The summer always seems to fly by. In fact, the older I get the faster time seems to pass. The whirlwind of celebratory events during Commencement Week (made possible by the tireless efforts of our employees – see page 4) is followed by a large portfolio of summer construction and beautification projects (page 9), residential and academic building refreshes, and a host of planning and other activities in preparation for new student orientation and the beginning of the upcoming academic year.

Throughout the summer, our integrated Facilities and Operations teams worked together to better maintain a safe, beautiful, and functional campus environment and provide services and spaces for campus life. Commencement and student move-out ran seamlessly and our local high school interns and incoming freshmen football players benefitted from the combined wisdom and guidance of our various departments (page 10). As we move into the fall, Environmental Stewardship is spearheading a paper reduction pilot program (page 6) with the participation of all our business units as well as the School of Public Health.

I also want to acknowledge the many people throughout our organization who have worked together over recent months to help improve the University’s capacity to prevent and address issues of sexual assault and gender-based misconduct. Some examples of your work on this critically important issue include a significantly expanded new student orientation program addressing issues of sexual respect, consent, and bystander training, and the opening of the added Lerner Hall location of the Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence Support Center.

Finally, it was announced last week by the web site The Daily Meal, that Columbia was named the third best college for food in America (page 13.) This is a huge accomplishment considering that approximately 2,000 colleges were assessed. Congratulations to our entire Dining team for this remarkable achievement.

I am extremely proud of our team and how we come together to make Columbia an even better place to live, work, eat, and learn. I invite you to read more in this issue of Off the CUF.

I hope each of you had a chance to relax, rejuvenate and spend time with friends and family this summer.

Enjoy!

Joe Ienuso
Customer Compliments

**Dear Jane [Hunt],**
I wanted to tell you how much my family and I appreciated living at the Arbor. Dragos and his staff, particularly Earl and Luis, were extremely attentive to our every need. It has and will remain the best place we have lived, mainly because of them.

I know you field a lot of complaints about the housing situation at Columbia. I wanted to point out how grateful my family and I are for our experience at The Arbor. Please accept my sincere appreciation for your efforts in our residing there.

Tenant, University Apartment Housing

**Dear Leonard [Cox],**
I just wanted you to know that Tracy [Parker] has been EXCEPTIONAL in helping us meet the critical requirements relating to student consumer information, both with the deadline below and when we first started last year.

Her timely support has been immeasurable. [We] wanted you to know that we could not have met the necessary deliverable without her.

She is a rock star in every way!

Colleague, Student Financial Services

**Dear Eleanor [Templeton],**
I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for all your efforts on helping to personalize the communications we have with employees and for your partnership with your great ideas and support of our new marketing efforts for our courses.

I look forward to employing some of our new ideas as well in an effort to keep up these #’s. I also believe the new website is going to continue to propel and support our continued efforts.

Great team work!

Colleague, Human Resources

**Dear Facilities,**
As a tenant of Columbia university housing for the past three years, I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Douglas Jermyn, the superintendent in my building at 542 west 113th street.

Ever since he showed me into my apartment three years ago, Mr. Jermyn has been exceptionally professional and courteous, rapidly and effectively addressing any issue that came up - and always with a smile. It was a pleasure to have him as my superintendent.

The fact that very little issues came up during my years as a tenant is, I believe, very much thanks to Mr. Jermyn and his team’s efforts in keeping high standards of maintenance and cleanliness in the building.

As an international student living very far from friends and family, it is heartwarming and extremely helpful to have such warm welcome and assistance at Columbia housing. I wanted to extend my appreciation and thanks for his efforts and kindness.

Tenant, University Apartment Housing

**Dear [Cathy] Ryder,**
I imagine how important tenant satisfaction is to an organization such as yours. This email is to commend Douglas Greene, the superintendent for my building at 414 W 120th St. He is an example of a super who is always friendly, is always on call when I need help, and goes the extra mile to ensure that my apartment’s needs are addressed.

I immensely enjoyed my six years at Columbia housing thanks in part to the dedication and diligence of Doug Greene.

Tenant, University Apartment Housing

**Dear Facilities,**
I am writing to you to pass along my appreciation for the services that Doug Jermyn (and his helper Nathalie) provided for 548 w113th this past year. I was the Resident Advisor in the building, and Doug really helped make my job easier! He was extremely prompt in resolving any issues that arose. I was frequently told by my residents how quickly anything got fixed- Doug always responded to them within a day or two. Both Doug and Nathalie were very pleasant presences in our little residence, always greeting everyone with a smile. Our building was very clean and well kept. I really appreciate the hard work that they put into making 548 such an enjoyable place to live in.

Tenant, University Apartment Housing
Dear Disability Services,

Back in Chicago, the first thing I wanted to do was to thank you for your assistance and support during my stay at Columbia due to my daughter’s foot and ankle injury.

You were very helpful in every way to my daughter and me during the first 10 days after the accident occurred, with words and actions. From the orthopedics’ referral, to the wheelchair and accommodation during my short stay at Columbia, it all helped us with some relief and comfort during the initial most stressful days. Although my daughter’s full recovery will take about 2 months, we were able to tackle the critical early steps of the process.

