



Office of Vice President for Administration and Finance

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It's Official!



The Division of Administration and Finance has a new Vice President and Chief Financial Officer: Rene M. Rotolo. See page 6.



NEW ROLE FOR LEHMAN STAGES



The Lehman Stages staff includes (l-r) Event Planning Coordinator Aleigi Dume, Director Dante Albertie, Associate Director Henry Ovalles, Technical Director Christopher Higgins, Events Technical Director Amira Mustapha and Production Manager Felix Otero.

We are pleased to announce that the office of Event Planning and Reservations is now under the leadership of Dante Albertie, Director of Lehman Stages. This important component of the college will now benefit from the scheduling expertise, knowledge and skills that exemplify Lehman Stages.

"We're excited about the possibilities," says Albertie. "We look forward to offering an exceptional customer service experience and increasing rental income in a 'one-stop shop' environment for our community."

Lehman alumna Aleigi Dumé is the new Event Planning Coordinator. "My goal is to go beyond scheduling, by also providing insight to our various venues and all of the many possibilities that can be offered," she says. "I want to help our clients create something great!"

Associate Director Henry Ovalles calls the new configuration a natural progression to the work Lehman Stages has been doing. "We proudly offer our services and resources to the Lehman community, so their events can be the best they can be," he says.

Making venues at the college available to the community and working with clients on their events is an important function of an anchor institution like Lehman. "Whether you're planning a concert, dance recital, symposium, sales meeting, benefit, award ceremony or trying out a new show. Give us a call," says Albertie. "We can help."

Contact the Event Planning office by email at Event.Planning@lehman.cuny.edu or by phone at extension 8495.

UNSUNG HEROES KEEP THE HEAT ON AT LEHMAN

College buildings are heated by a steam-generating plant that is located in the basement of the Music Building. During a cold spell in October, a leak in the main steam-distribution line could have become a major crisis. But Robert Durante had just joined the staff of Buildings and Grounds in the newly created position of Steamfitter. "The timing was perfect," says A&F VP Rene M. Rotolo. "Rob was the only person who could do the job."



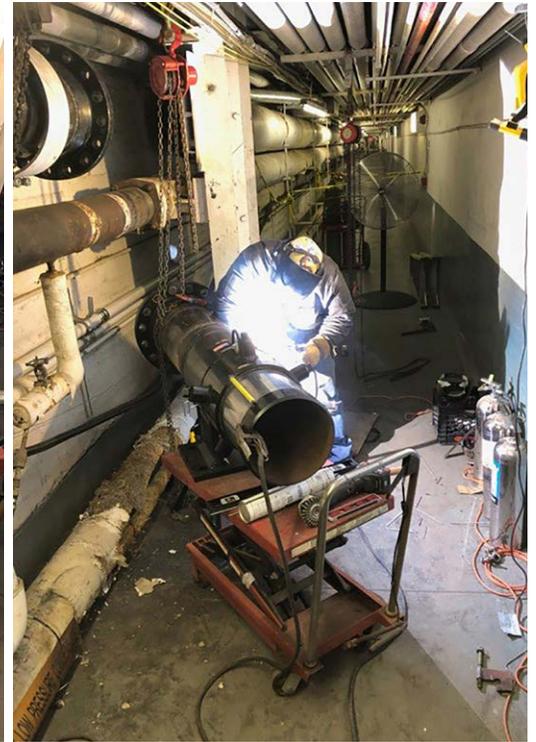
Robert Durante

Durante's team included the high-pressure plant tenders Phil Kane, Anthony Ricci and Dan Braunagle. "It was difficult work and they rose to the task," says Durante.

Working double shifts for five days straight, they removed the leaking steam-expansion joint and, in collaboration with the Senior Stationary Engineer, removed the old distribution layout, installed a new one and conducted all of the necessary testing. The work required cutting the leaking



Steamfitter Durante is welding flanges to make final connections in a major repair to the steam-distribution line.



