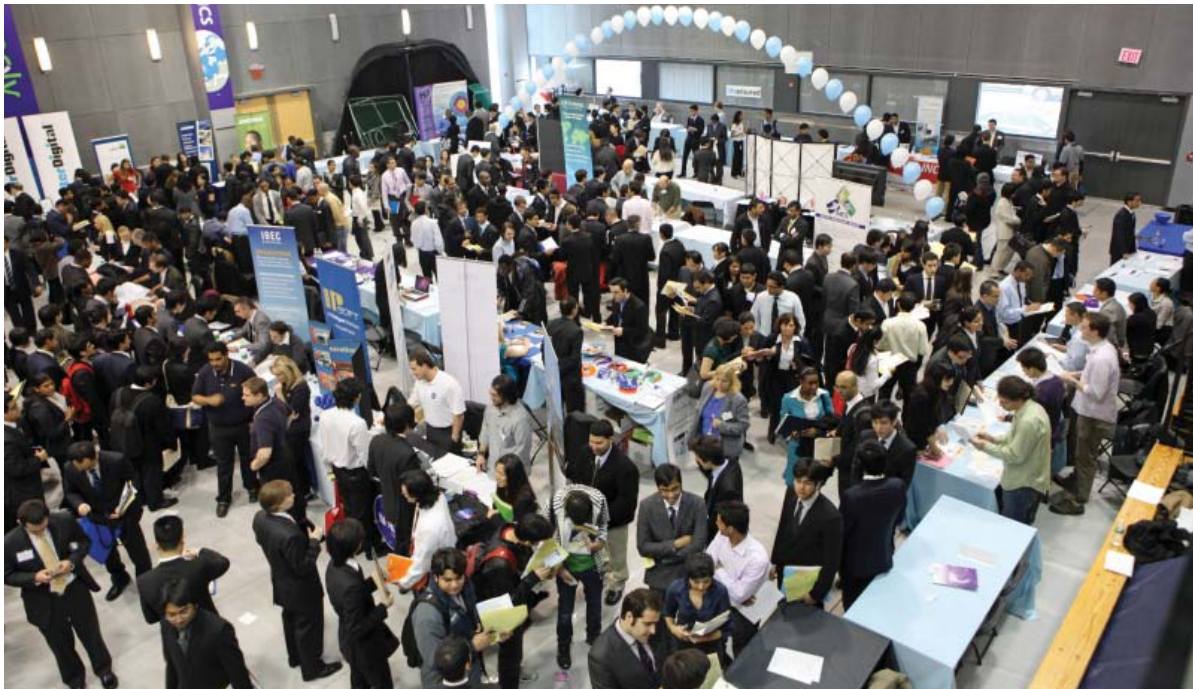


THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

The Voice of the Student Body of Polytechnic Institute of NYU

Monday, April 18, 2011



The gym at Six Metrotech Center was a hive of activity during the spring career fair.

HuSS Faculty Approve Transfer Of Freshman Writing Courses To NYU

The humanities and social sciences department voted in March to turn over its freshman writing courses to NYU's Expository Writing program, a move the administrations of both the institute and NYU had been urging.

Before the transfer can take place, however, the undergraduate curriculum and standards committee must consider and approve it, after which the entire NYU-Poly faculty must render a decision. Integration of the programs would give NYU's Expository Writing faculty complete responsibility for administering the freshman courses, as well as final say on their content.

Continued on Page 8

Editor's Note

At press time, the HuSS department was voting on a proposal to reverse its decision to integrate freshman writing with Expository Writing. The outcome will be announced today.

NYU-Poly Moves to Become a Leader in Game Design

New Innovation Lab Opens

By WAQAS SAEED

Video games are a \$32 billion global industry whose revenues rival those of the film industry, stressed NYU-Poly President Jerry M. Hultin as he welcomed more than 150 attendees—business, government, and academic leaders, as well as students—to the inauguration of NYU-Poly's Center of Innovation for Technology and Entertainment (CITE).

The game innovation lab officially opened in the Dibner building on March 11. It was funded by a \$2 million state grant.

"With CITE, NYU-Poly's researchers, students, and industry partners are well poised to contribute to the economic growth of New York. CITE will facilitate the collaborative development of groundbreaking digital-gaming innovations and new media technologies with tangible commercial applications," Hultin said.

The research director of the new gaming lab is Katherine Isbister, an associate

Continued on Page 5

News From the Spring Career Fair

Recession May Have Ended, but Companies Remain Wary About Hiring

Still, Job Picture Looks Brighter Than It Did Last Year

By KWADWO SARPONG-FARIED and JESSIA LEONARD

Internship, cooperative education, and entry-level, full-time opportunities existed at the recent spring career fair, but not enough for student job seekers to get excited about. That's the conclusion The Reporter came to after its writers interviewed nearly all of the company spokespeople who participated in the event.

The job outlook for graduating seniors appears to be slightly better than it was a

year ago. True, representatives of the companies, big and small, said that the recession was over and they were looking to expand hiring across the board, but many students came away despondent from talks with recruiters. Job prospects are favorable in only a few disciplines, they said.

More than 50 companies were represented at the fair,

Continued on Page 4



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Center of Innovation for Technology and Entertainment. (l. to r.) Edward Reinfurt, executive director, New York State Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR); Jerry Hultin, president, Polytechnic Institute of New York University; Sen. Martin Golden, NY 22nd District, assistant Senate majority whip; Katherine Isbister, research director of the new game lab and associate professor; and Michael Balagur, architect, Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP.

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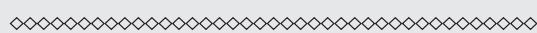
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THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER



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A TIME TO HELP, SO PLEASE DO

We here at NYU-Poly are horrified and saddened by the loss of lives and the untold destruction caused by the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster in Japan. The estimated 150,000 people made homeless by the triple calamity desperately need our help.

The Poly community came through with flying colors to assist in the Haitian relief effort two years ago, when much of that country, too, was leveled by an enormous quake.

Let's all respond the same way this time. It's easy to help by making a donation, but please do so safely. The following is an alphabetical list of 10 reliable organizations accepting donations to

benefit the victims in Japan:

- American National Red Cross
- AmeriCares
- Convoy of Hope
- Give2Asia
- GlobalGiving Foundation
- International Medical Corps
- The Salvation Army
- Save the Children
- UJA-Federation of New York
- United States Fund for UNICEF

Just perform a Web search with the name of the organization of your choice and the phrase "Japanese relief," and your search results will guide you to a safe site. Once again, the need is urgent.

Political Affairs: A New Role for Social Media

We assume you've been keeping track of the news lately. If so, you're aware of the not inconsiderable role Facebook and Twitter played in the successful revolution in Egypt. We might even call it a "digitized" revolution.

No, the Egyptian people and then-Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak weren't duking it out in cyberspace. Rather, the social media websites—which until then were chiefly used by people and companies as a bulletin board and casual meeting place—were a means to a much more serious end. They were literally instrumental in determining the outcome of a political revolution.

The social media sites gave Egypt's advocates for democracy a powerful vehicle for organizing huge demonstrations, thereby spreading revolutionary fervor. And eventually, the continuous stream of mass protests led to the fall of an autocratic regime.

Yet we should exercise good judgment and analyze this startling event in its proper context. Twitter and Facebook, as useful as they were, should not be regarded as the heroes of the story. That homage belongs to the Egyptian people alone. They are the doers in their quest for democracy.

We must remind ourselves that social media websites are nothing more than communication tools—useful ones, indeed, but still tools. Throughout history, revolutions have occurred in hundreds of countries without the benefit of the Internet—in fact, long before any form of electronic communication was even invented, let alone Facebook, Twitter, and the like.