It is in these unexpected times of distress, that the true caliber of an institution is shown to the parents and students. We have no doubts that we made one of the best decisions when we picked Columbia University in the City of New York, not only for its sterling academic prestige but also because the administration, staff and professors care for the wellbeing of their students.

Please extend my gratitude to Ms. Maria Alva from Housing, who was also helpful with my room accommodation.

Parent, Columbia Student

Dear Disability Services,

I hope you are having a good summer so far! I just wanted to send a note saying thank you for your help and advisement the last four years. You helped to make my Columbia experience a great one by enabling me to reach my full potential, and for that I am extremely grateful.

Student

Dear Deanna [Kowal],

I wanted to reach out real quick to say thanks again for your help in getting everything ready to go for the [event] last week. Everything went great and all the attendees seemed very happy! I wanted to emphasize what an amazing job the Columbia staff did during the entire event. The servers were all excellent, friendly, on time with everything and made all the food & bev transitions seamlessly. Jimmy was an ALL-STAR as well!!! Jimmy was flying around the place to make sure everyone was happy and that all needs were met. He was an outstanding Event Manager and you’re lucky to have such a great person/employee leading the show. I can’t say enough good things about Jimmy (and the whole crew).

I hope we get the chance to work together soon on another successful [event].

Client of University Event Management

Dear Jasmine [Pena],

Just wanted to send a quick thank you to you and your colleagues for all your help with our conference the past two days. Jimmy and his team were incredibly helpful, and all our meals, coffee breaks and reception went perfectly.

Also - thank you again for your help making the last-minute adjustments to the menu for our guest with the allergies. (He truly appreciated the food we had available for him.)

Thank you for helping make our event a success!

Employee, Columbia Law School

Dear Wilma [Jordan],

I'm very sorry that I don't have an opportunity to come up and wish you well in person, but want to send a note of appreciation all the same.

For four years at Columbia College (and occasionally while at Columbia Business School), you have been the highlight of my JJ brunch! You've brought sweetness, happiness, love, warmth, and joy to my time at Columbia through thick and thin. I am so lucky to have met you, and have gotten the “egg whites with everything, scrambled, no mushrooms” every morning.

Wishing you a very happy, exciting, and active retirement.

Alumni (College ’07, Business ’11)
Pomp and Circumstance

Staff across Facilities and Operations worked tirelessly during Commencement Week 2014 to welcome graduates and guests to campus for this annual celebration. From grounds crew to event volunteers, every member of our organization contributed to the week’s overwhelming success. Colleagues from across the University noted that our work every year exceeds the last. Graduates and guests were wowed. Thank you to all for your dedication and enthusiasm!
Making Our Community Safer

On July 8, 2014, nearly 100 administrators from Columbia and a host of other local institutions of higher education participated in a training and discussion session entitled “Sex Crimes, Domestic Violence & Stalking, and the Manhattan Family Justice Center”. Hosted by Columbia Public Safety, the session featured speakers from New York County District Attorney’s Office Special Victims Bureau, the Manhattan Family Justice Center and the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence and focused on ways to make our community safer from violence, including identifying crimes and the diverse spectrum of available services provided to victims.

Honoring a (Mambo) King

On Wednesday, April 23rd, the Historic Landmarks Preservation Center (HLPC) held a cultural medallion ceremony to honor the writer Oscar J. Hijuelos, who passed away in October, at his childhood home at 419 West 118th Street, now a Columbia University faculty and graduate student residence. Hijuelos, an American-born novelist of Cuban descent, was born and educated in Morningside Heights. For his second novel, adapted for the movie The Mambo Kings, he became the first Hispanic to win a Pulitzer Prize for fiction. HLPC cultural medallions are porcelainized enamel plaques affixed to the exterior of buildings, in order to commemorate an individual that has made a significant contribution to New York City’s rich cultural heritage. Ceremony participants included Hijuelos’ wife, writer Lori Marie Carlson-Hijuelos, editor and poet Jonathan Galassi, and writer Gay Talese. You can watch the ceremony at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=va3smMi3Fb4

Facelift

You may have recently noticed conservationists on campus treating three bronze sculptures: William Ordway Partridge’s two statues of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton, and Auguste Rodin’s The Thinker. Historic preservation firm Conservation Solutions has been contracted to clean, treat, patinate, and re wax these statues and their pedestals, to freshen them up and stabilize the condition of each sculpture. Since the statue of Jefferson outside the School of Journalism is celebrating his 100th birthday this year, this seemed like a great opportunity to give him a “facelift.” Similarly, Jefferson’s partner Hamilton, installed in 1908 outside Hamilton Hall, needed cleaning and treatment. The Rodin sculpture also needed treatment to remove the paint and restore the statue’s protective wax finish. The care and protection of our public outdoor sculptures is critical to the long life of these beautiful works of art.

