Borough-ing Out

In conjunction with recent efforts to broaden its outreach, the Alumni Association hosted two events last month in the boroughs of Staten Island and Brooklyn. In Staten Island, where alumni gathered at the Colonnade Diner for brunch on November 12th, the atmosphere was one of warm reminiscences of college days where new alumni like James Schofield Brito, Class of ’05, were able to swap experiences with older alumni like Leonard Fedorschak, Class of ’62, who graduated at a time when the police science program was still an arm of Baruch College. They swapped stories about their jobs, and shared ideas with President Jeremy Travis and Rosemarie Maldonado, Counsel to the President. Tosano Simonetti, Class of ’76, former first deputy police commissioner and Michael McCann, Class of ’75, former chief of security at the UN and President of the Alumni Association were guest speakers. The event marked the official formation of the Staten Island Chapter of the Association. Ann Walsh, Class of ’94, along with Simonetti and Brito will assume leadership of the chapter.

In Brooklyn on November 21st, alumni listened attentively to a lecture from one of the country’s foremost forensic scientists, Dr. Henry Lee (BS ’72). Lee has assisted with more than 6,000 major investigations worldwide including war crimes in Bosnia and Croatia and the suicide of President Clinton’s former White House attorney, Vince Foster. He also spoke and presented slides on the JFK assassination and the OJ Simpson case. Just as impressive, though, was Lee’s own personal story. Born in China in 1938, he and his wife immigrated to the US with only $50 between them. Lee
credits John Jay for helping him get where he is today because it allowed him to attend classes at night while working full-time during the day. He recalled that he couldn’t even afford to attend his own graduation. He told the audience “I graduated in my own living room” with family and a stuffed giraffe as witnesses. Lee’s professional accomplishments are certainly testimony to a life that emphasizes hard work and a quality education.

Centering on What Matters
What matters in Newburgh, NY is violence. Having had the dubious distinction of being the state’s most violent city, the Newburgh Police Department and its residents knew they had to do something to stop the bloodshed – much of which was drug related. They called in Prof. David Kennedy who leads John Jay’s recently created Center for Crime Prevention and Control. Working closely with Police Chief Eric Paolilli, traditional undercover operations were used to make cases against some of the city’s most notorious dealers. Kennedy’s award-winning strategy, which enlists the help of a broad array of service providers, clergy and criminal justice and other governmental agencies, focuses on specific dealers giving them the option of stopping their criminal behavior or being arrested for a Class B Felony. The results of Kennedy’s approach in Newburgh, presented at a lecture last month sponsored by the Alumni Association, were highly successful. Kennedy’s mix of prevention and intervention resulted in a 17% drop in crime and open air drug markets that have vanished. For Paolilli, the process itself was a learning experience not only for its value in reducing crime, but also for enabling police and residents to come to grips with the distrust that often occurs in high-crime minority communities.

What matters in any discussion of crime and justice in the United States is the issue of race. To deal with this critical and sensitive issue, John Jay launched the Center on Race, Crime and Justice in October. With seed money from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the center will focus on the “big questions that plague our understanding
of crime and justice in a diverse society,” said President Jeremy Travis. According to Prof. Delores Jones-Brown who is serving as the center’s interim director, the emphasis will be on “system issues – what’s wrong with the criminal justice system – as well as more theoretical, criminological and ethnographic issues.” In the coming year the center plans to host two colloquia, and publish an anthology on race, crime and justice issues.

Modernizing the Dominican Republic’s Policia Nacional
In an historic agreement signed on November 10th, John Jay will provide a broad array of expertise and technical assistance to the 30,000 police of the Dominican Republic. The Republic chose the College because of its reputation in criminal justice and forensic science and because of the close relationship that John Jay has with New York’s Hispanic community. The agreement will provide training in criminal investigation, executive leadership, crime mapping, crime data collection, crime scene investigation, and COMPSTAT. It also calls for the development of a Crime/DNA Laboratory and a review of the police academy curriculum along with providing the Attorney General’s legal staff with an intensive course on the law of evidence, discovery, constitutional protections of individual rights, speedy trials and excessive force violations which will be held at the College. At the press conference, Major General Bernardo Santana Paez noted that, “at John Jay, we have the best institution in the United States for criminal justice, criminalistics and forensic science” and that this partnership will help provide enhanced levels of safety for citizens through the professionalizing of the police.

Making the List
With a BA from Harvard, Keramet Reiter could have gone to just about any graduate school in the country. She had done some work with prisons as an undergraduate and chose John Jay’s graduate program because of its emphasis on real world practice and its multi-disciplinary criminal justice faculty and students. She works in the US division of Human Rights Watch which does a lot of
criminal justice work involving prison conditions and reentry. Reiter was among the more than 600 students and faculty who attended the Dean’s List reception held at the College on November 9th. For 2004-2005, 1,107 students made the list and their names are being submitted for National Dean’s List honors as well. For the 775 undergraduates who made the list, it was necessary to have a 3.35 cumulative Grade Point Average and a 3.5 GPA for the past academic year. For the 332 graduate students, a 3.7 GPA has to be maintained.

