

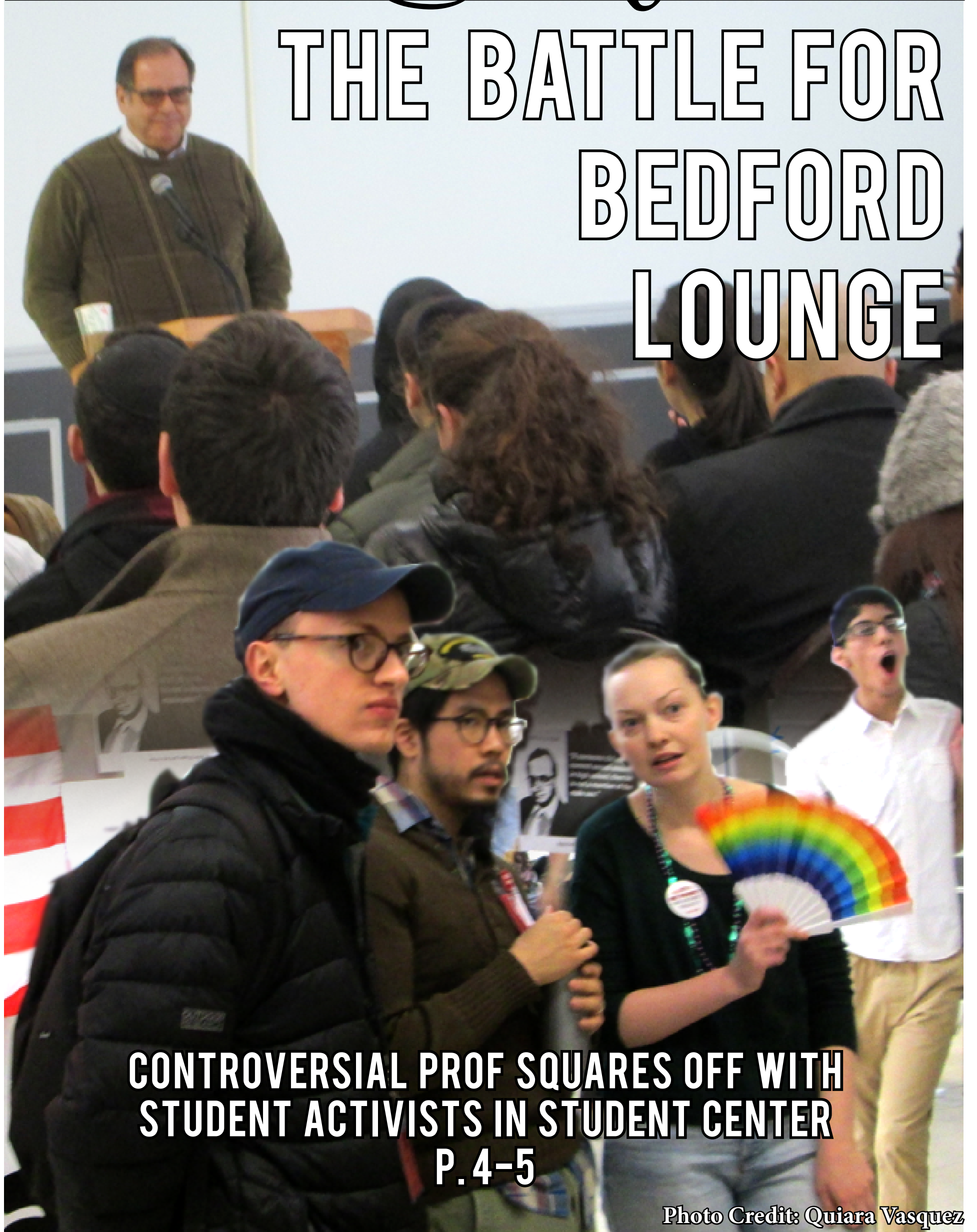
The Kingsman

"THE VOICE OF BROOKLYN COLLEGE SINCE 1950"

FALL 2018 - ISSUE 12

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

THE BATTLE FOR BEDFORD LOUNGE



**CONTROVERSIAL PROF SQUARES OFF WITH
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Photo Credit: Quiara Vasquez

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The Brooklyn College

KINGSMAN

AVAILABLE STAFF POSITIONS FOR SPRING 2019

The Kingsman is looking to fill two PAID POSITIONS for the spring 2019 semester and beyond. NO PRIOR JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED.

Layout Editor (~\$70 per issue) - Your responsibility is the layout of our paper - each week, you'll take the articles our writers turn in each week and put them together into an issue. You will need to know or be willing to learn Adobe InDesign. In addition, you will be expected to do some basic copy-editing.

Business Manager (~\$50 per issue) - Your responsibility is the accounting - keeping track of our budget, and making sure everyone on staff has their payment forms signed in time. In addition, you will be expected to write at least one article per semester.

And, of course, we're always looking for staff writers, especially ones with an interest in covering campus sports and arts.

