Commencement 2011

Tuesday, June 7, 2011
Alice Tully Hall
Lincoln Center
New York, New York
The CUNY School of Professional Studies (SPS)

The CUNY School of Professional Studies (SPS), established in 2003, offers innovative undergraduate and graduate level courses, certificates and degree programs, including the City University of New York’s (CUNY) first wholly online bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Drawing on CUNY’s nationally and internationally renowned faculty and practitioners, SPS offers programs in a wide range of disciplines. SPS’s industry and educational partners include the American Museum of Natural History, the CUNY Creative Arts Team (CAT), CUNY’s John F. Kennedy, Jr. Institute for Worker Education, The School of Public Affairs at Baruch College, and the Lincoln Center Institute for Arts in Education.

The CUNY School of Professional Studies is home to the Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies (Murphy Institute) and the Off-Campus College (OCC). The Murphy Institute provides educational opportunities to union members to meet their career advancement and personal growth needs and serves as an academic, policy and research resource on issues of concern to the labor movement. The OCC works with organizations to help employees take the necessary steps to develop in their professions while pursuing a college education.

The City University of New York, the nation’s largest urban public university, dates back to 1847 with the founding of the Free Academy by Townsend Harris. The mission of that institution, as he put it, was to “Open the doors to all—let the children of the rich and poor take seats together and know of no distinction save that of industry, good conduct and intellect.” Today, CUNY continues to provide an open door to educational opportunity and quality programs for all New Yorkers.
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Commencement 2011
The CUNY School of Professional Studies currently offers three scholarship opportunities to students.

The *Founding Dean’s Scholarship* is open to all qualified applicants enrolled in an SPS degree program on a part- or full-time basis. At least one scholarship will be awarded in the amount of $1,500 to a full-time student and at least one scholarship in the amount of $500 will be awarded to a part-time student on the basis of financial need, academic merit, and who are within one semester of completing their degree program.

**Recipients of the Founding Dean’s Scholarship for 2011 are:**

**Lynne C. Turner**

Lynne Turner is a candidate to receive her MA in Labor Studies in February 2012. In her years of working to advance collective bargaining rights and to raise the standards for workers through the building of community organizations, Turner realized that the labor movement faces many challenges to which there are no easy solutions and wherein multiple strategies are required.

She believes that the U.S. labor movement with its fifteen million members and thousands of non-union workers, is well-situated to spearhead large-scale educational outreach and intensive workshops that will empower them with the vision to reshape the political landscape and to revitalize the U.S. labor movement.

Turner says that her studies at the CUNY School of Professional Studies Murphy Institute have enabled her to sharpen her own critical analysis and to help her to formulate a framework to build an alternative narrative not only for workers, but also for their families, co-workers, and communities.

“I do believe that this is an opportune time to build new programs through labor education and receiving the Founding Dean’s Scholarship will enable me to sustain myself financially through graduation and beyond in launching new and extensive labor education programs in our region.”

**Nivia C. Martinez**

Nivia Martinez is pursuing her BA in Communication & Culture. Her studies have helped to build her interest in global affairs and a growing passion for a better understanding of humanity and an interactive community.

“This is an exciting age for communications in history, with all nations and cultures instantly connected and processing information faster than ever before,” says Martinez, whose goal is to pursue a career with an international organization that focuses on the dynamics of our global society.

When she completes her degree, Martinez plans to pursue a graduate degree that will continue to grow her skills and expertise. In a time when the cost of living and a troubling economy threaten one’s dream of an education, receiving the Founding Dean’s Scholarship is a gift she deeply appreciates.

“The value of an education is something that goes beyond dollars. It is valued for the awareness, confidence, and knowledge it brings to one’s life.”
2011 Scholarship Recipients

The Bob Martin Memorial Scholarship is open to any applicant with a 2.5 GPA or higher who is enrolled in a CUNY SPS online baccalaureate program on a part- or full-time basis, and who will be entering his/her final semester prior to completing the online degree. At least one scholarship in the amount of $1,000 will be awarded annually to an applicant who meets this criteria and on the basis of financial need and academic merit. The Bob Martin Memorial Scholarship was established by his family and friends to honor his love of learning and the pursuit of potential.

