

# Reflections of TIME

May 2006 Editors-in-Chief: Samantha MacKinnon & Deepak Joseph Advisor: Naomi Weinman Volume 4, Issue 3

## Senior Reflections

"TIME 2000 has been a long, adventurous journey where I have met close friends that I would like to call 'family.' My fellow siblings and I have all been raised to be great mathematics teachers by a superb role model of a mother who we would all dream to shadow one day.



There are not enough words to express my gratitude for all the help and support that Dr. Artzt has provided. I am looking forward to my new journey as

a mathematics teacher and I truly feel prepared thanks to her help."

-Kristina

"Dedicated to my TIME-5 family: 'Good friends are hard to find, hard to lose, and impossible to forget.' Know that the friendships I made with all of you will be treasured for eternity. I love you all."

-Shari

"I'm starting to think that five is my lucky number. Five is the number of years I've been in this program. I only wish it were longer but that means I wouldn't be graduating with the most supportive and inspiring people I know—TIME-5!"

-Sylvia

"Your TIME 2000 brothers and sisters are the best support that you can ever have throughout your college years. All you have to do is just develop a close relationship with one another. Once the relationship is developed it must be nurtured and preserved in your heart otherwise it disappears."

-Diallo

"One piece of advice to those of you who are next to follow us: you can do it! Just look around you, you have all the support you need—your family, friends and TIME 2000 family are all there to help you and love you, just like they have always done for me. Good luck!!!"

-Irene



"Thanks everyone that offered me a hand or a word these four years. Because of you, I have achieved this goal. Each of you owns a piece of my achievement, and it will be yours forever."

-Julio

"It is amazing how we've all become great friends through the years that we have been in TIME 2000. My life would have been so different if any one of you were missing. I will always remember the struggles and the successes that we have been through together. Thank you all for your support and friendship. I love you all, TIME-5!"

-May Wong

## Goodbye Doesn't Mean Forever

Michael London

TIME-5 will graduate on June 1, 2006

As graduation is upon us, it is time to reflect upon the greatest aspect of TIME 2000: friendship. It is an "irreplaceable feeling" (May Wong, senior) to walk into a classroom and be greeted by everyone. TIME 2000 students share this wonderful moment each and every day. "Queens College made us classmates but TIME 2000 has made us friends" (Julio Penagos, senior).

The close bond that students have with one another provides them with incredible academic advantages. It is a terrible feeling to sit in a mathematics class and be



confused. However, TIME 2000 students know that even when they are confused about what is being taught, it's only temporary. At least "we're confused together" (Kasey Luchan, sophomore). In order to clear up mathematical confusion, TIME 2000 students often form study groups. Since the members of this program are so familiar with one another, these study groups are never boring and according to May Wong they are "actually a lot of fun!" As a result of these festive study groups, TIME 2000 students are able to solve problems that they would never have dreamed of solving as well as achieving tremendous scores on high-level mathematics examinations.



As we bid farewell to the members of TIME-5, we know that they will never forget their experiences at Queens College and they will leave filled with memories that will last a lifetime. TIME 2000 has "helped us grow to our full potential." (Mamadou Diallo, senior) After this semester, the members of TIME-5 will go their separate ways. However, they all agree that "their friendships will not end when they graduate" (May Wong). Congratulations, TIME-5. We are so proud of you!!!!

## LIMAÇON

Kasey Luchan

On Friday, March 17, 2006, TIME 2000 students and faculty attended the twentieth annual Long Island Mathematics Conference (LIMAÇON) at SUNY College at Old Westbury. LIMAÇON was created for mathematics teachers from elementary to the university level as a forum for the exchange of new and innovative ideas.

The keynote speech delivered by Dr. Carole Greenes, former president of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics and a current professor of Mathematics Education at Boston University, focused on this year's theme, "Meet the Challenge of Curriculum Change." Her presentation, "The Tipping Point in Mathematics Education Reform: The Mavens, the Connectors and the Salesmen," called for changes in the way mathematics reform is approached, wanting the government and other agencies in charge of education to follow a business approach. She also called on educators to step up to the task and not only help students learn material for exams but to help students prepare for life.

