. How it's grown is a reflection of how diverse our student body has become in a few short years."

■ On December 1, President **Stephen Jerome** delivered a lecture called Financial Skills for the 21st Century to more than one hundred King Graduate School students. Each semester Mr. Jerome speaks to students about life skills, including information on buying life insurance, the questions of leasing or buying a car, the choice between renting or owning a home, estate planning, how to correct poor credit, how to accumulate savings, and more. "I wish someone had taken the time to share this type of information with me when I was in college," he said. "If each student comes away with just one idea that can improve their financial planning, it will have been time very well spent.

■ On November 16, President Jerome hosted a reception for students receiving scholarship awards in honor of IT Professor **William Lee**, who passed away earlier this year. Mr. Lee's family and other Monroe officials attended.

ADMISSIONS



Led by Program Coordinator **Lisanne Grant**, the Bronx Admissions staff just completed another successful season of *Lessons on the A Train*, the custom-designed theater production that Monroe brings to high schools to motivate students to attend college. Produced by the Downtown Urban Film Festival, this year's production was recently featured on NY1. To see the piece, visit www.monroecollege.edu/news/videos. ■

STUDENT SERVICES

■ Bronx Student Services presented the first Club Talent show on Tuesday, December 1st in the King Hall Gym. Arts & Social Clubs performed pieces that they had worked on all semester. The newly formed Step Team, called "Triple S" (Show Stealing Steppers), stomped the audience into a frenzy with their intricate, rhythmic and synchronized steps. The Music club successfully debuted with two choral pieces and three solos, and the Dance Club stole the show with their dynamic and exciting dance routine that won them first place! The next Club Talent Show will be during the winter 2010 semester…Don't miss it!

■ On November 24th, Student Activities/Campus Recreation collected and donated eleven Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families who are all members of New Rochelle's Union Baptist Church. For their generous donations, a special thanks goes out to Executive Vice President **Marc Jerome,** New Rochelle Bursar, Residence Life, New Rochelle Financial Aid, **Mary Ann O'Brien**, **Jeffery Donovan**, Office of Career Advancement, Bronx Financial Aid, and Information Technology.

SIFE

■ On Thanksgiving Day, SIFE delivered dinners they had prepared to residents in the community who are in need. In total, 145 dinners were delivered to 95 different locations.

■ On Monday, November 30, President Jerome and the SIFE team met with Ghanian dignitary **Eric Peasah** to take the next steps on their project to prevent child trafficking. Mr. Peasah also visited some criminal justice classes.

NURSING

In the beginning of October, freshman nursing students had their first ever Cultural Diversity Luncheon. Foods from all over the globe were brought in by students representing diverse cultural backgrounds. Students spoke briefly presenting ethnic & cultural food influences with respect to healthcare. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students in the program to bond on a number of different levels. ■

ATHLETICS

■ Monroe Lady Mustangs women's volleyball coach **Justin Stack** has been named NJCAA, Division II Coach of the Year by the AVCA—American Volleyball Coaches Association. In his first year at Monroe and the team's first season in Division II, Stack led the Lady Mustangs to a 27–4 record, a District Championship, and an appearance in the National Tournament for the first time in the school's history.

■ On Sunday Nov 15th, the men's and women's soccer players went to South Bronx HS to give a clinic for the South Bronx United Soccer Club. The players talked about the importance of school and shared some of their experiences at Monroe. They also played a tough match against the kids.

BOOKSTORE

Book buyback begins on December 9th, and ends on December 18th. Also, the Monroe bookstore is running a sale on Jansport apparel through December 19. Buy one and get one at 50% off. The bookstore is open Monday and Thursday from 9am–5pm, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am–6:30pm, and Friday and Saturday from 9am–1pm. ■

Calendar of Events

continued from page 1

Sunday, December 13

9:00am to 2:00pm Bronx Library Open/BX

Monday, December 14

Final Exams

2:30pm Bronx and New Rochelle Winter Schedule Review – TBA/BX

Tuesday, December 15

Final Exams

12:30pm Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

6:30pm Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

Wednesday, December 16

10:00am Grades Due

9:30am; 1:00pm; or 6:30pm MA 042 Diagnostic – 309 King Hall/BX

3:00pm Weight Watchers – 110 Milavec Hall/NR

Thursday, December 17

9:30am; 1:00pm; or 6:30pm MA 042 Diagnostic – 309 King Hal/BX

Noon EASE Meeting – Main Hall Conference Room/NR

2:30pm Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

6:30pm Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

Friday, December 18

9:30am; 1:00pm; or 6:30pm MA 042 Diagnostic – 309 King Hal/BX

Saturday, December 19

10:30am Bachelor's Program New Student Registration – TBA/BX

FACULTY *(continued from page 2)*

■ On November 17, right after what would have been beloved Professor Terry Jewett's 66th birthday, his family, friends, colleagues and students gathered in the student lounge on the New Rochelle campus to celebrate the life of the popular IT professor who died suddenly last spring while cycling in Camden, ME. His widow, Carla Feltman Jewett, spoke eloquently of Prof. Jewett's love of his work, his students, the Monroe Lady Mustangs and of sailing. Joining her for the dedication of the Monroe College Jewett Technology Center, which is located on the second floor of Main Hall, New Rochelle, were Prof. Jewett's sisters Darcy Jewett and Rebecca Jewett Rendall.