

# People vs. Profits

## Inside the Occupy Wall St. Movement

By Rafal Rogoza and  
Edgar Rivas Jr.

Two blocks south of the World Trade Center on Church St., in the heart of Manhattan's financial district, a band of drummers is playing to a cheering crowd watching people dance. Portuguese and French tourist gather to take pictures of the scene. The police try to clear the sidewalk. As the band pauses for a break the chants of protesters can be heard echoing in an open space surrounded by skyscrapers. This is Zuccotti Park, the campsite of the Occupy Wall St. movement.

"This movement is about injustice, economic and social injustice," said John Aevartin, a student from Stony Brook University who has camped out at Zuccotti Park with his friends.

The Occupy Wall St. movement began on September 17th when a few protesters inspired by the May 15 students' movement in Spain and the events at Tahrir Square decided to settle in Zuccotti Park to express their frustration with what they consider a corrupt political system. The numbers of people since have grown and what started with a few passionate activists has become a national phenomenon.



Posters made up by Wall Street protesters.

Photos by Rafal Rogoza

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## 'System is Broken'

By Rafal Rogoza

American Federation of Teachers Local 1839, a labor union of NJCU professors, has endorsed the Occupy Wall St. movement.

"The local executive committee, the local's governing body, endorsed the movement. The local's leadership recognizes that the current economic and political system is broken," said William Calathes, Executive VP of AFT Local 1839.

AFT Local 1839's endorsement was announced as the occupation of Wall St. entered its fourth week. Labor unions from across the country have endorsed the movement such as the Teamsters, SEIU, United Steelworkers, and the Transport Workers Union Local 100. Some members of Congress have voiced their support including Senator Bernie Sanders from Vermont along with the Congressional Progressive Caucus and Congressional Black Caucus.

"The movement is about a

range of issues like unemployment. People feel like they have been cheated. Students are struggling while investment banks and the government with lax regulations, has contributed to the

*"The local executive committee, the local's governing body, endorsed the movement."*

recession. Even though the recession is technically over it will take years to improve employment," said Ivan Steinberg, President of local 1839.

"We admire all the people in the movement because of their commitment. They have shown moral and ethical leadership. We celebrate their attempt to organize working class people," said Calathes.

Calathes has personal views about the movement and it's significance, independent of the

local as a whole.

"As an organizer I recognize the need to build coalitions and to have alliances," said Calathes, "community building and the development of leadership will educate people to stand up and resist."

Calathes has volunteered his time to help organize the movement and visits Zuccotti Park on a regular basis to continue assisting protesters.

"I've been involved in organizing the movement, creating working groups, and consulting student leaders. I'm there about 75% of the time meeting with protesters directly in the park," said Calathes.

According to Calathes, the Occupy Wall St. movement is a great example of democracy reinvigorating itself. The failure by politicians to address issues important to working class people is a reason why this movement came about. Calathes believes there is a need to redefine our political structure and

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Sleeping quarters in Zuccotti Park.

Photos by Rafal Rogoza

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# NEWS

## NJCU Undergraduate John Sebik Seeking State Assembly Seat

By Monir Khilla

John Sebik, 40, a Information Security and Cybersecurity major from Bayonne is running for State Assembly for Jersey City and Bayonne's 31st District as a write-in Candidate

Sebik grew up in the Greenville section of Jersey City and then moved to Bayonne at age six. He attended St Mary's for one year and then St Joseph's in Bayonne and finally Bayonne High School. Sebik has attended NJCU for the past two years and is currently enrolled in the Master of Science program specializing in Cybersecurity/Information Assurance. Most people may recognize him as the guy always with a coffee, studying mostly in the Union or at the library. You may also recognize him as the guy on a billboard at the Lightrail at Newport Mall.

Sebik said, "The best part of being on campus is being able to spark up the most interesting conversations outside of most buildings with students and Professors alike. Conversations range from school work, the economy, and a lot of times Politics. By talking more and more with people, I said to myself,

"Wow, Have I Found my calling."

On his goals as a politician Sebik said, "I want to engage students, small businesses and families in daily conversations. I want to hear the problems and find solutions. I want people to read my lips and look into my eyes and see my passion."

"I want to work with the current administration to represent students about their tuition and give them a direct line to the State. I'm outspoken, especially for my fellow NJCU students."

When asked about the campaign trail Sebik said, "I've been campaigning through word of mouth and social media outlets, such as Twitter and Facebook. I'm not asking for money, just support and volunteers."

"I feel that the 31st District is important, I grew up here and see that there have been negative changes. I think that it's time for a change and that it's time for politicians to listen to the strong voice of the people and students."

John Sebik is running as a write-in candidate.

The election will be on Tuesday, November 8.



Photos by Monir Khilla  
**John Sebik**

## Retirement of President Hernandez

[Editor's Note: NJCU President Carlos Hernandez announced his retirement last month as the Gothic Times was going to press. We will continue to monitor this story, exploring the president's legacy and reporting on the process of choosing his successor. Reprinted below is the official release from the university announcing the president's retirement.]

Dr. Carlos Hernández, an environmental psychologist with extensive public service experience in higher education, will resign from the presidency of New Jersey City University (NJCU) at the close of the academic year. His retirement will be effective July 1, 2012.

President Hernández, the institution's eleventh leader in its 82-year history, became president in 1993. Prior to his appointment as president, Dr. Hernández served in various capacities at NJCU: as provost, vice president for academic affairs, executive assistant to the president, and a faculty member in the Department of Psychology.

During his tenure as president, the institution attained University status on May 29, 1998 and changed its name from Jersey City State College to NJCU. Under Dr. Hernández' leadership in 2000 and 2010, the institution underwent two successful reaccreditation processes by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.



hudsonchamber.org  
**NJCU President  
Carlos Hernandez**

In announcing Dr. Hernández' decision to step down from the presidency yesterday, Chair of the NJCU Board of Trustees Rafael Perez said, "As president for the past 18 1/2 years, Dr. Hernandez has provided leadership of the highest caliber. He is a respected leader who has served with distinction at NJCU and made many contributions to this University. President Hernández has represented this institution extremely well in our community, in Trenton, and on many boards on local, state, and national levels."

Dr. Hernández commented in his message to the University community, "During my term as president I have tried to serve to the best of my ability to lead us toward realization of our very important mission... The coming calendar year will mark my 39th year here and 19 of those have

been as president; they have been intellectually stimulating and personally and professionally rewarding... You have been supportive, collegial, and collaborative throughout these years. Soon, someone new will carry forward the mission and carry the narrative into the future."

During Dr. Hernández' presidency, the span of academic offerings increased as the University diversified its programs and expanded to include three colleges: the William J. Maxwell College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Professional Studies, and the Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe College of Education.

The number and selection of academic degree programs also grew significantly to include numerous graduate-level programs, among them two doctoral programs that will be offered in the 2012 academic year. Dr. Hernández advocated through the years for the internationalization of NJCU's curriculum, for foreign-language proficiency for all graduates, and for study abroad experiences that would broaden knowledge and give graduates a competitive edge in the global market.

NJCU's tradition of access and excellence has remained unchanged throughout President Hernández' term. Diversity and

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## "System is Broken"

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not rely on politicians but on working class people helping themselves through such action as the Wall St. occupation.

"Personally, I feel that it's necessary to encourage the NJCU community to get involved," said Calathes.

The future of the movement is uncertain, but Calathes believes that it is heading in the right direction.