The recipient of the Bob Martin Memorial Scholarship for 2011 is:

Nakia Jawara

Nakia Jawara, a single parent with two young sons, is a candidate to complete her BA in Communication and Culture in 2011, represents the spirit of this memorial scholarship.

“SPS is an institution based on educational ethics. The staff is fantastic and my studies here have enabled me to become focused and with a newfound confidence I never thought possible,” she says.

As the scholarship’s namesake would have wished, Jawara believes that receiving the Bob Martin Memorial Scholarship has given her the opportunity to live her life to its fullest potential and to “spread my wings and fly.” Her future goals include pursuing a masters degree and working one day in the public relations field.
Faculty Speaker

Frances Fox Piven received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Before coming to the City University of New York, she taught at Boston University, Columbia University, New York University Law School, the Institute of Advanced Studies in Vienna, the University of Amsterdam, and the University of Bologna. She is past vice president of the American Political Science Association, has served as program co-chair of the annual political science meetings, is a past president of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and a recent past president of the American Sociological Association. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the President’s Award of the American Public Health Association, and the American Sociological Association’s Career Award for the Practice of Sociology, as well as their award for the Public Understanding of Sociology. Her books deal with the development of the welfare state, political movements, urban political, and electoral politics. Among them are Regulating the Poor (winner of the C. Wright Mills Award in 1972, and updated in 1993), Poor People’s Movements (1977); The New Class War (1982; updated 1985); Why Americans Don’t Vote (1988); The Mean Season (1987); Labor Parties in Postindustrial Societies (1992); The Breaking of the American Social Compact (1997); Why Americans Still Don’t Vote (2000); The War at Home (2004); Challenging Authority: How Ordinary People Change America (2006) and Keeping the Black Vote: Race and the Demobilization of American Voters (2009).
Ami Dar is the founder and executive director of Idealist.org. Built in 1996 with $3,500, Idealist has become one of the most popular nonprofit resources on the web, with information provided by 60,000 organizations around the world and 100,000 visitors every day. Ami is an Ashoka Fellow and currently serves on the boards of the Nonprofit Finance Fund and Allgood.org. He was born in Jerusalem, grew up in Peru and in Mexico, and lives in New York.
Greetings Class of 2011!

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to congratulate the 2011 graduates of the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

As graduates of this school, we are in a special class of our own. We have met challenges, overcome obstacles, and met life’s demands while continuing to focus on our educational goals. We realize that making sacrifices is ultimately worth it because the value of our college degree is immeasurable. We have prevailed. Graduates of the CUNY School of Professional Studies come from every segment of society and though from many different backgrounds, share a common experience as SPS students.

Tonight, as new graduates you join the SPS alumni family. We continue to be ambassadors for SPS through our work, our mentorship to current students, and with our ongoing involvement with the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

As chair of the SPS Alumni Relations Council, I encourage you to stay involved and stay connected with your school. I invite you to take advantage of all the SPS Alumni Association has to offer through networking, mentoring, attending alumni events, supporting programs and scholarships, and by taking a future leadership role in your Alumni Association.

On behalf of the SPS Alumni Association, I congratulate you on your achievements and wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

Crispin Goytia ('09, Communication and Culture)
Chair, SPS Alumni Relations Council

Get Involved. Stay Connected.

Learn more about how you can get involved with the CUNY SPS Alumni Association! Visit www.sps.cuny.edu/alumni or call 212.817.7142 for details.
Order of Ceremony

Processional

Introduction
Brian A. Peterson
Associate Dean of Administration and Finance, CUNY School of Professional Studies

The National Anthem

Welcoming Remarks
John Mogulescu
Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs and Dean, CUNY School of Professional Studies

Greetings
Wellington Z. Chen
Trustee, The City University of New York

Frank D. Sanchez
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, The City University of New York

William P. Kelly
President, The Graduate Center

Toni Pennacchia
Alumna, CUNY School of Professional Studies

Remarks on Behalf of the Faculty
Frances Fox Piven
Consortial Faculty, Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies at the CUNY School of Professional Studies and Distinguished Professor, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

Keynote Address
Ami Dar
Founder and Executive Director, Idealist.org/Action without Borders

