



THE GOTHIC TIMES

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March 2019

NJCU advances in NCAA tournament

NJCU Men's Basketball plays in NCAA Division III Tournament for the third season in a row



Denzel Banks for NJCU Men's Basketball. Photo by Kristen Hazzard.

News

The Counseling Center

The university hires two part-time counselors, the Center's wait list decreases, and more.

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Counseling Center: part-time counselors hired and waitlist decreased

by **Kenise Brown** | News Editor

NJCU has hired two part-time therapists for the Counseling Center and reduced its waitlist to 37 students. In January, The Gothic Times reported that there were 96 students on the list.

Veronica Cruz-Martinez started as a part-time counselor on February 25; Katiana Morisset will begin on March 11.

Abisola Gallagher-Hobson, the director of Counseling and Wellness Services, said part of the reason for the reduced wait list is change. “You have students who have graduated in December, finished all of their sessions, or just did not come to the center anymore.”

Dean of Students, Dr. Lyn Hamlin said that NJCU will also hire a social worker.

“For the fall semester one of the things we’ve been looking at is trying to assess the counseling center and figuring out what is appropriate for them. We’re also looking for a social worker which was a very long search, we didn’t get the number of people we thought we should have. Some of the people that go to the counseling center were probably better served by a social worker. The social worker is one that will deal with homelessness, alcohol and drugs, and food insecurity. People go to the counseling center because they have those needs but that’s not what the counseling center is for, they do it, but that’s a little bit different. We are having this social worker in place by mid (spring) semester.” Hamlin said.

Jimmy Jung, vice president of Student Affairs, said that NJCU is not the only university experiencing a waitlist and that NJCU will be expanding their services for students.

“It’s a national problem. It’s also a New Jersey problem. Currently

you have Rutgers-Newark and Camden, Rowan, Stockton and Kean University all expressing that they have seen overwhelming amounts on the waitlist... They’ve been using online counseling services to a great extent and that has worked very well especially at Rutgers-Newark, Camden and Rowan, and students want that because it’s almost instantaneous. That’s something we are looking at because we are expanding our services which means expanding our hours and making ourselves more accessible to students,” Jung said.

The topic of the Counseling Center made its way to the University Senate meeting in February.

Christopher Shamburg, president of the Senate and an Educational Technology professor said the situation will be investigated.

“A motion occurred at the senate. There will be an investigation to look at this situation and a talk with the people at the center. We will also look into the university practices and there will be a report in March. More counselors are needed for mental health. It should be a priority,” Shamburg said.

Max Herman, Sociology professor and chair of Senate’s committee on Instructional Technology suggested at the meeting that the situation at the center be investigated.

“I was inspired by the Gothic Times article. The senate passed the resolution. The Student Affairs [committee] of the senate will look into the issue. This is not a student issue but a social justice issue and the lack of mental health in general for people of color and our population. The student affairs [committee] should look into the issue to make sure more counselors are being hired and meet the need of the students. I think at an urban public area a lot of mental health clinics are

needed,” Herman said.

Herman said that he makes sure his students get the counseling that they deserve.

“I let my students know if they need help, let me know. I would make referrals to the Counseling Center but since they are so booked, I would send my students to the Speicher-Rubin Women’s Center since they also do counseling ... They are my number one option with a female student and they take them right away ... There is a stigma and I have to lead by example and have the stigma removed,” Herman said.

Venida Rodman Jenkins, director of the Women’s Center, said students are referred to her and she provides them with the resources that they need.

“I have been providing crisis intervention and short-term counseling for victim-survivors of gender-based violence including sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking for the past 17 years. These are Title IX Violations and should be addressed with the utmost care. I am also the confidential victim advocate so I am not mandated to disclose what a victim-survivor shares with me,” Jenkins said.

Jeremiah Harris, a student majoring in English said the university should be held accountable.

“I think the Counseling Center is great and supportive. If you don’t have everything that is needed for students, then everything will go downhill. Students will become upset and it will be unsafe. It’s not the Counseling Center’s fault, it’s the university’s fault. People need to understand that mental health is important and serious. Students deal with anxiety, trauma, and depression.

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We shouldn't have to wait this long for something to be done," Harris said.

Jung said that the university will perform a benchmark survey which will evaluate the entire school population to determine and anticipate the long-term mental health needs for the school's community. This survey comes from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA).

"What it could tell us is, for institutions similar to us, what are the needs and how are we meeting them. What are the bigger issues we want to focus on campus. It's a lockdown of how we think forwardly in terms of making sure we are ahead of the curve. How we look like in terms of benchmarking, staffing and resources to students relative to institutions that are similar to us and that is the benchmark survey," Jung said.

Joseph F. Scott, president and chief executive officer of Jersey City Medical Center and an NJCU Board of Trustee member said he would be interested in the outcome of the survey.

