Join us next year for the 10th anniversary of the Student Academic Conference

Oct. 24 - 25, 2014
Holiday Inn, 205 Wolf Road, Albany, N.Y.

Hosted by the Center for Distance Learning

Hope to see you there!

Ninth Annual Student Academic Conference
Oct. 18 - 19, 2013
Queens, N.Y.

Hosted by The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
Welcome to the Student Academic Conference

I am thrilled to welcome you to our ninth annual Student Academic Conference for SUNY Empire State College. Just like a professional conference, this academic conference represents an incredible opportunity for you to network, share your scholarship and expertise, attend fascinating presentations and engage with fellow students, faculty mentors, alumni and friends of the college. At Empire State College, we are dedicated to transforming the world through the power of learning, and this conference is designed to provide you with one such powerful learning experience. Thanks for making the time in your busy schedule to join us here, and I look forward to sharing the experience with you in the next two days.

Sincerely,

Deborah P. Amory, Ph.D.
Acting Provost
SUNY Empire State College

Welcome to the 2013 SUNY Empire State College annual Student Academic Conference, which is being hosted by The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies. The conference is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge and talents, not only for one another and the rest of the college, but the world. I know the entire faculty and staff at The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies, as well as collegewide, joins me in wishing you an exciting, boisterous and successful conference.

Our heartiest thanks to all those at the Labor Center and all the other collegewide faculty, staff and students who worked hard to make this event possible.

Everything worth doing takes work, and there is no work without workers.

Thank you all, thank them always.

Michael Merrill
Dean
The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
Hello and Welcome to the
Ninth Annual Student Academic Conference

There are lots of great events happening at this year’s conference, so we’ve come up with some tips to help you make the most of your StAC 2013 experience.

Put Yourself Out There

StAC is a great place to network, make new friends and meet interesting people from across the ESC community. Attend social events like the art show and alumni reception and poster session, where folks are walking around and mingling with one another. Why not say hello or introduce yourself to the person sitting or standing beside you at one of these events.

Panels and Presentations

Attend some sessions that relate to your area of study. If you don’t see any sessions that fit into your AOS, think outside the box. For example, if you’re studying Human Development you might consider attending a presentation on gender studies.

Try Something New

Find and attend sessions that pique your curiosity, even if they don’t fit into your AOS. Or, maybe attend a presentation on a topic you know nothing about. Who knows, you might uncover a new interest or passion.

President’s Plenary

This session is a great opportunity to hear a lively panel discussion between ESC’s new president, Merodie A. Hancock, Ph.D., current students and alumni of the college. You won’t want to miss this.

Poster Session

Whether you’re a visual learner, someone who enjoys asking lots of questions, or you have some extra time in your schedule, this is a great event for you. Here, you’ll have the opportunity to see visual representations (posters) of academic presentations. You can mingle around the room and chat with the presenters, ask questions, etc. It’s a great opportunity to socialize with other ESC students.

Art Show and Alumni Reception

If you like art, food, music and mingling with interesting people, then this is the perfect event for you. Paintings, photographs, sketches and sculptures – this art show has it all. The art show and alumni reception is the social event of the conference.

We’re thrilled you could join us for another year of engaging presentations, plenary sessions and, of course, the art show and alumni reception.

Enjoy your StAC experience, and we’ll see you again next year in Albany, N.Y. for the 10th anniversary of the Student Academic Conference.

Sincerely,
The StAC Planning Committee
Conference Schedule

Friday, Oct. 18, 2013

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Registration and Welcome Tables  
*Salon C Foyer*

1:30 - 1:50 p.m. Welcome From the Conference Committee  
Sophia M. Mavrogiannis, Conference Chairwoman  
Opening Plenary Speaker  
Cheryl Farrell ‘92, ‘09, Shop Steward, Local Union 3, IBEW  
*Salons C, D and E*

2 - 3:05 p.m. Concurrent Session I  
*Multiple Locations*

3:10 - 4:15 p.m. Concurrent Session II  
*Multiple Locations*

4:20 - 5:25 p.m. Concurrent Session III  
*Multiple Locations*

5:30 - 7 p.m. Art Show and Alumni Reception  
Art Awards presented by  
Merodie A. Hancock, Ph.D., SUNY Empire State College President  
*Salons C, D and E*

7:30 - 9 p.m. Evening Entertainment – Activities Fair  
*Salons C, D and E*

Saturday, Oct. 19, 2013

7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast  
*Salons D and E*

8 - 9 a.m. Registration  
*Salon C Foyer*

8:45 - 9:50 a.m. Concurrent Session IV  
*Multiple Locations*

10 - 11 a.m. President’s Plenary/Student Panel  
*Salons C, D and E*

11:05 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Concurrent Session V/Poster Session  
*Multiple Locations*

