

THE OBSERVER
September 19, 2022

Editor: Susan Rauch

Associate Editors: Micky Josephs
Ariana Caragliano
Contributing Editor: Irene Sax

From the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation

Dear Members,

We hope you enjoyed the first week of the Fall 2022 Session!

The Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (AISI) is located in Room 8309 on the 8th Floor, and you can reach our staff at lp2@gc.cuny.edu or 212-817-2474. The office is also the home of the LP² First Desk, staffed by members who will help you get acquainted with The Graduate Center and answer your LP²-related questions. The First Desk will be open 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday, and 9:30 am to 12:30 pm on Fridays.

As mentioned last week, Katie Donia joined the AISI staff as a part-time Program Assistant. Please read on for Katie's bio and be sure to say hello to her the next time you're on campus.

All study group session add/drop requests must be submitted by Friday, 9/23, via the Add/Drop form linked [here](#). You can send all registration-related questions to lp2@gc.cuny.edu

Finally, from all of us here at The Graduate Center: Happy 60th Anniversary, LPSquared!!!

Joanna
Program Manager for LP²
Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (AISI)
212-817-2474
Lp2@gc.cuny.edu

Schedule Change: Zoom Study Group Start/Stop Times

Several Zoom study group members have had trouble getting home from the Graduate Center in one hour. To accommodate class participants, the following study groups have changed their times from 2:15-3:45PM to 2:30-4:00PM to allow an extra 15 minutes for travel.

The study groups that will run from 2:30 to 4:00PM are:

- Snafu – War Gone Wrong
- Art of Narration – Hebrew Bible & N.T.
- Richard Powers, Three Novels

The remaining Zoom study groups will continue in the original time slot, 2:15-3:45.PM

Keep this schedule change in mind if you are considering adding or dropping a study group by the Friday, September 23rd deadline.



Katie Donia is a first-semester student at the Graduate Center pursuing a Master's degree in Data Analysis and Visualization. Born and raised in Dallas, Texas, she earned a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Dallas. Eager to pursue a career that reflects her strong sense of ethics and belief in the importance of the arts, Katie realized she had to leave Dallas (and quickly) and felt that New York City was the place for her! Katie spends her free time seeing every new movie she can and catching up on the classics in the meantime. One of her favorite genres of film is the classic Hollywood film musical, and she wants to learn to tap dance while in New York. Katie is very impressed with the LP² program and feels the position of Program Assistant is a great way to contribute to the Graduate Center's goal of education for the public good.

CUNY GRADUATE CENTER: WHAT YOU NEED-TO-KNOW

Scroll down for all information on:

- Graduate Center Student IDs;
- CUNY Cleared4 Access Passes; and
- CUNY Academic Year 2022-23 COVID-19 Information and Safety Guidance.

THIS WEEK

IRP/LP² 60th Anniversary Gala, Thursday, September 22nd

Reminder: Cleared4 Pass and RSVP required for entry. Then get ready to meet, greet, eat and be entertained. Note: The address of the John Jay College Dining Commons is 524 W. 59th Street Please try to arrive between 5:00 and 5:15PM to facilitate entry to the event.

Fall 2022 Semester Add/Drop Period ends Friday, September 23rd

NEWS AND EVENTS

LP² Science Seminar Series



Susan L. Epstein, Professor of Computer Science
Hunter College and The CUNY Graduate Center

Collaborative Intelligence: AI and People Solving Problems Together
Tuesday, October 11th, 4:00PM (ZOOM, LP² Members Only)

Please join us on Tuesday, October 11th, for the Fall event in our Science Seminar Series, featuring a conversation about Artificial Intelligence with Hunter College Professor **Susan L. Epstein**. Trained first as a theoretical mathematician at Smith College and NYU's Courant Institute, Dr. Epstein went on to earn her Ph.D. in computer science at Rutgers.

Dr. Epstein has always been fascinated by how people and machines solve problems. At Hunter College and the Graduate Center, she works in artificial intelligence (AI), in particular about how to describe the world to a machine and how machines learn.

Her work creates machines that learn to be experts. In that effort, she has collaborated with microbiologists, roboticists, linguists, psychologists, geographers, mathematicians, and urban planners.

Her current work includes autonomous robots, spatial cognition, human-computer dialogue, and computational cognitive neuroscience. Dr. Epstein continues to be entranced by how brains and minds solve problems, and how computers can support and exploit that knowledge.

Dr. Epstein will be interviewed by LP² member Bernie Belkin for about ½ hour and then participate in a Q&A with the audience. ZOOM links will be supplied next week.

WORKSHOPS

Curriculum Committee Coordinator Development Workshops

Where members get the answer to the question, “I’ve agreed to coordinate; now what do I do?”

This fall the Curriculum Committee is again offering a series of informal free-wheeling discussions on topics of interest to potential and current coordinators.

