The Comer Geochemistry Building is Columbia’s first certified LEED project which can be credited to its high efficiency chillers and light fixtures. Read more on page 8.

BLIZZARDS HIT CAMPUS AND CHALLENGE CLEAN-UP

Facilities Ground and Waste staff were indomitable snowmen and women who cleared the campus of ice over 15 of February’s 28 days. Read more on page 10.

This newsletter and additional publications are available at facilities.columbia.edu/newsletters
Dear Facilities,

I thought I should update you all on the status of the Lewisohn studio. Anthony Botti has been great—very helpful and responsive during this entire process. I have appreciated his attention to getting the space ready.

Karen Fairbanks  
*Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Professional Practice and Chair, Architecture*  
*Barnard College*

The superintendent at 150 Claremont Ave, Angel Diaz, consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty in his job. He is knowledgeable, works efficiently, and is both approachable and considerate. I am very happy with the job he has been doing during the recent elevator repairs.

Nathanael Shelley  
*Student, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences*

On behalf of everyone at the Earth Institute, I would like to thank Janet Averill and Keith George for their excellent work this summer with the second phase of our renovation of Hogan Hall. Our new space has enhanced everyone’s view of the Earth Institute. Instead of apologizing for the condition of the space, we now brag about the beauty of our new conference rooms, workstations and lobby. Janet and Keith not only met, but exceeded every expectation. They handled our tight time lines, very limited budget, changes in plans, additional requests for work, and constant nagging with a grace and professionalism that is unmatched. We cannot thank Keith George or Janet Averill enough, and we hope to work with them again and again over the next few years as the Earth Institute continues to grow. Wishing you a wonderful 2010 and a wonderful holiday.

Steve Cohen  
*Executive Director, The Earth Institute*  
*Director, Master of Public Administration Program in Environmental Science and Policy, School of International and Public Affairs*

I just want to say that you guys are marrrrvellouss! The powerwashing of the [Hogan Hall] steps really has made them look a 100 times better, and I see the guys over here every morning doing a quick sweep. It makes all the difference. Thank you so much!

Hilary Cisneros Dewhurst  
*Assistant Director, Facilities & Operation, Earth Institute*

Thank you so much for sending us Robert (Kishun)! He is amazingly figuring out the problem. I really appreciate that.

Grace Lee  
*Laboratory Associate, Chemistry, Barnard College*

I’d like to commend the painters who worked to repair the walls in Butler 519 this week (January 22, 2010). The coordination between all parties and the workmanship were excellent. We can’t tell where the patches and the existing walls meet! Being able to schedule this kind of work in a staff area on the second shift worked well for us helping to reduce the disruption in the department. Having responsive and responsible mechanics on the job was key too. Many thanks to our painters and Marah for a job very well done.

Aline Locascio  
*Library Facilities Coordinator, Butler Library*

I would like to thank everyone in Facilities for their hard work and the excellent job keeping everything running 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It must be tough to run an operation that is expected to be up all the time. It was exceptionally well done this year. We had many less problems than ever before and the reported problems were taken care of quickly.

I also would like to thank Anthony Roberts and William Hoffman for their dedication and hard working. If not for their determination, we would not be able to get the much needed additional air conditioning unit installed in time for the semester and the research projects.

To the people like Anthony and Bill and the management that have been working hard to keep improving the Columbia facilities, on behalf of the Computer Science Department, I would like to say thank you for your effort.

Daisy Nguyen  
*Director, Computing Research Facilities, Computer Science Department*
I wanted to take a moment to especially thank the Columbia University Facility Department, specifically, Joshua Morrison, Marah Arbaje, and Rita Nascimento. Since joining Columbia University in November, you all have been exceptional in your professionalism and dedication in assisting us with Health Services facility requests. Thank you all for your kind and warm welcome and the knowledge you share daily. I want you all to know your efforts and hard work are invaluable and do not go unnoticed. Thank you for your spirit of service excellence, and I look forward to working with all of you in the New Year.

Joe DeGise
Clinical Systems Specialist, Health Services at Columbia

I am in the process of moving from my UAH apartment at 501 W. 121 Street. I just wanted to send along a brief note about how great a job Eddie Maldonado has done as a super in this building since I moved in. Eddie is one of the most helpful, hard-working, and genuinely concerned people I’ve met in my time at Columbia. One constantly hears bad things about supers in NYC, but thankfully Eddie has been an exception. Thank you for your help.