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Lunch  
Keynote Speaker  
Marian Conway, Ph.D., ’01, ’04, Executive Director,  
N.Y. Community Bank Foundation  
*Salons C, D and E*

1:45 - 2:50 p.m. Concurrent Session VI  
*Multiple Locations*

2:55 - 4:30 p.m. Documentary: “The Sisterhood”  
Created and directed by Empire State College Alumnus Roger Horn ’13  
*Queens Suite*

4:35 - 5 p.m. Conference Finale/Raffle Drawing  
*Salons C, D and E*
Student Wellness

Student wellness is a priority for Empire State College. We want a student to be healthy, both physically and mentally. To promote student wellness at the ninth Student Academic Conference, concurrent sessions that exemplify wellness are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Empire State College Health and Wellness</td>
<td>Liberty III – Upper Lobby</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 18</td>
<td>2 - 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yoga</td>
<td>Liberty II – Upper Lobby</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 18</td>
<td>3:10 - 4:10 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make Me Pretty</td>
<td>Glen Oaks – Lower Lobby</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 18</td>
<td>4:20 - 5:20 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse in the Elderly 65 and Older</td>
<td>Forest Hills – Lower Lobby</td>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 19</td>
<td>8:45 - 9:15 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take a Deep Breath</td>
<td>Woodhaven – Lower Lobby</td>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 19</td>
<td>11:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.</td>
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Hurricane Sandy

Many of our students were affected by the devastating superstorm, Hurricane Sandy. Empire State College students did not just sit idly by, but got involved in altruistic efforts. The following concurrent sessions show research, recovery and community-building efforts from those exceptional ESC students.

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<tr>
<td>Sandy Stories: Organized Labor Rebuilds New York (2013)</td>
<td>Fresh Meadows – Lower Lobby</td>
<td>Both Days</td>
<td>Open Throughout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Effects of Sandy</td>
<td>Liberty II – Upper Lobby</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 18</td>
<td>4:20 - 4:50 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hurricane Sandy: Victims and Volunteers</td>
<td>Astoria/East Elmhurst – Lower Lobby</td>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 19</td>
<td>8:45 - 9:45 a.m.</td>
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Friday, Oct. 18

10:30 a.m. - Registration and Welcome Tables
1:30 p.m. Salon C Foyer

1:30 - 1:50 p.m. Opening Plenary
Salons C, D and E
Opening Remarks, Michael Merrill, Dean, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
Opening Plenary Speaker, Cheryl Farrell '92, '09, Shop Steward, Local Union 3, IBEW

2 - 3:05 p.m. Concurrent Session I

2 - 2:30 p.m. Forest Hills
Anti-Obama Graphics: Hermeneutics of Racial Codes in Visual Representations
Layla Abdellah-Poulos, School for Graduate Studies
This presentation will focus on applying hermeneutical theory to demonstrate how well-established racial codes in American society are exploited by President Barack Obama’s detractors to either create doubt in his ability to lead the country, or to validate the opinions of those who already hold this doubt.

2 - 2:30 p.m. Glen Oaks
Ecology and Earth Systems Field Research Experience
Stephanie Bowen, Center for Distance Learning
In this session, Stephanie Bowen will discuss her research that evaluated the biological health of a stream in the Adirondack Park.

2 - 2:30 p.m. Liberty III
Empire State College Health and Wellness Initiative
Andy Binder, Community Outreach and Events Coordinator
Empire State College’s Health and Wellness Initiative offers students a wide array of benefits and services. This session will explore what students can take advantage of as part of this ESC program.

2 - 3 p.m. Liberty II
Learn About the Center for International Programs and the School for Graduate Studies
Lori Mould, Genesee Valley Center; Cammie Baker Clancy, Director of Graduate Outreach and Admissions, School for Graduate Studies; Francesca Cichello, Director of Student Services, Center for International Programs
There are so many amazing programs available to you at Empire State College. In this panel presentation, Francesca Cichello and Cammie Baker Clancy along with student Lori Mould, will provide valuable information regarding ways students can enhance their learning experience while at ESC and as they look to continue their educational journey towards a master's degree.

2 - 3 p.m. Fresh Meadows
Edward Murphy, Workforce Development Institute
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

2 - 3 p.m. Salon A
The Digger Resistance
Barbara Fischkin, School for Graduate Studies
In this session, Barbara Fischkin will read a selection from her short story series, “The Digger Resistance,” works of historic fiction spanning the years 1915 - 1920. In a literary manner, these stories connect the present day autism epidemic, the shtetl and World War II.
2:35 - 3:05 p.m.  **Empath, Intuitive, Entrepreneur, The Pursuit of Happiness**  
*Theresa Fernandes, Hudson Valley Center*  
In 2012, Theresa Fernandes founded The Crooked Halo, which brings together 25 years of corporate experience with spirituality. This presentation is based upon her principles and beliefs that through self-awareness, alignment of the mind, body and spirit begins to happen. Fernandes will share her personal journey of disconnected living to passion and purpose in the pursuit of happiness as empath, intuitive, entrepreneur.

