Columbia Community Responds to Terrorist Strikes with Emotional, Financial and Physical Support, Proving Lion Spirit Strong and Resilient

Volunteers Seize Opportunity to Offer Assistance

BY SUZANNE THIMEL

Within an hour of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, Columbia convened a crisis management group to assess the situation and mount the University’s response. Led by President George Rupp, the group included Barnard President Judith Shapiro, Provost Jonathan Cole, Executive Vice President Emily Lloyd, Chaplain Jewehl Davis, the school deans and representatives of many administrative areas, including security, facilities, health services, the counseling service, student affairs, telecommunications and AcIS.

Classes were cancelled on Tuesday as faculty, staff and students, like all New Yorkers, coped with shock and sorrow over the devastation seven miles away. The decision was made to resume classes on Wednesday to help restore structure to campus life, although many classes turned to discussion of the tragedy.

In a statement issued Tuesday, Rupp stated: “We are shocked and saddened by the horrible acts of violence committed today in New York and across the nation. We extend our deepest sympathies to those who have had family and friends touched directly by these cruel deeds. We will work as hard as we can to help each other through this very trying time.”

SIPA Forum Discusses Attacks and U.S. Response

BY JAMES DREVIT

As Americans continued efforts to recover from the Sept. 11 attacks, Lisa Anderson, dean of Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), said the airplane crashes into the World Trade Center represented “a global conflict in a changing world.”

The World Trade Center is in some ways an American symbol and in some ways a symbol of globalization,” said Anderson.

Art Affirms American Values

ON COLLEGE WALK

BY LAUREN MARSHALL

In the wake of the World Trade Center Tragedy, many Columbia students have wanted to help, but have been few outlets. Marcus Bleyer, GS ’04, found a way to reach out in support of relief workers, express his grief and confusion over the attack, and ultimately tighten the student community through art.

On Thursday afternoon, Bleyer, an art history student, lined College Walk with a 50-foot-long butcher paper letter addressed to downtown relief workers. Students walked past Low Library on their way to and from classes. Following their lead, 500 people signed the letter, which was turned into a thank-you card for trade center rescue workers.

Hundreds of Columbians signed a 50-foot-long thank-you card for World Trade Center rescue workers.

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