

At

HUNTER

www.hunter.cuny.edu

SUMMER
2006

In this Issue:

- Happenings at Hunter 2
- The President's Perspective 3
- Rave Reviews for Faculty Authors 3
- Jack Newfield's Legacy 4
- June '06 Graduation Day 5
- Alumni Weekend Honors 13 6
- Faculty Opinion: Presidents & War 8
- Roosevelt House Seminars Underway 8
- Hunter Faculty Travel the World 9
- TV Newswoman Hails Hunter Alumna of '42 10
- In Memoriam: Ruby Felt Leader 10
- Class Notes 11
- In Memoriam: Dorothy Epstein 11
- Gifts and Bequests 12
- 10 Questions for... Darrell Wheeler 12

At Hunter is published by Hunter College. Please send comments and suggestions to Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, Room E1301, New York, NY 10021; or telephone 212.772.4070; or e-mail publications@hunter.cuny.edu. For mailing address changes, please call 212.772.4087 or e-mail alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu.



Senator John Edwards Comes to Campus

Senator John Edwards came to Hunter in May to host the Presidential Public Leadership Program - and the 2004 Democratic vice presidential nominee declared that poverty was "the great moral issue of our time."

Edwards - widely mentioned as a leading candidate for the White House in 2008 - spent a day and a half on campus meeting with students and faculty, attending political seminars and delivering a public address at the Kaye Playhouse. It was the sixth year of the highly acclaimed event which gives students and others the opportunity to interact with prominent national and international leaders. Alumnus Mel Tukman ('61) sponsors the program.

Edwards, who is currently director of the Center for Poverty, Work and Opportunity at the University of North Carolina Law School, said in his speech that 37 million Americans "wake up in poverty every day."

"It's wrong," Edwards told the crowd. "We're better than that. And we have a responsibility to do something about it."

continued on page 4

Feather in Her Cap

A determined Sarah Smith had to ruffle a few feathers to wear the graduation gown she wanted at Hunter College's June commencement ceremony.

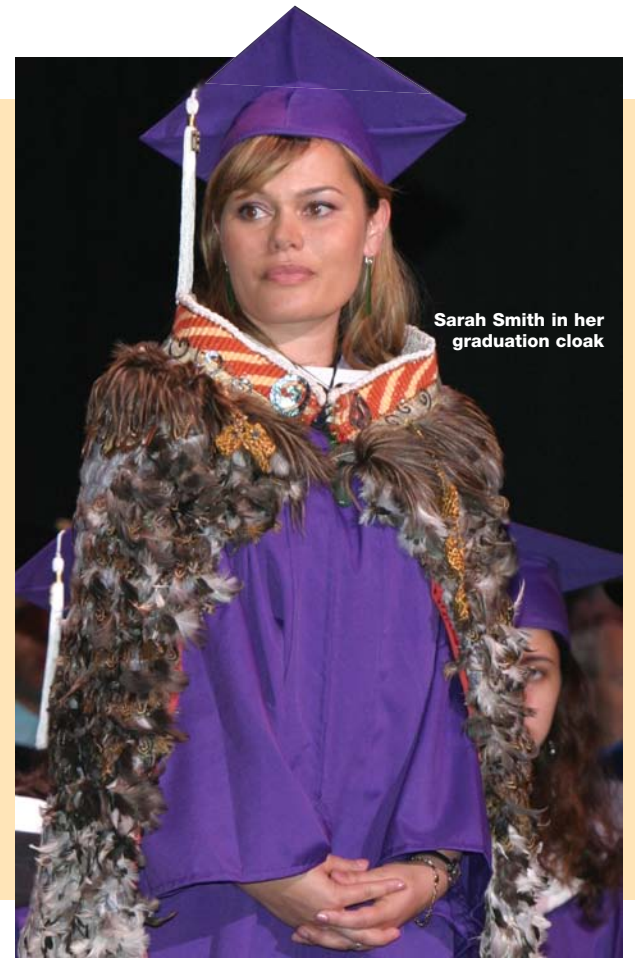
Sarah, 32 - who is a Maori, a member of a tribe in New Zealand - was one of more than 2,000 Hunter students who received their degrees at Radio City Music Hall. She earned honors in her double major of political science and women's studies.

But the tough part was getting an honorary ceremonial cloak made with exotic bird feathers - handcrafted by members of her Ngati Kuri tribe and sent nearly 9,000 miles from her homeland - into Radio City for the big day. Less than a week before commencement, the gray, orange, and blue cloak was seized from her parents at Kennedy Airport by U.S. Customs officials, who claimed the feathers came from endangered bird species. They refused to allow it into the country.

"I was devastated," said Sarah, who had been eagerly looking forward to wearing the cloak, along with her traditional purple cap and gown, to commemorate becoming the first Maori to ever graduate from a college in the CUNY system.

The cloak - described as a "cultural treasure" - was lovingly handcrafted by members of Sarah's tribe out of wool, silk, shells and

continued on page 5



Sarah Smith in her graduation cloak

HUNTER

Hunter College of The City University of New York and the Alumni Association of Hunter College
695 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York, N. Y.

Happenings at Hunter

To see a list of upcoming events at Hunter, go to www.hunter.cuny.edu/events



Great Music on Campus

There were some wonderful sounds on the Hunter campus this past spring.

Jazz great Jimmy Heath (playing piano at left) performed at a concert in the Lang Recital Hall with a select group of Hunter students and faculty members. He also taught a master class to jazz students.

Long recognized as a brilliant instrumentalist, composer and arranger, Heath has performed on more than 100 record albums and written more than 125 compositions - many of them jazz standards.

Meanwhile, opera star Angela M. Brown (shown receiving congratulations at right) appeared with the Hunter College Symphony in her only New York concert appearance of 2006. She sang arias from *Porgy and Bess* and selected American spirituals.

The singer - who's gotten enthusiastic reviews for her performances with the Metropolitan Opera and other major houses - met earlier with Hunter students, faculty and alumni to discuss her meteoric opera career.



Singer Lesley Gore (right) was among the prominent guests who turned out to help launch a leadership institute for women at Hunter named in honor of one of the college's most celebrated alumnae - longtime feminist leader Bella Abzug. Gore is shown here with Liz Abzug, the late congresswoman's daughter.



Jonathan Franzen, best-selling author of *The Corrections*, signs books during an appearance at Hunter in April. Franzen visited the campus as part of Hunter's Distinguished Writers Series.



Hunter alumna Arlene Alda ('54) delights Hunter Elementary School kindergartners with a reading of her new book about homonyms, *Did You Say Pears?* Alda, an accomplished author and photographer, took many questions from her audience, but did not have to explain the word homonym to the gifted class.



Actress Tyne Daly (left), along with other cast members from the Broadway play *Rabbit Hole*, talked about acting to more than 200 students from an introductory theater class in March. The former *Cagney & Lacey* and *Judging Amy* star is shown here with Hunter alumna Flavia V. Lasky, head of the Frederick Loewe Foundation, which made possible the purchase of tickets for students to see the play.



“Diversity is our strength and our beauty.”

The President’s Perspective

During our June commencement, keynote speaker Fareed Zakaria spoke eloquently about the changing new world Hunter graduates face today. His message was that immigrants, more than ever, are the lifeblood of this country - and what keeps America great. I am delighted to say that the same is true at Hunter. All you have to do is look around the campus to see the wide diversity of backgrounds and cultures we have here. One of this year’s co-valedictorians immigrated from Poland. The other is the daughter of Caribbean immigrants. More than one third of the freshman class comes from other countries. Overall, we have students from 150-200 different nations - speaking nearly 100 different languages. This diversity is our strength and our beauty, but we all realize it is also an ongoing challenge. During the spring semester, we held the first Hunter College Summit on Diversity - the start of a long-term effort to focus on this crucial issue. As an administration, we value the many differences found within the Hunter community, and are committed to fostering an atmosphere of respect for all of its members. We will continue to strive to ensure that all different cultures at Hunter work together to embrace the beauty and meet the challenges of our extraordinary diversity.

Jennifer J. Laab

AUTHOR, AUTHOR

Rave Reviews for New Faculty Books

A number of Hunter faculty members have published highly acclaimed new books during the past school year. One of the most eagerly anticipated was a novel from award-winning author Peter Carey, director of the MFA Program in Creative Writing.

Carey’s *Theft: A Love Story*, published by Knopf in May, has received glowing reviews. *Publishers Weekly* hailed it as “a masterwork.” *The New York Times* said Carey’s “novel truly sings.” And John Updike, in an article about the book for *The New Yorker*, described Carey as a “superb writer.”

