

# GlobalConnections

THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT LEHMAN

### BRAZIL SCIENTIFIC MOBILITY PROGRAM

**N**early thirty students from Brazil have come to Lehman through the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program. Funded by the government of Brazil, the program sends undergraduates in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields to the U.S. to study for up to one and a half years. Lehman was selected as a participating college by the Institute of International Education (IIE) which administers the program. Students complete intensive ESL if needed, academic courses in their fields, an internship and then return to Brazil to complete their degrees. The first cohort of six arrived

*continued on page 2*



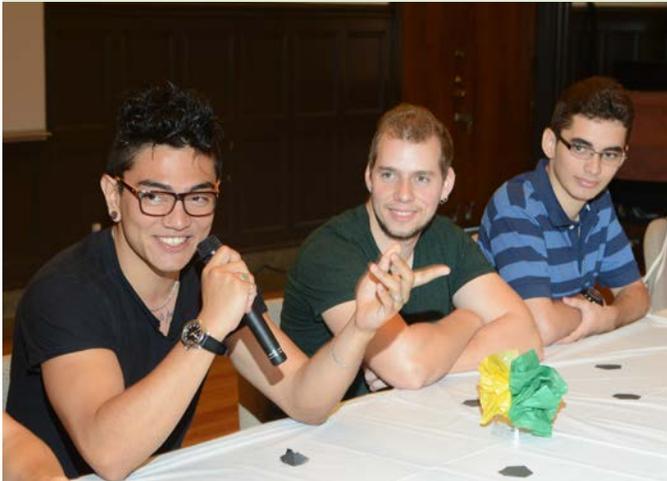
**W**e are pleased to share with you the first publication of the newly created Office of International Programs and Global Partnerships. With its long-standing history of internationalization, Lehman is well positioned to grow its global engagements. In fact, these international activities have more than doubled over the past year and have become significantly varied. The College's mission to prepare students and faculty to function in a culturally diverse environment has broadened to increase their mobility through global research, student and faculty exchanges, and programs which partner with higher education institutions in many countries as well as with numerous professional organizations. This mobility and connectedness results in students being prepared for the workforce as global citizens.

We now are in a world in which connectivity among nations and cultures is increasingly solidifying; colleges and universities are strategically placed to both enhance and benefit from this interconnectedness. In Global Connections we invite you to read of the numerous ways Lehman is committed to internationalization and global citizenship.



—Ricardo R. Fernández, President, Lehman College

## BRAZIL • CHINA



*continued from page 1*

in August 2013 and is comprised of those in geology, computer science, and nursing. In March 2014, five students majoring in nutrition, computer science, information systems and electrical engineering came to Lehman. We were excited to welcome yet a third cohort in June 2014. In addition to a doubling of the number of students in this cohort, more major fields of study are

represented, specifically, computer graphics and biology. Two more students arrived at Lehman in fall 2014. The president of Brazil has recently announced that the program will continue in 2015; we are in communication with the IIE to continue welcoming more students at that time. (Video at <https://digital-connect.lehman.cuny.edu/media/brazil-scientific-mobility-project-lehman-college>.) (See related article on page 11.) ■

## STUDENTS FROM CHINA STUDYING AT LEHMAN



Nearly forty students from China have been welcomed by Lehman, demonstrating a growing collaboration between Lehman College and Beijing Wanji Educational Consulting, an organization recognized by the Ministries of Education and Public Service of China to promote study abroad. Most are interested in the STEM fields of study; however, before they move into their degree programs, these students are enrolled in the Lehman full-time ESL program. Several are expected to successfully complete their English studies in fall 2014 and start their undergraduate courses in spring 2015. We are expecting to receive a cohort of twenty-five new students in October. (See related article on page 11.) ■

