

**30 Years
Ago MLK
was
killed and
America
went up
in flames.**



**Nothing
has been
the same
since.**

K I N G .

Memorial Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. (page 5)

“We have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights, an era where we are called upon to raise certain basic questions about the whole society. We have been in a reform movement... But after Selma and the voting rights bill, we moved into a new era, which must be the era of revolution. We must recognize that we can't solve our problem now until there is a radical redistribution of economic and political power... this means a revolution of values and other things. We must see now that the evils of racism, economic exploitation and militarism are all tied together...you can't really get rid of one without getting rid of the others...the whole structure of American life must be changed. America is a hypocritical nation and [we] must put [our] own house in order.”

-Martin Luther King Jr., May 1967

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL NOT MEETING?

The Graduate Student Council is elected to represent the interests of graduate students at CCNY. The last meeting they held was on March 4. It is now April 7. There is a meeting scheduled for this evening, but the last two scheduled meetings were cancelled. The GSC has not met for a month. It is up to the chair of the council to call meetings, and it is up to the members of the council to attend the meetings. Without meeting, the council cannot conduct business in a principled and efficient manner.

The GSC is continuing to conduct business, but is not making official decisions about the financial and political decisions they are carrying out. It is a caricature of democracy for the GSC to have no meetings and therefore avoid accountability for their actions and decisions.

Last semester, the GSC also held no meetings for a period of almost two months in the middle of the semester. Student governments are supposed to have regularly scheduled meetings, so that the members of the council and interested students can plan their schedules in advance to attend and have their say in the process. To encourage the GSC to meet on a regular schedule, stop by their office at NAC 1/113. It's our money that is being spent without democratic process or accountability.

GSC & DSG MEMBERS' STIPENDS WITHHELD

Due to a number of incidents that have occurred over this school year, CCNY's Office of Affirmative Action sent a letter to all student government executive members in March requiring them to attend a mandatory workshop on sexual harassment or be penalized. Most members of DSG and GSC refused to attend the workshop, and consequently got their stipend frozen until they make arrangements to do so. Some of the student government members who didn't go to the workshop were angry that the administration seemed to be collectively punishing them for the actions of a few. To show that they were not against going to a workshop on sexual harassment but only protesting the administration's arbitrariness, the GSC voted to conduct their own workshop on sexual harassment, which would be open to student government members and the student body. As of press time, student government members' stipends are still being withheld.

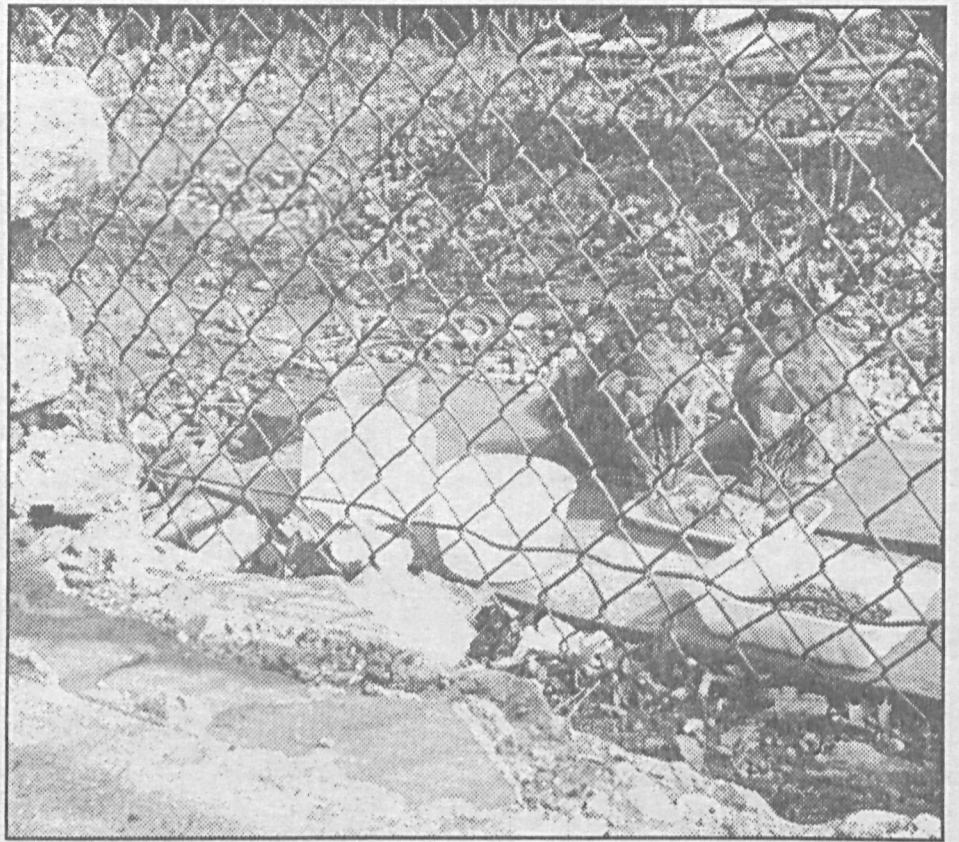
MANY PARTIES TO RUN FOR STUDENT GOVT.

The student government elections are coming up on April 28-30. There are many candidates running and multiple slates contesting both Day Student Government and Graduate Student Council elections. The campaigning season begins after Spring Break, so our coverage will begin then. There will be a presidential candidate debate in the NAC Plaza. Look for platforms from the candidates and the slates after Spring Break as well. *The Messenger* will provide extensive coverage to the elections in our next issue.

CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Caribbean Heritage Month Committee seeks modest proposals for funding for events and programs that emphasize the April 20 to May 20, 1998 Caribbean Heritage Month theme, "Caribbean Heritage Month: A Celebration of the Richness that Flourishes from Our Roots." The Caribbean Heritage Month receives funding from ACC, Finley Student Center, Day Student Government, Student Affairs, and Art Alumni Association. The deadline for proposals is Thursday, April 9 at 8:00 pm. All proposals should be delivered to Day Student Government, NAC 1/111. Stop by the DSG office for the guidelines for proposals. The Caribbean Heritage Month Committee is also seeking participants for its Cultural Extravaganza, to be held on Thursday, April 30 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Participating student organizations would display exhibits that highlight the traditions of the different Caribbean Islands. The exhibit will include an array of artifacts, pictures, food, etc. For each display, a student will be dressed in the traditional garb of that particular island. Interested individuals or organizations should contact Prudence Reid at DSG (x8175), NAC 1/111 by April 9.

CAMPUS SCENERY



Have you seen these cute kittens by Shepard Hall? They're one of the few signs of life and beauty around CCNY.

Reinstate Jiggetts
— Educ. Students

Popular Head of Special Education Mysteriously Dumped

BY CONCERNED STUDENTS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

A group of concerned students of the Education Department at the City College is outraged at the dismissal of Professor Joseph Jiggetts as the Program Head of Special Education by Dean Frank. Since the beginning of the Spring semester

these students have initiated a student petition letter campaign that was addressed to President Moses. A considerable number of signatures has been gathered. At this time, the group is still fighting for the reinstatement of Prof. Jiggetts to his former position as the Program Head of Special Education. Furthermore, these students said that they'll continue to fight until the movement is successful. The group already talked with Provost Lavalley and did not receive any satisfactory answer.

Dean Frank would not speak on the issue with the students. The students are hopeful that the president would be more considerate toward them and their concerns. The students thank Ms. Martha Flores, President of the Graduate Student Council, for her support in helping us to speak with the Provost, and her continued help in helping them to get an appointment to speak with President Moses.