2:35 - 3:05 p.m.  **Legal Frameworks Protecting the Human Rights of the Internally Displaced in Times of Disaster**  
*Sean Coffman ’13, Center for Distance Learning*  
As the quantity and severity of natural disasters escalate around the world, ensuring the human rights of those affected by them is becoming increasingly important. This presentation will identify established legal frameworks in international human rights law and international refugee law to show that policies do currently exist that are designed to protect the human rights of those impacted and internally displaced by a natural or man-made disaster event.

2:35 - 3:05 p.m.  **Social Media’s Design on Fashion**  
*Geoffry Gertz, Metropolitan Center*  
From fashion start-ups to established designer labels, social media has injected the shopper in to the experiential fashion process threading a closer relationship. This presentation will show how the multibillion dollar fashion industry’s inclusion of social media has transformed the industry, which was once based on a top-down hierarchy, and is now much more democratic, placing value on crowd-sourced opinions.

3:10 – Concurrent Session II  
**4:15 p.m.**

3:10 - 3:40 p.m.  **Fox Stories: How a Culture’s Tales Reflect Its World**  
*Steven House, Northeast Center*  
The depiction of animal characters in stories including folk tales, fiction and mythology, not only reflects observations of the natural world but demonstrates a cultural tendency to impress itself upon the natural world around it. This presentation will take the example of the fox, and show how different cultures perceive this same animal in very different ways.

3:10 - 3:40 p.m.  **Police and Crisis Intervention – How the Memphis Model Improves Outcomes**  
*Robin Steron, Genesee Valley Center*  
Police officers are often the first responders on scene when a mentally ill person is in crisis. This presentation will discuss the effective strategy that the Memphis Model offers for police officers to utilize when facing these situations.

3:10 - 4:10 p.m.  **Bronxology**  
*Domenick Pilla, Hudson Valley Center*  
Bronxology is a dramatic first-person reading, recounting a teenager’s experiences and survival in the 1970s when the Bronx fell into blight, and was overrun by graffiti, gangs and lawlessness.

3:10 - 4:10 p.m.  **Reading the Visual – Views of Caribbean Street Performers**  
*Alison Brust, School for Graduate Studies*  
Caribbean Street Performers offer a unique history of costuming, music and dance. This presentation will introduce the practice of viewing and interpreting visual objects, and demonstrate the similarities and differences with our visual perceptions, by analyzing and interpreting the Mocko Jumbie performing art form of Caribbean carnival practices.
Friday, Oct. 18 (continued)

Fresh Meadows
Edward Murphy, Workforce Development Institute
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

3:10 - 4:10 p.m. Yoga
Liberty II
Liza Feldman, Assessment Specialist, Northeast Center
The practice of yoga can create improved balance, health, wellness and transformation. Experience yoga postures to stretch the body, release tension and calm the mind. All levels are welcome.

3:45 - 4:15 p.m. Shyness in School-Aged Children – The Bias Against the Quiet
Forest Hills
Tabatha Cleckner, Genesee Valley Center
Shy children face many hurdles as they navigate through life, the most difficult being within our own education system. While special-needs students have been given growing attention and focus on a daily basis in schools, shy children are often ignored. This session will look at how schools today are overwhelmingly biased against the quiet students and how the very nature of those students works against them in the classroom environment.

3:45 - 4:15 p.m. Storytelling and the Marketplace – The Power to Transform
Liberty III
Elaine Patrice Perkins, Northeast Center
The marketplace is everywhere: at home, work and school. This presentation will show the power of communication through storytelling, and how, as students, you have a unique opportunity to influence change and make a difference through storytelling in the marketplace.

4:20 - 5:25 p.m. Concurrent Session III
4:20 - 4:50 p.m. Ecological/Environmental Effects From Hurricane Sandy
Liberty II
Lori Mould, Genesee Valley Center
Hurricane Sandy was one of the most devastating storms ever to hit the United States. So many people were affected by its fury. However, there are areas that have been impacted by the superstorm that have received less attention, which may deeply affect our future. This presentation will explore the long-term ecological and environmental impacts of Hurricane Sandy, as well as shed additional light on important human factors caused by the storm.

4:20 - 5:20 p.m. Make Me Pretty
Glen Oaks
Grace Mateo, School for Graduate Studies
The Make Me Pretty project is an hands-on artistic approach to understanding the influences and relations of beauty, health and identity among adolescents.

4:20 - 5:20 p.m. I Am Woman
Salon A
Michael Freeman, Metropolitan Center, and guests
This original rock music theater piece will share the story of a man who loses his memory after a botched sex reassignment surgery in the 1970s. With song and dance, this musical will explore gender identity throughout the 20th and 21st centuries.

