



Bulletin

www.stuypa.org

Issue 6, March 2005



LETTER FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Dear Parents,

By now, our Open House will have successfully presented the school to newly accepted students and their parents. As this is a school-sponsored event now, where the PA plays mostly a supportive role, we are optimistic that the friendliness and participatory volunteerism of our parents shines through. We know that everyone involved, lead by Hannah Li and Mei Chan, has worked feverishly to help make this event pleasant and meaningful while providing an oasis of calm in an otherwise frenetic high school admissions process. Our gratitude to all those who gave of their time and energy to these incoming additions to our school community.

The Programs Committee is busy implementing and planning meeting activities for the remainder of the school year. Upcoming are English department-oriented extracurriculars, safety, and gifted education and special learning needs forums, as well as our second annual incoming parent fair to take place at our last meeting, along with presentations to graduating parents. This is an enormous task, requiring ongoing attention and energy. Our highly capable committee, lead by Gina Anderson, deserves many thanks for interesting and informative meeting enhancement.

The College Committee has formally instituted supplemental junior advisement, which includes parents in College Office meetings. This is a welcomed accomplishment for a PA which advocates for greater parental involvement on all levels. The college tours will conclude in April with an upstate tour, after having successfully run trips to New England and the D.C. corridor earlier in the year. The all-important College Night occurs on May 5, which falls on AP Exams Week but could not be rescheduled. Prepare your student early to be able to attend the evening's event while having completed studying well in advance of the date. Contact the school to ensure that assignments will be postponed and deadlines relaxed around that evening's event. Of

(Please go to Page 2)

PA GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 15, 2005, 7-9 pm

Hospitality and refreshments from 6:30 pm

Murray Kahn Theater

7 PM: General Meeting Program

English Department Night: Hear Eric Grossman, Assistant Principal of English, speak on English department courses; hear students and parents speak on extracurricular activities related to the English Department.

For information, contact Gina Anderson, gsa1700@msn.com

Hospitality and refreshments available from 6:30 pm

Parents are invited for beverages and snacks before the General Meeting at 6:30 pm

College Night Planning Meeting at 5:30 pm in Room 229.

**Program Committee Meets Before the General PA Meeting
5:30-6:30 in Room 231**

The Program Committee plans programs on topics of interest to Stuy parents for the General Meetings of the Association.
For info, contact valeriecorbett@att.net

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

The first marking period will end on March 18th. Open School Week is from Monday, April 4th to Friday, April 8th. All parents are invited to attend classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Parent-Teacher conferences will be on Thursday evening, April 7th and Friday afternoon, April 8th. I encourage everyone to meet your child's teachers and forge a partnership.

On Wednesday, March 9th and Thursday, March 10th the Music Department will feature two concerts that showcase many of our talented performers. Please come and support the Music program.

Sing rehearsal began in early March and will continue into April.

Finally, online registration for all advanced placement exams closes on Tuesday, March 22nd. Please make certain that your son/daughter has registered.

Sincerely,

Stan Teitel, Principal

AP Exam Registration Deadline Reminder

AP Exam Registration is done on-line at grades.stuy.edu starting Tuesday, February 1st through Tuesday, March 22nd.

The website will be shut down on Tuesday, March 22nd at 12 Noon. Registration print out and checks (no cash) are due on or before Tuesday, March 22nd to Room 209.

Your registration is not complete until all paperwork and checks are turned into Room 209. AP Exam Bulletins are also available in Room 209.

(Letter from the Co-Presidents, continued)

course, we always appreciate the work of Karen Mooney and all her many volunteers in all facets of the work they do. This committee is constantly working to better advisement and the application process for our students.

Academic Affairs, formed to collect and channel the many separate task forces on instructional, integrity, curriculum and grading issues, has met and will continue work on several areas of concern. The group will serve as a repository for the push to improve upon quality of education and the methods and policies that best benefit such improvement. The committee started out with the goal of improving ethics and has branched out from there. We hope that the varied individual issues your student faces may be addressed by grouping similar concerns and tackling them as a unified and cooperating group in collaboration with the administration, using the recent work with the Physics & Chemistry department as somewhat of a model. If you are interested in offering your expertise or people power, please contact Seth Akabas at sakabas@akabascohen.com or Gary Lincoff gary@noahsquark.com.

Phonathon will start sending out mailings very soon, with the phone calls occurring in the middle of May. Please consider a contribution matched to your means to benefit the many programs, teams, activities and extracurriculars we try to provide to the students and the equipment and necessary supplies to the staff that also benefits the students. This is also a good way to help us out if you can't always volunteer your expertise and time. We appreciate the assistance, in any way you see fit, so that we can continue to support a world-class well-rounded education for our students. If you can volunteer for this effort, make sure to contact Sam Siddiqui at ssiddiqui@dasny.org.

Lastly, consider running for an elective office or serving as a committee chair for the 2005-6 school year. For elections, you can submit your intention or request information from our nominating committee about the offices available by contacting Ed Griffith at eg@bolattigriffith.com. By the April meeting, nominations will have been submitted to the nominating committee and there will also be opportunity to nominate from the floor.

We wish everyone a happy spring and all the good wishes for the many holidays of this season. Sincerest regards,

**Linda Lam (lindalamsl@yahoo.com) and
Lori Pandolfo (loripandolfo@yahoo.com), Co-Presidents**

STUYVESANT CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 15 PA General Meeting 7 PM (Hospitality 6:30 PM)
March 22 Noon deadline for AP Exam online registration at grades.stuy.edu
March 25 No classes (Good Friday)
Monday, April 4 – Friday April 8 Open School Week
Early April (dates TBD) New York State College Tour
Tuesday, April 19 PA General Meeting 7 PM (Hospitality 6:30 PM)
Mon., April 25 – Fri, April 29 No classes (Spring Recess)
Thursday, May 5 College Night
Tuesday, May 24 PA General Meeting 7 PM (Hospitality 6:30 PM)
Monday, May 30 No classes (Memorial Day)
Tuesday, June 21 PA General Meeting 7 PM (Hospitality 6:30 PM)
Tuesday, June 28 Last day of school

Candidates Sought for Parents' Association Elections in May

We encourage any interested parents run for a PA position and to nominate other parents who you think would make effective members of the PA leadership team.

