

## THE OBSERVER

April 5, 2021

### NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

I hope you enjoyed a restful spring break. One week off and a whole new look! This issue of the Observer is chock-full of updates.

Working with members of the marketing committee and the Senior Manager of Institutional Design Strategy (Design Lead) in the Department of Marketing and Communications at the GC, we developed the logo used on the header of this issue of the Observer. In the coming weeks, we will incorporate the new branding on the LP<sup>2</sup> webpage on the Graduate Center's website and other digital and print materials in development. It is refined, expresses the program identity, and fits within the branding scheme of the institution. Thank you to those who weighed in during the design process, your feedback was valuable and positions us well.

We continue to make new connections across the institution and last week's first Science Seminar is a good example. Professor William Harcourt-Smith, PhD gave an engaging talk on bipedalism, breaking down complex concepts of human evolution in easily understandable terms. If you were not able to make it on Wednesday, we have uploaded the recording here for you to watch at your convenience....

(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WybklvJ43uiWSXgIDaniRJ7abVcZXi6V/view?usp=sharing>)

I will hold office hours tomorrow, Tuesday, from 11am-12pm. Join me in my virtual office to say hello; you can bring questions... or not; I'm sure we will find something to talk about! (<https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/j/87450295130?pwd=Q3FMMUJqeWQzYVFUU1hhMmQzaWdpZz09>)

You should have already heard from an advisory board member with whom you will meet in a small group “town hall” on Friday at 2pm as part of the Member Connect initiative introduced at the last General Membership Meeting. If you have not received an email from your group leader, please email our office and we will get you connected: [engagement@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:engagement@gc.cuny.edu).

Mark your calendar for the next Fridays@3 program on April 23 by Dr. Frank Wu, Queens College President, who will be speaking on race and democracy. Dr. Wu has been in the press recently, specifically about the uptick in anti-Asian discrimination and acts of violence. I hope you will join us for this critical conversation and to get to know other dimensions of the University academics.

Fridays@3 events and offerings across the Graduate Center are available for perusal and registration here: <https://gc.cuny.edu/All-GC-Events/Calendar> and across the University here: <https://events.cuny.edu/>

As the vaccine rollout expands and we are graced by Spring weather, I hope you remain optimistic and vigilant while enjoying some refreshed flexibility and freedom. Take good care!

Until soon,  
Mariel

**Our office contact information:**  
[engagement@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:engagement@gc.cuny.edu)  
212-817-2474

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**

### **First LP<sup>2</sup> Member Connect Town Hall, This Friday, April 9, 2:00PM**

Recently, you received an e-mail with details about this Friday’s Member Connect meeting from the Board member leading your group. **If you haven’t yet RSVP’d, please do!**

This is an important LP<sup>2</sup> initiative, which will inform you about the issues the Advisory Board is currently discussing and give *you* the opportunity to let

the Board hear your thoughts on the issues we are facing. We look forward to seeing you there. You should enjoy it.

## **The Art and Science Of Leading A Discussion Workshop**

Want to Learn Strategies for Enhancing Your Study Group Discussions?

You are invited to attend **The Art And Science Of Leading A Discussion** workshop. We encourage new AND experienced coordinators to attend to share strategies and learn new ones.

Date is **Wednesday, April 21 from 4-5:15PM**

RSVP to Linda Anstendig at [lanstendig@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:lanstendig@gc.cuny.edu)

A zoom invitation will be sent on the day of the workshop.

## **Admissions Committee Seeks Two New Members for Fall 2021**

### Our mission:

To join the Director and other LP<sup>2</sup> committees (*i.e.*, mentoring, orientation, diversity and curriculum committees) in creating a qualified and diversified membership that will contribute to the continued excellence of LP<sup>2</sup>.

### Qualifications for Committee Membership

Applicants must have been a member of LP<sup>2</sup> for a minimum of two years. Candidates should have strong communication and writing skills.

These include:

- Strong listening skills.
- Being attuned to verbal and non-verbal cues.
- Possessing a clear and focused conversational style.
- Having the ability to write succinct evaluations of applicants.
- Knowing the history, philosophy, mission and structure of our peer-learning community.

### Responsibilities:

\* Attend Admission Committee meetings (traditionally we host five each academic year)

\* Attend information sessions (traditionally we host 4 each academic year)

\* Read applications in preparation for interviews.

\* Interview candidates.

\* Write evaluations following interviews

\* Make admissions decisions in conjunction with committee members.

\* Recommend to the Director applicants that will be a benefit to, as well as benefit from, the LP<sup>2</sup> community.

### Selection and Terms:

Committee members are chosen by the committee chairs in consultation with committee members and our program director.