Correction

In the 3/18/98 issue, we ran an article about the opening of the Immigration Center on campus. The article implied that NYPIRG is running the center. Then center is not run by NYPIRG, it is independent.

Public Apology

The Messenger hears through the grapevine that some individuals at CCNY took offense to this graphic published in the last issue of the *Messenger* and reproduced yet again nearby.

Though we received no direct complaints, we apologize for the state of CCNY's own president. Here's our explanation for the satirical graphic. The blindfold represents President Moses's self-imposed lack of vision about the present and future states of City College.

The missing tooth represents, besides our particular brand of humor, Dr. Moses's lack of bite when defending City College from attacks launched by the Board of Trustees and the Mayor.

The "memo" in which Vice President for Finance and Management Nathan Dickmeyer reminds the president to repeat to the faculty that she "cares" when addressing them at her town hall meeting represents Moses's dearth of public relations finesse, as well as the perception among



many at City that she doesn't actually run the college.

Finally, political cartoons appear daily in "respected" publications poking fun at the short-comings of our, ahem, fearless leaders. We just want to join in on the fun.

—ROB VAN DER WAALACE III

CCNY Messenger
CCNY's Graduate Student Newspaper
c/o GSC, 138th St. & Convent Ave., New York, NY 10031
phone (212) 650-8179 fax: (212)650-5309 email: sandino23@hotmail.com

CCNY Messenger is the Graduate Student newspaper at the City College of New York. It is produced biweekly by an editorial collective. *The Messenger* aims to serve CCNY graduate students, as well as all other CCNY and CUNY students, and the Harlem community. We seek to do this by reporting on student activities for empowerment, enjoyment, and survival and by exposing the misdoings of those in power. The articles in the *CCNY Messenger* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Graduate Student Council, the editors of the *Messenger*, CCNY graduate students, or anybody other than the individual writers.

Editor & Layout	Brad Sigal
Campus News Editors	Joan Parkin, Keeanga Taylor, Rob Wallace
Harlem & Black Affairs Editor	Carmelo Trinidad
Youth Editor	Ydanis Rodriguez
Copy Editors	Najwa Awad, Jennifer Suker
Distribution Coordinator	Felipe Pichardo
Other Contributors	Shenise Ross, Mark Torres, Suzy Subways, Mark Andersen. Cover image by Tomas.

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Student Pressure Forces Delay on Board's Access Vote

BY BRAD SIGAL

On March 23, 300 protesters converged at the headquarters of the Board of Trustees. The demonstration called by the CUNY Coalition for Open Admissions was aimed at stopping the implementation of the Comprehensive Action Plan, a proposal which, if approved, would limit remediation at the community colleges to one academic year, and end remediation at the senior colleges altogether.

A contingent of about 20 CCNY students and faculty met in the NAC Rotunda and went to the protest together. They carried a large, attractive banner from the CCNY Coalition that reads, "Defend Access to CUNY, Stop the Racist Attacks."

Over seven CUNY campuses were represented at the event, alongside community activists, CUNY faculty, and high school students, demanding the continuation of Open Admissions, the policy which guarantees a place in the CUNY system for all high school graduates.

In 1969, 247 Black and Latino students went on strike at City College, allowing it to become a place that represents all New Yorkers. Open Admissions was one of the demands of that student strike.

Keeanga Taylor, CCNY Student Ombudsperson, spoke at the rally about the conditions in New York City high schools. "What about the standards at our high schools where children are being killed by falling bricks because there's no money for maintenance?" asked Taylor.

As marchers encircled CUNY's headquarters at East 80th Street, students attempted to enter the meeting where the fate of CUNY hung in the balance. Like past Board of Trustees meetings, a limited number of students were allowed in. When it was discovered that political figures were admitted

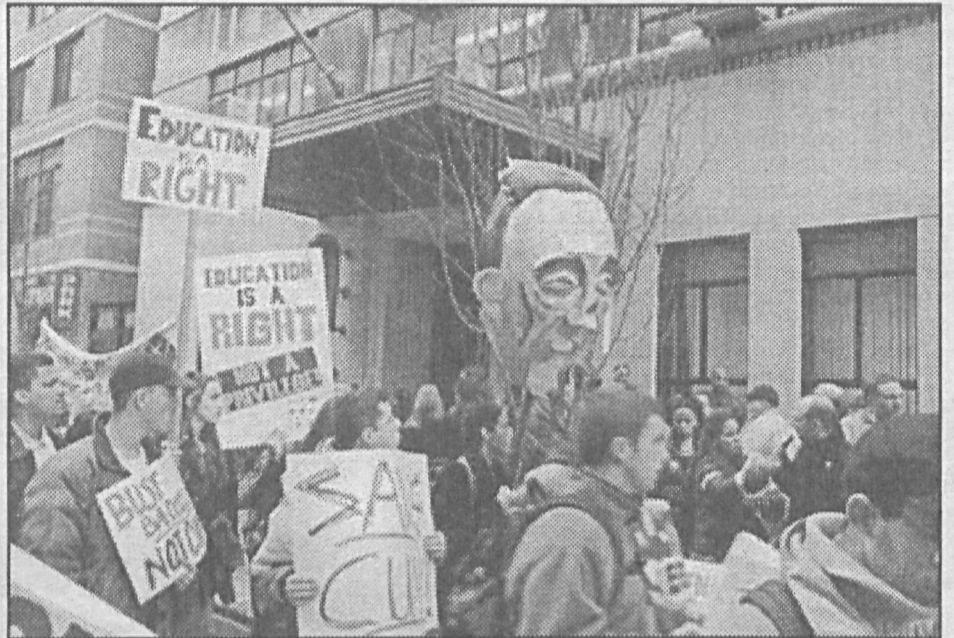
before CUNY students and faculty, marchers began to chant, "Let us in, Let us in." Some CCNY students and CCNY Psychology Professor Crain were not allowed in, despite arriving over an hour before the start of the meeting.

This was the third political action in two weeks of frantic activity to stave off a Board vote to end remediation. On March 16, over 50 faculty members testified against the plan to end remediation and open admissions at the Board of Trustees public hearing. Nobody spoke in favor of the changes.

On March 19, 100 students picketed outside the law office of Herman Badillo, vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees, and main opponent to Open Admissions and remediation on the board. Badillo is Mayor Giuliani's education advisor, and carries out Giuliani's whims on the board.

At the protest on March 19, students marched to nearby Hunter College after the picket. On their way to Hunter, students were unexpectedly attacked by police from the 19th precinct. The officer in charge on the scene, Mr. Fox, repeatedly ran into the middle of the demonstration to try to arrest specific students. This caused the other officers to panic, who then jumped in and started arresting students randomly at 66th Street and 3rd Avenue. Five students were arrested, including two CCNY students: David Suker, a member of the Graduate Student Council, and the writer of this article. Three students from Hunter College were also arrested. There was no apparent reason for the arrests besides police panic. A few students have filed complaints with the Civilian Complaint Review Board for the police's conduct at the protest.

Four of the five arrested were charged with disorderly conduct and released immediately. The fifth student, Saulo Colon, was also charged with resisting arrest and



Students and some faculty protest at March 23 CUNY Board of Trustees meeting. About 20 CCNY students participated in the protest with students from other CUNY schools.

impeding the business of the government, for trying to prevent another student from getting arrested.

Unlike March 19, the March 23 police presence was noticeably chill. The police on the 23rd were from the 17th Precinct. 200 cops were present, but they calmly escorted the protesters marching back to Hunter rather than provoking and attempting to arrest them.