"As more obstacles arise hopefully the movement will grow," said Calathes, "the end result is not as important as the process. Whatever comes from it will be positive."

On campus many students support the occupation.

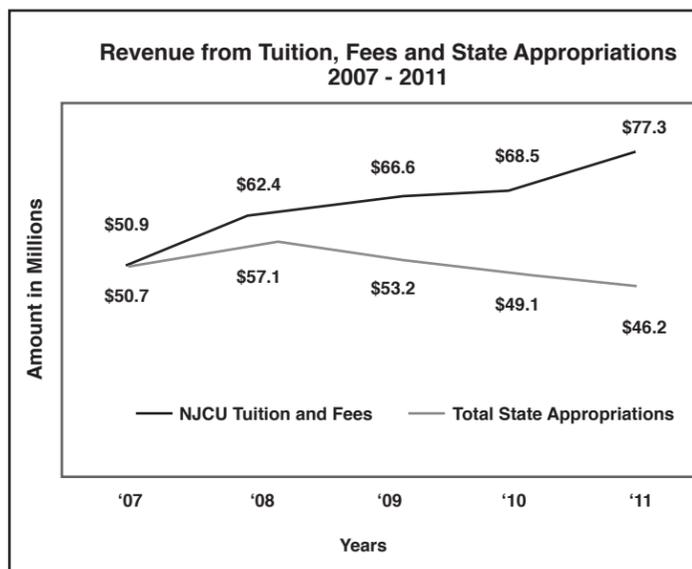
"It has been over a month now and they're preparing for the long haul. This dedication for the cause is what people are going to remember," said Don Santiago, 19, an undeclared major from Bridgewater.

"Its a really good idea because we're fighting for what's right for us. We should keep doing it around the world to get what we deserve," remarked Charles Sachetta, 19, undeclared major from Rutherford.

"There are obviously big problems in this country. These people that are participating in this movement are bring it to the attention to those who can possibly make a difference," said Peter Joyce, 20, an accounting major from Jersey City.

*"It's a really good idea because we're fighting for what's right for us."*

## Understanding NJCU's Budget: A Gothic Times Guide



The Gothic Times Staff

By Rafal Rogoza

- \*NJCU's revenue from state appropriations and tuition for the fiscal year 2011 is a total of \$123.5 million.
- \*During fiscal year of 2007, NJCU's total state and tuition revenue was \$101.6 million. That's a difference of \$21.9 million mostly made up from tuition hikes.
- \*From 2007-2008, the state appropriated an additional \$6.4 million in funds while the university had a tuition hike that increased tuition revenue by \$11.5 million.
- \*The University has not only covered the lost \$3.1 million from state funding from 2010-2011, but, has also made an extra \$5.7 million dollars.

## New Women's and Gender Study Major

By Nachalie Rodriguez and Briana Sweeney

New Jersey City University is now offering a new major. The Women's and Gender Studies Major has been in progress for a number of years and it finally became available this Fall of 2011.

Sarah Shrader, 32, education and history major from Union City said, "More people should learn about women's studies because it is a good major."

Before the program was made into a major it was a minor and had been an interdisciplinary program for 37 years. Both women and men had been re-

questing this minor to become a major, program officials said.

Students' voicing their opinions always helps, but we must also thank Dr. Liza Fiol-Matta and Dr. Catherine Raissiguier with the help of V.P. Jo Bruno and Dean Barbara Feldman for making this possible. "I don't mind it. I think it will allow people to see different point of view on human sexuality," said Darryl Brown, 19, criminal justice from Jersey City.

This new major is a great way to explore the roles women have taken then and now, and also learn how race, religion and sexuality can be viewed differently

throughout time periods.

Some students remain skeptical about the new major. Julio Gomez, 20, math major from Newark said, "I believe that women and gender studies is a very good major, however, it may be too broad of a major," he continued to explain, "it makes me question what kind of job someone can get with that."

This is a great opportunity to explore the importance of woman's qualities and character throughout the world. You won't know if this major is for you unless you register for a class. This may be your newly found passion.

## Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, Oct 26th  
11am-5pm  
NJCU Campus  
Professional Study Building

Be Ready...

**Prize**  
1st Place: \$50 Gift Card + Movie Tickets  
2nd Place: \$25 Gift Card + Movie Tickets  
3rd Place: Movie Tickets  
All participants will receive 50% off coupon for NJCU campus massage therapist

Sponsored by: American Marketing Association & Student Government Organization

LIFESTYLE

# Industries Intertwine

By Tiffany Salas

Many musicians turned designers have made their mark in fashion. But, will the Fashion's Industry's tide come and wash them away?

To start with, an entertainer has a following: fans, bloggers, or their industry friends. These artists have become brands; all they have to do is attach their name but, can they make it? Will they last?

**Madonna – Material Girl**

The Material girl very successfully launched her line in 2010 at Macy's Stores. Her line is a great addition to Macy's Juniors/Impulse Departments (depending on store set-up) and is extremely trendy. Her targeted demographic is 'tween to young adult.' However with her ongoing legal dispute with an L.A. based clothing company for the copyrights to the name of her

brand, "Material Girl"; it leaves the question circling throughout the industry...Will it last? *Maybe.*

**Pharrell Williams – Billionaire Boys Club**

The super-producer, writer, and artist frequently associated and, most well-known through his group N.E.R.D., has continued success through his Billionaire Boys Club (BBC) brand. Will it stay relevant? *Of course it will.* He not only has BBC, but over the last six years he has created spin offs of BBC, such as Ice Cream Clothing, and Bathing Ape (BAPE). He has all of what it takes to remain relevant in the industry. With his original targeted demographic of Skater Boys and Girls, he and his brands will definitely be around a long time.

**Avril Lavigne – Abbey Dawn**

The punk rock, chic, girly girl super brand with her own fra-



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grance. She also dabbles in the industry of Fashion. The trendy line "Abbey Dawn" sold at Kohl's targets female "tweens" to young adults. Will the glitter-graphic tees, tutus, and leather infused line last? *Sure.*

**Downfalls and Come-Ups**

In early 2007, with the release of "Stronger," a Daft Punk sample-filled composition; Kanye West gave us all hope when he mentioned "Pastelle" in one of his bars. Pastelle was a highly anticipated unisex fashion line designed by Mr. West. Unfortunately, two years later it seemed that the dream was something that would never be manifested. But after gaining more design experience (necessary for a Designer) Yeezy's back at it again, YAY! West teamed up with the prestigious branding team for Louis Vuitton once again with a line exclusively for women. He collaborated with Louis Vuitton on a shoe line back in 2009, hopefully this line doesn't let us down again. Will he make it?

# Innovations: The New Age of Online Social Networking

By Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory

When you hear the words "social network," one of three things come to mind: (1) the recent movie detailing Mark Zuckerberg's meteoric rise to celebrity through the invention of image number (2)- Facebook (3) and its arguably ill-fated antithesis, MySpace.

