



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2016



**MNYCCPOA
PIPELINE**



**YOUR CONNECTION TO CAREER COUNSELING RESOURCES,
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES & NETWORKING EVENTS**

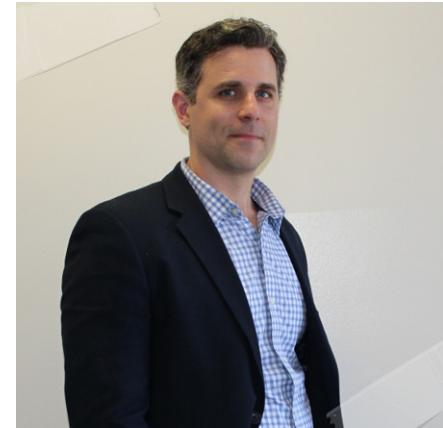
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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In November, we came together to commemorate our 55th anniversary. It was a festive celebration that brought us together at the dinner table and allowed us to do what we enjoy the most, and that is connect. Community and professional growth was what MNYCCPOA was founded on and that is the tradition that we will continue. And the 55th anniversary certainly provided us with an opportunity to do both. In the morning, we were engaged in an informative discussion about trends in the media industry. And in the afternoon, we connected with each other over supper; catching up with old colleagues and meeting new ones.

MNYCCPOA started from a small and local community of professionals who came together to discuss concerns that faced the career development field. Through mutual effort, our founders established our principles and constitution. The aim of MNYCCPOA being to promote professional growth, provide opportunities for exchange of ideas, explore creative solutions, and improve the delivery of career services. Over the decades, MNYCCPOA has offered more than 200 programs, established the Alva Cooper Award to recognize our accomplishments, and expanded its base from 50 members representing 29 institutions to over 200 members representing over 60 institutions. And MNYCCPOA has continued to be an important and influential institution within this region due to the dedication of our volunteer board and committee members. We've had 29 boards and numerous committees that have ensured that we remain an effective and useful resource for the membership.



Over the years, the MNYCCPOA leadership team has managed our events and celebrations, wrote our stories and history, reviewed numerous submissions for Alva Cooper, implemented new technology to administer our membership enrollment and events, deliberated on decisions that impacted the membership, managed business transactions, and engaged in numerous other activities to help maintain and transform the services of the organization. MNYCCPOA relies on the dedication of its members to continue its tradition of professional growth and community.

So I look forward to unwinding with you all at the January meeting as we learn wellness techniques to keep us happy and healthy career professionals. And we have a great line up of programming coming up in the next few months, as we explore changes to our profession and celebrate our recent accomplishments during the Alva Cooper ceremony.

I wish you all a successful new year ahead!

Keith R. Okrosy, MNYCCPOA President



MNYCCPOA - PROGRESS MILESTONES

As MNYCCPOA celebrates its 55 years in existence, here are a few milestones that led to its success.

How it Began:

March 16, 1960: MNYCCPOA constitution and by-laws were created
Dues were set at \$5.00

May 6, 1960: First official roster formed, 50 members representing 29 institutions in NY and NJ

Key Changes:

1972: Provision was made to include officers at community colleges

1972: Provision was made to extend membership to students

Awards:

1975: Board approved Alva Cooper Award for a completed master's thesis or doctoral dissertation on career development

Award honors Alva Cooper, MNYCCPOA's 2nd President and Director of Career Counseling and Placement at Hunter College

1st award bestowed upon Margaret Austin, doctoral candidate in counselor-education at St. John's University

Recent Changes:

Award changed to recognize the outstanding work of members in all areas not just in academia
Increased monetary amount of award's prizes

Communications:

MNYCCPOA's newsletter changed from MNYCCPOST to its current name MNYCCPOA Pipeline in 2015

Current Membership:

There are 200 members representing close to 60 schools in the NY Metro Area



MNYCCPOA THROUGH THE YEARS

NICOLE WOLFRATH, CO-COORDINATOR OF CAREER PEER ADVISOR PROGRAM/CAREER & INTERNSHIP ADVISOR, ST.JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

The Past:

For the past 55 years, MNYCCPOA has grown and strengthened due not only to the membership but the hard work of those members who volunteered to serve in executive board and committee chair positions. As the world of university career services has changed over the past five decades, so has the leadership of the organization. We spoke with some of our former presidents who shed light on their role in career services, what changes they faced when serving as a board member, and a little bit about what they are doing now.