When the protesters marched back to Hunter on the 23rd, they were informed that a resolution was defeated that would have given senior colleges the ability to end all remediation. The resolution lost by one vote. CCNY student Misanoor Biswas, the student representative on the Board, voted against

the proposal providing the swing vote causing it to unexpectedly be voted down.

"We won a narrow victory on this vote, but the Board will surely bring it up again at their next meeting. We have to be ready," said Sandra Barros, a Hunter College student who was the MC at the protest.

Students plan to protest at the next Board meeting on April 27. The CCNY Coalition will have free buses available for CCNY students to go together to the protest. Students can sign up for the buses in the Graduate Student Council office (NAC 1/113) or the Ombudsperson's Office (NAC 1/216).

The Hunter Envoy was used as a major source of information for this article.

Jeffries Snubbed on Staten Island

CSI Bars CCNY Prof. from Campus; Six Black Students Arrested

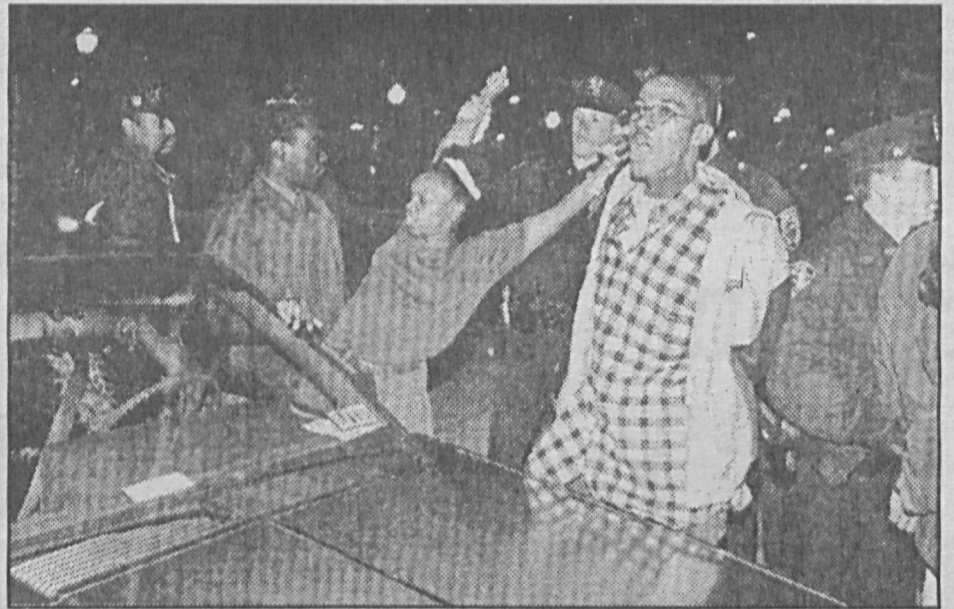
BY BRAD SIGAL

Controversy seems to follow CCNY Black Studies Professor Leonard Jeffries wherever he goes. Especially when he goes to places where there are lots of white people. On April 2, Jeffries was scheduled to speak at the College of Staten Island (CSI) about the attack on Open Admissions at CUNY. He was scheduled to speak with the lawyer for the Black Studies program, Ron McGuire. It didn't quite work

out as planned.

Instead, CSI administrators refused to pay McGuire his \$2,500 honorarium without explanation, prompting Jeffries to cancel the lecture in protest at 6:00 pm. Jeffries was to be paid \$1,000 for his appearance. Instead, Jeffries decided to talk informally with his supporters to decide what to do next. At 8:30 pm, about two dozen students met Jeffries at the school gates. CUNY security refused to allow Jeffries to enter campus, saying they could not guarantee his protection. The group of students were upset at this bizarre turn of events—a CUNY professor being denied access to a CUNY campus—so some students blocked traffic leaving the campus and chanted, "Let him in, let him in."

CSI security allowed the NYPD onto campus, who then arrested seven black students. The *NY Times* stated that the protesters were violent, but CSI Student Government president William Wharton flatly denied the charge, saying that students were entirely non-violent, protesting within their legal rights.



Six students were arrested at CSI for nonviolently protesting. College of Staten Island security kept Professor Jeffries from entering the campus, sparking the protests.

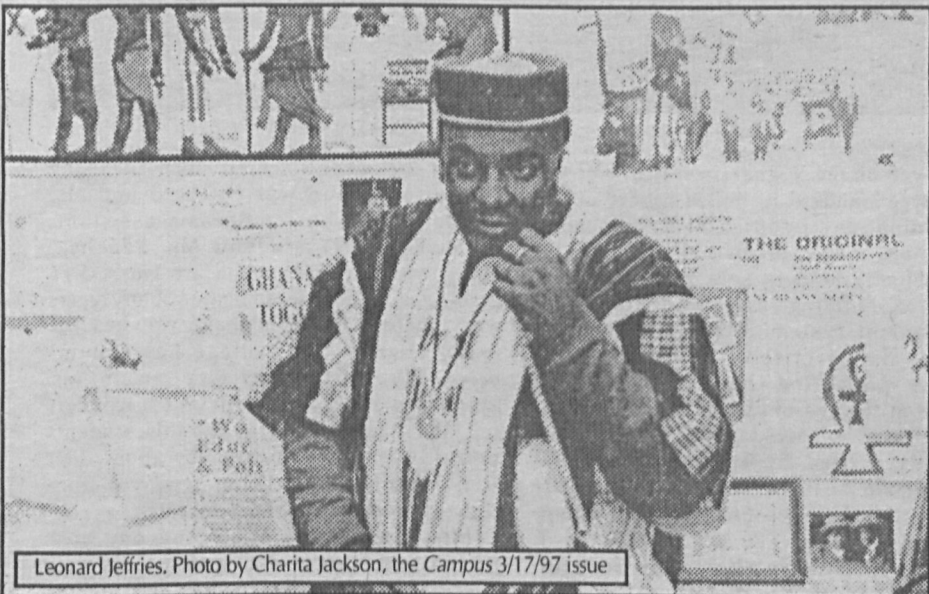
The CSI student government is inviting Professor Jeffries back to speak next week about the attack on CUNY's Open Admissions policy. They have also initiated a lawsuit to force CSI to pay Jeffries co-speaker Ron McGuire.

CSI President Marlene Springer said in the *New York Times*, "I will not dignify his speech with my presence," but she said she supported his first amendment right to speak at the college. She also criticized the Jewish Defense Organization (JDO), which issued violent threats against Jeffries and against members of CSI's student government for inviting him onto campus. A representative of the JDO spoke at CSI earlier in the day on April 2. The JDO is an extreme right wing organization which threatens violence against left wing groups, especially Black groups and individuals who they claim are anti-semitic.

Jeffries, who has made controversial remarks in the past, has spoken at two forums at CCNY this year in support of Open Admissions. At neither forum did he attack or disparage Jews or any other ethnic group. At a forum at CCNY on March 19, Jeffries particularly singled out former CUNY Chancellor Marshak, who was Jewish, for praise. He credited Marshak with formulating and implementing the Open Admissions policy that Black and Latino students demanded. He also praised other progressive Jewish leaders, and criticized Black leaders such as CCNY President Yolanda Moses.

At a forum in October 1997, Jeffries criticized all rich people who participated in the slave trade, making clear that it was not peoples' religion that mattered.

Despite these clear remarks, Jeffries still manages to evoke controversy, especially at predominantly-white campuses like CSI.