Candidates are being sought for:

President or Co-President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and SLT representatives for next year's sophomore, junior and senior classes.

Detailed descriptions may be found on the PA website (www.stuyupa.org).

___ I am interested in serving as an elected officer of the Parents' Association in 2005-2006.

Parent's Name _____

Child's Name _____

Telephone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

E-mail _____

I am interested in running for the following office:

Qualifications/Prior Experience (Please attach additional sheets):

Please give the form to any member of the nominating committee (George Lee, Kathy Yu, Elizabeth Lee, Peter James, and Ed Griffith) at the PA General meeting on March 15 or mail by March 31 to:

Annual PA Elections Nominating Committee,

Stuyvesant HS Parents' Association 345 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10282
Parents can also be nominated from the floor at the April PA general meeting.

JOIN THE STUY PA LISTSERV

To subscribe to our PA email list of reminders and updates, simply send an email with your email address to Ellie Freudenheim, Corresponding Secretary, at stuyellie@yahoo.com. Please include your name, child and class to verify that you are a Stuyvesant parent. Thanks!

Save the Date! College Night Thursday, May 5

College Night is Thursday, May 5. Representatives from more than 100 colleges will visit Stuyvesant on that night. Sophomores, juniors, and their parents, are invited to attend.

Fantastic Feast!

by Karen Mooney

The Second Annual Lunar New Year Feast and College Office Benefit on February 4th exceeded expectations both as a community event and as a college services fundraiser. Four hundred and fifty parents, students, alumni, and guests were in attendance. Although final figures are still being tallied, we earned approximately \$20,000 for our efforts that evening (\$3,648 in dinner ticket sales, \$4,283 in raffle sales, and \$3,860 in donations from generous underwriters). Our Silent Auction, new this year, brought in more than \$9,000 toward that total. (See the account by Miriam Boyce and Sumi Takeda Nakazato about their adventures with this project.)

The money we raised will allow us to continue to support College Office

counseling services, the production of the College Handbook, evening information meetings, and afterschool counseling sessions that include juniors and their parents, a project in the planning stages for later this spring.

The success of our Feast is due to the hundreds of people who attended; to the many, many parents who helped produce it, and to the many generous merchants and donors who contributed auction and raffle items. In particular, I'd like to thank Benefit Co-Chairs Gigi Loizzo and Susie Yuen for the spirit of fun and generosity that they brought to the event, and to Sumi Takeda Nakazato and Miriam Boyce for building a successful silent auction from the ground up. It was a pleasure working with them and our wonderful crew.

Report on the Silent Auction

By Sumiko Takeda Nakazato and Miriam Boyce

The idea of a Silent Auction came to us during the first Lunar New Year's Chinese Feast to Benefit College Services in 2004. We were sitting together at a table with other freshman parents, taking in the sheer size and demographics of the Stuyvesant community. We thought how much fun it would be to have a Silent Auction to get people out of their seats and mix, and to raise more money for college services along the way.

The Silent Auction was an experiment this year, to see if there would be enough Stuyvesant community energy to pull it off. No one could remember if the PA had ever held an auction before. Preparations began at the end of November. Announcements were made at the end of the year at General PA Meeting and in the December PA Bulletin. Additionally, in the PA listserv the community could find solicitation forms to be downloaded. With one week to go before the Feast, we had received donations valued at almost \$20,000!

There were 160 donated items in total, half of which were non-competitive activities to promote community-building led by an individual with a particular area of expertise. Outdoor activities, which will take place throughout Spring 2005, include neighborhood walks in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and a mushroom walk in Bear Mountain. Indoor activities include art and cooking classes. Together these events have netted \$1,600.

Another community-building activity was basket-making centering on Valentine's Day and Pacific Rim related themes. Led by Suet Mei Chan, a group of willing and creative moms got together to design and wrap the majority of baskets that were admired by all during the event. Susan Huizinga commented that it was great to finally meet a group of

live Stuy parents. Her husband's art moving company saved the day by transporting all the baskets to Jing Fong Restaurant intact.

The most popular auction items were the lunch and dinner certificates from restaurants downtown and elsewhere throughout the city. Chandra Chanhan and Shelley Crandall took on the task of sending out the solicitations. The 12 items in this category brought in almost \$1,500. Many thanks to all the other parents who generously donated services, tickets to sports and cultural events and items. Lauren Coleman-Lochner's spunky write-ups of the auction items for the Silent Auction catalog encouraged e-bids. Shelly kept track of the e-mail bids, another first for Stuy. One parent sent her bids in from New Zealand! E-mail bids brought in more than \$2,000.

The individual item that brought in the most money was a round trip flight for two to Geneva, Switzerland, courtesy of Swiss International Airlines and Stuyvesant parent Ellen Meier.

At the event, a small crew of enthusiastic parents stayed with us all evening to ensure the overall success of the auction. They are Amie Gross, Rona Berg, Susan Huizinga, Shelly, and Chandra. Also thanks to our Treasurer, Richard Roth, and Assistant Treasurer, Gillian Smith Robinson, for being cashiers. The payments by check are still trickling in, but we can be certain in saying that the Silent Auction grossed at least \$9,000 for College Services.

The best part about the Silent Auction was meeting and working alongside the wonderful people who make up our school community. MANY thanks to everyone for their kind generosity. We hope we've created a new FUN-raising tradition at Stuy.