Mark Watson
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Art History
Columbia University

“… the super at the Arbor - a fellow named Dragos Sisu, who is absolutely fantastic and by far the single nicest and most helpful Columbia bldg staff person I’ve ever met…”

Kevin Ochsner
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

I went in for an early meeting yesterday morning, and couldn’t believe how good the campus looked. Slogging along side streets and crossing Broadway, one would never have imagined that such a thing as clear sidewalks and safe steps were possible. You and your team did a simply extraordinary job of keeping the campus open and usable. I heard comments across the day about how hardworking and helpful (and good-spirited) people in Facilities had been throughout. Joe and you [Matt Early], with your deeply-held commitments to the University and to a service orientation, have set a tone for Facilities that was clearly expressed in the way your team made it possible for so many other parts of the campus to do what it needed to on Thursday and Friday (and today too).

Roxie R. Smith
Vice Provost
Columbia University
After a rough winter marked by two blizzards, it’s safe to say that we are all welcoming spring with open arms. It took about 40 of our team members and endless hours of work to remove the upwards of 2,000 tons of ice and snow that dominated our campus grounds. Looking at the budding trees and clear walkways, it’s hard to believe that 18+ inches of snow swept over our area (see the evidence and stats on page 10). Thanks to you we were able to quickly restore Morningside campus to regular operations.

Together we have come through many storms successfully. We began 2010 by making history, as the award-winning Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building became the University’s first project to earn the U.S. Green Building Council’s prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, at a silver rating (more on page 8). The Comer Building is highlighted by numerous sustainable features brought about by your expertise and commitment to the University’s goal of creating environmentally responsible spaces. It is joined by the Journalism School’s Stabile Student Center, which received two awards—the Institute of Architects (AIA) Design Honor Award and an Annual Design Review Award from ARCHITECT magazine (page 5).

This new year has also delivered some additional firsts for us. In December, we teamed up with our colleagues across the University for the first ever “Clean, Give, + Go Green,” where we collected 11.5 large bins filled with clothing, 2.5 bins of coats, 2.8 bins of books, and numerous computer equipment for recycling and donation. Also, through the participation of our Operations and Public Safety teams in the first ever Columbia Community Service (CCS) Basketball Tournament, we were able to help raise close to $1,500 for CCS’s annual appeal, which supports local food pantries, after-school programs, and community-based nonprofits (see page 7).

Many of you continue to go above and beyond the call of duty. One fine example is Luis Gautreau, a porter in Operations, who bravely assisted in the apprehension of a robbery suspect (page 13). Luis joins other outstanding employees who were honored during the Public Safety Awards (page 9).

As we shake off our boots and hang up our heavy coats, let’s celebrate winter’s end, the many (more!) babies joining our Facilities family (page 14), as well as our achievements thus far.

Joe Ienuso
Construction Projects

Journalism School’s Student Center Receives Design Awards

Since its completion in September 2008, the Toni Stabile Student Center has served as a social, study, and event space for the Journalism School. Its design has been hailed by students and staff members alike, but now the construction industry is taking interest in Columbia’s center, awarding it an American Institute of Architects (AIA) Design Honor Award and an Annual Design Review Award from ARCHITECT magazine, the top award in the category “Grow,” for educational, science, and healthcare projects.

Occupying approximately 8,000 square feet of previously unused exterior space between Furnald Hall and Journalism Hall, the Toni Stabile Student Center includes an accompanying café and multipurpose social hub. With its addition, students and faculty are now capable of enjoying much needed natural lighting and views through the center’s glass enclosure, which can be raised to permit fresh air from its large, double-hung window.

Each year, the Institute of Architects (AIA) New York Chapter recognizes select projects and the architecture firms behind them with a Design Award. This year, there were thirty-four winning designs out of 425 entries in four categories: interiors; unbuilt work; urban design; and architecture—the category in which the Stabile Center competed against close to 200 submissions. Each winning project, granted either an “honor” or “merit” award, was chosen for its exemplary originality. The criteria used by the juries included design quality, program resolution, innovation, thoughtfulness and technique.

ARCHITECT magazine’s annual Design Review Awards recognize built projects that show social and environmental awareness, as well as innovative thinking, and that represent “the best American architecture of the year.” Eligible projects had to have been completed after June 30, 2008, and before June 30, 2009. The goal of the awards is to create a snapshot of a moment in time and celebrate its achievements in design. There are six categories: live, work, play, grow, move, and bond—with the intention of awarding projects in each. Altogether, the categories encompass 17 building typologies. Twenty projects out of a field of more than 200 were recognized with awards, citations, and honorable mentions.

For a listing of additional University awards, go to page 9.