In response to society's seeming addiction to all things personally digital, the working world is increasingly being warned as to the dangers of the social network. These risks are only amplified in the mind of the modern college student, within which any and every undergraduate variable may be perceived as potential threats to their future professional careers. However, the social networking phenomenon is evolving as quickly as the personal and professional sensibilities of the students it serves, reincarnating itself into fresher, funkier, and more streamlined websites tailored to the specialized interests and needs of the modern young professional. With this in mind the following are the Top 3 Picks for social networking sites to watch:

**3. TALENTHOUSE.COM**

TalentHouse.com is an arts-centric social and professional networking site. The site not only allows users to create profiles, but also accommodates online portfolios so that their work is only a click away. Talenthouse.com's specialty is the concept of "Creative Invites," or TH-exclusive contest-style classifieds for once-in-a-lifetime creative jobs, such as creating art for Paul McCartney or designing for the fashion label Issa. The only downside to Talent House is the fierce competition. However, if you're down for the challenge,



Pgoogle images

the benefits just might change your life.

**2. TUMBLR.COM**

This formerly underground site that was once the Internet home for hipsters, creative types, and the savvy web-set professional is now considered to be in the same league as Social Networking bigwigs such as MySpace and Facebook. A free blog platform, Tumblr allows users to post, like, and/or share text, audio, video, quote, and HTML media, as well as letting them "follow" each other's pages and create and manage multiple additional blogs.

The best part? Although it has built-in chat ability, there is no "friending" or "commenting" involved, and no personal information-sharing requirement to have a page, thus eliminating the drama and privacy factors from the web equation. That, paired with the site's versatility, allowing users to completely customize their pages to their personal and/or professional interests and needs, makes Tumblr the intelligent

choice for the growing Gen-X kid. Put simply, Tumblr is Facebook's older, cooler sister.

**1. IDEALIST.ORG**

Does your 5-year plan include changing the world? Well, you're not alone. Idealist.org is a social networking site designed to unite individuals interested in careers involving nonprofit work and other service-based endeavors with like-minded companies and organizations. Easy to operate, the site also hosts graduate school fairs and think-tank style events to spark positive change from the grassroots level up. Whether you are a student activist or a Type-A student looking for new direction for a traditional major, Idealist is the place for you.

Rather than holding onto your compromising pictures just long enough for a dean to discover, these sites put key skills and resources (i.e. professional networking, resume and portfolio building, and self-branding) into users' hands for little, or no, fee.

## Retirement of President Hernandez

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the University's urban mission have been defining elements of his work.

Through the years, Dr. Hernández advanced an institutional agenda that was bolstered by cutting-edge technology and first-rate facilities in order to promote a forward-looking university. He envisioned an urban center of excellence where students would learn to think,

communicate, and become responsible global citizens.

The University's physical presence has changed significantly during Dr. Hernández' tenure. A major facilities master plan was launched. It included the con-

struction of three academic buildings (George Karnoutsos Hall, the Media Arts Center, and the Visual Arts Building), the state-of-the-arts John J. Moore Athletics and Fitness Center, and the complete redesign and renovation of the Congressman Frank J. Guarini Library and the Michael B. Gilligan Student Union. NJCU purchased land that will eventually lead to doubling the footprint of the campus.

Dr. Hernández has been the driving force that joined with the City of Jersey City and several partners in the community to begin a sweeping redevelopment project – the Bayside Project – that is changing the west side of Jersey City.

# NJCU Loop Shuttle

**The NJCU Public Safety Department is pleased to announce the expansion of our shuttle service to include transportation to the Visual Arts Building (VAB), John J. Moore Athletic Center (JMAC), the NJ Transit Light Rail and the West Side/Culver Avenue Bus Stop. The Loop Shuttle will operate Monday-Thursday from 8:00am-11:00pm. The remaining shuttles will continue to provide express service between Lot # 3A(West Campus) and Lot# 4(Visitors' Lot).**

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## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Woodwind Instruments and All That Jazz

By Elizabeth Ackerley

On October 3, NJCU held a phenomenal Woodwind and Jazz Faculty Recital in the Ingalls Recital Hall located in the Rossey building. I had never been to anything of the sort before, so I went not knowing what to expect, especially knowing nearly nothing about instrumental music. I could not help but think that audience members would be scarce. To my surprise, the auditorium was nearly filled with very eager people waiting to see their professors perform. Not long after, the recital began and I found myself immediately wowed by the experience.

Ed Joffe, Coordinator of Woodwind and Jazz, began the recital by speaking of how important it is for students of music to see their professors play. He played "Les Trois 'S'" by French composer Jean Rivier, who created over two hundred pieces. The song had a fantastic sound. It evoked many things inside of me—sadness, thoughtfulness, curiosity. I found it quite enjoyable as it reminded me of the score you would hear in a Disney movie like "Alice in Wonderland." Joffe later played Pierre Petit's "Andante et Fileuse" and was accompanied by Cathy Venable, Adjunct Instructor collabo-

orative Piano, on the piano. He was serious in the manner he played this song, which made the piece very lovely.

Playing the flute, was Katherine Fink, Adjunct Instructor for Flute. She was accompanied by Gary Hammond, Adjunct Instructor Collaborative Piano, on the piano. The piece she chose was "Sonatina, Op. 98" by William Mathias, who wrote the wedding anthem for Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Fink had described this piece as contemporary with an interesting "beep, smash" sound. I found it a lot like music you would hear in a movie in a chase scene or during a climatic moment.

Andrea Herr, Adjunct Bassoon Instructor, played the bassoon, a long tubular instrument. "Sonata No. 2 in a minor, Op. 2" was the song she performed. Herr stated that the composer created the song so it could be played on many instruments such as the cello. I enjoyed the song which reminded me of a song that would be danced to in the Baroque era.

"Spindrift" was the title of the song Jeanne Wilson, Adjunct Instructor Flute, played on the piccolo and Cathy Venable on the piano. Wilson explained that spindrift is the mist that comes from waves off the ocean during a storm. The song, she said, was



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a combination of jazz/ blues and motion/ romantic. It was a passionate, somber, and an emotional piece. The music would begin to get frantic with chaos and have a soft, calm break between the moments that seemed full of loss and sorrow.

Then Paul Meyers, Jazz, Guitar, and Ensembles Coach, played an original song on the guitar that he wrote called "The Opener" while touring across the country. I found it to be calm and very easy to listen to. His playing quite frankly made me jealous, as I wish I was able to play the guitar with such ease and precision.

Exotic, beachy sounds and descriptive, beautiful lyrics describes "Cravo e Canela" by

Milton Nascimento. The song is about all the beautiful girls on the beach in Rio, Brazil. Roseanna Vitro, provided vocals while a full band played the background music.

Tim Horner, Adjunct Instructor Drums, also performed two original songs, "A Precious Soul" and "Museum Piece." Both songs were accompanied by the band mentioned previously. To gather inspiration for these pieces, Horner sat in art galleries. "A Precious Soul" was written for his wife, Nita. The song was very simple to listen to and enjoy. I found myself tapping my feet to the great song. "A Museum Piece" was written about a picture of Christ wearing a crown of thorns Horner once saw. It was jazzy, strong, and well composed. Horner had the most enthusiasm I had ever seen in a drummer. His confidence in himself and his incredible skills were very refreshing. You could feel his positive vibes reaching out to the audience.

At the age of 44, Joe Magnarelli, Adjunct Instructor Trumpet, began writing his original piece, "44." He also named it "44" for Pete Maravich, a basketball player, numbered 44. He wrote it for a friend dear to him, who played the piano. In writing the piece, Magnarelli tried to use his friend's way of thinking. It

was light and airy. I had paid full attention to this piece, feeling drawn in by the strong trumpet, saxophone, and drum sounds.