**Alumni Spotlight**

**Prince Bruce**

In addition to English, Prince Bruce (MPA ’00 & BS ’99) speaks three other languages: Ewe, Ga and Twi. Migrating to the United States from Ghana West Africa in the mid 1990s, he almost immediately began his studies at John Jay. Bruce currently serves as the Assistant Chief Security Officer for the United Nations in Nairobi, Kenya – a post he assumed in August of 2005. With a team of 116 uniformed personnel, he is responsible for all day to day security operations along with conducting threat and risk assessments outside Nairobi where UN conferences are held – duties that have become all the more critical since the 1998 terrorist bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Prior to his appointment in Kenya, Bruce was the Senior Security Officer at UN Headquarters where, along with other responsibilities he was in charge of
providing protection for UN diplomats, staff and facilities.

He began his career at the UN as a Security Officer in 2000 after obtaining his MPA degree. Some professions require a fair amount of courage and, to be sure, Bruce’s career has taken him to some dangerous places including Sierra Leone in the immediate aftermath of a more than decade long civil war which targeted civilians by hacking off their limbs. He served there for two years and developed a training program in basic UN Security procedures, and trained and evaluated private security guards who provided services to the UN. While attending John Jay, Bruce joined the US Army Reserve specializing in chemical operations rising to the rank of Sergeant when honorably discharged. With an acute commitment to public service, he also served as an intern during the late 1990s in such agencies as: the New York City Police Department, the Sheriff’s Department and the Department of Investigations. As a John Jay student taking classes, internships, and serving in the Army Reserve, he still managed to make the Dean’s List and was noted in Who’s Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Prince Bruce is a naturalized United States citizen.
Career Information Days
Wednesday, December 7, 2005       9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Thursday, December 8, 2005           9:30 am to 3:00 pm

The career development services team and office of alumni affairs are pleased to invite you to Career Information Days. Representatives from agencies, law and graduate schools will be available to advise alumni in developing a career path. For more information visit www.jjay.cuny.edu/

John Jay College
North Hall Lobby and 2nd Floor Cafeteria
445 W. 59th Street, NYC

Convocation
Wednesday, December 7, 2005     3:30 pm

President Jeremy Travis, the faculty, staff and students of John Jay invite you to a Convocation honoring Joan Wallach Scott, Professor, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University.

John Jay College
Gerald W. Lynch Theater
899 Tenth Avenue, NYC

RSVP 212-484-1396

Memorial Service for James Fyfe
Saturday, December 10, 2006     3:00 pm

It is with great sadness that John Jay acknowledges the passing of Professor James Fyfe, one of the most prominent scholars of policing in America.

A Distinguished Professor at the College and Deputy Commissioner of Training for the New York City Police Department, Professor Fyfe was a nationally known expert in use of force, police training and police culture.
He deeply understood the value of higher education and its ability to change lives.

Please join us in remembering Professor Fyfe at a memorial service on December 10th.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Fyfe Fellowship Fund c/o John Jay College of Criminal Justice Foundation/Fyfe Fellowship, 899 Tenth Avenue, Room 623T, NY, NY 10019.

John Jay College
Gerald W. Lynch Theater
899 Tenth Avenue, NYC

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**Inaugural Colloquium for the Center on Race, Crime and Justice**
Tuesday, December 13, 2005   12:30 pm

The Center on Race, Crime, and Justice announces its Inaugural Colloquium with presenters Professors Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

John Jay College
Gerald W. Lynch Theater Lobby
899 Tenth Avenue, NYC

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**Book and Author Lecture with Dr. Katherine Ramsland**
Monday, February 6, 2006  6:00 pm

The Office of Alumni Affairs is pleased to present *The Human Predator: A Historical Chronicle of Serial Murder and Forensic Investigation* with author Dr. Katherine Ramsland.

John Jay College
Gerald W. Lynch Theater Lobby
899 Tenth Avenue, NYC
Alumni Day Reunion  
Saturday, June 17, 2006  

The 2nd annual Alumni Day program is designed to offer formal and informal, thought provoking, reflective and entertaining events which will appeal to John Jay alumni of all ages and interests.

Alumni will be able to opt in or out of events as they wish and may want to use the day as an ideal opportunity to meet up with old friends on an informal basis. Families are welcome. Invitations will be mailed Spring 2006.

Call 212-237-8547 or 212-484-1103 for further information.

Season’s Greetings

Have you moved?  
Don't forget to contact us with your email and mailing address.