If you're interested, contact us at kingsmanbc (at) gmail.com, or write directly to editor-in-chief Quiara Vasquez at quiara (at) zoho.com.



Talk to us!

Are you a CUNY student or faculty member with something to say? The Kingsman's Opinions section is accepting submissions. Send your op-ed to kingsmanbc@gmail.com before 11:59 PM Saturday. (The Kingsman only publishes articles written by Brooklyn College students and faculty, related to goings-on at Brooklyn College or CUNY. We reserve the right to reject submissions which are off-topic, obscene, or excessively wordy.)

Adjunct Professors Protest Outside BC President's Office

By Rosy Alvarez
Business Manager

On Tuesday, Dec. 11, adjunct professors and students alike sat outside of BC President Michelle Anderson's office to protest low wages and lack of opportunity at Brooklyn College.

Adjunct professors Zachary LaMalfa and Rachel Kauder Nalebuff were eager to express their goals and the purpose of the sit-in. When asked how long professors and students have been organizing for fair wages, LaMalfa said, "I've participated within the last six months, but other professors have been protesting for years and the union has been fighting for higher wages for over a decade."

An important detail to recognize is that adjunct professors are not considered faculty. This means that adjunct professors do not make a promised yearly salary, rather they are only paid for limited office hours and for when they are lecturing. Adjunct professors often spend their personal time juggling multiple jobs, while also grading papers and projects and answering hundreds of student emails. They do not get health care coverage and are not allowed to use health center services on campus.

They also have very little to no job security; adjunct professors don't find out if they'll be employed for the semester until a week before the semester starts. This makes them feel easily disposable and leaves

them worried about employment every time a semester ends. Adjunct professors are not allowed to call in sick the day of their class, nor do they get paid if they miss class; if an adjunct professor misses a class they are responsible for finding their own substitute teacher. These professors do not get pre-tax transit benefits and are not secured onto one campus, which leaves them bouncing around the city semester-to-semester wherever there is a class open for them.

The crowd sat along the wall on the second floor of Boylan Hall with legal pads and papers that had yet to be graded. Students showed up in support and brought food to share with the professors as security guards loomed over them on both ends of the hallway.

This is the first time there has been a sit-in outside of Anderson's office. Since adjunct professors work on different campuses at different times every semester, it's difficult to organize everyone to protest in one place.

A fellow adjunct professor named Alex was speaking to LaMalfa and said "Well, I have three other jobs



Adjunct professors lined up along the wall outside of President Anderson's office. / Rosy Alvarez

to worry about." This is the reality for many teachers and professors throughout the country. They are left to fend for themselves and are plagued by income inequality, lack of low-income housing, and lack of available teaching opportunities.

Most of the professors who were gathered teach humanities courses, and feel that they have a larger workload because they can't simply stick a scantron into a scanner and get an instant grade. Humanities professors dedicate hours of their personal time to grade papers, many of which they're not paid for. The professors are also concerned about students. Kauder Nalebuff said, "Students get their tuition raised very often but if I don't have the time to grade papers and am not being fairly compensated to plan quality coursework during my personal time, what are they really paying for?" LaMalfa added that often times he won't know he's teaching a class until six days before the semester starts, which leaves him with little time to prepare a syllabus.

Both Kauder Nalebuff and LaMalfa got their masters at Brooklyn College and were excited when they were offered an opportunity to teach here until they discovered the dark side of that dream.

"CUNY is very exploitative of both students and faculty, said LaMalfa, "They bait fresh graduate students to work for them and through unfair labor laws they basically tell you, 'well if you love your work then you should be fine doing it for free.' The professors further explain that they earn half of what the lowest paid, salaried professor earns and that they bear full-time work loads at only part-time pay."