## RN COMPLETION PROGRAM FOR KOREAN NURSES

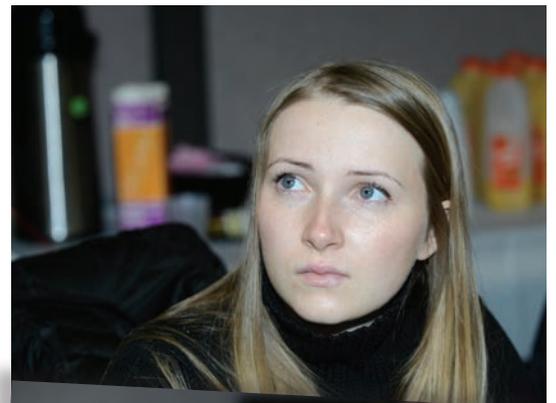
Our initial collaboration with Sungshin Women's University of Seoul, South Korea began in 2004 with a short-term summer program which evolved into the RN Completion Program for Korean Nurses in 2007. Now in its eighth year, this cohort-based program which combines contextualized English language learning with nursing education and a clinical internship culminates in the awarding of the Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. To date, nearly 300 earned degrees. The nurses may then opt for either a one-year optional training program in the U.S. or employment in their home country. Many remain and enroll in Lehman's Master of Science program in nursing. As of summer 2014, ninety-four are enrolled and, since the fall of 2009, sixty-nine have earned the master's degree. ■

## RUSSIA • KOREA



## RUSSIAN AND KOREAN STUDENTS STUDYING IN SHORT-TERM IMMERSION PROGRAMS

The School of Continuing and Professional Studies designed short-term, non-credit academic immersion programs for January-February 2014 for students from abroad. Eleven from Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-Don, Russia studied entrepreneurship and business English. Also hosted were thirty-one participants in the English Nursing Immersion Program from Gimcheon University, Daejeon Health Sciences College and Singshun University of South Korea. One-half of their time was devoted to the study of contextualized English, the other to learning about the American health care system and the role of the nurse which included observations in hospitals and laboratories. ■



# LEHMAN STUDENTS ABROAD



## WINTER IN CHILE: HUMAN RIGHTS AND TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

This three-credit winter session program in Chile, led by the chairperson of the Department of Philosophy Associate Professor Michael Buckley, focuses on Chile's transition from a dictatorship to a democracy and the ongoing human rights and justice issues concerning native populations. CUNY joined the Global Majority-run program in 2013, and since then a total of ten students have participated, four of them from Lehman. The program has two components: the first takes place in Santiago where the students participate in classroom learning, visit memorials and engage with guest speakers and community activists. The second part of the three-week program consists of fieldwork with the Native American Mapuche community in southern Chile. This fieldwork involves community outreach, needs assessment and documentation of human rights violations of indigenous Chilean people. A final report is required in which students address an issue of human rights or transitional justice which was evidenced during their time in Chile. While there is no external funding for the students, several have received SIROCS grants (formerly STOCs), and the course is eligible for TAP. ■



## SUMMER IRISH LANGUAGE STUDY IN GALWAY, IRELAND

The village of An Cheathru Rua in County Galway is in a region where the Irish language continues to be the community language. This, in addition to the natural beauty of the area, provides an ideal setting for the six-credit summer Irish language program with the National University of Ireland, Galway. Students reside with local families, participate in social activities and attend cultural



## SUMMER IN GREECE ON THE ISLAND OF CRETE

This June, twelve Lehman students (along with two from other CUNY colleges) embarked on a journey to the island of Crete, the largest of Greece's islands, a place of exquisite natural beauty and location of the Bronze Age Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations. Since its inception in 2011 with five students from Lehman (eight in total), this program has become increasingly popular. Based on two disciplines, history and geology, the six-credit study abroad program is led by Professor Marie Marianetti, chairperson of the Department of History and Professor Yuri Gorokhovich of the Department of Earth, Environmental and Geospatial Sciences. Along with assigned readings, lectures and discussions, students visit archeological sites, museums and remnants of monuments while studying history, geological and historical landscapes, culture, language, politics and religion. Hands-on activities include documenting locations and making geologic profiles. Financial aid has been granted to several students in the form of SIROCS (Scholarships for International Resume-Building for CUNY Students) and the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. ■

lectures. Associate Professor and chairperson of the Department of Languages and Literatures Thomas Ihde is the faculty coordinator of the program for the City University of New York. Since the beginning of the partnership ten years ago, about forty CUNY students have participated and ten of them have received the Summer Gaeltacht Awards. In the last five years, fourteen students went to Gal-

way, with eight being Lehmanites. The Summer Gaeltacht awards are sponsored by the Ireland-United States Commission for Educational Exchange and the Irish Government's National Lottery. These awards, administered by the Fulbright Commission in Ireland, pay tuition, housing and all meals. In the summer of 2014, the two Lehman students were awarded the Summer Gaeltacht Awards. ■