Stuyvesant Parents' Association Scholarship Essay For Seniors

The Parents' Association is awarding five \$1,000 scholarships for the best essays written by seniors and submitted to the PA Scholarship Committee.

Essay Question:

"Suppose the entire United States were populated by Stuyvesant students (or Stuy grads). What would be the strengths and weaknesses of such a society?"

Write an approximately 500-word essay, formatted in MS Word, and email it by the deadline, Thursday, April 21 at 10 P.M., to maggi@cairn.org. At the top of your essay, please list your name and official class. This information will be removed before the essays are sent to the Scholarship Committee members to be read.

The essays will be judged on content and creativity. The members of the Scholarship Committee are Stuyvesant parents, not your teachers. We are looking for unique insights.

All essays will be kept confidential and read only by the Scholarship Committee members, who will not know the authors' names. Winners will be announced at the Stuyvesant High School Awards Night in June 2005. If the PA wishes to publish any of the essays, we will ask the authors for permission.

Any questions? Call Maggi Knox, chair of the Scholarship Scholarship Committee, at 718-499-3631 (evenings and weekends) or email maggi@cairn.org.

Academic Affairs Committee Report

Fair grading. Teaching quality. Hiring Policies. Cheating. Parents interested in these issues may want to join the Parents' Association's Academic Affairs Committee.

The committee met last month and encourages parents to attend the next meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, March 15 at 5:30 pm. Room will be announced.

Below is a synopsis of topics discussed and suggestions for how the committee can help:

- Inconsistent grading – often varies widely within departments. Sophomore SLT representative Gary Lincoff said he would like to obtain grades without names in order to discern patterns. Another option could be to use letter grades instead of more finely calibrated number grades. PA co-president Lori Pandolfo said this could be possible for future classes.
- Teaching quality and hiring – Sophomore executive board member-at-large Simeon Baum said his number-one concern is teaching quality. He wondered how the committee could support more professional development. Gary said he'd like to the committee establish a centralized repository

of complaints about teachers and grading. Other parents wondered about the possibility of instituting a School Based Option program, which allows the school to screen all teacher candidates. Currently, the school can screen half of the teacher candidates, with remaining positions filled by seniority. The school does have some discretion in terms of which positions it chooses to post and when. PA co-president Lori Pandolfo noted that teachers have already voted down SBO, so it's not going to happen anytime soon.

However, the committee should discuss this issue with teachers to learn more about the reasons they do not currently support the SBO program and perhaps to advocate for its eventual adoption, which many parents believe would strengthen teaching quality at Stuy.

The committee could also ask the School Leadership Team, comprised of students, parents, teachers and administrators, to increase PA involvement in the hiring process and explore what the PA can do to help ensure that Stuy hires the best teacher candidates.

The committee can also form contacts with assistant principals to address curriculum, teaching and grading concerns, as has been done successfully this year with the physics and chemistry department.

- PA programs can be an effective way of communicating the committee's work and gathering information from parents. Programs could include topics such as academic integrity and different learning styles.

Future issues addressed could include assessing the school "tone," or the attitude of Stuy teachers and students, fostering community service, considering whether there should be different teaching approaches to accommodate differences in learning styles (part of professional development and curriculum), supporting an award program to recognize effective teachers, and encouraging development of "best practices" for teachers.

The committee would also like to encourage parents to spearhead action on areas of particular interest or concern to them. Interested parents should contact Seth Akabas at sakabas@akabascohen.com or Gary Lincoff at gary@noahsquark.com.

COLLEGE CORNER

SENIORS

The Waiting Game

Soon, all the members of the Stuyvesant Class of 2005 will know where they will be studying in the fall! Most colleges mail their regular admissions decisions in April. If your senior is deferred from his or her first-choice school, urge him or her to write a letter to the college restating interest in the school and updating any additional achievements accrued since the application was filed. All seniors need to work hard to fight senioritis! Colleges do check final semester grades.

JUNIORS

From the College Office:

The parents of juniors are urged to attend a meeting with College Office Director Abby Siegel and College Adviser Aileen Danaher on Thursday, March 31 in the auditorium. The meeting will begin promptly at 7 PM.

Ms. Siegel and Ms. Danaher followed up their January assembly with juniors by visiting every junior English class during February. They reviewed the applications process and answered questions. College Handbooks were distributed to juniors in homerooms

during the first week of March. (Additional copies can be purchased at all Parents' Association meetings.) College office staff has begun meeting with juniors in groups of two's and three's to make sure they know how to research colleges and narrow their searches. Students should be sure to check their stuyemail accounts for notification of these meetings. Juniors are reminded to check the collegeboard.com website for the next SAT I and SAT II test dates and the act.org website for the upcoming ACT test dates.

Remember: Stuyvesant Parent Coordinator Harvey Blumm is available to help address parent concerns, including questions about college. Contact Harvey at 212/312-4926, 347/563-5099, or blumm@stuy.edu. He can answer many procedural questions or pursue an answer on your behalf.

One-on-One Meetings with Juniors and their Parents in the Works

The Parents' Association is working with Guidance AP Eleanor Archie and the College Office staff to fund a program of individual half-hour meetings for juniors and their parents. These meetings should help set the stage for the application process ahead. Parents are welcome to come alone or with their student.

This year's program follows up on meetings funded last year with a grant secured by Ms. Archie. Mr. Teitel has contributed some school funds toward this year's program, and the PA is committed to giving the project all the resources it needs.

Meetings are planned to begin in April, by which time many students will likely have some SAT results. Be sure to subscribe to the PA listserv and check stuy.org to get details when they first become available.

SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

Sophomores and Juniors Invited on New York State College Tour

The third and final PA/Stuyvesant H.S. college tour is being planned for the first weekend in April. A two or three-day visit to New York State colleges will include Cornell and SUNY/Binghamton, among other schools. Sophomores are invited to join this trip, along with juniors. Applications are available in Ms. Archie's office, Room 103. For information, contact Ms. Archie or parent Melanie Cash at mcash@nyls.edu or 212-431-2100.

Karen Mooney, College Committee at 646-765-8891 or mooneykL@aol.com.

Your link to the Stuyvesant College Office: www.stuy.edu/college

A Parent's Thoughts on Advanced Placement Courses

(Editor's Note: The following represents the opinion of one parent on the subject of advanced placement courses, included here in an effort to contribute to the community discussion on this important matter.)

The February issue of the Stuyvesant Parents' Association Bulletin contained a report that the SLT is reviewing "whether [Advanced Placement courses] should be part of the Stuyvesant curriculum." On February 18th, The Spectator followed with a report that the SLT met to discuss "the purpose of Advanced Placement (AP) courses."

From these reports, it is not clear exactly what proposal is being worked on – the topic has not been discussed at Parent Association meetings open to all parents. It appears that some parents at the SLT are unhappy about the recent Department of Education decree to weight Advanced Placement course grades with a 10% bonus. Those parents want to remove AP designations from transcripts, which would effectively circumvent the decree. This appears to be largely a cosmetic proposal with little impact of substance. GPA's calculated by the Department of Education are actually of little consequence in the college application process – the focus of these parents' concern – since colleges recalculate GPA's their own way from the raw grades anyway.

There is, however, another separate strand of discussion with real, substantial impact. The Bulletin and Spectator reports repeat several criticisms directed against Advanced Placement courses themselves. The goal there appears to be the elimination of such courses, not just their special transcript designations. It is concerning this agenda that I wish to alert parents of certain major consequences.

1) AP courses earn college credit and save money for needy families.

In many colleges, students with enough high AP scores in the social studies, sciences, math, or languages automatically receive college credits for introductory courses. This can save their families one semester, even one year, of college expenses. For families not receiving generous financial aid, this matters a lot. We must consider such families. To deprive them of such a lifeline for less-than-solid reasons would be simply wrong.

I am not arguing here that AP courses are the only rigorous courses at Stuyvesant – the more rigorous courses we have the better – but we harm ourselves if we try to replace, rather than supplement, these AP courses, which are independently quality-assured by national examinations, with our private-label "advanced" courses. Colleges are understandably reluctant to accept our "advanced" courses – it is not feasible for them to verify every such claim annually from every high school – so never mind anecdotal accounts of admissions officers encouraging our teachers that our "advanced" courses are every bit as good as Advanced Placement courses: when it comes to claiming credit from department chairmen for early graduation, such encouragement amounts to nothing.

There is one exception. I know many colleges do not recognize the two AP English scores. If this observation is confirmed after a comprehensive survey, then shifting resources in English to better alternatives may merit a separate discussion.

2) AP courses enable freshmen to skip large introductory classes and adjust to college more easily.

Many of the hundred-student or thousand-student large lecture courses that frighten freshmen and contribute to their sense of isolation can be skipped with AP credit. Especially in some of the more selective colleges, where the better students arrive with AP credit already, the teaching of introductory material to the "slower half" of the class is not considered exciting or demanding, and is relegated to graduate assistants. Under such conditions, arriving with enough AP credits to qualify for at least some intermediate-level courses taught by professors in a classroom of human scale can add some sunshine to the adjustment process. For some students, this can truly be a lifesaver.

3) AP courses are required for excellence in mathematics, science, and engineering.

Serious math, science and engineering majors at any of the top math, physics, chemistry, biology and engineering departments are

assumed to have completed AP Physics, AP Chemistry, or AP Biology, in addition to AP Calculus, such being the nature of the competition our students face in attending college. Forget what an admissions officer at MIT or Harvard might say about what it takes merely to get in; the faculty at MIT will tell you it is impossible to be among the best science or engineering majors at MIT without a good handful of these AP courses, and the faculty at Harvard will tell you that to survive Math 55, the "hardest undergraduate math course in the country" set up specifically to challenge the best in math in the freshman class with problem sets that take 60 hours weekly, you need, of course, AP Calculus, and several courses beyond.

At stake is the very stature of Stuyvesant, the producer of Nobel prize winners, the premier science high school. Whatever else we may be, this we have to be, without question: the source of the best science and engineering talent for all of the nation's top science and engineering universities.

You may ask what this has to do with the rest of our kids that don't go to Harvard or MIT. Just as the University of Chicago sets its intellectual tone with the 5 Nobel Prize winners in its faculty, and Princeton gets reflected glory off its Putnam Competition winners year after year, Stuyvesant shines off its Intel winners and Math and Science Olympiad trophies. All of us enjoy the name recognition these talented students achieve, even if 60-hour problem sets are not for our child. It is because of these accomplishments that high schools all around the country call themselves "the Stuyvesant of such-and-such." Let's not change the rules once our kids got into Stuyvesant and selfishly cut the legs off our best in science and math.

By the way, the Bulletin and The Spectator both cite Stuyvesant's wonderful Multivariable Calculus course as an example of an "advanced" course that is not an Advanced Placement course. Note, however, that this course cannot be used as a reason to eliminate Advanced Placement courses: it has AP Calculus as prerequisite! It could not be an "advanced course" without AP Calculus.

4) AP courses are essential for preparation to top medical schools.

Unless one takes a GPA-busting workload of more than one lab science course concurrently in college (or take expensive summer courses that preclude valuable hospital internships), it is impossible to complete a strong pre-med program before the MCAT without AP credits in the sciences. Add the numbers: the top pre-med programs require at least 1 year of biology, 2.5 years of chemistry, and 1 year of physics, or 4.5 years of sciences in total; MCAT's take place in the third year of college.