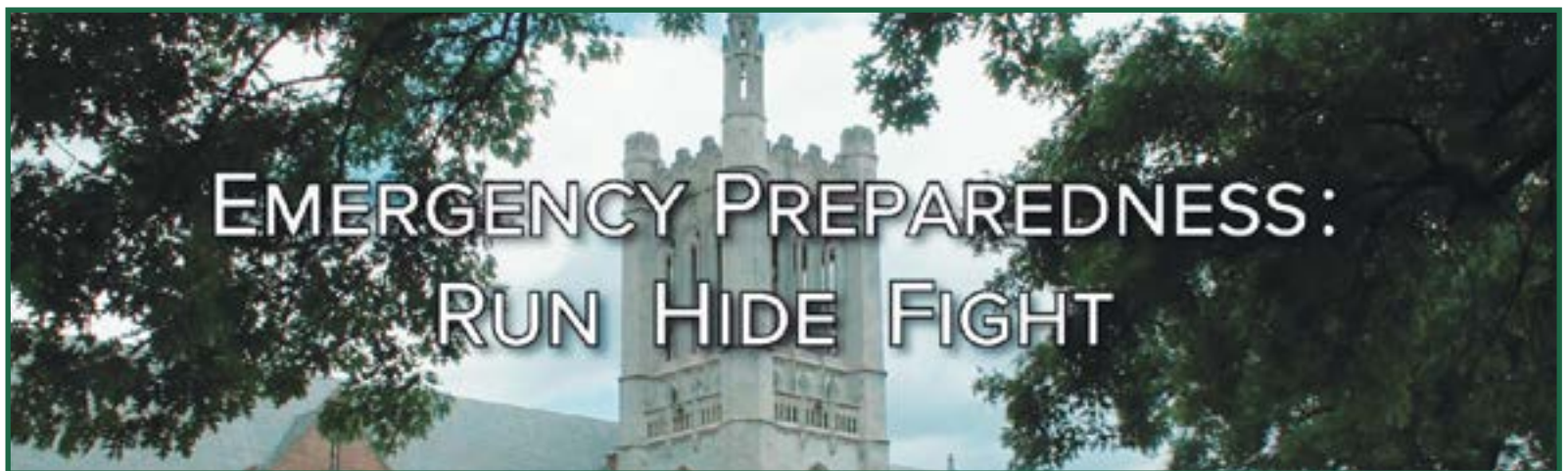
"I would love to see the survey and see what questions are being asked. For example, maybe the center isn't meeting the needs for a specific population and the survey could help develop future counseling center services."

Rodman-Jenkins said, "I hope that our Counseling Center becomes a priority here, and receives more full-time staff to serve our students who are on the wait list. We have very passionate, qualified, and caring therapists who do the best that they can under these circumstances to ensure our students are psychologically and emotionally healthy. This will ultimately ensure our students succeed academically."

Rodman-Jenkins said the Women's Center provides support for people regardless of their gender and sexual orientation.

Rafael Perez, chair of the NJCU Board of Trustees and a partner of Connell Foley LLP said the board and President Sue Henderson are going to make sure the issue is solved.

"The president is looking into this. We will be bringing it up at the next board meeting. It is tough but we are going to look for and hire more counselors. We are going to hire more than one. I'm not sure how much it is to hire a therapist. It's not about the money, it's about the demand. We've got to do better. I don't know the specific hours of the Center but I know there should be enough hours. We want to help the students and we are going to solve this problem," said Perez.



New updates to campus security

by **Monica Sarmiento** | Editor-in-Chief

From creating and updating emergency response guides for each individual classroom, installing thumb-locks on classroom doors that would allow rooms to be locked from the inside and equipping the computers and campus screens with technology that can alert the campus during emergencies, the

university has been steadily making updates to campus security over the last year.

Updates around campus

In a February meeting with administrators from the Department of Public Safety, Ron Hurley, associate vice president, Joe Rodriguez, director, and Tracy Matos, assistant

director, confirmed that at least 60% of the classrooms on campus were equipped with new thumb-locks on the doors. They hope to have these locks completely installed by the end of the spring semester. Each classroom was also given updated emergency response and evacuation instructions, found on

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A still from the Department of Public Safety's Emergency Preparedness Video. Active shooter drills were held at NJCU's Business School last year.

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or near the doors. These instructions have been created for each individual classroom and were created in-house by Public Safety.

Hurley stated that there are 300 security cameras across NJCU's 40 acres and that more will be installed around West Side Avenue to ensure better security around campus.

Training

In addition to updates on campus, the university has also been implementing online training modules for faculty, staff and students. One program is ALICE, which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. This online active shooter response training was sent out to 1,409 faculty and staff in September, but as of February only 507 people have completed the training. Hurley attended the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) senate meeting last month to urge administrators and faculty to complete the online modules.

The Department of Public Safety also produced an active shooter training video, "Emergency Preparedness: Run, Hide, Fight." The four minute video was

recorded on NJCU's main campus and at the business school during an active shooter exercise. "The responsibility of personal safety does not and cannot rest primarily with the university or the public safety department rather it rest with the entire NJCU community," Hurley says in the video. "By working together we can improve the safety and security of everyone on campus." The video is available to be viewed on NJCU's Youtube Page.

Student Patrols

In an effort to prevent crimes on campus, Student Patrols that are comprised of graduate work study students will be trained and have a more active presence as campus security in the fall semester.