The Early Years

Judith Nylen was a career services professional at Pratt Institute for 44 years, retiring at age 70 in 2011. "It was the best job I've ever had," she says, "Always different and challenging from year to year." With an eclectic career path, Judith was able to bring her experience as a high school teacher, caterer, photo stylist, exhibit researcher, artist, printmaker, and photographer to her role at the university level as well as to the board of MNYCCPOA. Concerns early on within the group were to provide a professional development platform to help the changing landscape of career services. Judi explains, "Our students' desire (was) to seek meaningful, perhaps alternative careers - (being an engineer but working in a rural area of Brazil) - and yet (we had), the need to be accountable for the success of our academic colleagues." 55 years later, this is still an issue facing universities. As board president from 1977-1979, Judi's focus with the executive board was on providing a minimum of three programs a year and building membership. At the heart of the initiatives was, of course, the importance of networking and learning from others in the field. Judi feels the one thing that technology has changed is the camaraderie of professional associations and the learning that happened when working with colleagues even through volunteering. "I was educated as an artist," she says, "All I know about career development I learned from professional association meetings like MNYCCPOA. " As an early member, Judi witnessed the creation of the Alva C. Cooper Award in 1975. "The idea was to recognize actual career development practitioners for their innovative work,' she says, "Not just to reward those doing graduate work in one of the many disciplines that feed our field," She explains that Dr. Cooper (President 1961-1963) was a mentor to so many even a "radical artist from Brooklyn," hence naming the award after him was appropriate.

The 90s

Greg Sobol began his career at Pace University in August of 1982 just at the beginning of MTV and the Information Technology revolution. His first MNYCCPOA meeting was hosted at Pace and focused on Careers in Information Technology including the use of computerized self- assessment tools designed to enhance the career development process. "Although we were not replaced by computers," he recalls, "We certainly came to use them in almost every aspect of our work!" Greg watched MNYCCPOA tackle many important issues at meetings such as ethics in recruiting and multicultural counseling. Elected board president for the 1993-1995 term, his goal was to "infuse more energy into the group and get more members involved in programming." From Pace University, Greg joined the staff at Rutgers University where he spent 28 years helping students, retiring in June of 2014. He has since started a small career coaching practice with an emphasis on medical school admissions, along with a part-time position at Princeton University Career Services. While he is no longer an active member of the group, he has the same enthusiastic expectation for its figure. "I hope that MNYCCPOA will continue to offer cutting edge topics that keep us current in an ever-changing field," he says, " I would also like to see more New Jersey colleges and universities active with MNYCCPOA."

The 00s

Diane Machado began working in career services about 19 years ago as Assistant Director at Marymount College. She later took on the role of Director/Assistant Dean of Students and then moved to the College of Mount Saint Vincent where she was responsible for the Internship Program.

She started her current career advising position at Lehman College in September 2015. A career services professional of almost 20 years, Diane Machado went to her first MNYCCPOA meeting in 1996. As Assistant Director at Marymount College, Diane was to bring the office up-to-speed on computer applications and Internet resources, focusing on how to connect the students with the new

way of career research. On-line job search sites were becoming the norm and a wealth of information was now available at the click of a mouse. "Recruiting was healthy," she explains, "More and more focus was being placed on the importance of experiential education. Meetings during the late 90s focused on online resources and hands-on instruction." Serving as board president from 2007-2009, Diane was part of the initiative to change the name of the organization to reflect the work that we were actually doing; therefore, the focus went from Placement to Career Education resulting in the name, Metropolitan New York College Career Planning Officers Association from the Metropolitan New York College Placement Officers Association. "The Board had been discussing the need to do this, but I made it my mission while President to make it happen," she said. Diane's hope for the future of the organization is to increase the membership with a special focus on student members. She also hopes for further expansion of membership to the outside boroughs. "When I started there seemed to be more representation of colleges outside of the five boroughs (such as members from New Jersey and Connecticut) which brought a lot of different perspectives," she says,

"It might be good to try expanding back into those areas again."