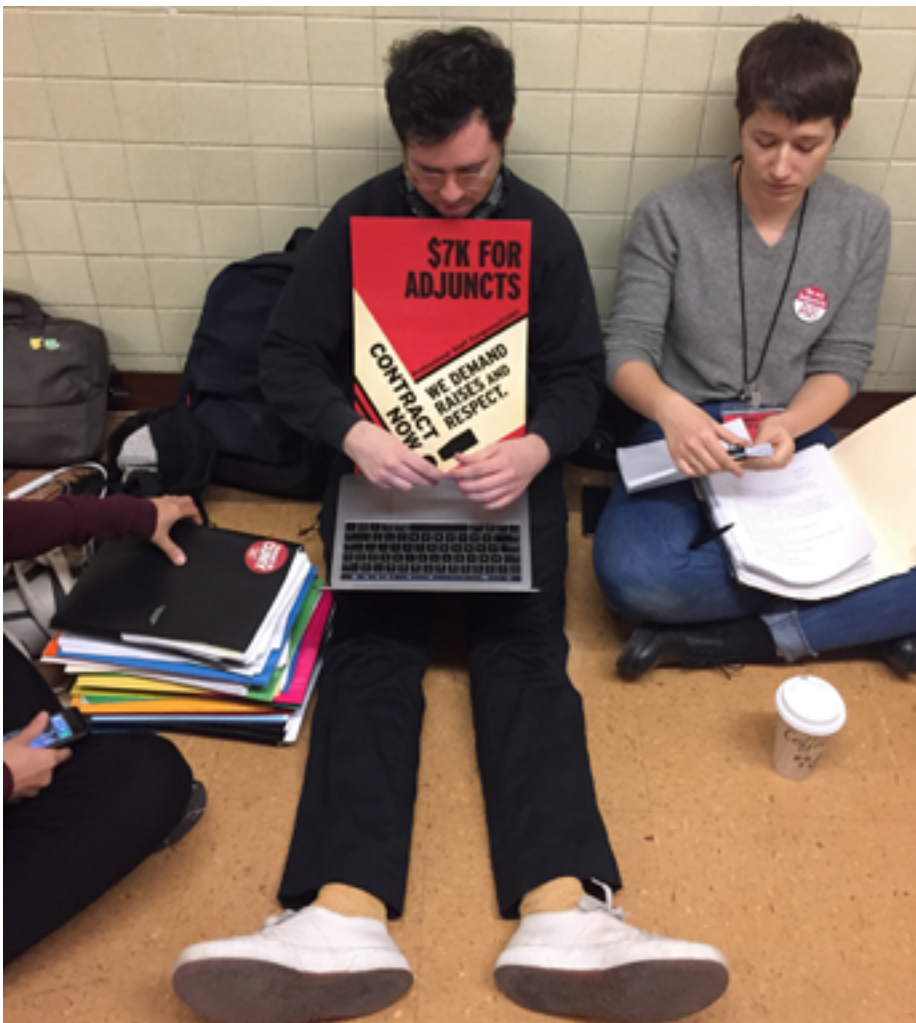
The Board and higher-level administration has not yet acknowledged or responded to any of the protesters. Kauder Nalebuff and LaMalfa both say, "we've been dismissed and ignored."

Kauder Nalebuff added, "CUNY could be the first to implement fair labor practices which would then set the tone for progressive countrywide legislature." This protest comes months after NYU announced that they are opening their doors to students of all incomes and allowing their med-school programs to be tuition-free.

Another main concern the professors have is their lack of healthcare. One professor, Tom Waters said, "If I taught enough classes to be eligible for healthcare, I still wouldn't be able to afford it." Faculty professors are allowed to use the Health Center services on campus free of charge, but adjunct professors aren't allowed that same opportunity.

Privacy was also on their minds. Kauder Nalebuff and LaMalfa explained that often times they discuss sensitive topics with students that other people are technically not allowed to hear but the spaces they're given for office hours are so small, there is no way to give students individual privacy. They're often crammed into a small space with three other professors and crowds of students outside their door.

Kauder Nalebuff had one important message to share with the Kingsman. "Students are at the forefront of social change. It's easy to be cynical but students' organizations have been an incredible support system and gives me hope for the future. Things don't need to stay this way."



One of the adjunct professors holding the protest sign. / Rosy Alvarez

Protesters Challenge Langbert



Professor Langbert speaking at the event. / Ryan Schwach

By Quiara Vasquez & Ryan Schwach
Editor-in-Chief & Managing News Editor

The second floor of SUBO became a battleground this Thursday, as embattled business professor Mitchell Langbert found himself face-to-face with a drove of protesters calling for his immediate termination and apology.

On Thursday, Dec. 6, the Young Republicans Club hosted an event called “Effete Millennials in Illiberal Universities” about how liberal colleges have failed their students, with Prof. Langbert as their keynote speaker.

“It’s a speech about how our universities have failed to produce productive students for life after they graduate,” said Young Republican Christian Cozlov, who organized the event and invited Langbert, whom he called “the most controversial person on campus,” to deliver a speech.

Langbert has been a controversial figure at Brooklyn College for the last few months after a Sept. 26 blog post he made defending then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh-surfaced. In the post, Langbert wrote, “if someone did not commit sexual assault in high school, then he is not a member of the male sex.” Langbert defended the comments as satire in the style of Jonathan Swift, but faced condemnation from students and the college administration, including a large protest in October.

“It’s supposed to be satire, nonetheless, satire or not people

could still be offended by it, and rightfully so, but personally I think this is an overreaction,” said Cozlov.

After finding out about the event, members of the Young Progressives of America (YPA) scheduled a protest and dance party in Bedford Lounge, directly across the hall from Langbert’s talk in the neighboring Amersfort Lounge.

“Hey hey, ho ho, Mitchell Langbert’s got to go!” the protesters chanted, audible even from within Amersfort Lounge. Led by Corrinne Greene of YPA, the protesters began to brainstorm couplets to shout across the hall.

“Should we go, ‘sexist, racist, anti-gay, Mitchell Langbert go away,’ or ‘Mitchell Langbert sashay away?’” Greene asked her fellow protesters. They all agreed “sashay away” was too excessive. Then their chants began anew.