**All sessions will be on ZOOM at 4:00PM on Wednesdays, except for the second, which is on a Monday. Registration links are included. Be sure to hit “Submit” when you register. Zoom links will be sent shortly before each workshop.*

Wednesday, September 28 @ 4:00PM. Brainstorming – Let's Get Started Where do ideas for study groups come from? This session will help you to think of a idea that could work for a study group that you might like to coordinate or co-coordinate in the future. We invite you to join us, whether or not you have come up with a topic. To register, click on this link: [Brainstorming](#)

Monday, October 3 @ 4:00PM. More Than One Way to Present Study Groups What makes a study group engaging? This week we'll discuss how to find the format that fits your style and use it to share your ideas effectively. To register, click on this link: [More Than One Way](#)

Wednesday, October 12 @ 4:00PM

Bonus: Two workshops this week! (same day & time, different links)

Speed Dating (for prospective co-coordinators)

This session is designed for those who would like to find someone sharing their interests who might like to cooperate in putting together a study group. We'll also help you understand what's involved in working with a compatible collaborator. Maybe you'll find a match. To register, click on this link: [Speed Dating](#)

or

How's it Going? (for current coordinators)

This will be an opportunity for both new and experienced coordinators to discuss how their current study groups are progressing and to share problem-solving strategies. We'll talk about what's working, what isn't, and what to try next.

To register, click on this link: [How's it Going?](#)

Wednesday, October 19 @ 4:00PM

Beyond Beginnings – Zeroing in on Research Resources

You've done the hard creative work, landed on a theme, and conceptualized your idea for a study group. Now it's time to deepen your research, investigating available resources and methods to follow up on your ideas. We'll look at some library and research resources to enrich your topic's content. To register, click on this link: [Beyond Beginnings](#)

Wednesday, October 26 @4:00PM

Making it Happen – Organizing a Syllabus

You've come up with a great idea. You've been thinking about the first few sessions a lot and you're ready to get started. But soon you will have to come up with a semester's worth of weekly lessons. It's time to think about creating a syllabus. To register, click on this link: [Making it Happen](#)

Two LP² Website Workshops

How to Login and Use the Member Directory Wednesdays @4:00PM

(ZOOM)

Choose one of these three Wednesday options: September 28th, October 5th, or October 12th @ 4:00PM (ZOOM)

Want to look up LP² members to see their faces, find

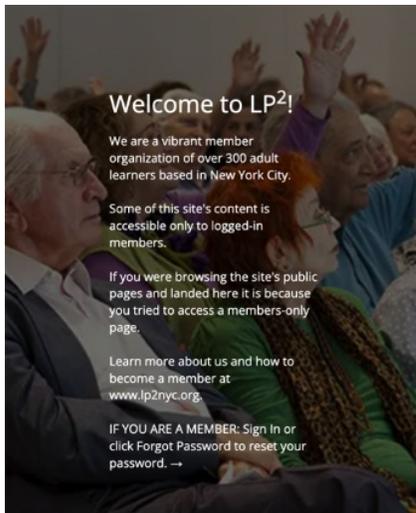


their addresses or phone numbers, read their bios? You've got to use the [Member Directory](#). To do that you need to login. Learn how to create a secure and easy-to-remember password, how to reset it yourself if you forget it, how to bookmark the site (or make it a favorite) so you can get to it with a single click and how to get help 24/7 if you forget any of this. Then get a tour of the Member Directory. All that in a small group workshop. There will

be an opportunity to get your questions answered and one-on-one help. September 28th, October 5th and October 12th. [Sign-up here](#). Or contact [Denise Waxman](#) at dwaxman1@lp2nyc.org with questions.

Update Your Member Profile! (ZOOM) Wednesdays @4:00PM

Choose one of these three Wednesday options:
October 19th, October 26th or November 2nd



This workshop is about *Making Yourself Findable in the [Member Directory](#)*. What do you read? What are your interests? Where do you live? What do you look like now, not 20 years ago? LP² members want to know! Learn how to update your Profile Photo, Cover Photo, Bio, Interests, Skills, Neighborhood, Contact info and more in the new

LP² Member Directory.

This small group workshop will provide a full tour of the new Member Directory and show you how you can search in ways you couldn't do before. Most important you will learn how to make yourself more findable by updating your photo and sharing what you want others to know about you. There will be an opportunity to get your questions answered and one-on-one help. October 19th, October 26th or November 2nd

[Sign-up here](#). Or contact [Denise Waxman](#) at dwaxman1@lp2nyc.org with questions.



First Desk Volunteers Needed

We encourage new members to volunteer at First Desk because it's a great way to meet people, learn things and be part of the action. And it's FUN.

