

**November 24, 2008**  
— **Alexander Couzis**

*"Spatially Addressable Sensor Arrays Based on Liposome Self-Assembly into Microwells"*

Alexander Couzis is a Herbert G. Kayzer Professor in Chemical Engineering. Dr. Couzis received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from The University of Michigan. Immediately after his graduation he joined International Paper's Research Center. During his two-year stay with International Paper, he worked on numerous projects involving the development of polymer blends with improved gas barrier properties and on polymer surface modification for the purpose of improved adhesive performance and printability. He also held the company's industrial fellowship at the Center for Interfacial Engineering (CIE) at the University of Minnesota. In 1994, he joined the Chemical Engineering faculty at City College. The main thrust of his research program is exploiting the ability of some polymers or surfactants to form well-ordered domains (self-assembled monolayers) on solid-liquid interfaces under certain conditions.

**December 1, 2008 — Michael Sorkin**

*"Eutopia Now!"*

Michael Sorkin is Distinguished Professor of Architecture and the Director of the Graduate Urban Design Program at City College, where he has taught since 2000. From 1993 to 2000, he was Professor of Urbanism and Director of the Institute of Urbanism at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. Previously, Sorkin has been Professor at numerous schools of architecture including the Architectural Association, the Aarhus School of Architecture, Cooper Union, Carleton, Columbia, Yale, Harvard, Cornell, Nebraska, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Texas, Michigan and Minnesota. Dedicated to urbanism as both an artistic practice and a medium for social amelioration, Sorkin has conducted studios in such stressed environments as Jerusalem, Nicosia, Johannesburg, Havana, Cairo, Kumasi, Hanoi, Nueva Loja (Ecuador) and Wuhan (China). In 2005-2006, he directed studio projects for the post-Katrina reconstruction of Biloxi and New Orleans at both CCNY and the University of Michigan. Sorkin lectures around the world. He is the author of several hundred articles in a wide range of both professional and general publications and is currently contributing editor and regular columnist at the *Architectural Record*.

**December 8, 2008 — William Rossow**

*"Role of Clouds in Earth's Climate"*

William B. Rossow is Distinguished Professor of Remote Sensing (Electrical Engineering) at City College since 2006. For the past 28 years, he was a physical scientist at NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York, where he was Head of the Earth Observations Group. His research interests include cloud physics and dynamics, atmospheric radioactive transfer, atmospheric general circulation and climate, and satellite remote sensing of earth's climate and other planetary atmospheres about which he has published over 160 papers. His later work focuses on clouds, radiation and the climate of earth as Head of the Global Processing Center for the World Climate Research Program's International Satellite Cloud Climatology Project (ISCCP) since 1982. He is also currently a member of the Scientific Steering Group for the GEWEX Cloud System Study. He is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union, a member of the Division of Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society and a founding member of the Planetary Society. He received the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal in 1988 and the AMS Verner E. Suomi Award in 2005.

**December 15, 2008 — Robert Paaswell**

*"Transportation Mega Projects in New York: Behind the Scenes"*

Robert Paaswell is Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering at City College and currently serves as Director of the federally-supported University Transportation Research Center at City College. A consortium of 12 major U.S. Academic Institutions, the Center asserts a significant role in the region and nationally, conducting research and projects on surface transportation, carrying out training and educational programs and actively disseminating the results of its work. Paaswell has been named Director of the City University Institute for Urban Systems, a major University-wide initiative to examine the intersection of new technology, changing institutional structure and innovative finance on the provision of infrastructure in the 21st Century. Paaswell is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a recipient of the USDOT Secretary's Medal for Superior Service. He is a Member of the New York Academy of Sciences. He has published extensively and has made presentations about his work around the globe.