13,000 CUNY Students Lost to Workfare

BY SUZY SUBWAYS

Two years ago, 28,000 New Yorkers receiving public assistance were working towards college degrees at CUNY. But at the end of the Fall 1997 semester, there were only 15,000 welfare recipients left at CUNY. Most of these 13,000 former college students are now cleaning up trash in parks every day as participants in Mayor Giuliani's favorite workfare program, the New York City Work Experience Program (WEP).

When WEP workers attempted to unionize last year, the mayor said that the city does not consider WEP participants to be workers, therefore they have no right to collective bargaining. There is some truth to this statement, because although WEP workers perform hard labor in the streets of this city, WEP is not a job. Workers are not paid for their labor as city employees—they receive the same cash benefits they were entitled to before. And since the city is actually laying off workers, not hiring them, there is no chance for WEP to lead to a permanent job.

On June 17th of last year, Marsha Motipersad, a 50-year-old woman with a history of heart disease, died of a heart attack at her WEP site. She had been picking up garbage at Coney Island for the equivalent of \$250 a month for 22 hours a week, amounting to about \$3 an hour. According to Heidi Dorow, an advocate at the Urban Justice Center, a corporation called HS Systems has an \$18 million contract with the city to do mental and physical exams of potential WEP workers. "They have a notorious reputation for not doing thorough exams, and declaring as many people as possible fit to work. Every day, 700 clients are seen by 15 doctors, and only about half of the people receive actual exams."

Everyone who refuses to do WEP, including college students, is sanctioned, which means that the recipient's benefits are reduced. If the recipient has dependent children, the kids will still get Medicaid and other benefits, even if the mother's case is closed. However, Governor Pataki has recently proposed that the entire family should lose its benefits. The proposal does not include provisions for children who may go hungry, lose their homes, or go without medical treatment as a result.

CUNY students who receive the letter calling them in for a WEP assignment are often forced to choose between staying in school and losing their benefits, or accepting the assignment and leaving school, knowing that dropping out will ruin their financial



aid and possibly their only chance at a college degree. And students know that earning a degree is their best shot at getting off welfare and out of poverty. One Brooklyn College student, whose case was closed when she refused to do workfare, explained her decision, saying, "College is the only hope for me and my children, the only hope for our future."

Mayor Giuliani won approval for workfare by pushing it as a program that would

put people to work. But his definition of work is not shared by everyone. Johnnie Tillmon, a Black feminist who, as a welfare recipient in the late 1960's, became the director of the National Welfare Rights Organization, argued that women should be paid a living wage for the work that they do to reproduce the human race, such as raising children, cooking and cleaning. She wrote in 1972: "There are a lot of lies that male society tells about welfare mothers. That we are

immoral. That we are lazy, misuse our welfare checks, spend it all on booze, and are stupid and incompetent. If people are willing to believe these lies, it's partly because they're just special versions of the lies that society tells about all women."

The power of these myths about welfare mothers has grown considerably in the past thirty years as conservative foundations have pumped billions of dollars into right-wing think tanks and funded the publication of books like Charles Murray's *Losing Ground: American Social Policy, 1950-1980*, which argued that poverty is caused by personal irresponsibility and government programs that "encourage out-of-wedlock births among low income teenage and adult women," according to *Covert Action Quarterly*. In a 1993 *Wall Street Journal* article, Murray claimed that "illegitimacy" is the cause of poverty, and proposed that poor single mothers be forced to give their children up for adoption.

One Hunter College student tells a story which exposes the myths that the welfare system itself operates under: "When my mother and I were moving recently, we got help from the welfare people. But they wouldn't help us until we filled out this survey. All the questions were like, 'When you use drugs, do you feel out of control?' or 'when you use drugs, do you get suicidal?' and you had to check 'yes' or 'no' to each question. I didn't want to check either one, because even if you check 'no,' it still implies that you use drugs."

There are still options for many students who are facing a WEP assignment. The Welfare Rights Initiative (WRI), located at Hunter College, has a trained and well-informed staff who can provide counseling and help students get legal representation so they can stay in school. WRI offers a hotline for students, at (212)650-3592. Student groups, such as the Welfare Action Committee at Brooklyn College, are also organizing against workfare. The CUNY Student Network Against Workfare was launched last fall to pressure the CUNY administration to demand that the city qualify going to CUNY as training and education, which would exempt students from workfare and encourage welfare recipients to go back to school. As one Brooklyn College student activist said, when asked if she ever feared being forced out of school to do WEP: "I always had it in the back of my mind that it was a possibility, but I knew that I would fight them tooth and nail, any means necessary, no matter what they told me." ☉

From A to Y

Bursar & Registrar Move to 'Y' Building

BY SHENISE ROSS

Over the past few weeks, City College has made some positive changes to refine the overall look of the campus, making things easier and safer for the entire student body. One of the immediate changes that happened almost four weeks into the semester was the move Bursars and Registrar made after approximately 30 years in the Administration building.

According to Richard Iannacone the Associate Registrars, staff members and students alike, "were not too happy" about the move; but after nearly a month everyone can agree that the transition to the Y building is well worth the extra added time it takes to get there.

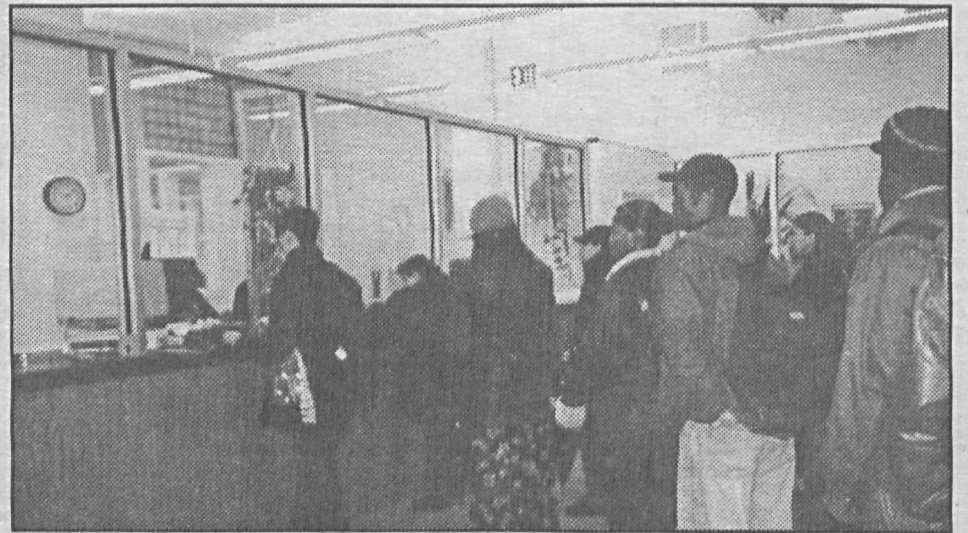
The Registrars office is now located in Y/101, and Bursars Y/100. This is a far cry from its previous home. Both offices hold

spacious areas, as well as a brightly lit surroundings. The Bursars alone is attractive—it has ten windows, six areas that designate staff member responsibilities, and a much bigger waiting area. Mrs. Bridgette Zapata, the Bursars representative couldn't agree more, "We are very happy with the way we were able to design our space. It looks open and friendly."

As opposed to the one inquiry window that was once room A/118, there are now ten windows where students can ask their questions and straighten out their problems. This should raise student morale and allow employees of these offices to observe students waiting in line and better serve their needs. Rose Nurse, a second semester graduate student and two year



Ms. Migdalia Sanchez, a Bursar assistant



Students in the new Bursar's office in the Y Building (Y/100)

employee of the Registrars stated that the employee standard is "much higher at the Y building" as a result of their new space.

