



HOFSTRA
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pride and purpose

Family Connection

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY PARENT AND FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012

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Hofstra University to Host Presidential Debate in 2012

University hosting presidential debate for second time

On October 31, 2011, the Commission on Presidential Debates announced that it had chosen Hofstra University for the site of the October 16, 2012, presidential debate, which will be in the “town meeting” format. The Commission on Presidential Debates, a nonprofit, nonpartisan corporation, has sponsored and produced every presidential and vice presidential debate since 1988. Hofstra University hosted the third and final presidential debate of the 2008 election cycle, between then Senator Barack Obama and Senator John McCain, on October 15, 2008.

“I am absolutely delighted that the Commission on Presidential Debates has chosen to return to Hofstra University for one of America’s most important political events,” said Hofstra University President Stuart Rabinowitz. “It was an extraordinary experience for our students and faculty in 2008 that allowed our

community to witness, firsthand, the democratic process. I am so pleased that another generation of Hofstra students will be able to witness history and become involved in an active and meaningful way.”

The University will again host an election-themed event series to inspire and engage students. “During the last presidential election, Educate ’08, our award-winning event series, gave students the opportunity to learn from some of our country’s greatest political minds and journalists, travel to primary sites, and volunteer or intern with political or media organizations. It touched students and faculty in almost every academic discipline,” said President Rabinowitz. “With Hofstra’s unique academic strengths and our vibrant academic programs in political science, journalism and mass media, business, medicine and law, we will take advantage of the special

opportunities a presidential debate offers. In 2008, thousands of students were involved – speaking out at town hall meetings, interning and volunteering, helping with DebateWatch programs, or taking special courses, and we expect even greater participation in 2012. We will use our experience and every opportunity to involve students, faculty and the community in this historic event.”

President Rabinowitz also announced that David S. Mack, Hofstra alumnus and secretary of the Hofstra University Board of Trustees, has made a commitment to help underwrite the cost of hosting the 2012 presidential debate. “The generosity of David S. Mack allows us to host an event of this magnitude, benefiting thousands of students and showcasing our great University, without using tuition dollars. We are grateful for his leadership and commitment to Hofstra and the democratic process.”

Continued on page 2.

Hofstra University to Host Presidential Debate in 2012 *continued*

Hofstra's exemplary resources and scholars – like the Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency; Meena Bose, the Peter S. Kalikow Chair in Presidential Studies; Senior Presidential Fellows Howard Dean and Ed Rollins; and the Hofstra Cultural Center and its presidential conferences – make the University one of the very few institutions in the country with a unique focus on the presidency. Beginning in 1982 with a conference on Franklin D. Roosevelt, Hofstra Cultural Center has presented a conference on each president thereafter, culminating in the 11th presidential conference, *William Jefferson Clinton: The "New Democrat" From Hope*, held in November 2005. A conference examining George W. Bush is scheduled for 2015.

The University is also home to the interdisciplinary Center for Civic Engagement and the National Center for Suburban Studies at Hofstra University®, a nonpartisan research institution dedicated to promoting objective, academically rigorous study of suburbia's problems and promise.

"Hosting the debate will allow us to showcase Hofstra University and Long Island, our nation's first suburb, to a national and international audience," said President Rabinowitz. "We are looking forward to again welcoming journalists from around the world to our campus."

Hofstra University will again host the debate at the David S. Mack Sports and Exhibition Complex, and the adjoining David S. Mack Physical Education Center will be designated for media. Hundreds of journalists from around

the world and all major networks, as well as the Commission on Presidential Debates, will utilize the David S. Mack Physical Education Center. Other Hofstra University facilities have been selected for support services for media and visitors. The University once again received unanimous support from local, regional, statewide and federal officials, as well as all local and regional public agencies.

The ticket policy will be the same as in 2008: Only Hofstra students will be able to apply to volunteer or enter the lottery for the debate tickets. Leading up to the debate, Hofstra will host many events related to the debate and many of them will be open to the public. Please read our *Family Link* e-newsletter for updates.

For more information, please visit hofstra.edu/debate.

