**NYUCD Community Voices**

A Newsletter from the NYUCD Office of Human Resources and Faculty Services

**Liz Best Receives the Give-A-Violet Award**

By Amr Moursi, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Pediatric Dentistry

I am happy to announce that Ms. Liz Best was selected as one of this year’s “Give-A-Violet” award recipients. Each year the Give-A-Violet Award honors only twelve administrators or staff from throughout the University. The Award recognizes employees who perform above and beyond the normal scope of their position and responsibilities. The selection committee places great value on integrity, respect, customer focus, teamwork, and adaptability. Liz has demonstrated these characteristics at an exceptional level in her role as Assistant Director for Pediatric Dental Outreach in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry.

As many of you know Liz is responsible for coordinating our extensive community-based oral health programs at over 80 Early Learn centers and Public Schools across New York City. All these programs require the careful coordination of school staff, parents, faculty, dental students, residents and our own College staff. Liz orchestrates the entire process flawlessly.

In addition, Liz has taken on many new responsibilities beyond her job description. She serves on the New York City, Advisory Committee where she provides guidance on oral health issues for New York City’s pre-school children. Liz is also responsible for coordinating our successful foster care program, which provides a dental home for nearly 1,000 children.

Her job performance is underscored by pride in what she does and a commitment to self-improvement. She is well deserving of the NYU Give-A-Violet award and we are proud that such recognition was given to one of our own.

Please join me in congratulating Liz on this special honor.

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**UCATS Newly Elected Council**

UCATS concluded the election process for the Executive Council for May 1, 2013 – April 30, 2015. The newly elected shop stewards for this two-year term for NYU College of Dentistry are Maritza Gordian, Keisha Greene, Kevin Haskell, Vanessa Sejourne and Yashira Salavarria.

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**Springtime is … Baseball Season!**

Are you planning to go to a New York Yankees’ or Mets’ game? Find discounted tickets through NYU’s Ticket Central. Check it out at [http://www.nyu.edu/ticketcentral](http://www.nyu.edu/ticketcentral).

Are you more into theater or music than sports? Ticket Central’s Spring Specials also include discounts for Broadway and off Broadway shows, opera, music, and dance events.
Acquiring and spending money is a complicated issue for all and is deeply rooted in our upbringing, psychology, needs and desires. Every day we make choices involving money that come with consequences. In our seminars we try to raise consciousness about the impact on our lives of poor choices and spending beyond our means. We teach about the cost of credit card debt, the effects of a poor credit rating on future purchases, how to use credit wisely and the comfort and peace of mind of financial stability. We examine the process of distinguishing between needs and wants, about keeping a budget, self-discipline and savings toward goals like vacations and big purchases.

Sometimes, bad choices over time leave people with excessive debt. This means enough cash isn’t coming in to cover even the interest on the debt so you fall even further behind every month. For example, we recently helped an employee of NYU, who had 13 credit cards with the total balance over $35,000 and interest rates varying from 21% to 31.99%. We have consolidated her balances into one bill consolidation loan – rate is 11.5% and the monthly payment was decreased by over $400 per month, which she can apply toward one of her financial goals.

I enjoy pointing out in my classes that when you look at the beautiful skyscrapers and fancy offices of a Citibank or a Bank of America, remember to think that it is your money that built that building, the profits from the fees on your accounts or your overpriced loans paid for the fancy decor. I encourage everyone to understand the process, examine the choices, be aware of the pitfalls and avoid the hidden costs.

Mira Ness, CEO of the NYU Federal Credit Union, was recently a Friday Focus speaker on personal finance. Mira enjoys teaching people about money management and frequently offers seminars to the NYU community. The NYU Federal Credit Union offers free business and personal checking, online banking, investing, mortgages and loans and an NYUFCU credit card. You can learn more about the NYU Federal Credit Union on its website: www.nyufcu.com
Congratulate your colleagues who have reached 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, or 40 years of service at New York University! All recipients were invited to a Service Awards Ceremony organized by NYU’s Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing to celebrate these milestones on Tuesday, April 23, 2013. Employees celebrating 25 years of NYU service also attended a dinner hosted by NYU President John Sexton.


35 years – Gabriel Fulop, Bert Gaster, Harry G. Meeker, Ashok Soni

30 years – Jack P. Barak, Paul D. Freedman, Neal L. Kaplan, Eileen B. Kronenberg, Joanne P. Wright

25 years – Carol Alleyne, Marcia M. Ancher, H. Kendall Beacham, Reginald S. Brinkley, Joanne Dunbar, Jill B. Fernandez, Samuel T. Jung, Leonard I. Linkow, Lourdes Acosta Mendoza, Lisa Patterson, Bernard G. Rupnarain, Luz Tartaglia, Yuet Ming Yuen-Ologen

20 years – Vincent Alleluia, Catherine Clarence, Debra H. Cohn, Virginia Cummings, John S. Evans, Paul Federico, Nancy F. Fink, Dolores M. Franklin, Patricia Gaudin, Trevor R. Gottfried, Neal G. Herman, Thomas G. Jacoby, Vasiliki Karlis, Gerald Klaczany, Judith Kreismann, Ana Ledesma, Gayle T. Miranda, Ram D. Phull, Patrick E. Reid, Gail E. Schupak


To view more pictures, please go to http://www.nyu.edu/dental/galleries/serviceawards2013/
Are You Prepared for the Next Emergency Situation?

What if you were affected by a severe storm or other disaster? Do you have one gallon of drinking water per person per day available? Do you have a flashlight—with working batteries? Do you have copies of your important documents—such as insurance cards, birth certificates, photo IDs—in a waterproof and portable container? Do you know where to meet your household members? In a Friday Focus presentation on Emergency Preparedness, Glenn Marrus, Assistant Dean for Compliance & Emergency Response, and Ken Fauerbach, CIO, focused on different steps you can take now to protect yourself and others in the event of an emergency.

Please check out the following websites for resources on where to go and how to prepare:

- American Red Cross: [http://www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

Remember to build a kit, make a plan and be informed to make sure you are prepared for the next emergency situation!