

★★★★★ Meet the *Gothic Times*' New Editors on page 3 ★★★★★

## Anger Boils Over in Hepburn Hall

By Felix Alarcon and Juan Bustos with additional reporting by Nadya Alvarado

**March 4** – New Jersey City University students and faculty united to protest New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's proposed budget cuts on higher education.

"I don't know if Christie cares but if you have a lot of people angry at him, then maybe he'll think twice about his decisions," said Cory Spencer, Student Government Organization President.

Over 100 people participated in the protest march, which started from the Student Union Building and culminated outside NJCU President Carlos Hernandez's office in Hepburn Hall. The group addressed its grievances over a bullhorn and demanded the administration provide answers regarding tuition hikes, furloughs, and budget cuts. The SGO and American Federation of Teachers were the organizers of the event.

"We're trying to eliminate higher tuition fees and rally against Christie for what's right," said Danielle Barker, a 23-year-old, criminal justice major.

The protestors demanded an audience with Hernandez who took a sick day. His Executive Assistant, Maria Cobarrubias addressed the crowd and rescheduled a meeting for March 18. Vice President of Academic Affairs Joanne Bruno and Vice President of Finance Aaron Aska also represented the administration.

"We want to make education affordable and accessible to our students," said Aska.

"It's crazy that the first thing that goes in education," said Arturo Gidalgo, a 21-year

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Students take march on to Hepburn Hall to address state budget cuts.

Photo by staff

### N.J. Gov. Chris Christie Proposes to Cut Higher Education

By Felix Alarcon and Juan Bustos

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie unveiled his budget plan on March 16, proposing steep budget cuts across the state that would affect funding for college students.

"The choices I'm asking you to make now will not be easy," Christie said.

Governor Chris Christie's aggressive budget cuts come in a time when the state is in a fiscal

crisis. The state deficit according to Christie is at \$11 billion though Democrats disagree on the exact amount and say it is near \$6 billion.

The cuts will affect lower to middle class income families, state workers and students.

According to the Associated Press, he will cut education money by more than \$1 billion. Higher education will be cut by \$175 million and K-12 will lose \$820 million. Aid to state col-

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Photo by nj.com

Gov. Chris Christie

## Dorm Resident Robbed at Gun Point

By Jan Aguilos

A student at New Jersey City University was mugged at gun point on the north side of Audubon Avenue on Friday, March 5.

The victim has been identified as Zach Seely, a resident assistant at the 2040 Apartments. The NJCU Public Safety Department reported no injuries.

"I was surprised," said Cory Spencer, a resident assistant at the Co-Op apartments and President of the Student Government Organization. "The only thing he was doing was going from 2040 to the campus. He got stuck up from such a short distance."

The Public Safety Department would issue a crime alert sent through email stating that the victim reported the crime at 12:11 AM on Friday, March 5.

The Jersey Journal reports that three cell phones and a wallet

were stolen from the victim. Seely alerted Public Safety officers and described the two suspects. NJCU Public Safety officers took Seely into a patrol vehicle to search the surrounding area and quickly spotted two men who fit the description.

NJCU Public Safety alerted the Jersey City Police Department. Police officers caught one of the two suspects, Kevin M. Carlisle, in Audubon Park. The suspect caught had served time in prison from December 2002 to October 2004. Lt. Edgar Martinez, public information officer for the Jersey City Police Department, confirmed that there is an ongoing investigation; the other suspect is still at large.

"I work with him and I'm good friends with him," said Jon Philip, a 20-year-old Media Arts major from Carteret who is also a resident assistant at a different dorm building than the victim. "When



### Campus Crime

Students should visit the Public Safety page at [www.njcu.edu](http://www.njcu.edu) to find out more about campus security.

I first heard [about] it, I was actually with a bunch of people. We were friends with him. At first, we were shocked."

According to dorm residents, the victim was carrying three cell

phones because he was on resident assistance duty. Dorm residents also state that the victim walked on Audubon Avenue because the front gate in front of Hepburn lawn on Kennedy

Boulevard is locked at 11 PM.

Bruce Harmon, Director of Public Safety at NJCU said he was called at home immediately after the robbery and arrest of one of the two suspects.

Harmon states that John Griffin was the supervisor on duty when Seely reported the robbery to Public Safety officers. The officers kept a watch of the two suspects as Jersey City Police officers from the South District precinct arrived on the scene.

"They kept the suspects in eye-sight. Our security officers were able to tell the police where they were and the police, ultimately, were able to capture [one of the two suspects]," Harmon adds.

"We have patrol units that patrol 24 hours around the campus, the perimeter of the campus," asserts Denise Doctor-Gourdine, Assistant Supervisor for the De-

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# NEWS



Photo by Juan Bustos

Protestors outside President Hernandez's Office.

## Anger Boils Over in Hepburn Hall

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old, music education major. "Education is the future and without it there is none," he added.

The protest consisted of a mock funeral for "higher education" and the group carried a wooden coffin up to the administration offices.

"Tuition right now isn't affordable and a lot of us take out

loans," said Kendell Bass, a 20 year old, music performance major.

"I feel like the budget is being bounced on the working class family," said Veronica Garcia, a criminal justice major, as the reason for her participation.

Yet not everyone on campus was worried about the budget cuts and tuition hikes. "It shouldn't bother me but for people who

are deprived [of money] it would," said Sheraz Soofi, 23, Business Major.

The protest has been largely seen as a precursor to the real fight which will be taking place in Trenton.

"[SGO's] next step is to continue to provide information to the students, and work with other Universities to take this march to Trenton," said Spencer.

## N.J. Gov. Chris Christie Proposes to Cut Higher Education

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leges will be reduced along with student financial aid.

"They [the budget cuts] are the first steps on the path to a brighter future," Christie said.

A majority of New Jersey City University students rely on state assistance to pay for their tuition and books. With students' financial aid suffering a 4 percent cut, some will be forced to pay out of pocket, take out loans or worse drop out.