Vocal Performance
J’Nelle Bobb-Semple and Timothy Connell
Candidates for Graduation in Applied Theatre

Remarks on Behalf of the Graduates
Bharat Gami
Candidate for Graduation, MS in Business Management & Leadership

Presentation of the Candidates
George Otte
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, CUNY School of Professional Studies

Conferring of Degrees
Dean Mogulescu

Recessional
Guests are asked to remain seated until after the stage party, faculty and graduates have exited the hall. Thank you for your cooperation.
Certificate Candidates

**Business Communication**

Candidate for the Certificate, June 7, 2011

Madeline Oppenheimer

**Disability Studies**

Advanced Certificate awarded September 1, 2010

Jonathon Epstein
Yoichiro Nakai

Advanced Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Lloyd Balch
Katarzyna Barszcz
Shannon Burrell

Candidates for the Advanced Certificate, June 7, 2011

Christine Cifone
Allison Downer
Charisma Marius

**Diversity in the Workplace**

Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Sheila Archer

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011

Brenda Burns
Bernquin Hayes-Brown

**Education Foundations**

Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Katherine Cintolo
Gloria Frias

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011

Gladys Alvarado
Sheila Archer
Joanna Batis
Lillian Flecha
Kevin Gillette

Gloria Frias
Angela Hepburn
Maria Ovando

**Health Care Policy & Administration**

Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Ranston Foster
Ethlyn Johnson
Vijayantie Ramsingh

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011

Carol Adams
Devika Brown
Sandra Flowers
Jessica Montes
Mayra Rosa

Advanced Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Luzviminda Alejandro
Astrid Armorer-Jackson

Candidate for the Advanced Certificate, June 7, 2011

Priscilla Leggette
Joan Thompson

**Immigration Law**

Certificate awarded September 1, 2010

Debra Billingy

Advanced Certificate awarded February 1, 2011

Elizabeth Adrien Daniel
Pavel Ananyev
Liana Antonenko
Cindy Bhajan
Nikole Knight

Candidates for the Advanced Certificate, June 7, 2011

Daniela Baban-Hurrle
Ellen Freitag
Patricia Jackson
Zoraida Lira
Luis Pimentel

Candidate for the Certificate, June 7, 2011

Granville Bach
Katarzyna Baturzyn

**Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011**

Gladys Alvarado
Sheila Archer
Joanna Batis
Lillian Flecha
Kevin Gillette

**Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011**

Madeline Oppenheimer

**Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011**

Gladys Alvarado
Sheila Archer
Joanna Batis
Lillian Flecha
Kevin Gillette

**Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011**

Gladys Alvarado
Sheila Archer
Joanna Batis
Lillian Flecha
Kevin Gillette

The candidates and academic honors listed are as of May 16, 2011, and are subject to such changes, deletions, and additions as are necessary to conform to the final and official records of the CUNY School of Professional Studies. A final listing of graduates and honors will be made available at a later date.
Certificate Candidates

Labor Relations
Certificate awarded February 1, 2011
Chastity Cruz-Hamilton
Angel Inizariz

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011
Angel Corchado
Daniel Danvers
Richard Gorgolone

Organizational Studies
Certificate awarded February 1, 2011
Orfa Wilson
Patricia Linen

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011
Hylda Cordova
Katia Belony

Project Management
Candidates for the Advanced Certificate, June 7, 2011
Marie Bresnahan
June Cumberbatch
Selma Cunningham

Public Administration & Public Policy
Certificate awarded February 1, 2011
Joan Reid

Candidates for the Certificate, June 7, 2011
Guang Chen
Phyllis Evans
Jennette Frazer
Stacy Lorenzo
Patricia McCabe

Public Administration & Public Policy Level I
Advanced Certificate awarded September 1, 2010
Nicole Barron
Narka Flocker
Olga Fridel
Roy Garcia
Matthew Hoffacker
Lillian Holt
Hsueh Leung

Candidates for the Advanced Certificate, June 7, 2011
Meena Lildharrie
Andrea Mcintosh
Amy O'Connor
Lisa-Desiree Promax
Gary Ragoobeer
Angel Taylor
Marsha White

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Baccalaureate Degree Candidates