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AND FACULTY RESEARCH

## STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, NANYANG POLYTECHNIC



MARGARET RYERSON

The student exchange program with Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) was launched in fall 2013 when three students from Singapore arrived at Lehman and enrolled for fifteen credits in the Department of Economics and Business in both general business subjects and in courses specific to their areas of concentration at NYP. Students in the exchange are in their final year at NYP, a three-year institution. Two students from NYP will attend Lehman in fall 2014. In January 2014, through collaboration with NYP and Lehman's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, four students from Lehman spent a week at our partner college to explore the world and engage in research activities of their choosing with approval of their academic advisors. In spring 2014, these students presented their research findings in poster presentations at Lehman's 6th Annual Research and Scholarship Day. (See related article on page 11.) ■

## STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH THE INSTITUTE D'ADMINISTRATION DES ENTREPRISES AT THE UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTPELLIER II

Students may study for a year or a semester at the Institute d'Administration des Entreprises at the Université de Montpellier II in the fastest growing city in France, Montpellier, in the south of France. Lehman hosted four of the Université's students in spring 2014 and a Lehman student will be travelling to Montpellier in fall 2014. Students take a variety of business courses taught in English as well as classes in French language and culture. Montpellier II hosts students from all over the world which adds to the stimulating and enriching experience of studying there. ■



## PROFESSOR ELEANOR T. CAMPBELL: DIETARY CHOICES OF ADOLESCENTS: AN INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON

In 2013, Assistant Professor Eleanor T. Campbell of the Department of Nursing began to research the food choices of adolescents (ages 13-19) in Capetown, South Africa and to compare these choices with those of teens in New York City. She selected the Bronx due to her familiarity with the borough, socioeconomic demographics similar to those in Capetown and the fact that adolescent obesity in the Bronx is the highest in New York City. The focus of the study was the influences on dietary choices such as parents, peer groups, taste, cost and body image among others. Methodology was primarily survey questionnaires and focus group interviews with the teens. Due to the erratic eating habits of adolescents, proper nutrition is a major concern. Although adolescent obesity is just beginning to be recognized in South Africa (where underweight children are currently of greater concern), "Obesity is a global health problem," Professor Campbell states. Analysis of the research data is continuing. ■

## UNITED STATES-JAPAN YOUTH EXCHANGE

Six Lehman students participated in a fully-funded, ten-day study tour of Tokyo, Japan in May 2013. In turn, students from Japan's Yokohama National University visited the United States in March 2014 and spent a day at Lehman where they gave a well-received presentation on the history and culture of Yokohama to Lehman students studying the Japanese language with Asako Tochiko. The Japan Foundation organized the KAKEHASHI Project—The Bridge for Tomorrow as part of the Youth Exchange Program with North America. The objective of this project “is to promote a deeper mutual understanding among the people of Japan and the United States, enable future leaders of Japan to form networks, and help young people develop wider perspectives to encourage active roles at the global level of the future.” ■



## PROFESSOR YURI GOROKHOVICH: ANCIENT WATER SYSTEM IN CRETE

In 2011, Professor Yuri Gorokhovich of the Department of Earth, Environmental and Geospatial Sciences, along with colleagues in Crete, began a study of the rain water harvesting technology of the ancient Roman city of Aptera on the island of Crete. The source of water for the giant Roman cisterns in Aptera is still unknown. GIS (Geographic Information Systems), along with advanced geophysical methods used in 2013, suggested the possibility of the existence of a subsurface structure to collect the water. To verify the data, a field survey needs to be conducted with the archaeological team. In 2014 there are plans to conduct a joint meeting on Crete to develop a strategy for the next investigation of the mystery of the ancient water system. ■