State universities and colleges will have to implement some changes in the form of tuition hikes, cutting student services and programs to fill their budget gaps.

The budget was a subject of a protest in early March at NJCU organized by the New Jersey City University Student Government Association. Students gathered in the atrium of the Gilligan Student Union Building and voiced their concerns on defending education.

"Education is key - we need to know what is going on," said Ron Inglesias, a 21 year-old history major at NJCU after speaking to his peers at the open mic forum where students voiced their concerns.

"I think it's historic. In the last 25 years here, I haven't seen students this mad with the state. We are the working class, we make enough sacrifices," said 68 year-

old Ben Jones, an NJCU professor in the art department.

"This is another blow to higher education. The administration will meet to look at other measures for cost reduction. We have a budget gap and there will be tuition increases. We are committed that tuition remains affordable. Parents and students need to call their state legislators for support," said Aaron Aska Vice President for Administration and Finance at New Jersey City University, who handles the school's budget.

Governor Christie's budget proposal would have to be passed by a largely Democratic house in Trenton by the end of June.

### Robbery

Continued from page 1

partment of Public Safety. "And so they observed the young man running to our Lot # 4 Gate, which is manned 24 hours a day, and he said he needed assistance."

Chidinma Emenike, a 24 year-old senior and Media Arts major from Newark, was shocked to hear about the robbery, especially since the victim was a resident assistant for her dorm building.

"It's the R.A. in my building,

uh-uh," Emenike says, "I don't feel comfortable with that. I feel like carrying my own mace."

Bruce Harmon is quick to point out that the Public Safety Department provides services like Knight Rider, a van service that runs from 5 AM to 1 AM every day. Knight Rider takes students anywhere within a ten block radius of the campus and dorm students advise other students to take advantage of this service.

Public Safety officers can also escort students to destinations like the parking garage or

to other buildings on and off campus.

The Public Safety Department is based in Vodra Hall, where officers man the desks next to the entrances of the building, 24 hours a day. There are 64 video cameras in and around the NJCU campus and the officers watch them on their monitors in Vodra Hall. Bruce Harmon states that they aim to have 200 video cameras.

But Mr. Harmon warns that students should stay watchful and avoid being "victim[s] of opportunity."

## President's Message on the State Budget



Carlos Hernández, Ph.D.

To the NJCU Community:  
March 2010

In his address to the New Jersey Legislature, Governor Chris Christie presented a \$29.9 billion State budget proposal for fiscal year 2010-2011, cutting approximately \$2 billion from the budget that the Legislature had approved last year, including an elimination of about \$7 billion in projected growth to its base. If adopted, New Jersey will be 49th nationally in

revenue per full-time equivalent student (appropriations and tuition) and 47th in appropriations for full-time equivalent students. For NJCU, the fiscal 2010-2011 cuts will result in a \$4.6 million decrease in operating aid from the State. This reduction places NJCU's State operating support at \$26.1 million—below the 1990 funding level of \$27.3 million. As ASCU has noted, "At stake are the future of quality, affordable, four-year college opportunity for New Jersey residents and New Jersey's long-term prosperity and economic competitiveness."

In addition to the proposed appropriation reduction for next fiscal year, NJCU received a mid-year appropriation cut of approximately \$1.8 million. Although NJCU's record enrollment growth in the current year absorbed the mid-year cut, it is highly unlikely that enrollment growth for next year will be able to do the same. This year's reduction represents the fourth time in the last five years that New Jersey public colleges and universities witnessed a decline in public support for higher education.

Consistent with historical trends, the State budget supports neither building nor infrastructure improvements, and such unfunded mandates as unemployment waivers and employee salary increases at public colleges and universities are largely ignored. The lack of support in these areas, coupled with mandatory contractual cost increases, deepens the fiscal problem faced by New Jersey's colleges and universities.

Another critical consideration is that the State budget does not fund bargaining units' salary increases that were part of last year's Memorandum of Agreement. These State-negotiated increases intensify the impact of the appropriation reduction and represent a seven percent or \$3.2 million increase in the cost of employing the union members in our public higher education system.

NJCU has faced funding cuts before and management has found solutions that avoid placing the additional economic burden solely on our students through tuition increases. I have no doubt that we will again find ways to advance our priorities while protecting the quality of our programs and keeping NJCU among the most financially accessible of the State colleges and universities.

NJCU faces a difficult challenge. Coupled with rising costs and the ongoing national economic crisis, shared sacrifices are necessary to balance NJCU's budget for the coming fiscal year. As a result, I will reconvene the Ad-hoc Budget Committee to explore alternatives for mitigating these serious economic issues. The Committee members include representatives from a wide spectrum of the University community. Additionally, we will continue our efforts to achieve savings through restructuring service contracts where possible, curtailing travel, and limiting new hires to areas critical to the mission of NJCU.

As the budget process moves forward, I will keep you informed.

Carlos Hernández, Ph.D.  
President  
New Jersey City University

# EDITORIAL



Felix Alarcon



Juan Bustos

## THE GOTHIC TIMES

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from any member of the campus community. Editors reserve the right to edit for space. Please address all correspondence to Editor of *The Gothic Times* in GSUB, 2039 Kennedy Blvd, Room 301. We cannot guarantee the return of any submissions. If you wish to have the letter returned, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Letters to the Editor can also be sent to gothictimes@njcu.edu. All letters must be typed and include full name, age, major/occupation, class year, and hometown. A letter submission does not guarantee publication. *The Gothic Times* looks forward to hearing from you.

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## A message from New Editors in Chief

Dear Readers,

The next remaining issues of the *Gothic Times* will be under the new direction of Juan Bustos and Felix Alarcon. We are like the many students that attend New Jersey City University, in the sense that we share the common struggles, of commuting, working and finding the right balance between school and life.

Juan Bustos is a junior and journalism major from North Bergen, NJ and plans

to pursue a career in news production.

