



**Minutes of a Stated Meeting of the
Senate of New York University
February 12, 2015**

A stated meeting of the Senate of New York University was held on Thursday, February 12, 2015, at 2 p.m., in the Colloquium Room of the Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life, 238 Thompson Street. The meeting was convened with Dr. Sexton in the chair.

Tenure/Tenure Track Faculty Senators Council (“T/TT FSC”) Members Present:

Raghu Sundaram (Chair), Everett Allgood, Sinan Antoon, Hasia Diner, Thomas Drysdale (for Awam Amkpa), Miriam Ebsworth (for Mark Alter), Maria Grigos (for Wen Ling), Warren Jelinek, Angela Kamer, Martin Klimke (by telephone), Jill Lane (for John Archer), Jo Labanyi (for David Pearce), Allen Mincer, Maurizio Porfiri, Daniel Smith, Arthur Tannenbaum, and George Thurston (for David Stokes).

Full-Time, Non-Tenure Track/Contract Faculty Senators Council (“N/C-FSC”)

Members Present: Ann Marie Mauro (Chair), Amy Becker, Joseph Borowiec, Fred Carl, Joseph Carter, Eugene Cittadino, David Elcott, Nancy Fefferman, John Gurrin, John Halpin, Mary Killilea, Diane Mirabito (for Peggy Morton), Brian Mooney, Randy Mowry, Ronald Rainey, Vincent Renzi (for Ben Stewart), and Larry Slater.

Student Senators Council (“SSC”) Members Present:

Jules O’Connor (Chair), Samia Ahmed, Jonathan Bach, Nikita Chaudhry, Adrian Co, Victoria Ettore, Vincenza Graci, Jessica L. Hawk, Michael Hengerer, Kevin Jones, Magnolia Jorge, Hani Kfourri, Masha Leonov, Jennifer Little, Yaowan Lu, Leah McNally, Allison Raba (for John Belknap), Keagan Sakai-Kawada, Kaja Schmidt, Griffin Simpson, Jonathan Steinberg, Derek Tu, and Colin Waddell.

Deans Council Members Present:

Lynn Videka (Chair), Kurt Becker (for Katepalli Sreenivasan), Charles Bertolami, Dominic Brewer, Tom Carew, Allyson Green, Randy Hertz (for Trevor Morrison), Joanne Hvala (for Peter Blair Henry), Fiona Jaramillo (for Dennis DiLorenzo), Karen Krahulik (for Gabrielle Starr), Ellen Lovitz (for Sherry Glied), Kathleen Talvacchia (for Lauren Benton), and Diann Witt (for Geeta Menon).

Administrative Management Council (“AMC”) Members Present:

David Vintinner (Chair), Regina Drew, Justine Kelly-Fierro, Tatum Soo Kim, John De Santis, and Kristi Schwindt Ramos.

University Administration Members Present: Martin Dorph and Terrance Nolan.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of December 4, 2014

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the December 4, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

Mr. Vintinner reported that at its January 12, 2015 meeting, the Committee elected Terrance J. Nolan, General Counsel and University Secretary, as the Secretary of the Senate, and at the request of the SSC and the T/TT-FSC, the Committee unanimously approved updates to the Senate Standing Committee assignments by email ballot. The approved list of Committee assignments was emailed to the Senate prior to today's meeting.

Academic Affairs Committee

Committee Co-Chair Tatum Soo Kim reported that the Committee created a subcommittee to examine the issue of closings for religious holidays given varied practices in the countries in which NYU has global sites.

Financial Affairs Committee

Martin Dorph, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President for Finance and IT, reported that at its last Committee meeting, the SSC and AMC presented their budget recommendations. At the March 26th Senate meeting, the Committee will present a report based on the findings of the Divestment Working Group.

Committee on Organization and Governance

Mr. Hengerer began with a quote by Mark Twain: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts." He reported that SCOG continues to examine the size of the Senate, considering the practices of peer universities as well as the changes to the composition of the Senate that were made last year. Mr. Hengerer reported that the Committee would be reviewing the responses to the questionnaire that SCOG distributed to the chairs of each of the Senate Councils and Committees regarding the size of the Senate. He also emphasized SCOG's sensitivity to concerns that reducing the size of the Senate could affect the functionality of the Councils, and noted SCOG's commitment to honoring the Senate Executive Committee's recommendation that the Senate not exceed 120 senators, while also ensuring that each Council has sufficient representation.