Food For Thought

Enjoy lunching? Enjoy learning? Then you’ll love Facilities & Operations new “Brown Bag” lunch and learns. Spearheaded by Allison Rubin of the Office of the Executive Vice President, the series brings in industry experts that focus on various topics of interest to our employees. At the first Brown Bag, “The Road to Recycling” (above), held in June, the Office of Environmental Stewardship demonstrated proper recycling techniques. Last month, participants learned about life safety from a fire safety expert. Both events featured interactive discussions, fun games and prizes! Future events include pumpkin carving with a Columbia Dining chef and “Mindfulness Meditation” with wellness experts from the Office of Work/Life. If you have an idea for a Brown Bag topic, please contact Allison at ar3145@columbia.edu.
Making Columbia Green

Columbia University Facilities and Operations 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.

Paper Cut

On Earth Day, two important sustainability pilot programs were introduced via the Sustainable Columbia newsletter -- paper reduction and “Cool Columbia.” The Mailman School of Public Health and Columbia University Facilities and Operations (CUFO) volunteered to participate in the paper reduction initiative and our work is already underway.

With the leadership of the Environmental Stewardship team, a working group of “Green Champions” was formed as a means to guide us through the appropriate steps for reducing paper consumption. These volunteers represent the 8 CUFO departments and are key to the success of the initiative. The Green Champion role empowers staff to generate ideas that will give shape to the paper reduction program, and then be accountable for driving those ideas forward. Green Champions will educate, motivate and recognize their colleagues, inspiring a sense of community around the effort.

“To generate momentum around sustainability and drive culture change at Columbia we must build capacity by engaging across all teams, levels and departments. Creating opportunities for staff to be a part of the solution increases ownership and accountability towards this initiative,” Jessica Prata, AVP of Environmental Stewardship shares.

The paper reduction pilot will provide a process for monitoring paper consumption from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. The goal is to reduce usage by 10% across the division as compared to last year. The working team is confident that we can reach this goal if everyone makes an effort to participate.

“Just the act of meeting about paper reduction alone raises awareness in a major way, and is a step in the right direction. The enthusiasm to inspire change, and the motivation from our Green Champions is really promising,” says Allie Madison Schwartz, Assistant Manager, Environmental Stewardship

The Finance team is currently analyzing data collected from fiscal year 2013/14 and will compare to fiscal year 2014/15 at the close of the pilot. Environmental Stewardship hopes to leverage this data to inform the development of a future “Green Office Certification” program, which will offer tools to guide offices and departments that wish to support a more sustainable Columbia by lowering the footprint of their offices.

A big thank you to our Green Champions for your dedication and leadership:
- Meagan Arceo, Manager, Financial Services, represents Finance & Administration
- John Gerrish, Director, Administration & Planning, represents Public Safety
- Whitney Nadeau, Executive Assistant, represents Real Estate
- Tom O’Donnell, Executive Director of Manhattanville Operations, represents Operations.
- Ira Pinkus, Project Manager, represents Capital Project Management & Planning
- Sophy Ramirez, Executive Assistant, represents Campus Services
- Allison Rubin, Executive Assistant, represents the Office of the Executive Vice President
- Petrina Whyte, Associate Director, Administration, represents Manhattanville Development

Story by Kristen LaGrua

Did You Know?

Are you a paper pusher? The typical workplace is hooked on the stuff, with some shocking statistics.

- The average office worker uses 10,000 sheets of copy paper each year.
- The United States alone, which has less than 5% of the world’s population, consumes 30% of the world’s paper.
- Over 40% of wood pulp goes toward the production of paper.
- Printing and writing paper equals about one-half of U.S. paper production.
- The costs of using paper in the office can run 13 to 31 times the cost of purchasing the paper in the first place!

Source: reduce.org
I Want to Ride My Bicycle

On Wednesday, July 9th, bikers received free tune-ups, discounted locks, and bike safety information during Public Safety’s Bike to Campus Days as part of creating a more bike-friendly campus. Over 60 members of the Columbia community registered their bikes and electronics with the NYPD / Public Safety Operation ID crime prevention program and received free bike tune-ups from Innovation Bike Shop - a Public Safety Safe Haven located at 106th Street and Columbus Avenue that offers a 10% discount to CUID holders. Representatives from Columbia’s Office of Work/Life were also on hand offering bike tips and free water bottles to those who took a brief bike survey.

Greener Grads

During Commencement 2014, Environmental Stewardship partnered with Facilities, Housing and the EcoReps to reduce the amount of waste diverted from landfills. Through combined efforts approximately 987 pounds of glass, metal, plastic & cartons, plus 286 pounds of paper and cardboard were recycled and diverted -- 76% of the total waste collected.

Paper Use Reduction Tips

Use both sides
Use the front and back of a piece of paper and cut your paper use and costs in half.
   • Set computer defaults to print double-sided.
   • Make double-sided copies when possible.
   • Give it a second chance: Use paper printed on only one side in your fax machine, for draft copies or internal documents, or as scratch paper.

Think before you print or copy
Sometimes it is necessary for documents to be printed. Print responsibly.
   • Preview documents before printing. Use the print preview to spot formatting errors and blank pages before you print. Proofread first, and use the spell/grammar tool to help avoid errors that can cause documents to be reprinted.
   • Print only the pages you need. If only a few pages of the document are needed, print only those pages instead of the whole report. Most software programs provide this option under the print function.
   • Promote a “think before you copy” attitude. Consider sharing some documents with co-workers. Print only the number of copies needed for the meeting, don’t make extras.