Roman cistern in Aptera

## DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR ADAM KORANYI: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH IN MATHEMATICS

Funded since 2008 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the corresponding organization in India, Professor Adam Koranyi has been engaged in research with the Bangalore, India-based expert in operator theory, Professor Gadadhar Misra. Approximately ten years ago, Professor Koranyi noticed that his knowledge of group representation theory could be useful for solving problems in homogeneous operator theory that remained outstanding. The latter were solved in a few years of joint research and the results were published. In the course of this research, however, it turned out that the methods might be applicable to a more general class of problems. The collaboration continues with the goal of solving these as well. Professor Koranyi has been in Bangalore several times and Professor Misra has made regular trips to New York. Both also work independently, keeping connected by e-mail. ■



## PROFESSOR WILLIAM HARCOURT-SMITH: EVOLUTION OF THE EARLIEST APES

Since 2006, William Harcourt-Smith, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and research scientist at the American Museum of Natural History, along with an international, multidisciplinary team of scientists, has been working on the evolution of *Proconsul*, an ape that lived 18-20 million years ago. Funded by the National Science Foundation and the Leakey Foundation, the research has been taking place at a fossil-rich site on Rusinga Island in Lake Victoria, Kenya. Along with the recovery of the *Proconsul* fossils, other animals, fossil leaves, tree stump casts and calcified roots have been found in the volcanic deposits. These are all critical in helping to identify the ecology of the area. A major result of this groundbreaking work has been discovering that *Proconsul* lived in a dense, closed-canopy forest in a warm and wet climate, data essential to the understanding of the environment in which the early apes evolved. Going forward, Professor Harcourt-Smith is hopeful that the site will be available long term with a base being set up to benefit both additional scientific study and the local community. ■



## PROFESSOR CAMERON MCNEIL: SUSTAINABILITY AND THE CAUSES OF SOCIETAL COLLAPSE AMONG THE ANCIENT MAYA IN HONDURAS

Assistant Professor Cameron McNeil of the Department of Anthropology was a graduate student when she began conducting archaeological research in Honduras in 1999. Currently, Professor McNeil is the director of the Archaeology Project of Rio Amarillo, Copan, which is focused on understanding the environmental context of the growth and eventual abandonment of both the pre-Columbian town of Rio Amarillo and the great Maya city of Copan. Specifically, she and her team are using an array of techniques to determine whether environmental mismanagement played a role in Rio Amarillo's collapse, or whether, instead, the Maya developed methods to use their landscape sustainably. Four Lehman College undergraduates (photo, Rebecca Carmona) have worked on the project, learning excavation and data recording techniques. Professor McNeil was recently awarded a National Science Foundation grant for her project. ■



Rebecca Carmona, student

## PROFESSOR EDWARD J. KENNELLY: ETHNOBIOLOGY IN CHINA

Department of Biological Sciences Professor Edward J. Kennelly has been conducting research for over five years on the chemical properties and active substances of plants used as medicinals by ethnic minorities in China. This research at Minzu University of China in Beijing is funded by the 111 Project of the Chinese Ministry of Education and the State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs. The project is designed to bring top-ranked research scholars from abroad to collaborate with their Chinese counterparts and to strengthen China's scientific innovations and competitiveness in China's universities. On his frequent trips to China for intense research in the field and in the lab, Professor Kennelly is accompanied by CUNY students who participate in the work and publish the results in international journals. Also in the past five years, six Chinese scholars have worked with him in Lehman's Phytochemistry Laboratory. Professor Kennelly's critical research project has been renewed for an additional five-year period. (See related article on page 9.) ■



## NEWS AND EVENTS

### BIOLOGY PROFESSOR EDWARD J. KENNELLY AWARDED FULBRIGHT

The prestigious Fulbright was awarded to Professor Edward Kennelly of the Department of Biological Sciences for the period September 2014-February 2015 to learn how traditional Chinese medicine is practiced and regulated in Hong Kong with the help of collaborators at the Institute of Chinese Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong. Professor Kennelly is especially interested in how botanicals are used to treat chronic diseases such as diabetes and chronic pulmonary disease. (See related article on page 8.) ■



### ROMI ZAYAS, LEHMAN'S MACAULEY HONORS COLLEGE JUNIOR RECEIVES JACK NASH SCHOLARS AWARD

A junior in the Macaulay Honors College at Lehman and a student in the CUNY Baccalaureate Program, Romi Zayas received a coveted Jack Nash Scholars Award of \$10,000 along with funds from the Macaulay Opportunities Fund to study advanced Japanese in Tokyo at Kanda University of International Studies.