Perhaps this is because the A building was actually built to be a warehouse, not an office building; as a result the entire mechanical system including the heat, water, and electricity will have to be redone, prompting the redesignation of offices at the end of March. Although construction is expected to be implemented for only a year, the Bursar and Registrar will remain in the Y building to facilitate cooperation between them and the Financial Aid Office.

This collaborative effort will allow students easier access to the offices and eliminate the travel between buildings that has

been a part of this school since 1977, the year after tuition was enforced and Ms. Migdalia Sanchez, a Bursars assistant, became a CCNY student. Ms. Sanchez, along with Mr. Iannacone are two CUNY graduates who have dedicated many years working for CCNY and have watched the many changes the college has encumbered. When asked why they remain, Mr. Iannacone stated, "I love it...it's a wonderful job." With responses like this, students probably won't have to worry about their transcripts or grades being destroyed since the advancement to the Y building.

Mrs. Zapata and Mr. Iannacone both ensure that student data and records were successfully transferred over and everything affixed. ☉

Tribute to MLK



This page is a tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr, who was assassinated 30 years ago, on April 4, 1968. Immediately following his death, urban America went up in flames in the fiercest and most widespread rioting this country has ever seen. Martin Luther King clearly strikes a deep chord among millions of Black people, as well as people of all nationalities and races in the US and around the globe.

Because of King's popularity, he has been enshrined as an "acceptable" American hero. We all learn about him from our earliest years in school. There is a federal holiday named for him. As a result of the passage of time as well as this historical "mainstreaming" of King, his more radical legacy has nearly become lost. We learn that King was a really good guy, that he was non-violent, and that's about it.

But King's legacy goes much deeper than that. In the two years before he was assassinated, King became increasingly radical and bold in his statements and actions. He was attempting to transform the civil rights movement from the struggle for integration in the south to the struggle against ghetto poverty in the north. Then he was killed.

The quotes on this page are all from the last two years of Martin Luther King's life. We need to carry on his legacy, by picking up where he left off and building a movement against what he called "the giant triplets of racism, materialism and militarism."

Most of these quotes are from the books, *Bearing the Cross* and *The FBI and Martin Luther King, Jr*, both by David Garrow. Also check out *Martin Luther King Speaks*.

For years I labored with the idea of reforming the existing institutions of the society, a little change here, a little change there. Now I feel quite differently...you've got to have a reconstruction of the entire society, a revolution of values, a struggle for genuine equality...a radical redistribution of economic and political power.

Bearing the Cross
May 1967

I...plan to intensify my personal activities in taking a stand against this war. And I do that...because the war is hurting us in all of our programs to end the slums and to end segregation in schools and to make quality education a reality, to end the long night of poverty...we need a radical re-ordering of our nation's priorities.

Bearing the Cross
March 1967

Only drastic changes in the life of the poor will provide the kind of order and stability you desire...the suicidal and irrational acts which plague our streets daily are being sowed and watered by the irrational, irrelevant and equally suicidal debate and delay in Congress...I believe literally that the life of our nation is at stake.

Message to President Johnson
July 1967

I can see nothing more basic in the life of an individual than to have a job or an income. I can never forget that our nation signed a huge promissory note back in 1776: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. That among these are life, liberty, and the

A true revolution of values will soon look uneasily on the glaring contrast of poverty and wealth. With righteous indignation, it will look across the seas and see individual capitalists of the West investing huge sums of money in Asia, Africa, and South America, only to take the profits out with no concern for the social betterment of the countries and say 'this is not just.' It will look at our alliance with the (rich elites) of Latin America and say 'this is not just.'

Beyond Vietnam
April 4, 1967

We find ourselves in a new era of our struggle for genuine equality and it is much more difficult because it is much easier to integrate lunch counters than it is to eradicate slums. It is easier to guarantee the right to vote than it is to create jobs or guarantee an

I'm not totally optimistic but I am not ready to accept defeat. We must formulate a program and we must fashion new tactics which do not count on government goodwill, but instead serve to compel unwilling authorities to yield to the mandates of justice...Our economy must become more person-centered than property-centered and profit-centered. The limitation of riots, moral questions aside, is that they cannot win...hence riots are not revolutionary. Non-violence must be adapted to urban conditions and urban moods. There must be a force that interrupts (society's) functioning at some key point. We must work out programs to bring the social change movements through from their early and now inadequate protest phase to a stage of massive, active and nonviolent resistance to the evils of the modern system...as dramatic, as dislocative, as disruptive, as attention-getting as the riots without destroying life or property.

SCLC Retreat on Poor People's Campaign
December 1967

Based on King's recent activities and public utterances, it is clear that he is an instrument in the hands of subversive forces seeking to undermine our nation.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, message to President Johnson, April 1967

Let us march on poverty, until no American parent has to skip a meal so that their children may eat. Let us march on poverty until no starved man or woman walks the streets of our cities and towns in search of a job that does not exist. There should be a massive program, a kind of 'Bill of Rights for the Disadvantaged,' that will really grapple with the slums, the economic problems generally. We have the resources as a nation to do that. The question is whether America has the will.

The Future of Integration
January 19, 1968

pursuit of happiness." If people do not have jobs or income, they're deprived of life; they're deprived of liberty; and they're deprived of the pursuit of happiness.

Why We Must Go to Washington
January 15, 1968

Large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquillity and the status quo than about justice and humanity...there are few things more thoroughly sinful than economic injustice...will we continue to march to the drumbeat of conformity and respectability or...will we, risking criticism and abuse, march only to the soul-saving music of eternity?

Texas Church Convention
September 1996

Disappointment breeds despair. Despair breeds bitterness. Out of bitterness, explosions will develop. Violent revolts grow out of revolting conditions.

The Future of Integration
January 19, 1968

The roots of racism are very deep in America...our society is still structured on the basis of racism, (but) now the movement (must) pursue substantive rather than surface changes and (make) demands that will cost the nation something because (they will) raise class issues...Something is wrong with the economic system of our nation...something is wrong with capitalism...there must be a better distribution of wealth.

Bearing the Cross
November 1966

Whenever Pharaoh wanted to keep the slaves in slavery, he kept them fighting amongst themselves.

Chicago Liberty Baptist Church
August 31, 1966

There are some things in our society and in our world to which I'm proud to be maladjusted, which I call upon all people of good will to be maladjusted, until the good society is realized. I never intend to become adjusted to discrimination. I never intend to adjust myself to economic conditions that will take necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few. I never intend to adjust to the madness of militarism and the self-defeating effects of physical violence.

The Future of Integration
January 19, 1968

With the resources accruing from termination of the war, arms race and excessive space races, the elimination of poverty could become an immediate national reality. At present, the 'war on poverty' is not even a battle, it is barely a skirmish...I am now convinced that the simplest approach (to fighting poverty) will prove to be the most revolutionary—the guaranteed annual income.

Senate Hearing
December 15, 1966

I am convinced that if we are to get on the right side of the world revolution, we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a 'thing-oriented' society to a 'person-oriented' society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism and militarism are incapable of being conquered.

annual income.