Dr. Sexton emphasized the importance of the issue of the size of the Senate.

Public Affairs Committee

Mr. Tannenbaum provided the following moments in history: today marks the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, Charles Darwin, the English naturalist best known for his theory of evolution, and Ethan Allen, a patriot and politician of the Revolutionary War. He presented the annual reports on government and community

relations, outlining public policy issues important to University faculty, students, and staff. The reports are attached to these minutes as Exhibit A.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Administrative Management Council

Mr. Vintinner reported on AMC events and activities since the Senate's last meeting, and noted the election of two new AMC representatives from the NYU Abu Dhabi and NYU Shanghai portal campuses. He stated that in the future, the Institute of Fine Arts and the Institute of the Study of the Ancient World will share representatives as a combined unit in the AMC.

Mr. Vintinner noted that the AMC passed a resolution in January clarifying its recommendation that the University restore employee tuition remission for administrators to 100% while leaving dependent tuition remission at 90%. He emphasized the AMC's views that a change in this policy would improve the caliber and quality of NYU administrators. Mr. Vintinner reported that the AMC also resolved that NYU leadership in the schools and units should allow tuition funding to be paid from professional development budget sources for employees who want to take courses and are accepted as special students, which the AMC hopes will encourage the use of existing professional development funding.

Mr. Vintinner reported that the AMC resolved in January to recommend a change to the bonding leave policy that would expand eligibility to administrators who have completed two years of full-time service (including related leaves which are excluded under the current policy) prior to birth, adoption, or placement of foster care children. The AMC believes that this change would have a minimal impact on the University's finances.

Deans Council

Dean Videka reported that the Deans Council is working on its response to the SCOG survey and continues to discuss classroom media needs. At its last meeting, Brian Perillo, Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations, addressed the Council about ways to strength relationships between the schools and Alumni Relations.

Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty Senators Council (T/TT-FSC)

Dr. Sundaram reported that Robert Berne, Executive Vice President for Health, spoke to the Council at its January meeting about the proposed new Faculty of Health, which proposal is being reviewed. He also reported that the Council unanimously approved changes to the T/TT FSC election system, which will become effective in the 2015-2016 academic year. The election of the next T/TT FSC chair will be held at the Council's February 19th meeting.

Full-Time Non-Tenure Track/Contract Faculty Senators Council (N/C-FSC)

Dr. Mauro welcomed Senator Amy Becker, Director of the Writing Program and Senior Lecturer at NYU Shanghai, and reported on the work of the Council and its committees since the last Senate meeting. She related that the N/C-FSC Steering Committee met with Dr. Berne regarding the health realignment plan and will provide recommendations for additional clarifications to the proposal. In addition, the Council will be submitting its response to SCOG's survey regarding Senate size and composition. Dr. Mauro emphasized that the N/C-FSC is not in favor of reducing the size of the Senate. She noted that the N/C-FSC Steering Committee requested data regarding the numbers of FTNTT/CF, University-wide and by school, including their years at NYU, which was provided by Peter Gonzalez, Assistant Provost for Academic Appointments. Dr. Mauro explained that the N/C-FSC Steering Committee is developing a survey to collect longevity data from each school.

Student Senators Council

Ms. O'Connor reported that in January, the SSC attended a Global Student Government Summit in Abu Dhabi with their counterparts in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai. The groups explored the creation and implementation of a global club infrastructure, the functionality of the three student governments, and how to best institutionalize communication across campuses. She also reported on the SSC and UCSL retreat to the NYU Washington, D.C. site during which they explored the internal dynamics of executive and legislative roles and ways to improve interactions with the student body. The SSC also is preparing for the Violet 100 Spirit Week and working on its response to the SCOG survey.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Sexton referred to the memorandum that was circulated to each Senator, and is attached to these minutes as Exhibit B, which outlines some of the individual and collective achievements at the University since the Senate's last meeting.