Felix Alarcon is a junior and a journalism/philosophy major from Kearny, NJ and plans to pursue a career that will enable him to study both journalism and philosophy.

We hope to make the student newspaper a community oriented affair. NJCU students are at the epicenter of diversity and the world capital. Only a few minutes away from New York City,

in a culturally rich, urban environment that gives us an edge over our ivory towered peers. We are amazed by the students that are also parents and those that are economically surviving, while completing their assignments on time and graduating to do great things. Adversity is not something NJCU students are unaccustomed to, in fact, we embrace it.

We hope to highlight the many talented and resilient

students at NJCU because you deserve to be heard. We want the microfilms, historians and archives to look back on our paper and have an accurate depiction of our NJCU community.

A paper cannot survive without its readership. We ask the NJCU students and faculty to support your school newspaper. We can only prosper with your help.

In return, we promise to provide you with content that is truthful, informative, and insightful.

We hope to have an open dialogue between the *Gothic Times* and the NJCU community. Send us your comments, questions or concerns at gothictimes@gmail.com or gothictimes@njcu.edu.

## The Gothic Times wants you!

Contributing articles to *The Gothic Times* is a great way to have your voice heard. And remember, contributions to *The Gothic Times* make a great addition to your resume and/or portfolio. Section writers, reporters, photographers, and illustrators may contribute to our News, Opinion/ Editorial, Entertainment, Lifestyle, Arts, and Sports sections. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, please email us at gothictimes@njcu.edu. Please include your name, major, email address, phone number, and to which section(s) you would prefer to contribute.

And don't forget, for a more interactive experience, please visit our website, [www.gothictimesnetwork.com](http://www.gothictimesnetwork.com)



## THE GOTHIC TIMES

The Official Student Newspaper of New Jersey City University  
 www.GothicTimesNetwork.com  
 September 8, 2009

### CWA Loses Negotiation Battle at NJCU



New Jersey City University Chief Engineer Jose Abalo and CWA Contract Administrator Doreen Williams protest outside NJCU.

On June 30, NJCU's Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1031 negotiated a new contract with the Corzine administration that broke the union's prior contract of 2007.

According to the new terms of the deal, all 283 NJCU CWA members, who comprise most of the clerical, housekeeping and some office staff, will be subject to a wage freeze alongside 10 furlough days—or forced days off without pay.

The intentions of this negotiation were to prevent layoffs from happening on campus while trying to save money for the state, which, according to a letter distributed on June 4 from the Vice President's office of the CWA, is in a "\$9 billion" deficit. Staff in the CWA are unhappy with the deal, the wage freeze will "definitely" impact them until January 1, 2011. There will be no lay-offs of any CWA represented workers from the date of this notification to June 30, 2011.

Despite the no-layoff pledge, many within the local branch of the CWA are unhappy with the new agreement. Nancy Gomez, branch president for local 1031,

faced defeat in regards to negotiations with the Corzine administration. On August 18th, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 1839, comprising all NJCU faculty, librarians and professional staff, were the only union local out of nine NJ universities to have their majority vote against the new proposal.

Out of 1,678 votes from AFT members from NJCU, Kean, Montclair State, Ramapo, Rowan, Richard Stockton, The College of NJ, Thomas Edison State College, and William Paterson, an agreement with the new deal, NJCU AFT members will now face a deferral of their July 2009 contract-the board wages increase until January 1, 2011. They also have to take a total of seven annual furlough days prior to July 7, 2010.

When asked if he believed the furlough days would have an impact on campus, Dr. Joseph Moskowitz, professor of Political Science at NJCU and head of the local AFT stated, "Absolutely, yes. I believe that there will be a decrease in the services and the accessibility of certain people due to the CWA's already stale idea agreement and I believe this

mean for union employees. The average state worker making \$51,000 per year, facing in the originally proposed 12 unpaid furlough days and the foregone 3.5 percent wage increase, such measures add up to an 8.1 percent pay cut, while New Jersey high income families making over \$500,000 would only receive about 1.3 percent of their income according to a proposed pay increase by Governor Corzine.

Ms. Gomez said that there was little the union could do to prevent the new contract. "They were allowed down our throats," she remarked. Not accepting the deal, however, would have been a worse outcome, as layoffs would have been a definite outcome of any further delay.

"Right now, the union has two choices," Ms. Gomez added. "Who will win the [November] election, and—number two—next year's budget," and what it will mean for union employees. The

future does seem rather unclear for New Jersey public employees, but one thing is certain—close to Ms. Gomez and the workers of Local 1031: "We will not be conceding Jon Corzine for Governor."

"We can't," he killed us," AFT Members have recently

**"All 283 NJCU CWA members, who comprise most of the clerical, housekeeping and some office staff, will be subjected to a wage freeze alongside 10 furlough days."**

will also decrease the availability of AFT members for activities such as committee meetings and in participating in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and may affect the visibility and accountability of AFT members to the full range of people who are on this campus.

**Message from the Dean of the William J. Maxwell College of Arts and Sciences**

Interviewing for a job is like going on a blind date. You learn what you can about your prospective match as they learn about you. If there is mutual interest then the date is set. My experience has taught me that the first glimpse of one's date often impacts all that happens thereafter.

My first glimpse of New Jersey City University was Hagan Hall. While I am not sure I believe in love at first sight, I do believe in a strong first impression. I recently visited NJCU the first time I saw the Gothic Stage in the center of this campus and my affinity for this institution has grown since then.

I am a Native New Jerseyan. I left New Jersey to earn my Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Delaware and my Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. I returned to New Jersey when I accepted a faculty position at the sociology department at Seton Hall University. I served as an associate dean there and then moved to a similar position at Montclair State University. Happily, I have now found my new home here at NJCU.

I am strongly committed to New Jersey higher education. I see NJCU as an institution with a unique and important role to play in this state. Its mission to continue to develop as a premier institution within its region

NJCU to offer its students an outstanding education unlike that offered at other New Jersey colleges and universities.