Apps

Last semester, Public Safety began advertising and encouraging students to download the Rave Guardian app. It allows users to communicate with campus safety, receive campus notifications and dial an emergency number with one button. As of February, only 200 students have downloaded the app.

Alertus is mass notification system currently being installed on campus computers and screens. 2,200 devices have been equipped with the program that allows an emergency notification sent from Public Safety to be displayed. This program is due to be installed across campus sometime this semester.

Campus Crime

According to the 2018 Cleary Report, an annual report that details campus crime and security policies, there was one report of an on-campus residential rape. The incident was isolated and the victim knew their attacker, Hurley confirmed.

There were also three reports of fondling both on campus and on public property, two reports of dating violence and two reports of stalking, both on campus. One robbery in on-campus residential and one motor vehicle theft were reported.

Attempted robbery at WCV was false

Accidental shooting occurred in dorm.

by **Monica Sarmiento & Kristen Hazzard**

A reported robbery on West Campus from Saturday, February 23, “was unfounded, and the police report filed was determined to be false.” The NJCU Department of Public Safety sent out an update to the university community on Tuesday, February 25.

“Evidence recovered from the scene indicates that the victim, who was not affiliated with the University, was accidentally shot in the foot inside a dorm room within the West Campus Village residence hall.”

In a February 24 press release from Jennifer Luciano, assistant dean of Residence Life and Student Engagement, student residents were informed that they are no longer permitted to have any guests, NJCU or non-NJCU, in the residence halls. “This incident has highlighted the ongoing issues of guests illegally entering and

exiting the residence halls as well as students not scanning their ID cards at the front doors,” the release reads.

“Based on this situation, as well as previous announcements, meetings and behavioral issues, guest privileges (day, overnight, and residence hall to residence hall) will be revoked from all three residence halls (Co-Op, Vodra, and West Campus Village) until further notice. Any students who are found sneaking in guests will be immediately removed from campus for the remainder of the semester.”

Analisse Ortiz, a freshman dorming in the co-op dorms, was upset over the current ban on visitations. “I pay over \$5,000 to dorm and I can’t even have a fellow NJCU student over. And we were promised the safest campus in New Jersey. If it’s so safe, why can’t I have another student over [in] my room?” Ortiz said. “... My roommate

was gonna have her friend from Rutgers come over for the weekend and now her plans are trashed... and we don’t even know when this will end. We were just told ‘until further notice.’”

The Jersey City Police Department did not respond after a request for comment.

Original reports said that a visitor at the West Campus Village Residence Hall (WCV) was approached by an armed robber on Saturday at 1:53 a.m. Reports stated that after attempting to disarm the attacker the visitor was shot in the foot.

“This incident is currently being investigated by the Jersey City Police Dept. therefore, I cannot comment at this time.” Ron Hurley, assistant vice president of the Department of Public Safety, said in an email on February 24, “We have since increased security coverage at the WCV.”

Serial killer charged with death of NJCU student to go to trial

by **Monica Sarmiento | Editor-in-Chief**

An alleged serial killer behind the death of Sarah Butler, 20, of Montclair, will stand trial this April for three separate murders and an attack on a fourth woman that occurred between August and December 2016. Butler was a student at NJCU but went home for Thanksgiving weekend just before her death.

Khalil Wheeler-Weaver, 22, was charged with the deaths of Butler, Joanne Brown, 33, of Newark, and Robin West, 19, of Philadelphia. He also faces charges for desecrating human remains, sexual assault and aggravated arson for allegedly trying to start a fire

to cover up one of the victim’s remains.

The fourth victim, a 34-year-old woman from Elizabeth, identified only as “T.T.” in court records, survived after waking up in the middle of her assault. Wheeler-Weaver is being charged with attempted murder, kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault in this fourth attack.

Wheeler-Weaver was first arrested after Butler’s body was found in the West Orange section of the Eagle Rock Reservation in Essex County. He was then connected to the deaths of West and Brown, whose bodies were found in Orange, NJ in September and

December 2016 respectively.

Prior to his arrest, he was contacted by authorities as part of a missing persons investigation for West because he had been seen picking her up before her disappearance. Wheeler-Weaver took police to an address where he says he dropped West off, just blocks away where West’s body was later found by police.

Wheeler-Weaver’s April 1 trial will include all four crimes after Judge Alfonse Cifelli denied a motion to split the case into separate trials.

Student Government Organization to add new positions

by **Marco Rezk | Copyditor**

The Student Government Organization is adding ten new positions to its roster, including the creation of a judicial branch, a student activities board and a student organization officer. The judicial branch is to consist of one chief justice and four associate justices, whereas the Student Activities Board will consist of a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

The vote to create these new positions went through unanimously on the February 4 student council meeting, as part of changes to the constitution of the SGO. Among the creation of previously mentioned positions, other changes included raising the required grade-point average (GPA) to be on the executive board from 2.75 to 2.85, and lowering the amount of credits required to hold a position on the executive board from 48 to 30.