Finding My Passion by Mike Bantegui, Class of 2012

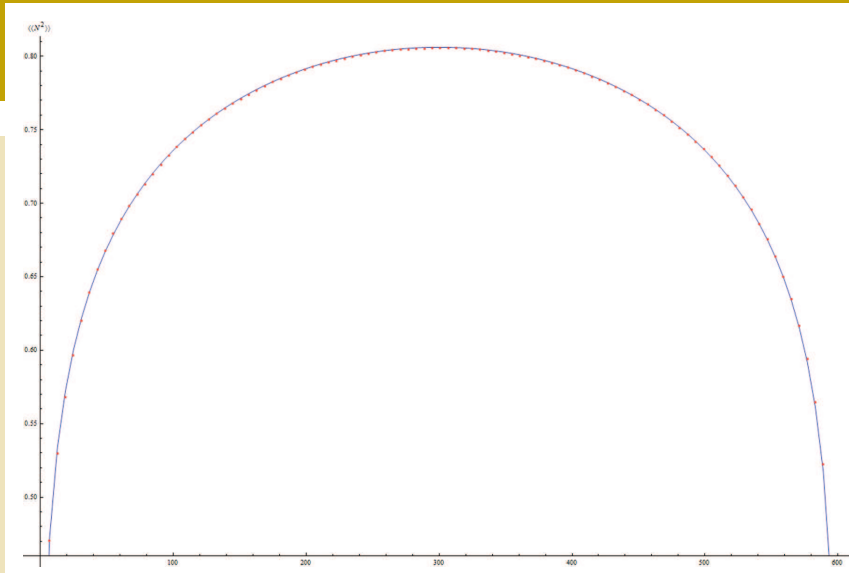
My name is Mike Bantegui, and I'm currently a senior at Hofstra University. I'm pursuing a dual major in applied physics and computer science; I've had a passion for science my whole life. I chose Hofstra because classes were so small that you could really get to know your professors. In my time here I've had countless opportunities to work with many of the professors in my major departments.

Just this past summer I had an opportunity to do a research internship at the Center for Condensed Matter Research within the Department of Physics at Hofstra University. I worked alongside Dr. Gregory Levine and a friend of mine, Joe Berg, on research in the area of condensed matter physics, which is a field within physics that deals with the properties of ultracold subatomic gases.

The research I was involved with dealt with a one-dimensional system of particles known as fermions. One such fermion you may be familiar with is the electron. In the research I did this past summer, I wrote simulations of this one-dimensional system in which the fermions hopped between two sides of this system. We did calculations of a measure of disorder of the system, known as entropy, and found some unexpected results.

Our simulation, which was specifically of an initially disordered system, reproduced well known results in non-disordered systems. But in some cases, it actually showed some behavior that we still can't explain yet.

The work I did this summer was just one of the many opportunities Hofstra afforded me. In fact, it was already a continuation from previous research I did two summers ago that was in the same area of research. Thanks to my professors here at Hofstra, I've been able to pursue my passion and get real work done in areas that interest me. I'm happy to say that each year I've spent at Hofstra has been worth it.



Mike notes, "This shows one of the major results produced. The plot is specifically of the number fluctuations of the system as a function of time, and it shows a perfect match with an exact result that's been calculated previously."

Spring 2012 Room Selection

Dear Parents and Families:

Each year during the spring semester, residential students participate in the room selection process and secure living accommodations on campus for the upcoming academic year. Students can choose one of the following options:

1. Participate in "homesteading," whereby they reserve their current room/suite for the next year or opt to live with another residential student in his or her current room/suite next year.
2. Select a new room during the lottery process. The housing lottery selection provides students with the opportunity to select accommodations in the living area that best supports their academic needs and preferences.

If students are unsure whether they are eligible to homestead (i.e., because their current living area is designated first year students only), they should contact their building resident director. Please note: All room requests are subject to availability.

Listed below are the criteria for a student to participate in the annual room selection process. The student must:

- ▶ Be a registered resident student for spring 2012. (Commuting and study abroad students may secure on-campus accommodations as long as they meet all other eligibility requirements.)
- ▶ Pay the \$300 housing deposit by the designated deadline. For students who wish to homestead their rooms, the deposit deadline is March 12, 2012. Students going through the lottery process should submit their deposit by March 16, 2012.
- ▶ Have lived on campus for no more than eight (8) semesters.
- ▶ Have no outstanding financial balances on their Hofstra University account.

For details regarding this process, please visit the Residential Programs website at hofstra.edu/reslife.

We look forward to having your student be part of our residential community next year.

Sincerely,

Novia Whyte
Associate Director of Residential Programs for Housing/Occupancy



New FAFSA Procedures

Each year a percentage of all FAFSA applications are selected by the Department of Education to verify income reported. Beginning in 2012-2013, the FAFSAs selected will require the student's [and parent(s) if the student is dependent] 2011 federal Tax Return Transcript; photocopies of tax returns are no longer acceptable. The process to request the transcript will significantly delay federal financial aid processing, and therefore we encourage you to request the 2011 transcript in advance (after you file your income tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service). If your FAFSA application is selected for verification, the Financial Aid Office at Hofstra will notify students via their Hofstra Pride email account. To request the free copy of the 2011 Tax Return Transcript, visit irs.gov or call 1-800-908-9946. The 2012-2013 FAFSA filing deadline is February 15, 2011.