People will always find ways, whether it be marching, riding horseback, scrolling, or texting, to organize against despotic rule. Where, for instance, were social media sites during the

American and French revolutions?

For a more recent example, consider the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989, commonly referred to in Chinese as the June Fourth Movement, which began with small gatherings in Beijing to mourn the death of an ousted pro-market and pro-democracy official and spread by word of mouth throughout the country. At a time when Mark Zuckerberg and Jack Dorsey were still in grade school, the movement grew to include large-scale demonstrations and persisted for weeks—until troops were ordered into Tiananmen Square, where they killed hundreds, perhaps thousands, of civilians.

We must understand that protests and outright revolutions will continue to sprout up, irrespective of technology. And some will succeed, as was the case in Egypt, where the army refused to fire upon unarmed citizens.

In the wake of the Egyptian success story, journalists unfortunately got carried away with a plethora of articles and news broadcasts lauding the social networks as if they were *dei ex machina*, or gods from a machine, come to earth to rid the world of tyrants.

Well, it's our job to keep the event in perspective. Yes, social media sites played a role in Egypt's revolution and in the revolution in Tunisia, but they don't amount to a hill of beans when people are facing a ruthless dictator,

one who will cling to power at all costs and even order troops to assault and fire on their own people—as Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad did in 2009 and Libya's Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi is doing on a massive scale today.

Don't misunderstand: Communication infrastructure, whether it be high-tech or barebones, is absolutely essential when it comes to growing a successful revolution. The Libyan rebels, for example, attribute their haphazard progress at least in part to poor communications.

But it doesn't necessarily follow that the Libyan or any other revolution against tyranny will fail without the aid of social media.

Websites can be key players in today's political climate, as we have seen. Their ease, speed, and effectiveness as instruments in shaping public opinion and inciting people to act are unparalleled in human history and a powerful new force with which dictatorial regimes must now reckon.

Nevertheless, we seriously doubt that the popular uprisings spreading throughout the Middle East and West Africa today would not have occurred had there been no Twitter, no Facebook. After all, shutting down the Internet for several days didn't save Hosni Mubarak. Thankfully, the human race is not yet totally beholden to cyberspace.

YIT



Fashion Comes to Campus: Women Advised to ‘Dress for Success’

By IVANA SAPON

Regna Lounge in Rogers Hall was the stage for a February fashion event hosted by Macy's By Appointment, the provost's office, student development, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). The goal was to give NYU-Poly female students tips and tricks for dressing on the job “with appropriate style.” The two-hour event included a fashion show in which NYU-Poly students modeled.

Dr. Dianne Rekow, provost, welcomed attendees and shared some of her own workplace experiences. She said she empathized with women in the engineering and academic fields and remarked, “I was almost always the only woman in my class in college. In my first year, there were three [women] out of 350 [total students]; in my second year two out of 350; and by my third year they were asking us, ‘Do you know how to do number 12 [of the homework]?’”

Rekow recalled her mistake in wearing shorts and boots to work one day. Her boss warned her that if she dressed like that again, she wouldn't have a job. Rekow also said that in her depart-

ment she was the first woman to become pregnant and not get fired.

Her comments set the tone for the dress-for-success event, making it not only a fashion powwow but also an empowering experience for its female audience.

Claudia Acosta, Macy's representative, focused on acquiring a business wardrobe that would help its wearer make a positive impression. She recommended building on a foundation of dark colors: blacks, navies, browns, and grays.

A business suit can be either a skirt suit or a pants suit, Acosta said. Jackets can be worn buttoned or unbuttoned and over a button-up shirt, a colorful blouse, or even a dress. She specified that jacket sleeves should end at the wrist bone, and she imparted some surprising good news—shoulder pads are back!

As for wearing sleeveless dresses in the workplace, that's a no-no. They're too informal, Acosta said, although she acknowledged that employer dress codes have final say.

She redefined the nomenclature of casual attire—“a comfortable look is what they

mean by casual”—and downplayed accessories too: “Less is more. You want them [employers] to pay attention to you, not your accessories.”

Alejandra Piccione, a Macy's cosmetics department representative, cautioned, “Don't do a strong lip, strong eye, and strong blush all at once. And keep the glitter at home!” She did underscore the importance of strong eyebrows, however.

The event concluded with Rekow's number-one fashion tip: “Black is much easier to mix and match.”

Michaëlle Exhume, a chemical and biomolecular engineering student, said she came away from the event with the understanding that “you don't want to go to an interview looking like you just rolled out of bed. Makeup is just as important as the clothes you choose.”

For information on Macy's By Appointment or to learn about the engineering societies represented on campus, contact Sukari A. Brown, internal vice president of the NYU-Poly chapter of NSBE, at sbrown01@students.poly.edu, or Elizabeth Schrandt, president of the NYU-Poly chapter of SWE, at eschra01@students.poly.edu.



YANGZI ISABEL TIAN FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

David De Armas, cofounder of Campus GreenUp.

Mission of Campus GreenUp? A ‘Greener’ NYU-Poly, Of Course

Ideas fostered here can have an impact worldwide, says David De Armas

By CHRISTOPHER CRAWFORD

The cofounder of Campus GreenUp has green aspirations for NYU-Poly: He wants to make the school “environmentally, economically and socially sound.”

David De Armas helped start Campus GreenUp just last year in the wake of another career entirely. He received his bachelor's degree in computer science and English from Fordham University in 1987, after which he worked as a financial services information technology professional for about 20 years. When he decided he wanted to make a major change, he went back to Fordham to earn a master's degree.

“While getting my MBA, I realized that the connection between business and the environment was not only practical, but also the only way to conduct business,” he says. Around the same time, “An Inconvenient Truth” was released and further solidified his decision to pursue a career that to him made environmental and economic sense.

“It's a movie that vividly demonstrates how business and our fossil fuel economy are changing our environment,” De Armas explained. “The human race will survive,

I'm sure, but very uncomfortably. To change how we live our lives, businesses are going to have to lead. We've done it before. At the turn of the century we had horses, and in 100 years we developed this great automobile society. We can change to renewable resources—we just need to commit to it. I want to help organizations like NYU-Poly meet these commitments.”

Such was the motivation behind De Armas's participation in NYU-Poly's first CleantechExec cohort, a highly selective management program that brings together seasoned executives and entrepreneurs to educate them about the clean technology and renewable energy space and prepare them to assume leadership roles within it. The institute's Bruce Niswander and Prof. Mel Horwitch have been the driving force behind the program.

De Armas and program colleagues Matthew Fairy, Monty Graham, and Sherri Sklar, each with experience in a different field, including cogeneration and microgrid technology, teamed up during CleantechExec and



SCOTT ALNWICK FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

On the runway. (l. to r.) NYU-Poly students Stephany Torre, Megan Hightower, Elizabeth Schrandt, Ora Jin, Tracy Pulla, and Noelle Mckoy.

Continued on Page 11

CAREER FAIR

From Page 1

and most said they were seeking computer science, computer engineering, and electrical engineering majors to fill mainly programming and software development spots. Both undergraduate and graduate students said that the hottest major this year is computer science.

"If you're not a CS or IT major, you're going to have a tough time finding a job," said Afisi Oluwatosin Savage, a chemical engineering graduate student. Senior Samir Jhaviri, who's majoring in electrical engineering, agreed that "everybody wants software engineers."

Some recruiters advised students to attend additional networking events to improve their chances of obtaining employment.

Even Herbert Scheftel, organizer of the career fair and cooperative education coordinator for NYU-Poly's career management center, recommended that students not rely on the fair as their sole job source. Seventy percent of all jobs are landed through vigorous networking, he underscored, and the career fair is only one of the many channels open to students entering the job market.