4:20 - 4:50 p.m. Time is a Culturally Relative Social Contract
Forest Hills
Eric Shultz, Genesee Valley Center
In this presentation, by showing a series of culturally relevant concepts of time, the presenter will work to demonstrate the belief that time does not exist, it is merely a social contract loosely based on the observable cycles of nature.

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Friday, Oct. 18 (continued)

Fresh Meadows
Edward Murphy, Workforce Development Institute
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

4:20 - 5:20 p.m. Utilizing the Brotherhood of Law Enforcement Personnel: Developing a Statewide Peer Officer Support Program
Liberty III
Cynthia Goss, School for Graduate Studies and John Violanti, Ph.D.
Police officers are exposed to large amounts of stress within their profession and are required to be in control of their feelings and emotions. The control of these emotions under stressful conditions can lead to other forms of stress that can manifest. This presentation will discuss research findings of John Violanti and Cynthia Goss, from a study they conducted of law enforcement agencies in New York state that show the need for a statewide peer officer support model.

Forest Hills
Karllen Lawrence, School for Graduate Studies
The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States is one of the few organizations to achieve an economic union. This session will discuss their journey and the challenges their governments faced as they took the steps toward regional integration and free movement.

4:55 - 5:25 p.m. The Effects of Gender Bias in Childhood
Liberty II
Lindsay Kolk, Genesee Valley Center
Gender biases have permeated our lives in America and these biases start before we are even born. We raise girls differently than we raise boys, despite the relatively few differences in brain function. This presentation will explore the cycle of gender bias in today's society.

5:30 - 7 p.m. Art Show and Alumni Reception
Salons C, D and E
Come eat, drink and join us for this wonderful reception of student artwork and the presentation of the Art Award by President Merodie A. Hancock, Ph.D.
Cash Bar

7:30 - 9 p.m. Evening Entertainment – Activities Fair
Salons C, D and E
Learn how you can join and get involved with the clubs and organizations from Empire State College.
Concurrent Session IV

8:45 - 9:50 a.m.

Woodhaven  
**Nine Student Success Strategies**  
*Casey Kohler, Coordinator of Student Services, Center for Distance Learning*
There are many ways students can achieve success personally, professionally and academically. This presentation will demonstrate and discuss nine strategies you can utilize to be a successful student.

Forest Hills  
**Substance Abuse in the Elderly 65 and Older**  
*Kimberly Gilmore, Genesee Valley Center*
Drug abuse is a growing problem among adults 65 years and older. This presentation will discuss how substance abuse of prescription drugs is becoming a major concern for the elderly population.

Ridgewood  
**Developing a Job Search Strategy**  
*Joshua Martin, Coordinator of Student Services, Northeast Center*
In this interactive session, attendees and the facilitator will jointly explore the different aspects of a job search strategy, including networking, social media and where to find help.

Glen Oaks  
**I See What You Mean – Using Images to Enhance Traditional Written Communication**  
*Vanessa Rehac, Niagara Frontier Center*
Communication research indicates the human brain processes images much faster than text or the spoken word. Technological advances and new applications like Snapchat and Instagram have impacted how we obtain, process and retain images and information. This workshop will discuss these advances, and show how by using visual imagery you can influence your message and become a better communicator.

Jackson Heights  
**Inkululeko – Freedom in South Africa**  
*Jason Torreano ’13, School for Graduate Studies*
Inkululeko, founded by Empire State College graduate student Jason Torreano, is a nonprofit organization in South Africa for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds that helps them individually, and collectively, improve on areas of academic deficiency. In the presentation, Torreano will discuss how this organization was launched, the challenges and rewards of the process, and how people can use their degree program to move closer to their own dreams.

White Stone  
**Is the Czech Republic a Future Competitor of Silicon Valley?**  
*Michaela Matejckova and Petr Rieger, Center for International Programs, Prague, Czech Republic*
Many IT projects that have originated in the Czech Republic have succeeded globally. This panel discussion, led by Empire State College international students from the Czech Republic, Michaela Matejckova and Petr Rieger, will explore why the Czech Republic is able to create so many successful IT companies and how these companies have become market leaders.

Fresh Meadows  
**Sandy Stories: Organized Labor Rebuilds New York (2013)**  
*Workforce Development Institute*
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.
8:45 - 9:45 a.m.  **Sandy – Victims and Volunteers**  
**Astoria/ East Elmhurst**  
Sherri Cruz; Sean Broesler, Adjunct Faculty and Kate Spaulding, Adjunct Faculty, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies  
In this panel presentation, you will hear first-hand accounts of those who were personally affected by Hurricane Sandy and see the aftermath through the eyes of those who volunteered their time to help in the recovery efforts.

