December 10, 2020

Baruch's Financial Engineering Program Ranks #1 in U.S.

The Master of Financial Engineering (MFE) program at Baruch College’s Weissman School of Arts and Sciences continues to earn recognition as the best program in the nation for prospective students to study financial engineering. QuantNet’s 2021 “Rankings of Financial Engineering Programs” placed Baruch #1 in the U.S., finishing ahead of prestigious schools such as Carnegie Mellon, Princeton, Columbia, UC Berkeley, Cornell, NYU, UChicago, and Georgia Tech. Baruch’s overall score was five points above the nearest competitor’s, the largest difference ever in this ranking. Read more.

Weissman Proud, Research Strong

A new website series, Weissman Proud, Research Strong, will feature different research projects every three weeks and highlight the lead professor teaching the course. The series will showcase the vast range of research projects conducted at the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences and amplify the exposure students have to important new discoveries. It will debut on the Weissman website homepage, which is linked to a 60-second YouTube video of the professor giving a brief summary of the featured project. The new series begins with the research work of Professor Pablo Peixoto. Check here for the YouTube video.

Alison Griffiths is the recipient of a 2020-21 Research Grant from the Waterhouse Family Institute for the Study of Communication and Society and was awarded $10,000 for a project entitled “Collective Memory and Visual Communication: The Archival Legacy of the Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial, Gallup, New Mexico.” A vibrant four-day celebration of Native American dance and material culture, the Ceremonial began in 1922 and continues to this day.
The recent passing of game show legend Alex Trebec reminds us of when Professor Gregory Snyder, Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, was cited in a Jeopardy question, as seen in the following NPR video. Professor Snyder’s research focuses on urban subcultures such as graffiti writers, hip hop artists, musicians, and professional skateboarders, with an emphasis on subculture theory, urban space and issues of social justice.

Professors Jean Gaffney, Krista Dobi, and David Gruber of the Department of Natural Sciences were featured in the article "Sea Pickles Glow All By Themselves - Here's How." Their research has determined that the glow comes from inside the animal (an example of convergent evolution)."

New Weissman Mathematics Professor Matt Junge is involved in important COVID-19 research, which is detailed in a recent NPR interview.

Upcoming Events

"The Reconstruction of Race Relations Post Election 2020"
#artspeaksjustice
Register now

Art Speaks Justice is hosted by the Office of the Dean of the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College. The series focuses on social justice issues and features commentary from authors, cultural productions at the Baruch Performing Arts Center (BPAC), and artists featured in the Mishkin Gallery. The next installment will be held on December 10th from 4:30-6:30, and panelists will include the Reverend Al Sharpton, Professor Viviana Rivera-Burgos, and Professor Derek W. Black. The event will be moderated by Professor Andrea Gabor. Read more.

Managing Work-Life Balance in Uncertain and Challenging Times

In recognition of the difficulty of maintaining
a healthy work-life balance in these unprecedented times, we want to support our faculty, staff, and students, particularly those who are primary caregivers. This webinar experience brings together leading academic voices to discuss how to manage parenting, increase motivation, and develop human potential. There will be presentations, moderated Q&A, and breakout room opportunities. Panelists include Dr. Lawrence Balter, Dr. Emily Balcetis, and Dr. Laura M. Roberts. The webinar will be held on December 11, 1:30 - 3:00 pm. Read more.

News and Announcements

Former Weissman School Dean Aldemaro Romero Jr. released another exciting new book, *Institutional Failure in Higher Education*, which will be used as the basis for a TV series on higher ed.

*Engaging Art: Essays and Interviews Around the Globe* by Roslyn Berstein, Professor Emerita of Journalism, reveals how artists make their art, resist censorship, and retain an independent, creative spirit.

- Baruch College received a $1 million gift from Bank of America to fund comprehensive new initiatives supporting education and career development programs that prepare Black and Latino students to enter the professional workforce and to embark on a path to success. Read more.

- On November 6th, 2020, three days short of her 84th birthday, Professor Lea Bleyman passed away. Former Chair of the Department of Natural Sciences in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences, she was greatly admired. The current department chair, Professor John Wahlert, who knew her well, recalled that “Lea faithfully came to the talks at the BioMed Society (our student club) on Thursdays and always asked questions. We thought she was forever.”

- Recently, devastating category 4 hurricanes swept through Honduras and Nicaragua. Baruch student Dominique Wilson, a junior majoring in finance, who grew-up in Honduras, decided to become actively involved in the relief effort. If you would like to become involved, please be in touch with Dominique about how you can help.
Opportunities for Faculty

- **Center for Retirement Research Welcomes Proposals for Steven H. Sandell Grant Program** - Deadline: 01/31/2021
- **Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation Invites Applications for New ERA Women Writers Program** - Deadline: Rolling
- **National Geographic Invites Applications for COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Journalists** - Deadline: Rolling

Visit our website for past editions of the newsletter. Be sure to share your news with us at baruchwsas@baruch.cuny.edu.