Go electronic
   • Use revision features in word processing software. You can edit documents on screen instead of printing out drafts and making hand-written comments.
   • Send information electronically. Use e-mails instead of fax or mailed letters when possible. It’s faster.
   • Fit more words onto each page (e.g., smaller font, narrower margins). Simply changing the default margins from 1.25” to 1” can reduce the amount of paper you use by up to 8%.
   • Use a space-efficient font like Times New Roman.

/
Keep Calm and Get Healthy with New Alice! Map

Historical map makers, like those sailing with Christopher Columbus, documented important paths to new and unchartered areas. Who knew modern day cartographers are right in the Alice! Health Promotion office. The Alice! team, a part of Columbia Health, is creating a new mapping tool - CU Healthy Map. This tool assists Columbia students to find the nearest path to healthy resources in and around the Morningside campus.

CU Healthy Map, created on Googlemaps.com, is intended to provide an overview of all the health-related resources within walking distance of a residence hall or academic building. HealthyCU visitors can find a quiet space to relax and rejuvenate, make a beeline to the nearest lactation room, find the nearest Columbia Health office, and much more.

According to Amanda Daugherty, Assistant Director of Alice! Health Promotion and leading up the CU Healthy Map project, "The most exciting part of this project is putting together the [wide range] of resources, because there's no one place for [all of] them. It shows the University is doing a lot for the campus community."

Alice! Health Promotion collaborated with CUIT-CUMC Web Services for the know-how on digital map interfaces, while some mapping ideas were designed with student input. Columbia students provided key insights into their life experiences and helped to inform the development of the map. Other University map projects, like the Indiana University interactive campus map and the University of Texas at Austin's napping locations were also an inspiration for the CU Healthy Map.

The CU Healthy Map is currently in the testing phase as the Alice! Team is exploring ways to provide this information in an accessible manner for students using a screen reader. Check it out at www.healthycu.org and let us know what you think at alice@columbia.edu.

New Designated Smoking Areas

Effective July 1, 2014 smoking is restricted to 14 locations on the Morningside campus. View a map of designated smoking areas.

All designated places are at least 20 feet from building entrances, but still provide smoking areas near highly trafficked campus locations, with shelter when possible, or along commonly used travel routes. Smoking urns are located in each area to identify the appropriate location easily and to ensure that cigarettes are disposed of in the proper waste receptacle.

All members of the Columbia community, as well as visitors, are expected to voluntarily comply with the smoking policy.

For additional information regarding New York State’s smoking cessation program, call 1-866-NY-QUITs.
Campus Heats Up With Summer Improvements

With a reduced campus population making it logistically possible to complete more work, summer construction and beautification projects are in full swing throughout campus.

Joe Mannino, vice president of Planning and Capital Project Management, says his team plans months ahead for the 2014 capital construction summer portfolio, which consists of over 60 projects that include interior renovations, exterior restoration and overall infrastructure improvements.

Breaking News

This summer, construction was completed on The David & Helen Gurley Brown Institute for Media Innovation (rendering above), a flexible and interactive space for innovation and the center for ‘all things digital’ at the Graduate School of Journalism. Also at Journalism, the Pulitzer World Room is undergoing a cosmetic renovation and an exterior window replacement project. The space is used for classes, seminars and other functions including the annual selection of the Pulitzer Prizes.

Advancing Science

This summer Facilities also built and renovated spaces dedicated to creating environments where scientists of different disciplines can interact and thrive. Ongoing fit-out of the 10th floor of the Northwest Corner Building (NWC) – along with renovations in Mudd scheduled to begin in the fall – will house The Institute for Data Sciences and Engineering, a leading institution in research and education in the theory and practice of the emerging field of data science. Several projects underway at Pupin Hall will make the building more inviting, including a new, modern physics theory center, upgrades to the buildings mechanical, electrical and plumbing infrastructure, and the replacement of the exterior copper cornice. New laboratory space is being completed in Havemeyer (Transmission Electron Microscope), Schermerhorn (Psychology) and the Northwest Corner Building (Mind Brain Behavior Institute/Physics).

Healthy Upgrades

Improvements at Columbia Health help us better support the well-being of the campus community and continue alignment with the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). The first phase of a two-summer renovation of the Medical Services offices in John Jay include modernized exam rooms, enhanced centralized clinical services and waiting areas, new ADA accessible bathrooms, and improved elevator service. Renovations on the 7th floor of Lerner Hall will house an enhanced Sexual Violence Response team. The creation of gender-inclusive bathrooms in Lerner and Uris, expected to be completed in September, helps provide a safe, inclusive and supportive experience for members of the University community and their guests.

State of the Art

Supporting the arts at Columbia is another highlight of our summer construction program. Improved lighting and seating at the Roone Arledge Cinema in Lerner Hall will improve the movie going experience, and infrastructure support for studio classrooms, dressing rooms and other support spaces for the School of the Arts in the Nash Building will enhance the study and practice of art-making at the University.