Finally, there was "Jump for J" written by pianist Allen Farnham, Adjunct Instructor Piano, Arranging, Improvisation, Composition, Jazz, Vocal, and Ensemble. Farnham was totally passionate in his playing. His fingers glided with ease over the piano keys and his feet were vigorously tapping the piano's pedal. I enjoyed the cool, funky sound of this piece.

Forget a night on the town, have a night at NJCU! On October 24th at 7:30 p.m., there is the "Bronx Arts Ensemble in an Evening of Baroque Music" in Ingalls Recital Hall. This event is free! The "Great Performer Series: NJCU Jazz Ensembles with Arturo O' Farrill, Pianist" is on December 5th at 7:30. The price of admission is \$10 for students. The "Fall Jazz Bash" on December 8th is set to take place at the Ingalls Recital Hall and Sozio Rehearsal Hall at 7 p.m. The price is \$10 for students as well. The "Chamber Ensembles Concert" will be on December 9th at 12 p.m. in Ingalls Recital Hall. It is free to attend this concert. Also, check out the "Jazz Arrangers' Concert" on December 12 at 5 p.m. in Sozio Rehearsal Hall. It's free, so go!

## Highlighting Comic Con 2011

By Mathew Barnes and  
Dylan Jonem-Busch

The 2011 New York Comic-Con has come and gone again at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City, starting on October 13 and ending on the 16. The convention featured iconic guests such as Seth Green, Mark Hamill, and Stan Lee. Many popular video game and comic book distributors like Capcom, Square Enix, Nintendo, Marvel, DC and Dark Horse made their appearance as another wave of gamers and comic-fans lined up to try out the latest products, get the latest info and play against the best of the best in video and card game tournaments. Here's a look at what transpired during that feverish three-day weekend.

### Friday, October 14

Friday started off with the official screening of "Once Upon a Time" an ABC original series that fuses popular fairytales with present day reality. Previews, hands-on demos and inside scoops of "Final Fantasy XIII-2," "Batman: Arkham City," "Street Fighter X Tekken" and "Star Wars: The Old Republic," were revealed. The development team behind "Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning" teamed up with *New York Times* Bestselling author R.A. Salvatore, renowned for writing the "Dark Elf" trilogy, gave in giving an in-depth look on the game and how the extensive story and background will connect and affect the players' overall gameplay experience. Salvatore also talked about what to expect in his latest book, "Neverwinter" and Seth Green discussed the upcoming Season 5.5 of his popular series "Robot Chicken." Finally, Mark Hamill made his spotlight appearance later in the evening, who is well known for playing "Luke Skywalker" from "Star Wars" and voice acting for various cartoons, such as the Joker from "Batman: The Animated Series."



Photos by Dylan Jonem-Busch.

Fans dressed as favorite characters.

### Saturday, October 15

Saturday began with the world premiere of the "Green Lantern: The Animated Series" with Bruce Timm behind the project, who is well known for creating "Batman: The Animated Series." More information was revealed on the second season of the popular CW Television drama series, "Nikita" by Maggie Q who plays the show's protagonist. Robert Kirkman, followed by his cast and producers discussed what to look forward to in the second season of AMC's "The Walking Dead." Ryota Niitsuma brought us more news on the expansion of the first "Marvel vs Capcom 3" and "Ultimate Marvel vs Capcom 3." At the end of the day, big fantasy authors Brandon Sanderson, Peter Brett, Phillipa Ballantine, along with new coming epic fantasy authors Rae Carson, David Chandler, and Nils Johnson-Shelton, discuss how fantasy-related themes have rekindled interest in fiction and the MTV theatre showed the return of the popular MTV animated series, "Beavis and Butt-head," premiering on October 27 at 10:00.



### Sunday, October 16

Sunday started out with the meeting of the stars from "Conan the Barbarian" such as Jason Momoa, Rose McGowan and Stephen Lang. Basic Japanese lessons were provided by teachers from Japan Society's Toyota Language Center who were promoting classes for determined learners. Capcom presented more of their new products such as "Dragon's Dogma," "Asura's Wrath" and "Dead Rising 2: Off the Record." It all ended with the premiere of Studio Pierrot new anime adventure "Legend of the Millennium Dragon."

## Q&A with the team from... Moonbase Comics

...with Joe Ryan, Robby Fregosi, Greg Goodson, and Jordon Canales. Moonbase Comics is a new and independently formed comic book collaborative.

### What is your goal at Comic-Con 2011?

To make a stronger and better booth and comic book for next year.

### How long did it take you guys to set up?

Me, Robby, Greg and Jordon compiled this together. It took two weeks for me in mid-August to complete and it was later shipped in September.

### How hard was it to secure a panel here?

We've been dreaming about it. The hardest part was getting together. Robby is from Westchester, Greg is from Delaware, I'm from the moon (laughs), New York and Jordon is from New Jersey.

### To each of you, what does art mean to you?

Joe: Art is a tool I've used all my life. I love using it to tell stories and to express myself.

Greg: I do whatever you feel that makes people happy (i.e. farting). I enjoy manifesting characters and applying them to reality.

Jordon: Art is me. Without it I'll die.

Robby: Art is about entertaining people. I do whatever makes others feel happy.

## FEATURES

# People vs. Profits: Inside the Occupy Wall St. Movement

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The occupiers sleep on mattresses, using tarps to cover themselves when it rains. The police removed tents that were donated by rapper Lupe Fiasco. There are musicians playing guitar, an old woman knitting cloths for the protesters, homeless teens smoking pot, college students discussing politics, and people in various costumes such as a man dressed as Death walking among the people.

The movement has no central leadership instead decisions are made in a directly democratic process referred to as the general assembly. Everyday a general assembly is scheduled allowing anyone to speak and propose various courses of action. Protesters then decide what to do by voting. The police don't allow megaphones so listeners loudly repeat the speaker, reverberating what is said throughout the park. Hand gestures are used by listeners to communicate, for example raising their hands and wiggling their fingers when they agree with what is said.

"I came here to attend a meeting and there were requests for help so I volunteered to point people like yourself in the right direction. The movement grows organically, people take the initiative," said Rick Devoe, the Occupy Wall St. unofficial spokesperson who's professional experience includes working in pro-



Photos by Rafal Rogoza

Protesters demonstrating at Zuccotti park.

gressive politics. There is no official voice for the movement because it is completely decentralized.

"The occupation is separated into different working groups. This is the direction we're heading in because of the rising number of people coming to the park," answered Devoe when asked about the occupation's organization. "The general assembly is being restructured to include debate between the speaker and the assembly. Before, a speaker's idea was not being discussed between the assembly and this made it difficult to make decisions."

"As you can see there is the sleeping quarters, a comfort com-

mittee, the kitchen, and the library," said Alex from Trenton, a former student of Middlesex Community College who dropped out because he couldn't afford school.

Environmentalists, gay rights activists, union workers, socialists, anarchists, centrists, veterans, students, and the elderly have all come to the park for their own reasons, making it hard to identify a unified message and demand.

"We won't give you the answer," said DeVoe when asked what the protesters want to achieve. "One of the strengths of this movement is that we are not making specific demands. This allows more people to participate.

*"We're here for action to be taken against Wall St. for the robberies they have committed"*



Photos by Rafal Rogoza

Occupy wall street command center.

People have low confidence in the government and we have to realign. Let's face it the system is not working for us. It won't respond to demands and I don't believe legislation will work."

Sentiments among the protesters do vary.

"We have been here since September 17th protesting corruption in our system and the oppression we are living in now because of the economy," said Jake Lee, 18 from Bergen County NJ.