The role of the student organization officer (SOO) is to meet with clubs and organizations, helping

them manage the processes required of them, including those required for being part of the student council. The holder of the position is also supposed to represent the clubs and organizations and advocate on their behalf. The position pays \$2,000 a semester, and works 8 office hours a week.

The Student Activities Board (SAB) will deal with organizing events and activities for the student populace, although not much was expanded upon in any of their further duties. The President of the SAB is to be paid \$3,000 a semester and work 8 office hours a week, while the VP, Treasurer and Secretary are all to be paid \$1,500 a semester and work “not as many” office hours a week.

Some members of the student council had brought up concerns as to the purpose of having a Vice President of Student Activities and a Student Activities Board at the same time, but were reassured by the members of the executive board that having these

positions would allow the VP of Student Activities, currently Angelo Moreno, to attend to their other duties.

The newly formed judicial branch is to deal with orders of impeachment, alongside other orders from the executive board. Previously, impeachment was dealt with by the board, but had seen problems on being impartial, which is what the creation of the branch aims to fix. The positions are not paid, but officially do not work any office hours, or at all, unless a case is brought up. Justices are also not allowed to be on the executive board or the student council.

The SOO and SAB are to be elected this semester, with election days taking place on March 19 and 20. Other positions to be elected are the Student Government President, Executive Vice President, VP of Finance and Administration, VP of Internal Affairs, and VP of Public Relations and Marketing.

Student fights for an accessible NJCU

by **Marco Rezk | Copyditor**

Meet Liam Paiva-Acosta, a transfer student and junior majoring in secondary education and history. Liam, like any other student, does his best to attend his classes and get around the campus to do what he needs to do. The problem? Liam needs accessible facilities in a campus with a multitude of accessibility problems.

“I certainly face accessibility issues,” says Paiva-Acosta, “Last semester I used a walking cane and occasionally a wheelchair and this semester I have “upgraded” to a dollar or adult walker... I cannot afford to see the medical specialists that could

diagnose my physical condition, and therefore I cannot apply for services at the Office of Special Services.” Paiva-Acosta says he is not the only person facing these issues, either; one student that reached out to him says her heart condition makes it difficult to walk up the stairs in Grossnickle, not knowing she could have requested for the class to be moved.

Enter @accessiblenjcu: The Instagram page created and managed by Paiva-Acosta, exposing non-accessible facilities on campus, such as out-of-service elevators, blocked ramps and missing braille. The page has been running since the 2018 fall semester,

having posted a number of times along numerous stories of accessibility problems around campus. One such post talks about the fact that only one shuttle bus is accessible by wheelchair users.

“The inspiration for the Instagram account came from all the pictures I was sending my friends and some professors,” Paiva-Acosta says. “At first, I was just venting my frustrations. Various people suggested I send these images as attachments in emails to various NJCU staff and administrators. I didn’t get any

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A visit to Kenya

by **Dr. Zandile P. Nkabinde, Ph.D. | Associate Professor, Special Education**

During the 2019 Winter Break, Associate Professor of Special Education Zandile Nkabinde a 2016 Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program alumna traveled to Kenya, East Africa, to meet with her former students at the University of Kabianga and to visit a residential school for the mentally impaired in the Eastern part of Kenya. At the university of Kabianga she met with the Vice Chancellor and the Deputy-Chancellor in charge of Academics and Student Affairs Dr. Elijah Omwenga before meeting with her former students.

While working with the University of Kabianga in 2016 she was invited by one of the lecturers with the name of Dr. Peter Muindu to visit his village of Nuun located in Eastern Kenya where she was introduced to a residential school for the mentally impaired. This visit was the highlight of her stay in Kenya. During her visit

some children asked her what she had brought them, and since she did not know the school she came empty handed but promised to come back. When she returned to NJCU she started collecting t-shirts and other items for the school. Dr. Nkabinde received many donations including more than hundred BAAFSSO t-shirts from Dr. William Guzman at the Dr. Lee F. Hagan Africana Studies Center. Dr. Jennifer Jones, the Director for Academic Career Planning and Placement also contributed t-shirts for the good cause. Friends and family also contributed items that she carried and delivered to the school. In addition, the school named the playground after her which was a humbling honor. When seeing the joy in those children's eyes she realized how impactful the Carnegie Fellowship was to her in granting her the opportunity of putting service at the center of education.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. Nkabinde.





Students from almost a dozen countries have joined NJCU this spring.

International students join NJCU for spring semester

by **Marco Rezk & Kenise Brown**

Incoming students hailing from around the globe partook in an orientation right before the start of the spring semester. The orientation consisted of the Director of International Programs, Craig Katz, providing the students with the necessary information

for their time here in the United States, along with various guest speakers informing them of important facilities available around campus.

Afterwards, the students were shown around the area around the main campus, as well as how to get to the

School of Business and Newport mall via the Light Rail. There are over 40 new international students this semester from China, Finland, Scotland, Guinea, India, Nigeria, Turkey, Peru, Korea, France and Russia.



Submit up to 2 poems, no longer than 1 page each.