Dr. Sexton spoke about the important issues of access, quality, and affordability of higher education and urged Senators to be ambassadors in conversations regarding the cost and value of higher education. He also expressed his sadness at the passing of former NYU President James Hester and Trustee Jay Furman, emphasizing their significant contributions to the University. Dr. Sexton reminded Senators that the March 26th Senate meeting will begin at 9 a.m.

Emergency Preparedness

Dr. Sexton introduced Alison Leary, Executive Vice President for Operations, who provided a report on the University's Emergency Preparedness initiatives. She spoke about the substantial effort put into emergency evacuation preparedness, with exercises performed in New York and many of the University's global sites that address evacuation procedures that may be necessary as a result either of a natural disaster, security crisis, or other man-made disaster. She related that NYU also has undertaken workplace violence training, which aims to increase awareness so that employees and the University can be more

proactive in trying to prevent or react to such violence. Ms. Leary encouraged Senators to utilize NYU Traveler, which is mandatory for undergraduate students, and is the University's best resource for tracking and assessing the safety of faculty, students, and staff traveling abroad.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Terrance J. Nolan,
Secretary

NYU Community Relations Update for University Senate

Civic Engagement Announcements

NYU Received “Community Engagement Classification” from The Carnegie Foundation

- The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching selected NYU as one of only 240 U.S. colleges and universities to receive its 2015 Community Engagement Classification.
- NYU first received this prestigious classification in 2006 and successfully re-applied for the 2015 round.
- Data was gathered from across the University and the Civic Engagement team is working to distill the information in a way to ensure it can be a resource (i.e., for faculty who are working on federal grants and need a community outreach component)
- In addition NYU has been named to the 2014 President’s (Obama) Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction.

Superblock Improvements and Mitigation

Prior to the start of construction on the Coles site, the University is undertaking a series of important mitigation efforts. These include window replacements throughout Washington Square Village and Silver Towers and other important projects.

Here is an update:

- The window replacement project in Washington Square Village is progressing well. Installation started in buildings 3 and 4 in November 2014. Buildings 3 and 4 are scheduled to be completed in May 2015. Window replacements in buildings 1 and 2 will begin in May 2015 (once buildings 3 and 4 are completed).
- **Updates on the WSV window replacement project (and any construction project at NYU) can be found on the [NYU Construction webpage](#).**
- The window replacement project in Silver Towers is scheduled to begin at the end of April 2015 and be completed by the end of 2015.

Open Space Improvements Projects

- Landscape improvements and the addition of seating are being planned on portions of open space around the Superblocks. Specifically the fenced off tree area north of Silver Towers “The Bleecker Street Seating Area” and the area along LaGuardia that runs south of the LaGuardia statue, are slated for improvements including better plantings and some seating.
- The proposals have been shaped by the NYC Parks Department with input from the surrounding community. The proposals are slated for approval by the City in the coming weeks. Construction on those spaces should start in the late spring.

- A new Mercer Houston Dog Run Association (MHDRA) will be developed to the west of Coles. Plans have been approved by the Dog Run Association and work should commence in the spring! And the dogs are happy!

NYU in Brooklyn!

- The team also reported on exciting things going on in Brooklyn – Engineering, CUSP, MAGNET and incubators. All of these programs are doing great and exciting things academically and in the community. Brooklyn is a welcome home for the entrepreneurs!
- On the facilities front, NYU is making substantial Capital upgrades to the School of Engineering (Poly) and working with the City of New York to transform the long-empty 370 Jay Street building into a global center for science, technology, and education.

NYU Government Relations Update for University Senate

Washington, DC

The Government Relations team is monitoring and working on the following:

- Advocating for funding for the core student aid programs (Pell, work-study and SEOG grants) and funding for research (NIH, NSF, DOE).
- Reviewing President Obama's Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Proposal which was released in early February. Much of it contained good news – as the administration proposes a 3-5 percent increase for the research agencies and a \$140 increase in the maximum Pell Grant.
- Congress will begin the process of reauthorizing the Higher Education Act (HEA) later this year, there are some concerns that streamlining and consolidation will lead to important aid programs going away.
- Reviewing the Obama Administration College Ratings Proposal, which will rate universities (by sector) on a host of metrics.
- Monitoring Sexual Assault Legislation (State & Federal)
- The annual NYU student lobbying day in Washington DC will be April 1, 2015.