Here, in no particular order, is a sampling of what recruiters had to say about job possibilities:

- The **Naval Air Systems Command**, or NAVAIR, headquartered in Patuxent River, Md., provides support for the full life cycle of naval aviation aircraft, weapons, and systems operated by U.S. sailors and marines. It's interested in hiring about three dozen June graduates, the recruiter said, for computer science and mechanical, computer, and electrical engineering openings at its Lakehurst, N.J., facility.
- **General Dynamics Corporation**, based in Falls Church, Va., is a leader

in the defense, aerospace, marine, communications, and electronics industries. It plans to hire 25 percent more engineers than it did last year. Over the course of its nearly 60-year history, the company has hired many Poly graduates. General Dynamics is looking for mechanical, electrical, nuclear, civil, and computer engineering graduates. Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

- **Northrop Grumman Corporation** is another diversified defense company, with locations in all 50 states and 25 countries. Currently in Los Angeles, its headquarters will relocate to Falls Church, Va., later this year. Northrop Grumman has openings in the fields of computer science and electrical, mechanical, and aeronautical engineering, as well as business and technology management, according to the recruiter.
- **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**, whose U.S. chairman's office is located in New York, is one of the world's largest providers of assurance, tax, and business consulting services. At this spring event the company was not looking to hire anyone. "We

are here simply to build a relationship with NYU-Poly," the PwC representative said.

- The **New York City Department of Design and Construction** builds many of the civic facilities New Yorkers use every day. Its job openings are for civil and mechanical engineers. Unpaid internships are available to help students gain experience, the DDC recruiter said.
- East Coast-based **EmblemHealth, Inc.** provides health care coverage and administrative services to approximately 3.3 million people; its networks include physicians and hospitals throughout the New York tristate area. The company wants to fill 135 positions in information technology and pharmaceuticals, some of them internships and some full-time jobs.
- **E-J Electric Installation Co.** is a Long Island-based full-service electrical and communications contractor with a long and diverse client list. The company needs four interns in the fields of electrical engineering and construction management. Internships at E-J ultimately lead to

full-time jobs, the recruiter emphasized.

- **John P. Picone, Inc.**, located in Lawrence, N.Y., provides heavy construction services. It works on highway, bridge, tunnel, mass transit, pollution, and water main projects, among others, and wants to hire interns, cooperative education students, and one entry-level project engineer. The company is most interested in construction management and civil, electrical, mechanical, and computer engineering majors.
- **Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.**, based in Melville, N.Y., produces electrical wiring devices, lighting energy management systems, and datacenter connectivity solutions. The recruiter said opportunities exist for entry-level and internship positions in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering.
- Long Island-based **MITEQ, Inc.** designs and manufactures components and subsystems for microwave electronics used in military and commercial applications. Andrea Marinozzi, human resources manager, is seeking electrical engineering students with

experience in or knowledge of microwave and radio frequency engineering. The company offers very competitive salaries, she said. MITEQ is an acronym for microwave information transmission equipment.

- **cyberThink Inc.** is an information technology services and staffing company with offices in Bridgewater, N.J., and Ahmedabad, Gujarat in India. It's looking for interns, who will be paid \$30 an hour.
- **Brainscape**, a member of NYU-Poly's Varick Street Incubator, develops educational software that operates like an intelligent electronic flashcard deck, with a repetition pattern that customizes to each user. The software has language and other subject matter applications. Company founder Andrew Cohen said that unpaid internships are available to graduating seniors and graduate students whose focus is computer science and software engineering. He expects applicants to know programming languages other than C and C++. More companies want programmers with a background in languages such as Ruby, he said.

- Also located in downtown Manhattan, **MetTel**, which stands for metropolitan telecommunications, provides voice and data solutions and telecom consulting services. Executive recruiter Diane Bass said, "I look for graduates who display energy and have great communication skills." She had this tip for job seekers: "Make eye contact during your interviews...the eyes say a lot about a person." The company is interested in technical majors across the board, as well as business and technology management majors.



NYU-Poly job seekers were all ears at the March 9 career fair.

Continued on Page 5

CAREER FAIR

From Page 4

- **Entergy Corporation** is an integrated energy company that focuses primarily on producing electric power and distributing retail electricity. Headquartered in New Orleans, it delivers electricity to utility customers in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas, and also own and operates nuclear plants in the northern United States. The company is looking for students of all disciplines for internship and entry-level positions, the spokesman said.
- **FDM Group Ltd.** provides IT services in the United Kingdom and around the world. The company is poised to hire 50 percent more college graduates than it did last year, according to the recruiter. Its target is students majoring in IT, software engineering, and business and technology management. FDM has offices in three British cities and in New York, N.Y.; Frankfurt, Germany; Luxembourg; Zurich, Switzerland; and Hong Kong.
- **Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.** is one of the world's largest insurance brokers and also provides human resources, financial, and management consulting services. Headquartered in New York, it seeks cooperative education students in the fields of business and technology management, as well as computer science.
- **Medialets, Inc.**, located in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan, is looking for applicants with degrees in computer engineering, computer science, and electrical engineering. Strong programming skills are a must, the representative said. The software company produces a media advertising and analytics platform for mobile applications. Its clients are publishers, developers, advertisers, and agencies.
- **SoftNice Inc.** provides information technology solutions and has openings for database developers; business analysts; SharePoint developers; Java and Java 2 Platform, Enterprise Edition (J2EE) developers; VMware engineers; .Net Framework developers; and network engineers. Starting annual salary is between \$60,000 and \$70,000, depending on experience, the representative said. The company is headquartered in Allentown, Pa., and has offices in New Jersey, Texas, London, and India.
- With offices in Long Island, Brooklyn, and Manhattan, **ServiceChannel, Inc.** provides a multipurpose, Web-based facilities-management platform. It seeks programmers and developers with prior experience, and some positions call for database management in addition to Web development. Salaries for graduates are slightly lower than they have been in prior years, the representative said.
- **Netsoft USA, Inc.** is a technology services company that solves business challenges for clients in the financial services, healthcare, distribution, life sciences, and supply-chain management arenas. It's hiring business and management graduates for entry-level positions. New York, Toronto, and Yerevan, Armenia are home to the company's offices.
- **ESM Technology, Inc.** is a recognized provider of IBM Business Partner solutions and specializes in information technology strategy, architecture, management, and monitoring. Located in midtown Manhattan, the company has opportunities for information technology and



Inside the new game lab, a demo of Scoop!, a movement-based math game for middle schoolers. CITE researchers are using it to test the hypothesis that the confidence people feel when striking "power poses" could lead to improved confidence and performance in math. Microsoft supports the work as part of NYU's Games for Learning Institute (G4LI).

computer science majors. Salary starts at \$50,000 a year, said the recruiter, but graduates with experience can earn much more.

- **NorthPoint Solutions LLC**, which operates out of New York and Boston, provides business and technology solutions to the investment management industry and also helps organizations operate and grow their online initiatives. The company is targeting computer science, information technology, and electrical engineering graduates for entry-level jobs. March 9 marked NorthPoint's first participation in an NYU-Poly career fair.
- The **New York City Department of Environmental Protection** was represented by Grace Pigott, who said that although the recession has ended, budget constraints restrict her ability to hire. Unpaid internships are available for graduating seniors with engineering, information technology, and environmental experience.

CITE embodies NYU-Poly's philosophy of i2e: invention, innovation, and entrepreneurship, according to Hultin.

GAME LAB

From Page 1

professor with a joint appointment in the humanities and social sciences and computer science and engineering departments. "The lifeblood of the space will be graduate students from many disciplines working on innovative projects," Isbister said.