State of the Movement
March 1968

We must devise the tactics not to beg Congress for favors, but to create a situation in which they deem it wise to act with responsibility and decency...(the movement needs tactics to) cripple the operations of an oppressive society. To raise protest to an appropriate level for cities, to invest it with aggressive but nonviolent qualities, it is necessary to adopt civil disobedience. To dislocate the functioning of a city, without destroying it, can be more effective than a riot because it can be longer lasting, costly to society, but not wantonly destructive. Moreover, it is difficult for the government to quell it by superior force.

The Poor People's Campaign
September 1967

"Speaking to the Breadbasket staff, King 'asked us to turn off the tape recorder,' one participant recalled. 'He talked to us about what he called democratic socialism and...the fact that he didn't believe that capitalism as it was constructed could meet the needs of poor people and what we needed to look at was a kind of socialism, but a democratic form of socialism.'

Bearing the Cross
January 1968

"Ella Baker aptly articulates the most crucial point, the central fact of his life which Martin Luther King realized from (the beginning) until (his assassination) in Memphis: 'The movement made Martin rather than Martin making the movement.' As Diane Nash says, 'If people think this was Martin Luther King's movement, then today they—young people—are more likely to say, 'Gosh, I wish we had a Martin Luther King here today to lead us.' If people knew how the movement started, then the question they would ask themselves (instead) is, 'What can I do (to make change)?'"

Bearing the Cross



Charles Moore/Black Star

Clinton in Africa: Deception & Cynicism

BY JIM HAUGHTON
AMSTERDAM NEWS

Back in 1962, I prepared a speech for A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, president of the Negro American Labor Council and executive board member of the AFL-CIO, that he delivered before a conference called by the American Committee on Africa. Randolph delivered the speech verbatim and the theme focused on the inability of the United States to constructively deal with some 220 million Africans when it could not address the basic human rights of some 20 million Black Americans. Fast forward some 36 years, and the theme remains

as relevant now as then, perhaps more so. With President Clinton and a huge entourage visiting six African nations in a period of 12 days, we need ask how can he stand before 600 million Africans and prate about democracy, peace and economic development when 30 million African-Americans are "catching hell" in his own country. This is the president who wiped out welfare for the poor as he appropriated 11 billion dollars more for "military defense" than requested by the Pentagon. This is the same president who signed the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act that contributes to the growing prison industrial complex; more money for jails, less for public housing. In fact, if we add together the cost of "military defense" and prisons, the government spent over \$500 billion in 1997 and will be spending more in 1998. This means less money for job creation programs, affordable housing, health care, education and environmental protection. At the high point of diminishing government-supported services in the African-American community and the rapid incarceration of our young would-be-workers, with increasing police brutality and government-supported drug distribution, Clinton goes to Africa to spread the



Bill & Hillary Clinton with Ghana's President Rawlings and his wife Nana Rawlings

gospel of free market globalism and neo-liberalism. Is this not the highest expression of deception and cynicism?

Should the economic and financial powers behind Clinton have their way, the African masses will continue to suffer much like their brothers and sisters in the United States. With African nations, like nations in Asia and Latin America, in growing debt, with greater control over these nations by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, constantly insisting on "structural adjustments," the plight of poor Africans will continue to erode as few Africans rise to the top and as American multinational corporations greatly increase their profits.

Africans need to know what is in store for them. They should look to see what has

happened and is happening to African-Americans. Their failure to understand American racism and how it has and will continue to undermine if not destroy African civilization can have disastrous consequences, not only for Africans and African-Americans, but for everybody. African-Americans, in turn, should use all available resources to make known to Africans our historic oppression and ongoing struggles for our human rights. We must not let Clinton's and the US government's deception and cynicism go unchallenged. ☐

Jim Haughton is a community activist and leader of organizations demanding work for Blacks and Hispanics in the construction industry.



A crowd surges toward Clinton in Ghana; he urges them to get back.

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

The Chinese Revolution



The 1967 January Revolution in Shanghai that burst the Cultural Revolution into the open. Thousands rally to welcome the release of a statement by the Chinese Communist Party in support of the revolutionary seizure of power in Shanghai against more bureaucratic entrenched leaders who were on the "capitalist road."

Over one-quarter of humanity took a step into the future on October 1, 1949 when China celebrated their liberation from feudalism and imperialism and the Communist Party declared victory. China had been carved up by various imperialist powers, its economy and political system dominated for over a century by the needs of foreign capital and its domestic agents, the bureaucrat capitalists, who worked hand in glove with local landlords and warlords, to enforce the most crushing exploitation. The Chinese people, some 450 million at the time of liberation and of fifty-five nationalities, over 80 percent of whom were peasants in the countryside, had been imprisoned in wretched poverty and misery.

When Mao Zedong, the leader of the Chinese Communist Party and the main leader of the revolution, proclaimed, "The Chinese people have stood up!" in 1949, the struggle had taken over twenty years of war and many twists and turns, including the famous "Long March." This is one of the most well known military maneuvers in history, where the communist army, encircled by the reactionary nationalist forces of Chiang Kai-shek, escaped encirclement by marching 6,000 miles around the perimeter of the nationalists, and reestablishing and rebuilding the red army. The Long March took a year, until they reached Yen-an in 1935 and established the base area for the remainder of the revolutionary struggle.

The red army fought invading Japanese troops out of China from 1937 to 1945, then defeated Chiang Kai-shek's forces by 1949.

After the Japanese had been defeated, the US became the main imperialist power in China, backing Chiang Kai-shek politically, economically, and militarily against China's revolutionary forces. This continued even after Chiang was driven out of China and forced to flee to the island of Taiwan in 1949.

Mao's brilliant military strategy of surrounding the cities from the countryside has been emulated by almost every successful revolutionary movement in the Third World in the 20th century.

In addition, Mao and the Chinese communists had other innovations in the pursuit of socialism. They pursued an independent course to socialism, breaking with the models of the Soviet Union by the mid-1950s. Mao published

a critique of the decay of socialism in the Soviet Union which analyzed its capitalist features as early as Khrushchev. Based on this critique of the deterioration of socialism in the USSR, Mao and the Chinese communists sought to push forward socialism in China after the revolution in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution from 1966-1976.

This was a mass movement against "capitalist-roaders" in the Communist Party, which overthrew many party leaders across China. This was unprecedented in any socialist country. While the Cultural Revolution had its excesses, it inspired youth and student revolutionaries around the world, and provided one approach to preventing capitalism from returning in socialist countries. The end of the Cultural Revolution brought to power Deng Xiaoping, who in fact then set about to restore capitalism to China, which he clearly succeeded in doing. Today, China is clearly capitalist, though the legacy and lessons of the Chinese revolution are still with us. The Chinese revolution is an inspiration and goldmine of lessons for all peoples fighting colonialism, imperialism, and searching for a better world. ☐

This essay is adapted from the pamphlet They Made Revolution in the Revolution: The Story of China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution by Iris Hunter.



Mao Zedong, leader of the Chinese revolution

CCNY Students at Jericho March in DC

BY CARMELO TRINIDAD

On a beautiful spring-like day, twenty CCNY students and community people from Harlem went to the Jericho March in Washington DC on March 27 to express their support for United States political prisoners and Prisoners of War. The Jericho '98 campaign, which organizers worked on for over a year, is an effort by revolutionary and progressive forces to pressure the United States government to admit that there are political prisoners and prisoners of war in this country and to demand they be granted amnesty. Most of these prisoners were a part of the Black liberation and Puerto Rican independence movements and were victims of the CIA's illegal Counter-Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) in which organizations were discredited, disbanded and destroyed through infiltration by agents. Activists and revolutionaries from these groups were then either killed or sent to prison and given extraordinarily high jail terms.