Those advocating the elimination of AP courses have the obligation to disclose this consequence of their proposal to Stuyvesant students with pre-med interests.

5) AP courses fulfill language requirements.

Many universities accept a high AP score in lieu of 2 years of required foreign languages. Students with such AP credits can benefit by graduating early, taking more courses in their major, taking more electives, or starting another foreign language.

It is obvious that AP courses are valuable: students across the country are voting with their actions, and they are choosing to take more, not fewer, AP and IB courses. It is true that certain private schools made fashionable but passing publicity with the New York Times by loudly dropping their AP offerings. On closer examination, however, you will find that although Phillips Exeter, an excellent institution worthy of competing with Stuyvesant, dropped the AP designation from its calculus course, the course description nevertheless states that the course prepares the student for the AP Calculus exam (same with their physics, etc. courses). As for smaller private schools actually dropping their AP courses, they were never strong in math and sciences; while they protest that they offer "equally rigorous" alternatives, one suspects they lack the faculty resources and student brainpower to sustain a solid AP program.

Eliminating AP courses will have disproportionate impact on the economically disadvantaged and recent immigrant families, as well as on Stuyvesant students seeking excellence in math, sciences and medicine in the Stuyvesant tradition. Let us make sure that the interests of these vital constituencies at Stuyvesant are promoted, if not just protected, in any decision.

Independent Research Article: The Diary of a Mad Senior

by Sarah Outhwaite, Opinions Editor of The Spectator

Editor's Note: Many of you heard the excellent student presentations at the January 18th Parents' Association General Meeting, which focused on independent research. Sarah Outhwaite had previously written the following article on her project for the student newspaper, The Spectator. We reprint it here for your reading pleasure and to give you an idea of the benefits--and the delights--of independent research.

I handed my Intel paper in to the National Science Talent Search on November 15th. Actually, I ought to be specific: I handed in 10 months of my life, a huge chunk of my soul.

I feel a bit like a soldier who wakes up in a field hospital with a strange tingling in her toes, to be told that her leg has been amputated. It's hard to believe that it's gone when it still seems attached.

I could also compare it to coming out of the dark after a long trip underground, and squinting in pain at the unexpected light. It's a relief and a blow at the same time.

Considering the emotional reaction I am having, I reflect on the irony of the whole situation. If someone had told me a year ago that I would turn in a computer science Intel, I would have laughed in his face. "I'm an English student," I would have said. "I'm struggling through the first months of Advanced Placement Computer Science, surrounded by boys, thoroughly intimidated, and the last thing I want in my junior year is more work."

Somehow, despite this attitude, January 2004 found me deep in conversation with my teacher, Mike Zamansky, over the possibility of doing an Intel. Somehow, I convinced myself that what I really wanted was a

massive dollop of independent research to go along with my mid-year stress.

Yes, I was insane.

I am still insane because, much blood and sweat later, I have discovered that I really did want that project. I am a mad, mad, mad senior who is so proud of her Intel that she has printed out copies of her paper, and is running about shoving it under her friends' noses, sad-puppy-facing them into reading it.

I am madly proud because I came up with a project in which I was madly interested, and learned mad stuff from the experience. (I wrote a program to create computer generated poetry. If there was room enough in The Spectator, I'd talk your ear off about how enjoyable this was. The English student within me salivated and barked with glee for about 10 months.)

I am also madly proud because I overcame the stunting notion that I was not quite sharp and abstract enough to go hardcore with anything scientific. This was incurred after many years of high 80's math and science grades.

That assumption has since died a rather violent death.

Finally, I am madly proud because I finished

it. How often does someone start a lovely project, only to be distracted by a pretty, shiny object in the middle? I know I've done that. The act of finishing the paper---handing it in all smooth and stapled---was an achievement in itself.

So. Juniors! What can you conclude from this homily of joy and morbid exhaustion?

That you should all do Intels, of course! Preferably in computer science, because it's just that chill---if you take into account my extreme personal bias.

Really, though. This is one experience that I feel nobody should pass up. I base this entirely upon the argument that what is good for me is good for everyone. If you believe that, go talk to your teachers. Tell them that you are crazy, and that you want to do scientific research. (It's a good combination.)

Of course, the Intel Talent Search is a competition. But as with many lovely things in life, it's not whether you win or lose. It's all about how you pick the project, code the project, freeze the computer, smash the computer, and write the paper. It's about how you play the game.

Originally published in Volume XCV, Issue 6 of The Spectator: November 30th, 2004

Please join us in thanking and supporting the following donors to our Lunar Feast and Benefit:

The Korean Parents Association,
Sandra Jang, President
John Henry Healey and Paula J.
Olsiewski
Charlie DiPialo and Pompeo De Renda
of Dominick's of Arthur Avenue
Susan and Chuck Huizinga
Jin and Hannah Li
Chana Gazit and David Stewart
Jan Mathews
Ronnie Bauch and Sandra Applebaum
Gloria Pastell
Norman Cheung
Naomi Bushman and Testing Plus
Ellen Meier and Swiss Air
Kal Chany and Campus Consultants
Hudson Street Wines and Spirits
Chambers Street Wines
Elizabeth Lee
Lori Pandolfo
Ellen Freudenhiem
Gary Lincoff
Barbara Tepper
Hitoshi Nakazato
Elizabeth Roistacher
Susan Horton and Susan Horton Design
Paul Rosenblum and Caramoor Center
for Music and Arts
Lori Peterson and Peter Dunne
Harvey Blumm
Diana Wilderstein
John Mui
Mike Kowalski of Gotham Bikes
Stephanie Butler of Princeton Review