2010 to Present

Andrea Lipack began her career at LIU Post in 1994 as a graduate assistant. Serving as the front line to students she spent her time learning about career services through answering phones, greeting students, and mailing hard copy credential files. She later transitioned into a Co-op Coordinator role working with students in the School of Education and in 1999 was hired at Stony Brook University where she is now Associate Director for Employer Relations. She feels the issues she saw early in her career are present still. "Helping students clarify career interests, making sure they got experience before graduating and preparing them with the tools they needed to find a job or internships," she says were of many concerns. Student turnout at events and department marketing was also a hot topic. Students were learning of different ways to connect with employers and also how to market themselves through social media. "The tools we used to market were different," she explains, "We had to rely mostly on paper flyers, postings, and snail mailings. Then came along social media which changed everything! While Andrea served as president for 2011-2013, she claims her biggest impact started during her time as First Vice President. "At the time, we were still using an out of date and inefficient paper process for event announcements and registration," she says, "It was definitely time for the organization to move to a paperless process. I researched vendors and selected our first system that was implemented for event registration in the fall of 2009. I liaised with the vendor to customize the system and ensure all of our board members were trained to use it. Members were now able to apply for membership, register for programs online and pay by credit card for the first time."

It is clear that, as an organization, we could not be where we are now without the great contributions of our past presidents. We thank them for their long-term commitment to the organization and we hope that they continue to serve as examples of excellence in career services to current and future MNYCCPOA leaders.

THE PRESENT

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BOARD-BY KHOURIN WILKINS, THE NEW SCHOOL

Anniversaries often make us reflect on the past as well as the present. We asked the current, 2015-2017 Executive Board their thoughts on MNYCCPOA and what they hope to see in the near future.

What inspired you to get involved in MNYCCPOA and become a board member?



Karen Acampado-Secretary: I have been in Career Services for over 10 years and a member for most of that time. I felt like this was a good time for me to get more involved in MNYCCPOA, especially with the changing landscape of Career Services. 10 years ago the profession was much different and the people that are in this industry and the way we do things now has shifted. I wanted to be a part of an organization that was there from the beginning and truly understands the meaning of career development. The members of MNYCCPOA represent that culture and that's why I wanted a more active role in the association.



Jennifer Peters-Past President: I had been on a few program committees during the time MNYCCPOA needed co-chairs to revamp the Alva C. Cooper Awards Committee, so I volunteered. There were no other volunteers so I chaired it and formed a new committee. That was when we changed it from a research award to a best practices awards. Someone on the board contacted me and asked if I would be interested in running for Treasurer. I really liked the organization and thought it would be a good opportunity to become a part of the board and get more involved so I said yes. Of the 5 positions I have held, that one was the most challenging because back then the treasurer sent out the membership renewals by mail and kept an Excel spreadsheet.



Cheretta Robson- 1st Vice President: As I began my journey into career services 9 years ago my former supervisor encouraged me to join MNYCCPOA. From that day, I had the opportunity to expand my knowledge through the organization but also be approached by one of the Vice President's to take an active role in a committee. I accepted the role and started off as the membership chair which I had the opportunity to interface with more than 200 career service professionals. This was great because I learned more from them and built many professional relationships. Knowing my own strengths, I accepted an executive role nomination and have moved up in four roles since joining which has been a rewarding experience which I have developed my leadership. I hope to continue to grow the organization that helps local career professionals thrive in an ever-changing field.



Laurie Hollister-Director of Programs: I have been a general member since 2010 and got involved with the Alva Cooper Committee two years ago. The committee was instrumental in bringing change to the election process with increased award dollars and new extended award acceptance components such as postering at the year-end meeting. My involvement and contribution at the committee level, combined with encouragement from a few past board members, solidified my interest in the role of program director. An added plus was the opportunity to assume the role during a significant anniversary year, adding the challenge of organizing the 55th anniversary event which we hosted at NYIT and Atlantic Grill.



Diana Martinez-Second Vice President: I wanted to be more involved with the larger career services community in the NY metropolitan area and when I saw that there was a vacancy for the "Director of Programs" role, I saw an opportunity to contribute my event planning and organizational skills to the organization. Thankfully, I was voted into the role and since then, I have been in two other roles within MNYCCPOA.



Zay Lafleur John- Historian: MNYCCPOA was one of the first professional organizations I joined on entering the career services field. In 2014, I joined the Communications Committee as its chair, and with an amazing team, launched the current MNYCCPOA Pipeline. In late 2015, I was given the opportunity to join the board as the organization's historian; I was excited because it was an opportunity to help shape an organization I admire



Mariela Torres-Treasurer: When I started in career services in 2006 for the first time, MNYCCPOA was the first professional development organization I join and the programming that MNYCCPOA offered allowed me to transition well into the field. I felt that I had learned enough about the Career Services field and now that I will be celebrating 10 years in the field, I felt that it was the appropriate time to give back to a professional organization like MNYCCPOA.