“I’ve been told our chants are shaking him,” Greene told the crowd. “So keep it up.”

Apparently these chants weren’t loud enough, because soon afterwards, protesters hooked up a laptop to a speaker and began blasting Beyonce into the other room.

While the protest was described as a dance party, few people in Bedford Lounge were moving, except over to Amersfort, to tape flyers denouncing Langbert to the glass walls of the lounge. One notable exception was Tess Stofko, a theater major who was hard to miss in a hot pink sweater and fuzzy white tights.

“I wanted to be cozy today,” said

Stofko. She gestured to a cartoon flower emblazoned on her sweater. “The flower is a sign of peace, sort of an ode to the flower children of the sixties.”

She expressed disappointment that so many people had shown up to the Young Republicans’ event.

“I was expecting a lot less people. I’m actually disgusted so many people are showing up to his talk,” said Stofko. “Of course, a lot of ‘them’ are us.”

Between “them” and “us” was a who’s who of campus faculty - VP for Student Affairs, Dean Ronald Jackson, David McKay of the LGBTQ Center, Director of Campus Security & Public Safety Donald Wenz, Assistant VP for Communications & Marketing Jason Carey as well as, of course,

several public safety officers who had been asked to escort Langbert in and out of the building.

With music blaring from across the hallway and Langbert’s talk filling up with more protesters than people actually there to hear him speak, it took a minute and forty-five seconds into his remarks for a protester to begin reading the controversial blog post out loud to Langbert. Langbert responded by asking for a security officer and saying the protester was breaking the law by interrupting the meeting. When the man didn’t stop, Langbert asked if he had “cognitive difficulties,” and a back and forth erupted between Langbert, protestors, and Young Republicans trying to get the event back on topic.

Just as the event reached a fever pitch, Jason Carey stepped to the podium and tried to mediate the discussion.

“For the record, I’m just here to make sure we have a decent discussion on topics that are really... um, difficult to talk about because everybody has some really strong opinions about it,” said Carey. “I just want to reiterate: let’s move forward and continue the event, and try to manage everybody’s Q and A.”

From there the arguing and division only grew. More protesters crossed the hallway to challenge Langbert. Choice comments, with some political debate sprinkled in between both sides, went uninterrupted. Langbert doubled down on his statement that the initial blog post was a joke; the protesters fired back saying that “it [Sexual assault] is not a joke,” to which Langbert responded “You’re a joke.”

The shouting and arguing got louder and angrier, which more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Some of the protesters in the back of the room, including Tess Stofko (very left). / Ryan Schwach

Welcome To Winter Wonderland

By Anum Butt
Staff Writer

As the end of the term approaches, students had the opportunity to have a good time with their fellow colleagues and friends at the winter formal on December 6. The formal was hosted by Brooklyn College student government (SGS) in collaboration with Academic Club Association and Graduate Student Organization.

The event had a few themes, like the red carpet on the floor placed both in front of the elevator and staircase entrance. Along with the red carpet, the area was decorated with a window piece of paparazzi with cameras to snap a picture of students and guests entering. Also, a VIP window sheet placed on the windows. There were also balloons, lights, and a backdrop of a winter forest for photos, which gave the overall theme of the formal to be wintry festive christmas yet glamorous look.

The opposing room had a coat check. However, the rack for coats weren't enough to hang all coats for the guests. The room with coat check was a great place for those who want a break from the music and would like to chat with their friends. The opposing room also had a winter photo backdrop and the occasional photographer present for a photo op.

The formal started on time and self served appetizers were available



Two students dancing at the formal. / Anum Butt

later in the evening as more people entered. Quantity of food for the arrival of guests were enough. However, there weren't enough drinks to satisfy the crowd.

The students were dressed anywhere from casual to dresses and suits. The formal didn't draw in a large group but the crowd peaked more during certain hours of the evening. Most of the guests and students were not dancing for the

majority of the night, it may have been due to the music or not being drunk enough to let loose. However, there were times a decent crowd was dancing to the tunes. Songs were varied in their relevance, regardless, the crowd seemed to enjoy the majority of the tunes

During some periods of the night people gathered into a circle to watch others showcase their dancing abilities, sometimes in a group

while other times individually, the crowd cheered when they saw a breakthrough move and supportive for anyone who was brave enough to make themselves the center of attention.

The winter formal isn't as fancy as the spring formal that had taken place a year ago, but for a free event it was decent.

Protesters Challenge Langbert

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chants from across the hall bleeding through the doors. As time went on, the room filled up with more and more opposers to Langbert. At one point the speaker from across the hall was brought in, music was played and people danced in the back of the room, as Langbert fought to continue his talk.

Across the hall, the party was still in swing. Tamra Wilson and Maya Matheson sat down by the window, away from the pounding beats of the playlist they had created. The two had come with Caribbean Student Union to show their support for the protesters and their disdain for Langbert's comments.