“If the book is successful, then it should feel like you’ve had a lot of fun writing it, even if the reality is different,” Carey said in a recent interview about the freewheeling tale.

Carey is one of only two writers in history to have won the prestigious Booker Prize twice, for *Oscar and Lucinda* in 1998 and *True History of the Kelly Gang* in 2001. Carey, who was born in Australia and has lived in New York City since 1990, has also received every major Australian literary award. After teaching at NYU, Columbia and the New School, Carey joined Hunter to direct the creative writing program in 2003.

Ruth Sidel, professor of sociology, has written *Unsung Heroines: Single Mothers and the American Dream*.

The book, published simultaneously in paperback and hardcover by the University of California Press, contains interviews with 50 single mothers from the New York City area. These women - none of whom chose voluntarily to raise children on their own - are diverse in age, class, race, ethnicity and marital status (unmarried by departure, divorce or death.)

Saying she feels such single mothers have been unfairly scapegoated for many of society’s problems, Sidel uses their voices and her own to present a compelling case for why single mothers embody the best American values of “courage, determination, commitment to others and independence of spirit.”

“These narratives clearly demonstrate, I believe, the courage, the commitment, and indeed the true heroism of single mothers,” she said. Sidel has been on the faculty at Hunter since 1978, specializing in issues about women and children. Her previous books include *Keeping Women and Children Last: America’s War on the Poor*.

Another professor of sociology, Lynn Chancer, is the author of *High-Profile Crimes: When Legal Cases Become Social Causes*, from University of Chicago Press. The book examines cases like O.J. Simpson, the Central Park jogger, William Kennedy Smith and Rodney King during the 1980s and ’90s.

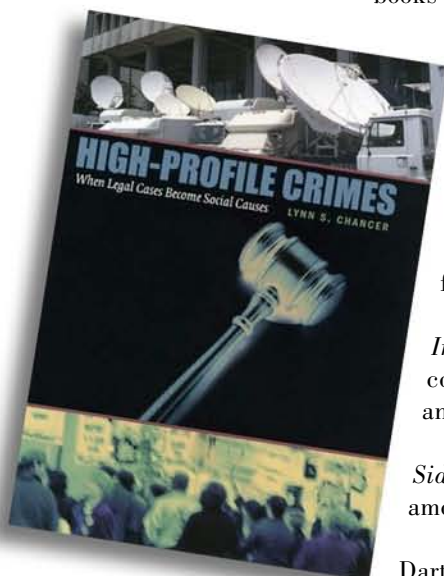
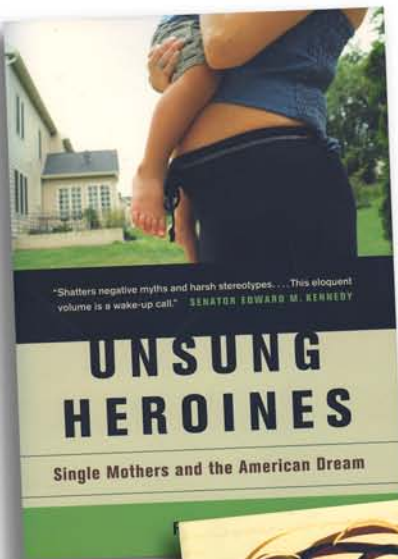
“I argue that high-profile cases of these decades became a way of debating, negotiating and absorbing social movement issues about gender, race and class from the 1960s that were beginning to seep into wider cultural consciousness years later,” Chancer said.

Chancer - who is a member of the doctoral faculty at the CUNY Graduate Center - has written several other books and many articles on sociology, feminist theory, criminology, media and social movements.

Tom Sleigh, Hunter’s new senior poet for the MFA Program in Creative Writing, has published a collection of essays titled *Interview with a Ghost* (Graywolf Press). Described as a work of “inventive prose by a poet,” Sleigh’s book explores issues in contemporary poetry and examines them in the context of real life events. *Library Journal* praises it by saying: “He does what any good poetry critic should do - he makes the reader want to read more poetry.”

Sleigh has published many books of poetry, including *After One*, *Waking*, *The Chain*, *The Dreamhouse*, and, most recently, *Far Side of the Earth*. He has also published a translation of Euripides’ *Herakles*. His books have won numerous honors and awards, among them the Poetry Society of America’s Shelley Award.

Sleigh, who joined the Hunter faculty this spring, previously had a distinguished teaching career at such institutions as Dartmouth College, the University of Iowa, University of California at Berkeley, Johns Hopkins University, and NYU.



“It should feel like you’ve had a lot of fun writing it.”

Peter Carey

HONORING THE NEWFIELD TRADITION



Wayne Barrett was Hunter's first Jack Newfield Professor of Journalism.

A class of dedicated student reporters at Hunter has carried on the work of legendary journalist and alumnus Jack Newfield ('60) by writing a special edition of his famed "10 Worst Landlords" feature for *The Village Voice*.

The unique investigative project was supervised by Wayne Barrett (left), who served this spring as Hunter's first Jack Newfield Visiting Professor of Journalism.

Barrett was the ideal choice to honor the late crusading journalist's legacy. He began his career as a Newfield protégé, was then his colleague at *The Village Voice*, and is now Newfield's successor as *The Voice*'s preeminent investigative reporter.

Just as Barrett brought a wealth of know-how to the classroom, his class of 13 Hunter students rewarded him with an inspiring experience as they revived Newfield's "New York's 10 Worst Landlords."

The result was so successful that the cover and main news section of *The Village Voice*'s July 5-11 edition were devoted to the 10 pieces - researched and written by the student journalists.

"They were a wonderful group of people," Barrett says. "They showed tremendous interest and energy, and some of the pieces they wrote were good enough to go into the paper almost unedited."

"The first idea was to print it with a collective byline, but the work was so good, we decided to do individual bylines for each segment."

Students were assigned to each landlord, either individually or as two-person teams, and their results astonished even Barrett. They were helped, he says, by the city housing department's unstinting cooperation, and they conducted



extensive interviews with tenants and housing advocates. But the key was the dedication and determination of the students, who even got some landlords to grant interviews - a first.

The guiding principle for their work was laid down by Jack Newfield in the 1980s: "Not all landlords are heartless, and not all tenants are victimized," he wrote, and not every victimized tenant has a heartless landlord. But the purpose remains "to show what has been done by 10 moral offenders by analyzing code violations and court proceedings and through interviews with tenants, organizers and housing officials."

By following Newfield's guidelines, the Hunter student reporters dug up some disturbing findings. For example, the lead-off piece in *The Voice* series by Jack Bachhuber and Samara Smith identified the worst landlord in New York City as none other than HUD - the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Similar hard-hitting and carefully researched pieces were written by Olaf Bertram-Nothnagel, Roger Peter D'Arceuil, Taina Borrero, Charlene A. Joseph, Kendal J. Matthews, Ryan Vu, JoAnn Raccuglia, Adam F. Hutton, Ruben Gonzalez, Dana Eshghi and Allison Steinberg.

Their articles and accompanying photographs covered 20 pages of the special edition of *The Village Voice*.

The Newfield Visiting Professorship honoring the longtime investigative journalist, who died in 2004, is supported by private donations, and with the help of

Newfield's wife, Janie Eisenberg. If you would like to contribute please contact the Hunter College Foundation, 212-772-4085.

A continuing series of distinguished journalists - men and women who were friends and colleagues of Newfield's or were inspired by his pioneering investigative methods - will teach the spring term classes each year.



Edwards Urges Students to Join War on Poverty



Senator John Edwards talks with political science students (right) during a classroom seminar. The 2004 Democratic vice presidential nominee (above, with a student journalist) was the host of this year's Presidential Public Leadership Program. Edwards spent an entire day on campus meeting with students and faculty - and also delivered a public address at the Kaye Playhouse.

continued from page 1 He urged Hunter students to make the battle against poverty their cause in the same way that young people in the '60s fought for civil rights and against the Vietnam War. "I have seen young people change the country," he said. "This country needs the passion and idealism of young people again."

During his public remarks - as well as at the question and answer sessions and student seminars he took part in throughout the day - Edwards was highly critical of the Bush White House on other issues such as the war in Iraq, tax cuts for the wealthy and failures of the federal response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

"There is a hunger in America," Edwards said. "A hunger to be inspired again. People are looking for something that makes them proud to be Americans." He was peppered during the classroom exchanges by questions from students who wanted to know his views on everything from immigration to gay marriage to the Democrats' chances for winning back the White House in 2008.

Although repeating several times that he was still deciding whether to run for President, Edwards insisted it was crucial for the Democrats to offer a "clear, different vision" to the voters. "I don't

believe in the same America George Bush does," he said.