9:20 - 9:50 a.m.  **Beyond the Bedroom: Intimate and Family Relationship Choices**  
**Forest Hills**  
Vashti Ma’at, School for Graduate Studies  
Societal benefits and rewards when it comes to marriage in the United States are unequal. Our society tends to favor those traditional households with one man and one woman together and married, and penalizes nontraditional family relationships. By examining the Oneida Community’s polygamous relationship culture, this presentation will examine how monogamy is rewarded, and how nontraditional relationships are penalized.

9:20 - 9:50 a.m.  **Go Ahead, Write That Novel: Intro to the Creative Process**  
**Woodhaven**  
Sandra Barkevich, School for Graduate Studies  
Have you ever uttered the words, “I’d like to write a novel one day.” Why wait? This workshop, presented by Empire State College Student Connection newsletter’s editor Sandra Barkevich, will cover the basics of the creative process to get you started on making that dream a reality.

10 - 11 a.m.  **President’s Plenary**  
**Salon C, D and E**  
Jason Torreano ’13, School for Graduate Studies; Sean Coffman ’13, Center for Distance Learning; Jeannie Lockwood ’13, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies; Merodie A. Hancock, Ph.D., President, Empire State College  
Join the Chancellor’s Award students for an inspiring panel discussion on their experiences in combining their academic life with service, leadership and employment. Learn how these students made it all come together and what and who helped them along the way to be successful.

11:05 - 12:05 p.m.  **Concurrent Session V**  
**Poster Session**

11:05 - 11:35 a.m.  **Falling Through the Looking Glass: Navigating Your Financial Aid When Life Gets in the Way**  
**Astoria/ East Elmhurst**  
Michelle Fountaine, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Coordinating Center  
Financial aid regulations and strict guidelines can make it challenging to navigate when you are balancing all of life’s other priorities. This presentation will focus on the key financial aid issues that students may run into along the way including: academic reinstatement without financial aid eligibility, the effect of a “really bad” term, financial aid recalculations, appeals and regaining eligibility.

11:05 - 11:35 a.m.  **Working-Class New York**  
**Jackson Heights**  
Danny Ferreyra and Volodymyr Sulyk ’11, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies  
In this panel presentation, students Danny Ferreyra and Volodymyr Sulyk will discuss their research on the transformation of New York City from a blue-collar industrial powerhouse that it was in the mid-1900s, to the white-collar city it is today, and how politics played a key role in this change.

11:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.  **Digital Repositories: Opening Doors to Underrepresented Populations**  
**Glen Oaks**  
Sara Rofofsky Marcus, School for Graduate Studies  
Local public history repositories serve a small population or marginal group who are often ignored, or ostracized, in the field of museum and archive studies. The growth of online repositories, both professional and nonprofessional, intended as a repository or solely for entertainment, has raised the presence of these populations, enabling educators to better offer a diverse representation in courses. This presentation will discuss the educational value of online repositories, and determine ways to evaluate them.
11:05 a.m. - Empire State College’s Best Kept Secret
12:05 p.m. Lori Mould, Genesee Valley Center; Colleen Reedy, Senior Staff Assistant/Program Coordinator, Niagara Frontier Center; Lori McCaffrey, Residency Specialist, Northeast Center; and Deborah McEligot, Student Services Specialist, Central New York Center

Empire State College students have a unique opportunity to study face to face and network with other students in a rich academic environment through the residency programs. This special panel discussion with residency coordinators, Colleen Reedy from the Niagara Frontier Center (coordinator of residency students and programs), Lori McCaffrey from the Northeast Center (residency specialist), and Deborah McEligot from the Central New York Center (learning community coordinator), together with students who have completed these programs, will discuss the concept of the residency at Empire State College. The panel will talk about the residency options that are available for students and answer questions about these wonderful programs.

11:05 a.m. - Poster Session
12:05 p.m. Sandra Barkevich, School for Graduate Studies; Mary Rose Clark, Northeast Center; Olga Jimenez, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies; Jennifer Johnson, Genesee Valley Center; Jaime Lopez, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies; Grace Mateo, Metropolitan Center; Jelly Reidel, Center for Distance Learning; Malissa Smith, School for Graduate Studies; Courtney Szigetvari, Center for Distance Learning; Mary Morton, Affirmative Action Officer, Empire State College

Poster presentations are visual displays of your scholarly work or research projects. All poster presenters will be ready to engage in lively discussions.

11:05 a.m. - Sandy Stories: Organized Labor Rebuilds New York (2013)
12:05 p.m. Workforce Development Institute
Fresh Meadows

This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

11:05 a.m. - Take a Deep Breath: Understanding and Managing Stress
12:05 p.m. Liza Feldman, Assessment Specialist, Northeast Center and John Eisler, Associate Dean, Center for Distance Learning
Woodhaven

Stressed out? Feeling worn down? You know stress is bad for you and impossible to avoid, but what exactly is stress doing to your brain and body? Learn about the impact of stress on your mental and physical health, including mood, memory, reproductive function and immune system. Explore practical approaches and relaxation techniques to help you manage stress and lead a healthier lifestyle.