"What he said was disgusting and not something I'm comfortable with on campus," said Wilson.

"Especially being female, you always expect some kind of sexual assault. Especially from the Caribbean, where we're sexualized

in our culture," said Matheson. Wilson nodded, adding, "We can be seen as targets very easily - 'oh, she wore that, so she deserved that.'"

The two were tasked with making a playlist of "upbeat songs that empower both women and men." In that regard they succeeded. Despite YPA's repeated assertion that this was a dance party, the assembled protesters weren't really strutting their stuff. Instead, the diverse group of students sort of bopped in rhythm to Lady Gaga - one jumped up, proudly displaying her sign reading "FREE ABORTION ON DEMAND! NO APOLOGIES!"

On the other side of hall, Langbert wound up getting to some of the talking points he had prepared with a number of the protesters walking back across the hall. Some still challenged Langbert, but not enough to drown out his speaking, although once more joined for a chorus of "Shame!" It seemed like

Langbert would never be able to finish what he was saying. After nearly two hours, and with 2:15 classes slowly approaching, people began to make their way out.

Afterwards, Langbert felt confident in how he had combated the protesters, although he admitted this was not what he expected.

"I thought we were gonna have a meeting of the Young Republicans Club," he said, even saying that if he was invited back "and it could be more civil... I'd be glad to come."

Both sides saw the event as one that backed up their point of view. For Langbert it was evidence for his belief that liberal universities had not educated their students appropriately, and for the protesters it served as a demonstration of the bigoted man they believe Langbert to be.

"I believe that it was hugely effective," said Carlos Calzadilla Palacio, YPA founder, afterwards.

"Literally only three or four of five people max showed up to listen to Langbert, while fifty people showed up in opposition to his message. He showed that he didn't expect that, and he looked like a fool."

While Calzadilla was happy with the turnout, the 50 protesters at the event Thursday were far fewer in number than the 200-plus students who showed up to condemn Langbert's statements at the first protests back in October.

After the event, Langbert posted on his blog, "Republicans might propose a bill that withholds funding to universities that do not discipline students who disrupt public discussions," seemingly alluding to the events that transpired in Amersfort Lounge.

Langbert is slated to only teach online courses next semester, an arrangement he said was made before the events of this semester.

From Brooklyn to the Bay

By Allison Rapp
Managing Digital Editor

Dan Thorne, Video Journalist at KRON-TV
Melissa Colorado, Oakland Reporter for NBC Bay Area News

For many college journalism majors, there's no better place in the world to hone their craft than in New York City, the media capital of the world. But after graduation, where can your skills take you? The Kingsman spoke with three former Brooklyn College journalism students who headed west to work.

Gayle Ong, Multimedia Journalist at KRON-TV



Allison Rapp: Are you from NYC originally? What did you major in at Brooklyn College and what was your college experience like? Did you write for a campus publication?

Gayle Ong: I am from Union City, California. I majored in Radio and Television at Brooklyn College. I did not write for a campus publication.

AR: What sort of work did you do directly out of college?

GO: I was a freelance assignment editor at News 12 The Bronx and News 12 Brooklyn while I was attending Brooklyn College. I started as an intern and they hired me after my internship. After I graduated college, I became a production assistant for promos at Fox News Channel, an associate producer for promos at the syndicated news magazine show Inside Edition, then a TV Reporter/MMJ at WETM-TV, the NBC affiliate in Elmira, New York and now I'm a Reporter/MMJ at KRON4 reporting in my hometown - San Francisco Bay Area.

AR: What led you to the West Coast? Are there any differences in reporting in San Francisco as opposed to NYC? What is your current position/company and how do you like it?

GO: The West Coast is home. I've been away for 8.5 years living and working in New York City and recently Upstate NY. I never had the urge to come home but my agent told me about an MMJ opening in my hometown and of course I said yes! Why not and here I am...currently a Multi Media Journalist (MMJ) or "one man band" at KRON4 in San Francisco. Just like NYC it's a large television market. NYC is market #1, San Francisco is market #8. There's A LOT going on especially with the weather. Wildfires on the west, snow storms on the east. It's demanding to be an MMJ in a big market. I shoot, write, produce all my stories and I even run my own live shots for our newscast. It's not glamorous and it's not easy but I've learned to work faster, smarter and become more resourceful each day.

AR: What advice would you give to current journalism students?

GO: Get an internship. It's the best way to get your foot in the door and to see what you like. Build your resume and establish contacts from there. Even taking a PA job at a national news network, local news station, newspaper or radio station right after college isn't a bad idea. You will see the big picture of how news operates and you will truly learn through osmosis on how the pros do the job.



Allison Rapp: Are you from NYC originally? What did you major in at Brooklyn College and what was your college experience like? Did you write for a campus publication?