Albany, New York

The Government Relations team is monitoring and working on the following:

- Student aid – the Governor's proposed budget continues to fund important financial aid programs including TAP, HEOP, CSTEP, STEP and many others. This year, the Governor has proposed increases in both TAP and the Opportunity Programs (HEOP, STEP, CSTEP).
- Advocating for STEM scholarship program expansion to include private university students.
- Support for the Governor's proposed a loan forgiveness program called the *Get on Your Feet Program* which would allow the state to contribute to the loan payments of recent graduates who earn under \$50,000. President Sexton released a [statement in support](#) of this proposal.
- Support for the New York State DREAM Act, which would allow undocumented students to have access to state financial aid programs.
- The annual advocacy day WAS on February 10th, with approximately 40 students traveling to Albany to advocate for the continued support of these programs.



**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
University Senate Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2015**

As we begin the new semester, it is my pleasure to share with you announcements of the NYU community's recent news and honors.

NEWS

The NYU community recently lost two stalwarts of the University:

- **James Hester, who served as NYU's president from 1962 to 1975, passed away on December 31.** In increasing the quality of the student body, attracting prominent faculty from around the country, and overseeing the creation of Bobst Library, Dr. Hester laid the groundwork for NYU's evolution from a largely commuter school to one of the world's premier research universities. In addition, at a time of financial crisis for the University, he made the difficult decision to close NYU's Heights campus in the Bronx, foreseeing that NYU's future would be tied to its historic presence in Greenwich Village. In so doing, he set the stage for the NYU we know today.
- **Jay Furman (STERN '65, LAW '71), NYU trustee, trustee of the School of Law, and trustee of NYU Langone Medical Center, died on January 4.** Among the many legacies he leaves at NYU are the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy and Furman Hall at the law school and two scholarship programs bearing his name. He believed wholeheartedly in the University and its promise, and enthusiastically committed himself to keeping faith with that belief.

In the eighth year in a row of record applications, 60,322 men and women applied for freshman admission to the Class of 2019. The 15% increase over last year is the largest increase in applications since 1999. NYU Shanghai saw a 31% increase in applicants, NYU Abu Dhabi saw a 26% rise, and the New York campus experienced a 14% increase. In addition, we believe that for the first time, Early Decision applications surpassed those of any other university in the U.S.: a record 7,749 students applied for Early Decision admission, an 11% increase over last year.

After a five-month selection process, NYU has chosen a partnership of two architecture firms – Davis Brody Bond and KieranTimberlake – to design its major new facility along Mercer Street between Houston and Bleecker. Collectively, the two firms are responsible for a number of high-profile commissions, including the 9/11 Memorial Museum and the U.S. Embassy in London, along with extensive projects in higher education. Among the design team's first steps will be a process of consultation involving many stakeholders in the University community and its neighbors. Feedback from these sessions will inform an iterative design process. Thank you to the Superblock Stewardship Advisory Committee, led by Tisch School of

the Arts professor **Laurence Maslon**, for its guidance at every stage of the selection process. Selection of the construction management firm will be finalized shortly.

NYU has been awarded the prestigious Community Engagement Classification by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in recognition of the strong role civic engagement plays in university life. One of 361 colleges and universities to be cited by the foundation, NYU demonstrated extensive engagement with both the New York City community and the overseas communities at our global sites. In the last year alone, more than 13,000 NYU students performed over 1.3 million hours of service, and 9,000 students participated in 753 service learning and service-related courses.

FACULTY HONORS

Richard Tsien, the Druckenmiller Professor of Neuroscience, chair of the department of physiology and neuroscience, and director of the Neuroscience Institute at NYU Langone Medical Center, has been named co-recipient of the 2014 Ralph W. Gerard Prize, the highest award presented by the Society for Neuroscience. Professor Tsien's research has contributed to scientists' understanding of cellular signaling, with implications for learning and memory and for neuropsychiatric disorders such as autism.