Bachelor of Science
Business
Degree awarded September 1, 2010
Komal Choudary
Mordechay Givoni, magna cum laude
Moustafa Hussein
Samia Jawab
Nerecia Kelly
Nomssa Mlambo, magna cum laude
Kristine Pantorilla

Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Barbara Baptiste
Sabena Barry, cum laude
Jaime Bessa, cum laude
Rolando Bubadilla
Nina Bollinger, summa cum laude
Tracey Bowman, cum laude
Louis D’Louis
Jennifer Holland, cum laude
Colleen James, cum laude
Zoran Krcadinac, cum laude
Glenn Last
Marie-Karine Maillot, cum laude
Francisco Miranda
Joseph Nicovic
Sherris Pacheco, summa cum laude
Julio Pizarro, cum laude
Edwin Rodriguez, cum laude
Miriam Rodriguez
Bilma Rosario
Danielle Santiago
Antonella Santostefano, magna cum laude
Vanessa Sharma, summa cum laude

Candidates for the degree, June 7, 2011
Eleanor Bergonzo, cum laude
Ava Blake, cum laude
Dennis Burkley, summa cum laude
Victoria Byrd
Ashley Calder, magna cum laude
Clarissa David
Thomas Durante
Iraina Faisca, cum laude
Nyota Ferguson
Sonja Illic
Dharvendra Kanhai, summa cum laude
Sylbert Mathias, cum laude
Nicholas Morese
Stacey Orris, magna cum laude
Nicole Peluso
Janett Ramos, cum laude
William Ro
Viviana Rodriguez
Jodi Shepard-Cheatham, cum laude
Emine Simsek, magna cum laude
Aleksey Sprygin, cum laude
D’Audra Thompson
Dorothy Wallace, magna cum laude
Shawn Yarally

Academic Honors
Honors designations are computed using only those courses taken in the CUNY School of Professional Studies and awarded when students have completed their baccalaureate degree with a final grade point average as follows:

- **Cum Laude**
  - “With Honors” 3.50

- **Magna Cum Laude**
  - “With Great Honor” 3.75

- **Summa Cum Laude**
  - “With Highest Honor” 3.85

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Baccalaureate Degree Candidates

Bachelor of Arts
Communication and Culture

Degree awarded September 1, 2010
Dawnette James
Terry Melvin

Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Matthew Amitrano
John Capizzi, summa cum laude
Issacc Cearc
Kar Man Chan
Laverne Clare
Darien Dacosta, summa cum laude
Nicholas Dalessio
Guy Dillon
Samantha Fairweather, summa cum laude
Heather Fiorucci, cum laude
Johanna Guerrero
Tamara Helenius Corasaniti, magna cum laude
Emily Jimenez
Margaret Kimball, summa cum laude
Ognjen Kunic
Rupali Kumar, magna cum laude
Maria Morales
Donald Moss, summa cum laude
Charles Newell, summa cum laude
Gisselle Padilla, magna cum laude
Trudy Pestano
Aiko Reijmers, summa cum laude
Cleo Robertson
Stefanie Shafeek, cum laude
Heather Steiny
Gina Vilbrun, cum laude
Andrea Zmuda

Candidates for the degree, June 7, 2011
Eddy Amezquita
Erin Ardeleigh, cum laude
Laquanda Carter
Anastasia Celauro, summa cum laude
Martine Chevry
Faye Constantine
Shamir Cruz, cum laude
Terrie-Ann Dacosta
Lori DeToma-Frank, magna cum laude
Adam Dicker, cum laude
Georgia Dimino, magna cum laude
Adaiah Duncan
Chelsea Dyer
Irena Evans
Aldona Filipowicz
Frank Fowles
Tomas Guerra, cum laude
Adam J. Gurzynski, cum laude
Christina M. Head, cum laude
Helen Hildreth-Roszko
Sandra Jeanty
Nicole Jeon
Nicole Lacy
Yiu Ming Li
Cynthia McInnis, cum laude
George McKibbens
Seamus McManus, summa cum laude
Jennifer Morales
Laura Neligan, cum laude
Cecile Paul
Erinn Pina, summa cum laude
Melissa Ramos, summa cum laude
Kristine Rawls
Christopher Reis, summa cum laude
Lindsey Roth-Rosen, cum laude
Lily Sato
Andrea Urrea
Richard Vida, summa cum laude
John Villanueva
Latesha White