11:05 a.m. - Working With Special Needs Students in the Classroom
12:05 p.m. Tyrone Watson and guests, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
White Stone

Paraprofessionals play an important educational role in classrooms with students that have special needs. This panel discussion will demonstrate the necessity of increased training, support and college courses to help these paraprofessionals be successful and be effective in helping to teach their students.

11:40 a.m. - Fear the Poet
12:10 p.m. Sara Tomerlin-Hedger, Central New York Center
Astoria/East Elmhurst

Arguably no art form has done as much for civil rights and social justice as poetry and song. In this presentation, ESC student and poet Sara M. Tomerlin-Hedger shares a series of interviews with prominent American poets and activists who speak about education, race, class, peace, gay rights, veterans, historical erasure, feminism and racial targeting laws.

11:40 a.m. - Using Your Life Experience for College Credit
12:10 p.m. Derek Lively, Center for Distance Learning
Jackson Heights

Students at Empire State College are able to apply for credit based on their skills and previous life experiences. This presentation will show students how to focus on the skills they currently have, as well as assess areas of their lives and past experiences, which can be used in the process of applying for credit for prior learning.
Saturday, Oct. 19 (continued)

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. **Lunch and Keynote Speaker**
Salons C, D and E
Marian Conway, Ph.D., ’01, ’04, Executive Director, N.Y. Community Bank Foundation

1:30 - 2:15 p.m. **Empire State College Information Session** *(by invitation only for prospective Metro students)*
Ridgewood
Nicholas Mendez, Recruitment and Outreach Specialist, Metropolitan Center
Are you looking at taking classes at Empire State College? Join us for this informational session to learn more about degree programs, study options, cost, aid, transfer credits and other exciting opportunities.

1:45 - 2:50 p.m. **Concurrent Session VI**

1:45 - 2:15 p.m. **Autism and the Gluten-Free, Casein-Free Diet**
Forest Hills
Nicholas Malcuit, Center for Distance Learning
Families, scientists and physicians have looked at the relationships between diet and autism and have seen encouragement in children resulting from the gluten-free, casein-free diet. This presentation will discuss real-life experiences from parents who have used this diet with their children, and offer a forum to discuss others’ personal experiences with autism.

1:45 - 2:15 p.m. **Hierarchy Establishment, Persistence and Group Learning in Long-Finned Zebrafish**
Glen Oaks
Jennifer Abrams, Metropolitan Center
The ability to learn about the surrounding environment is an essential skill for species that live in hierarchical social groups. This presentation will examine the establishment of these hierarchies, and look at how social ranking affects the normal behavior, and responses to threatening situations of the long-finned zebrafish, Danio rerio.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. **Is It Trash or an American Treasure?**
White Stone
Katherine Aldridge, Central New York Center
Among the 150 years of dust and debris in her barns, Katherine Aldridge discovered a cardboard box full of old letters from the Civil War era. In 2011, she had her first book published by Paramount Market Publishing, retelling the stories of these letters, “No Freedom Shrieker: The Civil War Letters of Union Soldier Charles F. Biddlecom.” Her presentation will discuss her discovery and the process of her exciting project, while encouraging others to follow their passion.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. **NEW – Nontraditional Employment for Women**
Jackson Heights
Jeannie Lockwood ’13; Stephen Flynn, Adjunct Faculty, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies
Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW) prepares, trains and places women in careers in the skilled construction, utility and maintenance trades, helping women achieve economic independence. This panel presentation will discuss the many ways that NEW helps disadvantaged women in the NYC area acquire jobs in the building trades sector.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. **Paraprofessionals as Partners With Teachers in the Classroom**
Astoria/ East Elmhurst
Albert Shankar, the late United Federation of Teachers labor union leader, had a vision of paraprofessionals partnering with teachers in the classroom. Despite increases in their education and training, many paraprofessionals are still not considered partners with their teachers and many teachers are still often reluctant to include them in a classroom partnership. This panel discussion will demonstrate the importance of Shankar’s vision, and that the work paraprofessionals do in the classroom is just as important as that of the teachers who they share students with.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. **Reforming Juvenile Justice – The Missouri Model**
Woodhaven
Mark Solomon, Tanya Thompson and Roxana Darnell, Metropolitan Center
This panel presentation will take a look at the juvenile justice system in the United States. The discussion will focus on the challenges of this system, as well as take a look at Missouri Model: Reinventing the
Rehabilitating of Youth Offenders. As part of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative, this model has created more fair policies and programs that have demonstrated a reduction in secure confinement, improved public safety, reduced racial disparities and saved taxpayer dollars.