Email submissions to msarmiento2@njcu.edu with the subject line: **Gothic Times Poetry**

1st place winner will win a \$50 gift card and be published alongside 2nd and 3rd place winners in our April issue in honor of National Poetry Month.

Deadline: **APRIL 1ST, 2019**



Uncharted Space is on view until March 27. Courtesy of Gianluca Bianchino.

Uncharted Space

by **Michi Suazo** | Features Editor

White flaky pieces of what looks like wreckage from a spaceship crash protrude straight from the wall in Gianluca Bianchino's first large-scale site-specific installation, *Faultline*. This piece constructed with paper pulp, metal and found objects could be mistaken as dramatic wall damage to the gallery if one did not look closely enough. In his solo exhibition, *Uncharted Space*, at the Visual Arts building, the gallery is transformed into a celestial space where sea and sky seem to meet.

"The work dialogs with science and architecture in exploring the underlying geometry of nature and the built environment. I do so by developing simultaneous bodies of work – unstable topographical surfaces, interactive sculptures that function as quasi-observational instruments and installation intended to show chaos as a believable visual system," said Italian-American artist, Gianluca Bianchino, in his artist statement.

Bianchino's *Transportal* series and *Wormhole* series made up of lens, plastic, wood, enamel, wireless LED light, acrylic, silicone, and resin features an array of periscopic pieces that depict colorful crystalline nebulas when the viewer takes a peek inside. The *Transportal* pieces are semblative to vintage retro iron tripod stand cameras while the *Wormhole* series closely resembles submarine telescopes. All pieces from both series show a kaleidoscopic spectacle of amber, amethyst, and emerald that greets the viewer through the lens.

Another series of his called *Lightmaps* features four pieces from the collection (#4, #5, #7 and #8) which induce a parallax effect. Stencils of jagged trapezoidal shapes which look like space junk become constellations paired with the internally lit background. These are constructed with enamel painted wood (some hand cut and some laser cut), acrylic coated wood, LED lights, automotive paint, and graphite.

Bianchino's second large-scale site-specific installation, *An Attempt to Communicate with the Sky (Space Junk #2)* is easily the first piece to grab the viewer's attention. Made of umbrellas, tripods, lights, plastic, cord, marker and video projection, makes one think of satellites, astronaut parachutes and the beauty of deep space thanks to its superlunary soundscape. The spider-like skeletal structure of the white umbrellas—when met with the rays of the projector—cast constellations and nebulas on the floor, ceiling, and its canopies.

Bianchino's work was recently exhibited at the Suzhou Art Center in Suzhou, China; The Hunterdon Museum in Clinton NJ and The Islip Museum in Islip NY. He has been a Resident Artist at Ramapo College, The Center for New Art at William Paterson University and Gallery Aferro in Newark, NJ. The NJCU Visual Arts Gallery will hold *Uncharted Space* until March 27.



Courtesy of Joel Katz.

An Interview with Joel Katz

by **Maxine Antoine** | A&E Editor

Joel Katz, a documentary filmmaker and tenured professor at NJCU, has been teaching various forms of media to students in the Media Arts department for 23 years. He has won many awards such as the Jerome Foundation Award for "DEAR CARRY" and the National Endowment for the Arts Media Production Award for "JOHNNY & CLYDE" in 1995. Last year, he went to a week-long media conference in California organized by the Television Academy and learned a lot of new information about the Hollywood industry that he was willing to share with me in a interview.

Maxine Antoine: Can you tell me, from the day that you got the idea or if you were invited to go to California, and to the day you got back, what it was like?

Joel Katz: I actually had the idea to go to that workshop a long time ago cause I applied once before and was accepted and because of a whole bunch of circumstances with my schedule, I had to decline... that was probably six or seven years ago. But I've known about it for a while. I reapplied last year and was accepted and I was really happy. It was very informative and enjoyable. It was a little bit much more industry-oriented than my own personal orientation and filmmaking.

I come and work from a documentary and experimental arts background. It was in L.A. which was more industry and T.V. focused. In a way, that was great for me. It was sort of helping fill in the gaps in my knowledge, areas that I don't get much exposure to by following my own instincts. Because I teach students who are interested in all sorts of things, the broader the base of my background the better.

It was a bunch of different workshops where everything from producers, entertainment lawyers, editors and sound designers. It was a number of workshops and there were field trips such as going to a taping of the Jimmy Fallon show and "Dancing

with the Stars." We took a tour of the Warner Brothers' facilities as well.

I was also with other college professors with different aspects of media theory, design and production from all over the country. During the down time and the meals, it was interesting connecting with other colleagues. Part of being in academia is that in your day to day practice of teaching, you have exposure to what your immediate colleagues are doing, but you don't always really know what other people do and how their curriculum and programs are built and driven so it was interesting to have the

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opportunity to connect with other media teachers. Surprisingly, usually when I am in those kinds of things, I expect a lot of colleagues to be from either the east or west coast, but interestingly there were a lot of people from the Midwest and from all over the country. Very few people were from the east coast and the west coast. They make a point in there about who they select, the selection pool of diversity, so there was a pretty diverse group of people in terms of race, gender etcetera. I'm a white man there, but not everybody else was.