"A lot of people are angry at the current state of this country because we (the country) care about the corporations more than the individual people," said Autumn Kaled, 14, from Leonia NJ.

"I'm here because I've been af-

ected by what's been happening so greatly. I'm currently homeless and I can't afford the medication that I need, I have a chronic illness. Even though there was a free clinic, I wouldn't be able to afford the fee," said Kaled.

People from all over the country have temporarily moved to the park. Mark Knowles, 25 from Chicago, and Kieth Hapiz, 21 from North Dakota, took the train to participate in the occupation. Both came after seeing videos of police brutality and the arrests on the Brooklyn bridge.

"We're here because of the undue influence of money in politics," said Hapiz, "its our future, we have to do something."

"We're here for action to be taken against Wall St. for the robberies they have committed with the economic stimulus and the wars. They're not concerned about taking care of our children," said Rose-Ellen Leonard, 70, who flew from Seattle with her sister Sharon Brooks, 72, from Los Angeles.

With no clear demands the Occupy Wall St. movement could drag on for months. Most protesters that are part of the occupation have said they are prepared to stay, like Alex from Trenton.

"We've talked about staying well into the winter," said Alex.

When asked how long he's staying John Aevartin answered, "As long as it takes. Who wouldn't want to be here?"

## Revolutionary Gamer

By Rafal Rogoza

Hector Reyes, 24, Biology and secondary education major from Jersey City, spends roughly 45 minutes a day glued to his computer screen. Reyes enjoys building model homes and running a few sprints on the track but there is no doubt about it, Reyes is an online gamer of a revolutionary type. Angry Birds and Call of Duty got nothing on the game Reyes is playing because his game play may help the scientific community make major breakthroughs in molecular biology, potentially finding cures for viral diseases.

The name of the game is EteRNA. Created by Stanford University and Carnegie Mellon, EteRNA is an online social video game where players design RNA molecules based on a set of rules. Each week scientists select a design they find interesting and chemically make that design to see if it may help them answer some questions that arise during their research.

"Carnegie Mellon and Stanford University have these biological questions. It is too expensive and time consuming to ask the question by synthesizing a million of these possible answers so instead they just give them to the world and they say, 'Here's some problem I have can you build a structure using the rules of biology, chemistry, and physics to make me something that folds into the lowest energy confirmation?'. Then they choose a winner every week and they make that molecule to test it in a lab," said Dr. Cindy Arrigo, Assistant Professor of Biology.

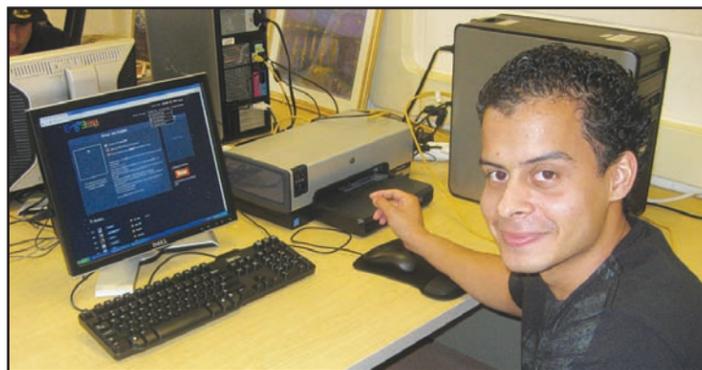


Photo by Gothic Times staff

Hector Reyes playing EteRNA.

"I was intrigued by these RNA molecules. They have so much of an impact. People focus on DNA, but they don't realize the role of RNA in biological reactions," said Reyes, punctuating his sentences with raised eyebrows as he spoke.

Reyes is the star player of the 43 students on team NJCU. They compete with other schools and organizations from all over the world on EteRNA. Currently team NJCU is ranked 38th in the world, just behind team Albert Einstein. Reyes's global player ranking is 1818, an outstanding rank considering he's up against a global community of professional and amateur biologists. Reyes game play has attracted attention from the Center for Advanced Biological Medicine as well as support from the 2nd globally ranked player.

"You have to be patient and persistent," said Reyes during a discussion about his strategy.

"Hector's strategy called on his architectural interests and also his numeracy. He's using numbers to solve his structures. That's why

he's so successful," said Dr. Arrigo.

Combining online social gaming with scientific research has the potential to make major advances in science. Referred to as crowd source science, a global swarm of gamers attempt to solve problems that scientists and computers couldn't.

"It's a social experiment, have people participate in cutting edge research that's directed toward the amelioration of human disease and suffering," said Dr. Arrigo.

"We're helping the scientific community solve very important problems that challenge us today. Certain retroviruses require RNA in their genetic make up. By messing with the RNA we are able to prevent the viruses from replicating in certain cases," said Reyes.

When asked how his mother feels about his constant game playing Reyes responded, "The first time she caught me playing she said, 'Why you playing games when you should be studying?' I said, 'Ma this is for college.'"

## Time as a Constant Uncertainty

By Vanity Ciara Velazquez

Most people wonder about the significance of the copper colored pole that stands before Rossey Hall. What is its purpose?

"Its reaching for the sky, maybe it is a memorial for September 11," remarked Carla Sanchez, 22, psychology major from Jersey City. "It encourages me to use it as inspiration for ceramic pieces."

"It looks like a stick or a needle," said Diana Ramirez, 24, education major from Union City.

Designed by Herb Rosenberg, the needle like structure that stands in the center of campus in front of Rossey Hall, is a commemoration of the millennium. Created in 1998, the sculpture is titled "Time as a Constant, Uncertainty". The inscription on the plaque next to the artwork reads, "Created to depict the illusory nature of time: simultaneously, constant, and changing. The tumbling hard steel rises to cradle the Canadian Yellow Birch whose organic forms will slowly decay revealing yet another aspect of time."

The sculpture is a representation of the significance of time and its mystery. Passing this sculpture, now that one knows the meaning behind it, should remind students that the clock is ticking. However, students



Photo by Gothic Times staff

Time as a Constant Uncertainty sculpture.

passing the structure don't see the connection between the artwork and time.

"Rings of a tree would represent time," said Mario Medina, 24, criminal justice major from North Bergen. "This stick is nothing more than a stick. I don't see how it could relate to time."

Surrounded by trees many students didn't even notice the artwork. In that sense the artwork is a success, it is as illusive as the illusory nature of time.

## OPINION / ADVICE

# Can I Place an Ad here?

By Jordan Freels

New Jersey City University is a diverse school. If anyone were to walk around campus one would see a melting pot of people who are of different cultures, shapes, and sizes. True, the majority of the school body commutes to and from school; but there is a small amount of students who live on campus as well.

The freshman dormitory has about 100 students both freshman and transfer students. The other two living spaces house between 125 plus. The on campus community may not be the largest but I know that the many organizations and programs on campus try to get the dorm students involved, and sometimes that may not always be the case.

I have recently accepted the position of being a Resident Assistant and one of my many jobs is

to post flyers done by either fellow RA's for events they are having, organizations such as SGO, Greek Life, etc.

The list can go on and on, but I know if flyers are not posted students wouldn't know what was going on, and it's important because NJCU has a lot to offer. The flyers posted all throughout the university give an opportunity for students (on and off campus) to learn more about the events and different workshops being held.

Before becoming an RA, I would stop and take the time to read the flyers that were posted because they caught my eye or because I would receive e-mails from faculty members about different activities being held.