Two faculty members have been awarded William J. Gies Awards for Vision, Innovation, and Achievement by the American Dental Education Association. Stuart Hirsch, vice dean for initiatives and development and professor of cariology and comprehensive care at the College of Dentistry, was recognized with the Gies Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Dental Educator for his leadership of NYUCD's global outreach program. Eduardo Rodriguez, the Helen L. Kimmel Professor of Reconstructive Plastic Surgery and chair of the department of plastic surgery at Langone, won the Gies Award for Outstanding Innovation by a Dental Educator for his groundbreaking work in the care of patients living with severe facial deformities.

John Rinzel, professor of neural science and mathematics at the Center for Neural Science and the Courant Institute, has been named winner of the 2015 Arthur T. Winfree Prize by the Society for Mathematical Biology. Professor Rinzel was awarded the prize, which honors a theoretician whose research has inspired significant new biology, for his "elegant work on the analysis of dynamical behavior in models of neural activity" and his contributions to the understanding of single neurons, small populations of neurons, and other excitable cells.

Emily Fragos, faculty member at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study, is one of two poets selected by Poet Laureate Charles Wright to receive 2015 Wittner Bynner Fellowships, which provide \$10,000 to support the writing of poetry. Commenting on the selection of Professor Fragos, Mr. Wright described her subjects as "strong and deep and very close to the nerve ends."

Geeta Menon, dean of the undergraduate college at Stern School of Business, the Abraham Krasnoff Professor of Global Business, and professor of marketing, has been named to the *Economic Times* of India's "Top 20 List of Global Indian Women," highlighting leaders in business and the arts. Dean Menon was honored for her research in consumer memory,

information processing, and emotions in the context of survey methodology, and for her work as dean in the areas of academic excellence and innovation, “glocal” perspective, and building a vibrant Stern community.

Two members of the Law School community, Bryan Stevenson, professor of clinical law, and civil rights attorney Constance Rice ('84) have been appointed members of President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, part of the administration's efforts to strengthen trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. The nine-person task force includes law enforcement representatives, community leaders, academics, and youth leaders.

Perry Halkitis, professor of applied psychology, public health, and medicine at Steinhardt and associate dean of academic affairs at the Global Institute of Public Health, has been named winner of the 2015 Psychology and AIDS Distinguished Leadership Award by the American Psychological Association. Professor Halkitis's research examines the intersection between the HIV epidemic, drug abuse, and mental health burden, primarily in LGBT populations.

H. Jonathan Chao, professor of electrical and computer engineering at the Polytechnic School of Engineering, has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). Professor Chao's work has made possible significant advances in telecommunications systems, network performance, and network security, and he holds more than 50 patents on his discoveries. He is one of 170 innovators elected as NAI fellows in 2014.

Juliana Freire, professor of computer science and engineering at the School of Engineering with affiliated appointments at Courant, CUSP, and the Center for Data Science, has been named a fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the world's largest educational and scientific computing society. Professor Freire's research interests are in large-scale data analysis, visualization, and provenance management.

Two professors of electrical engineering at the School of Engineering have been named fellows of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE): Francisco de Leon and Unnikrishna Pillai. Professor de Leon's research helps ensure that electric-utility equipment is reliable and resistant to damage. Professor Pillai was recognized for his contributions to adaptive signal processing and radar systems – areas of importance in both military and civilian arenas. Just one-tenth of one percent of IEEE members are selected as fellows each year.

Jonathan Freeman, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology, has been named to *Forbes* magazine's "30 under 30" game changers who are "transforming the world." The magazine cites Professor Freeman for his pioneering research on the brain mechanisms underlying snap judgments as well as his creation of software that analyzes the movement of a test subject's mouse cursor, which can be linked to brain-imaging data.

Charles Jones, senior fellow at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW), has been honored by the Archaeological Institute of America with its award for Outstanding Work in Digital Archaeology. Professor Jones was recognized for his blog

AWOL: The Ancient World Online, in which he catalogs open-access material related to the ancient world.

The Social Science Research Network has recognized two Stern professors' work among their "Top 10 Papers of 2014." Dolly Chugh, assistant professor of management and organizations, was cited for her paper, "What Happens Before? A Field Experiment Exploring How Pay and Representation Differentially Shape Bias on the Pathway into Organizations." Aswath Damodaran, the Kerschner Family Chair in Finance Education, was recognized for his paper, "Equity Risk Premiums: Determinants, Estimation, and Implications – the 2013 Edition."