MA: What workshops did you really like?

JK: I got different things from different ones. I couldn't pinpoint it to one thing. [O]ne workshop that I found interesting was the representation of reproductive rights and women's health in television. I found it really interesting in the way that producing television and the way the content is handled really has implications about social responsibility, about how these issues are represented affects people, and we're talking about millions of audience members. Reproductive rights and women's health are certainly represented a lot in television, but the level of depth and nuances that I thought went into the way those representations were constructed was interesting. Content wise, that was the most interesting panel.

There was a presentation by two of the producers of "Game of Thrones"

which was pretty interesting. I knew the basic content of the show, but it was a very global production. They shoot a lot in Ireland, Scandinavian countries, Bulgaria and Romania. They showed us, for example, their production schedule and of how they are managing all of the different shoots and crews around the world.

So just managing the logistics of something that massive was really interesting. There's a panel on post-production and editing. It was closer to the content that I am familiar to, but I also learned some more interesting things there.

The tour of the Warner Brothers [lot], in a way, was very touristic. In each of the studios, there's a big plaque outside that tells you which film and television series had been filmed in that studio. It's amazing because you are looking at the whole history of classic Hollywood and many television programs. You just go by a studio and you see that a Bette Davis film was filmed in this one and "Friends" was filmed in that one which was pretty amazing. Also, the guy that toured us around was a production designer who has worked in Hollywood for over 40 years. He was a great storyteller and had a lot of insight to the workings of the industry and interestingly he was an openly gay man. Those were pretty interesting.

MA: What were you able to share with your students or add to the curriculum?

JK: There's this one project that they have done based on the Holocaust

project that Steven Spielberg did. He did this project to try to interview all living Holocaust survivors doing oral history interviews, and the Television Academy, the organization that ran the program, has done this project in the same model for the history of television. They started out by interviewing the star figures. They were trying to get the early pioneers of television from the late 40's and 50's before they died off. They've been dying off. But, they since expanded it to interview every type of person imaginable that is involved in television industry. Not only directors and actors, but its editors, make-up artists, set designers and everything they make now is compiled and archived in over 900 interviews.

MA: Wow.

JK: And it's very searchable on a database by subject matter so I showed that to my students and I think it is a very great resource for anybody doing research about the history of television. That's one of the things I shared with my students.

I showed them photos of the interior of these recording stages. Sometimes when I demonstrate lighting to my classes,... I apologize for the fact that a lot of the lights we have are those 30 year-old, purple, mold Richeson lights because of all of these contemporary lighting with the LED's, but when we were at these studios, that is mostly what we saw. The same lights with the 30-40 year-old mold. That was kind of amusing. I got a shot of a grip on a ladder and someone spotting him, and I was like, "Hey, I don't teach you this for nothing! This is what they do in the real world." So there were a lot of things like that that I was able to share. But, I think the thing that has the most impact is the internship program especially if some of our students get accepted to it.

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The following students applied to the 2019 Television Academy Internship. It is a paid, summer long internship that gives students an opportunity to work directly in the television industry in Los Angeles, California.

**Alfonso Miranda
Ibny Mitchell
Treasia Jackson
Brianna Evans
Monica Sarmiento**

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MA: Is there anything that you learned over at Cali that you think both the younger and older generations should be prepared for?

JK: I couldn't nail it down to one thing. One thing that has stuck with me was in the panel, it was these two female executives from the Game of Thrones. One of my colleagues had asked them, "If a student tells me I wanna be you in twenty years, I want to be a

television producer, what should I do? How should I answer my student?" The response surprised me. She said, "Read a lot and draw a lot." Which is such, in both ways, antiquarium ideas that you think that somebody would say that you would have to be aware of global markets, take business classes, or do this and that technology, but what she said was draw, and what she meant was actual pencil in hand on page type of drawing, and read novels, plays, and be a voracious consumer and producer in the arts. That was pretty interesting to

me and when I had shared that with my students, that it is not about economy or money or technology. It's really [having] a great appreciation of the arts and storytelling. Also, I guess the other message is that if you are a woman and/or from a minority group, that you should not, quote on quote, "be deterred from getting a foothold in the industry." It's ever changing.

Read the full interview on GothicTimes.net.



Rashad Wright: A Jersey Kid Said

On Saturday, April 20, Jersey City Poet Laureate and NJCU Alumnus Rashad Wright will be performing spoken word with his band. A boy and his friends celebrating their voices. Sponsored by The Office of Campus Life, The Center for the Arts, The Speicher Rubin Women's Center for Diversity and Equity, The English Department, and BAAFSSO.

The event is on April 20, at 6 p.m. in the Margaret Williams Theatre. General admission is \$25. Student and senior admission is \$10.

**2019
MFA
EXHIBITION**

Costality
Curated by Hugo Bastidas

Participating Artists:
Alejandro Rubin, Andy Pecoraro,
Dawn Post, Julie Marie Seibert,
Kirk Maynard, Laura Klinck,
Maria Tapia, Michael Barreto,
and Rita Jimenez.