Volunteers at the AISI Office First Desk:

- are located at the center of an LP² member gathering place (AISI Office);

- serve as greeters or hosts;
- are guides in the building and its classrooms;
- answer questions in person and on the telephone;
- gather and relay tips on restaurants in the area; and
- disseminate information on neighborhood events.

Four open slots:

- Wednesday 9:30-11:00 AM
- Wednesday 11:00-12:30 PM
- Thursday 11:00-12:30 PM
- Monday 12:30-2:00PM

Reply to Aileen Gitelson at agitelson@gc.cuny.edu to add your name to the list or request more information.

**CUNY GC Doctoral Audiology Program Offers Free Hearing Tests
Fall Appointments: Wednesdays (Only)**

9:00AM 10:20AM, 1:00PM & 2:30PM

Free Hearing Test Services!

- Do you or a family member have difficulty hearing?
- Do you have a child with hearing difficulty or middle ear problems?
- Do you have a child who may have difficulty processing speech?
- Do you have a relative who is complaining that you do not seem to understand them?
- Do you or a family member listen to the television or music at loud levels?
- Do you want advice regarding custom-fitted ear-molds for your iPod?
- Do you want advice regarding custom-fitted ear-protectors or swim-molds?
- Do you want to try assistive devices which can help you understand television?
- Do you or a family member want advice about hearing aids or assistive technologies?
- Do you or a family member want advice about hearing protection?
- Are you a musician needing advice about your hearing and hearing protection?
- The Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) Program

For Appointments, Please Call: (212) 817-7980

Services Include:

- Basic hearing and speech tests
- Hearing aid checks, hearing aid counseling
- Testing hearing of children
- Advice about hearing aids and adjustment to hearing aids
- Hearing aid checks
- Advice and opportunity to experience the benefits of hearing assistive technologies
- Advice about custom ear protection including musician ear plugs and swim molds
- Advice about custom ear buds for iPods, MP3 Players
- Auditory evoked potentials testing

- Hearing health promotion
- Opportunities to experience our portable hearing loop system
- Auditory processing tests

NYPL Offers Free at Home Covid Test Kits at all Locations

As of May 16th, the City's Test & Trace Corps has been supplying a limited number of at-home tests per branch [to all open NYPL locations](#), which will be distributed to the public Monday–Friday, 12:00–4:00PM. Tests are limited to one per individual on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. Updates on test availability can be found [here](#).

Our partners in Brooklyn Public Library and Queens Public Library are also participating. [See here](#) for more information.

As trusted community spaces, public libraries have supported the City's efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 throughout the pandemic. In addition to this initiative, select locations are also now offering vaccines for children ages 5–11. [Learn more](#).

ONLINE ART SHOW

Mary Padilla , *Long Island Sound*



Mary says: I took this photograph while looking down at the Sound as I was hanging over the railing of the ferry to Island Beach.

CUNY GRADUATE CENTER NEED-TO-KNOW

Graduate Center Student IDs

If you have a Graduate Center student ID card:

Fall 2022 Term validation stickers are available in the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (Room 8309).

Members attending Fall 2022 study groups remotely can request to have the sticker mailed to them by sending an email request with their mailing address to lp2@gc.cuny.edu.

If you don't have a Graduate Center Student Photo ID card, you can obtain it in two ways:

Via mail:

- Email security@gc.cuny.edu from your Graduate Center email address. Put "ID Card" in the subject line.
- Include your name, Program (LP²), and mailing address in the email body.
- Attach a "passport type headshot" JPEG picture taken within the past six months.

In-person:

- While on campus, please stop at the security desk in the lobby and inform the officer that you are an LP² student and need an ID card. You will be directed to the student ID office.

CUNY Cleared4 Access Passes

CUNY mandates that all students taking in-person and hybrid classes have up-to-date COVID-19 vaccinations, which include a booster, once eligible. LP² members must upload their proof of vaccination to CUNY's Cleared4 system to obtain an electronic access pass needed to enter the Graduate Center.

CUNY Academic Year 2022-23 COVID-19 Information and Safety Guidance

[The Graduate Center's COVID-19 guidance](#) follows [CUNY's COVID-19 Guidelines](#). All members of our community should be familiar with the protocols and services that are in place to keep our community safe and supported during the 2022-23 academic year. Reducing the risk of the spread of COVID-19 on our campus is a community effort that is grounded in mutual respect, designed to foster an environment for safe learning, researching and working together. Please refer to the highlights and visit the [Graduate Center's Covid-19 page](#) for more details.

Vaccination

[CUNY mandates](#) that all students taking in-person and hybrid classes be fully vaccinated. LP² members must upload their proof of vaccination via the Cleared4 platform and are required to present their Cleared4 access pass on their smartphones when entering the building.