The Stern School's Jonathan Haidt, the Thomas Cooley Professor of Ethical Leadership, and Dolly Chugh, assistant professor of management and organizations, have been named to *Ethisphere* magazine's "100 Most Influential in Business Ethics" list. Professor Haidt was recognized for his research and for founding Ethical Systems, a non-profit collaboration of scholars that pools their research insights to promote the ethical functioning of corporations. Professor Chugh was cited for her advocacy for and participation in the education reform movement.

Natalie Jeremijenko, associate professor of art and art education at Steinhardt, has been awarded the VIDA Pioneers Prize, an international honor recognizing excellence in the field of new media. An artist, engineer, and inventor, Professor Jeremijenko was recognized for her "ability to interpret the scientific revolutions of time and their social, political, and cultural implications" and for her guidance of young artists and researchers.

Three faculty members at the Silver School of Social Work have been honored by the New York City chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The recipients are:

- **Kate Barrow, adjunct faculty member, Emerging Leader Award**
- **Onaje Muid, adjunct lecturer, Mid-Career Exemplary Leader Award**
- **Gary Parker, deputy director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, Mid-Career Exemplary Leader Award**

In addition, **Silver doctoral student Jane Lee** and three alumnae, **V. Clare Morris ('09), Danielle Murphy-Coward ('11), and Libby Traynor ('98)** were also named award winners.

Troy McKenzie, professor and co-faculty director of the Center on Civil Justice at the School of Law, has been elected to the American Law Institute (ALI). His research interests include bankruptcy, civil procedure, complex litigation, and the federal courts. With the addition of Professor McKenzie, ALI elected and lifetime members now include 30 NYU Law faculty members.

A paper by Stern's Arun Sundararajan, professor of information, operations, and management sciences, and doctoral student Tingting Nian won the Best Conference Award at the 2014 INFORMS Conference on Information Systems and Technology. Their paper is entitled, "The Goldilocks Principle: Why Mid-Tier Brands Invest More in Social Media."

Gilles Bransbourg, research associate at ISAW, has been named a Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques, which recognizes those who have rendered eminent service to French

education and have contributed actively to the prestige of French culture. Dr. Bransbourg, who is also adjunct Roman curator at the American Numismatic Society, researches the economic and monetary aspects of the Greco-Roman Mediterranean world.

Agnel Sfeir, faculty member in the Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine and assistant professor of cell biology at Langone, has been named one of this year's 18 recipients of a Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering. Professor Sfeir's goal is to understand the basis of mitochondrial DNA aberrations and to manipulate the genome to revert such errors.

Susan B. Neuman, professor of early childhood and literacy education at Steinhardt, received the 2014 Oscar Causey Award for outstanding contributions to reading research, the highest honor given by the Literacy Research Association. Professor Neuman's research and teaching interests include early childhood policy, curriculum, and early reading instruction for children who live in poverty.

Jian-Jun Zhang, professor of art at NYU Shanghai, has been awarded a 2014 New York Foundation for the Arts Artists' Fellowship in the "crafts/sculpture" discipline. Professor Zhang utilizes his experience living in Chinese and Western cultures to create multimedia artwork that integrates this unique outlook.

Additional faculty news is available in the Faculty News Brief, emailed regularly to faculty members. To view the latest issue online, visit <http://nyu.edu/fnb>.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI HONORS

Two Steinhardt alumni, Ian Axel ('07) and Chad Vaccarino ('07), have won a 2015 Grammy Award in the category of Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for "Say Something" with Christina Aguilera. Ian and Chad met in Steinhardt's music business program; together they make up the New York-based duo A Great Big World.