As the Dean of the William J. Maxwell College of Arts and Sciences, I am committed to supporting this mission by leading the outstanding faculty of this college to develop research agendas and curricula that represent cutting edge knowledge and research in all areas of expertise.

These elements are critical if we are to offer our students the very best education and career preparation possible. Ensuring that our students' educational needs are met is our top priority. Many blind dates never get beyond the first meeting. I am quite happy that this one did. It is my honor to join this community of devoted individuals, committed to offering its students a fulfilling and competitive educational experience. I look forward to our future together and the chance to get to

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# OPINION

## Spotlight on The State of Campus Technology

By Michael Palomino

It might be stating the obvious, but technology has revolutionized the way we – both student and educator – learn and interact inside and outside of the classroom.

Only a generation ago students were relegated to dusty bookshelves of local libraries. Today's students, however, are more familiar with Google than they are with the Dewey Decimal system. And for good reason: ease of access, straightforward answers and near instant results has streamlined a process that used to take hours.

But broadly implementing technology alone does not instill immediate benefits. Indeed, technology - in order for it to be as effective as possible - must be employed strategically.

My experience with the university's use of technology has been hit-and-miss. In my many discussions with students across campus there are similar sentiments about the state of technology and its implementation on campus.

While there is much strength to NJCU's technology, there are areas that require attention.

When it comes to improvement the system that first comes to mind is probably the default entry point for most NJCU students: GothicNet. While not terrible this system leaves much to be desired.

GothicNet needs reorganization

and expansion. Nested menu entries and cumbersome design make adding or dropping a class a tiresome click-fest. Moreover, the add/drop process can also be an exercise in frustration as class descriptions are brief to the point of obscurity.

Other functions seem conspicuously absent – such as graduation clearance – yes, there's a printable form, but why not just make it an online feature?

As for technology on the campus itself, computer hardware in labs and in the library is satisfactory. However one area that requires attention is the university's



New Jersey City University

WiFi access points.

In my experience the service can be spotty. (Full disclosure: this is not an exhaustive WiFi survey, I have not been to every hotspot on campus such as the gym and the dorms.)

The Library and GSUB offer the best, most reliable coverage, followed by Rossey Hall and the Professional Studies building.

As a student with a laptop, I can-

not express just how invaluable WiFi is. I encourage the IT department and the university administration to give this as high a priority as funding and time permits. This feature will undoubtedly become increasingly crucial as laptops and mini-notebooks become more commonplace among NJCU students.

In anticipation of this article, I recently contacted Phyllis Szani, Assistant Vice President for Information Technology at NJCU, who graciously made herself available to my questions and concerns regarding the status of technology at NJCU.

She informs me that there are numerous technology upgrades planned for the near future. She reports that GothicNet, which was recently upgraded for security and reliability, will be further improved down the road. NJCU's email service GotMail? will also be improved by this summer.

She also assures me that WiFi access points will be expanded in the near future and computer labs



New Jersey City University

will be upgraded to Internet Explorer 7 (currently many are still running the obsolete IE6) and Mozilla Firefox.

Additionally, a plan to upgrade and revamp the university's main website is also in the works.

Undoubtedly one of the main challenges a university faces when it comes to questions of technology is one of funding. It does not escape me that in addition to the economic downturn, the state of New Jersey is experiencing extreme budgetary problems. Unfortunately, this will only add to NJCU's challenges.

Make no mistake, I do not advocate throwing money at the problem but the money we do have for funding the school's technology should be used to enact the most efficient, integrated system we can afford.

Therein lies the keyword – which in my opinion should be the central focus for technology at NJCU – integration.

NJCU's administration and IT department should take a cue from online trends of the last several years. Social networking has gone from a fringe online phenomenon to an everyday functional tool for keeping informed and in touch with friends and colleagues.

Websites like Facebook success-

fully combine the strengths of email, message boards, chat, and multimedia all in one space.

I'm not suggesting we copy Facebook's interface, slap NJCU's logo on the front and call it a day, but there is no practical reason why, for instance, when adding/dropping classes in GothicNet that pulling up a class from the search feature doesn't give me immediate access to a professor's profile, e-mail address, telephone number, office hours, syllabus and book requirements all within the same interface.

Right now, there is a dire lack of integration among all these facets, separated by seas of menus and search features.

Those in charge of determining the direction of the university's technology infrastructure would do well to heed these trends and adopt them. Work smarter, not harder should be the university's modus operandi.

Such an integrated system could be employed relatively cheaply, using existing server hardware and would not only greatly benefit students and teachers, streamlining the process compared to where things are now, but would arguably make NJCU a leader among universities seeking to take advantage of all the benefits technology has to offer.

## Where is my Internship?

By Nicole Irene Sanchez

With unemployment at an all-time high, it is crucial for New Jersey City University students to have hands-on experience in their field of study, in order to "set themselves apart from the rest." A lot of people have the same interests and will eventually be going after the same job. Who will be chosen? The person who has past experience will catch that employer's attention because in today's workforce people who don't know what they are doing will be overlooked among the rest.

The problem is that many students are not aware of the fact that NJCU offers numerous internships and an excellent cooperative education program that will better prepare them for the real world. Some students are too afraid to ask, some just don't know who to ask and others just don't care if it isn't a requirement. Yes, college is a place for adults to emerge but how can students accomplish evolution if they are not given the proper tools?

Advisors enforce the importance of completing general

studies requirements, declaring a major and obtaining the minimum of 128 credits in order to graduate; but where is the big talk about job experience?

Depending on a student's major, internships are optional and not mandatory. However, majors such as English and Media require a student to experience at least one of the many job opportunities that the Co-op program offers; but what about the rest of the university's population?

This program provides entry-level positions, which may offer a salary with useful experience, locally, nationally and internationally. Such places of employment include banks, newspapers, radio stations, service organizations, large and small corporations, insurance companies, design studios, hospitals and many more. Over 450 employers are affiliated with NJCU's cooperative education program.