Peter Frank and Cornick, Gaber and
Sandler, LLP
Dan Wiener
Amie Gross
Gail King and Pilates Bodywise Fitness
Simeon Baum
Alan Tepper
Seth A. Akabas and Akabas & Cohen
Libby Naumova
Susan Mansell
Sarah Morgridge
Marilena Christodoulou
Suet Chan
Nann Flornoi
Kathy Yu
Lu Ming Li
Dara as seen at Barney's NY
Margo Morrison as seen at
ABC Carpet & Home
Lappin Paoli
Helen Drivas
Rona Berg
Michael Warren of Cupcake Cafe
Ramesh Shah of Salaam Bombay
Ray Colovic of Ecco
Steve Abramaovitz of Odeon
Waldy Malouf of Beacon Rest. & Bar
Adrian Skenderi of Taverna Kyclades
Karen Waltuck of Chanterelle
Anthony Catanzaro of Portobello Pizza
Antonio of Ana's Restaurant
Fresh Direct
Anonymous
Jan and Ben Miller

Gina Anderson
Anne Richer
Mike of Rocky Mountain Chocolate
Silver's Salon
Lou Giansante
Karen Gaynin
Andy Liu of Liu's International Enterprise
William Chiu of American Fujian Assn of
Commerce & Industry
Gigi Loizzo
Chandra Chanhan
Doris Hernandez
Judith Sokoloff
Pearl River Merchants
Naomi Boyce
Steve Boyce
Shelley Crandall
Lauren Coleman-Lochner
Sumiko Takeda Nakazato
Miriam Boyce
Shun Lee Restaurant
Inches, Inc.
Atelier Byzantium
Revlon Spa
Nancy Litsas
Kerry O'Connell
Linda A. Fairstein
Valerie & Allen Hobbs
Siu Li Gogowilt
Jeff Golden
Barbara Zahler-Gringer
Maggi Knox
**....and all those who bid and/or won
items, making it all worthwhile!**

3月17日: 華人家長會將於3月17日(星期四)舉辦今年第一次的座談會。時間: 6:30 – 9:00。

地點: 史岱文森高中 – 5樓餐廳。節目內容包括學校學業和課外及課後活動的重要性問題和解答。講員也將會解釋什麼是個人資料檔案(SSR – School Secondary Report)。此外, 講員也會告訴大家(尤其11年級的家長) 個人資料檔案和老師的推荐信(Teacher Recommendation)有什麼不一樣。我們也將邀請12年級的學生來告訴家長他們個人參加學校和校外活動的經驗 – 關於義工, 運動, 學生組織... 等。希望家長們踴躍參加這次的座談會。我們也將於五月初再舉辦另一次的座談會, 請大家試目以待。

學校開放週: 學校將於4月4日(星期一)到4月6日(星期三)舉辦學校開放週。家長可利用這段時間去學校參觀學生上課的情形。還有學校將於4月7日(晚上)及4月8日(下午)舉行家長和老師的會談。如果家長在與老師的會談需要中文口譯, 您可以打電話給學校的家長聯絡人(Harvey Blumn – 212-312-4926) 而留下您的要求(可用國語或粵語留言)。

家長會議: 3月15日(星期二), 晚上7-9點 – 家長會有提供中文口譯

講員: Hear Eric Grossman (英文科副校長)

講題: 英文課程, 課外活動和節目(有關英文方面的)。

家長會選舉: 家長會將於5月24日(星期二)舉辦下學年度(2005-2006)的家長會成員及學校領導小組成員選舉。家長會成員包括會長(或共同會長), 第一副會長, 第二副會長, 會議秘書, 書信秘書, 財務長和助理財務長。學校領導小組成員(SLT)包括十年級, 十一年級和十二年級的成員。如需詳細的資料請參閱家長會的網站(www.stuyva.org)。希望有興趣參與的家長參加這次的選舉。您可用家長會刊的表格或到家長會的網站摘錄表格下來。您也可以到家長會辦公室(271室)或在3月15日的大會上拿到此種選舉表格。請在3月31日以前將您填好的表格傳真給Peggy Harvey (傳真電話: 212-587-3874)。家長也可在4月19日的家長會提名自己或提名他人。

家長會選舉委員會的成員包括 George Lee, Kathy Yu, Elizabeth Lee, Peter James and Ed Griffith.

家長也可將填好的表格寄至: Annual PA Elections Nominating Committee, Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association, 345 Chamber Street, New York, NY 10282

作文比賽: 家長會將舉辦一個十二年級的作文比賽 – 大約 500 個字。

題目: "Suppose the entire United States were populated by Stuyvesant students (or Stuy grads).

What would be the strengths and weaknesses of such a society?"

前五名的文章, 每個學生將得到\$1,000的獎學金。有與趣參與比賽的十二年級學生請在4月21日晚上10點(截止日期)以前, 把文章送到 magi@carin.org。如有問題, 請連絡 Maggi Knox (718) 499-3631。

大學專欄:

十二年級: 大部份的大學將於四月通知學生是否被錄取。如果學生被延遲進入他的第一志願的大學, 請學生盡快與大學連絡 – 告知大學您的志願和最近完成的事項。大學還是會看最後一學期的成績, 請學生繼續努力。

十一年級: 3月31日(星期四)-7:00pm, 大學辦公室主任(Abby Siegel) 和大學輔導員(Aileen Danaher) 將舉辦一個座談會, 請家長們踴躍參加(提供中文同步口譯)。Abby Siegel, Aileen Danaher 和她們的同仁已經開始個別(一次2至3位)與十一年級的學生舉行會談來教他們如何選擇大學。家長會將於3月的第三個星期發送大學手冊給學生, 請十一年級的家長注意學生是否取得此大學手冊。學生另外可免費索取中文翻譯的大學手冊。此外, 請學生注意 SAT1, SAT2 及 ACT 的考試日期。詳情請參閱 collegeboard.com 及 act.org。如有任何大學的問題, 家長也可以連絡學校的家長聯絡人(Harvey Blumn – 347-563-5099 和可用中文留言在 212-312-4926)。

一對一的會談: 家長會正努力在和 AP 的輔導員 Ms. Archie 溝通來舉辦一個一對一的大學會談(一次半小時)。家長將可單獨或與學生一起跟大學事務員面談大學的事務。這個會談可能將於四月初開始實施。請家長們密切注意日期。詳細情形請參閱 stuyva.org。

十年級和十一年級的大學之旅: 第三次(也是最後一次)的大學之旅將於四月一日至二日舉辦。這次的大學之旅將參觀紐約州的大學 – 包括康乃爾(Cornell), 州立賓漢頓大學... 等。申請表格可在 Ms.