Project Team Wins Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award for Business School’s New Facility

Congratulations to Project Manager Angela Adames and fellow team members, who received a Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award for their recent installation of a television broadcast facility at Columbia Business School.

Before the new studio, faculty experts had to fight Manhattan traffic to travel downtown, or go to distant locations to participate in business and financial news programs. Dean R. Glenn Hubbard, who makes regular appearances on PBS’ “Nightly Business Report,” used to spend three hours round trip to make his appearance on the show. Now, he walks to the new studio in Uris Hall, completes the interview and is back in his office in 15 minutes.

The project team identified a computing lab that, with some redesign and custom millwork, could be reduced in size and retain 80 percent of its seating capacity. The space was divided in half, one half for the media room and control room and the other half for the computing lab. Luckily, the space was located at the core of the building, so soundproofing was not needed to deaden street noise.

Due to limited space and budget, the selection of a live broadcast system became a prime consideration. Ease of use was a secondary objective. The multimedia staff looked at several systems, but they were all component-based, took up too much room, seemed overly complex and required engineering. In the end, the staff purchased a BureauCam BCSO-2500 system by Media 3. BureauCam is a compact, fully integrated broadcast system designed to provide live shots for local and remote operations via network or dial up.

Because everything is built into the system, installation was simple, and the school was quickly able to make a fiber-optic connection to a local routing hub to broadcast to all major U.S. and foreign markets. The entire project was fast-tracked and took only four months from the initial suggestion to lighting the fiber.

Besides regular use by faculty for live broadcasts, the new facility has increased the school’s overall video production capability. Professors use the studio to record teaching materials for classroom use, distribution to students and streaming over the Web. The new facility also created an unexpected revenue stream from non-university users looking for an uptown studio for live broadcasts.

Information courtesy of Broadcast Engineering
http://broadcastengineering.com
Eagle Two Construction Takes Flight as a Mentee in CU’s Certificate/Mentorship Program

Eleven years ago, Roxanne Tzitzikalakis would have thought it improbable to successfully head her own construction company and work on numerous projects at a major university. As the CEO of Eagle Two Construction, Roxanne currently supervises a staff of approximately 50 people at her Brooklyn-based business. However, this wasn’t her original plan.

Fresh out of New York University with a degree in finance, Tzitzikalakis had decided to take on the corporate world and work as an investment banker. She soon discovered that although she was good at it, finance wasn’t the right fit for her. Her knack for business led her to follow in her father’s footsteps and enter the construction field.

In January 1999, Tzitzikalakis established Eagle Two Construction with just two employees. Using contacts from her father’s company, Tzitzikalakis and her team initially took on small, mostly governmental projects valued at less than $5,000, but the company steadily grew. Eagle Two now operates as general contractors, managing interior and exterior renovations up to $1 million.

“It’s a matter of being organized and setting goals,” Tzitzikalakis says, explaining the secrets of her company’s success. “Every project has been a learning experience and has strengthened our work. It’s helped us to get to the next level.”

Recently, this growth has been enhanced by Columbia University and the New York City Department of Small Business Services’ (SBS) MWL Business Construction Certificate/Mentorship Program. The MWL Program incorporates classroom training and one-on-one assistance to enhance certified minority-, women-, and locally-owned (MWL) businesses’ ability to compete for work at Columbia and across New York City. Courses are centered on how to successfully manage, plan, and schedule projects, in addition to providing tools for effective business marketing.

Eagle Two’s relationship with Columbia has also expanded as a result of the company’s participation in the mentorship program. The company was called on to replace all the doors at Carman Hall to accommodate a new locking system. They replaced all the windows and front façade at both 502 West 113th Street and 511 West 112th Street, and they worked on renovations to the King’s College Room in Low Library, where custom woodwork, wallpaper, lighting, and painting was conducted.

“The mentorship program provides opportunities to strengthen small businesses and better prepare them for bid opportunities. We often tell our mentees that the mentorship program allows vendors to showcase their businesses. It’s up to each vendor to prove their capability. Eagle Two used the opportunity to deliver great service to Columbia and has since established a great relationship with the University,” says La-Verna Fountain, Associate Vice President, Construction Business Services and Communications.

“We weren’t certified as a women-owned business,” Tzitzikalakis explains. “But three years ago we were contacted about certification and joining the program. I was unsure at first and attended classes with my sister, Joanne, our office manager. I decided to stick with it, and I’m glad that I did. The program has helped to enhance my skills in construction management.”

Tzitzikalakis goes on to praise Columbia University Facilities’ team members for their steadfast support and mentorship. “People like Peter Michaelides, Keith George, and Nicole Nicusanti were accessible and valuable in helping us to learn and grow. It became a separate mentorship experience learning from them, a second opportunity to learn,” said Tzitzikalakis.