1:45 - 2:45 p.m.
Fresh Meadows
**Sandy Stories: Organized Labor Rebuilds New York (2013)**
*Workforce Development Institute*
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

2:20 - 2:50 p.m.
Glen Oaks
**An Unavoidable Journey**
*Grace Caddell, Center for Distance Learning*
Grief is a journey all of us will go through at some point in our lives. Grace Caddell will share her experience of losing her husband to lung cancer, and the lessons she learned by asking for help from family and friends to have faith and hope, as well as the need for humor.

2:20 - 2:50 p.m.
Ridgewood
**Nonprofit Organizations and Unionization in the U.S.**
*Moira Lewandowski, Metropolitan Center*
Many workers in human service agencies receive very low wages and few benefits. On the other hand, management and boards of nonprofits are often not sympathetic to the needs of their workers and hostile to the idea of unions. This presentation will review current dilemmas of nonprofit human service unionization from the perspective of management and unions, as well as from academic studies.

2:20 - 2:50 p.m.
Forest Hills
**Pink Gloves and Bloody Faces: Girl Boxing in the Ring**
*Malissa Smith, School for Graduate Studies*
From the era of the 1880s “new woman” to the “anti-June Cleavers” of the 1950s, women defied gender expectations as girl boxers setting the stage for the women of the ring today who continue to push at gender norms for acceptance. This presentation will focus on the place of women in the boxing ring during the transformative eras running from the 1880s through the 1950s, focusing on the many changing gender norms that informed women’s sports participation, and boxing in particular, in this period.

2:55 - 4:30 p.m.
**Concurrent Session VII**

2:55 - 3:55 p.m.
Fresh Meadows
**Sandy Stories: Organized Labor Rebuilds New York (2013)**
*Workforce Development Institute*
This exhibit of photos taken by workers during and after the superstorm, Hurricane Sandy, will be open throughout the conference.

2:55 - 4:30 p.m.
Queens Suite
**“The Sisterhood”**
*Roger Horn ’13, Center for Distance Learning*
Hazendal Wine Estate farmhands Hope, Rollie and Pietie are not your typical South African vineyard workers. Hope aspires to winning the local drag queen pageant, Rollie dreams of a husband and retaining the local drag queen crown, and Pietie struggles with his religious upbringing while obsessing over his roses, chickens and pigeons. These transgender wine workers confront prejudice at every turn, from their own farming communities, city transgenders and the world at large. Together they manage to “find the fabulous in the fraught” and offer a portrait of triumph in togetherness, rather than loneliness in victimization.

Following the documentary, Horn will be joining us via Skype from Berlin, Germany, for a short Q&A session and he’ll provide an update on the lives of Hope, Rollie and Pietie.

4:35 - 5 p.m.
**Conference Finale/Raffle Drawing**
Join us for this informal debriefing session, a chance to network with your peers and to win an iPad Mini. (You must be in attendance to win.)
Addiction and Dependency: Need for Social Change in the Treatment of Substance Abuse for Low-Income Women
Jennifer Johnson, Genesee Valley Center

This session seeks to reveal the many assumptions and stigmas placed on low-income mothers that, in turn, can create barriers when they seek treatment. As a society we can help to create change to better assist those battling chemical dependency. This presentation will help explore the social change that needs to occur to provide these women with the help that is both comforting and works for them.

Application of the Gradient Vector in Modeling Dispersal Patterns of Young Adult Hawks
Jelly Reidel, Center for Distance Learning

Hawks tend to seek out new territories away from other hawks, so they will likely move to areas of lower population density. This poster session will show hawk population data and research of their distribution and behaviors in certain areas, and apply the gradient vector to reveal dispersal patterns of hawks.

Awards, Fellowships and Recognitions
Office of Collegewide Student Services, Coordinating Center

Empire State College offers many opportunities for students to be recognized for the work that they do. This poster session will give descriptions of the awards, fellowships and other opportunities available to students of Empire State College.

Hispanic Folklore Dance Group
Olga Jimenez, The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies

Folklore dancing has been a part of Latino families and has been passed down through generations. Sharing these customs and dances is a part of one’s legacy and helps encourage the Latino population and other ethnic groups to get together and support immigrants in their battle to be accepted in this nation.

Immigration and the Labor Movement

This presentation describes a workers public art project made in collaboration with HVACLS students, alumni and members of New Immigrant Community Empowerment, who work in construction. The project’s goals are to build toward creating a kind of pop-up workers’ pavilion that would help create space for representation of workers, showcasing their labor and creativity, but also seeking to foster worker dialogue within this space.
Make Me Pretty  
*Grace Mateo, Metropolitan Center*

The Make Me Pretty project is an hands-on artistic approach to understanding the influences and relationships of beauty, health and identity among adolescents.

Pink Gloves and Bloody Faces: Girl Boxing in the Ring  
*Malissa Smith, School for Graduate Studies*

This presentation will focus on the place of women in the boxing ring during the transformative eras running from the 1880s through the 1950s, focusing on the many changing gender norms that informed women’s sports participation, and boxing in particular, in this period.

