The Hostos Library was saddened to learn of the passing of Reference Librarian and Humanities bibliographer Professor Jose Diaz, who was at Hostos for over 25 years. Jose’s tenure at the library paralleled the growth and development of the Hostos Library. As the liaison for the Humanities area, he was instrumental in developing and maintaining the Library’s collection in the area of Africana Studies, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Modern languages, and Counseling. He was involved in many projects at the Library and a familiar face at community and college events. As one of the instructors for the Library’s information literacy workshops, he was much beloved by students, and his ability to connect with bilingual and ESL students was envied by many. His most recent accomplishment included co-translating into Spanish the new CUNY Information Competency Tutorial and co-writing a book chapter “Language and Literary Research in a Bilingual Environment” with Prof. Miriam Laskin.

Prof. Diaz was an essential part of Hostos, and he will be missed.

(Photo courtesy of William Casari, College Archivist & Instruction Librarian)
Greetings!

As the Spring 2016 semester progresses, I am pleased to share with you some of the latest news about the Library.

This semester began with the sad news of Prof. Jose Diaz’s passing—as one of the longtime Reference Librarians at Hostos Library, he will be remembered one of the Library’s earliest “pioneers,” a representative of Hostos Community College’s earliest days. You’ll also find a recap of a few memorable events that occurred this past Fall semester, including a visit to Cuba by some of our librarians and the celebration of Multicultural and Diversity Day. In addition, you’ll learn about our newest resources and initiatives. We also invite you to celebrate National Poetry Month with us by entering our faculty and student contest, Poetry Voices at Hostos!

As always, please reach out to us if you have any questions regarding future research assignments and check out the wealth of resources that will support your learning, teaching, and research.

Best,

[Signature]

Chief Librarian, Hostos Library

HOSTOS LIBRARIANS VISIT CUBA

Last June, three Hostos librarians took part in Hostos en la Habana, a professional development program. Prof. William Casari, Lisa Tappeiner, and Carolle Elie spent two weeks at the Centro de Estudios Martianos with other faculty from a range of disciplines to study Cuban politics and culture, pedagogy, and the educational and political philosophy of Cuba educator José Marti.

In addition to attending seminars at the Centro and participating in cultural activities across Havana, Prof. Casari gave a talk on the history of Hostos and Prof. Tappeiner spoke about educational technology and e-resources available to Hostos students. “Cuban educators may not have access to cutting edge technology, but they are committed to using sound pedagogical practices and preparing students to positively contribute to their communities,” observed Prof. Tappeiner.

“They are eager for more economic opportunities and optimistic that closer ties between Cuba and the U.S. will increase professional prospects for new graduates. The Cuban education system shows how higher levels of education benefit not only individuals, but society in general.”

To see Linda Hirsch’s interview with Prof. Tappeiner and Elys Vasquez-Iscan go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIACYPY2qq8

Prof. Lisa Tappeiner teaching a workshop in Cuba
Celebrate National Poetry Month!

Hostos Community College

Poetry Voices at Hostos

We Want to Hear Your Voices!!

Faculty/Staff and Student Poetry Contest

FACULTY/STAFF AND STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

Poem Topics:
- Faith
- Arab-American
- Child Abuse
- Earth Day
- LGBT

Submission Deadline: Friday, May 6, 2016

Celebration and reception to be held
Monday, May 16, 2016 at 3:30pm
Location: Faculty Dining Room (FDR), C Building (3rd Fl)

Please send faculty & student submissions to: jtang@hostos.cuny.edu

Sponsored by the Hostos Senate Library Committee
Spotlight: Chee Chee Bourne at Hostos Library

The Library recently welcomed Ms. Chee Chee Bourne to Tech Services! Chee Chee was literally born not far from Hostos – Lincoln Hospital, the third eldest of seven children. Growing up on Southern Blvd near the Botanical Gardens and Bronx Zoo, she got to know the city as well as country life at an early age – from the time she was 5, she spent every summer in Woodstock, Connecticut on a cow farm. She stayed with the Youngs, a family “I consider to be my second family away from home,” she said. As a result, she considers herself “very much a city girl with a little bit of country.”

Chee Chee is very close to her grandfather, who is a strong presence in her life. “He retired early from his job at U.S. Steel Company and then the World Trade Center because he refused to work for ‘The Man’ and use up the best years of his life,” she says. Her grandmother is also very dear to her; she retired after being a registered nurse for over 30 years at Village Nursing Home on Houston Street. “My grandfather’s parents come from West Africa, Gambia and Barbados, from a parish called ChristChurch. My grandmother’s parents were from South Carolina,” she says.

Working in the Library, she loves having a bounty of interesting novels and nonfiction books to choose from. Some of her favorite books are: This Too Shall Pass by Iyanla Vanzant; Beloved by Toni Morrison; Gonna Lay Down My Burdens by Mary Monroe; and War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy.