What are you most proud of in regards to the current state of MNYCCPOA?

KA: To see it grow to where it is now is pretty amazing. After watching the presentation that Zay put together during the 55th anniversary, I was blown away by where it all started. I appreciate the fact that many of the members have been in Career Services for 10+ years and am proud to work side by side with professionals that have seen the organization evolve.

JP: I think that MNYCCPOA is great because it is a team effort of volunteers who are passionate about the field and giving back. There are so many things the organization has accomplished over the years, it's difficult to choose one. In each role I have held, there are things that I am proud of. Also, it is great to see your colleagues grow.

CR: I am most proud to see that we can sustain as a local organization. MNYCCPOA has a strong membership and it's because of them we can successfully make things work but also that we can aid the members with changes continuously happening in career services.

LH: I am proud of my ability to help shape change. This is demonstrated through instituting new membership levels, increasing our social media, communications, and running engaging programs. In addition, we are encouraging new professionals to get involved early by creating additional volunteer opportunities.

DM: I'm very proud of the enthusiasm from members to join committees and to provide ideas for our events. It's also great to see more involvement from younger professionals, as they will carry on the torch for the organization in the upcoming years

MT: The innovative and timing programing. I am impress with the work the past and present board has done to stay abreast of the industry trends in the field and they create programming that is timely to the current state of the field. I.e. Wellness Event for the Winter Meeting for 2016 and STEM Careers and Trends for the Fall 2013 meeting.

Share your vision for MNYCCPOA's Pipeline and other components of the organization?

KA: Career Services is made up of advisors, counselors, employer relations professionals – all of which bring a different point of view and experience to the field. I see the Pipeline highlighting those individuals. I would like to see the membership continue to grow and continue the retention of current members.

JP: I don't have a vision for the Pipeline, that it has evolved from MNYCCPOST and has been revitalized is very exciting. Thank you for contributing. Other components, I think that is for Keith to answer but I expect the changes in membership that he mentioned at the last meeting is an important step. The current membership rules are limiting.

CR: My vision is to build upwards! I want MNYCCPOA to become the best organization it can become, having it's own identity and style. Many members may be apart of EACE, NACE, the Mid Atlantic Career Counseling Association or other associations but what makes MNYCCPOA different is our commitment to our field but also the needs for the metropolitan area.

LH: My vision for MNYCCPOA Pipeline is to cast a wide net. Move the newsletter to a blog format, ask for contributions from the members, feature profiles of members doing outstanding work and running programs that speak to their expertise. Use the communications committee to create a social media presence that will give MNYCCPOA greater awareness among our universities. We're doing great work, let's tell that story.

DM: I would love for the MNYCCPOA Pipeline to turn into an interactive blog where all members' voices are featured. I would also love for there to be more involvement from the membership in the content of the newsletter (or maybe future blog). In terms of the organization, I would love to see our Alva Cooper Awards applications rise so there can be more opportunity to share ideas and perspectives among colleagues. Of course, I'd love for all universities in NY to become involved with MNYCCPOA so our membership can grow.

ZLJ: My vision is for MNYCCPOA to be a source of information and ideas for the ever evolving field of career services and ultimately high education

MT: My vision for the MNYCCPOA pipeline and other components of the organization is to develop future leaders of the industry. This organization is a wonderful network of motivated and engage individuals that one day would like to run a Career Center and also assist individuals to be successful in the field of their choosing. We should continue to be leaders in our field.

In one word how would you describe MNYCCPOA to an interested potential member?

KA: Community!

JP: One word? Connections.

CR: One word is really hard but if I had to choose one it would be, creative. I picked creative because we have such a diverse group of professional members that add to the vision and originality. I hope to continue to bring in more members as we are the empowerment to the success of our field and association.

LH: Transforming

DM: Exciting!

ZLJ: Friendly

MT: Engaging

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

MEMBERS SPEAK OUT ABOUT THE FUTURE OF MNYCCPOA
BY DIANE A. SAFER, PH.D., THE COLLEGE OF NEW ROCHELLE

At the most recent Fall 2015 MNYCCPOA meeting and 55th Anniversary Celebration that took place at NYIT in New York City, MNYCCPOA members were solicited for their thoughts about the future of our organization. Members were asked:

"Where do you see MNYCCPOA going in the future or where would you like to see MNYCCPOA go?"