Chrystanyaa Brown, program coordinator for humanities and social sciences, is the lab manager. Chris DiMauro will provide IT support for the lab.

The new facility will be home to research funded by companies such as Microsoft Corporation; Yahoo! Inc.; the New York State Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR); and VMware, Inc., which provides virtualization and cloud infrastructure software and services.

Central to the launch ceremony was a panel discussion, moderated by Isbister, focusing on how CITE can help make New York a leader in innovative game design.

On the panel were Chris Cross, a video-game industry veteran and lead designer at Chaos Studios, which produces first-person shooter games; Frank Lantz, director of the NYU Game Center and creative director of Zynga New York, which develops

social games; and journalist Evan Narcisse, who writes about video games and pop culture.

The panelists agreed that video games are an interactive type of art form. In fact, said Narcisse, "games are a pillar of arts and culture in the 21st century."

Cross noted that the game lab will give students a great opportunity to explore the art form. When he was a college student, he related, he dropped out because he couldn't find a game-design major. He worked six months as a game tester and went on to become a designer. "I had to forge my own path," he said, "but today we have opportunities like CITE that allow students to enter the field of game design."

Lantz said that he hopes New York will become a leader in game design. "I can see New York City growing into a world capital of game development in that same way it is for other cultural forms such as art, literature, and fashion," he said.

CITE boasts a 3,000-square-foot open floor plan, which can be used for both research and classes; a dynamic media display wall that measures more than 12.5 feet across; and large computer monitors for students and researchers alike. In short, the lab is a fully interactive and innovative environment.



HOW NYU'S NEW COGENERATION PLANT WORKS

GETTING GREENER: In 2007, NYU committed to building a new, state-of-the-art cogeneration (CoGen) plant, which simultaneously produces heat and electricity to serve the NYU campus. Because of the plant's efficiency, greenhouse gases will be reduced by 5,000 tons/year and there will be nearly **70% fewer regulated pollutants emitted** compared to meeting NYU's energy needs with conventionally produced energy. When it becomes fully operational in 2010, it will permit NYU to achieve and surpass the public commitment it made in 2007 to **reduce its carbon footprint by 30% by 2017.**

FAST FACTS:

▶ Approaching **90% efficient**

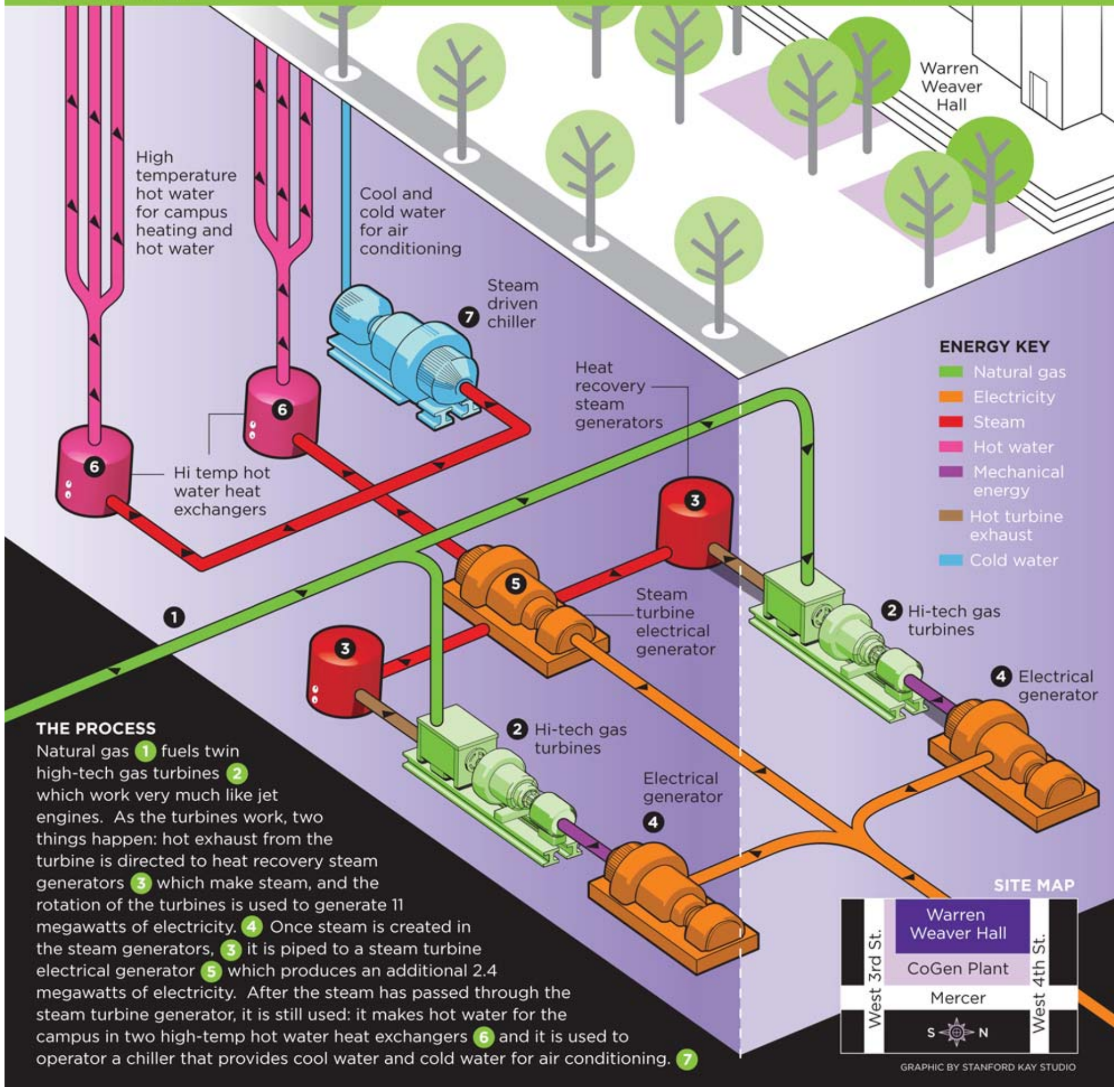
▶ Providing electricity to **22 buildings***

▶ Providing heat to **37 buildings**

▶ **23% decreases** in greenhouse gas emissions

▶ **68% reduction** of EPA Criteria Air Pollutants

*UP FROM 7 WITH OLD PLANT



Going Green Big Time: NYU's Cogeneration Plant Cuts Pollutants By 68 Percent

State-of-the-art new power plant provides heat and electricity to Washington Square campus

By CINDY LENTI PENN

In January, New York University began operating a cogenerator under its main campus at Washington Square. The plant produces electricity for use in 22 school buildings and provides heat to 37 school buildings.

As the diagram indicates, the plant's twin turbines burn natural gas to generate electricity. The byproduct steam is used to produce additional electricity, to make hot and cool water, and in the summertime to make cold water for air conditioning.

"The newly opened plant is estimated 90 percent efficient, whereas most boiler plants run at 50 percent efficiency," said plant manager James C. Merrihue, guiding students on a tour of the facility. "The NYU plant gets three times as much useful energy out of one unit of fuel in comparison to the average utility plant."

Four diesel Caterpillar engines powered the plant's predecessor, which provided electricity to just seven buildings on the Washington Square campus. In contrast to the old system, the new one is not only markedly more energy efficient, but it also reduces pollutants emitted into the environment by a whopping 68 percent.

The development and installation of the cogenerator was a multiyear endeavor costing \$125 million. "Annual energy savings will reach the break-even point for this project in about 20 years," remarked Merrihue.

