LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Higher Ed. Reauthorization and Annual Funding in DC

By Ellen S. Smith

Congress has begun the process of reauthorizing the Higher Educa-
tion Act, which sets the blueprint for funding student aid for under-
graduate and graduate programs as well as international programs.
The massive bill usually is addressed over a one and a half to two
year period. Right now, the House of Representatives Commit-
tee on Education and the Workforce is in a fast track to finish a
number of separate bills before Congress adjourns its first session
of the 108th Congress. The bills being considered are the Afford-
ability in Higher Education Act of 2003, the Expanding Opportunities
in Higher Education Act of 2003, the Graduate Opportunities Act
and the International Studies Act in Higher Education Act. Each of
these bills has important changes, some of which have been favored by
the higher education community and other changes which are not.

The House Subcommittee on of Electrical Engineering, received the 2003 Mayor’s
Medal for Excellence in Science and Technology.

Samuel Silverstein, professor of physics and cell-
ular biophysics, also received the Mayor’s Medal for Excellence for Public
Understanding of Science and Technology.

David Keyes, chair of the Department of Applied Physics and
Mathematics within the School of Engineering and Applied
Sciences, will return to campus Select Education, chaired by Chair-
man Pete Hoekstra, passed the graduate education and interna-
tional studies bills. The bills next proceed to the full committee
and then to the floor of the House of Representatives.

Both bills contain provisions that were sought by the higher educa-
tion community and some that change the current structure and/or
content of programs and/or the reporting required.

At the same time, Congress is making some progress on annual
funding (appropriations) bills for Fiscal Year 2004. (10/01/03-
9/30/04). There is little expectation that these bills will be passed by
the beginning of the fiscal year but short-term bills to keep the govern-
ment running will be passed. With the rising deficit, the supplemental
monetary package for the military and research and education funding
appearing lower than in the past, there is concern that the bills will
not fund student aid and science funding as high as in the past.

David Keyes

Kristine Gebbie, director of Health Policy and Health
Services Research at the School of Nursing, in collabor-
ation with the Mailman School of Public Health, is the recipient of the
National Institute of Nursing Research’s Pathfinder Distin-
tinguished Research Award. Gebbie received the award
for her groundbreaking research on infectious dis-
eases that has influenced national practice and policies
related to hand hygiene in health care settings by being
incorporated into evidence-
based national guidelines
published by the Centers for
Disease Control and Preven-
tion.

Kenneth Jackson, Jacques Barzun Professor of History and
the Social Sciences, will return to campus
fall-time following a three-
year spell as president of the
New York Historical Soci-
ty. Jackson has been teach-
ing a reduced amount of
classes since his 2001 appointment as president of
the Society.

Kenneth Jackson is well known by
students for his midnight
bicycle tours around the city
for his “History of the City of
New York” class.

Elaine Larson, professor of pharmaceutical and thera-
peutic research in the School of Nursing and professor of
epidemiology in the Mail-
man School of Public Health,
is the recipient of the National
Institute of Nursing Research’s Pathfinder Distin-
tinguished Research Award. Larson received the award
for her groundbreaking research on infectious dis-
eases that has influenced national practice and policies
related to hand hygiene in health care settings by being
incorporated into evidence-
based national guidelines
published by the Centers for
Disease Control and Preven-
tion.

History professors emeriti
Jacques Barzun and Henry
F. Graff have just published
the sixth edition of their
landmark book The Modern
Researcher, the classic intro-
duction to research and pre-
sentation techniques. The
336-page revised text grew
goer Columbia course first
taught a half centu-
year ago. The book’s timeless
principles and case studies, fully integrated and upgrad-
end for the Internet age, make
it relevant to yet another gen-
eration of scholars.

Andrew Gelman, profes-
sor in the Department of Sta-
tistics and the Department of
Political Science, received
the 2003 COPSS Presidents’
Award for the development of
methodology integrating sta-
tistical modelling, computation and
graphics; for applications
to political science, public
health and policy; and for dis-
semination of these ideas and
results through articles, books,
and innovative teaching mate-
rials.

The award is granted by
the five leading statistical soci-
eties of North America to an
individual who has not yet
reached his or her 41st birth-
day during the calendar year
of the award. Gelman is author
of the books Bayesian Data
Analysis and Teaching Sta-
tistics: A Bag of Tricks and has
recently received the Outstand-
ing Statistical Application Award
from the American Statistical Association.

Andrew Gelman

Two Columbia professors
have received the 2003 Mayor’s Medal for Excel-
ence in Science and Tech-
nology.

Henning Schulzrinne, associate professor in the Department of Computer
Science and the Department of Electrical Engineering, received the 2003 Mayor’s
Medal for Excellence in Science and Technology.

Samuel Silverstein, professor of physics and cell-
ular biophysics, also received the Mayor’s Medal for Excellence for Public
Understanding of Science and Technology.

Nicholas Turro, the William P. Schweizer Professor of Chemistry has received the
George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education

The award is intended to recognize outstanding contri-

Kristine Gebbie

The Modern Researcher.