Location:
Cast Iron Lofts, ground floor
300 Coles St, Jersey City

For more info visit:
njcu.edu/center-arts/visual-arts

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response from most of them. But then I realized their response would not have immediately solved the problems anyway. I wanted to do something that would have an immediate impact. My goal was to inform other students of any accessibility problems I saw around campus so that they would be able to plan their routes accordingly. It all started with the elevator at Grossnickle breaking down, and continued from there.”

Progress on fixing campus accessibility issues has been made since the creation of the instagram page. According to Anthony Rago, the Director of Facilities at NJCU, parts for the automatic door at Vodra Hall will be fixed in early March. The railing for the ramp on Culver Avenue leading into the Gilligan Student Union Building is scheduled to be repaired when weather conditions are more suited to fixing it, “most likely during summer break,” according to the email he sent Paiva-Acosta.

Other students have also weighed in on the accessibility of facilities around campus. “I would like to see [facilities] better fixed and better maintained,” says Angelo Moreno, SGO Vice President of Student Activities, “not just for people

with disabilities, but for all paying NJCU students.”

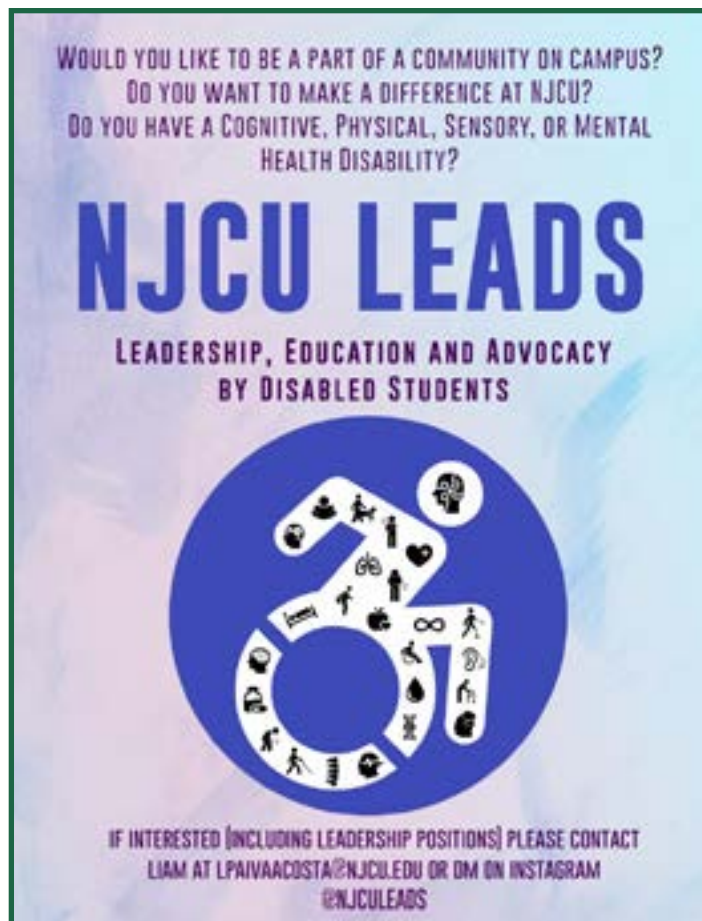
Since starting the Instagram page, multiple groups have reached

Leadership, Education and Advocacy by Disabled Students (LEADS) Club.

Paiva-Acosta says he did not initially intend to start a club. However, after joining the newly formed Alliance Club, he was inspired by the determination of the officers, and came to understand the power of a club. He writes, “Clubs can unite people and put pressure on the administration in a way individuals cannot.”

Despite all his efforts, Liam knows this fight is an uphill battle. “I don’t expect NJCU to become a beacon of accessibility in this country. It would take too much time and too much money to transform a campus on a hill and the surrounding sidewalks into something manageable to people with physical and medical disabilities,” further adding that “it would take a real shake up of the administration, staff and professors to make mental disabilities and differentiated instruction more of a priority.”

He hopes, however, that he can create a legacy on campus for future disabled students. “A club is a long-term thing. I am a junior, and I want to create something that will outlive me. I understand the challenges ahead but I hope the rest of the disabled community on campus will support this cause.”



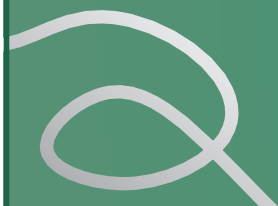
NJCU LEADS is a new club that Paiva-Acosta is hoping to start with the help of Dr. Jennifer Aitken.

out to him, including other pages run by the NJCU community, the NJCU Alliance Club, and Dr. Jennifer Aitken, the director of the Office of Special Services. With Dr. Aitken’s help, they are working on starting the NJCU

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BLACK



NJCU Librarian Sheila Kirven and NJCU alum and Poet Laureate Rashad Wright read to young students at Hair We Are Again.



Dr. Will Guzmán, director of the Dr. Lee F. Hagan Africana Studies Center at the Black History Month Opening Ceremony.