He said the biggest challenge was breaking ground. Excavation for the plant went down to a depth of 50 feet

under 251 Mercer Street.

The fate of the diesel engines has not been decided. "They have seen their useful life," Merrihue says, but for now the Caterpillars remain in place as backups. They lie in wait for a "black start."

Should there be a forced shutdown of the cogenerator, the university typically would rely on Consolidated Edison, Inc. to restore the system to operation. Should the utility giant be unavailable, the diesel engines would come into play. Such a measure—restoring power without the benefit of an external network—is called a black start.

There's reciprocity in the relationship with Con Edison, Merrihue was quick to add. "What's unique about our cogeneration system is that in the summer, when the campus has less activity, we can help Con Ed out." Consumer demand for electricity is at a peak during the summer months, when people count on air conditioning to cool their homes. The cogenerator can feed electricity back to the external grid when Con Edison needs it most.

Even before NYU opened the cogeneration plant, it was ranked twentieth on the Sierra Club's 2010 list of the 100 greenest schools in the nation. Ten percent of NYU's climate neutrality goal is geared toward implementing onsite renewable energy projects, including solar and wind technologies, Merrihue said. The university also intends to install a green roof on top of the Henry Kaufman Management Center, part of NYU's Leonard N. Stern School of Business.



Workers building the cogeneration plant's foundation. The excavation walls stretched down to a depth of 50 feet below ground, giving some sense of the plant's enormity.



The dual-turbine system, from above.



JESSIA LEONARD FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

Policy makers could do worse than heed this MTA message.

Transit Experts Decry Failure To Fund Essential Projects

By **RAFID AHMED**

A panel of transportation experts participating in a discussion on Feb. 22 at the Museum of the City of New York expressed collective dismay at the decision of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie to cancel the proposed Hudson River rail tunnel project. The group also made suggestions to improve public transit throughout the New York metropolitan area and lamented that funding for needed programs was not forthcoming.

Titled “Roads to Nowhere:

Public Works in a Time of Crisis,” the event was moderated by Michael M. Grynbaum, transportation reporter for The New York Times. He opened with the subject of the rail tunnel, and all four panelists evinced disappointment with the New Jersey governor’s decision to terminate the project.

Jeffrey M. Zupan, senior transportation fellow at the Regional Plan Association, an advocacy group whose aim is to promote the development

of the New York–New Jersey–Connecticut area, said he was shocked by the cancellation, which would have added jobs to the stagnant New Jersey economy. “I tried to pretend it’s not important to me, but I can’t,” he said.

Denise Richardson, managing director of the General Contractors Association of New York, echoed this view. “If Microsoft brought 6,000 jobs to New Jersey, the governor and other politicians would be doing cartwheels,” she said. Had the tunnel project gone forward, it would have brought 6,000 construction jobs and 10,000 permanent jobs to New Jersey.

Similar feelings were expressed by Dr. Michael Horodniceanu, president of Metropolitan Transportation Authority Capital Construction, and Joan Byron, director of the Sustainability and Environmental Justice Initiative at Pratt Institute. However, Horodniceanu said he could at least understand the reason behind the decision. Christie canceled the project primarily because of its \$8.7 billion price tag, which would have increased the state’s already huge budget deficit, said Horodniceanu.

A great part of the discussion focused on suggestions to improve transit service. Horodniceanu argued that public transit should be provided with much more funding. “In France, people pay \$8 a gallon for gas while here they pay \$3.75 a gallon,” he said, indicating that much of that revenue in France goes toward funding public transit, and implying that a similar policy ought to be implemented in this country.

Zupan agreed, citing as an example the fact that during the late 1970s—a time when subway service was particularly poor—the MTA invested billions of dollars of tax revenue into the system to improve service. “We need to let the senate in Albany know this,” he said.

Richardson said that people these days do not consider the long-term effects of proposed projects. “We’re looking at the current expense side instead of at the long-term self-sustaining revenue,” she said. Byron added that people should consider every aspect of the public works issue and be prepared to take risks. “Like it or not, we’re going to have to make hard choices,” she said.

The panelists also concurred that the general public should be better informed about major transportation projects. Some of the major projects being considered are known to only a few. This is partially a failing on the part of the media, the group agreed. Horodniceanu, in particular, noted that politicians and the media bear the responsibility of communicating information about these projects to the public.

Another item addressed during the meeting was the extension of the Number 7 subway line to New Jersey, a project that was proposed as a result of the cancellation of the Hudson River tunnel project. Horodniceanu said that the extension is a “must” for the development of the Hudson Yards and the area surrounding the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center on Manhattan’s West Side. “Development is tied in to projects,” he said.

Supporting this view, Zupan reminded everyone that the value of Nassau County homes rose on average \$19,000 following the construction and renovation of the Long Island Railroad in the 1930s.



JESSIA LEONARD FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

The PATH (Port Authority Trans-Hudson) train at the 33rd Street and Sixth Avenue station in Manhattan. The entire New Jersey transit rail network is connected to Manhattan by a single tunnel built almost 100 years ago, with only one track in and one track out. The aborted Hudson River rail tunnel project, dubbed Access to the Region’s Core (ARC), would have added two new tunnels and doubled commuter rail capacity between New York and New Jersey. Gov. Chris Christie canceled the project this past October, calling it too costly for New Jersey.

Freshman Writing

From Page 1

As of this writing, one technicality stood in the way of the merger and needed to be resolved: NYU’s freshman writing courses are four credits each; Poly’s are three. Prof. Kristen Day, chairwoman of the HuSS department, has appointed a committee to come up with a solution.

Day said that should the issue be resolved and faculty approval of the merger secured, the HuSS department would “appoint a committee of Polytechnic writing faculty to identify a focus and readings for the second semester [freshman] writing course,” which would be “tailored” to meet the specific needs of Poly’s students. “Also, we would appoint a faculty liaison to serve as a point person to ensure smooth communication and feedback between

Poly and Expository Writing,” she said.

Expository Writing currently provides freshman writing courses for several other NYU schools, including Arts and Science, Tisch, Steinhardt, and Stern.

NYU Prof. Pat C. Hoy, director of the Expository Writing program, visited the Brooklyn campus last month to discuss his program with the HuSS faculty and outline requirements for a teaching position. Instructors now teaching freshman writing courses here would have to reapply for a position with NYU, he said.

If the Polytechnic faculty approve merger of the programs, it would still remain to be determined just when the change would take effect—this upcoming fall or in the fall of 2012. The HuSS faculty expressed the hope that it would be this fall.

A Superfund by Any Other Name

Stakeholders talk about the basis for and possible impact of the Gowanus Superfund project in the wake of an EPA official report

By **FRANK DRESTY** and **JESSIA LEONARD**

The future of the city's two active federal Superfund sites, the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn and Newtown Creek in Queens, was the focus of a panel discussion called "NYC Superfund: Toxic Solution or Toxic Label?" on Feb. 8 at the Museum of the City of New York.

Both Superfund sites have been designated for extensive environmental cleanup, but the canal is on the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund National Priorities List, a distinction reserved for the most polluted sites in the country. It received the bulk of attention during the public event, which was moderated by Roderick M. Hills Jr., a professor at New York University School of Law.

Just days earlier the EPA announced that it had completed its remedial investigation of the Gowanus, confirming the widespread contamination of the 100-foot-wide, 1.8-mile-long waterway by more than a dozen pollutants, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, sewage, and heavy metals such as mercury and lead, some of which began accumulating nearly a century and a half ago.

The onetime natural creek, possibly named for the Native American chieftain whose tribe lived alongside it, was expanded during the 1860s into a commercial waterway. Upon its completion in 1869, the canal quickly became an industrial hub. Foundries, tanneries, factories, chemical plants, and warehouses, as well as a densely populated working-class community, sprang up around it, and their substantial wastes discharged into the water.