Archie 的辦公室(103) 拿取. 如需要進一步的消息, 請連絡 Ms. Archie (事務副校長) 或 Melanie Cash (212)413-2100. 中國家長請連絡 Scott Lin 718-279-7187 或 Kathy Yu 718-591-6435.

農曆新年的慶祝晚會: 今年的農曆新年慶祝晚會已圓滿完成 - 總共有 450 位家長, 學生和其他贊助者參加. 家長會總共籌到\$20,000(正確數目還在計算中). 其中第一次舉辦的寂聲拍賣也籌到將近\$9,000. 這些款項將用來贊助下列的大學項目: 大學的輔導的服務, 大學手冊, 課外的學業輔導等.

AP考試登記: AP考試是在grades.stuy.edu 網上報名 - 2月1日至3月22日止. 這個網址將在3月22日中午12點整關閉. 學生的所有表格和支票必需在3月22日以前繳交到209室. 學生可在209室拿到AP考試的手冊.

學校的校曆:

3月15日, 4月19日, 5月24日, 6月21日(星期二) - 家長大會; 3月22日(星期二) - AP考試登記的截止日期; 4月1日至2日 - 大學之旅; 4月4日至4月6日 - 學校開放週; 4月7日和4月8日 - 家長和老師的會談; 4月25日至4月29日 - 春假; 5月5日(星期四) - 大學之夜; 6月27日(星期一) - 十二年級畢業典禮; 6月28日(星期二) - 本學期最後一天

(Korean Translation of the March 2005 PA Bulletin)

제한된 지면상으로 많은 것이 요약 되었으니 자세한 내용은 영문을 참조 바랍니다.

- **교장 선생님의 인사말:** 2 학기의 첫번째 Marking Period가 3월 19일로 끝납니다. Open School 주가 4월 4일 월요일부터 4월 8일 금요일 까지이며, 부모님과 선생님의 면담일자가 4월 7일, 목요일 저녁과 4월 8일 금요일 오후에 있습니다.

반약 부모님들께서 동시 통역이 필요하신분은, 동시 통역자의 도움을 받을 수 있는 권리가 있습니다. PA Coordinator, Harvey Blum, :212-312-4926 전화 주셔서 한국어로 Message를 남겨주세요.

- **이달의 학부모회 정기 월례회:** 3월 15일, 오후 7:00 - 9:00 까지이며, 학교 대강당에서 열립니다. 간단한 다과, 음료가 6:30 부터 준비되어 있습니다. 주제는 영어 Dept. 의 학과장이신, Eric Grossman 이 나오셔서, 영어 과목들에 대한 설명과, 몇몇 학생들과 학부모님들이 이에 관련된 과외 활동에 대해서 설명이 있겠습니다. 더 자세한 문의는 Gina Anderson, gsa1700@msn.com 으로 연락 하십시오.

- **12 학년들을 위한 학부모회 장학금 에세이 공모:** 학부모회에서는 현 12 학년을 대상으로 가장 잘된 5 에세이에 대해 각각 \$1,000 의 장학금을 드립니다. 약 500 단어들로 구성된 MS Word양식으로, 4월 21일 10:00pm까지 magi@gaim.org 로 이메일 보내 주십시오. 에세이 상단에 학생의 이름과 공식적인 반을 써 넣어 주세요. 하지만 이 정보는 에세이들을 읽고 평가하는 장학금 위원회에는 가지 않습니다(이에 대해 자세한 안내는 영문 참조 바람).

- **College Corner (대학 코너):** 모든 12 학년 학생들은 곧 올가을엔 어디에서 공부를 하게 될 지 알게 될 것입니다. 대부분의 대학들은 4월중으로 정규입학 허가를 보내드립니다. 학생들은 만약 그들의 첫번째 희망하는 학교로부터 연기 통보를 받았다면, 그 학교에 본인의 바뀌어진 새로운 정보와 함께 적극적으로 다시 한번 편지를 보내세요. 끝까지 열심히 최선을 다해야 합니다! 대학들은 12 학년 마지막 성적을 점검합니다.

11 학년: 11 학년 학생들과 부모님들은 돌아오는 3월 31일 목요일 (7:00pm), 대강당 에서 개최되는, College Office, 학과장이신 Abby Siegel과의 모임에 꼭 참석하실 것을 권유합니다. 3월 첫째주에 College Handbook을 Homeroom 에서

나눠줍니다 (더 필요하면 학부모회 모임에서 할 수도 있음). College Office 직원들은 지금 2-3 명의 학생들과 만남을 시작했고 어떻게 대학을 찾고 선정하는지에 대하여 안내 해주고 있습니다. 학생들은 스타이에서 오는 이메일을 잘 점검해야 하며, 앞으로 치뤄야 하는 SAT I, SAT II 또는 ACT 시험 일자들을 잘 챙겨야 합니다.

기억하세요: 스타이 PA Coordinator, Harvey Blumm께서 여러분의 질문을 도와드리고 있습니다. (212-312-4926, 347-563-5099, hblumm@stuy.edu) 한국어로 메시지를 남겨놓으시면 연락드립니다.