Most people don't check their gotmail account and it's because of this they feel the NJCU email is irrelevant to their everyday lives; however, these e-mails come in handy when your e-

mails can't be opened on your personal account. I'm not suggesting that NJCU e-mails be mandated for students to attend NJCU but, if the posted flyers aren't catching their attention, I'm not sure what else to suggest.

As mentioned before, flyers that have color and get straight to the point could be a start to letting students know what's happening on campus. I live in the freshman dorms with many residents who aren't aware because they say they didn't see the flyers, even when they're clearly posted in plain sight; but it would be too much of a hassle to give a flyer to every single resident.

The problem with students not being aware of flyers could simply be that most don't care but, it doesn't help when the flyers present something beneficial to students. This problem must be fixed quickly. A greater turnout for all the events and activities will get more students involved.

### OPINION

## MIC CHECK!

### *We Don't Want to Live in Poverty*

According to the Commerce Department, in 2010 U.S. corporations collectively earned \$1.25 trillion in profits after taxes. That is the highest amount since record keeping began. The Federal Reserve estimates that corporations have \$1.9 trillion in cash they are not spending. This money could circulate and help the 9.1% of unemployed Americans get back on their feet. Moreover, the Labor Department estimates that 8 out of 10 new jobs created are low paying jobs with employees earning \$22,000 or less. If that didn't raise the hair on your head than you probably didn't know that the average college student has a debt of \$23,000 after graduation. Who's looking out for your concerns and future? Not the bankers and politicians that created the current economic mess but the people who have slept for weeks on dirty mattresses in Zuccotti Park.

Corporate greed and its manipulation of our country's political system is the general

consensus among protesters of the Occupy Wall St. movement. Yet political pundits have labeled the movement as a disorganized hodgepodge of liberals and hippies that don't know why they are there. The pundits and critics have missed the point entirely by not considering the reason why protesters decided to march on Wall St. instead of Washington. The financial crisis was the greatest robbery in American history with the perpetrators taking off with bags of money while the Justice Department and SEC looked the other way.

The critics of the movement don't seem to understand that people in general feel cheated. Wall Street socialized the risk of its investments but has privatized the profits. The government didn't hesitate to take a few trillion dollars from taxpayers so that Wall St. can have all the money it needs to stay in business. Now Wall St. is breaking record profit numbers and is not eager to repair the damage its business prac-

tices have caused around the country.

The occupation in Manhattan's financial district has inspired similar occupations all over the country, something that is long over due. It is a positive step in reclaiming our democracy from the grasp of corporate lobbyists. It also eases our nerves and concerns to know that we live in a society that has strongly adopted civil disobedience into its culture. The occupation is symbolic of the strife that students, parents, veterans, the unemployed, and the homeless have endured during the recession. It makes an aesthetic point by inviting a various group of people to express their frustration by sleeping on the street in the same neighborhood that is home to the most powerful banks in the world.

The critics and pundits should drop the liberal label from the Occupy Wall St. movement and realize that it is in the interest of all people to live with dignity, regardless of the political spectrum.

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## Students and Internships

By Aida Toro

Should students gain an experience in their field of study before actually graduating with that Bachelor's degree? Gaining an experience before actually graduating would be fantastic.

The learning experience before actually getting hired in your field is an Internship. Internships can open some doors for college students before graduating.

Some students find it stressful to apply and look for that one internship they desire. However, students shouldn't get demoralized. I have always wanted to pursue a career in fashion and writing, which is why I am currently majoring in journalism.

But if I want my dream to come true, it struck me that an internship was needed. Before starting off this semester, I was already on websites looking for internships of my interest.

When I finally came to some results, I started working on my resume and cover letter. However, the cover letter and resume can be one of the biggest stress factors for students as well.

Juan Arroyo, the assistant director in Cooperative Education for NJCU, is one of the people that can assist students with cover letter and resume problems. Aside from the cover letters and resumes, he will provide valuable advice on how to get the internship of your dreams along with internship options as well.

My intern experience in Black Book Magazine has been excellent so far. I am gaining amazing experience with fashion. I have met celebrities, editors, and publicists while interning, which is fantastic, because I'm building a network for my future career. Therefore, my experience so far, in my words, is FABULOUS.

If students ever need assistance with internship offers, cover letters, and resumes, they can always go to the Academic Career and Planning Placement center located at Vodra Hall room 101. Director Jennifer Jones and Assistant Director Juan Arroyo, will be there to guide all students.

To sum up, students should not miss out on amazing opportunities like Internships!

## Be advised: Your education is at risk

As most students are now aware of the enrollment for Spring 2012 is now open and available to all. What some students fail to do is set an appointment with their advisors so they can be aware of what classes to take.

Year after year students make the dire mistake of ignoring their advisors. Whether it is their general studies or major, some students simply do not seek their help. When they believe it is their time to graduate they are enraged because they are told

they are missing credits. This is why we have advisors and why we are sought after to set appointments.

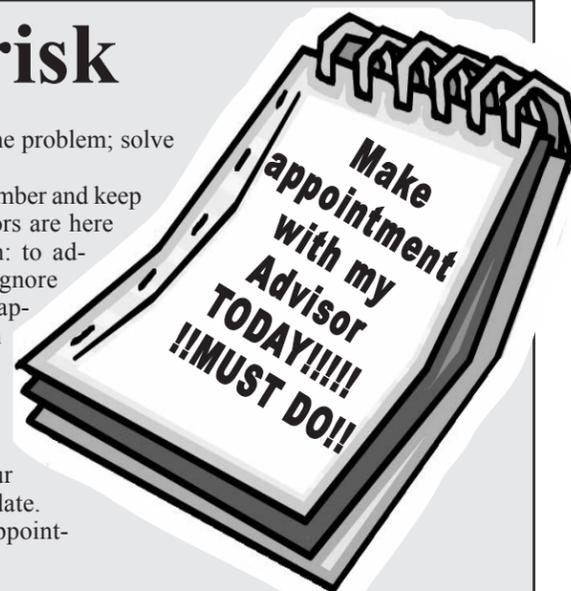
Advisors not only take any hold off your account but they can have the power to add you in a class that is already closed. They offer the best classes to take and when to take them. They keep records of your credits, tell you which ones count, which ones transferred over (if you are a transfer student), and let you know your estimated graduation date. You should al-

ready keep a record of your own work and credits but it does help you in the long run to have an advisor. Many students have been shocked to learn that they have taken the same class twice (different names) or have taken a class they did not need furthering their stay in school.

Some students may argue that their advisors cannot be depended on. If you are having a hard time communicating with them, change advisors. Ask around; get recommendations from friends and even faculty.

Don't ignore the problem; solve it.

Always remember and keep in mind advisors are here for that reason: to advise. If you ignore setting up an appointment with your advisor you are risking not only your grades but your graduation date. Make the appointment now!



## FEATURES

# Granting Requests

By Allison Lozada

When students hear the word “grants”, they normally think of government monies or loans they have applied for and received for their schooling. Here at NJCU, grants have emerged as a critical funding stream that has enabled the university to achieve its transformation as an excellent academic institution.

Unbeknownst to many, the Office of Grants and Sponsored Programs (OGSP) is tucked away on the third floor of Science Building (S330). OGSP is responsible for securing funding from government and foundations that benefit NJCU in various ways. Over the past four years, OGSP has obtained well over \$30 million in grant funding – record breaking results for the University and especially significant when one considers the current economy and funding cuts by the State of New Jersey.