In one of her anecdotes, Dr. Greenes stressed that learning starts early and even kindergarten-age students can recognize mathematical concepts such as infinity. The children in her example were able to identify that there is no such thing as a "largest number." If children that young can grasp such a difficult concept, older students should be able to understand abstract concepts as well.

She also challenged teachers to continually relate mathematics to real life, through examples such as mile per hour, miles per gallon, photo enlargement and medicine dosage—examples that students and their parents experience every day. By making mathematics relatable, hopefully students will come to view math as they view English: as a necessary part of any curriculum and not as an unfair and unnecessary burden for them to bear.

During the introduction given by Dr. Jong Pil Lee, President of Long Island Mathematics Conference Board, TIME 2000 students were recognized as the future of mathematics teaching, a burden we should all be able to handle successfully.

After the keynote address, I attended a session entitled "Visualizing Irrational Numbers" presented by Joseph Renna from Abraham Lincoln High School, NYC. Personally, encountering irrational numbers was not something I enjoyed in the past because

I found the concept very vague. I never actually thought about what  $\sqrt{2}$  represents and I always had trouble remembering the graph of  $y = \sqrt{x}$ , so I was excited to see, and later construct, the square root spiral. I enjoyed not only its aesthetic view, but its geometrical aspect, allowing the students to manually construct the graph, allowing for a greater understanding of the concept instead of just blindly memorizing graphs. Mr. Renna's presentation made such an impression on me that I, along with my fellow classmate, Carolina Galvis, presented this idea at the TIME 2000 seminar on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March.

I enjoyed attending my first LIMAÇON conference and I cannot wait to go to next year's, hoping that I will learn as much as I have this year!

## Reason To Reason

Deepak Joseph

If you've ever wondered, "Why do I need math in my life?" I've got two words for you: **problem solving**. You may not realize it but, mathematicians rule the world. If you want a little piece of it, you need to go to Dr. Sultan's Problem Solving class (MATH 505).

*"I never thought that my college experience would be so amazing. Throughout the years, I have developed friendships in TIME 2000 that will last a lifetime. Whenever I needed to talk, TIME-5 was there for me; whenever I needed to be encouraged, TIME-5 (my dearest*



*friends) was there for me. TIME 2000 has enabled me and my fellow colleagues to be the best we can be on an emotional, social, academic and professional level. My words of wisdom to all of you is to appreciate every moment spent with the TIME 2000 family and with Dr. Artzt because you will miss it dearly once you graduate. Thank you Dr. Artzt, for bringing us all together and for creating an environment in which we can grow. I feel blessed and honored to be part of TIME 2000. I love you all and I will never forget you. How could I?"*

*-Raluca*

*"I love my TIME family. They are supportive, helpful, encouraging and inspiring. They have been by my side for these entire five years and I am very thankful for that. I just want to say to all of the new members, don't take as long as I did to build your life long friendships. I love you, TIME-5."*

*-Tanica*

*"My advice is my favorite quote: 'The only way to predict your future is to create it.'"*

*-Sahil*

### Su Doku

SuDoku is a Japanese term that means "single number". It is also a fun logic puzzle in which you have to place the numbers 1-9 so that they appear in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box, only once.