Other summer projects included renovations at The School at Columbia and the creation of new clinic space on the 8th floor of Jerome Greene Hall, part of a larger project at the Law School to enhance clinical legal education which allows students to work with real clients on real issues.

For additional information on current projects, visit http://facilities.columbia.edu/projects.
Goodwill, not Landfill

Every year, Columbia Housing collaborates with Facilities and the EcoReps to donate items from our residence halls and buildings to a wide variety of partners across New York City, the country, and the world. Donation highlights for the 2013-14 academic year include a shipment of 83 tons of residence hall furnishings to San Salvador, El Salvador and Spanish Town, Jamaica, facilitated by partnering organization Institutional Recycling Network (IRN). Additionally, students deposited over 17,000 pounds of clothing and shoes into donation bins provided by Wearable Collections, a Brooklyn-based organization that works to keep clothing, textiles and shoes out of landfills while generating funds for charities. Student clothing contributions raised $2,081.50 in funds, which were contributed to Columbia Community Service in support of their work.

Money Matters

On Thursday, July 31st, 22 participants (pictured) graduated from the “Money Matters” workshop series, a Columbia University sponsored six-week seminar designed to help improve the loan readiness of minority-, women- and locally-owned (MWL) construction contractors and enable them to access crucial financing to perform on government and institutional contracts. The workshop series, co-sponsored by New York City Economic Development Corporation and BOC Capital Corporation, combined six classes with intensive individual business counseling. Contractors learned to build credit, evaluate projects from a cash flow perspective, access much-needed financing, and understand key construction documents.

“As a result of our participation my company is better equipped to manage the cash flow of our business as it relates to both existing clients and upcoming new project,” said Ray Jones of SGL Services Corp, a NYC-based minority-owned elevator and escalator specialist company. “In addition, it has fully informed us and provided useful tools to better position ourselves as owners for credit and access to capital which is critical to our growth. The program put its money where its mouth is by extending a $2,000 Credit Builder Loan as well as a $45,000 line of capital for a project we were recently awarded with MTA. It is without question that a year from now as we celebrate our recent growth that the Money Matters program was the key and needed ingredient to make things happen for us.”

“Columbia University has a long-standing commitment to support the minority- and women-owned contractor community and is excited to help these firms become more financially prepared for the work they are awarded with the University and government agencies,” said Joe Ienuso, Executive Vice President of Columbia University Facilities.

La-Verna Fountain Featured Speaker at NYU M/WBE Conference

On July 8, 2014, Vice President of Construction Business Services La-Verna Fountain was a featured speaker at New York University’s first annual “M/WBE Conference – Align, Connect and Grow” at the NYU Kimmel Center. Hosted by NYU’s Supplier Diversity Committee, the conference is a part of a larger NYU initiative to increase minority and women business enterprise participation in procurement opportunities. La-Verna spoke about Columbia’s leadership role in this area, highlighting the University’s commitment to and aggressive goals for working with minority, women and local (MWL) businesses and individuals, our nationally recognized MWL mentorship program, and the many awards the University has won for its efforts.
Local High School Students Get College Experience

On Friday, August 8th, nearly 30 Columbia University employees joined 15 interns at the closing celebration of the 2014 Columbia University Manhattanville High School Summer Internship Program. The teenagers gave presentations highlighting key skills learned and memorable moments from their five-week paid summer internship experience.

“This program allowed me to gain meaningful office experience I would otherwise not be exposed to,” said Akiyl El (pictured above with his supervisor Janet Grapengeter), a summer intern at Capital Project Management (CPM) and rising junior at the Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science, and Engineering.

Akiyl was one of the successful applicants from the local community who worked throughout the University in positions supporting a range of programs from communications and research to planning and engineering.

“As an aspiring mechanical engineer, it was great to be trusted by architects and engineers to perform my tasks and complete projects with their guidance and support,” he added.

“Having an intern was extremely helpful to complete specific projects and it revitalized the day-to-day in our office” said Akiyl’s supervisor Janet Grapengeter, Director of Design & Compliance at CPM. “We trained him to identify specific opportunities for improvement throughout the campus; he was able to recognize issues and recommended ways to address them.”

The interns also visited Columbia University Medical Center’s Cardiac Center, participated in a résumé workshop, and attended several panel discussions to learn about Columbia Community Service, Strategic Communications, and the construction of the Columbia University Manhattanville campus and other construction projects at the University.

Football Freshmen Run First Play: Serving the Community

On mornings in July, a group of very large and fit Columbia students arrived on West 205th Street to spend their first days in New York with preschoolers. Towering over the four- and five-year-olds, a half dozen freshman football players—the shortest was 6 foot 3 inches—read stories to the children, helped them with arts and crafts, taught them the alphabet letter-by-letter, took them to the park and on field trips around the city.

“It’s great to get in touch with our new community,” said defensive lineman Conor Heeb, of Canandaigua, N.Y. “It’s a lot of work, but they’re so much fun to play with, so much fun to try to teach how to read. It’s absolutely a joy.” And, he adds, “It’s been a great experience for me and my teammates.”