Asked by one student at a morning seminar if he thought the U.S. was ready for a woman president, Edwards (after calling potential Democratic rival Hillary Clinton a "formidable candidate" if she should run) replied: "Probably. My gut tells me yes, but I'm not certain...if we're not ready now, we will be soon."

Edwards also talked enthusiastically during his speech and with the students about a new program called "College for Everyone" that he has recently begun in North Carolina. Under the plan, any student who is qualified to attend college gets his/her books and tuition paid for during the first year. In return, students perform 10 hours of community service work a week.

"We want to make it easier for kids to go to college," he said. "The response has been absolutely phenomenal."

President Jennifer J. Raab said that the goal of the annual event was to inspire the "next generation of public leaders."

Although Edwards hasn't said if he's running for President, she gave him a Hunter sweatshirt as a gift, quipping: "It's very cold in New Hampshire" (home of the first presidential primary).

"With support from 3 Hunter presidents, this program brings world leaders face to face with our excellent students. Possibly it will launch some of them into similar roles in the next generation. If so, our already successful program will be a home run."

—Mel Tukman, sponsor of the Presidential Public Leadership Program



Co-valedictorians Gwendolyn Williams (left) and Justyna Goworowska (right) with Professor of Geography Rupal Oza, Director of the Women's Studies Program.

HEAD OF THE CLASS

The class of June, 2006 didn't have just one valedictorian - it had a pair of co-valedictorians. Two remarkable young women shared the honor as top student with perfect 4.0 grade point averages.

Gwendolyn Williams is a pre-med student in the Hunter/CUNY Honors College with a major in psychology and a minor in Spanish.

One of six children born to Caribbean immigrant parents who came here to give their family a better life, she studied public policy at Princeton last summer and also volunteered in the pediatric wing at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. "My parents gave me opportunities they never had," Gwen told the commencement crowd. "I am here because of them."

She is headed to the University of Pittsburgh Medical School with a full scholarship this fall. In addition to an M.D. degree,

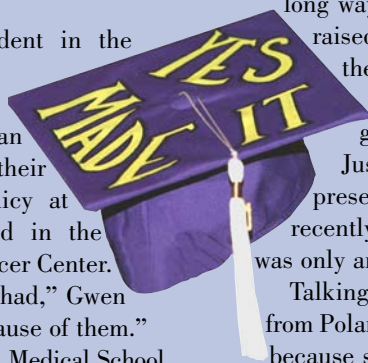
Gwen will study for a master of public health degree. Her ultimate goal is to play a major role in international public health policy.

Justyna Goworowska is a geography major who traveled a long way to achieve her high honors at Hunter. Born and raised in Poland, she began teaching herself English at the age of 10 and came to the U.S. in 2001.

In the fall, she will begin graduate studies in geography at the University of Oregon.

Justyna is already well-known in her field, having presented a paper at a top professional gathering recently that was so outstanding no one could believe she was only an undergraduate.

Talking on commencement day about her dramatic journey from Poland, she said she had decided to leave her homeland because she knew there were more opportunities at a place like Hunter for her to learn. "I got what I came for," she said.



Graduation at Radio City Hall continued from page 1

feathers from three different birds - the kiwi, the kuaka and New Zealand pigeons. It symbolically represented the tribe's history and their pride in her achievements far from home.

"You have to show you are a worthy recipient," she explained. "I am humbled that my tribe recognizes what I'm doing here." Fortunately, thanks to efforts by Senator Chuck Schumer - one of the speakers at the commencement - and others, Sarah got the cloak back in time to wear it on stage for graduation.

Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab told the audience the remarkable story of the cloak - and it became big news in the media, including *The New York Times* (right).

That was just one of the memorable moments at this graduation which featured a commencement speech by *Newsweek's* Fareed Zakaria, also a regular contributor for *ABC News* and *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*.

Zakaria talked about the rapid changes in the world the graduates were headed out into - and all the new opportunities and challenges that offered. "You are now competing with everyone all over the world - not just simply your city or neighborhood anymore," he said. "The world is changing very rapidly, and it will continue to change."

But he added that America continued to have significant advantages, describing the U.S. as "an old country that still has the drive and energy of being a young nation....because of its immigrants. Decency, courage, hard work, loyalty will always remain the same," Zakaria said. "That is what they will build statues for tomorrow as they did in the past."

Others speakers included Schumer; longtime feminist leader Gloria Steinem; and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn.

Schumer reminisced about his own college graduation. He told how he gave up a scholarship that would have allowed him to travel around the world for free. Instead, he stayed home to be with a girl who promptly dumped him.

"I had no scholarship, no trip around the world and no girl," he laughed. But he said he picked himself up, decided to enter politics and won election to the New York State Assembly at the age of 23. Schumer urged the graduates to follow their dreams just like he did. "Go for it!" he said.

Quinn, the first woman as well as the first openly gay person to hold the top City Council post, received a President's Medal, along with Zakaria. "Break through glass ceilings and make history," she urged the graduates.

Steinem was awarded an honorary degree by President Raab, who told the women in the audience: "Because of her, you can become the men you were supposed to marry." Steinem recalled the late Bella Abzug going to Hunter and said: "I hope you will have the impact on the world she did."



FAREED ZAKARIA
Commencement speaker and President's Medal recipient



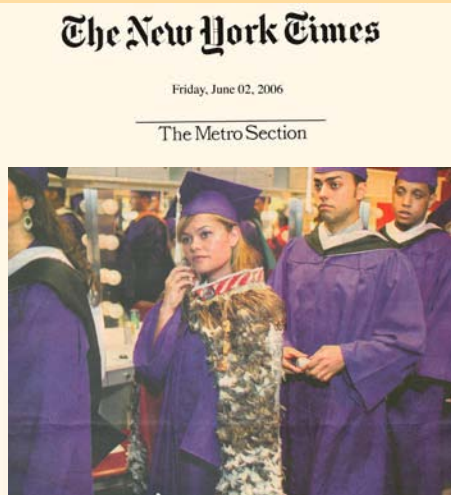
GLORIA STEINEM
Awarded honorary degree



SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER
"Go for it!" he tells graduates.



CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER CHRISTINE QUINN
Received President's Medal



A Cloak of Many Colors, and Challenges
Sarah L. Smith, 32, graduated from Hunter College yesterday draped in her heritage, as the first Maori to graduate from the CUNY system. Her cloak was made by her New Zealand tribe's members of feathers and emblematic of their history and her accomplishment. There was just the matter of the confusion at airport customs. Page B5.

She and Her Graduation Robe Had to Come a Long Way

By JAMES BARRON
It was not the usual gown seen at a college commencement ceremony.

Sarah L. Smith graduated from Hunter College yesterday wearing a handmade cloak of feathers and shells that had traveled more than 8,000 miles but almost couldn't get past inspection at Kennedy International Airport.

Ms. Smith, 32, is a Maori, a New Zealander whose Ngati Kuri tribe made the cloak to celebrate her achievements. She is, she said, the first Maori to graduate from a college in the City University system.

"You have to show you are a worthy recipient," she said, after explaining that her family had submitted a request to tribal officials to have the cloak made.

That was months ago, before 50 people had collected the materials to make it and before her parents had brought it from New Zealand to New York.

So there she was yesterday at Radio City Music Hall, where Hunter held its graduation ceremony, in a dressing room used at Christmas-time by the Rockettes. This being commencement season, it was filled with about-to-be graduates in Hunter-purple robes.

Ms. Smith had one of those, but she also had the cloak.

She lifted it out of its carrying case and pulled it over the robe, explaining that the tribe had sought permission from the New Zealand government to obtain the feathers of three species. Each figure in the story she said the cloak tells.

There are feathers from the kiwi to symbolize stability, she said — their feet are planted firmly on the ground because they do not fly.

There are the feathers from the kuaka, also known as the bar-tailed godwit, a migratory bird that goes from the Southern Hemisphere to the Northern, as she has already done. Then the kuaka returns to the Southern, as she intends to do.

And there are feathers from the native New Zealand pigeon.

When the undergraduates left the dressing rooms and filed into the music hall, Ms. Smith's assigned seat

was on the main stage, the better to let the audience see the cloak. The president of Hunter, Jennifer J. Raab, even had her stand up and turn around.

The cloak was blessed before it left New Zealand, but that did not ward off what Ms. Smith diplomatically called "the complication with customs." When her parents, Graham and Nettie, arrived at Kennedy last Friday, they told customs officials about the cloak and handed over a sheaf of documents, including a fumigation certificate.

Hunter officials said that when Ms. Smith called the Fish and Wildlife

A cloak of feathers, some so special that they had a hard time getting in the country.