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Masters Degree Candidates

Applied Theatre
Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Anita Ernell Mcclenon

Candidates for the Degree, June 7, 2011
Hilary Adams
Piper Anderson
Sarah Bellantoni
Jennifer Bleier
J’Nelle Bobb-Semple
Timothy Connell
Ria Cooper
Kathleen Devine
Jason Diminich
Meggan Dodd
Carrie Ellman-Larsen
Anneka Fagundes
William Fisher
Jennifer Houseal
Cardozie Jones
Alexis Nistico
Elizabeth Parker
Laura Plaster
Kevin Ray
Elizabeth Sweeney
Sherry Teitelbaum
Michael Wilson
Claire Yang

Disability Studies
Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Evelyn Alvarez-Richards
Nina Bhola
Sonia Coote
Carrie Depasquale
Sandy Drakes
Phyllis Duke

Candidates for the Degree, June 7, 2011
Angelo Aiken
Olawanle Asenuga
Winnie Braxton
Duan Campbell
Rosemary Kwofie
Deborah Moody
Melanie Moreno
Joy Palmer
Stacy-Ann Tinglin
Daniel Werges

Business Management & Leadership
Degree awarded September 1, 2010
Sang Min You

Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Amanda Pagan-Glass
Michael Raizberg

Candidates for the degree, June 7, 2011
Nicholas Barratt
Latoya Coute
Christopher Dean
Yomi Desalu
Bharat Gami
Deslyn George
Zoë Hawthorne
Brian Kucha
Benjamin Rand
Alexis Snowden
Maxine Torres
Michael Van Sertima

Disability Studies
Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Evelyn Alvarez-Richards
Nina Bhola
Sonia Coote
Carrie Depasquale
Sandy Drakes
Phyllis Duke

Candidates for the Degree, June 7, 2011
Angelo Aiken
Olawanle Asenuga
Winnie Braxton
Duan Campbell
Rosemary Kwofie
Deborah Moody
Melanie Moreno
Joy Palmer
Stacy-Ann Tinglin
Daniel Werges

Labor Studies
Degree awarded February 1, 2011
Cicely Johnson
Sonomi Kato

Candidates for the Degree, June 7, 2011
John Cronan
Robert Darao
Aliqae Geraci
Regine Grice
Robert Hill
Qiana Lucas
Nastaran Mohit
Kadia Ramsey
Mahesha Rathnayake
Mudiyanselage
Bernard Sawadogo
April Wainwright

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Acknowledgements

Sign language interpretation for tonight’s program has been provided by Hands in Motion.

Photography is provided by Phil Stein and Grad Images.

Program book designed by Amy Schraub Designs, Inc.

The CUNY School of Professional Studies extends its appreciation to Alison Walters, Devan Fillat, Terry Larsen and Domingo Cabrera, and all the staff of Alice Tully Hall and Restaurant Associates for their assistance in coordinating tonight’s event.

Academic Regalia

The wearing of caps and gowns in academic ceremonies is a long held tradition dating back to the medieval beginnings of the university system. In that era, heavy woolen robes were de rigueur, though this was due more to a lack of heat in the halls of academia than to a passing trend in fashion.

Contemporary fabric blends may be replacing the traditional woolen robe, but the signature colors and styling for this regalia remain steadfast against the passing of time.

Gowns for those who have earned a doctorate degree tend to be quite elaborate, featuring wide bell sleeves and velvet panels running down the front and across the sleeves. These gowns, which at one point in American history were universally black, are generally connected by their color to the degree-granting school of the graduate. Master’s level gowns are characterized by their long squared-off sleeves, while bachelor’s gowns are identifiable by their clean lines and long-pointed sleeves.

The hood worn by academics reveals additional insight into the education of the wearer. The inside of each hood is lined in the colors of the graduate’s alma mater, while the border around the hood generally indicates the degree subject of the graduate. Hoods are worn draped around the throat and over the shoulders, so that the identifying colors can be easily spotted under the chin.