Several of the Gowanus contaminants detected by the EPA are known or suspected carcinogens. PAHs are chemicals produced by the partial

combustion of coal, gas, oil, wood, garbage, or other organic substances. PCBs were used as lubricants and coolants in electrical equipment, as plasticizers in paints and cements, and for many other applications. Their production in the United States was banned by Congress in 1979.

Three gas manufacturing plants notably contributed to the pollution in the Gowanus, said Walter Mugdan, the EPA's Region 2 Superfund director. The plants used coal to make the gas, the sticky byproduct of which, coal tar, ran off into the water, where it remains to this day. New Yorkers used the manufactured gas to light their homes.

Although the plants no longer exist, the sites where they stood continue to contaminate the canal. The owner of the sites, National Grid USA, has been identified by the EPA as one of numerous potentially responsible parties that will foot the bill for the cleanup. New York City, the U.S. Navy, and companies such as Honeywell International and Kraft Foods Global also have been named as PRPs.

Sediment tests performed in 2009 vividly illustrate the severity of the pollution, Mugdan said. EPA researchers took core sections of mud from the Gowanus and encased them in large test tubes, allowing the samples to dry for analysis. Mud left in a tube on a Friday and stored over the weekend in a refrigerator gave the researchers a nasty surprise. When they returned to work Monday morning, they found the sediment had melted through the tube and oozed onto the bottom of the refrigerator.

Not surprisingly, the toxins affect the local environment and air quality in the bordering residential neighborhoods, including Gowanus, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Park Slope, and Red

Hook. "You can actually feel sick if you are even standing in the area," said Kathleen Schmid, director of the Newtown Creek Alliance.

Even worse, there are documented instances of fishing in the canal. For example, EPA officials on a 2009 tour

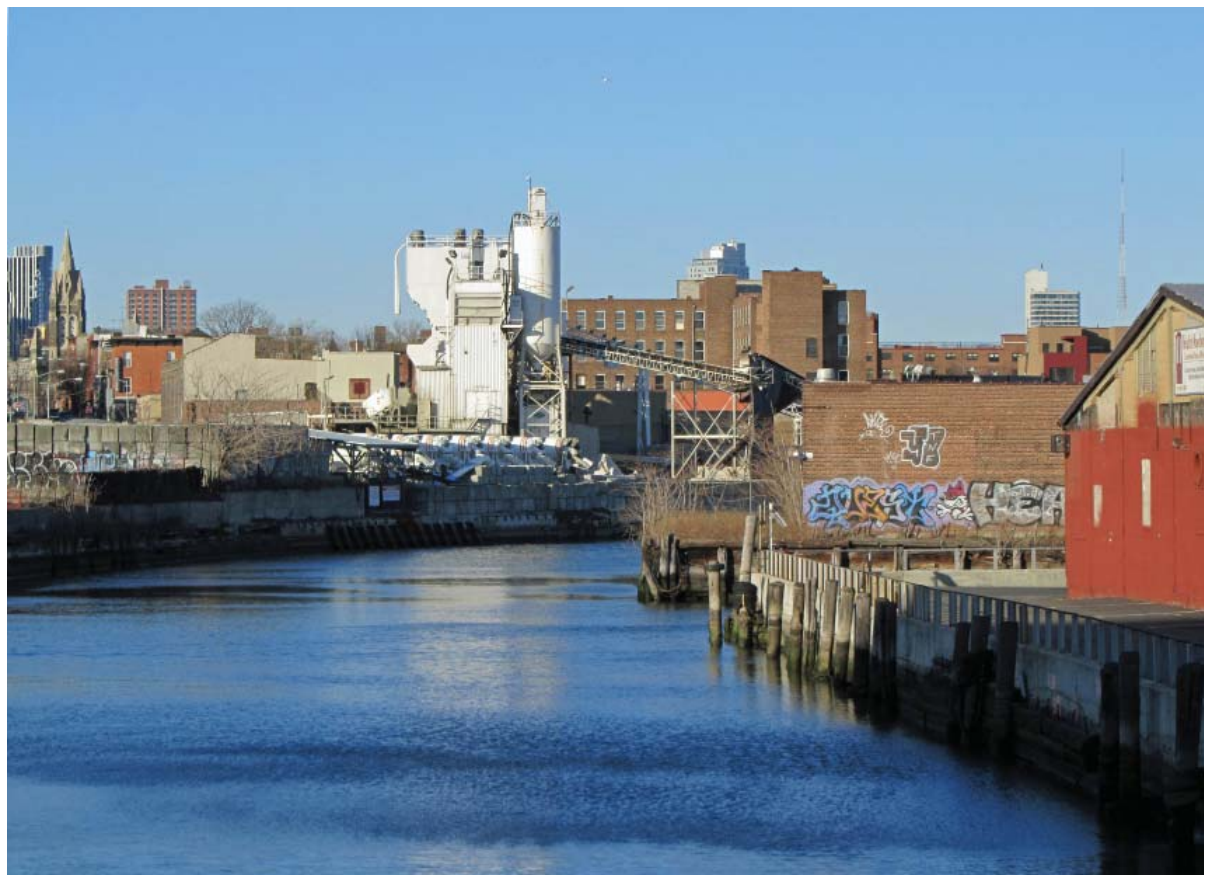
just that. With an estimated \$300 million to \$500 million price tag and a projected multiyear timeline for completion, the cleanup effort promises to be thorough and effective—and complex.

Acknowledging the challenges posed by the heavily contaminated canal, Schmid expressed cautious optimism. "We hope to eventually make the Gowanus navigable again," she said, "but it will never be swimmable."

The EPA intends to final-

around the canal is unclear. Since the Superfund designation was announced in March 2010, Toll Brothers, a leading builder of luxury homes in the United States, has pulled out of a \$250 million housing deal near the canal.

Alan Bell, principal and cofounder of The Hudson Companies Incorporated, said his firm's mixed-use development, Gowanus Green, has come to a standstill. The private real estate developer has not nixed its plans, how-



JESSIA LEONARD FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

A deceptively serene view of the canal, from Brooklyn's Ninth Street Bridge.

of the Gowanus came across two men casting from a pier, with a bucket of caught fish beside them.

People who are catching and eating contaminated fish from the canal, maybe even selling some of their catch to local restaurants, are likely either recent immigrants or people at the lower end of the socioeconomic scale, according to Carter H. Strickland Jr., the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's deputy commissioner for sustainability. They probably come from cultures that rely heavily on fishing as a means of sustenance, he said, but whatever the case, their health is at risk.

"The key thing is to protect public health," Strickland emphasized.

If all goes well, the Superfund project should facilitate

ize its feasibility study by year-end, propose a plan of action and make it available for public comment in 2012, and by the end of 2012 select a remedy to address the contamination. Factor in designing the cleanup plan and actually performing the cleanup work, and the Superfund project may continue well into the next decade.

Mugdan said the primary cleanup activity will be dredging and removing contaminated mud from the canal. The operation will include capping the canal walls to prevent any sediment "stir-up" from re-entering the water. The retrieved soil will be processed, and the heavy-metal contaminants will, ideally, be recycled, or relocated for disposal.

How the project will affect development in the area

ever, and the canal could still see along its shoreline the construction of 774 units of rental and for-sale housing, 70 percent of which would be affordable housing, with 100 apartments for seniors.

Local opinion is divided on the repercussions of the Superfund effort. At the former site of an industrial plant now sits a hardware store, which is considered a step forward, but some residents would like to see all development along the Gowanus stop. Allowing the canal to return to a natural estuary is a better fate, they say.