It is estimated that about 2000 protesters went to this historic event; some coming from as far as Hawaii. The protest began with a symbolic march around the White House and then a rally at Lafayette Park. The Jericho theme came from the biblical story of Joshua who seized the city of Jericho in a 7 day standoff. According to the Biblical lore, this siege was a miracle of people power in which, upon command, they

made a loud clamor of shouts and blowing trumpets until the walls of Jericho came tumbling down.

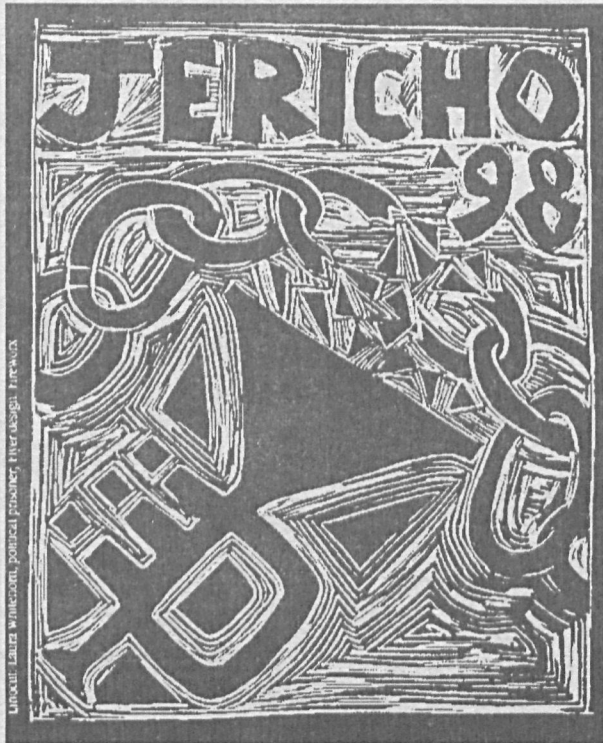
Students, workers, activists and revolutionaries expressed the concept of people power as they charged the streets of Wash-

ington with chants, literature, slogans and placards demanding that their voices be heard. A contingent of students from the Hunter College radical student activist group SLAM! came with three busloads of faculty, students, and community people while other schools like Columbia, New School for Social Research, and Hostos brought their own contingents. Among the speakers and organizations who came out for the event were Angela Davis, Khallid Muhammed (New Black Panther Party), December 12th Movement, American Indian Movement, Benjamin Muhammed (Nation of Islam), Republic of New Afrika, Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, Refuse & Resist and scores of other grassroots and community organizations. This event occurred while our own hypocritical president Bill Clinton was off in South Africa bragging and boasting about the accomplishments of (American) democracy at the prison that anti-apartheid freedom fighter Nelson Mandela was incarcerated.

Jericho '98 was organized by a coalition of Black Nationalist and political activist

groups which contends that the US political prisoners have been neglected for as long as 30 years. "It took 27 years of imprisonment for Nelson Mandela to gain his freedom and lead South Africa into the 21st century. One of our objectives is to make sure that the United States government itself does not continue to get away with denying that political prisoners exist in this country," said Safiyah Bukhari, the national coordinator of Jericho '98 who, along with demonstrators, cited some 150 jailed Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans, Mexican Americans, Hawaiians and others in US prisons. Although political prisoner activists have demonstrated and protested in their respective cities in support of the unconditional release of US political prisoners, the courts and local governments have turned a deaf ear to this human rights issue.

This year being the 100th anniversary of the US invasion and colonization of Puerto Rico, we must universally call into question the United States' continued denial of self-determination to the Black, Native American, and Puerto Rican nations. The greatest myth this country spawns is the myth that it is a nation governed by democracy. If we are a democracy, why do we have people imprisoned because of their political beliefs? In 1998, we must continue to struggle to make this nation release those that have fought on behalf of the people. **FREE THE LAND!**



Harlem Hospital to Get Drastic Layoffs & Cuts

Public Health Care About to be Decimated in Harlem

BY BRAD SIGAL

Harlem Hospital is about to get hit hard. On April 20, 229 workers are going to get their pink slips and be fired. These are first of up to 1,000 workers who will be fired in the hospital's restructuring. The first 229 will be support staff who perform vital functions in the hospital. According to one hospital worker, anyone hired since 1993 is almost definite to lose their job. Last Thursday, the hospital administration put together a plan to close basically all of their in-patient services and let North General hospital take over the services that are profitable.

Many Harlem residents who cannot afford

to pay for medical services will simply be cut off. For example, people without medicaid used to be able to get prescriptions for free at Harlem Hospital. Then a few years ago, a \$5 co-payment was introduced. With the new changes, they will be entirely cut off.

Hospital services that will likely be cut or eliminated include the asthma center in the emergency room, the trauma center, free breast cancer screening for community residents, and a TB screening center. They will most likely close the neo-natal services (baby care). The hospital workers who make beds, wash patients, do hospital laundry, clean the hospital, assist doctors and nurses, run the elevators, and prepare and serve meals will all be cut drastically.

In response to the announced firings and cuts, DC Local 37 AFSCME and Local 420, the Municipal Hospital Workers Union, had a protest on April 1. Over 1,000 workers protested, then went together to a nearby church to listen to speeches and plan how to respond.

According to a flier from Local 420, the public hospitals are already operating with 20% less staff than just a few years ago. The city has not kept its promise to replace critically needed workers who accepted severance

and left the system.

A community organization called *People Power* is planning a protest on April 15. The protest will include workers from Harlem and Lincoln Hospitals, as well as students from CCNY and Hostos Community College, the march will link the attacks on public health care with the attacks on public education at CUNY. The marchers will demand health care and education for the people of Harlem and the Bronx. The rally will start at 4:30 pm at Harlem Hospital, at 135th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard. For more information contact *People Power* at 368-9496.

Local 420 Demonstration Alert:

Stand Up to Mayor Giuliani & Dr. Marcos

Stop the 229 Layoffs!

Save Harlem Hospital!

Keep Our Community Healthy!

Nurse's Aides, Housekeeping Aides, Institutional Aides, Dietary Aides, IV Technicians
—229 workers are slated for layoff on April 20th.
We cannot stand idly by while Mayor Giuliani and Dr. Marcos
take their bloody scalpels and slash away jobs!

Demonstrate! Demonstrate! Demonstrate!

Wednesday, April 1st

12 noon

(In front of) Harlem Hospital
135th St. and Lenox Avenue, Manhattan

Layoffs Will Hurt All Of Us!

- On April 20th the city is scheduled to come down on 229 dedicated health care workers at Harlem Hospital. These include workers who apply direct patient care, keep the hospital clean and serve hot meals to the sick and injured.
- These layoffs will further cripple a hospital that has been struggling for too long now. Harlem Hospital is located in a poor, minority community where access to quality, decent care is scarce.
- There is a trauma center that handles gunshot, fire and crime victims everyday.
- Nursing home care for babies born crack- and drug-addicted as well as those with AIDS. Harlem is a top-notch facility that is doing the best it can with all the obstacles it faces on a daily basis.

Listen Up — We Must Act Now!

- Listen Up Workers! It's time to take a stand against these layoffs. It's time to take it to the streets, now! Your jobs depend on it!
- Listen Up Community! It's time to stand up for your community hospital. This is your hospital and you must demand that the Mayor and HHC stop this ludicrous plan to layoff needed staff. Go to your churches and enlist the support of your clergy. Demand an accounting from your elected officials. You are entitled to know where they stand on this issue. Join our demonstration. Bring your family and neighbors.