If you are interested in joining, please send an e-mail including your qualifications by April 16, 2021 to Barry Cooper (Chair) at [barryjogger@gmail.com](mailto:barryjogger@gmail.com) and Laini Gerald (Co-chair) at [geraldmsw@gmail.com](mailto:geraldmsw@gmail.com).

### **Fridays@3**

#### **Diversity and Democracy: What Would You Have Done During WWII? Frank H. Wu, President, Queens College, CUNY**

**April 23, 3PM**



Professor Frank H. Wu, our distinguished Fridays @3 speaker, is the American-born son of Chinese immigrants and the recently named president of Queens College, The City University of New York (CUNY).

He previously served as chancellor and dean, and then William L. Prosser Distinguished Professor at University of California Hastings College of the Law and previously, as a member of the faculty at Howard University, the nation's leading historically black college/university and also as dean of Wayne State University Law School

In his leadership roles at Queens College, UC Hastings and Wayne, as well as on the faculty at Howard, he was the first Asian American to serve in such a capacity.

He was appointed by the United States Department of Education to its National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, which advises the administration on higher education accreditation, including as vice chair; and by the U.S. Defense Department to the Military Leadership Diversity Commission, which submitted to Congress the report *From Representation to Inclusion*.

Wu is the author of *Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White*, and co-author of *Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment*, which received the single greatest grant from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund.

## **Open Call for Voices Online Submissions**

### **Deadline: May 31, 2021**

Voices Online is a web site available to the world and is also accessible to LP<sup>2</sup> members via the Zine. It presents the creative work, both written and photographic, of our members. There have been eight editions of Voices Online, beginning in Fall 2012, and all are available to view.

We plan to issue the next edition of Voices over the next months. Create something new or select a treasure from your archives. We will accept entries until MAY 31, but we encourage you to submit soon. The guidelines for submissions are on the last page of this Observer. You may also receive a copy by sending an e-mail to Charles Troob at lp2voicesonline@gmail.com.

LP<sup>2</sup> members serve as judges of submissions. We are looking for participation. If you are interested, please contact the editors as follows:

- Prose—Mary Houts at mhouts@gc.cuny.edu and Eric Roper at eroper@gc.cuny.edu
- Poetry—Irene Sax at isax000@gmail.com and Mark Fischweicher at mfishwords@gmail.com
- Photography—Jerry Vogel at gerald.vogel@gmail.com

## **From The New York Times:**

### **Frances D. Horowitz, 88, Dies; Transformed CUNY Graduate Center**

Frances Degen Horowitz, who as the president of the City University of New York's Graduate Center for nearly 15 years raised its academic stature and transplanted it to a prestigious Fifth Avenue campus, died on March 15 at her home in Manhattan. She was 88.

A distinguished child psychologist, she presided over the school's move to a landmark building in Manhattan and expanded its capacity for research.

To read the full obituary in the New York Times, click [here](#).

## REMINDERS

### Help Wanted! - Fridays@3

The Fridays@3 Committee needs your help to increase attendance at this program!! As you know, every semester we offer three free presentations that are open to the public, with well-known speakers on a variety of topics.

The Monday before each Fridays@3 program, the GC office will send you an email invitation with the link. Please forward the email to your friends, family, book club, neighbors, and anyone you think might be interested in the topic. And make sure you come too.

### ONLINE ART SHOW

**From:** Jonathan Gaines

**Title:** Snowy Sunset



Jonathan says: I took this photograph from our living room window in Bronxville after a snowstorm.

## **MEMBER FORUM**

### **Pour at 4 Outdoors**

Spring is here and the weather is warming. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to see each other again along with meeting some of our new members? I think so. I am looking for your help in finding outdoor locations. For example, the Lincoln Center Plaza would be a perfect location for those of you in the neighborhood.

Take a moment and think about where you live. Do you have a location idea which would provide outdoor seating? If so, we could gather and join you for a visit. Let's try to incorporate as many different neighborhoods as our membership provides.

Please contact Susan Rubens at [Srubens@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:Srubens@gc.cuny.edu) with your location ideas. Thanks!

### **Excelsior Pass**

Susanne Yellin has noted that New York State has introduced the Excelsior Pass, which provides secure, digital proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative test results. (Participation in Excelsior Pass is voluntary. New Yorkers can always show alternate proof of vaccination or testing, like another mobile application or paper form, directly at a business or venue.)

For more information, click [here](#).

### **Freedom Abroad: The History of African Americans In Europe**

An online conference with New York University and Case Western Reserve University with Zoom sessions held every Wednesday until April 29.

Marge Heins thought this program might be of interest.