As for her future goals, Tzitzikalakis says, “I am happy where I’m at right now with our clients. Columbia is a great place to work with good people—both project managers and faculty. If it weren’t for the program, I wouldn’t have learned the right ways to work with Columbia. It’s been a great experience.”

The Minority-, Women-, and Locally-owned (MWL) Construction Management Certificate/Mentorship Program is led by Columbia University Facilities’ Construction Business Services and Communications. The second year of the program is now underway, with an enhanced academic portion led by Columbia’s School of Continuing Education. For more information, go to: http://facilities.columbia.edu/mentorshipprogram
Making Columbia Green

First Ever “Clean, Give, + Go Green” is a Success

While bidding farewell to 2009, the campus community kicked off the new year by cleaning their living and working spaces ... while going green! As part of the first ever “Clean, Give, + Go Green” program held on December 16-17, 2009 at the Morningside campus, community members were encouraged to reuse or donate used clothing, books, and small household items; recycle computers, furniture, and electronic equipment; or take advantage of the free paper shredding that was held on College Walk.

The turnout was even better than predicted, with community members donating 11.5 large bins filled with clothing, 2.5 bins of coats, 2.8 bins of books, 2 bins of shoes, and 8 bins with miscellaneous items, including food, toiletries, and art supplies. In addition to these particulars, numerous items were collected for recycling. They include: 1.8 tons of paper and cardboard, 3.5 tons of metal, 5.5 tons of computer components, and 1 ton of bulk waste.

Of the 2.5 bins of coats, Public Safety delivered more than half to the NYPD’s 26th Precinct, a drop off point for New York Cares, an annual citywide coat drive for the needy. Broadway Community, Inc., a social service agency housed at Broadway Presbyterian Church, and Wearable Collections, a New York metro-area company, received the rest of the clothing for their homeless clients. Numerous books were “adopted” by passersby, allowing them to be reused and leaving about five cartons that will find their way to a local nursing home and local sellers.

The “Clean, Give, + Go Green” program was a hybrid event, combining Columbia University Facilities’ faculty and staff targeted “Clean + Go Green” program with Undergraduate Housing’s student-focused “Give + Go Green.” The two groups also partnered with Columbia University Information Technology, Environmental Health & Safety, Environmental Stewardship, and Eco-Reps to carry out this event. Dumpsters were available across campus, at no cost, for the disposal of large unwanted items. Through these efforts, when community members cleaned their spaces, they were also able to “go green” by purging unwanted items in an environmentally friendly way. Facilities was on hand to assist with the collection of items and to properly separate and recycle them.

If you missed this winter’s “Clean, Give, + Go Green” but would like additional information on recycling or need other facilities-related information, please contact the Facilities Services Center at (212) 854-2222 or http://www.facilities.columbia.edu/. Visit us again for additional information on our on-campus recycling programs.
Columbia University Facilities is spearheading efforts to make Columbia a model environmental citizen. Below are some recent efforts to reduce energy consumption, limit our greenhouse gas emissions and incorporate environmental and energy enhancements in new construction projects.

**Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building Awarded LEED Silver**
Columbia University’s First Certified LEED Project

Columbia's Geochemistry division is at the cutting-edge of environmental research, and now its building reflects this same commitment to sustainability. In January 2010, the award-winning Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building became the University's first project to earn the U.S. Green Building Council's prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, at a silver rating.

The 70,000 square-foot Comer Building, which is part of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, houses extensive lab space directly supporting research and development to advance the understanding of climate science. The facility was completed in late 2007 to consolidate Columbia University's geochemistry department, which was previously scattered across the campus under one roof.

The building's sustainable features comprise every aspect of its design and construction. Its site selection was conscientiously performed to conserve trees and open spaces. It has an air conditioning system that uses high efficiency chillers with non-depleting refrigerants, natural ventilation for offices, occupancy sensors to control lighting and temperatures, energy recovery from the ventilation system, daylight harvesting and high efficiency light fixtures. Ninety percent of occupied spaces have daylight and views. The building is also close to public transportation, offers bike racks and showers, and provides parking spaces for fuel-efficient vehicles and car pools.

“We are thrilled to receive this designation,” said Joe Ienuso, executive vice president of Columbia University Facilities. “As our first LEED certified building, the Comer Building demonstrates the University’s twin commitments to support cutting-edge environmental research and to house that research within environmentally responsible spaces.”