MNYCCPOA offers tremendous benefits

Shayne Bernstein, Hunter College

I see MNYCCPOA continuing to provide Career Centers a platform to share information and stay on top of changes in the workplace as it relates to assisting our students. I see it also as a wonderful way to create and develop networking opportunities. In the future, it would be nice to see us grow our number of members.

Diane Spizzaro, Columbia University

I love the fact that we get together at these meetings but I would like more interaction. The individuals and the group is a great resource for sharing ideas. The individuals in our field are all about sharing and sharing resources is important for our field. We are collaborative people and we need more collaboration.

Ideas for the future

Amy-Louise Goldberg, Hofstra University

I would like to see more interactive events and mini-workshops, especially some discussing new techniques for working with students.

Tomomi Uetani, Baruch College

The students at my college are focused on public affairs and we serve an older population. I would love to have more programs focused on serving graduate students and alums.

Anne Marie Damiani, Sarah Lawrence College

I see the future of MNYCCPOA continuing to evolve alongside the role of Career Services in higher ed. Technology will no doubt continue to have a great impact on our field, as well as the development of new, unforeseen opportunities for students and recent grads. In response, MNYCCPOA may introduce new ways of communicating with its members through virtual tools, social media and shared resources.

Alan Kerzner, Institute for Global Student Success

I'd like to see more innovative programs that are being run by Career Centers or by external parties working to help students compete in an increasingly competitive internship and job market. There's a lot written in journals about the lack of career readiness and we should see if/how colleges are addressing these issues.

Chris Hughes, St. Francis College

There's a need for more reach into new areas that are underrated by our students, especially federal government opportunities. It's an underrated sector. It would be great to bring in federal/local/state representatives to speak on a panel. Also, reaching out to more members is key. There are many career professionals in the city.

Darren Petronella, Nassau Community College

I see MNYCCPOA moving toward more technology-based professional development – perhaps more webinars, online interactive training, and information-sharing. There's so much information out there to share using different platforms. It would be great to have more events over the course of the year. I would like to see more 'mini-events' or even regional/local events where we could have the opportunity to get together more often than three times a year.

Bringing in new blood**Sara Osorio, Iona College**

I like the idea of including students as part of the MNYCCPOA membership. It would broaden outreach and students would be more willing to accept the information we have to offer as they would hear it first-hand from industry professionals. Then, these students can return to their organizations with this information and share it with friends, clubs, Greek life, and so on.

Dorlene Curwen, The College of New Rochelle

It would be nice to see more expansion of our member base so that we could really pack out a conference. The panel discussions offered by MNYCCPOA would be great for other students to hear.

Final thoughts**Angela Cherubini, Sarah Lawrence College**

With increased attention on the value and ROI of a college degree, more emphasis is on graduate outcomes, thus, employer (and alumni) partnerships are critical. In the future, I see MNYCCPOA as a catalyst to help career services staff connect on a more meaningful and deeper level with hiring managers (regional, nationally and internationally) in new and innovative ways.