Masking

At this time, CUNY does not have a mask mandate. Masking while on campus is optional. Anyone who would like to continue wearing masks in any settings is welcome to do so at any time. The Graduate Center recommends our students, faculty and staff to wear a mask in crowded and public spaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the Graduate Center, masks are available for our community, and you can request one at the front desk and at the main desk in the library (first floor). LP² members will also be able to obtain KN95 masks in the Office of Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation in Room

8309 (8th floor).

Testing

For the health and safety of our entire community, we highly recommend that LP² members get regular and recurring testing. If you are sick, stay home. If you do not feel better in three days, please consult your health care provider. LP² students should consider testing if you have been traveling before returning to campus.

Isolation and Exposure

CUNY continues to follow the latest CDC guidance on [isolation](#) and [exposure](#). Quarantining is no longer necessary if you have been exposed to a person who has tested positive. Any students, staff or faculty who test positive with COVID-19 or are exposed to someone with COVID-19 must follow the steps below.

Reporting Positive COVID-19 Results

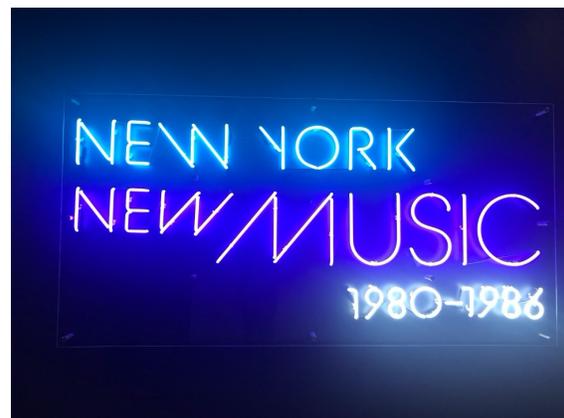
LP² students who test positive for COVID-19, whether through a testing provider or with an at-home kit, must contact the Academic Initiatives and Strategic Innovation (AIS) staff by emailing lp2@gc.cuny.edu and copy the Graduate Center Covid-19 Campus Coordinator at reactivation@gc.cuny.edu. The Coordinator will work with the AISI staff to aid in identifying exposures and notify close contacts of the exposure.

Contact

Contact COVID-19 Campus Coordinator, Daniela Verdejo Salazar at reactivation@gc.cuny.edu for further information.

MEMBER FORUM

Alec Rill highly recommends the “amazing exhibit” currently showing, at the [Museum of the City of New York](#). The exhibit, [Celebrating the City](#), consists of a large number of New York photos made over the years by both famous and lesser-known photographers. Alec adds that if you have energy and like music, there is also an exhibit about NY Music (1980 - 1986).



REMINDERS

Calling All Painters, Sculptors, Photographers, Block Printers, Ceramicists and Textile Artists!

Display the creative work you have been doing this summer in the Online Art Show. Send a photograph of your work with a title and a brief statement about it to Carol Millsom at cmillsom@gc.cuny.edu. Art works appear in The Observer in the order in which they are received.

MISSING LINKS DIRECTORY

[Graduate Center Password Reset](#)
[GC Portal](#)
[LP² Library Contact \(Mason Brown\)](#)

[Free Access – CUNY ARTS](#)

[LP² Member Website](#)

- [Member Directory](#)
- [Faces](#)
- [Library and Online Resource page](#)
- [LP² and GC Help](#)
- [Tech Help](#)

Linkedin Learning (formerly known as Lynda)

- [LinkedIn learning at NYPL](#) and [Get a NYPL Library Card](#)
- [LinkedIn Learning at BPL](#) and [Get a BPL Library Card](#)
- [LinkedIn Learning at QPL](#) and [Get a QPL Library Card](#)

What links would you like to see included? You don't have to know the actual link, just what you'd like to be able to link to without cleaning out your desk to find the paper you wrote it down on.

Send your requests and suggestions to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu or Susan Rauch at srauch@gc.cuny.edu.

[Current GC Campus Covid Rules](#)

ONGOING LP² EVENTS

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

(Note: The Women's Group will continue to meet Thursday afternoons at 3:45pm except for the second week of the month when the Group will meet in person from 1:15 to 2:15pm- Tuesdays 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13. First in person meeting 9/13@1:15 in room 9205 at the GC.)

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.

Schedule for submitting articles for The Observer and Website – DEADLINE DATE

Members wishing to submit information for publication in The Observer and/or or listing on the Website have a **new deadline: the Wednesday before the Monday publication date**. In addition, we urge you to send us your material as early as possible so that it can be entered onto the LP²calendar, which is managed by the Graduate Center. If you have an event to publicize, please notify Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu **at least one month in advance** to ensure that the event receives maximum publicity.

Member Forum Submissions: If you have something to share with the LP² community, e.g., a photo, an article, a book or a web site that you've discovered and think would be interesting to members, send it to Micky Josephs at mjosephs@gc.cuny.edu.