학생과 학부모 그리고 대학 관계자들과 일대일 면담: 학부모회에서는 AP/Guidance, Eleanor Archie 함께 College Office 직원들과 11학년 학생 및 학부모님을 위하여 30분씩 개인 면담 시간을 계획하고 있습니다. 면담은 많은 학생들이 SAT결과를 갖고 있을 4월부터 시작할 계획이며, 추후 자세한 것은 Stuy.org로 점검하세요.

- 10학년과 11학년들을 위한 뉴욕주에 위치한 대학탐방: 세번째이며 마지막으로 학부모회와 학교에서 공동으로 주최하는 뉴욕주 대학 탐방이 4월 첫째주에 있습니다. 2-3일 예정이며 Cornell 과 SUNY/Binghamton 이 포함됩니다. 10학년들도 11학년들과 같이 갈 수 있으니 많이 참여 바라며, 자세한 것은 Ms. Archie 또는 학부모이신 Melanie Cash, mcash@nyls.edu, 212-431-2100 으로 연락 바랍니다.

- 환상적인 축제: 지난 2월 4일, 2번째로 실시했던 구정맞이 대축제가 성공리에 맞았습니다. 450여명의 학부모 및 학생 그리고 동창생, 그의 많은분들이 참여 했으며, 약 20,000불 가까이 대학 자금을 위해 모아졌습니다. 11학년들의 대학진학을 위한 여러가지 활동에 쓰겠습니다. 이를 위해 도와 주신 여러분께 진심으로 감사드립니다.

- AP Exam - Deadline: grades.stuy.edu 온라인 등록과 함께 3월 22일 화요일 12시 정오까지 Check 를 Room 209에 지불해야 합니다.

학교 중요 일자들:

3/15 화 : 학부모회 정기 월례회 7:00pm (환담 : 6:30pm)	4/25-4/29 (월 - 금) : 봄 방학
3/22 화 : 12시 정오 AP 시험등록 마감	5/5 목 : College Night
4/4 -4/6 : Open House Week	5/23 화 : 5월 학부모 정기 월례회
4/7- 4/8 : 학부모/선생 면담	6/21 화 : 6월 학부모 정기 월례회
4/19 화 : 4월 학부모 정기 월례회 7:00 pm	6/28 화 : 학교 마지막 날

- 해마다 5월에 실시되는 학부모회 임원선출을 위한 후보자들과 각 학년들의 학교 운영 위원회 후보자 및 각 학년의 대표자를 뽑는 선거가 5월 24일 화요일, 정기 월례회에서 있습니다. 저희는 학부모회 임원에 관심있는 모든분들을 환영합니다. 여러분들은 또한 주위에 이런 일을 맡기에 적합한 분을 알고 계시면 적극적으로 추천해 주세요. 다양한 자리들이 있습니다 (영문 참조 또는 www.stuy.org).

자격 조건은 다음 학년도에 Stuy 의 학부모여야 하고, 학교에 소속돼 있지 않아야 합니다.

위의 후보자 추천서는 PA 웹사이트에서 다운로드 받을 수도 있으며, 아래의 양식을 쓸 수도 있고 혹시 더 필요하신분은 Room 271, PA office, Peggy Harvey한테 받을 수도 있으며, 3월 15일 학부모회에서 얻을 수 있습니다.

완성된 양식을 3월 31일까지 Peggy Harvey (Tel: 212-312-4800 x 2711/ Fax: 212-587-3874)로 보내 주시거나, 선거위원회의 임원들에게 전해 줄 수도 있습니다. 또한 4월 19일 화요일 정기 월례회에서 추천을 해주셔도 됩니다.

선거 위원회 일원들 : George Lee, Kathy Yu, Elizabeth Lee, Peter James, Ed Griffith.

___ 나는 2005-2006학년도에 학부모회 임원으로 봉사하고자 합니다.

Parent's Name _____
Child's Name _____
Telephone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____
E-Mail _____

나는 다음의 임원직에 입후보 하고자 합니다. : _____

본인의 자격요건이나 과거의 경험이 있으시면 별지를 첨부하십시오.

위의 양식과 함께 우편으로 :

Annual Pa Elections Nominating Committee
Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association
345 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10282

345 Chambers Street, Room 271
New York, NY 10282

Bulletin

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL



THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL

Bulletin

www.stuyipa.org

Issue 6, March 2005

Stuyvesant Parents' Association Website

Information is also available at the Stuyvesant PA website, www.stuyipa.org

SCHOOL CONTACT INFO

Stuyvesant High School
345 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10282
212-312-4800
www.stuy.edu

Candidates Sought For Parents' Association Elections In May

The Annual Elections of PA officers and School Leadership Team (SLT) class representatives will take place at the General PA Meeting on Tuesday, May 24.

Candidates are being sought for: President or Co-President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and SLT representatives for next year's sophomore, junior and senior classes.

Detailed descriptions and downloadable forms may be found on the PA website (www.stuyipa.org).

Forms are also available on page 2 of this Bulletin, at the March 15 PA meeting or from Peggy Harvey in the PA office, Room 271 at Stuy.

Stuyvesant PA Bulletin

The PA Bulletin is published monthly by the Stuyvesant High School Parents' Association. It is mailed to parents one week before most Parents' Association general meetings. Contributions and suggestions are welcome. Please contact Tony Micocci (tony@micocci.com) or Lauren Coleman-Lochner (lochner@rcn.com), Bulletin Co-Editors.

Many thanks to this month's contributors, Gina Anderson, Simeon Baum, Miriam Boyce, Lauren Coleman-Lochner, Maggi Knox, Karen Mooney, Sumiko Takeda Nakazato, Lori Pandolfo, Stanley Teitel, to Sandra Jang and Scott Kuoming Lin for their invaluable assistance in translation; and to Dan Gonzalez for his layout work.