Watching anime movies and playing Japanese video games as a child stimulated a passion for studying the culture and language of Japan. Coming to Lehman from Brooklyn Latin High School, Ms. Zayas was encouraged to concentrate on Japanese with Asako Tochika of the Department of Languages and Literatures who developed the popular Japanese language program at Lehman. As Romi Zayas wrote: "I have really been able to practice my Japanese and treat it as a true flowing and living language by being able to use it every day. I have had wonderful experiences while exploring Japan and interacting with the other students and teachers which wouldn't have been possible without this program and the scholarships I have received." Professor Gary Schwartz, Director of the Macaulay Honors College at Lehman said, "This is a success story highlighting just what CUNY can do for its students." ■



### COLLEGE STUDENT ZARIN TASNIM AWARDED FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

Spring 2014 graduate Zarin Tasnim, a Lehman Macaulay Honors College student, received a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship in the English Teaching Assistant Program which will bring her to South Korea for thirteen months beginning July 2014 to teach conversational English to elementary school students.

On being awarded the scholarship, she stated that, "It's so encouraging and inspiring to have people believe in you so much," citing specifically her professors Ira Bloom, Richard Blot and Gary Schwartz.

Ms. Tasnim's interest in and knowledge of Korean language and culture began as a student at Brooklyn Technical High School where many of her fellow students were Korean. She continued to study the language as a freshman at Queens College and applied to Lehman for her sophomore year to fulfill her ambition to go to Korea through the student exchange program with Sungshin Women's University in Seoul. At Sungshin she also interned as an assistant to English teachers. Highly focused and motivated, she later interned with the New York State Attorney General's Office and the New York County District Attorney's Office.

In addition to the Fulbright, she accrued many other honors while at Lehman including the Jewish Foundation for Education of Women Scholarship, the Horace W. Goldsmith Scholarship, the Freeman Asia Scholarship and the St. George's Society Scholarship.

"It was difficult to get where I am today," said Ms. Tasnim, having been brought from Bangladesh to the U.S. by her parents when she was six "strictly for the purpose of an education" while they were opposed to her assimilating into American culture. All her experiences led her to view herself not only as an American citizen, but as a global citizen.

Upon returning from Korea, Zarin Tasnim plans to attend law school to prepare to apply her passion by entering public service and specializing in domestic violence, immigrant women and ethnic minorities. ■



# NEWS AND EVENTS

## 2014 INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



Lehman College was selected by the Institute of International Education (IIE) as one of sixteen U.S. higher education institutions to participate in the 2014 International Academic Partnership Program (IAPP) with a focus on building linkages with Brazil, one of our strategic countries. IAPP, a major initiative of IIE's Center for International Partnerships in Higher Education, seeks to increase partnerships between U.S. colleges and universities with those of other nations. In a letter from IIE's President Allan E. Goodman to Lehman's President Ricardo Fernández in which Lehman's selection was announced, he recognized Lehman's "demonstrated support from individuals across the institution, campus-wide commitment to increasing internationalization and deep interest in fostering a partnership with a Brazilian institution." Through the year, IAPP facilitated activities including webinars, mentorship, strategic planning and a study tour of Brazil.