Six alumni from the Tisch School won prizes at the 72nd Annual Golden Globe Awards. The winners included:

- **Gina Rodriguez '06**, Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series – Comedy or Musical for *Jane the Virgin*
- Consulting producers **Nisha Galantra '99** and **Joan Scheckel '85**, Best Television Series – Comedy or Musical for *Transparent*
- Executive producer **Joel Coen '78** and consulting producers **Ben Nedivi '02** and **Matt Wolpert '01**, Best Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television for *Fargo*

Five TSOA alumni have received Academy Award nominations this year:

- **Andrew Lazar '89**, producer, Best Picture for *American Sniper*
- **Lisa Bruce '91**, producer, Best Picture for *The Theory of Everything*
- **Mark Bridges '87**, Achievement in Costume Design for *Inherent Vice*
- **Bennett Miller '89**, Achievement in Directing for *Foxcatcher*
- **E. Max Frye '85**, Original Screenplay for *Foxcatcher*

Seven TSOA students and alumni received special honors at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival. **Alfonso Gomez-Rejon ('94)** won the Audience Award: U.S. Dramatic and the U.S. Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic for *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*. **Tyler Brodie ('98)** received the U.S. Grand Jury Prize: Documentary & Best of Fest for *The Wolfpack*. **Suraj Sharma ('17)** won the World Cinema Audience Award: Dramatic for *Umrika*. **Josh Mond ('06), Antonio Campos ('06), and Sean Durkin ('06)** received the Audience Award: NEXT for *James White*. And **Atsuko Hirayanagi ('13)** was honored with the Short Film Jury Award: International Fiction for *Oh Lucy!* The awards capped another strong year for NYU at Sundance, with TSOA students and alumni affiliated with nearly 200 films at the festival.

A student and an alumna from the Gallatin School have received 2014 Fulbright awards. **Martha O'Donovan ('14)** will travel to Zambia to study youth musical culture there. **Karina Altamirano ('15)** will conduct research in China on the Chinese political economy and Chinese-American business relations.

Three Tisch students and alumni have been selected for DGA Student Film Awards, which honor outstanding minority and women film students, by the Directors Guild of America. **Yulin Liu ('15)** won in the Women's category; **Kiara Jones ('14)** won the DGA Jury Award in the African American category; and **Christopher Loanzon ('14)** won in the Asian American category.

An entrepreneurial public-service app started by two 2012 Wagner Graduate School of Public Service graduates – Miriam Altman and Alex Meis – has been selected as one of three finalists for the \$3.5 million Robin Hood College Success Prize, a challenge by the Robin Hood Foundation to develop interventions proven to be capable of raising the graduation rate of community college students with remedial needs. The app, *Kinvolved*, increases real-time communication among student support networks; it has been deployed in numerous secondary schools, allowing teachers, guidance counselors, and guardians to keep track of and communicate about tardiness and absences.

GRANTS

A College of Dentistry research team, led by Karen Raphael, professor of oral and maxillofacial pathology, radiology, and medicine, has received a grant of nearly \$3 million from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. The team will study the safety of Botox when used to treat pain from temporomandibular disorders, which involve the masticatory muscles and/or the temporomandibular joint.

The National Science Foundation has awarded a multidisciplinary research team \$2.54 million for a project that will help middle school science and math teachers employ robotics to teach science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The team is comprised of lead researchers **Vikram Kapila, professor of mechanical engineering,** and **Magued Iskander, professor of civil and urban engineering** at the School of Engineering; **Catherine Milne, associate professor of science education,** and **Orit Zaslavsky, professor of math education** at the Steinhardt School; and **Ben Esner, director of the Center for K-12 STEM Education** at the School of Engineering. The program will also help middle school instructors – most teaching

in economically disadvantaged, underrepresented New York City communities – prepare for the Next Generation Science Standards and the Common Core State Standards for Math.

Michelle Munson, associate professor at the Silver School, has received a three-year, \$660,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to further develop Cornerstone, an intervention that helps low-income youth with mental disorders transition from childhood to adulthood. Cornerstone provides learning strategies to help young adults manage emotions and stress, gain or sustain jobs or postsecondary education, obtain a place to live, and develop a support network.

Joo H. Kim, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the School of Engineering, has been awarded a three-year, \$539,000 National Robotics Initiative grant from the National Science Foundation. Professor Kim is helping to develop wearable robotic exoskeletons, which will have utility for those with disabilities affecting the lower limbs and could also help military personnel and people in the construction industry who need to carry heavy loads over long distances.