Whatever the land use may be, the panelists were unanimous in their view that the future of the Gowanus Canal is important to New York and that the public is determined to bring about a cleaner waterway.



COURTESY OF SOLAR ONE

New York City 2030

Speeches at Solar One Conference outline plans for a sustainable New York

By CINDY LENTI PENN

Some global warming forecasts indicate that in a few decades' time, rising sea levels will cause New York to become waterlogged. Speakers at the second installment in the Solar One series "New York City the Future Metropolis" discussed what actions are already under way to resolve the sustainability problem, and what projects will lead to a more sustainable city 20 years from now. "Volume II: Infrastructure of Green" took place in February at The Educational Alliance in Manhattan.

The nonprofit Solar One works to educate New Yorkers about their environment and inspire them to become environmentally responsible city dwellers. Its "green energy, arts, and education center" is housed in a solar-powered building off the FDR Drive in Manhattan.

Infrastructure is the physical and organizational foun-

ation of city life and includes everything from how electricity is produced and delivered, to what happens when a toilet is flushed. More examples are communications, the Internet, how food makes it to the table, recycling, garbage disposal, buildings, and roads.

Retrofitting our current infrastructure and creating new and innovative underlying systems would greatly reduce New York's carbon footprint, said the speakers. Topics included the city's food supply, the potential of "smart" electric grids, and a new job market taking shape through the greening of businesses, buildings, and society.

Rosanne Hoyem, an outreach coordinator for the New York City Solar America City Partnership, discussed how the use of solar energy could alter our electrical infrastructure. "New York City receives twice the amount of solar energy it needs to be completely

powered by solar," she said. "Although solar usage doubled last year, the large rental market, combined with all the multi-unit housing, makes further conversions to solar challenging."

Also a solar ombudsman for the City University of New York, Hoyem has helped to develop an online interactive solar map of New York that estimates the solar potential of every building in the city. A plane equipped with lidar (light detection and ranging) lasers was used to gather the data needed for the map. The map is slated to go live soon.

Jeffrey Perlman, president and founder of Bright Power, Inc., shared with the audience why it's imperative to transition to a smart grid system from the current electrical system. "The current electrical grid, which is in place throughout the country, is a dumb grid with individual meters. So man power is being wasted on physically having to go to each building to read meters," he explained. "Making the move to a smart grid means buildings would communicate with one another and, in fact, with the entire grid system."

New York's raw sewage was the subject of Jaime Stein and Dawn Henning's presentation. Stein coordinates the environmental systems management program at Pratt Institute, and Henning directs the environmental job skills program at Rocking the Boat.

"The current single sewage pipe system, called a combined sewer system, merges raw sewage with all industrial, commercial, and house-

hold waste water, as well as with rain water," Henning said. "Some 27 billion gallons per year of untreated sewage discharge into New York City rivers when the system can't handle the heavy runoff created during major rain events and large snow melts."

The city intends to combat the problem by implementing a 20-year, \$1.5 billion green infrastructure plan, announced in September 2010. "Curbing runoff water through a variety of methods will divert it from the combined sewer system," Stein said. "It will keep the system from becoming overwhelmed and will save large amounts of raw sewage from being discharged directly into the city's rivers."

Another crucial issue addressed at the conference: the infrastructure for the city's food supply. Kubi Ackerman, project manager of Columbia University's Urban Design Lab, is working with fellow researchers to establish an integrated regional "foodshed," which is based on the premise that most of the necessary food for a region should be supplied locally. Such systems decrease the cost of healthful foods by decreasing production, processing, and transport costs and by increasing access.

"Many inner-city locations, such as Brownsville and East Harlem, don't have the same access to fresh foods as the rest of the city," Ackerman pointed out. "A reliable foodshed can be created by synchronizing a food distribution system that will deliver fresh-grown food to

the city from regional locations." The Urban Design Lab is exploring urban farming as a source of fresh food too.

Floating Food, a project launched by Amy Bucciferro, also wants to see New York's food supplied locally. It advocates for using waterways to transport regional food. "Short sea shipping—that is, the delivery of food from regional farms by means of the Hudson—would alleviate a lot of truck traffic and truck pollution in New York City," Bucciferro said. "Instead of clogging highways, short sea shipping is a more fuel-efficient way to transport goods. In return, boats could back-haul food waste—compost—from the city to the farms."

One highly anticipated presentation was Diallo Shabazz's outlook for green urban jobs. Shabazz, who heads Solar One's green workforce development, said that job training at his organization focuses on "the triple bottom line: societal, economic, and environmental sustainability."

We provide urban sustainability training and educational opportunities to New Yorkers, he said. The policy changes described in PlaNYC 2030 will not only make for a more sustainable future, but will also translate into jobs for city residents, according to Shabazz.

PlaNYC 2030, unveiled by the Bloomberg administration on Earth Day 2007, is intended to improve the city's environment by improving five key dimensions: land, air, water, energy, and transportation.

Consider This Upcoming Film

You might want to take in a short documentary, "Finding Fred," which features Allan B. Goldstein of the humanities and social sciences department.

The 10-minute film—the result of a project designed to show the relationships that exist between people with disabilities and their families—will be the first segment in "Siblings," program eight

in the ninth annual Sprout Film Festival.

It will be screened on Saturday, April 30, at 2:30 p.m., at the Uris Center for Education at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Participating in a Q&A session following the program will be Goldstein; his brother, Fred; and the filmmaker, Pace University student Geoffrey Kappenberg.

Ground-level access to the Uris Center is at Fifth Avenue and 81st Street.

The Sprout Film Festival presents film and video related to the field of developmental disabilities.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.gosprout.org/film/sff2011/index.html>. You can also purchase tickets at the door.



COURTESY OF ALLAN B. GOLDSTEIN

Fred and Allan Goldstein at a Brooklyn Cyclones game. The brothers are the subject of "Finding Fred."



Junior Yan Krasny of the men's tennis team.

Tennis Team Again Counts on Krasny

By DAVID KIM

Last year's Skyline MVP is expected to dominate conference play again this season. As of April 15, the men's tennis team's overall record was four wins and five losses, 2-4 in the conference.

The team opened the season with a win over the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) on March 20. It's become apparent, however, that the team is hindered by its loss of veteran players to graduation, injury, and academic ineligibility.

"I lost my entire starting lineup, except for my number one and number five," said Richard Migdalski, the assistant coach.

That number one is junior Yan Krasny (Far Rockaway, N.Y.), who in 2010 was named for the second straight year the Skyline Conference Player of the Year in men's tennis. He was undefeated in

the conference last year and this year has lost only one match to date.

The mainly freshman and sophomore team will be relying on Krasny, clearly the top player in the conference, to garner most of its wins. In the opener of the 2011 season against USMMA, he won both of his singles matches with ease. He followed up with an equally easy victory in his match against Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Migdalski said of the younger members of the squad that they are developing their skills as first-time athletes on the collegiate level, and he expressed relative optimism about the season. "They are getting used to college competition, and I feel they should get playing time," he remarked. "I think we'll end up in the middle of the pack this season."

Another Bitter Season for Baseball

By GILBERT ANING

Coming off a harrowing 2010 season with an overall record of three wins and 18 losses, the baseball team seems to be headed for another losing season.

As of April 15, the Blue Jays' record stood at 3 wins and 16 losses overall, 3-9 in the conference, making the team eighth in the Skyline.

NYU-Poly lost a double-

header against New England College on March 13 in Danville, Va. In the first game, freshman Christian Conroy (Queens, N.Y.) was the lone standout, going 2 for 2 and batting in one of the team's only two runs.