"It's more than a degree...it's a learning experience." These words can be found while scouring through the NJCU website. College is more than simply earning a degree. It is about discovering who you are and where

you want to go in life. Classes enable students to gather information from various sources, better themselves in reading and develop a strong ability to think critically. Although the classroom provides such great benefits, they are confined by four walls.

Internships allow students the opportunity to apply the concepts learned in the classroom with the situations they encounter in their everyday life. A student can be taught every possible concept in the world but if they don't apply it, they'll lose it.

Global Vision International is an organization that places over 1000 students and graduates as volunteers or interns in over 20 countries. Education does not need to be confined; students can broaden their horizons by helping people all around the globe.

The Cooperative Education Program has its requirements. To apply for this helpful hands-on experience students must have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA, declared major and they must seek the approval of the department chairperson. If one of these requirements is not met then the valuable experience that could help a stu-



dent land a job will no longer be available to them.

This system is greatly flawed. Students need experience and they need a lot of it. Employers want to hire students with the best experience out there. Advisors are here to help students find their way and put them on the right track and the right track is learning from one's experiences.

In order to ensure future graduates get the job that they want, NJCU should make internships mandatory for every major. The Cooperative Education Program should be a requirement and not just an

option. Internships should be on the list of obligatory factors that combine together to produce a college degree along with the 18 undergraduate requirement credits and 48 credits required in areas A-F. Advisors need to work on a plan of action with students so that when it comes time for graduation they are not left wondering "what comes next?"

For information regarding internships contact The Academic Career Planning and Placement Center in Vodra Hall Room 101.

# LIFESTYLE

## Warm Weather Fashion Trend Alert

By Diana Diaz

Tired of snowstorms and ready for some fun in the sun? No worries, spring is here and summer is just around the corner. Check out these six trends every NJCU fashionista needs for the warm weather days ahead.

**The Shorter the better**

Who wears short shorts? Apparently everyone this season. So Break out your Bic razor – strike that - go

get waxed, because this Spring & Summer hemlines have reached new heights.

**Night on the town**

Remember that white lace ensemble Madonna wore in her Like a Virgin video? Well, designers are reviving the look with lacey jackets, dresses, and lingerie inspired tops.

Just remember, best to leave that busti-

er in the bedroom if you haven't mastered the confidence to wear under garments in public!

Fashionista Warning: A fine line exists between trend & trash.

**Tomboy at heart**

So you grew up outnumbered - too many brothers, sports dominated the television, and all the while expected to keep your feminine-chic. In that case, Spring/Summer 2010 has the thing for you! Ready-to-wear sportswear straight off the runways. This doesn't mean we condone gym attire on the street - the look is comfy

and casual with the embodiment of chic and cool.

Spring for a tennis skirt, cut out tees, knee highs (ahhhh, David Beckham), or pronounced shoulders just like Ms. Kardashian mimicking her B.F. Reggie Bush, to master this look.

**Pretty in Prints**

For the artist in you, channel Van Gogh or Monet via prints that appear brushed on. For a walk on the wild side, try safari patterns paired with the time-

less trench coat. If you prefer the softer look, choose a floral motif. Whatever your print preference, you are guaranteed to stop people in their tracks.

**Sparkle**

They say diamonds are a girl's best friend, but college students obviously can not afford the big price tag, so instead opt for the next best thing - SEQUINS!!

Whether you are rocking a glittery vest to EC I or a sparkly mini-dress to dance the night away, this fierce statement piece will surely be a showstopper.

Thousands of soldiers fight to defend our country. It stands to reason that reutilizing the Military jacket, for a more fashionable purpose, offers a stylish transition from the war-to-fashion front. This is an easy piece to incorporate when you're late and need a peaceful solution to the chaos of the morning.

**Combat Chic**

Thousands of soldiers fight to defend our country. It stands to reason that reutilizing the Military jacket, for a more fashionable purpose, offers a stylish transition from the war-to-fashion front. This is an easy piece to incorporate when you're late and need a peaceful solution to the chaos of the morning.



google.com

## An Events Guide to Jersey City

By Zeba Blay

**March 22 NJCU Presents Student Recitals: Steve Lyon –**

Interested in hearing some beautiful live music? Look no further than NJCU itself, where the talented student Steve Lyon will be putting on a special recital for his peers. The recital will be taking place at 7:30 PM, in Ingalls Recital Hall, in Rossey 101. Don't miss it! [web.njcu.edu/sites/mdt/content/student\\_recitals.asp](http://web.njcu.edu/sites/mdt/content/student_recitals.asp)

**March 23 NJCU Men's Basketball vs. College of Mount Saint Vincent –**

Why stay home and watch ESPN when you can experience the thrill of basketball in real life? Come show off your Gothic pride and support NJCU's men's basketball team! The game will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at the Thomas M. Gerrity Athletic Complex on campus. Go Knights! Info: 201-200-3301 [web.njcu.edu/percal/calendar/](http://web.njcu.edu/percal/calendar/)

**March 24 Catch a Rising Star at Michael Anthony's on the Waterfront Presents: Comedian Tom McTiernan –**

For just \$25, you can enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Waterfront, good food, and night of hilarity with standup comedy from one of the rising stars in the comedy world, Tom McTiernan. Info: 201-798-1798 [www.catcharisingstar.com](http://www.catcharisingstar.com)

**Karaoke at O'Connell's –**

The time is 10:00 PM, the place is O'Connell's Bar and Grill. Your task? To sing your heart out at the downtown eatery's weekly Karaoke Night! And don't worry – if singing isn't your thing the awesome (and surprisingly affordable) food will be incentive enough. Info: 201-333-3633 [www.oconnellsbarandgrill.com/](http://www.oconnellsbarandgrill.com/)

**March 25 Madame Claude Café Presents: Gypsy Jazz Music –**

Madame Claude's is a "casual yet classy French bistro" situated in the heart of downtown Jersey City. If you're not averse to cool live music, delicious food, and good company, be sure to give this spot a visit every Thursdays at 8:00 PM. Info: 201-876-8800 [www.madameclaudecafe.com](http://www.madameclaudecafe.com)