Service last month, she was assured that the cloak could be brought into the country. The inspectors at Kennedy, however, refused to release it. It turned out that the kiwi is an endangered species and the kuaka is covered by an international treaty.

It took calls from the likes of Senator Charles E. Schumer to get the cloak to graduation, Ms. Raab told the crowd.

Ms. Smith enrolled at Hunter after visiting New York and tracking down a friend who was dancing with a Maori group represented by a Hunter graduate, Bess Pruitt. Ms. Pruitt, two sisters and a brother all graduated from Hunter, and in 2002, after Bess Pruitt's 50th reunion, Ms. Smith decided to enroll at — well, you know where.

Yesterday her mother, who had never visited New York before, marveled at Radio City and the excitement of her daughter's graduation, so far from home.

"I didn't expect anything like this," Mrs. Smith said. "This is just magic. I never thought it would end up like this."



Phi Beta Kappa graduate Jeannie Mantopoulos heads to Yale's School of Public Health in the fall.



MFA graduate Alison Fox's painting hangs in the Guggenheim Museum.

A Time for G

One of the highlights of Alumni Weekend was the presentation of three special Alumni Association awards:



Jacqueline G. Wilson (Class of 1951) has had a successful career in the area of health professions. In 1972 she was an original member of the selection committee for the Hunter College Hall of Fame, and in 1979 she was inducted into the Hall of Fame herself. She served as president of the Alumni Association from 2002-2005, is an active member of the Wistarians Chapter, and continues her devotion to her alma mater through her involvement with the Hunter College Mentoring Program.



Morton Z. Hoffman (Class of 1955) graduated cum laude with a BA in chemistry from Hunter and is now a professor emeritus of chemistry at Boston University. Hoffman is the author of over a hundred articles and has served on many academic committees. He is the recipient of many awards in his field and is the founding director of the Center for Teaching Excellence for the College of Arts and Sciences at Boston University.



Klara Apat Silverstein (Class of 1954) received a BA in social sciences and an MA in special education from Hunter College. A former teacher, she has served in a wide range of leadership roles in New York's Jewish community. Silverstein, a member of the Hunter College Alumni Association Hall of Fame, is co-chair of the Board of Trustees of the Hunter College Foundation. In her role as chair, she is a key ambassador for Hunter, promoting the college throughout New York City.



The Bronx Boys are Back

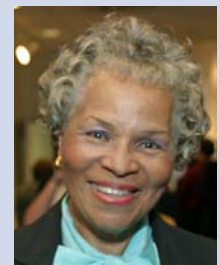
Fifty years after receiving their diplomas, the "Bronx Boys" reunited for their golden anniversary. From left: Arthur Pudes, Len Landsman, Matt Bevalacqua, President Raab, Arthur Taub and Jim Lepanto. During Alumni Weekend, held on May 5 and 6, some 600 Hunter alumni gathered at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers to reminisce, attend special seminars, and hear about the state of the College today.

Hall Of Fame Taps 10 P

The Hall of Fame, established in 1972 in celebration of the Alumni Association's one hundredth birthday, commemorates Hunter's accomplished alumni. Each year the Association selects and honors graduates who have distinguished themselves in a variety of fields and services. The Association welcomes nominations of noteworthy graduates for consideration. Congratulations to this year's honorees.



Blanche Cirker (BA '39) and her husband, Hayward, founded Dover Publications Inc. in 1941. Under their dual presidency Dover published more than 7,000 books and other products for a variety of markets. The Cirkers became well known for their unique direct marketing strategies for high-quality books and received numerous prestigious awards. In addition to publishing numerous works, Mrs. Cirker has written and edited many books herself.



Elvira Doman (BA '55) is retired from the National Science Foundation, where she received outstanding annual performance ratings throughout her 21 years of service. She holds memberships in many professional organizations and is active in community churches and schools. Since 1996 she has served as recording secretary of the National Capital Area Chapter of Hunter College's Alumni Association. She is also an alumna of Hunter College High School.



Judith Jacobs (BA '60) who is serving a fifth term in the Nassau County Legislature, is currently presiding officer of the Legislature. Among her top priorities have been quality-of-life and child care issues. Jacobs was nominated to the 2002 and 2004 class of the Top 50 Women in Long Island by *Long Island Business News*. A former teacher, she also did graduate work at Hunter.



Larry Lee (MSW '76) is currently the chief program officer of the Educational Alliance. A leader in the Lower East Side since 1979, in 2005 Lee was honored by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg as an outstanding New Yorker who has made a difference in the lives of immigrants and other New Yorkers. He is also the founder and a board officer of the Hunter College School of Social Work Alumni Association. In addition to receiving his master's in social work from Hunter, he also earned an MA in psychology here.

Great Memories



Seventy-Five Years and Still Going Strong

Members of the Class of 1931 celebrated their 75th reunion and shared memories of their time at Hunter. Some of the alumnae had not seen one another since graduation. From left: Dorothy Kaufman, Rose Schuyler, Adele Ziminski, Rose Apfelberg, Zelda Ackerman, Mildred Cohn Primakoff, and Sarah Neumark (seated).



Jill Geldbach (left), Class of 2001, came to the Hunter reunion with her good friend and former Hunter student Hedda Kleinfeld. Jill met Hedda (one of the founders of Kleinfeld's bridal salon in Brooklyn) years ago on a cruise and realized that they had Hunter in common. A unique and wonderful bond developed between these two Hunter women, and Jill brought Hedda back to Hunter to attend some classes with her and to join her at her fifth reunion.

Pioneering Professionals



Tom Finkelpearl (MFA '83) has worked as an artist, a curator, and a director at many prestigious institutions, including P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center, the New York Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. He is currently the executive director of the Queens Museum of Art. His book, *Dialogues in Public Art*, was published by MIT Press in 2000.



Norman Goldsmith (BA '59) received his degree cum laude with honors from Hunter in chemistry. He is a senior director at Sarnoff Corporation and has worked broadly in all aspects of semiconductor technology and program management. In the 1990s he managed two projects of particular interest: one that resulted in the commercialization of DirecTV and one that formed the basis for the current system of HDTV broadcasting.



Natalie Gomez-Velez (BA '84) is an assistant professor at CUNY School of Law where she teaches public institutions/ administrative law and lawyering. While at Hunter, she was a member of the Public Service Scholars Program, the Thomas Hunter Honors Program, and the Hunter College Scholars Program. Her work with the Public Service Scholars program put her on the path to law in the public service.



Denise Murphy (BSN '76) is an infection control coordinator and associate clinical professor at the College of Dentistry at NYU and academic advisor at the NYU College of Nursing. After graduating from the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing in 1976, Murphy worked in the Ivory Coast for two years with the Peace Corps. Upon leaving Africa, she did volunteer work in a Tibetan refugee camp in North India. In 1983 she became an associate professor and program director in Hunter's master's program in occupational health. She was named "distinguished alumna" by the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing Alumni Association.



Kathleen M. Nokes (BSN '73) is professor at the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. She has devoted her career to community public health nursing as well as to nursing persons with HIV/AIDS. She developed the first nursing subspecialty in HIV/AIDS care in the country at Hunter College. Through her efforts, HIV/AIDS content has been integrated into nursing school curricula throughout the country. She is the author of over 60 publications, the recipient of at least 18 research grants and awards, and is a recent Fulbright Scholar.



Helen Rosenstein Hamlin (BA '42) is the primary representative to the United Nations International Federation on Aging of the United States. For over 35 years, she has been committed to serving the elderly nationally and internationally. She is chair of the U.N. NGO Committee on Aging. Hamlin has published extensively, in both national and international journals, and she has been recognized with many awards for her work in the field of the elderly. At Hunter she served as editor of the *Wistarion*.

We Want to Hear From You....

Have a comment on an article you read in *At Hunter*?
An idea for something you think we should be covering?
Or maybe you just want to share a favorite Hunter memory through pictures or words?
Whatever it is....we'd love to hear what YOU have to say!

Send your comments to:
publications@hunter.cuny.edu
Or... At Hunter
Hunter College
695 Park Avenue, Rm. E1301
New York, NY 10021

Faculty Opinion:

Professor of political science Andrew J. Polsky delivered this year's TIAA-CREF lecture in May on "The American Presidency at War: 1787-2006." Here he writes for *At Hunter* about the dangers of making it too easy for the President to use military force.

Professor Walter Volkomer (left), Political Science Department chair; Rosemary Markowski of TIAA-CREF; and Professor Andrew Polsky.