Dan Thorne: I was born in New York City but raised in the Hudson Valley in a town called New Windsor, NY. I majored in Broadcast Journalism. My college experience was good! It was a lot of work. Overall, the experience was great for learning. There's nothing like going to college in New York City. There's so much right at your fingertips. I feel like you learn so much just by simply living there. Especially, in a place like Brooklyn. It can be intimidating but that's part of the learning. I did not write for any publications. My focus was primarily on working in tv newsrooms. I did a fair share of internships.

AR: What sort of work did you do directly out of college?

DT: I graduated around July 2012. I moved back home to New Windsor and after a few months I got my first job as a Desk Assistant at CBS 2 News in New York City. I interned there earlier that year so it helped having that connection.

I then went on to pursue an on-air career as an Anchor/Reporter in Ghent, WV. 2 years later I was promoted to the state capital, Charleston where I was also an Anchor/Reporter. I was in West Virginia for a little over 5 years.

AR: What led you to the West Coast? Are there any differences in reporting in San Francisco as opposed to NYC? What is your current position/company and how do you like it?

DT: I followed my girlfriend (who is a radio reporter) to the Bay Area in June. After a few months of looking for an opportunity, I was offered a reporting job at KRON4 News in San Francisco. I've been working here for about a month. The Bay Area is similar to NYC in terms of traffic, lots of people, different cultures and simply because it's a major-metro area. However, the differences are plentiful. People are very direct and short in their delivery in NYC. It's a very; "move, move, move" environment. I feel like the Bay Area is a little more relaxed. It certainly doesn't feel relaxed on the freeways but when you talk with people you get that more laid-back feeling. Please, don't confuse that with lazy. People work hard here, it's just a different way of going about it.

My official title at KRON is "Video Journalist." I essentially work as a mobile newsroom. I shoot, write, edit and execute my own live reports throughout the Bay Area. I think my success so far with this position is having experience with doing a little bit of everything and sometimes a lot of it. It's challenging and it helps to be a good manager of time.

AR: What advice would you give to current journalism students?

DT: My advice for students is to get into a newsroom and learn. Don't get me wrong, your classwork is very important. I just believe there's honestly nothing like having a front row seat. News gathering and broadcasting is changing rapidly. It helps immeasurably to be exposed to that landscape while you're still a student.



Allison Rapp: Are you from NYC originally? What did you major in at Brooklyn College and what was your college experience like? Did you write for a campus publication?

MC: I'm from Queens. Elmhurst specifically. I spent a lot of time interning when I was in college. I purposely scheduled all my classes to fall on two days so I could intern the other three days of the week in the city. I was very fortunate to find paid internships at ABC News and NBC News.

AR: What sort of work did you do directly out of college?

MC: I worked for News 12 Westchester after I graduated. I started freelancing for them and then I got hired full time.

AR: What led you to the West Coast? Are there any differences in reporting in San Francisco as opposed to NYC? What is your current position/company and how do you like it?

MC: The opportunity to work in the Bay Area came unexpectedly. I was in Minneapolis working for the NBC affiliate, KARE 11 and was wrapping up my 4th year there. I had always wanted to work for NBC Universal, after interning for WNBC and the network in NYC. Ultimately, the offer was too good to pass up and after 4 winters in Minneapolis, the California sun was calling my name.

I'm the East Bay reporter. I live in Oakland and I generally cover Oakland and Berkeley. Every now and then, I'm in San Francisco. I also contribute to our Telemundo station because I'm bilingual. I've traveled a bit lately to cover the devastating wildfires. I didn't get a lot of opportunities to travel to big stories in my previous jobs (with the exception of the ABC affiliate in Albuquerque) so this has been a great experience thus far.

AR: What advice would you give to current journalism students?

MC: My best advice to journalism students is to find a (purposeful) internship ASAP. You're studying in the number one media market in the country. No one who hired me ever asked me for my GPA or transcript. They asked for my resume. Am I telling students to slack off when it comes to schoolwork? Of course not. But I am telling you - don't wait until your junior year or senior to find an internship. Do it now.



REVIEW: R.O. Kwon's "The Incendiaries"

By Isley Jean-Pierre
Staff Writer

The *Incendiaries*, written by Brooklyn College alumna R.O. Kwon '03, is quite a unique and daring novel. As the reader, you feel its dramatic tone in the first chapter with a tense scene where you will feel lost a first, which is of course the author's intention. The opening scene of the novel describes a huge explosion at a hospital while the perpetrators gather on a rooftop to admire their devilish work, as they drink wine to add a savourous taste to the terrible incident. As the story unfolds, you witness the characters' love, passion, idea of faith, their sense of guilt, shame, and trust. But it just does not stop here. Some major issues discussed as well, such as homosexuality, prejudice, and the issue of abortion which turns into a fundamental key of the story as it progresses.

The premise of the novel revolves around two college students who gradually fall in love with each other after meeting at a party. As one struggles constantly after losing his faith in God for so long, the other starts to believe in Him. But at what cost? Is Phoebe going to realize that she is being manipulated? Or is she choosing to go down a dark path willingly? The *Incendiaries* provide an opportunity to follow three characters and experience their choices. Although they are different in terms of personality, it's interesting that somehow they all prefer to live in lies rather than trust.