Chee Chee began working at Hostos as a Caiman/Academic Advisor and first came to the Library Department to work with William Casari in Archives. Afterwards, she was offered a position in Tech Services. She likens the process of getting the materials ready for the patrons to be akin to making a quilt – “Everyone has their little section of to stitch and make ready. The materials go through a chain of people before reaching me and then moves on to someone else.”

She loves learning and looks forward to transferring to a senior college to attain her B.A. in Journalism or History/Black Studies. She encourages Hostos students who think of dropping out to “focus on one day at a time. Don't worry about how well others are doing but run your own race. There will be some days when you’ll feel you’re crawling in barely awake, exhausted and anxious. Focus on the fact that, even if you had to crawl your way in, you made it IN- keep moving forward.”

She quoted Dylan Thomas. ‘Don’t ever go quietly into that good night. Rage, rage against the dying of the light.’ Never give up.” It’s a philosophy that has served CheeChee well.

In addition to Chee Chee, the Library also welcomed two new college assistants: Wilmer Herrera and Merly Castellon-Navarrette.
As we celebrate Black History Month, the Library is proud to be the focus of recent events that promote diversity and respect for all cultures. On Oct. 7 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Hostos Library and the Senate Library Committee co-sponsored “Multicultural and Diversity Day” – an event encouraging students and staff to celebrate their heritage and explore the Library’s rich collection of multicultural and ethnic studies resources.

Maps representing the world’s continents were displayed on the A-building Atrium and campus bridge. Visitors were invited to stick a pushpin on the area of the world where they or their parents had their ancestral origins. They also received a handout listing databases, books and other resources on ethnic studies and diversity.

In addition, visitors were quizzed on their knowledge of foreign languages. Correct answers were rewarded with a giveaway and a raffle ticket. Ten winners won novels from the Library’s Muslim Journeys Bookshelf collections.

Among those who attended were President Gomez, Lourdes Torres, and Sandy Figueroa. Committee members Sandra Castellanos, Kathleen Roca, Rowland Ramdass, Tram Nyguen and others volunteered and proved invaluable to the smooth operation of the event.
Hostos is now the home of Las Casitas Archives, a special exhibition honoring the casitas of Puerto Rico and showcasing materials from Las Casitas: An Urban Cultural Alternative (1991) created by the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) Longwood Arts Project.

New York’s casitas are reproductions of Puerto Rican working class homes and remain a vital expression of Afro-Puerto Rican culture in the diaspora – places where island migrants recreated and transformed abandoned urban spaces into sites celebrating the island’s music, dance and vernacular architecture. It epitomizes the creative ingenuity of a community recreating hostile living conditions into spaces of cultural continuity, survival and hope.

The collection includes documents, photographs, wall texts and other materials originally exhibited in the seminal Las Casitas: An Urban Cultural Alternative Exhibition curated and produced by Betty Sue Hertz and Bill Aguado, both formerly of the Bronx Council on the Arts in 1991. It opened at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. and went on to be exhibited at the Bronx Museum of the Arts and Syracuse Library. Later, Las Casitas Revisited opened at Hostos’ Longwood Art Gallery as part of a month-long salute to Puerto Rican Heritage Month, including photographs by the renowned photographer Martha Cooper. As part of a month-long salute to Puerto Rican Heritage Month,

Because Hostos has played a vital role in preserving artistic and cultural values of the Hispanic community, the Hostos Archives was chosen to serve as the permanent repository for these materials. The Library and other departments will use the collection to conduct ongoing research on Bronx arts and culture, and the many neighborhoods in which casitas presently exist in the Bronx.

The unveiling and exhibit opening reception took place on Nov. 4, 2015 in the A-Atrium.
NEW RESOURCE FOR ALLIED HEALTH STUDENTS

Board Vitals is a new resource to help nursing students study for the NCLEX PN and RN and radiation technology students study for their ARRT radiography exam. It offers hundreds of practice questions with feedback and explanations and access from tablets, phones, or computers. Visit https://www.boardvitals.com/users/sign_in and enter your Hostos email.

NEW SELF SERVICE PASSWORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SSPM)

Forgot your password? Register and reset it yourself at: https://sspm.hostos.cuny.edu/aims/ps/

Download the free “myHostos App” from Google Play and App Stores!

- Access the Library catalog and online databases!
- Access the workshop calendar and sign up for Library workshops!
- Compatible with iPhones, Android phones and tablets!

ACCESS LIBRARY INFORMATION THROUGH THE myHOSTOS APP!
STUDENTS, GET YOUR WORK PUBLISHED!

¡ESCRIBA!/ WRITE!

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475 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

http://commons.hostos.cuny.edu/library/

Library Hours
Mon.-Thurs 9am–9pm
Fri 9am–5pm**
Sat and Sun 12–5 p.m.**

This schedule is subject to change—please check the Hostos library web site for the latest updates**