Unchecked Power: The American Presidency at War

By Andrew J. Polsky

Since 1991, American presidents have orchestrated three major military interventions with little opposition from Congress, the mass media, or the American people. These episodes make clear that a president can deploy substantial military forces virtually anywhere, secure approval from Congress to use those forces even when evidence identifies no direct threat to vital American interests, convince the public of the need for military measures and act without regard for international consequences.

Such a situation appears without precedent in American history. It also masks serious risks to both the nation and the presidency itself.

For much of American history, the power of a president to make war was constrained by the modest size of the standing military. Congress controlled the purse strings and backed the creation of a large army and navy only when a national security crisis arose - sometimes not until after a war had already started.

To be sure, presidents could use their power as commander in chief to manipulate circumstances to force Congress to declare war, as James K. Polk did with Mexico in 1846. And Abraham Lincoln exercised emergency powers to respond to secession with force in 1861.

But, once the crisis passed, the military quickly shrank to something close to its tiny prewar establishment. A president today faces no such hindrance. Since the end of the Second World War, the United States has consistently maintained a large military: indeed, the peacetime military at the beginning of the 21st century (before 9/11 but after the end of the Cold War) was larger than any wartime army before World War I. Presidents can order 100,000 troops or more to a crisis spot and then ask Congress to approve military intervention, timing the request to make legislative opposition politically impossible.

At the same time, the vast technological superiority of the American military assures that high-intensity combat operations will be concluded with few U.S. casualties before popular domestic opposition to war can organize. This held true even in Iraq: the initial campaign to capture Baghdad concluded well before any serious domestic dissent emerged. As the Iraq conflict has also demonstrated, however, the amassing of war-making power in the hands of the president poses dangers. First, the enormous military resources at a president's disposal can lead a president to conclude that *military solutions offer high returns at low cost*. The technology promises quick destruction of an adversary's capacity to resist, far less collateral damage (that is, fewer civilian deaths), low American casualties, and battlefield victory without major economic or social mobilization.

The illusion of a favorable cost-benefit ratio leads to a second danger: *the temptation to prefer military solutions* when faced with difficult international problems. Extended diplomacy may entail concessions, compromises of principles a president has told voters he will never compromise, a willingness to settle for less than ideal or definitive solutions.

Finally, presidents may fall prey to *hubris*, the conviction that the means at our disposal are so overwhelming, *any result is within our reach*. Hubris leads leaders to dismiss and marginalize doubters, such as Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki, who estimated that several hundred thousand troops would be needed to pacify Iraq.

We need to recover an awareness that war is a dangerous enterprise - for the world, for the nation, and for a president. A president must be confronted with all that can go wrong in war, with the worst-case scenarios. As Iraq reminds us, presidents can more readily start a war than they can control its outcome. Failure to appreciate this makes it more likely a war will determine a president's fate, rather than the other way around.

The TIAA-CREF Lecture Series

TIAA-CREF, the pension and retirement fund for CUNY, sponsors the annual "Outstanding Faculty Lecture" at Hunter.

The prestigious series recognizes the scholarly work of the Hunter faculty by selecting an exceptional professor to make a presentation in his or her field of expertise. Nominees are chosen for outstanding scholarship and contribution to the college.

These highly acclaimed lectures, which TIAA-CREF began sponsoring in 2001, have become a highlight of the year for Hunter faculty and students, as well as for members of the overall CUNY community. Each year's event has attracted more than 100 audience members.

The funding - made possible through the efforts of Rosemary G. Markowski, director, Institutional Client Services, at TIAA-CREF - provides a stipend for the selected faculty member and also pays for invitations, publicity and a reception honoring the awardee.

Roosevelt Seminars Kick Off

Historic House to Re-open Next Year

Andrew Lund, assistant professor of film production at Hunter, was talking about movies. Not about watching them - but instead providing fascinating evidence of how making movies can dramatically benefit the economy and the people of cities like New York.

"Big budget films bring jobs and money and generate taxes," Lund said in a paper presented on May 2 as part of a newly inaugurated Roosevelt House seminar program. "If they didn't, there wouldn't be all these cities and states and countries trying to compete for films everywhere."

"Film incentives work," concluded Lund, a filmmaker himself who came to Hunter in 2004. "The numbers show it."

He also pointed out that there were additional benefits from encouraging movie and TV production - such as increased tourism for an area, a favorable public image and even people who decide to permanently relocate there. "New Zealand couldn't have advertised itself better than being the country where *Lord of the Rings* was filmed," he laughed.

Lund's paper was just one of a series of such presentations put on this past semester as part of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Faculty Seminars on Public Policy, a prelude to the opening of Roosevelt House itself next year. Restorations on the historic Upper East Side residence at 47-49 East 65th Street, once home to FDR and his family, are expected to be completed by late 2007.

From February until this past May, a dozen faculty members presented papers on topics ranging from urban affairs to the economy to the impact on a community of same-sex marriage.

Each of the weekly Roosevelt House seminars - chaired by Joseph P. Viteritti, Blanche Blank Professor of Public Policy - was followed by a discussion about the topic from those in attendance.

"The Roosevelt faculty seminar is the first formal step in convening a community of scholars at Hunter who share an

interest in public policy," Viteritti told *At Hunter*. "It begins to set the stage for the opening of Roosevelt House next year, where research and ideas will inform discussions about important issues of the day."

During Lund's presentation, he talked about how research shows that film incentives are an effective tool in combating a "runaway"

"Big budget films bring jobs and money and generate taxes."

Professor Andrew Lund

epidemic of movie production companies fleeing the U.S. to locations around the world where it might be cheaper and easier to work.

"The positive effects of a film production can ripple through various economic sectors and surge forward," he said.

Supported by private funds, these seminars are expected to become part of the public policy program at Roosevelt House when it re-opens.



Andrew Lund, assistant professor of film production (far right), delivers his presentation at the Roosevelt House seminar program. Roosevelt House (above) will reopen next year as Hunter's new public policy center. Restorations to the historic building - once the home of Franklin Roosevelt and his family - are expected to be finished by late 2007.



Ideal Incentives:
(3) Become an Investor

- Provide different incentives for studio and independently financed films.
- Allow incentives to be transferred if:
 - State becomes equity investor in film (producers can decide not to transfer incentives and then state not equity investor)
 - Over time of films, state likely to make 5.
 - State making some financial commitment, producers getting some benefits. ASID can actually help independent producers raise balance of budget.
 - Can use film profits to fund incentives or create a film fund for university filmmakers.

FACULTY AROUND THE WORLD

PROFESSORS HAIL TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM

History professor Manu Bhagavan spent part of his summer in the Netherlands where he took part in the 19th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies.

Professor of chemistry Michael Drain traveled to Hawaii recently to speak at a conference attended by more than 10,000 scientists from around the world.

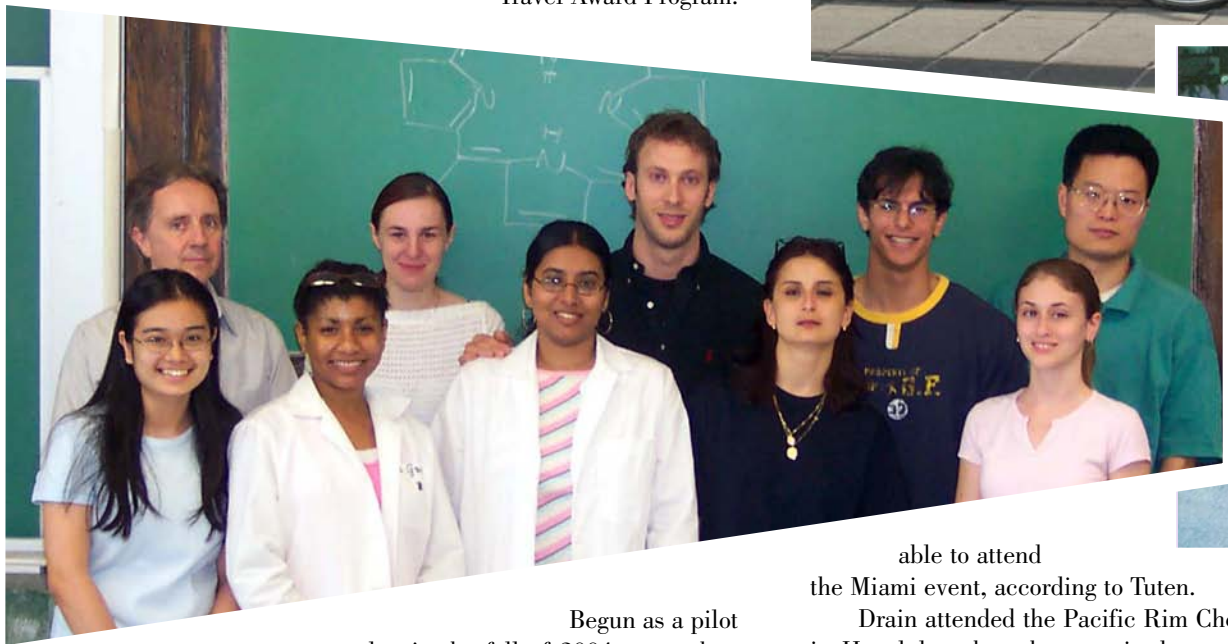
Yang Hu, Jennifer Tuten and Deborah Jensen from the School of Education delivered their joint research on teaching literacy to a symposium in Miami - and wound up getting an offer to write a book!