The Jays also gave up a pair to Averett University on March 14, but the second game was a terrific outing for

Campus GreenUp

From Page 3

subsequently proposed to NYU-Poly a business plan and strategies to make the university greener. Their proposal was accepted, and Campus GreenUp was born.

Energy cogeneration is the use of a single machine to simultaneously generate electricity and heat. A microgrid is a power generation and energy storage facility that is normally hooked up to a traditional commercial grid, or macrogrid, but that can be disconnected, if necessary, and operate independently.

The fledgling consulting firm hopes to provide clean technology solutions to a long list of colleges and universities, preferably in the tri-state area. NYU-Poly is its first client. We made a compelling business case for clean technology solutions, De Armas says, and are finding ways to finance their implementation.

"One of the problems with green technology is everybody likes the idea but no one

wants to pay for it," he elaborated. "At NYU-Poly, partial funding could come from incentives provided by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and Con Ed. But how does the school pay for the rest? Campus GreenUp will find a funding solution for the rest through the energy savings introduced."

For example, if a lighting retrofit costs \$100,000, De Armas said, and annual energy savings after the change-over are \$20,000, the savings over a number of years will cover the cost of the retrofit.

He sees a lot of promise in NYU-Poly. "This university's engineering focus and culturally rich and diverse student body can act as a catalyst to bring clean technology solutions to the rest of the U.S. and, indeed, the world. Someone who learns something here can take that knowledge back to his or her country and put it into practice there."

At a recent student orientation, a student gave De Armas an idea that he and his Campus GreenUp part-

ners think is brilliant. The student said that everyone should teach someone else about sustainability, using the phrase "everyone teaches one."

"If you're ever wondering about how you can make an environmental impact right here at NYU-Poly," De Armas says, "start with what you do every day. How do you look at your job or your research? Can I make that design more efficient? Am I using products that are harvested in an environmentally sound way? Can I use something that biodegrades? The ideas the engineering students at NYU-Poly come up with could change the world."

Campus GreenUp is a virtual member of NYU-Poly's Varick Street Incubator in downtown Manhattan and is applying for admission to the New York City Accelerator for a Clean and Renewable Economy (NYC ACRE), a second NYU-Poly incubator at the Varick Street location. Niswander directs the institute's three business incubators; Micah Kotch heads operations at NYC ACRE.



Sophomore Sal Devito hitting against Maritime in a doubleheader on March 27 that the Jays won.

sophomore Anthony Finch (New York, N.Y.), who went 4 for 4, drove in three runs, and scored three runs.

At home on March 27, the team scored a pair of exciting victories against SUNY Maritime College.

The first game was a nail-biter, with Maritime taking the lead in the top of

the ninth. Sophomore Dave Wolfinger (Chalfort, Pa.) stole the show when his hit scored two runners, garnering the men their first win of the season. Freshmen Nathan Albers (Burbank, Calif.) and Chris Giamarino (Placentia, Calif.) scored the runs.

In the second game, Julian Santulli (Staten Island,

N.Y.) went 3 for 3 at the plate and sophomore Sal Devito (Pequannock, N.J.) went 3 for 4.

The team picked up another win at home on April 10, splitting a doubleheader against Yeshiva University. Finch helped put them over the top with a two-run homer in the sixth inning.

NYU-Poly's Adrian Gordon Wins MVP Award for Cricket Play; Stars at ACC's Spring Break Championship in Florida

By PRASHA TULADHAR

With his outstanding batting skills and fast-paced bowling techniques, senior Adrian Gordon won the Most Valuable Player award at the 2011 American College Cricket (ACC) Spring Break Championship in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., last month. The award ceremony was held on the NYU-Poly campus and attended by Lloyd Jodah, ACC president, who praised Gordon for his conduct both on and off the field.

A cricket player from the time he could walk, as a teenager Gordon represented

College. His century was the fastest of the tournament.

Gordon will graduate from NYU-Poly in May with a degree in biomolecular science, but he says he really wants to be a professional cricket player. He has been invited to practice cricket with the Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, one of the major county clubs in the United Kingdom, and this summer he will be a guest of the prestigious Indian Premiere League's Rajasthan Royals. During his stay in India, he will get training from Robin Singh, the for-



Star cricketer Gordon wearing the jersey of the Rajasthan Royals, who will host him as the MVP of this year's ACC Spring Break Championship.

his home country of Antigua and Barbuda on its national teams. He went on to become a fast bowler for the U.S. national cricket team and represented the United States at the 2010 International Cricket Council (ICC) Americas Region Division 1 Championship in Bermuda. He is recognized as one of the premier cricket players in the country today.

NYU-Poly's cricket club was cofounded by Gordon in 2009, and he is captain and de facto coach of the squad, which placed second at the northeast conference championship last year. Gordon was among the top scorers at this year's spring break tournament. His terrific sole score of 145 runs out of 53 balls played a major role in NYU-Poly's win over Montgomery

mer India all-rounder and present coach of the U.S. under-19 team.

The MVP's leadership, play, and sportsmanship have helped NYU-Poly earn the number-two spot in college cricket, and Jodah lauded the club for its achievement. "The NYU-Poly team has accomplished its goal in two and a half years," he said. "It's a perfect example of how a new team can be established."

Jerry M. Hultin, president of NYU-Poly, introduced Gordon at the award ceremony and congratulated him on his stellar performance. "Sports are a way by which cultures can come together," he observed. "Cricket may not be a popular sport in this country now, but its popularity is certain to increase as Americans learn more about it."



Lady Jays in action against Baruch in a twin bill on March 29 that the teams split.

Lady Jays Look to Repeat as Skyline Champs

By GILBERT ANING

After ending 2010 with two bouts of post-season championship play, the Lady Jays returned to the diamond on March 13 eager to at least duplicate their stunning performance.

The team had a banner year with an overall record of 32 wins and just 11 losses, topping the Skyline Conference with 13 wins and only one loss in conference play. Nine players—more than half the roster—made the All-Conference teams. The Jays earned their first-ever Skyline title and an automatic bid to the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament.

Jimmy Barrett has returned this season as head coach. Returning players include senior catcher and outfielder Tara Bucci (Belle Mead, N.J.) and junior second baseman Katie Jo Sunday (West Lawn, Pa.).

This team simply can't be kept down.

Losing their first games of the new season to Dickerson State and University of British Columbia was a challenging moment, since the women had eight more games to play on their California road trip. True to form, however, the Fighting Blue Jays rallied to beat Hope International University, 4-2, on March 14 and split doubleheaders against Occidental College and Whittier College on March 15 and 16 respectively.

Back in the Northeast, the Jays traveled to Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, N.Y., for their Skyline Conference opener, another doubleheader, on March 27. They lost the first game, 5-1, but came back in the second game to trounce the Lady Knights, 11-3.

Sophomore Natalia Stockinger (Putnam Valley, N.Y.) hit two home runs, and it was also a great game for freshman Sadie Hoeschen (Huntington Beach, Calif.), who

batted 3 for 3 and scored three runs, one of them a homer. In the fourth inning, sophomore Corine Fitzgibbons (Brooklyn, N.Y.) added another home run to the tally. Freshman pitcher Brianna Feist (San Diego, Calif.) earned her first collegiate win.

In non-conference action on March 29, the Lady Jays split a doubleheader against Baruch College, and on April 2 they easily took two games from the College of Mount Saint Vincent, with sophomore Miranda Merilli (Altoona, Pa.) pitching a perfect game—the second in her college career—in the second matchup.

April 10 marked another strong double win for the team, this time against Russell Sage College in Troy, N.Y., leaving the Lady Jays with an overall record of 14 wins and 10 losses, 8-2 in the Skyline. As of April 15, they were third in the conference.