**March 26 Creative Grove Artist and Designer Market –**

The Grove Street PATH Plaza is fast becoming Jersey City's own little Union Square! Stop by every Friday to view artists' installations, listen to live music, and shop for the handcrafted works of local designers. Info: 646-573-7164 <http://creativegrove.org>

**March 26 – 27 Classic Film Weekend at the Landmark Loews Jersey Theater: 1950s**

If you're a film buff, and especially if you love classic film, check out this weekend long series screening some of the best films of the decade. The best part? Tickets are just \$6. Info: 201-798-6055 [www.loewsjersey.org](http://www.loewsjersey.org)



Saturday, March 27 - 8:30 pm On The Waterfront

Classic Film Weekend at the Landmark Loews Jersey Theater: 1950s, [www.loewsjersey.org](http://www.loewsjersey.org)

## Reaping the Benefits of Helping Others

By Alissa Koval-Dhaliwal, Ph.D., Psychologist

The suffering caused by the recent earthquakes in Haiti and Chile has led many of us to wonder how we can make others' lives better in the wake of tragedy. But did you know that donating your time and resources to others in need benefits the giver as well as the recipient?

Allan Luks, author of *The Healing Power of Doing Good: The Health and Spiritual Benefits of Helping Others*, has researched a phenomenon he calls "Helper's High" for many years. Luks states that helpers experience a high similar to that of a runner following a workout. After helping someone, the helper's body releases endorphins, brain chemicals that reduce pain and increase euphoria. This creates a rush of elation followed by a period of calm. He found evidence that a helper can even re-experience this high just by remembering their altruistic acts – even long after they take place.

- Luks' studies also suggest that volunteering and charitable giving help ease stress, improving physical and emotional health by:
- strengthening immune system activity
  - decreasing intensity and awareness of physical pain
  - activating positive emotions that support well-being
  - reducing negative attitudes that

deplete well-being -enhancing functioning of various body systems

Putting the needs of others ahead of one's own can also improve one's spiritual health. Altruism can provide a sense of direction and bring a purpose to life. Feeling like part of something greater than oneself, and seeing the power we have to touch lives can make us feel less alone in the universe and give us meaning.

For some, however, the good feelings that come from helping can become a substitute for a healthy dose of self-esteem. Feeling compelled to take care of everyone else first can cause you to overlook your own needs. So, how can you judge whether your helping is enhancing or detracting from your well-being? Be sure to ask yourself these questions:

- Are you feeling resentful towards those you are helping?
- Are you unable to manage your responsibilities and budget because you are giving so much?
- Is feeling needed by others the primary thing that makes you feel good?

If you're feeling inspired to provide service, the NJCU Center for Community Service and Volunteerism partners with a number of agencies that make a difference, both locally and globally. For more information, stop by GSUB 111, or call x-3585.

# Entertainment

## Playstation Move: A Step Forward or A Step Backward?

By Mohammad Hassan

The success of Nintendo's Wii has become the next big thing in the gaming world and with both Sony and Microsoft trailing behind Nintendo in terms of sales; it would only be a matter of time before the two would announce their own variation of motion controllers.

First announced at Electronic Entertainment Expo 2009, Sony demoed their own version of motion controller along with a handful of game demos. At first it looked like another "me too" approach by Sony to copy the success of Nintendo, the initial responses have been mixed.

Sony's Move displayed accurate precision which many gamers and critics praised unlike Nintendo's Wiimote. It has the potential to be the next evolution in motion controlled devices, bringing the best of Wii and Sony together with a dose of high-def graphics and games of Sony caliber.

However, it seems that Sony keeps forgetting that the audience is already hooked on Nintendo and it will take a production of great games to win them over. Elite and hardcore gamers still prefer the traditional controllers

and don't care much for the motion controllers.

In order to fully enjoy the Sony motion controllers, one has to have the Playstation Eye, a Sony web cam. The total cost of all these devices easily reaches \$150. In these financially strapped times, gaming has become an expensive hobby and an average gamers isn't willing to shell out all that money just so that he could play some mini games.

From day one, Sony announced that its device will be supported by major gaming publishers and developers such as Ubisoft and Electronic Arts. They will be releasing a Tiger Woods game fully compatible with the Playstation Move. The company is doing its best to gain gaming support for its device. After all, motion controllers are all about the games.

Gamers have called the device a failure but it is still too early to be calling it that. After all, Sony has shown this generation that it has the guts and determination to take big risks and succeed. Sony was ridiculed for promoting the Blu-Ray and now it's the standard High-def disc format. It was also ridiculed for making an overly engineered console and now the very same console is rapidly gain-



www.product-reviews.net

ing market share.

Playstation Move is a step forward for Sony. It is using what Nintendo popularized and mak-

ing it work better and more appealing to its audience. It is also a step backwards, for it is just another "Me Too" approach in this

race and whether Sony would like to admit it or not – its attempt are a little bit too late.

## 'Buzz Kill' Activision Fires Modern Warfare 2 Creators

By Mohammad Hassan

When *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2* came out, it seemed like nothing could stop Infinity Ward, the company behind the video game series. But how wrong we were. The abrupt firing of Jason West and Vince Zampella, the gamers behind the 'Call of Duty' franchise, has rocked the entire gaming community.

The news was met with shock, disgust and utter hatred toward the publisher, Infinity Ward's parent company, Activision. After becoming the biggest publisher and developer in the world, Activision has consistently showed a sense of arrogance toward their audience and its employees.

Word broke out on March 1, when Activision amended its report with the Securities and Exchange Commission to include notification that two senior employees of Infinity Ward were being fired due to "breaches of contract and insubordination."

The SEC report confirmed the rumors that West and Zampella were released from Activision.



www.modernwarfare2.com/

Moments after the report the forums and blogs all over the internet were filled with anti-Activision comments and a wave of sympathy erupted for both individuals.