Patricia Imbimbo, Baruch College

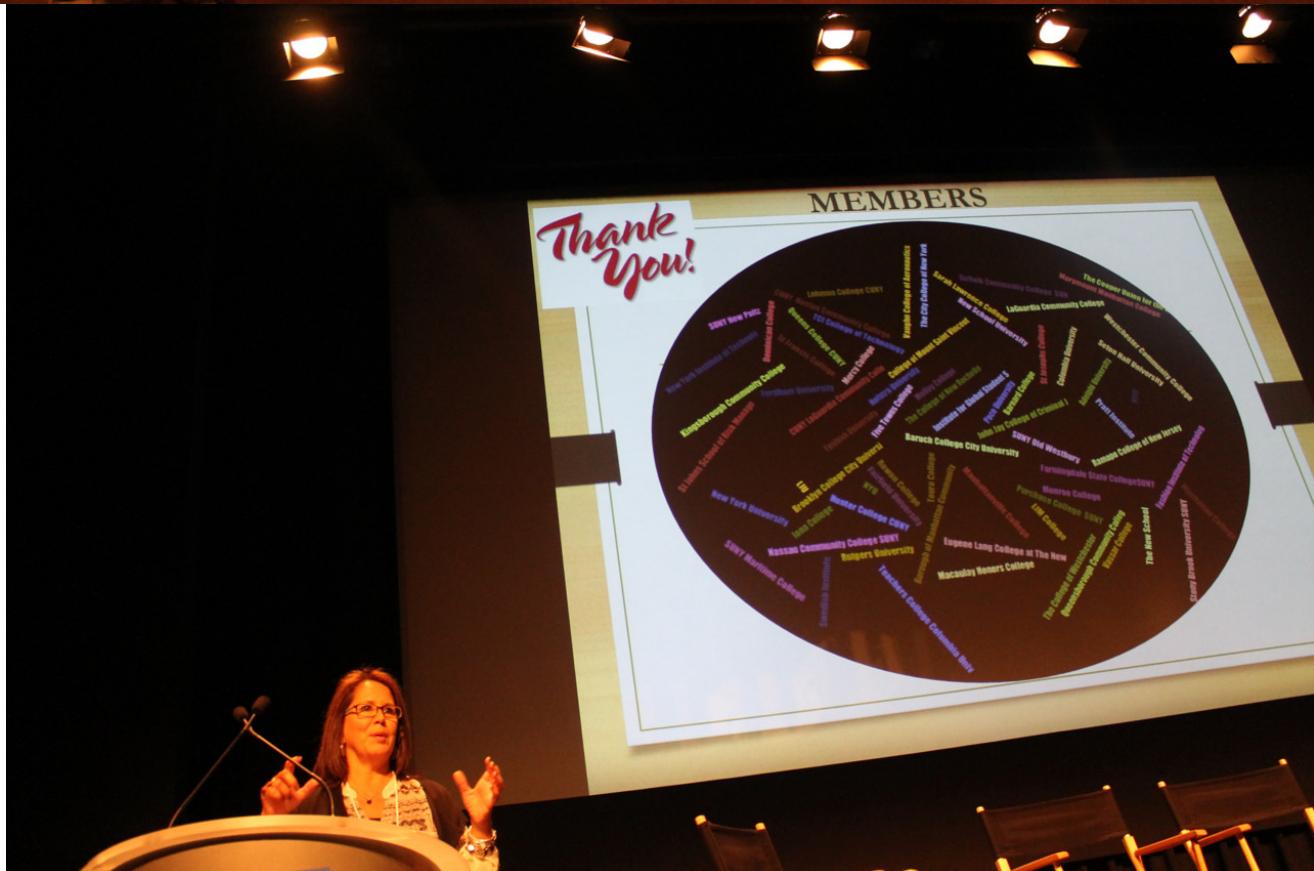
Look to the past. Look to the future. Clearly MNYCCPOA has done things right because this group has been alive for 55 years. But now we need to look at what has really worked best in the past and look to the future to see what will work for us going forward. The expanding membership base is great. It would be great to identify new members.

Stefano Verdesoto, Hofstra University

Because I recently relocated to the metro New York area, I am very excited to have joined MNYCCPOA! As a new member, I look forward to seeing MNYCCPOA offer a wide range of opportunities for members to connect, be it online or in-person.

EVENT PICTURES

MNYCCPPOA 55TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 11/13/15, NYIT





UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Meeting- Date TBA
 - Alva Cooper Awards
 - New Directions, New Staff...the Changing Roles of Career Services
 - More details about this program are available on the MNYCCPOA website
- REGISTRATION COMING SOON!**

 Spring and Summer Happy Hours coming soon!



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Diana Martinez, Second Vice President, Assistant Director Wasserman Center for Career Development, New York University
Nicole Wolfrath, Committee Chair, Co-Coordinator of Career Peer Advisor Program/Career & Internship Advisor, St. John's University
Wanda Chen, Career Advisor, The New School
Kimberly Porter, Associate Director, Graduate Outcomes & Career Advising, Pace University
Diane Safer, Career Development Specialist and Adjunct Instructor, The College of New Rochelle
Khourin Wilkins, Career Advisor, The New School
Barbara Young, Career Counselor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Interested in contributing to the Pipeline?
Email us at
communications.mnyccpoa@gmail.com

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

REMINDERS

Send in submissions for the Alva Cooper Awards!
The deadline is February 1st!
[Submit here](#)

VACANCIES

Borough of Manhattan CC
Student Career Program Manager - Employer Relations Manager
[Here](#)

The New School
Career Advisor
[Here](#)

Sarah Lawrence College
Career Services Associate Director, Employer Relations
[Here](#)

LaGuardia Community College
Student Career Senior Advisor- Adult and Continuing Education
[Here](#)

New York University
Career Development Counselor
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