As for the characters, Will is ashamed of himself and does not want to admit that he is in eternal pain after losing his faith in God, which is why he envies those who show their unbroken faith to the Lord. Phoebe, Will's girlfriend, loves the piano, but she does not want to continue playing it, for she believes that she is not talented enough when everyone believes the opposite. What begins as an innocent romantic relationship between Will and Phoebe will take an unfortunate turn as John

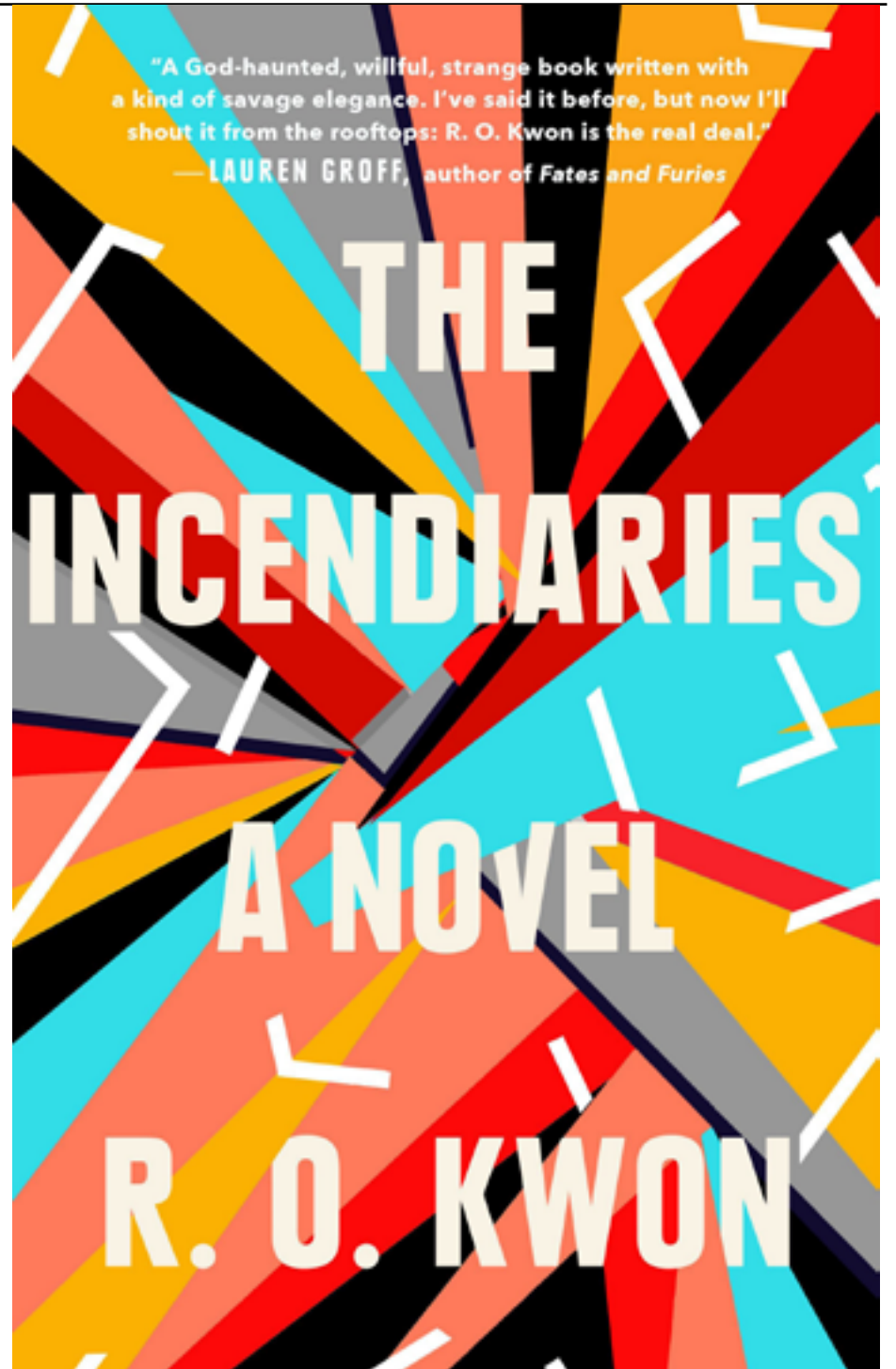
Leal, an acquaintance of Phoebe's father whose backstory sounds alarming, makes his appearance in Noxhurst where the other two go to college. He claims to hear the Lord, but Will is skeptical about his claims, as he too had believed in Him, once.