Some people believe the firing

occurred because they breached their contract by talking to other developers. Also, Activision owed Infinity Ward and its employees a hefty amount in royalties. It's ironic given the sales report of the game; *Modern Warfare 2* current-

ly holds the record of the biggest opening video game in entertainment history with \$510 million dollars in sales. \$310 million were generated within the first 2 hours of the game's release.

West and Zampella have filed a

lawsuit against Activision over royalty payments and if they win, they might be able to retain the rights of the 'Call of Duty' franchise. This means they could potentially veto any further entries into the series.

Following their departure, Activision announced a massive change in the 'Call of Duty' franchise with talks of another entry by the end of 2010 and the third ingress in the *Modern Warfare* series.

This isn't the first time Activision is involved in a controversial lawsuit; back in October 2009 the company challenged its main rival, Electronic Arts over the rights of video game called *Brutal Legend*, though that case was settled outside of court.

It is yet to be seen how the chain of events will play out and what will become of the popular 'Call of Duty' franchise, but one thing is certain; Activision has infused hatred in the hearts of gamers worldwide. 'Call of Duty' is a major cash cow for Activision and if the publisher loses this lawsuit, it will certainly be a major blow to an already vilified company.

# Arts



Art work by Steven Defendini



## Spotlight on a NJCU Artist: Steven Defendini

Steven Defendini began his career as a student at New Jersey City University in the fall of 2004. He is receiving his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communication Design with a specialization in Illustration.

Throughout his time at NJCU, Steven has completed numerous projects for various classes and clients. Most recently, he completed the poster for the Actors Shake-

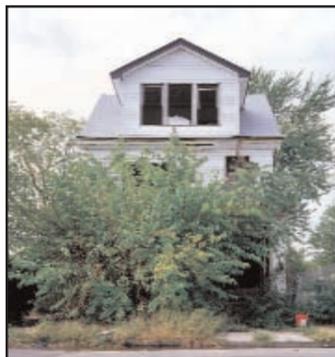
spere Company production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In the coming months, Steven will be creating the first issue of his comic book series for his Senior BFA show.

His work concentrates primarily on sequential comic book and graphic novel illustrations. These illustrations often incorporate high levels of contrast and rely on heav-

ily rendered forms, presented with cinematic sensibilities.

Steven is highly influenced by illustrators such as Adam Hughes, Drew Struzan and Ivan Reis.

His untitled comic book will focus on a group of young children left to fend for themselves in a world where global connectivity is no longer available and adversity is the only glimmer of hope available.



Photos by staff

## 40 Acres: A Portrait Series

In *40 Acres: A Portrait Series*, I explore Newark, a city in which over 1400 residents have fallen victim to the foreclosure crisis. Although many areas of the United States have been greatly affected by the recession, this largest city in the state of New Jersey is an exemplar of an urban paradox.

Although Newark has improved since the riots of 1967, with an increasing number of businesses and

a revitalized downtown area, residents are still troubled by an inadequate school system and unemployment/crime rates that double the state's average. The effects of the recession have worsened living conditions for Newark residents.

Along Springfield Ave, a turn down any of the residential streets will easily reveal numerous houses abandoned by their owners, vandalized by gangs, and occupied by the homeless. These structures no longer represent the realization of the American dream. They no longer stand as a symbol of status and wealth. They are now added burdens on an already struggling community.

## MUSEUM INFORMATION

### Metropolitan Museum of Art

1000 Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street  
New York, New York 10028-0198

Information: 212-535-7710

TTY: 212-570-3828

<http://www.metmuseum.org>

### Museum Hours

Monday: Closed (Except Holiday Mondays)

Tuesday–Thursday: 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 9:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Admission is free, but these are the suggested donations:

Adults \$20; Seniors (65 and older) \$15

Students \$10; Members Free

Children under 12 (accompanied by an adult) Free

### Guggenheim Museum

1071 Fifth Avenue (at 89th Street)  
New York, NY 10128-0173

Phone: 212 423 3500

[www.guggenheim.org](http://www.guggenheim.org)

### Museum Hours

Sun–Wed 10 am–5:45 pm

Fri 10 am–5:45 pm

Sat 10 am–7:45 pm

Closed Thursday.

Some galleries may close prior to 5:45 pm

Sun–Wed and Fri (7:45 pm Sat)

### Admission

Adults \$18; Students and Seniors(65

years +) with valid ID \$15

Children under 12 Free; Members Free

### Audio Tours

Audio tours are free with admission.

### Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53rd Street. New York, NY

Phone: (212) 708-9400

<http://www.moma.org>

### Hours

Sunday: 10:30 am.–5:30 pm.

Monday: 10:30 am.–5:30 pm.

Tuesday: closed (except December 29)

Wednesday: 10:30 am.–5:30 pm.

Thursday: 10:30 am.–5:30 pm.

Friday: 10:30 am.–8:00 pm.

Saturday: 10:30 am.–5:30 pm.

Thanksgiving Day (November 26)

CLOSED

### Admission

Adults: \$20; Seniors (65 and over with ID): \$16; Students (full-time with current ID): \$12; Children (16 and under): Free

(this policy does not apply to children in groups)

Members: Free

Guest of Members: \$5

### Jersey City Museum

350 Montgomery Street

Jersey City, NJ 07302

Phone: 201.413.0303

<http://www.jerseycitymuseum.org/>

### Gallery hours

Wednesday thru Friday:

11am to 5pm

Saturday: 12pm to 5pm

### Office hours

Tuesday - Friday: 9am-5pm

### Admission

\$5 adults, \$3 seniors 62 and older and students with I.D.; Free for museum members & kids under 12; Children must be accompanied by an adult in the galleries.

**Target Free Saturdays:** Admission is free for all visitors on Target Free Saturdays, which take place every Saturday during the museum's gallery hours of 12pm to 5pm.