Heeb is one of 34 freshmen football players spending their first summer in New York City working with local community groups and on campus as part of program designed to introduce them to life at an urban university. In addition to Heeb’s group, which spent its time at Operation Exodus in Inwood (above), other teams spent the month chaperoning field trips for middle-schoolers; working in a community garden and improving Riverside Park; helping Columbia’s Office of Environmental Stewardship to boost the University’s recycling; creating databases for archival materials and staffing Dodge Fitness Center.

The program is the brainchild of Head Football Coach Pete Mangurian, who wanted his newest players to have an experience that would help them grow not only as students and teammates, but as citizens of their new Upper Manhattan community.

Three years ago Mangurian began working together with Columbia Facilities and other offices to create the Football Community Engagement Summer Project, which aims to develop a unique program that put service-learning at the center of the new players’ first weeks as New Yorkers.

“One month living in New York City working alongside all of our wonderful neighbors, alongside the Columbia community, you start to understand what it means to be a leader,” said La-Verna Fountain, Columbia’s vice president for construction business services and communications, who helped design the program. “I think it will show up on the field and it also means, more importantly, they’re going to be leaders on campus and in the community.”

Congratulations to La-Verna, Program Coordinator Radhy Miranda, who ran the program, and the various offices and community members that made the program so successful!

Story by Columbia News Staff
**NEW FACES**

**Dining**
- Christina Apollonio
  Assistant Manager, JJ’s Place
- Christopher Burgos
  Pantry Worker, Ferris Booth Commons
- Edward Cabrera
  Short Order Cook, Ferris Booth Commons
- Jasmine Crespo
  Assistant Manager, Ferris Booth Commons
- Rudy Gomez
  Porter, Ferris Booth Commons
- Ashton Griffith
  Porter, JJ’s Place
- Andres Morales
  Porter, Ferris Booth Commons
- Crystal Rose
  Short Order Cook, Ferris Booth Commons
- Justine Sacks
  Assistant Director
- Sandy Tricoche
  Assistant Manager
- Earl Tutson
  Pantry Worker, John Jay Dining Hall
- Ucef Wade
  Porter, John Jay Dining Hall

**Event Management**
- Dekwan Clark
  Porter, Faculty House

**Administrative Services**
- Matica Palmer
  Rounds Person, Faculty House
- Nisha Patel
  Wait Staff, Faculty House
- Bertina Rudder
  Wait Staff, Faculty House
- Montgomery Salter
  Porter, Faculty House
- Thomas Wigfall
  Porter, Faculty House
- Rita Agyiri
  Financial & Administrative Assistant, Print Services

**Health**
- Athalie Alexander
  CUMC Campus Manager, Disability Services
- Simone Camhi
  Nutritionist, Medical Services
- Carolyn Hahn
  Psychiatrist, Counseling & Psychological Services
- Asha Nambiar
  Assistant Director, Disability Services

**Housing**
- Ahmed Nassef
  Manager, Housing Information Systems

**Finance And Administration**
- Tasmina Ahmed
  Analyst, Financial Services
- Christina Carter
  Manager, Capital Projects Administration
- Elizabeth Fredericks
  Executive Assistant
- Vivek Rathore
  Manager, Application Development, Information Technology
- Chun Yang
  Financial Analyst, Financial Services

**Operations**
- Michael Capitano
  Mechanic
- Carlos Carreras
  Mechanic
- Kenny Castillo
  Heavy Cleaner
- Evelyn Cortez
  Heavy Cleaner
- Ronald Diaz
  Senior Engineer
- Daren Dodson
  Mechanic
- Jose Gomez
  Handy Person A
- Dominick Grimaldi
  Supervisor, Carpentry & Locks
- Neeraj Gupta
  Leasing Assistant
- Errol Hendrax
  Manager, Trades
- Iris Jacobs
  Supervisor, Custodial Services
- Juan Jerez
  Porter A
- John LaPerche
  Director, Fire Safety
- Hai Le
  Heavy Cleaner
- Fabian Marshall
  Welder
- Laman McDonald
  Door Attendant/Porter C
- Elsa Montes
  Heavy Cleaner
- Victor Perez
  Heavy Cleaner
- Christian Rivera
  Groundskeeper A
Welcome & Congratulations (April 2014 – July 2014)

Habibi Rodriguez
Heavy Cleaner

Orlando Roman
Supervisor, Services Center

Franco Romano
Mechanic A

Andre Stephenson
Mechanic

Amy Taing
Heavy Cleaner

Lance Tufano
Mechanic A

Mario Tutoli
Supervisor, Custodial Services

Ernesto Lugo Valenzuela
Heavy Cleaner

Edwin Valle
Manager, Custodial Services

Manhattanville
Alma Osmanovic
Assistant Manager

Teida Zacarias
Administrative Coordinator

NEW ROLES

Dining
Mario Nora
Sous Chef Manager

Lamont Robinson
Third Cook

America Vasquez
First Cook

Administrative Services
Orlando Ortiz
Driver-Mail Clerk, Transportation

Finance & Administration
Edrys Erisnor
Financial Analyst, Capital Projects Administration

Matthew Scheckter
Associate Director, Capital Projects Administration

Planning & Capital Project Management
Cynthia Sanchez
Assistant Manager, Planning

Operations
Richard Domínguez
Groundskeeper A

Nazmije Idrizaj
Door Attendant A

Wanda Roman
Client Services Supervisor

Aphrodita Sali
Director, Custodial Services

Geraldine Tan
Executive Director, Compliance

Public Safety
Emile Anderson
Sergeant

Jillian Vincenty
Assistant Manager, Administrative Support

Manhattanville
JoEllen Bagayoko
Administrative Coordinator

SILVER SERVICE
ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following on their 25th anniversary at Columbia!