On the study tour in March 2014, Dr. Anny Morrobel-Sosa, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dr. Marzie Jafari, Vice President of Workforce and Global Partnerships, joined the representatives of the fifteen other U.S. institutions for a week-long tour of universities in several Brazilian cities. The goal of the tour was to help the partner institutions understand Brazil's higher education system and the priorities of institutions for building partnerships. The results were significant, including enhancement of Lehman's relationship with IIE, our incumbent Brazil Scientific Mobility Program students and a future student exchange with the University of Amazon (UNAMA) in Belém, Pará, Brazil. (See related article on page 1.) ■



## INTERNATIONAL DAY AT LEHMAN

The Department of Languages and Literatures and the Office of Study Abroad Programs, the latter now part of the Office of International Programs and Global Partnerships, sponsored its fourth annual International Day on November 13, 2013. Lehman joined institutions and organizations worldwide in observation of International Education Week, a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, which provides an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education, exchanges and language programs. This major event included study abroad information sessions, scholarship and grant opportunity information, meeting and greeting our study abroad and international students, Lehman's language programs, international food samplings, mini-language lessons and performances by several language classes. The event drew a record number of over 400 attendees. ■

## SIXTH ANNUAL RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP DAY

The four students participating in the student exchange program with Nanyang Polytechnic in Singapore in January 2014 presented the results of their research activities in poster presentations at Lehman's 6th Annual Research and Scholarship Day on April 25, 2014. The students, along with their research projects and faculty advisors, are: Steffen Jean-Pierre, pollution in Singapore (Professor Joseph Rachlin); Melannie E. Martinez, sustainability and management in Singapore (Professor Hari Pant); Margaret Baker, Singapore's culture of mental health (Professor Juliana Maantay) and Maria Rosario, comparison of social actions against minorities in Singapore and African-Americans in the U.S. (Professor Mark Christian). (See related article on page 6.) ■



## UNITED NATIONS ACADEMIC IMPACT

Lehman College is proud to be an institutional member of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI). This global initiative aligns institutions of higher education with the U.N. and sup-

ports the ten universally accepted UNAI principles. Each member institution is asked to actively promote at least one of the principles each year. Currently, Lehman is supporting and advocating

principles in the United Nations Charter, human rights, capacity-building in higher education, peace and conflict resolution through education and sustainability through education. ■

## STUDENTS FROM BRAZIL AND CHINA MEET THE PRESIDENT

Our students from Brazil and China had the exciting opportunity to participate in "Meet the President" events. On July 26, 2014, the arrival of the third cohort of students in the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program was marked by a brunch with Dr. Ricardo Fernández, president of Lehman College, with about thirty students in attendance. President Fernández spoke about coming to the U.S. from Puerto Rico, his career and becoming president of the College. The students enjoyed the opportunity to converse with him in this informal setting. They introduced themselves and some told of their experiences on being awarded the scholarships to come

to Lehman. Other participants were Vice President Marzie Jafari, Assistant Dean Lynne Van Voorhis, Dr. Mila Ellis and Emmanuel Perez, the staff of the Office of International Programs and Global Partnerships. During the second "Meet the President" event on September 3, 2014, the newly arrived Chinese students had a similar experience and had a chance to hear the success stories of the ones who have been at Lehman for one or two semesters. Two of these students, Shuang Li and Haimei Lui, have completed their ESL studies and started their undergraduate programs. (See related articles on page 1 and 2.) ■



# UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- *Winter in the Dominican Republic: Citizenship and Human Rights* is to be led by Associate Professor Milagros Ricourt of the Department of Latin American, Latino and Puerto Rican Studies in January 2015.
- The student exchange program with Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) School of Business Management in Singapore will have two students arriving in fall 2014 to study in Lehman's Department of Economics and Business. Associate Professor Dene Hurley, chair of the department, will lead a group of Lehman students during the second and third weeks of January 2015 to study Singapore's economics and trade.
- A student exchange program has been established with Sugiyama Jogakuen University of Nagoya, Japan. Two students from Japan will be studying at Lehman beginning in fall 2014.
- Students will study health care, nutrition and the Mexican migration in January 2015 in the *Winter Study Abroad in Puebla, Mexico* with Anahuac University in Puebla. The program will be led by Associate Professor Alyshia Galvez of the Department of Latin American, Latino and Puerto Rican Studies and Director of the CUNY Institute of Mexican Studies and Assistant Professor David Schwittek of the Department of Art.

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LEHMAN  
COLLEGE