For more information, contact Local 420 headquarters at (212) 860-1580.
Local 420 members can also contact their chapter office.

April 20th will be doomsday for Harlem Hospital.
We have to stop the bloodbath!

Join the Demonstration! Stop the layoffs!
Save Harlem Hospital!

Local 420 Municipal Hospital Employees Union, DC 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO,
55 West 125th Street, New York, New York 10027 James Butler, President

RELAX! STUDY! SLEEP! DRINK! CHILL!

VISIT THE LUXURIOUS AND CUSHY

GRADUATE STUDENT LOUNGE

IT IS LOCATED IN NAC 6/201. IT HAS FREE TEA,
COFFEE AND SOMETIMES OTHER STUFF. YOU CAN HANG
OUT THERE AND STUDY, OR JUST RELAX.

LOUNGE HOURS:

MONDAY 9-2 & 3-9

TUESDAY 3-9

WEDNESDAY 9-9

THURSDAY 9-9

FRIDAY 9-6

INFO: 650-5319 OR 5025

Messenger Reader Survey

The Messenger strives to Serve the People. In order to better serve our constituency, we would like members of the CCNY community (particularly graduate students) to let us know what you would like to see the Messenger cover. Please return this survey to NAC 1/216 or come let us know what you think, or let us know if you want to write or help out.

Which article did you like best in this issue? _____

Which article did you like least? _____

How important is it to you that the Messenger report on the following issues:
(1=not important 5=very important)

1 2 3 4 5 City College academic affairs

1 2 3 4 5 City College extracurricular activities

1 2 3 4 5 CUNY-wide issues

1 2 3 4 5 Harlem / Neighborhood issues

1 2 3 4 5 City Hall / New York City news

1 2 3 4 5 State, National, and International News

1 2 3 4 5 Cultural coverage

Please list any other topics we should cover: _____

Are you a graduate, undergraduate, or non-matriculated student? _____

African Dance Assoc.

BY HUGUETTE LARECHE

The African Dance Association was established in the Spring of 1997. It started as a dance workshop sponsored by the Areito Ethno Musical Club. The dance workshops were taught by Kimani Fowlin of M'Zawa Danz. Kimani teaches a more modern form of African dance, mixed with hip hop and modern dance techniques, thus giving the dance a contemporary flare. Since then, the group has become an independent organization, and continues to offer free dance classes on campus.

The African Dance Association has worked with various clubs in organizing several events. The club has been involved in the Second Annual CCNY Talent Show, the December Kwanzaa Celebration, and Caribbean Night. They have also performed at various locations, such as J.H.S. 43 and a senior citizens home in Brooklyn. Most

recently, they have performed at the Nigerian Student Association's Fashion Show. In addition to the many performances, the group has also conducted dance workshops for children.

The African Dance Association continues to give free dance workshops on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and on Fridays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. These classes are open to everyone. No dance experience is necessary. The group is currently organizing a Spring Show in conjunction with the Hip Hop Club. This event will take place on Friday, April 24 in the

Aronow Theater from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. The club also has future plans of conducting holistic health workshops, as well as more community outreach programs. Thus, the African Dance Association plans to continue to spread culture and awareness, not only in City College, but throughout the community.

CELEBRATE ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Monday, April 20
Voter Registration-NYPIRG
NAC Rotunda

Margaret Fung - Attorney
Asian American Legal
Defense & Education Fund
NAC Rotunda

Tuesday, April 21
Movie: Seven Years in Tibet
NAC 1/201 1:00 pm
Philippine-American
Organization

Arts & Crafts:
Origami
Student Lounge
12:00 - 2:00
Chinese
Christian Fellowship

Wednesday, April 22
Immigration Booth
Maria Toy
NAC Rotunda
12:00 - 2:00 pm
Int'l Students & Scholars Services.

Chinese Calligraphy - Prof. Zhang
NAC Rotunda 12:00 - 2:00 pm

Movie: Seven Years in Tibet
NAC 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Vietnamese Student Association

Thursday, April 23
Movie: Seven Years in Tibet
Location TBA 12:00 pm

Music / Fashion Show & Live Band
NAC Aronow Theater 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Bangladesh Student Association

Lecture & Video:

Philippina Human Rights
NAC 1/211 4:15 - 6:00 pm
Darlene Gibuan

Friday, April 24
Movie: Seven Years in Tibet
NAC 1/202 12:00 - 3:00
Asian Cultural Union

Monday, April 27
Lecture: Japan & Americans
View the Pacific War / WWII
Prof. Brooks
NAC 1/211 11:00 - 12:00
History & Asian Studies

Tuesday, April 28
Roundtable:
Dispelling the
Myths of Asian
Stereotypes
Tito Senha
NAC 1/211
12:00 - 2:00
Asian Clubs of
CCNY

Wednesday, April 29
Day of Beauty
NAC 1/211
10:30 - 2:00 pm
Call Finley for
appointment

Asian Herbal Medicine
Sally Rapaport
NAC 1/208 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Thursday, April 30
Christian Unity Day
NAC Plaza 12:00 - 2:00 pm
Chinese Christian Fellowship

Voter Registration
NAC Rotunda 12:00 - 2:00 pm
NYPIRG

Asia Night: A performance of
Asian Culture
NAC Aronow Theater 6:00 - 8:00 pm



UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

Wednesday, April 8
Forum for High School Students on
Access to CUNY and Remediation
7:00 pm CCNY Ballroom
Union de Jovenes Dominicanos
Info: 650-5008

Thursday, April 9
Forum on the Irish Struggle for Freedom
Paul O'Connor
Human Rights activist from N. Ireland
Sandy Boyer
Friends of Roisin McAliskey Committee
12 - 2:00 pm NAC 1/211
Irish History Month Comm. 650-5319

SNCC: Students & the
Civil Rights Mvmt
Speaker: Muriel Tillinghast
6:00 pm NAC 6/201
SLAM!
Info: 650-5319

Wednesday, April 15
March for Health Care & Education
Stop Layoffs at Harlem Hospital and Save
Access to City College!
4:30 pm - Rally at Harlem Hospital Center
135th Street & Malcolm X Blvd
March to Hostos Community College
and Lincoln Hospital

April 20-25
HIV "Get Tested!" Week
Info: 718-881-TEST

April 27
Protest for Open Admissions
and Remediation
at CUNY Board of Trustees
535 E. 80th Street. Buses leave CCNY at
2:00 pm. Sign up in NAC 1/216

To get your event listed on the Messenger
calendar, drop a flier by NAC 1/216.

**it's time to take
to the streets!**

- ⇒ Stop the 450 Layoffs at Harlem Hospital
- ⇒ Stop the Layoffs & Service Cuts at Lincoln Hospital
- ⇒ Keep City College & Hostos Community College
Open to our Communities
- ⇒ Demand Better Education for our Children in
Public Schools & High Schools

for **HEALTH CARE**

Wednesday, April 15

4:30 pm Rally at Harlem Hospital Center
135th Street & Malcolm X Blvd (Lenox Ave)
March to Hostos Community College and Lincoln Hospital
Candle light procession at Lincoln Hospital

and **EDUCATION**

For more info call 212-368-9496 **People Power**

APRIL 27

PROTEST FOR YOUR EDUCATION
DONT LET THEM VOTE TO END OPEN ADMISSIONS & REMEDIA-
TION AT CUNY. PROTEST AT CUNY HQ. SIGN UP FOR THE FREE
BUS FROM CCNY TO THE PROTEST. INFO: NAC 1/216 650-8179