Leading OGSP is Ruddys Andrade, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. He manages OGSP and a number of NJCU units. This Fall Andrade proudly announced the acquisition of \$9 million in grant monies from the U.S. Department of Education, which represents the largest grant acquisition at NJCU. These grant awards will fund a

number of innovations at NJCU.

The grant from the Department of Education will be administered over the next five years. Part of the funding will “provide professional development for faculty and administration which will enhance the quality of instruction,” said Andrade. Half of the award will be used toward the renovation of the remaining science labs, providing students with access to state of the art facilities. Most notably, \$1.2 million will support the University Foundation’s endowment. This means more scholarships will be available to students thanks to this grant.

Andrade also proudly noted that the proposal for one of the grants received a perfect score – a very rare instance – and further proof that NJCU’s intended use of the funds is extremely “effective and efficient.”

Additionally, NJCU has partnered with Hudson County Community College (HCCC) on one of the two grants. Grant monies will support a wireless network upgrade at HCCC and make Wi-Fi access available on both campuses.

Partnerships are a big part of OGSP’s success. The office has fostered strong ties with prominent non-profit agencies working for the improvement of the community at the local and state

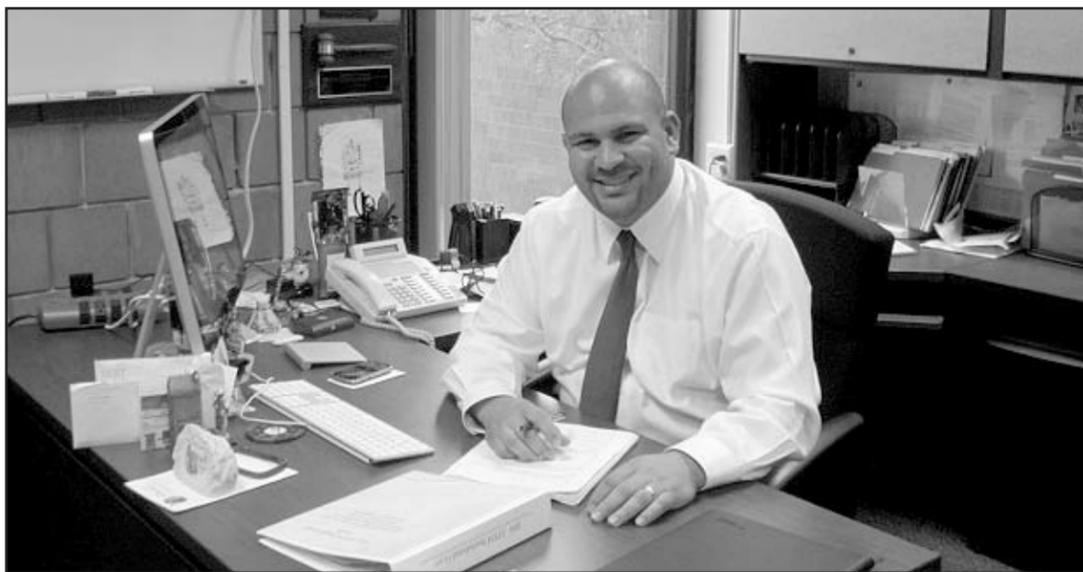


Photo by Gothic Times staff

Ruddys Andrade

level. As a result, institutions like Liberty Science Center, the United Way of Hudson County, Rising Tide Capital, and Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey partner on grants with NJCU to serve a common purpose. “We are experienced in building sophisticated partnerships that respond to the needs of the college campus and the greater community,” said Andrade.

The process of receiving grants for the University is broken down into two sections: pre-award and post-award. Andrade explained, “Pre-award identifies possible funding opportunities, conceptualizes ideas for grant purposes, and when necessary creates part-

nerships such as HCCC and NJCU, Union County College and NJCU, or NJCU and United Way.” Writing is extremely important at the pre-award phase, which is when NJCU makes its pitch to receive funding. It’s not uncommon to write a 50 or 100 page grant proposal, which has to clearly and succinctly detail why NJCU needs the grant; how the funding will be spent to address that need; and simply make the case that NJCU and its proposed project is a better investment than the countless other applicants submitting a grant application.

If and when the University becomes funded, the post-award team handles the grant itself. Post-award is responsible for the

management side, they make sure NJCU meets its goals as stated in its pitch; ensure compliance with the funder’s rules and guidelines; and submit progress reports.

Andrade was also willing to share his thoughts on President Hernandez upcoming retirement. “[President Hernandez] has been a tremendous leader on campus... NJCU’s champion... Captain of the ship,” said Andrade, “It was his vision that brought us this far [and] he will be dearly missed.”

OGSP can be considered the Financial Aid office that serves the University as a whole, rather than serving individual students. In these difficult economic times, it’s an office that we can’t do without.

## OPINION

### ‘Black Gold’

By Francis A. Wilson

The fact is that there are three places to get coffee on campus, and no one can agree on which is the best. Option number one is Starbucks, conveniently located on the first floor of the Professional Studies building mere seconds from the shuttle bus drop off point. Option number two is the cafeteria located in the Gilligan Student Union Building on the second floor. And option number three, the local short order truck just outside of the entrances to the campus. For the serious coffee aficionado there can only be one choice: the food truck.

Starbucks, may at first sound like a good idea but, after careful examination it falls short of the bar. Admit it, you like Starbucks coffee, but do you really know why? Are you buying the coffee, or are you buying the logo? In many cases the coffee does taste good. However, if you are like many people and want a regular cup of coffee and skip the fancier choices, Starbucks is not the place to go. The fact that Starbucks prices are a bit high doesn’t matter much to those who are accustomed to and enjoy Starbucks, but it’s the lack of professionalism that gets me. Shouldn’t these cups and heat sleeves have some kind of logo on them?

As for the cafeteria, what can be said about the cafeteria coffee that hasn’t already been

said? The cafeteria coffee is less than perfect. This is probably why the coffee is sold at such affordable prices, the kind of prices that would make even the most frugal of individuals stop and consider getting coffee here, but only for a second.

Where am I ever going to get a decent cup of coffee? Well, look no further than your local short order truck. Ask any coffee aficionado where to get coffee, and nine out of ten times they will tell you the truck. The truck caters to all your needs. It has breakfast options, it has lunch options, and for a while it even had cigarettes. What more can a person need? Well, it even has coffee. And not just the kind of coffee you would expect from the cafeteria, or the overpriced logo-less mass chain a few yards away, but the kind of coffee that is rich, hearty, and bold with an emphasis on affordable. The truck willingly bends to the customer’s needs, and happily delivers with smiling faces, the kind of coffee they are proud to serve. They always make it just right.

Say what you will, but a good cup of coffee can go a long way; an affordable one can go even further, especially in today’s economy. The fact is you are free to choose what you drink, what to drink it, and where to drink it. Chances are you aren’t going to stray from your comfortable monotony anyway. So do what you want, but maybe get some great tasting coffee for a change.

## Talking Shop

By Francis A. Wilson

On Wednesday, October 12 a unique opportunity for music education majors was held. A workshop was provided in Rossey Hall in the “insert name” recital hall. The workshop was designed around music education, and more specifically, the teaching aspect in music education. If you are like many college students you find yourself asking those hard questions that we ask ourselves from time to time. “What is my career going to be like?” “What does my profession entail?” “What is going to be asked of me in my profession?”