The history of African Americans traveling to, working and living in Europe offers a rich archive through which to explore historical tensions between American notions of freedom and citizenship in the United States and Europe. *Freedom Abroad: The History of African Americans in Europe* will

be a month-long joint online conference hosted by Case Western Reserve University and New York University that explores and commemorates this history through a series of panels and talks by leading scholars of these historical personalities and their time in Europe

*No pre-registration required. For more information, click [here](#)..*

## **ONGOING LP<sup>2</sup> EVENTS**

NOTE: All Things Covid, hosted by Barry Levine and Steve Kalinsky, will continue, but rather than weekly, sessions will be held every three weeks until the end of the semester (absent a need for an earlier update). The next session will be held on Friday, April 9 at 3PM.

The Women's Group meets at 3:45PM on Thursdays. Contact Arlyne LeSchack at aleschack@gc.cuny.edu.

The Men's Group meets at 3:45PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jay Fleishman at efleishman@gc.cuny.edu.

Stitch Away Stress meets at 4PM Tuesdays. Members share skills and enjoy the meditative benefits of handwork. Contact Michelle Harris at mharris@gc.cuny.edu

## **NON-CUNY EVENTS AND RESOURCES**

SciCafe: The Chimpanzee Within Us, Wednesday, April 7, 7:00PM

Why are humans the way we are? One way to answer this question is to look to our closest cousins, the chimpanzees. Join Assistant Professor of Psychology and Anthropology Alexandra Rosati of the University of Michigan and Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Biology Zarin Machanda of Tufts University as they examine the world of chimpanzees, including chimpanzee social lives, ecological context, and how they think and solve problems. By understanding what it means to be a chimpanzee, we can turn back the evolutionary clock to glimpse the origins of human cognition and behavior. This event is free to attend! For registration information, see:

<https://www.amnh.org/calendar/chimpanzee-within-us>.

## CUNY EVENTS

For upcoming CUNY events, click here: <https://gc.cuny.edu/All-GC-Events/Calendar> and across the University here: <https://events.cuny.edu/>

**Observer Submissions** Send items for the next week's Observer to Susan Rauch at [srauch@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:srauch@gc.cuny.edu) by 5PM on Friday. Send Online Art Show entries and suggestions for virtual tours to Carol Millsom at [cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu).

**Member Forum** If you have something to share with the LP<sup>2</sup> community, e.g., a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered that you think would be interesting to members, send it to Susan at [srauch@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:srauch@gc.cuny.edu) for inclusion in the Member Forum.

## OPEN CALL FOR VOICES ONLINE SUBMISSIONS

**DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2021**

### WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Writing (poetry, fiction, non-fiction, memoir) that uses any voice, style, theme, or form
- Photographs on any subject.

Previously published work should not be submitted.

### THE FINE PRINT:

- You may submit one or two prose pieces. Short pieces are particularly appropriate to the on-line format. There is no minimum length; the maximum length is 2500 words.
- You may submit up to five poems, a maximum of ten pages.
- You may submit up to three photographs, in JPEG (digital) format.
- All submissions will be reviewed by several judges. Judges will not have access to identifying information about the creators of the pieces

they are judging. All photos that meet the technical requirements will be displayed, with some identified as particularly meritorious.

- If your submission is being considered for publication, an editor may contact you with comments or suggestions. The writer has the opportunity to review and agree to the final edited version.

#### **TECHNICAL GUIDELINES:**

- **All submissions should be attached to an email** that includes your name, phone number, e-mail address, the title(s) of the piece or pieces, the submission category, and the date of submission.
- **For prose submissions**, please use Word format (.doc or docx) and 14-point type. Files in pdf format cannot be used and will be returned to sender.
- **For poetry**, please use Word format and start each poem on a new page.
- **Your poems or prose pieces should not contain any identifying information.** If the text of your piece includes your name (e.g., a memoir) delete the name and replace it with "(author)".
- **Your photographs** should be in JPEG format, large enough to fill your computer screen (top to bottom or left to right, depending on orientation). **Submit a title** either as the file name or in the body of your email submission. When transmitting photos from a phone or a computer, your email software **may** ask you what size photo you wish to send. Choose "large" or "actual size" rather than "small" or "medium."

**TO SUBMIT: send prose and poetry via email to  
lp2voicesonline@gmail.com**

**Send photos to Jerry Vogel at gerald.vogel@gmail.com**

All submissions will be acknowledged to verify that they have been received. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within two weeks of your submission, please contact Charles Troob by email at <mailto:ctroob@verizon.net>.

**If you have technical questions or difficulty in submitting your entry, please contact us at lp2voicesonline@gmail.com, and we will make every effort to help you.**