“I couldn’t have gone without this grant... it’s inspirational.”

Professor Manu Bhagavan

And librarians Valeda Dent and Wendy Tan presented a highly acclaimed paper at an international gathering in China.

For all of them, as well as many other Hunter College faculty members, these trips were made possible by the new Presidential Travel Award Program.



able to attend the Miami event, according to Tuten.

Drain attended the Pacific Rim Chemical Societies conference in Honolulu, where he organized a symposium on self-organizing materials with presentations by academic, government and industrial scientists from 12 different countries.

Several other Hunter College faculty members and graduate and postdoctoral students were able to attend also - including one of Professor Drain’s students, Giorgio Bazzan. “It is important to send our students to national and international conferences because this showcases the talents of our doctoral students, which also reflects on Hunter and CUNY,” Drain said.

Librarians Dent and Tan made a presentation at the China Library Association Annual Conference in Guilin, China - thanks to money they received from the Presidential Travel Grant program. Their paper was titled “The Voila! Project at Hunter: Information Literacy Instruction in an Urban University.” It was so well-received that they were invited to make a special bilingual talk (in English and Chinese) on the topic to a seminar. The same paper also won the *Best Paper Award*.

“It goes without saying that our travel grant was the driving force for us to enjoy this huge success,” said Tan, who added that otherwise the trip probably would have been too expensive for them to make. “We are so grateful for this initiative.”

The President’s Office received almost 200 applications from eligible faculty members for the travel program last year - and even more are in the works.

“We look forward to expanding this important program in the near future,” says Hunter College President Jennifer J. Raab in hailing the success of the travel grant awards.

Top: History Professor Manu Bhagavan in Leiden, where he played a key role in a conference on modern Southeast Asia studies that was held this summer in the Netherlands.

Left: Professor of chemistry Michael Drain (top row on the left) traveled to Hawaii to conduct a symposium with other scientists from around the world. Hunter student Giorgio Bazzan (top row, third from left) also attended.

Above: Hunter’s Wendy Tan (middle) attended an international library conference in Guilin, China. She and Assistant Professor Valeda Dent presented a paper on literacy instruction and spoke at a seminar.

Begun as a pilot plan in the fall of 2004, more than \$50,000 was provided this past year to help the faculty participate in conferences and other research-related travel.

“I couldn’t have gone without this grant,” said Bhagavan, part of a panel of experts who gathered in Leiden this June to discuss the cartographic history of South Asia. “Travel has become terribly expensive, and international conferences are almost beyond reach. This is great. It’s inspirational. Scholarly exchange is vital to our research and writing.”

The paper on India, the UN and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights he delivered to the conference dealt in part with the International Court of Justice, which is housed just 15 minutes outside of Leiden in the Peace Palace of the Hague. He was able to visit this site during his trip.

Also delighted with their travel grant were Hu, Tuten and Jensen. After their presentation at the National Reading Conference in Florida, a publishing executive in the audience approached them about writing a book. They’re now working on the proposal.

“That was the highlight of the trip,” according to Hu, who said her students applauded when she told them the news. “We didn’t expect that to happen.”

“There’s no way we could have done it without this funding,” said Jensen of the travel grant program. “It gave us the community and the environment and the feedback to continue with our writing and our work...it was fun to do this as a group.”

The three are now headed on a new trip this August for the World Congress in Reading in Budapest - all as a result of being

A HUNTER EDUCATION... PRICELESS

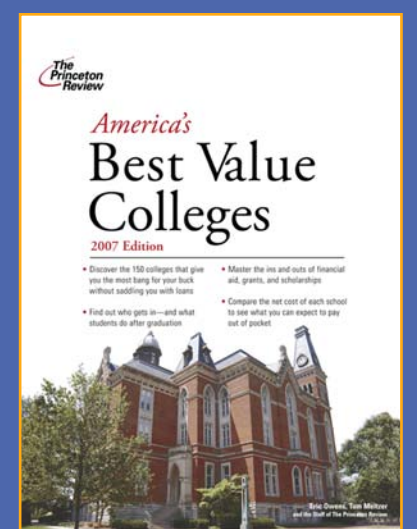
Want to get the most for your money when it comes to paying for a college education? Well, you can’t go wrong at Hunter, according to a new survey which calls Hunter one of the best deals in higher education.

The Princeton Review has listed Hunter in the 2007 edition of “America’s Best Value Colleges” - a guidebook to schools which it says successfully combine excellent academics with generous financial aid packages and relatively low tuition costs.

In its profile on Hunter, the publication said the school offered a tremendous amount of “bang for your buck.”

“For many New Yorkers seeking a college degree, Hunter College...offers the best, most affordable option available,” *The Princeton Review* said.

“It is the first choice among many applicants.”



Alumni News

NEW ALUMNI CARD WITH PICTURE

Apply now for your new photo ID Alumni Card.

Getting your NEW ALUMNI CARD is easy.

Stop by the Alumni Office, Room 1314 East Building between 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and bring photo identification with you.

Call 212.772.4087 or email: alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu for more information.

If you graduated before 1983 the application process will take 1-2 business days.

Once your alumni status has been approved, you will receive a new photo ID Alumni Card.

Newswoman's Role Model Was Hunter Graduate

Longtime NBC reporter Andrea Mitchell's best-selling book about her career as a television journalist begins with a glowing tribute to the woman she says first inspired her to become a newswoman: Hunter alumna Virginia Clair '42 (right).

It turns out that Mitchell – as an 11-year-old growing up in New Rochelle, N.Y. back in 1958 – wrote about her elementary school for the New Rochelle Standard Star, where Clair was the schools editor.

"Miss Virginia Clair could have been the character played by Rosalind Russell in *His Girl Friday*," Mitchell recalls in *Talking Back....To Presidents, Dictators and Assorted Scoundrels*. "I idolized her as a tough wisecracking newspaperwoman in a man's world. I wanted to emulate Miss Virginia Clair and be a lady and an ace reporter at the same time."

Clair, now retired and still living in New Rochelle, was thrilled when the book turned up at her door not long ago with an inscription from the famous newswoman which read: "For Virginia, whose encouragement set me on this course and made all these adventures possible."

So, was the Hunter alumna a real-life Rosalind Russell in a time when women weren't allowed much of a role in the male-dominated newspaper world?

"I purposely watched *His Girl Friday* the other night," Clair says with a laugh. "I watched Rosalind Russell three times since Andrea said that. In watching her, I can almost see what she was saying. I was very fast, I was quick in speech and I was strict. But it was a childlike impression. I was the only female newspaper reporter Andrea knew."



And Clair doesn't buy the idea that she was some kind of a pioneer as a woman journalist.

"They make me feel like Amelia Earhart," she says. "No way. There were women before me. In my time, there were plenty of women. One time in an interview I was asked what it was like working in a man's world and I said: 'It wasn't a man's world, it was my world.'"

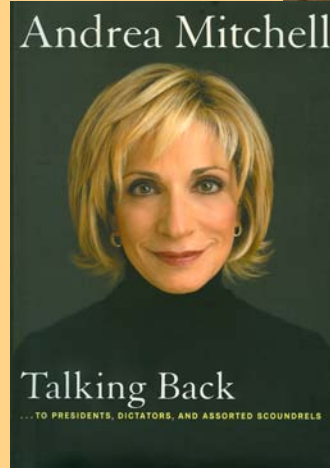
After graduating from Hunter in 1942, Clair worked as a reporter and editor for the New Rochelle Standard Star and a chain of 13 other papers for 25 years. One of the highlights, she says, was covering one of the nation's first big segregation cases during a trial which lasted two years in the early '60s. Later, she was in the public relations department of New York University; became a freelance writer specializing in the health field; and also served as an adjunct writing instructor at the College of New Rochelle.

She finally retired two years ago, which gives her more time for one of her other passions – traveling. She's been to every state except South Dakota and all over Canada, Europe and the Caribbean.