Finance and Administration
Edwin Urban
Accounts Payable Specialist

Operations
Luis Guzman
Assistant Watch Engineer

Troy Parker Jr.
Resident Manager

Ramon Polanco
Mechanic HVAC

Pio Edgardo Portilla
Porter C

Diane Rivera
Administrative Assistant

Public Safety
Yiling Tang
Director, CUMC Operations

CONGRATULATIONS

Steven Thomas (Assistant Manager, Customer Service for Columbia Housing) and his wife Nia were married July 6, 2014. Congratulations Steven!

Associate Vice President and Medical Director of Columbia Health, Samuel L. Seward, Jr., MD, FAAP, who also has an appointment at the Medical Center, has been promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine at CUMC (Applied Health Care/Public Health Sciences). Congratulations Samuel!

Columbia Dining was recently ranked #3 in The Daily Meal’s “75 Best Colleges for Food in America in 2014.” The department was ranked #17 in 2013 and continues to aspire to be #1. Columbia was recognized for innovative menu items and a commitment to community outreach, nutrition, and sustainability. This is a well-deserved honor for the entire Dining team whose passion and dedication seem to know no bounds. The full list of schools can be found at www.thedailymeal.com/75-best-colleges-food-america-2014.

Send your good news to Dan Held at dh2297@columbia.edu.
Awards & Accomplishments

Answers and Awards

Alice! Health Promotion has recently been recognized with two awards:

**Responsible Community @ Columbia**
Columbia Student Affairs presented an Award of Excellence for Outstanding Program to RC@C. Each year they select one program that makes a positive difference in the lives of CC/SEAS undergraduate students. As they stated when presenting the award, “Born from the need to create more effective programming to promote safe behaviors and positive community norms, RC@C is a successful partnership between Columbia Health and Residential Programs...Assessment efforts confirm that students enjoy having these discussions and find them to be more accessible, realistic, helpful, and informational that previous programs...One student noted ‘RC@C proves how much Columbia cares about its students upon arriving on campus.”

**Go Ask Alice!**
For the third consecutive year Go Ask Alice! has been recognized by Healthline (http://www.healthline.com) for being among the best for online HIV/STD information. As they noted when announcing the award, “Chances are that if you have a question regarding sexually transmitted infections (STIs), Go Ask Alice can answer it. This interactive site is produced by Alice! Health Promotion at Columbia University, a division of Columbia Health. While it certainly can’t take the place of medical advice supplied by your own doctor, Go Ask Alice can provide accurate, reliable information about STIs. Simply browse the question library. If you can’t find the answers you seek, click on the Ask Alice icon and ask your question anonymously and without fear of embarrassment.”

Housing Staffers Recognized for Contributions to Residential Experience

Columbia Housing Assistant Director of Operations and Customer Service Landon Hobson and Hospitality Desk Manager Alex Rabinovich were recently recognized by Student Affairs for their valuable contributions to the Columbia residential experience.

Here are some of the remarks that came with their nomination:

“There is a running joke with Landon and Alex about a new motto that they would like to implement here. Their idea is one school, one team. It was born out of a long list of to-do items earlier in the year that I was working on with them, and from the idea that it was possible for Housing and Residential Programs to compliment one another’s work in a supportive and effective way. It came about over a joke during a lunch meeting, but I think it really does speak to the work that these two have taken on this year in trying to build the strongest bridge possible between our two departments. When they say they are on something, you can have the confidence in knowing that they are on it, and they will get back to you with an update as soon as they can. They do good work, support one another well as a team to deliver consistent messaging, and have clearly shown their commitment to customer service and supporting our community the best way that they can. They have made progress in areas that were previously immobile, and they have big ideas for what they can accomplish. They work hard, are focused on achieving their potential, and our campus community is in a better place now because of their leadership this year.”

Congratulations Alex and Landon on winning this meaningful award!
Max Germaine

Who He Is: Columbia Dining Porter

Years at Columbia: 46

What He Does: Max spends the majority of his time at Café 212. There he is responsible for receiving and signing for all orders and then organizing and storing them for the staff. Every single morning he is on-site to set up the space and prepare it for opening. Max's manager describes him as a dependable and responsible worker. "Rain, sleet or snow, Max is there at 6am sharp to open and has not called out sick in the 5 years I have worked with him," she says. Max has also been supporting the Housing team by supervising the installation and upkeep of rental air conditioning in several buildings for the past 11 years.