The LEED Rating System encourages and facilitates the development of sustainable buildings. Points are awarded within each of the six environmental categories, including: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy & Atmosphere, Materials & Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Innovation in Design. The Comer Building was awarded an impressive 35 out of 36 total points attempted.

In addition to its LEED Silver certification, the Comer Building was named the 2009 “Lab of the Year” by Research and Development magazine and has been featured in USA Today and the Chronicle of Higher Education for its unique design and energy efficiency. The building also won sustainable design and excellence in architecture awards from the Environmental Protection Agency and the American Institute of Architects. The building is a fitting tribute to Lands’ End founder and global climate change activist Gary C. Comer, for whom the building is named.

Four other Columbia buildings are currently pursuing LEED certification: the restoration of Faculty House, the University’s premier meeting and event space; the renovation of Knox Hall, the new home of Columbia’s Departments of Sociology, MEALAC, Middle East Institute, South Asia Institute and the Institute of African Studies; the renovation of McVickar Hall as the new Columbia Alumni Center; and construction of the Northwest Corner Building, the University’s new interdisciplinary science building. Columbia is also a Challenge Partner in Mayor Bloomberg’s PlaNYC 2030, the city’s comprehensive plan to create a more sustainable New York.

“The University is dedicated to leading the way as sustainable builders and environmental stewards,” said Ienuso.

*LEED* and related logo is a trademark owned by the U.S. Green Building Council and is used by permission.
Awards and Accomplishments

Shooting for a Cause

Donning athletic gear and sneakers, staff from Columbia’s Studebaker building, Student Services department, and Facilities—Operations and Public Safety—competed against each other in Columbia Community Service (CCS)’s first basketball tournament. Held on January 8, 2010 at Levien Gymnasium, the tournament drew a crowd of more than 150 spectators, who cheered for our teams and watched Facilities Operations lost to the Studebaker team (21-34). The event rose close to $1,500 for CCS’s annual appeal, which supports local food pantries, after-school programs, and community-based nonprofits.

“It was fantastic to see all of the people who gave so freely of their personal time to not only support their co-workers but all of our neighbors as well. It was a great event and a lot of fun. I’m looking forward to next year. I think that everyone who participated really deserves a lot of credit,” said Mark Kerman, Assistant Vice President, Facilities’ Residential Operations.

Each basketball team consisted of approximately 20 volunteers, who spent about a week prepping for the tournament. The games, played back-to-back, consisted of two 20 minute periods. Boubacar Maiga, Director, Custodial Services coached the Facilities team while the Public Safety team was led by Lieutenant Frank Espinal and Security Officer Johnny Pugh.

The CCS basketball tournament was the brainchild of Wally Rivera, Assistant Manager, Undergraduate Housing. Columbia University Facilities, Public Safety, Undergraduate Housing, Athletics, and Student Services teamed to organize the event. Joyce Jackson, Executive Director, Housing and Accommodation Services; Jose Rosa, Director, Operations and Customer Service; and Mark Kerman, Assistant Vice President, Facilities Residential Operations and the organization’s current president oversaw this joint effort to benefit the local community.

Since its inception in 1946, Columbia Community Service has helped countless people in the Columbia area. CCS is a voluntary organization, and no portion of its contributions is used for administrative costs or salaries. If you would like to donate to CCS, please visit http://communityservice.columbia.edu/

Public Safety Awards

With a room filled with University representatives, families, and friends, Public Safety held its annual Promotion, Awards, and Recognition Ceremony on February 24, 2010 in Low Library.

Kenneth Finnegan, director of investigation and technology projects, welcomed attendees and introduced the outstanding team members whose dedication and service garnered them recognition and an award. This year’s winners are:

Promotions
Manager
– Karla Buchting
– Joselin Herrera
Assistant Manager
– Elvin Christian

Administrative Coordinator
– Raymond Schultz

Sergeant
– Cherlyn Douglas
– Christopher Galan
– Ramon Martinez

Recognition Awards
Crime Fighting Assistance Award
– Richard Dars
– Aneudy Fernandez

Superior
– Louis Gautreau

Perfect Attendance Award
9 Years
– Michael Layne
– Wilmer Martinez

6 Years
– Jaime Rodriguez

4 Years
– John Murolo

9
Awards and Accomplishments

Perfect Attendance Award cont.