Naturally, this questioning process can go on for most of your college career with some questions eventually finding answers while others remain unanswered. Ultimately this was the point of the workshop; workshops like these are designed

with students in mind. They are there to help, and provide crucial information that will become invaluable later on.

There were various things being thrown out from the assembled panel of alumni who have lived, and are living a professional life outside of college in their field. The panel was integral to the success of the workshop because they have firsthand experience, and knowledge about things they don’t teach you in the classroom. Some of the things that came from the discussion were common sense, but others like making friends with janitors and secretaries were not. This tidbit of information was a big point that was stressed because for many first year teachers a common mistake that can be made is to go at it alone. Why go at it alone when you can have help?

In the long run, the most important thing is to be prepared

and, more than that, be over prepared.

The main consensus from the panel was that there is nothing worse than having a class room full of potentially volatile and easily distracted ankle bitters who don’t have anything to do because you neglected your lesson plan and didn’t bring extra materials just in case. When it comes to a situation like this, the panel suggests over preparation, and fillers like amusing auditory, vocal, and heavy body based songs to give you time to transition to the next area of your lesson plan. Always remember who you are doing all of the work for, remember it’s all for the children and, most importantly, find a way to keep your passion going. Remembering advice like this from a panel of alumni, who are out there in the trenches, can and will be integral to your survival; survival with an emphasis on career longevity and adaptability.

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For more info contact: Sheny at 201-780-1552

## SPORTS

# Julia Caseres, NJAC Scoring Queen

By Edgar Rivas, Jr.

Julia Caseres, 21, Criminal Justice, from Union, NJ has surpassed U.S. Women's Soccer Captain Christie Rampone as the all-time NJAC leading scorer in a 4-0 shutout against SUNY-Old Westbury.

Julia Caseres made a transition from Rutgers-Newark to New Jersey City University's up-and-coming soccer program. She only stayed one year at Rutgers-Newark and her decision to come here paid off.

"I couldn't play under that coach," said Caseres.

"From what we've [the team] been told, we've come a long way from where we were," said goalkeeper Brittany Hoffman, 18, Fire Science, from McMurray, PA.

Rampone had 212 points during her tenure at Monmouth University. Caseres finished the game with 216 points.

"It's amazing to even know that I was going to do something like that," said Caseres.

Olympia Sciortino, 18, Special Education, from Bridgewater, NJ assisted on one of Caseres two goals.

"Honestly it felt great because I know I contributed a goal to

one of the top scorers on our team. I felt so happy to be a part of that," she said. "I'm so happy for her. I've known her for a while now and I think she deserves every little bit of what she earned."

But don't expect Caseres to brag all over campus. She's low-key about this record and plans to stay that way.

"I'm more focused on continuing the season and leaving on a high note," she said.

"Julia is not a bragger," said Coach Robert Bielan. "She's one of those girls that would just work hard and get it done on the field."

A very focused and determined soccer player, she knows what it takes to be successful.

"She puts in 100% [in her effort]," said Coach Beilan.

In a year where records are being broken in NJCU athletics, this record epitomizes the rise of a program. This team is not a joke and other schools should take notice.

"We're definitely getting better. We have improved the past two years and other teams are taking us seriously," said Caseres.

The amazing thing about this team is their chemistry. This team is perhaps the most harmo-



Julia Caseres

Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

nious team ever at NJCU.

"We have 18 players on this team and 18 players have the same goals," said Coach Bielan. "They would even spend the night together going to the movies, going bowling, or having dinner together. That's the kind of harmony they have."

In her spare time, she likes to hang out with her friends and family. Her favorite team is Sky Blue FC, a WPS team from Piscataway, NJ. Her favorite soccer player is Alex Morgan, who was on the U.S. Women's team in World Cup Germany 2011. She wants to be a police officer in the future.

"I want to go to the academy and wherever it takes me, it takes me," she said.

Coach Bielan thinks she could succeed in another career.

"She's a student of the game. Julia can definitely be a college coach and a huge, huge successful coach," said Coach Bielan.

The next time you hear about NJAC soccer, Julia's name and this school will forever be linked to it.

"That's a nice little moniker," said Coach Bielan.

## Digging up a record

By Alex Johanesen

Michelle Rayo found herself improving the digs record for a four-game match to 37 in the conference opener at William Paterson University on September 15.

"It feels great to have broken a record. I'm ecstatic!" said Rayo.

The 21 year-old senior psychology major from Jersey City is now in the history books for NJCU. The previous record set in 2005 of 35 was held by former player Glorinell Perez. Rayo is now in 5th place in NJCU history for the most amount of digs in one match, whether it be a three, four, or five game battle.

Rayo, as the libero (defensive specialist who wear a different color jersey and only plays in the back row) and therefore the defensive star, makes her success off a dig which is passing the ball after the opposing team hits it over the net and onto her side of the court.

"I enjoy being a libero because I simply love passing. Volleyball begins with a pass and I love being in a situation that a point will depend on how well I do," said Rayo. "Ever since I

have been playing this has been my position and I enjoy taking charge in the back row."

It's no wonder this determined athlete has now made her mark for the Gothic Knights.

"Breaking the record simply just took playing hard with heart. I gave it all I had and the results proved just that," Rayo explained. "I believe since it was our first conference match and the team wanted to win so badly that it just made me play that much harder. The best part of playing for NJCU is playing with a group of great girls that share a passion for volleyball as I do."

Her talent does not go unnoticed by the squad since she is one of the key players in the back row.

"She is one of the best passers and defensive players on the team. She has done great at her position. I couldn't be happier with her contribution to the team," said Kevin Rodgers, head women's volleyball coach.

But as the season progresses, Rayo realizes this is it. In her final year playing collegiate volleyball she wants more than to



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Michelle Rayo

break a record.

"My goal for the rest of the season is to be the top defensive conference player and of course win the NJAC [New Jersey Athletic Conference]." She added, "That would be so great for the team because we have been working really hard this season."

Although it is too early to tell if she will reach these goals, she does know what is to come as her career comes to a close.

"After I graduate I will not be done with volleyball. I will still be playing in a league or coaching my own team." As for a career, Rayo said, "I would like to become a children's psychiatrist. I love children and am intrigued with the human brain so I would like to be able to help kids with disorders."



Photo by NJCU Office Sports Information

Brian Ferrante

## Lowest score a hit at NJCU

By Will Harrigan

Although only in its second season, NJCU's golf program may have landed a special talent on the green. Brian Ferrante, a transfer student from Atlantic County College, has set the NJCU record for lowest score, 86 (14 strokes over par) in the short history of the program.

The 2009 Cape May Tech graduate shot a 42 on the front nine holes and a 44 on the back 9 holes, finishing 14 strokes over par under Fairview Country Club, located in Greenwich, CT. Ferrante set the record in the Purchase College Invitational, in which NJCU finished 4th of 4 entered teams. "It's ex-

citing to have set the NJCU record. The team is improving each time out there and hopefully we do well at Panther Valley," said Ferrante.

Only a freshman under NCAA regulations, this crack linkster was named the first ever captain in NJCU Golf history on September 30. As for the team, the NJCU clubmen will travel to Warren County to participate in the Cyclone Invitational, hosted by Hackettstown's Centenary College on October 18 at the legendary Panther Valley Golf Course. The season closes six days later at Century Country Club in New York, a tournament hosted by Concordia College.



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