Mitchell, who is married to former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and has covered politics for NBC for more than 30 years, was one of many elementary school children that Clair supervised who filed stories about their classmates to the newspaper.

Clair says she got a wonderful note from Mitchell which said: "Thank you for your patience with a very wide-eyed child."

"I loved working with kids," Clair recalls. "Andrea was a very bright child, obviously, and a very serious child. She wanted to be a newspaper reporter. She wanted to be what I was, and I was her first experience."



PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL BY OCTOBER 13, 2006, TO:

Fall 2006 Luncheon Committee
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HUNTER COLLEGE
Room 1314 East Building, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021

FALL LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Alumni Fall Luncheon And Association Meeting – October 28, 2006, 12 Noon

Last Name		First Name	
Address		City	State Zip
Phone Number		e-mail	

Enclosed is my check payable to: *The Alumni Association Of Hunter College* for \$_____ to cover _____ luncheon reservations at \$35.00 each.

All reservations will be held at the door of the Faculty Dining room.

For more information please contact the Alumni Office at 212.772.4087

The 2007 Hall Of Fame Nominations

Nominate a Hunter alum to the Hunter College Hall of Fame by **November 1, 2006**.

For more information and to download a nomination form, go to www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni/events.shtml or call the **Alumni Office** at **212.772.4087** to receive a nomination form and for further details.

To learn about the Hunter College Alumni Association Constitution, go to <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni>



RUBY FELT LEADER
1914-2006

In Memoriam RUBY FELT LEADER '35

Ruby Felt Leader (BA '35), a philanthropist and community activist who was one of Hunter's most dedicated alumnae and a member of the Hall of Fame, died on March 5 at the age of 92. Leader, who majored in speech education at Hunter and went on to get a master's in the same field from Columbia, was long involved both professionally and on a volunteer basis in programs aimed at bettering the community, especially programs relating to the education and welfare of disadvantaged young people. She was active in Encampment for Citizenship, a program to enhance young people's understanding of current issues; the court program of the Jewish Board of Guardians; and various Jewish community organizations, including the Felt Center for Legal Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which she helped sponsor and found.

Ruby Leader and her late husband, Dr. Sidney D. Leader, were generous Hunter supporters. She was a longtime officer and member of the S & W Board whose gifts included Scholarship and Welfare Fund undergraduate and graduate scholarships and a special gift to the library. Along with her brother, Irving Mitchell Felt, Leader also created Hunter College scholarships and awards in the Department of Urban Affairs and at the School of Health Sciences in memory of their brother James. The family commitment to philanthropy continues through the leadership of her son, Steven Leader, and his wife, Barbara Leader (MA '74), who was an adjunct faculty member in Hunter's School of Health Sciences for many years. We send our deepest condolences to Ruby Leader's family and many friends.

Class Notes

Read about the wonderful life events happening with all of our esteemed Hunter College alumni. Please keep us—and your fellow alumni—informed about your accomplishments by e-mailing your news to alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu. Or you can update your contact information and submit a Class Note at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni. Share your stories with us and the greater Hunter College community. You can even post a picture of yourself!

1940s

A Minefield of Etceteras, a book of poems by **Peggy Herrman Heinrich (BA'49)**, was recently published by iUniverse. This is the fourth book of poetry by Heinrich, who has also written articles, plays, children's books, and the libretto for a children's opera and taught poetry writing.

1950s

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion awarded an honorary doctorate to **Leo Hershkowitz (BA'50)** for his "many years of outstanding teaching, dedication to historical scholarship, and selfless efforts to preserve and make available for study the documents relating to the early history of Jews in America." Hershkowitz, who earned his PhD at New York University, is a professor of history at Queens College.

The statewide union NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) named **Margarita Duncan Tomko (BA'50)** a co-recipient of the 2006 NYSUT Retiree of the Year award in recognition of her leadership in the union and her advocacy for union issues. Duncan Tomko taught Spanish and English in Farmingdale (NY) public schools for more than 30 years and is an officer in her regional NYSUT retiree unit.

Reflections on Life: Why We're Here and How to Enjoy the Journey by **Allen Klein (BA'59)** has been published by Gramercy, a division of Random House. The author of eleven previous books, Klein is president of The Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor.

1960s

The University of Iowa Press has published *The Sorrow Psalms: A Book of Twentieth-Century Elegy*, an anthology of 106 elegies by 66 poets collected by **Lynn Strongin (BA'63)**.

David Poorvin (BA'67) has been named to the board of directors of NUCRYST Pharmaceuticals, which develops and manufactures medical products that fight infection and inflammation. Poorvin, who has a doctorate from Rutgers, is currently executive in residence for Oxford Bioscience Partners and a consultant at Poorvin Enterprises.

The scholarly journal *Art Criticism* recently published the essay "John Hultberg's Abstract Perspectivism" by **Martin Ries (MA'68)**, professor emeritus of art and art history at Long Island University. The essay is posted on Ries's Web site, www.MartinRies.com.

1970s

The Sunrise (Florida) Civic Center exhibited artwork by **Essie D. Owens (BA'71)** this winter.

Raymond Gleason (MA'74) has been appointed senior instructor of ethics and leadership at Culver Academies, a boarding school in Indiana. He continues as an adjunct professor of medieval literature at Northwestern University. Gleason, who is a retired major in the U.S. Army, holds a doctorate in English from Northwestern.

Kathleen Burke Castagna (BA'75), who was an environmental engineer at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Boston for 25 years, is now pursuing an MBA at Simmons College.

Pace University School of Law's Public Interest Law Scholarship Organization recently presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to **Barbara Finkelstein (BA'75)** for her extensive contributions to public interest law. Finkelstein, who holds a JD from Rutgers University School of Law, is executive director of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, a nonprofit law firm that provides legal representation to low-income individuals and families in civil legal matters. Finkelstein is co-chair of the Special Committee on Funding of the New York State Bar Association.

1980s

Shena S. Jagnarain (BA'83) is a substitute teacher in Gwinnett County Middle Schools in Duluth, Georgia. Jagnarain pursued graduate studies in business administration at Baruch College/CUNY.

Artwork by **Nancy Nieves (MFA'85)** is on display at the Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, North Carolina. Nieves teaches art at Gaston College in Dallas, North Carolina.

Award-winning writer-producer **Van Dora Williams (BA'86)** recently became an assistant professor at the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University in Virginia. Williams, who has worked in TV, print, radio, and Web journalism, spent most of her career as a PBS producer and reporter. She has an MA in journalism from Regent University in Virginia Beach.

Artist **Yoko Inoue (BA'89, MFA'00)** recently received a Guggenheim Award as well as the Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art Award and a Painters and Sculptors Grant from the Joan Mitchell Foundation. Inoue is currently a visiting art faculty member at Bennington College.

1990s

Susan Cippolletti (BA'91), who is federal grants project manager for Girl Scouts of the USA, recently developed a curriculum to train rural teenagers in how to be entrepreneurs in their own communities. The program is now being piloted in 22 communities around the country.

Kaisha Thomas (MA'91) was recently appointed director of individual and family counseling at the Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County, Florida.

Mitchell J. Silver (MUP'93), planning director of the city of Raleigh, North Carolina, has been elected to the American Planning Association's board of directors as a director-at-large. Silver has been deputy director in the Office of Planning in Washington; Northern Manhattan planning and policy director for the Manhattan Borough President; and a city planner in the New York City Planning Department.

Santa Clara University has named **Robin Reynolds (BA'94)** assistant vice provost for planning and administration. Reynolds holds a master's in public administration from NYU.

"Empty Thoughts, Lame Excuses and Decorative Lies," an exhibition of the work of **Ryan Humphrey (MFA'99)**, opened in April at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri, and ran until July 2. This was Humphrey's first solo museum show.

2000s

WovenWord Press recently published *Journeys: Stories of Pregnancy After Loss*, edited by **Amy L. Abbey (MPH'01)**. Written by parents who lost a child through stillbirth, miscarriage, or infant death and then went on to a successful pregnancy, the book aims to help other parents in similar circumstances.

Brian Fraga (BA'02) is a reporter at the *Standard-Times* in New Bedford, Massachusetts, where he covers regional news.

Now in his second year at Fordham Law School, **William Lim (BA'03)** received a fellowship for the second consecutive year from Equal Justice America, which provides funds that enable law students to work at legal service organizations that aid low-income clients. The new fellowship will help support Lim's internship at the Welfare Law Center, which aids low-income families and individuals nationwide.