To avoid complications, we encourage students to contact the Office of Student Financial Services in advance to clear up any outstanding balances and pay the required deposit prior to the deadline.

Encourage Your Student to Be a LEADER!

The Blue and Gold Leadership Program is calling for first-year students and sophomores with the potential and desire to lead. For more information or an application, students may stop by the Office of Student Leadership and Activities (OSLA) (located in 260 Mack Student Center, North Campus) or visit hofstra.edu/osla.



Fall Festival: Alumni, Student and Family Weekend 2011

More than 1,700 parents and family members attended Hofstra University's Fall Festival, September 23-25, 2011. Please join us again this year for the Fall Festival 2012, September 28-30!



2010 royalty: Andrew Schuetz and Brianna Guys



Nicole Burke and Nicholas Schweers were crowned the 2011 Fall Festival king and queen.

continued



Tau Epsilon Phi and Alpha Phi's Addams Family-themed float in the Fall Festival parade.



Fireworks by Grucci was a wonderful end to our outdoor celebration.

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK 2012

Hofstra's Alternative Spring Break program was initiated in 2006 when the Office of Student Leadership and Activities (OSLA) collaborated with the Interfaith Center and Student Government Association to volunteer in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. This tradition is still going strong with OSLA sponsoring this year's Alternative Spring Break trip to El Paso, Texas! Twelve students and two administrators will travel to El Paso to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, an international nonprofit organization that builds homes for families in need. Students will volunteer during the day by helping to build a home for a local El Paso family, and in the evenings, students will explore the Texan/Mexican culture of the city. Every evening we will also hold reflection sessions to allow students the opportunity to discuss the work they are performing each day. Reflection is a vital part of any service-learning trip.



HOFSTRA'S CHEER AND DANCE TEAMS UPHOLD NATIONAL TITLES



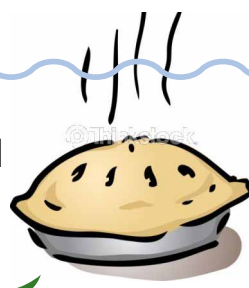
On January 15, 2012, the Hofstra Cheer and Dance Teams both placed first in their divisions at the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA)/Universal Dance Association (UDA), College National Championship in Orlando, Florida. The Hofstra Cheer Team's first place finish on January 15, 2012, marks the seventh national championship for the team since 2003. Previous small coed titles came in 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011, and the team has ranked among the nation's top ten teams for more than a decade.

"The team concentrated on bonding and creating a family atmosphere. In addition to other team-building exercises, the athletes watched *The Miracle* to further gain inspiration," remarks Coed Cheer Team Coach Christine Farina. Last November the

team was chosen by Varsity Brands Inc. to represent the USA at the 2011 European Open Cheer Championship held in Paris, France. The Hofstra Cheer Team returned home with first place honors.

Hofstra's Dance Team took home four first place titles, three of which were won at the UDA World Competition. The fourth first place title was in the hip-hop competition. In addition, the team also placed second in jazz. "At the end of last year we saw the opportunity for growth, and stepped up the audition process. With a great group of new talent and the strength of returning members, our energetic work ethic allows us to stick to our theme of 'dance as one,'" says Head Dance Team Coach Kelly Olsen-Leon.

The Hofstra Parent Council
presents



Cooking With Pride

(Hofstra PRIDE, that is)

Our first-ever *Hofstra Family Cookbook* features delicious recipes from all over the United States and around the world!

- We are asking each of our Hofstra families to send in their favorite recipe. If you have a sweet tooth ... **send a dessert recipe.** If you have an amazing recipe for Grandma's meatloaf ... **send it on over!**
- Your recipe will be featured in a professionally designed cookbook and can even include a brief message or dedication to your Hofstra student.
- The cost of the cookbook, which will include your recipe and your greeting, is only \$20 and will be a treasured keepsake and useful tool!

How to submit your recipe and greeting:

Please send the completed form below, with your check made payable to Hofstra University, to:
Office of Parent and Family Programs, 200 Phillips Hall, 128 Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY 11549-1280.
Please attach a copy of your recipe as well as a brief greeting to your Hofstra student.

For example, your greeting can be:
Way to go, Charlie and the Hofstra Class of 2015!
or
We love you, Melissa, and are so proud of you!

HOFSTRA FAMILY COOKBOOK FORM

The Hofstra Parent Council is "cooking up" something wonderful and wants you to be part of it!

Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Number of Cookbooks Requested: _____ x \$ 20 = _____

Please submit your recipes by Monday, March 5, 2012.
If you have questions, please call the Office of Parent and Family Programs at 516-463-4698 or email parents@hofstra.edu.
The cookbook sales will benefit Hofstra student programming.

Parent Council's Message

Just as our sons and daughters have joined the Hofstra community, so have we. We invite you to join us as active members of the Hofstra Parent Council. The Parent Council serves as a vehicle for parents of current students to communicate ideas, questions and concerns to the University. The group focuses on the advancement of knowledge about the University; effective communication between parents, administrators and students; assisting in the recruitment of new students; and conducting fundraising efforts that directly benefit current students.

Council member activities include:

- Serving as an advisory group, communicating with University administrators on ways to improve service to students and their families.
- Being accessible by phone or email for current and prospective parents.
- Following up with parents to confirm that they received the needed support or information.
- Serving as hosts, representatives and/or panelists for parent programs at various University-sponsored events, such as Admitted Student Day, Parent Orientation and Family Weekend.
- Promoting fundraising efforts, and joining and encouraging parent participation in the Parent Fund.



Parent Council members (left to right)
Wendy Schuetz, Terry Greis and Linda Joyce.

If you are interested in joining the Hofstra Parent Council, we encourage you to attend one of our monthly meetings on the Hofstra campus (at about 6 p.m. EST). Even if you don't live close to Hofstra, it's easy to participate in the meetings via conference call.

Our latest Parent Council's fundraising effort, the Chance Auction during this fall's Family Weekend, raised \$3,500 for student programming. Not bad for our first try!

For more information on how to become a member, please contact the Office of Parent and Family Programs at 516-463-4698 or parents@hofstra.edu.

Hofstra Parents, Hofstra Pride!
Linda and Peter Joyce, P '13



Hofstra's Fall 2011 Parent Council

Karen Bantegui (P '12) – East Meadow, NY
Terese Bendig (P '15) – Plainview, NY
Beverly Benz Treuille (P '14) – New York, NY
Gail Cohen (P '13) – New Hyde Park, NY
Missy and Rich Faul (P '13) – Randolph, NJ
Teresa A. Greis (P '12) – Commack, NY
Linda and Peter Joyce (P '11) – Commack, NY
Terry Kleid (P '12) – San Francisco, CA
Vera Majerski (P '14) – Massapequa, NY

Linda Mangano (P '14) – Bethpage, NY
Linda C. Rosero (P '15) – Roslyn Heights, NY
Teresa Schloth (P '14) – Lynbrook, NY
Phil and Wendy Schuetz (P '11) – Knoxville, TN
Marlayne and Robert Sick (P '15) – Monroe, NY
Al Sodaro and Desiree Daniels-Sodaro (P'15) – Robbinsville, NJ
Eleanor Stentiford (P '14) – Dix Hills, NY
Joan Weibman (P '13) – Great Neck, NY
Venetia Williams (P '12) – Elmont, NY

If you want to get in touch with a Parent Council member, email parents@hofstra.edu.



What's Coming Up?

Siblings Day • Saturday, February 18, 2012

Hofstra Siblings Day is a fun-filled day sponsored by the Office of Parent and Family Programs and the Resident Student Association. Hofstra students may host up to two brothers, sisters or relatives (ages 13-17) and are responsible for and must accompany them at all times. Transportation to campus is not provided. The registration fee of \$30 per child covers most meals and activities.

Hofstra resident students have planned fun activities, including games, a Hofstra Men's basketball game, movie night, and even a traditional college late-night breakfast! Participants leave with a perspective of college life and their own "Siblings Day" T-shirt. To register please visit hofstra.edu/sibs.

Spring Family Day • Saturday, April 28, 2012

Spring Family Day, a smaller version of the fall Family Weekend, will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012. This is a great opportunity to visit your daughter or son in the spring semester and participate in fun campus events. For more information, please visit hofstra.edu/sfd.



Commencement • Sunday, May 20, 2012

Undergraduate Ceremony: 11 a.m.
For more information please visit hofstra.edu/commencement.

Summer 2012 Parent Orientation

Parents of incoming first-year students are invited to attend a daylong parent orientation on the first day of their student's New Student Orientation program. Get to know our Hofstra family. Please visit hofstra.edu/po or call 516-463-4698 for more information.

Hofstra Fall Festival: Alumni, Student and Family Weekend 2012

Don't miss our biggest event on Friday-Sunday, September 28-30, 2012, featuring musical performances, model classes and other fabulously fun celebrations!

Office of Parent and Family Programs

Phone: 516-463-4698 • Fax: 516-463-7017 • Email: parents@hofstra.edu • Website: hofstra.edu/parents



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