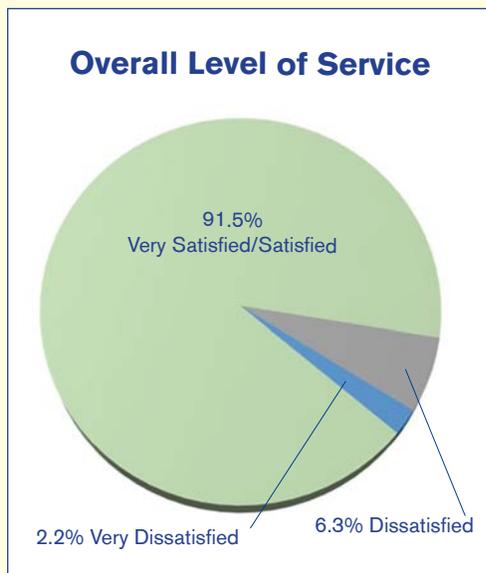
expansion joint with a torch and hanging rigging equipment to safely remove it.

"We precisely measured and began welding flanges to the expansion joint," Durante says. "After finishing what could be done on a work bench, we rigged the new joint into position and secured it. I fit the last flange on to make the connection, climbed in and began welding until the task was completed."

Complex work like this is typically done by mechanical contractors with journeymen who have been trained and worked together for many years.

"I haven't worked with these guys for very long," Durante says. "That being said, everyone worked well together. No one was injured and job was completed."

Spring 2019 A&F Customer Satisfaction Survey Results



The Division of Administration and Finance rolled out its annual Customer Satisfaction online Survey in early May 2019. The survey, which allows members of the college community to rate the services provided by the A&F departments, is an exceptionally useful tool to our supervisor, managers and staff.

Survey responses are confidential, and the findings are used to set goals, objectives, actions and time lines for achieving those goals. The findings are also used to monitor and improve new and existing services to the college community.

The Spring 2019 survey results showed 91.5% of our customers who responded were "Very Satisfied" or "Satisfied" with the overall level of service received. Once again, Public Safety received the highest rating with a score of 97.2%, followed by Environmental Health and Safety at 95.8% and Budget and Planning at 95.7%.

More than 180 individuals responded to the 2019 survey, and we take the results and comments very seriously. Meetings are held to discuss results, review processes and to develop new strategies. We appreciate the time you take to respond and encourage your feedback.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS IN ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Robin Auchincloss has joined the college as Director of Campus Planning and Facilities in the Division of Administration and Finance. She is a Registered Architect (RA) with Professional Certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design system (LEED PC).

Auchincloss comes to Lehman from Bronx Community College, where she was Director of Campus and Facilities Planning for nine years. In that position, she represented BCC on some \$200 million in capital improvement projects. Prior to joining CUNY, she was a Senior Associate at Dattner Architects, where she managed projects for public clients including libraries, pools and fire stations. She led the development of the Green Schools Construction Guide for the New York School Construction Authority.



*New Director of Campus Planning and Facilities
Robin Auchincloss.*

"I look forward to working with everyone in the college community to support this important institution in fulfilling its mission," Auchincloss says. "As an architect, I look forward to preserving, maintaining and improving the distinguished facilities that make up this campus. The new Nursing building will be an exciting addition!"

Auchincloss is responsible for facilities management, capital improvement project planning and administration, space management, and buildings and grounds.

"I'm thrilled that Robin has joined us and look forward to many years of facility improvement and expansion under her leadership," says A&F Vice President Rene M. Rotolo.

Prior to joining Lehman as Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, **Ray Pagano** was the Project Superintendent for TDX Construction, the Construction Manager for the Concert Hall Addition Project.

"We previously worked with Ray on both the Concert Hall and the Bookstore renovation projects," says VP Rotolo "When I was advised that he was the successful candidate for the position, I was thrilled to have him join our team, having worked with him on the capital projects. His expertise and dedication made him a natural fit for B&G, and he hit the ground running on day one. We are pleased to have him on our team."



New staff members in Buildings and Grounds (l-r) Superintendent Raymond Pagano and Custodial Assistants Milton Woodard, Mohammed Islam and Robert Akins.



Bursar Kelly Phung with staffers Taisha Parker and Richard Rolle.