HISTORY



The Dr. Lee F. Hagan Africana Studies gave out two \$1,000 scholarships to Katlyn Turner, and Scion Rae Wellington during the Dr. MLK Celebration.



Raymond M. Brown, an attorney, author and activist that works with the International Justice Project was the keynote speaker at the 30th Annual Dr. MLK Celebration.

MONTH

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Women's HerStory Month Luncheon (GSUB MPR, 11:30-2pm) SGA Tiny Desk Concert (SGO Social Space, 5-8pm)	6	7 SGA Hell's Kitchen (GSUB Café, 6-9 pm)	8 Not-for-Profit Structure Best Practices (School of Business, Lecture Hall 9:30-2:30 pm)	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Spring Break						
17	18 SGA Ultimate Olympics (JMAC, 1-5pm)	19	20 50 Shades of Color (GSUB 129, 11:30-1:30pm) Yong Tae Kim, violin & piano (Ingalls Recital Hall, Music@One, Free, 1pm)	21 Education Career Fair (GSUB MPR B, 3:30-6:30pm)	22 Loft Conference (GSUB MPR A, B, C, 8:30-4 pm) Shrek: The Musical (Margaret Williams Theatre, Mar. 22, 23, 24 29, 30, 31. \$15 gen/\$5 students & seniors)	23
24	25 SGA Ultimate Game Day (GSUB MPR A, B, C, 11-8pm)	26	27	28 SGA Lip Sync Battle (GSUB Lobby, 5-7pm)	29	30
31						

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Spring Career Fair (GSUB 129, 2pm)	5	6 BFA Exhibition Reception (Cast Iron Lofts, Jersey City, 3-6 pm, Show Ends 4/26)
7	8	9 Water: Alejandro Rubin MFA Reception (Visual Arts Gallery, 5-8pm, Show Ends 4/22)	10 Take Back The (K)night (GSUB 129, 6-9pm) SGA Food Truck Festival (WCV Parking Lot, 2-8pm)	11	12 Advertising, Marketing, and Social Media (School of Business, Lecture Hall 9:30-2:30 pm)	13
14	15	16 One More Bowl: Campus Life Pop-Up Exhibit (GSUB Gallery, Free with RSVP, open until 4/18, 10-8pm)	17 The Gothic Times End of the Year Celebration (GSUB 129, 12:45-3pm)	18 NJCU Jazz Orchestra with Bobby Shew (Margaret Williams Theatre, Free with RSVP, 7:30pm)	19	20 Rashad Wright: A Jersey Kid Said (Margaret Williams Theatre, 6 pm) \$25 gen/\$10 students & seniors
21	22	23 Perspectives: Symphony of Winds & Percussion (Margaret Williams Theatre, Free, 7:30pm)	24	25 Opera Workshop (West Side Theatre, Free with RSVP, 7:30pm)	26 Lavender Graduation (GSUB MPR, 4-6pm)	27
28 NJCU Spring Choral Concert (Margaret Williams Theatre, Free with RSVP, 3pm)	29	30 First Line: Patrick Deffenbaugh MFA Reception (Lemmerman Gallery, 5-8 pm, Show Ends 5/13)	Vulnerability of Honesty: Andy Pecorara MFA Reception (Visual Arts Gallery, 5-8 pm, Show Ends 5/13)	KEY <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ffffcc; padding: 2px;">Visual Arts</div> <div style="background-color: #d9ead3; padding: 2px;">Women's Center</div> <div style="background-color: #d9ead3; padding: 2px;">Student Government</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="background-color: #f4cccc; padding: 2px;">Performing Arts</div> <div style="background-color: #fce4d6; padding: 2px;">Business School</div> <div style="background-color: #fce4d6; padding: 2px;">Campus Life</div> </div>		

NJCUMBB heads to the NCAA Tournament

by **Kristen Hazzard** | Sports Editor

In early February, NJCU Men’s Basketball was ranked No. 1 in the NCAA Division III Atlantic Region and No. 1 Seed in the NJAC Tournament. The team won 20 games and lost seven in the overall season. The seven losses were away games, however their first loss at home was against Rowan in the NJAC Championship.

Despite the loss, the Gothic Knights received a bid to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament in late February. This will also be the



Lavrone Green. Photo by Kristen Hazzard.

third consecutive year that NJCU has gone to the tournament. As the Gothic Knights head to Ohio to face Arcadia University, Head Coach Marc Brown said, “It’s tough playing in these games when you’re coming off disappointing games in the conference championship...but we’re obviously excited and looking forward to it.”

NJCU has also honored the senior members on the team, including: Yuri Brutus, Lavrone Green, Shaquan Worthy, James Julius, Salomon Pierre and James Richardson.



The Gothic Times wins in statewide news awards

News Editor Kenise Brown and Editor-in-Chief Monica Sarmiento were recognized by the 2019 NJ News Commons Excellence in Local News Awards. They were awarded first place for their work reporting on NJCU's counseling center wait list.

This new award category is for a journalist or campus news organization whose investigative reporting efforts had a demonstrable impact on the college or university community they serve.

The Gothic Times 2018-2019

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