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## FALL 2008 PROGRAM

### September 8, 2008 — Jerry Dodds

*"From Coexistence to Cultural Genocide: Christians, Jews, Muslims and the Making of Artistic Identities"*

Jerrilynn Dodds is Distinguished Professor of Art History and Theory at the School of Architecture at City College, as well as a lecturer and consultant at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Her work centers on issues of artistic interchange and how groups form their identities through art and architecture. She is also an author, curator and documentary filmmaker. Professor Dodds is the author of *Architecture and Ideology of Early Medieval Spain (1991)*, *Al Andalus: The Arts of Islamic Spain (1992)*, *The Arts of Medieval Spain (1993)*, *New York Masjid; The Mosques of New York (2002)* and numerous other publications, including a book concerning the reconstruction of the historical center of Mostar in Bosnia. Professor Dodds has also curated and co-curated numerous exhibitions on the subject of cultural interchange as seen through art and architecture. As a prize-winning filmmaker, Professor Dodds writes and directs films in conjunction with museum exhibitions and for public television audiences. Among the other institutions at which Professor Dodds has taught are Harvard University, MIT and Columbia University.

### September 15, 2008 — Morton Denn

*"The Chemical Engineer: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"*

Distinguished Professor, Morton M. Denn, is the Albert Einstein Professor of Science and Director of the Benjamin Levich Institute for Physico-Chemical Hydrodynamics at City College, with faculty appointments in Chemical Engineering and Physics. He was previously the Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware and the University of California, Berkeley, where he served as Department Chair. Professor Denn is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fulbright Lecturer and the recipient of many awards. He has been a Visiting Professor at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, the California Institute of Technology, the University of Melbourne and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He's the author of several books and has written numerous book chapters and journal articles.

### September 22, 2008 — David Diaz

*"The Media as a Political Institution: The Fourth Branch of Government"*

David Diaz is Distinguished Lecturer in Media and Politics in both the Political Science and the Media & Communication Arts Departments at City College, as well as at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism. He has more than 30 years of experience in newspaper, wire service, radio and television news, with 27 of those years spent as a correspondent and anchor at WNBC-TV NEWS and WCBS-TV NEWS. He has been the host of several public affairs shows, including "Visiones," "Newsforum" and "Sunday Edition." He has lectured on press-related issues and police matters. Diaz has also been a commentator on politics and media on NY1's "Inside City Hall" and the CNN Radio Network. Diaz has received five Emmy awards, as well as numerous citations for excellence in news reporting and producing documentaries.

### October 6, 2008 — Carmen Boulosa

*"Mexican Eyes: America Seen from the South"*

Carmen Boulosa is Distinguished Lecturer at City College. Boulosa is a Mexican novelist, poet and playwright. She received the Xavier Villaurrutia Prize in 1990, the Literaturpreis of Frankfurt -for the German translation of *La Milagrosa*- in 1997, the Anna Seghers Prize in 1998 and two Mexican prizes of the critics for one of her plays in 1983. She has been a Fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation and at the Center for Scholars and Writers of the New York Public Library. She has been Distinguished Professor at Georgetown University and San Diego State University, Chair Andrés Bello at NYU, Chair Reyes at La Sorbonne, as well as visiting professor at Columbia University. Her most recent publications are *Salto de mantarraya y otros dos* (named the best book of poetry of 2004, by the newspaper *El Reforma*), *La otra mano de Lepanto* (best novel at *El Reforma* of 2005), *La novela perfecta* (best novel at *El Reforma* of 2006), *El Velazquez de París* (best book of the year of 2007 at the literary supplement *Confabulario*) and *El fantasma y el poeta* (listed as the second best short story book of 2007 at *El Reforma*). Some of her novels are translated into English and have been published by Grove Press.

### October 20, 2008 – Marshall Berman

*"The Right to the City"*

Marshall Berman is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at City College and at the CUNY Graduate Center, teaching Political Philosophy and Urbanism. He is also a writer and a philosopher. He is on the editorial board of *Dissent* and a regular contributor to *The Nation*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bennington Review*, *New Left Review*, *New Politics* and the *Village Voice Literary Supplement*. His main works are *The Politics of Authenticity*, *All That Is Solid Melts Into Air*, *One Hundred Years of Spectacle*, *Adventures*

*in Marxism and On the Town: One Hundred Years of Spectacle in Times Square*. His most recent publication is the anthology, *New York Calling: From Blackout To Bloomberg*, for which he wrote the introductory essay and co-edited with Brian Berger. In *Adventures in Marxism*, Berman tells the story of how while studying at Columbia University in 1959, the chance discovery of Karl Marx's Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844 proved a revelation and inspiration. It became the foundation for all his future work. This personal tone pervades his work, linking historical trends with individual observations and inflections from the situation.