Best Part of Job: Over his extensive career at Columbia, Max has never missed a day and makes an effort to always arrive on time. He is extremely grateful for his job here; it has provided him with many opportunities and has allowed him to support his family. Because of Columbia Max says, "I sent all of my kids to college and bought a house." He loves coming to work every day and enjoys his Dining colleagues. Max seems to get along with just about everyone.

Road to Columbia: Born and raised in Haiti, Max moved to New York in 1967 due to harsh political and economic conditions in his native country. He took a job at a factory in Long Island City where he assembled heating units. In 1968 he applied for a job at Columbia and has never looked back.

Most Memorable Moment: Max has many fond memories of his time at Columbia, but those that stand out in his mind are annual employee celebrations including a summer picnic and holiday party. These were festive occasions when all employees came together and were recognized for their hard work.

In His Spare Time: Off campus, Max is a soccer coach in his hometown, Queens Village. He teaches underprivileged children how to play soccer, or as he calls it, football. As a teenager in Haiti and into his early 20's, Max was a midfielder on several soccer teams. He loves the sport and enjoys sharing his passion with the children. He still plays informal games with his friends when time permits.

Other Thoughts: Although Max has been at Columbia longer than most, he has no plans to leave any time soon. He admits that he would likely get bored after retirement, saying "I plan everything I do, I have to keep moving."

Serena Sinckler

Who She Is: Program Coordinator, Manhattanville Development Group

Years at Columbia: 10

What She Does: “Everything,” she jokes. With construction of the first buildings on the Manhattanville campus well underway, Sinckler has a huge spreadsheet listing the projects that go out to bid, the equipment and materials that will be needed, who buys it, as well as finalists and winning bids. She is the keeper of policies and procedures for construction groups and managers for each stage of a project. A big part of her job involves ensuring compliance with the U.S. Green Building Council’s requirements for LEED certification, she says. The acronym stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Manhattanville will have accommodations for bicycles and hybrid vehicles, a no-smoking policy, a recycling plan and a central energy plant. Green cleaning will be mandatory, which means maintenance workers must be trained about the products they can use. There must be a plan for disposal of scientific waste from the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, scheduled to open in 2016. She also must communicate regularly with architects for each of the four buildings in phase one; with LEED consultants; with the University's Office of Environmental Stewardship; and with Facilities and Operations.

Road to Columbia: Sinckler thought she wanted to be a lawyer when she graduated from Hampton University in Virginia in 1996 with a degree in political science. But after about a year assisting lawyers at a big New York firm, she decided the legal profession wasn’t for her. She worked in sales for several companies before landing a position as a sales representative for business accounts at T-Mobile. After T-Mobile closed the small Brooklyn office where she was working and laid off its employees, she signed on with a temporary agency. In 2004, after a brief stint in an administrative job at NYU, Sinckler was sent by the agency to the HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) department of Columbia Facilities. A few months later she was hired full time to help manage buildings. In 2006, she joined the capital projects management group in Facilities as an administrative coordinator. In 2007 she and Marcelo Velez, associate vice president for Manhattanville Capital Construction, were the first employees to move to Manhattanville.

Best Part of the Job: “The people,” she says in an interview in the Studebaker building on West 132nd Street, a former automobile finishing plant. “I love working with the people in the Manhattanville group.” She also appreciates the opportunities she has had at Columbia. “I have been able to move around among departments, move up and get a master's degree” in sustainability management, she says. “Columbia has been good to me.”

Memorable Moments: Earning her master's from Columbia's School of Continuing Education in 2012 tops the list. “Just being accepted into the program was a memorable moment,” she adds. She also remembers the day in December 2010 when the University received the work permit from the New York City Department of Buildings for construction of the first building on the Manhattanville campus, the Jerome L. Greene Science Center. “It showed that all our hard work was worth it,” she says.

In Her Spare Time: She is devoted to her 11-year-old daughter, taking her to dance lessons, swimming and Girl Scouts. Time off “is Mommy and Taylor time,” Sinckler says. “Whatever she wants to do, we do.”

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Article by Kristen LaGrua, Photography by Eleanor Templeton
Question of the Month

What are you most looking forward to at the beginning of the academic year?

“I look forward to the crisp weather and the gift of spectacular colors courtesy of Mother Nature. Fall also represents change—and I see change as a good thing.”

Keith Pettay
Senior Project Manager, Manhattanville Development

“I look forward to continuing my Master’s Degree at Columbia!”

Jardiel Tavarez
Security Officer, Public Safety

“I am looking forward to student check-in at the start of the fall semester. I can’t wait to meet all of the new students and welcome back the returning ones.”

Maria Alba
Assistant Director of Accommodation Services, Housing

BEST WISHES

After 27 years of service to the Columbia community, our beloved Wilma Jordan retired at the end of the Spring 2014 term. Wilma was—and still is—an icon in the John Jay Dining Hall, providing endless entertainment and delicious omelets to students, faculty, staff, and visitors over the years. While Wilma will be moving on from Columbia, her famous grill station will remain in John Jay. Columbia Dining honored Wilma with a special employee celebration in May.

Upcoming Holiday
Monday, September 1 – Labor Day