The Bursar's office welcomes two new staff members: **Richard Rolle**, Enrollment Specialist, and **Taisha Parker**, College Accounting Assistant. In addition to his other duties and responsibilities, Rolle, who worked previously will focus on third-party billing. The office now distributes over 500 MetroCards to various departments. This will be one of Taisha's primary duties. Both Rolle and Parker come to Lehman with years of customer service experience.

"Richard and Taisha are great additions to our team," says Bursar Kelly Phung.

Anjanette Antonio is the new Procurement Director in Financial Operations who also oversees Campus Office Services comprised of the Mailroom, Central Receiving and the Lightning Print Shop. A Lehman graduate, she was formerly Procurement Director at Bronx Community College. "I look forward to increasing efficiencies within Campus Office Services and streamlining procurement processes while increasing contracting opportunities to minority and women-owned businesses," she says.

"We are very happy that Anjanette has decided to join Lehman as our Director of Procurement," says Financial Operations Director Gina Harwood. "She brings a tremendous amount of procurement experience that will serve us well as we continue to grow as the most important mission-critical senior college in the Bronx and within the CUNY system."



Purchasing Director Anjanette Antonio with her team (l-r) Noreen Crawford, Alma Martinez, Chris Castro, Raj Mohabir and Sarah Diaz (not in photograph).

LEHMAN HOSTS 6TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN SMASH

The 6th annual Pumpkin Smash, held on November 6, featured pumpkins, recycling and composting-themed costumed characters and pumpkin-based edible offerings to participants. The event's main purpose is to illustrate the importance and positive environmental impact of community-based composting and to have fun while doing it.

"Pumpkin Smash is developed by our sustainability partners at the New York City Compost Project and hosted by Lehman to raise awareness of and participation in environmental sustainability," says Ilona Linins, Environmental Health and Safety Officer in the Division of Administration and Finance. "We incorporate many elements of environmental sustainability such as education and outreach, composting and recycling, food and nutrition, to name a few."

Open to the community, more than 1,400 students, faculty, staff and visitors attended this year—the inaugural Pumpkin Smash led by a Master of Ceremonies, Henry Ovalles of Lehman Stages, who gamely stepped in to lead the proceedings.

In addition to the NYC Compost Project and the New York Botanical Garden, Corbin Hill Farm Share, the Herbert H. Lehman Food Bank and a number of student clubs participated to help raise awareness.



MC Henry Ovalles (Lehman Stages) encourages David, the son of Velveth Suarez (Financial Operations) to smash his pumpkin.

Members of the College community dropped pumpkins off the upper-quad platform onto the target below—or they hurled them across the quad using the giant catapult. The smashed pumpkin was then collected for onsite composting with fallen leaves, an environmentally friendly alternative to landfill disposal, which produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

"The Pumpkin Smash is a great annual event," says A&F Vice President Rene M. Rotolo. "It allows students to blow off steam right after midterms, and it brings in people from the Lehman community with their kids for a fun event that we enjoy hosting."

Pumpkins for the event were supplied by the New York Botanical Garden. Participants took home the magnificent heirloom varieties to explore the delights of pumpkin-based cuisine as well as the otherworldly-looking inedible varieties used for decoration. When they're all done with their cooking and displays, they agreed to drop off all pumpkin scraps at Compost Project sites.



A&F staff members enjoy the annual Pumpkin Smash.

HR Hosts 4th Annual Health and Wellness Benefits Fair

More than 200 Lehman faculty and staff members attended the annual Health and Wellness Benefits Fair in the East Dining Room, Music Building on October 8. Hosted by the Benefits Unit in the Office of Human Resources, the special focus this year was on breast cancer awareness. "Since we started this Fair four years ago, we've designed it to provide employees with important information about their health, wellness and available benefits, says HR Benefits Officer Georgette Roper-Walker. "Vendors from various retirement systems and health organizations participated and were on hand to answer questions. Arrangements were made so that faculty and staff were able to get their annual flu shot."



Human Resources Benefits Coordinator Kimesha Johnson welcomes President Lemons to the 2019 Health and Wellness Fair.



Staff members take advantage of the opportunity to gather need-to-know information about the wealth of employee benefits available at the College.

'OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION' AWARDS PRESENTED TO ALICIA CRUZ AND VALERIE McQUEEN

Administration and Finance Division staff members Alicia Cruz and Valerie McQueen received the 2019 awards for "Outstanding Contribution to the College."

President Daniel Lemons presented the awards at the Fall Convocation ceremony. Cruz is the Assistant Director of Public Safety and McQueen is a Custodial Assistant.

McQueen was honored for her vigilance that helped to avert a potentially serious incident in the APEX building, when she noticed that skylight panels on the pool side of a corridor had dropped down from their frame. She immediately notified her supervisor, who notified the Administrative Superintendent.

"Her quick action saved the college from what could have been a disaster with real potential for serious harm if the panels had fallen," says A&F Vice President Rene M. Rotolo.

Lieutenant Cruz oversees the daily incident report in Public Safety, among her other responsibilities. She was honored for consistently going "above and beyond" in the performance of her duties.

"Working in Public Safety requires sensitivity, honesty, intelligence, concern for others and a sense of humor," says Fausto Ramirez, Director of Public Safety. "Lieutenant Cruz possesses all of these qualities in abundance."



At the Fall Convocation, award recipients Alicia Cruz (above) and Valerie McQueen (left) with Lehman President Lemons and A&F Vice President Rotolo.

Emphasis on the Student Experience in Library's Redesign

The Leonard Lief Library is undergoing a major renovation on the first floor. Now in progress, the work will be complete when students return for classes next semester.

"Three years in the planning, the Library is thrilled to be reopening this redesigned space that manages to be both forward-thinking while respecting the building's original 1980 design," says Associate Dean and Chief Librarian Kenneth Schlesinger. "With state-of-the-art technologies and multiple group study configurations in an attractive and flexible space, we believe it will transform the student-user experience in the Library."



The new first-floor design features state-of-the-art technology and flexible seating areas to facilitate group study.

A&F Direct Reports Congratulate Vice President Rotolo

"For over 17 years, Rene has been our friend, our champion, our adviser. She never fails to give it to us straight. It's an honor to work with her!"

—Dante Albertie
Director of Lehman Stages

"Vice President Rotolo is a prolific leader who empowers us, encourages our growth and leads by example. I'm honored to work under her leadership."

—Diane Clarke
Director of Administrative Operations

"Rene is constantly on the move, but she radiates calm. Meetings don't meander or get sidetracked. A hard worker herself, she respects people's work time. It is a pleasure working with her."

—Eric Washington
Director of Human Resources

"A proven leader, Rene knows the way, goes the way and shows the way."

—Fausto Ramirez
Director of Public Safety



A&F Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Rene M. Rotolo

"It doesn't take long to recognize that Rene is a remarkable leader. So glad to be working with you!"

—Robin Auchincloss
Director, Campus Planning & Facilities

"I wish Rene the best of luck and success in her new role. I'm here to support her in any way I can."

—Gina Harwood
AVP for Financial Operations

All the best in your new position. Keep up the good work. Always remember that we are here to support you in pursuing the best interests of Lehman and the success of our students."

—Bethania Ortega
Director of Budget and Planning

"Rene enters every job without doubt or hesitation and finds a way to make it work. She gives so much of herself to Lehman, the Division, and all of us."

—Ilona Linins
Director of Environmental Health and Safety

Jorge Mateus Retires as B&G Administrative Superintendent



Jorge Mateus began his journey at Lehman in 1981 as a student. In September he retired as the Administrative Superintendent of the Buildings and Grounds Department, a position he held for more than 17 years. "Lehman holds a special place in my heart," he says. "It provided me with an excellent education and gave me the opportunity to give back to my alma mater. I will cherish my years at Lehman, because I was able to make a significant and positive impact while carrying out college initiatives and projects."

"Jorge exemplifies everything that is remarkable about Lehman," says VP Rotolo. "As a graduate and an employee, he was hardworking, dedicated, respected and admired by his employees, his supervisors and the college community. He will be missed dearly. We wish him well in his retirement. He will forever remain a part of the Lehman family."