Phoebe, on the other hand, does not share any of Will's suspicions concerning John Leal. Ultimately the two lovers begin to grow apart as John Leal forces a crack to open between them with his manipulative character. Or did Phoebe want something to believe in to alleviate her grief and downplay her darkest secrets? Or was Will's final act of selfishness destroyed any chance for Phoebe to realize the error she was about to commit? As sad as it may look, John Leal is the winner of their relationship outcome.

Religion and abortion are heavily discussed in the novel. One has the right to have faith, but when that faith is used as an excuse to hurt others, a line must be drawn. Here lies the danger of attributing meanings to what God wants. Abortion is a sin, according to John Leal, but there are techniques to practice abortion that are discussed in the Bible as Will tells Phoebe one night. Is that the author's way of addressing the controversy of abortion? An individual's choice of lifestyle should not need to align with others' beliefs and religion in any way whatsoever.

The most interesting part of this novel is that it delivers well in all aspects of modern human life, all but, expect with a twist. Each character harbors their own darkness and secrets. Some of them do reveal them to others, while some do not. Guilt, shame, lies, trust, and lack of understanding are at the far front of this novel.

To witness the descent of the one you love into 'madness' and to fight the illusion of faith they describe makes you wonder what you could have done differently, and the guilt of being part of the reason to cause such a change of heart makes you fall in self-hatred. In *Jejah*, John Leal's little religious group,



"The Incendiaries" was recently published. / Amazon

people are led to believe that they must act against the sinners who believe and practice abortion while bringing a tragic end to them. All of which is reminiscent of the Old Testament, "an eye for eye". This belongs to the old world. But when it comes to the acceptance of different values, beliefs, cultures, and life choices, where have we the moderns, especially college

students failed? If we could show more understanding, respect, and less judgement towards one another in terms of religious belief, this could be a prominent step into building healthy relationships between all of us. It's part of life to feel like an outcast and overwhelmed at times, but all we have to do is to confide ourselves in others who support and accept us plainly.

Farewell From Our Business Manager



By Rosy Alvarez
Business Manager

It's been a very interesting last four months, the thrill of graduating college was mixed with nostalgia from the memories I have and the people I've met at BC. It's been such an honor to be able to write for *The Kingsman* but most importantly to meet the staff writers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide quality reporting of campus news. There are a lot of great stories to come in the next few semesters but the thing that stands out the most is the passion behind the articles that not ev-

everyone gets to see. Writing for the *Kingsman* has taught me a lot about the kind of writer I'd like to be and where I need to grow in order for me to reach those goals. I've reconnected with old friends while covering stories, discovered secret corners of the campus and even made a few new friends along the way. To whoever reads this now or 30 years from now, never forget to reflect the kind of world you want to live in, fight for those who don't have a voice and write honestly. Thanks to everyone for reading our work and to all of you who speak with us and allow us to do our jobs!

BROOKLYN COLLEGE SPORTS

THE VOICE OF BROOKLYN COLLEGE SINCE 1950 - KINGSMANBC.COM - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

Former MLB players Killed In Car Accident



Luis Valbuena (left) and Jose Castillo (right). / Flickr (left) & Wikimedia Commons (right)

By Jasmine Peralta
Sports Editor

Former MLB players Luis Valbuena and Jose Castillo were killed late Friday after a fatal car crash in Yaracuy, Venezuela.

According to the officials examining the case, the crash was caused by thieves who would put

obstacles in the highway in attempt to hijack both 33-year-old Valbuena and 37-year-old Castillo. The SUV the men were in swerved and flipped, causing the fatal incident.

According to the Associated Press, "Valbuena and Castillo were teammates on the Cardenales de Lara team in the Venezuelan winter league and were returning from a

game in Caracas when the crash occurred en route to Barquisimeto."

Valbuena, played eleven seasons for the MLB. The major-league veteran hit .199 with nine homers and 33 RBIs in 96 games this season for the Los Angeles, Angels where he played as first basemen and third basemen. Throughout Valbuena's career, he also played for the Seattle

Mariners, Cleveland Indians, Chicago Cubs, and Houston Astros.

Astros manager AJ Hinch said, "I will miss Luis's banter, smile, genuine love for his teammates, and of course, the bat flips."

Castillo, ten-year retiree, had played in the MLB from 2004-2008 playing as an infielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Houston Astros, and the San Francisco Giants. Castillo was known as one of the best hitters for his Venezuelan team and had the fourth-highest batting average.

Two other men, including the driver and Carlos Rivero, who briefly played for the Boston Red Sox, survived the crash. According to authorities, "the car had overturned as the driver tried to avoid an object on the road."

The Venezuelan league games were suspended on Friday as they mourned the deaths of both Valbuena and Castillo. A public memorial was held by the Lara Cardinals at the Estadio Antonio Herrera Gutiérrez in Barquisimeto where fans watched the players being carried in their coffins.

MLB released a statement Friday morning, "We are saddened by the tragic news that Luis Valbuena and former major leaguer José Castillo have died in a car accident."

The Cubs, Mariners, Angels, and Astros took it to social media to also express their condolences for the players.

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