	7	8						1
5				4				
		6		7	2			
8	5							
		4	5		7	9		
							6	4
			1	8		2		
				6				1
	1					3	5	

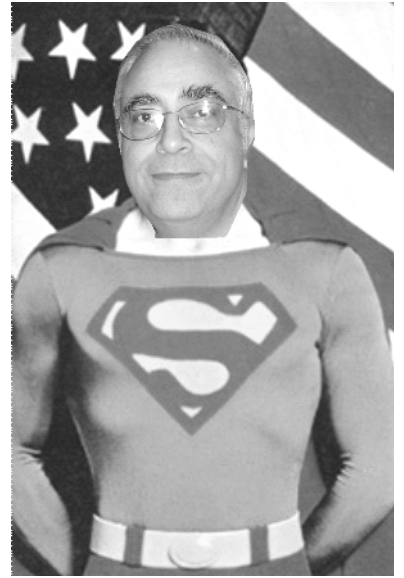
### Congratulations to:

- Ilyse Baum(T-6) for being elected a student senator in the QC Academic Senate.
- Eric Glatz (T-1) on his marriage
- Sarit Livi (T-6) on winning the January edition of Su Doku
- The new Tutoring Club (MT<sup>4</sup>)  
Officers: President Jessica Mercado, Vice-President Reanna Boodoo, Treasurer Xuilden Payano, and Secretary Leeyana Boodram
- The Newsletter Editors-in-Chief for Fall 2006-Spring 2007:  
Damaris Herron and Kasey Luchan

On the first day, I quickly learned that you need to think abstractly and "out of the box" to survive. In fact, the first question in the course was "How much dirt is there in a hole which is 5 feet long, 2 feet deep and 3 feet wide?" I felt like a genius when I whipped out my TI-83 (regular edition) to calculate the volume to be 30 cubic feet of dirt. I was so proud of myself, until I found out that there is no dirt, because it's a *hole!* Everybody had a nice little laugh, but I was ready to redeem myself with the second question. I was so focused. Nothing could trick me this time around. So as I read "Can a man marry his widow's sister?" I started to consider all the possibilities.

While I was creating my masterful plan for this crazy man, the answer had leaked out that he can't marry her because he's dead. But I wasn't willing to accept that. That was too easy. There must have been some way he could have pulled it off. What if he faked his death, changed his identity, and grew a moustache? Maybe even got a pair of glasses; after all, that always worked for superman, didn't it? I thought I had a brilliant idea, even though there were certain things that had to be taken into consideration. First of all, what does this sister look like? (Just kidding, ladies.) But, is she worth the trouble? This man better love her, because if his "widow" finds out, he won't have to *fake* his death. She'll make it a reality!

So, now you see, understanding math brings wisdom. It can touch our everyday lives, and protect us from hustlers. Something as simple as getting your change in a grocery store involves the knowledge of mathematics. If you never got exact change from that old lady at the cash register, eventually, as the limit approaches infinity, she'll be driving away in what should've been your Benz.



## "I Am Who I Am"

*Kendal Jones*

*Not Black enough to be Black,  
Not White enough to be White  
But I am who I am and I think I'm alright.*

*Not down enough to be down  
To "chill" with the rest of my hood,  
Since speaking articulately leaves me misunderstood.*

*Just because I don't answer  
When called out of my name  
Doesn't mean I'm conceited or trying to be vain.*

*Not Black enough to be Black,  
Not White enough to be White  
But I am who I am and I think I'm alright.*

*When we talk on the phone  
The conversation is pleasing,  
But everything changes as soon as you see me.*

*Yes, my skin is light,  
But not light enough for you,  
So now that you see me, what do you do?*

*Do I not get the loan,  
Do I not get the job,  
Because you think I have children and it is you they will rob?*

*Not Black enough to be Black,  
Not White enough to be White  
But I am who I am and I think I'm alright.*

*My language may say one thing,  
My looks another,  
But I'm going to need you to accept me for something other.*

*This might be hard  
For you to understand,  
But I truly am happy with who I am!*

*Not Black enough to be Black,  
Not White enough to be White  
But I am who I am and I think I'm alright.*

The inspiration for this poem actually came from a class assignment from SEYS 340. We were asked to discuss in a poem or narrative our personal struggles with language, literacy and/or culture. I discuss my struggles growing up as a well educated African American young woman, and what I had to deal with from other African Americans as well as people of other nationalities.

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*Good luck on finals and have a great summer! See you in the fall! -Sam and Dee*