3 Years
-Jorge Farina  
Assistant Director
-Patrick Oakley  
Sergeant
-Jose Rosado  
Director

2 Years
-Adeyemi Adegoke  
Security Officer
-Pericles Almanzar  
Security Officer
-Laurie Edwards  
Security Officer
-James McShane  
Vice President
-Delano Steele  
Captain
-Juan Suarez  
Security Officer

1 Year
-Clinton Allen  
Security Officer
-Noel Cole  
Security Officer
-Blanche Dawson  
Sergeant

-Richard Bussert  
Manager of Landscaping and Grounds
-Robert Williams  
Security Officer

Ricardo Morales Crime Prevention Award
-Daniel Ayala  
Senior Sergeant

Honorees were congratulated by Columbia’s Senior Executive Vice President Robert Kasdin, who thanked them and, as he said, “couldn’t be more proud to be associated with the people in the room.”

Jim McShane, vice president for Public Safety, concurred with Kasdin. He said, “Each person has adhered to Public Safety’s principles of pride, professionalism, and service and has gone above the call of duty to make our campus safer. I am proud of this year’s group and look forward to many more successes.”

Blizzards Hit Campus and Challenge Clean-up

Just two weeks after a huge snowstorm blanketed New York City under 10 inches of snow, the University's snow-blowers were hard at work again, clearing up 18-plus inches of snow and ice as it accumulated on campus over the blizzard of Feb. 25 to 26. At the height of the storm, some 40 Facilities employees were outside working in blizzard conditions, using 400 50-pound bags of salt, 75 shovels, 25 ice choppers and 30 different vehicles to clear the campus of 2,000 tons of ice and snow. At Baker Field, its crew of nine worked in 16-hour shifts to manage the 20 inches of snow that covered the site.

“The snow removal is a team effort,” said Richard Bussert, manager of landscaping and grounds for the Morningside Heights campus and Baker Field. “This has been an unusually snowy winter, and we thank the entire team for their contributions.”

Community members trudge through another blizzard, as our team clears the area near Uris Hall.

Richard Bussert (farthest left) proudly stands with some of Facilities’ Ground and Waste staff members responsible for a job well done. From left to right, sitting: Edwin Justiniado, Jerry Rivera and Freddy Estrella. From left to right, standing: Frederick Perez, Christopher Bavosa (in the snow blower), Rosario Muffoletto and Edwin Ortiz.
New Safe Havens Added to Morningside Community

During a news conference on December 1, 2009, Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer announced plans for extending the West Side Crime Prevention Program’s (WCPP) successful Safe Haven program to Manhattan communities north of 110th Street. Stringer was joined by Anoune Mbengue, whose newly opened Subway sandwich shop at 281 St. Nicholas Avenue and 124th Street, served as the conference location and is the first store north of 110th Street to join the ranks of more than 300 Safe Haven stores on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Together, Stringer, Mbengue, Public Safety’s Manager Crime Prevention Programs Ricardo Morales, representatives from the NYPD and PS. 180, as well as other supporters attached an official yellow decal to the Subway shop’s window, introducing it as a Safe Haven.

The Safe Haven program, which was introduced more than 20 years ago in the neighborhoods between 59th and 110th Streets from Central Park to the Hudson River, recruits local stores who are ready, willing, and able to offer help to anyone who might feel threatened while walking in the community. Participating stores display WPP’s yellow decals or Columbia’s Red Lion logos in their storefronts to identify them as Safe Havens. In the event of an emergency or threat, these merchants agree to allow the community member to wait in their establishment and will notify Public Safety and the NYPD.

Columbia University Department of Public Safety has registered and screened over 120 businesses proximate to the Morningside, Medical Center, and Manhattanville campuses. To view a complete list of Safe Havens in these communities, please visit the Public Safety Web site: www.columbia.edu/cu/publicsafety

Protect Your Electronic Devices

At Columbia University, the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff are our top priority. Although our campus has a low crime rate for an urban university, it is important to take preventative measures to maintain our safety.

Safeguard your laptops and other electronics by engraving and registering your items with the NYPD and Columbia University Public Safety. Here are a few ways to help protect your items:

- **Operation ID Program:** A unique Police number is engraved on the property, and it will be registered with the NYPD & CU from New York to California including Alaska & Hawaii. This is a FREE and very effective program that has helped in the recovery of lost or stolen property. In a most recent recovery, the NYPD arrested an individual who was in possession of stolen property belonging to one of our doctors at the Medical Center Campus, thanks to this program.

- **FREE NYPD Blue Light program:** Similar to Operation ID, the Blue Light Program is used to track stolen property. Invisible ink, which can be viewed with a special police light, is used to mark and identify items. Excellent for Cell Phones!

- **Kensington Ultra Laptop Locks:** These locks are available at a discounted/special price for Columbia University affiliates only.