Hyperion/Miramax just published *It's Kind of a Funny Story*, the latest book by **Ned Vizzini (BA'03)**. *The New York Times* calls the book, which is about a depressed teenager who checks himself into a hospital, an "insightful and utterly authentic new novel" which portrays "the insidious kind of pressure teenagers face in a success-oriented society."

Gloria Romano (BA'06) is one of four young men and women selected for the 2006 Ford Motor Company National Association of Hispanic Journalists/National Association of Hispanic Publications Journalism Fellowship. Romano, an editorial assistant at *Centro Journal*, a peer-reviewed academic journal published by the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Centro) at Hunter, is spending the summer in Washington, where she is interning at the magazine *Latina Style*.

Alumni Association Events

For information on all alumni events, please check our Web site at www.hunter.cuny.edu/alumni

NEW HAVEN CHAPTER

October 7, 2006, 12 noon
Fall Luncheon at **Brazi's, New Haven, CT**

For information call Beth Schaefer at 203.795.4236.

ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER

Fall Luncheon: TBA

For information please call Elaine Bregman at 212.673.7396.

STATEN ISLAND CHAPTER

October 14, 2006

Agnes A. Violenus, President of the Alumni Association, will be the guest speaker. Location TBA. Call the Alumni Office at 212.772.4087 for details.

WISTARIANS CHAPTER

October 21, 2006

Meet at Hunter College. For information call the Alumni Office at 212.772.4087.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOOK CLUB

September 20, 2006
East of Eden by John Steinbeck

October 18, 2006
1,000 White Women by Jim Fergus

November 15, 2006
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson

The club meets in the **Archives Room of the Hunter Library, Level Two, at 7:00 pm.**

CELEBRATE YOUR MILESTONE!

Join your classmates and fellow alumni this spring to celebrate your milestone reunion, 137th Birthday of Hunter College and the 135th anniversary of the Alumni Association.

Milestone classes are Hunter graduates whose year of graduation end in a 2 or 7 (e.g., 1942, 1957, 1962, 1977, etc.). Some classes will be celebrating their 10th, 25th, and 50th class reunions.

If you are interested in volunteering on your milestone committee, please contact the Alumni Office at 212-772-4087 or email us at alumnirelations@hunter.cuny.edu

In Memoriam DOROTHY EPSTEIN '33

Hunter College mourns the loss of Dorothy Epstein, who died on May 25. A trailblazing businesswoman, labor organizer, advocate for the elderly, and longtime supporter of Hunter, she earned her BA in history—Phi Beta Kappa—and became a social investigator with the New York City Welfare Department. She helped organize the union that grew into the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, and was the first woman president of the New York State division of the union.

During the 1950s, she entered the health-food industry, where she held several executive positions. She co-founded Synergy Plus, a highly successful vitamin company, and was the company's president. Following her retirement in 1989, Epstein spent many years working on behalf of education and social justice. She was a founder of the Joint Public Affairs Committee of Older Adults, the founder of the Institute for Senior Action, and an active member of Amnesty International, Children's Defense Fund, Hudson Guild Senior Center, and ACLU.

Epstein established the Dorothy Epstein Chair in Latin American History, the first endowed chair at Hunter; she endowed a graduate scholarship in nutrition in the School of Health Sciences and created a lecture series in the Nutrition Program; and she endowed two Scholarship and Welfare Fund scholarships. A longtime member of the S & W Board, Epstein was a member of the Hunter Hall of Fame and a recipient of the President's Medal and the Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Community Service.

In Dorothy Epstein's memory, gifts (made payable to Hunter College Foundation) are being accepted for the Epstein Chair. Please send checks to The Hunter College Foundation, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, attention: Epstein Chair.



Dorothy Epstein
1913-2006

Foundation News



Professor Cecile Insdorf (center) stands with her daughter Annette, son-in-law Mark Ethan Toporek, and President Raab (right) at a dedication ceremony in her honor.

Screening Room Named in Honor of Cecile Insdorf

Cecile Insdorf, a longtime professor in the Romance Languages Department, recently gave a gift of \$100,000 to the college and was honored at a ceremony on June 5 dedicating a room in the Chanin Language Center as the Cecile Insdorf Foreign Language Screening Room. Insdorf's gift will support the Foreign Language Film Festival and a variety of programs in the Romance Languages Department and the Chanin Center.

Insdorf created the Foreign Language Film Festival, which has screened many foreign-language masterpieces and hosted such celebrated speakers as Pedro Almodovar, and Martin Scorsese. She has brought Milos Forman, Liam Neeson, Meryl Streep, and other film luminaries to Hunter for her course on "Film and the French Novel." At the dedication ceremony, Insdorf thanked the guests—"for the honor of keeping my name alive at my beloved Hunter College."

Class of 2006 Leaves Legacy Gift



Members of the Class of 2006 launched a new tradition at Hunter by giving a legacy gift to the College during the June 1 commencement ceremony.

Money raised from a student-led campaign is being used to buy a clock and a plaque that will be displayed in a prominent area of the campus as an emblem of the class's time at Hunter. A check for \$620 was presented to President Jennifer J. Raab at the commencement by members of the 2006 Legacy Gift Campaign Committee (from left) Alina Plotkina; Pierce Varous, president of the Student Government; Taina Borrero; and Mohammad Saleem (not pictured). Additional funds for the students' legacy gift were raised throughout June.

The purpose of the gift is to symbolize the memories, education and plans for the future of the Class of 2006.

Make Your Mark on the Future

You can make a real difference in the life of Hunter students by including the Hunter College Foundation in your long-range estate planning. A bequest, a charitable gift annuity, a gift of life insurance, or the establishment of a trust are some examples of estate planning that can be of enormous benefit to the next generation of Hunter students.

In this way you will be helping to provide for their education while also living the College's motto: *Mihi Cura Futuri* - the Care of the Future is Mine.

In addition, you can establish tax benefits for yourself as well as for your heirs in the years to come. Certain kinds of gifts will reduce your

estate's tax liability, provide tax savings to you during your lifetime, and benefit your heirs.

And, by making this commitment to Hunter's future, you become eligible for membership in the Thomas Hunter Society, which was founded in 1994 to recognize the vision and generosity of those donors who include the College in their estate plans.

For more information about planned giving - or to tell us about a bequest you have already made - please call John Brundage at 212.650.3774.

10 Questions For....

Darrell P. Wheeler, Associate Professor, School of Social Work



Darrell P. Wheeler is an associate professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work. He previously taught at the Columbia University School of Social Work, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and the University of California San Francisco.

Wheeler's work and writings focus on the social, behavioral and environmental factors associated with HIV/AIDS infection. He is currently the co-principal investigator of a U.S. Centers for Disease Control research study of African-American men who have sex with men in New York City. He received his BA in sociology from Cornell College in Iowa, his MSW from Howard University and his MPH and PhD (Social Work) from the University of Pittsburgh.

In this, part of a regular series in *At Hunter* spotlighting members of the Hunter College faculty, Wheeler answers 10 questions that were put to him:

1. If you weren't teaching at Hunter, what do you think you might be doing for a living?

Hopefully teaching somewhere else. Where I don't know. I cannot imagine doing anything else right now. I truly love being in NYC.

2. Tell us about a memorable moment in the classroom.

There are so many; great and small. One of the things I love about teaching is that each day, and certainly each new academic year, provides opportunities for new discoveries and memorable moments.

3. What do you like to do when you're not teaching?

I have a passion for global travel. I enjoy cooking elaborate meals for friends and family. And I love spending time with my partner and daughter.

4. Accomplishment you're most proud of?

This is a very difficult question for me. I truly don't know what one thing I can mark as THE accomplishment I am most proud of. I hope that if I live long enough I'll be able to chalk up a few to name.

5. What book have you just finished reading?

Spirituality Oriented Psychotherapy (Sperry and Shafraanske). I was reading it for a grant proposal and found it to be a fine read. I have John Hope Franklin's autobiography on my desk at home waiting to be read this summer.

6. Favorite movie?

I have to say I'm not much of a movie fan or TV watcher (it usually watches me); but I was on vacation a couple years ago and saw all of *Moulin Rouge* and really enjoyed it. So much so I watched it a few times on that trip.

7. Guilty pleasure TV show?

When I do watch television, I enjoy C-SPAN in the morning and anything sci-fi at night!

8. What's in your CD player?

My CD has a bit of everything at any one time, gospel, classical, and house music are my favorites.

9. All-time favorite meal?

All things seafood: Crab-cakes (real lump crab meat), fresh grilled veggies, and lobster or sea bass would certainly be high on my list.

10. Tell us something about yourself that your students would be shocked to find out?

I'm not sure I can shock my students any more. It might surprise people to know that I'm pretty good on horseback - and very comfortable getting dirty.