Religion in Science Fiction and Fantasy Media: A Secular View  
*Courtney Szigetvari, Center for Distance Learning*

Spirituality is integrated into media in many forms. This poster session will show perspectives on how both Judeo-Christian teachings and non-Western religions have been portrayed in popular television, books and movies of the science fiction and fantasy genres, most specifically their inclusion in Doctor Who, the Harry Potter book series and Star Trek.

Sex and Gender Represented in the Media/Society Today  
*MaryRose Clark, Northeast Center*

Through past movies and documentaries, this poster session will aim to demonstrate that despite the belief that men and women are equal in our society, they in fact are not. Not only are they treated differently but they are expected to be and act in a certain way that is deemed acceptable.

The Student Connection – Your Student Newsletter  
*Sandra Barkevich, School for Graduate Studies*

The Student Connection, Empire State College’s student-run newsletter, is seeking submissions. Just as editor Sandra Barkevich has done, you also can gain valuable publishing experience by contributing your work. This poster session will show you how to get involved and how you can transform your completed assignments into articles.

Title IX: What You Need to Know  
*Mary Morton, Affirmative Action Officer for Empire State College*

“No person in the U.S. shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program.” Empire State College is committed to ensuring a community that is safe for all students, faculty and staff. Participants in this session will learn about Title IX, the college’s commitment to it, one’s rights and responsibilities, and what support and resources are available.
Cheryl Farrell ‘92, ‘09

Cheryl Farrell is a 25-year member of Local Union 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. In 2006, she became the first African-American shop steward in the construction division of her union. She currently works as a shop steward, representing the members of her union in upper Manhattan. Prior to being a shop steward, she worked as a foreman on several major projects in New York City.

She delivered innovative leadership during her six years as president of the Amber Light Society, an organization she co-founded for women electricians. Under her guidance, the organization became nonprofit, established a scholarship fund and a welfare fund, supervised the first all-women’s-built project for Habitat for Humanity in New York City and volunteered for various charities.

Farrell is a union activist and a mentor to apprentices. She has represented her union and women at renowned events such as IBEW Women’s Conference, Sisters on the Frontline (Cornell University), Electrical Workers Minority Caucus and was a delegate to IBEW conventions. She is most proud of being on the advisory school board for the High School of Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture in Queens, N.Y. As a board member and mentor, Farrell is instrumental in increasing the enrollment of young girls, from 6 percent to 35 percent in the past five years. She continues to encourage young girls to choose nontraditional careers.

Farrell was recognized by the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus and received an outstanding leadership award, a career day award from the Mott School, an appreciation award from the high school advisory board and woman of the year from the Lewis Latimer Progressive Association.

Farrell received her A.S. in Labor Studies, upon completion of Local 3’s Apprentice Training Program at SUNY Empire State College in 1992. She completed the Working Woman Leadership Program at Cornell University, received the Levine Scholarship for her B.S. in Labor Studies at Empire State College in 2009, and graduated from Columbia University with an M.S. in Construction Administration in 2012.
Marian Conway, Ph.D., ‘01, ‘04

Marian Conway, Ph.D., a long-time resident of Lindenhurst, came to the Roslyn Savings Foundation (the name was changed in 2010 to N.Y. Community Bank Foundation) in June of 2002 after 15 years in business. During that time, she accumulated business management experience which she believes is critical in the nonprofit field. Conway has been the executive director of the N.Y. Community Bank Foundation since 2007.

She didn’t begin her college career until her youngest went off to kindergarten. She received a Bachelor of Science in writing and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, with a concentration in interdisciplinary studies, from SUNY Empire State College. She recently completed her Ph.D. in Public Policy Administration – Nonprofit Management and Leadership from Walden University.

Conway credits her success to the independent learning skills she acquired at SUNY Empire State College. She is on a number of nonprofit boards, including Community Development Corp. L.I., L.I. Arts Alliance, Middle Country Library Foundation, St. Johnland Nursing Center, and Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk. Most recently, she received the Gilbert Tilles Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals for her philanthropic leadership. She is a staunch advocate of lifelong learning and was the former president of the Alumni Student Federation Board of Governors. She is currently a member of the Empire State College Foundation Board.
2014 Student Wellness Retreat
April 10 - 12, 2014
Albany, N.Y.

Save the Date
Join us for the second annual Student Wellness Retreat at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center, Albany, N.Y.

99 percent of the students who attended last year’s Student Wellness Retreat said they would attend a second year.

New this year
Health and Wellness Residency: Building Resilience to Meet Life’s Challenges
(To earn credit you must register for the residency in the January term)

More details on the Student Wellness Retreat and the Health and Wellness Residency are coming soon.

Contact: Andy Binder, Andy.Binder@esc.edu

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