- **PC or Mac Phone Home:** This software is used to recover lost or stolen laptops and is FREE for students, faculty, and staff. You can download it from the CUIT Web site at www.columbia.edu/acis/software/pcphonehome

- **Not needed for download:** Jot down your computer’s serial number or Mac address and keep it in a safe location. In the event of a theft, this will help speed up the recovery process. For help in obtaining this information, go to www.columbia.edu/acis/software/pcphonehome.

For more information on these and other tips visit www.columbia.edu/cu/publicsafety
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<tr>
<th>NEW FACES AT FACILITIES</th>
<th>NEW ROLES</th>
<th>SILVER SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES</th>
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<td><strong>Stephanie Capellan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ellen O’Connor</strong></td>
<td><strong>Congratulations to the following on their 25th anniversary at Columbia!</strong></td>
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<td>Financial Coordinator</td>
<td>Safety Officer</td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tatiana Ortiz</strong></td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
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<td>Financial Analyst</td>
<td>Quality Control Manager</td>
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<td><strong>Robert V. Colley</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prabhat Ranjan</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPERATIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Systems Analyst/Programmer A</td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Finance &amp; Administration</td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Daniel J. Condon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Leilani Reynolds</strong></td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>Coordinator, Vice Proc &amp; Rec Mgt</td>
<td>Quality Control Manager</td>
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<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stephen Davis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Heurtelou Romain</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPERATIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Door Attendant B</td>
<td>Porter A</td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Robert A. Dixon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christopher Ruehl</strong></td>
<td><strong>SILVER SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door Attendant C</td>
<td>Architect</td>
<td>Congratulations to the following on their 25th anniversary at Columbia!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Capital Project Management</td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gregory Edwards</strong></td>
<td><strong>William Slattery</strong></td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter C</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Quality Control Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dianne Gossett</strong></td>
<td><strong>Anthony Soto</strong></td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor, Custodial Services</td>
<td>Porter C</td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Arian Idrizaj</strong></td>
<td><strong>Natalie Zarisfi</strong></td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Door Attendant A</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adrian Ndregjoni</strong></td>
<td><strong>NEW ROLES</strong></td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Door Attendant C</td>
<td><strong>Rhaming Crawford</strong></td>
<td><strong>Operating</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>James Fountain III</strong></td>
<td><strong>Adriano Cocco</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mechanic, HVAC</td>
<td>Heavy Cleaner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Operations</td>
<td><strong>Michael Cocco</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEW ROLES**

- **Rhaming Crawford**  
  Mechanic  
  Operations

- **James Fountain III**  
  Mechanic, HVAC  
  Operations

- **NEW ROLES**
  - **Michael Grecci**  
    Client Service Supervisor  
    Operations

- **Michael Johnson**  
  Door Attendant A  
  Operations

- **Peter Medina**  
  Handy Person C  
  Operations

- **Juan Carlos Mendizabal**  
  Mechanic – HVAC  
  Operations

- **Korab Ndregjoni**  
  Handy Person A  
  Operations

- **Derek Powell**  
  Licensed Refrigeration Engineer  
  Operations

- **Youssouf Sanogo**  
  Mechanic Trainee - PM Shop  
  Operations

- **Michael Simmons**  
  Handy Person C  
  Operations

- **Priscilla Torres**  
  Mechanic Trainee - PM Shop  
  Operations

- **Adrian Cocco**  
  Heavy Cleaner  
  Operations

- **William Hoffmann**  
  Mechanic, Quality Control Manager  
  Operations  
  (actually serving 26th year)

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**Share you News!**

If you have questions or comments about this issue and/or would like to submit information (announcements, story ideas, questions, etc) for the next issue of *Off the CUF*, please send your submissions to rw2154@columbia.edu
Employee Profile: 
Porter Luis Manuel Gautreau

Luis (center) receives a Public Safety Award from Vice President of Public Safety Jim McShane (standing to the left) and Vice President of Operations Matt Early (right).

WHO HE IS: Porter, 110 and 130 Morningside Drive

YEARS AT COLUMBIA: 10 years

WHAT HE DOES: Gautreau is the porter at 110 and 130 Morningside Drive, 50-unit residential buildings owned by the University and occupied primarily by Columbia professors and their families. A typical day for Gautreau consists of cleaning the building, helping residents to carry their goods, and handling deliveries. “There’s always something going on, so every day is different. Every day I try to do a good job. Anytime anyone needs help, I’m there.”

