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, Administration for Children’s Services, Health 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.

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 Salavaria.

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.
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.
MENTORING PROGRAM BOOK CLUB

During February, all participants in the mentoring program were invited to read a book for a group discussion. On February 28th, over 25 mentors and mentees shared with each other their thoughts about the books they had read (see below). It was interesting to hear what people got out of the books they read and how they could apply that knowledge to their professional as well as their personal lives. Come out of your comfort zone, focus on the future but also recognize the past, and capitalize on your strengths were some of the learning experiences described. The books that were offered included:

**Who Moved My Cheese?: An Amazing Way to Deal with Change in Your Work and in Your Life** by Spencer Johnson
**Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change** by William Bridges
**The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People: Powerful Lessons in Personal Change** by Stephen R. Covey
**Fish!** by Stephen Lundin
**Now, Discover Your Strengths** by Marcus Buckingham, & Donald O. Clifton

Mentoring Program participants Vera Vangler, Elaine Bajana, and Marsha Metrinko selected their own book to read: *Canada* by Richard Ford. They loved it and offered this review:

*Canada* is the story of young twins impacted by tragic circumstances. The narrator is Dell. He is 15 years old and trying to make a normal life for himself among dangerous adult chaos. His parents decide to rob a bank. All of a sudden, his dreams about a normal life are shattered. Twists and turns are unexpected and engaging. They leave you gasping for air and impatient to turn the page to see how the events will unfold, fearful of the next catastrophe. Every character, every event, is richly described in brilliant detail and you do not read this story, you live his life with him. You also learn about America after World War II, with former soldiers trying to survive in a new environment and adjust to an after-war life. You learn through him how one can be brave and carry on no matter what life throws at you... It is a MUST read.

SMART MONEY MANAGEMENT

By Mira Ness, CEO, NYU Federal Credit Union

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](http://www.nyufcu.com)
Service Awards 2013

Congratulations to 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-Ologan

20 years – Vincent Alleluia, Catherine Clarence, Debra H. Cohn, Virginia Cummings, John S. Evans, Paul Frederico, 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/
TAKE THOSE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES!

Increasing your knowledge, enhancing your skills, expanding your network—these are just a few of the great benefits of participating in learning opportunities. Whether you want to know more about NYUCD, improve your language skills, or learn from more experienced colleagues, you can access many learning opportunities offered by NYUCD and throughout NYU.

Connect with other employees and learn from each other by joining our Mentoring program for Staff & Administrators. Come to our Friday Focus program for Staff & Administrators if you want to learn more about NYUCD and meet coworkers from other departments. Enroll for the sessions you want to attend through NYUiLearn. When logged in on NYUiLearn, check out the other professional development opportunities offered by NYU’s Learning & Development Office, both online or in person.

Would you like to take a professional course, perhaps earn a certificate or even obtain a degree? Check out the NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies’ website (http://www.scps.nyu.edu/). You can still register for classes starting in May or summer courses. Remember that it’s never too late to learn!

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.

HR is in the Building

Spread the word. HR is in the Schwarz building Fridays from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm between Friday Focus sessions (room 612 or 614). Stop by and say “hi.”

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

American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org
Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): http://www.bt.cdc.gov

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