### October 27, 2008 — Sheldon Weinbaum

*"Finding my Voice as a Scientist: A personal Odyssey: Adventures of a Biomechanics Detective in the Big Apple"*

Sheldon Weinbaum is CCNY/CUNY Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering Departments of Biomedical & Mechanical Engineering. He has published more than 185 full-length papers plus numerous shorter communications and conference papers. His research has involved important collaborations with other investigators and institutions. Weinbaum received the prestigious Davies Medal for Engineering Achievement from the Rensselaer School of Engineering. Weinbaum is one of only seven living Americans elected to all three U.S. National Academies: Science, Engineering and Medicine. Some other honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2002, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' H.R., Lissner Award in 1994 and Melville Medal in 1996, and a National Science Foundation (NSF) "Special Creativity Award" in 1985.

### November 3, 2008 — Raquel Chang-Rodriguez

*"Talking Back to the Conquerors: Guaman Poma de Ayala, a Native Historian from Peru"*

Raquel Chang-Rodríguez is Distinguished Professor of Hispanic Literature and Culture at the CUNY Graduate Center and City College. Among her books and editions are: *Hidden Messages Representation and Resistance in Andean Colonial Drama* (Bucknell UP, 1999); *La palabra y la pluma en Primer nueva crónica y buen gobierno* (2005); and *La cultura letrada en la Nueva España del siglo XVII* (2002), the second volume of a new history of Mexican literature. She recently edited a collection of essays, *Beyond Books and Borders: Garcilaso de la Vega and "La Florida del Inca" / Franqueando fronteras: Garcilaso de la Vega and "La Florida del Inca"* (2006), that has appeared simultaneously in English (Bucknell UP) and Spanish (Catholic University of Peru). Her most recent book is a study and anthology of the early poetry written in Spanish America, *Aquí, ninfas del sur, venid ligeras: Voces poéticas virreinales* (2008). Chang-Rodríguez is the found-

ing editor of the prize-winning journal *Colonial Latin American Review*. Her research has been supported by several grants, including a National Endowment Fellowship (NEH). She is Honorary Associate of the Hispanic Society of America and Profesora Honoraria of the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos.

### November 10, 2008 — Gilbert Baumslag

*"Games, Groups, Knots, Equations and Cryptography"*

Gilbert Baumslag is Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics at City College. He has written more than 150 research papers and three books. He's also lectured extensively in many parts of the world. He is currently the Director of the Center for Algorithms and Interactive Scientific Software, a small research group devoted to group theory, games and scientific software of various kinds. He is also the organizer of the world famous New York Group Theory Seminar.

### November 17, 2008 — Joyce R. Coppin

*"Current Issues and Challenges Facing School and District Leaders in Education in New York City"*

Joyce Coppin is Distinguished Lecturer in the School of Education at City College. She currently serves as the Program Head of the Educational Leadership Department, the Director of the College Now Program, Supervisor of the City College Middle Grades Initiative and the Co-Director of the Institutes for the Advancement of Mathematics Education for Middle and High School Supervisors. Dr. Coppin's ideas and recommendations for strengthening education in urban schools have been presented before legislative bodies and City Councils, as well as at public hearings and conferences throughout the world. Additionally, she has written many articles about education in urban communities. Her Alma Mater, City College, bestowed upon her the Degree Doctor of Humane Letters. Among her many honors and awards are: the Townsend Harris Medal for Distinguished Contribution to Education, City College; the President's Medal, Medgar Evers College for Distinguished Service to Education; the Leadership in Education from the President of Brooklyn College; the Outstanding Leadership Award, Kingsborough Community College; the Austrian Medal of Honor for Distinguished Service; the Educational Leadership Award from the Congressional Black Caucus; the Distinguished Educator's Award from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; and Educator of the Year, Phi Delta Kappa.