BEST PART OF THE JOB: Among the many benefits of working in a University environment, he counts the people who live in 110 and 130 Morningside Drive as making him look forward to each day. “I’m lucky. Everyone is friendly. We have a lot of great people in these buildings. And they deserve a little effort of protection from me because that’s the least that I could do”

BEFORE COLUMBIA: Dominican by birth, Gautreau lived in Virginia and worked at a military base for several years before coming to New York 13 years ago. He worked as a deli department manager at a grocer prior to joining the University. “It doesn’t compare to the work I do now. I deal with good people every day, which makes me perform better each day.”

IN HIS SPARE TIME: Hobbies and interests include watching movies and sports and listening to music. He also enjoys having a happy spirit.

MEMORABLE MOMENT: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009—Gautreau was going about his normal day when someone rang the doorbell to enter 130 Morningside Drive. It was a man claiming to be from UPS and needing entry into an apartment. When Gautreau asked him about the apartment he was seeking, the man strangely walked off. This jogged Gautreau’s memory. Prior to this, Gautreau was informed by students in the building that someone was stealing their bikes. Video surveillance had confirmed these reports and, at that moment, seemed to fit the man’s description. Luis decided to follow the man as he called 911 from his cell phone. The New York Police Department and Columbia University Public Safety soon arrived and apprehended the suspect, who was carrying a concealed weapon. “It was one of the most exciting things to have happened to me,” Luis said. “I’m proud that I was able to help, but everyone has a role in ensuring the safety of our community.”

FAN CLUB: The students at 130 Morningside Drive can’t thank Luis enough for safeguarding their building. They even wrote, signed, and posted a thank you letter to him. “I was touched by that,” said Luis. “It’s important that everyone has a good memory of me, and I’m glad that I was able to do that.” Luis was recognized for his commendable actions at the Public Safety Awards on February 24, 2010. For more information on the awards, go to page 9.

Construction Safety Tips

Safety is always a priority, and it’s extremely important to safeguard yourself and your fellow workers while at construction sites. Here are a few tips that can help:

• Take part in OSHA 10 or 30 Hour Training Sessions for Construction. These courses are designed specifically for construction workers, supervisors and personnel responsible for construction activities. A wide variety of topics are covered, such as fall protection, power tool use, materials handling, and cranes and rigging.

• Obtain clearance from Environmental Health & Research Safety (EHRS) prior to demolishing a lab or doing any work within a lab.

• Wear the proper protective gear, including hardhats and eye goggles, particularly those with face shields. This will protect you from dust, chemicals, and airborne particles such as flying metal shards.

• Protect yourself from falls. Make sure that scaffolds and ladders are inspected before each shift. Do not step or sit on unsecured shingles on a roof, skylights, and additional spaces. Safeguard yourself and others by placing safety netting underneath roof openings.

• Watch out for asbestos, lead, and other toxins in older spaces and buildings.

• Bend your knees when lifting. Bending at the waist puts too much strain on your back. Also, whenever possible, wear back supports.

Courtesy of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Future Faces at Facilities

Congratulations to our Facilities families and their new bundles of joy!

Dan Held, director of communications, and his wife, Sara, welcomed their son, Samuel Griffin Held, on February 27, 2010. Samuel weighed 6 lbs, 15 oz. and was 19 inches. He joins his big sister, Sophie, who is five years old.

Mohammad Ozair, director of information systems, Finance and Administration welcomed his daughter, Rania Ozair, on February 14, 2010. Rania weighed 5 lbs, 10 oz. and was 19 inches.

Karri Rivera, project manager, Capital Project Management, welcomed a baby boy. Benjamin William Rivera was born on February 14, 2010 and weighed 6 lbs, 9 oz. and was 21 inches.

Catherine Sanders welcomed her son, Trevor Edward Sanders, on November 6, 2009. Trevor weighed 7 lbs, 12 oz. at birth.

Michelle Sokoli, assistant director, Human Resources, Finance and Administration welcomed a baby girl. Anna Elizabeth Sokoli was born on February 3, 2010.

Robert Solis, manager, Finance and Administration, welcomed a baby girl. Kaitlyn Estela Solis was born on January 21, 2010 and weighed 7 lbs, 11 oz. and was 20 inches.

Kellie Brown
Manager, Employee Transactions
Human Resources
“Green Zone – thumbs down. I’m not into violence and war movies.”

Anna Fu
Assistant Director Residential Operations
“Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna—thumbs up. The blue scene with Low Library makes Columbia look even more beautiful... and the world would be a much happier place if we incorporated more colors, spontaneous singing and dancing.”

Victor Romero
Laborer
Campus Operations
“Avatar – thumbs up. To me it was the best movie I have ever seen in many years.”

Question of the Month
What is the last movie that you watched – thumbs up or down?

SPRING HOLIDAYS
May 31, 2010 – Memorial Day

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