### Newark Museum

49 Washington Street,

Newark, NJ 07102-3176

Phone: 973-596-6550

<http://www.newarkmuseum.org/>

### Hours

Wednesday through Friday, noon–5 pm

October–June: Saturday and Sunday,

10 am–5 pm

July–September: Saturday and Sunday,

noon–5 pm

Closed Mondays (except for Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. Day and Presidents' Day),

Tuesdays, New Year's Day, July 4,

Thanksgiving Day and December 25.

Barrier-free entrance, café service and

restrooms available.

### Suggested Museum Admission

Adults: \$10 Children, Seniors & Students

with Valid I.D.: \$6, Members: FREE

### Planetarium Admission\*

Adults: \$3, Children under 12, Seniors &

College Students: \$2

\*In addition to the suggested museum admission



google.com

Metropolitan Museum of Art

## SPORTS

# NJCU's La'Shonda Carter Wins

## 2009-10 Division III National Championship in High Jump

By NJCU Office  
Sports Information

Sophomore La'Shonda Carter (East Orange, NJ/Rahway) came to New Jersey City University as a transfer from the University of North Carolina this season with high hopes of being the next great track and field athlete in Gothic Knight history. On March 12, Carter lived up to her own expectations by becoming only the second woman in NJCU history to win a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) individual national championship in a field event, taking home gold in the high jump.

On her final jump of the 2010 season, Carter cleared the bar at 1.72 meters (5-7¾), to break a tie for first place while defeating a field of 16 national finalists. She gave NJCU its first women's indoor national title in any event since 2005.

After day one of the two-day championship, hosted by DePauw University at the James A. Hollensteiner Track, Carter single-handedly lifted NJCU into a share of third place in the championship standings with 10 points.

Carter, the 2010 New Jersey Athletic Conference Most Outstanding Female Athlete, who led NJCU to its first-ever national ranking this season, and as high as seventh in the country, entered the NCAA Championship ranked #1 individually in the event this season in Division III, after leaping a school-record height of 1.75 meters (5-8.75) on January 22.

"To finish out the indoor season feels awesome to be on top," Carter said moments after winning the title. "I qualified early on [on January 22] at 5-8¾ and that came after a jump-off. Looking back on the season it feels so good to go 5-8 or better twice. I also fell a lot smarter and have learned how to listen to and coordinate my body as I want it to perform."

Carter becomes the third different NJCU woman to win an indoor national championship and gives the program its combined fifth indoor crown. Andrea Herbert, the only other NJCU athlete to win a national title in a field event, claimed the 2005 triple jump, while Diana Lawson won the 55-meter dash championship in 2001, 2002 and 2004. NJCU

has also won two individual titles in the men's indoor track 55-meter dash (2005, 2006). Lawson won outdoor national titles in the 100 and 200-meter dash in 2005, making this the seventh national title by an NJCU woman in indoor or outdoor competition. She also became the eighth NJCU women to earn a combined 15 All-America awards since 2001.

Carter cleared 1.61 meters (5-3¼) on her first attempt and vaulted 1.66 meters (5-5¼) on her second jump. Only two competitors in the field jumped higher than 1.66, as Carter and freshman Elizabeth Evans from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology each soared 1.69 meters (5-6½) on their first try in round three.

Carter and Evans saw the bar raised to 1.72 meters, and each athlete missed on their first two attempts. Had neither competitor cleared the height on their final opportunity, Carter would have won the title because it took Evans two jumps to clear 1.66 meters. Carter went first on the final chance in round four, and succeeded, putting the pressure on Evans to force a fifth round. She was unable to match the NJCU standout, giving Carter the gold.

"It feels wonderful that all the hard work paid off," Carter said. "My coaches had me prepared coming into the meet. My legs were well rested, I ate properly and I made sure I had a good warm-up right before we started. [Going into the last jump], I wanted to be a beast and not be afraid of anyone or the bar. I've been here before, so let me clear this height and put the pressure on."

First-year head coach Charles Mays, Jr., who served as an assistant coach in the past six seasons prior to the 2009-10 campaign, coached his first individual champion as head coach after helping NJCU take home four as an assistant coach.

"You hate to say someone's going to win something because they're ranked #1 in the nation [coming in]," said Mays. "She worked hard, she stayed focused, did what she's supposed to do and accomplished what I thought she would. It's the most pleasing thing when you think something is possible and it comes to fruition. I think she's capable of winning even more outdoors."



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information  
La'Shonda Carter

Sixth-year assistant coach Donnie Bellamy, who worked with Carter on the final jumps, gave her this advice.

"I told her to just relax and take your time. You've made this height before. Concentrate right here, make this jump and win this [championship] outright. It's in her technique. The key was in her clearance, that when she went over the bar to bring her feet up because at that point she had already made the jump. That was the difference"

Also for NJCU at the

NCAA meet, freshman Azudei Dubois (Irvington, NJ/Irvington) entered the championship ranked seventh nationally in the 55-meter hurdles after setting a school record of 8.29 seconds at the NJAC Championship on February 22. In Friday's preliminary round, Dubois was in great shape in the second of two heats, and was in second place heading to the final hurdle. But on her last jump, she clipped the last hurdle, landed awkwardly, and could not finish, eliminating her from All-America consideration.

## THE 2010 NCAA WOMEN'S BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP IS COMING TO JERSEY!



2010 NCAA NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Thursday, April 8, 2010  
Friday, April 9, 2010  
Saturday, April 10, 2010

Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes  
790 US Highway 1  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Hosted by NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY



SIGN UP FOR UPDATES and TICKET INFORMATION

EMAIL: [2010bowling@NJCU.edu](mailto:2010bowling@NJCU.edu)

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/2010NCAABowling](https://www.facebook.com/2010NCAABowling)

TWITTER: [twitter.com/2010NCAABowling](https://twitter.com/2010NCAABowling)

[www.NJCUGothicKnights.com](http://www.NJCUGothicKnights.com)

