Dear GC Community,

Welcome to the sixth issue of HR Connect.

HR Connect shares with you important announcements and upcoming events related to The Graduate Center and CUNY life.

Benefits Updates

Increases in Premium Rates for Some NYC Health Benefits Program Insurance Carriers

It was recently announced there are some increases in premium rates for several NYC Health Benefits Program insurance carriers. The affected carriers include Aetna, HIP POS, Empire HMO, and CIGNA. If you are currently enrolled in any of these four plans, you may be able to switch plans immediately due to the substantial rate increases. Please contact Lenore Mitchell, Benefits Officer, at 212-817-7700 or lmitchell2@gc.cuny.edu with any questions.

Reminders

August 1-5
Last week of the Four-Day Workweek Program

September 5
Labor Day Holiday
Observed

Upcoming Events

August 17-19
One Stop Program for Incoming Ph.D. Students
**Important Announcements**

**Weight Watchers Program**

Weight Watchers is a proven program committed to healthy living. Your best self isn’t just about a magical number on the scale. It’s about seeing food as fuel for a healthy life, finding ways to move more each day, and developing the skills to unlock your inner strength so you can make healthy choices for life.

CUNY employees who are eligible for health insurance are being offered a significant savings for Weight Watchers. Employees may join either Online Plus or attend meetings which include Online Plus services. Employees’ spouses, domestic partners, dependents over the age of 18, and retirees are also eligible to join at a discounted rate. “Frequently Asked Questions” about the Weight Watchers program can be found [here](#).

The Graduate Center will be able to set up weekly on-site meetings with Weight Watchers if there is a minimum of 15 employees interested in attending these weekly meetings. If you are interested in attending on-site meetings at The Graduate Center, please email [hr@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:hr@gc.cuny.edu) no later than Monday August 1, 2016.

### Weight Watchers - Monthly Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight Watchers Offering</th>
<th>Standard Price</th>
<th>CUNY Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meetings (includes Online Plus)</td>
<td>$44.95/mo.</td>
<td>$15.00/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Plus</td>
<td>$19.95/mo.</td>
<td>$7.00/mo.</td>
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</tbody>
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To purchase either of these Weight Watchers offerings, please go [here](#).

**Employer ID:** Please email [hr@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:hr@gc.cuny.edu).

**Employer Passcode:** Please email [hr@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:hr@gc.cuny.edu).
Discount Gym Membership

We are pleased to announce our partnership with New York Sports Club (NYSC). In an effort to promote healthy lifestyles, NYSC is offering passport memberships (available to both CUNY students and employees) with waived initiation fees and discounted monthly dues of $49.95. Some of the many features available at certain locations (over 160 locations) include group exercise classes, access to certified personal trainers, saunas and steam rooms. More information on the Program and how to join NYSC can be found here.

Summer Workweek for 2016

The Graduate Center (including the CUNY School of Public Health, Macaulay Honors College, Graduate School of Journalism and School of Professional Studies) is participating in the Four-Day Workweek program. This program began on Monday, June 20, 2016 and ends on Friday, August 5, 2016. The six Fridays included are: June 24, July 1, July 15, July 22, July 29, August 5 (Independence Day holiday was observed on Monday July 4, 2016; during that week staff had four regular un-extended workdays on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday). If you have any questions, please contact the Time and Leave Team at timeandleave@gc.cuny.edu.

2016-2017 Holiday Schedule

The 2016-2017 holiday schedule is available here.

Upcoming Events

One Stop Program for Incoming Ph.D. Students

The One Stop Program for incoming Ph.D. students will be held at The Graduate Center from August 17-August 19, 2016 - Concourse Level C. One Stop has been developed to assist students with questions, required paperwork, and enrollment procedures. One Stop is a single location where multiple university administrative services are available for incoming students. The program details are provided here.
Photos from Recent Events

Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day – April 28, 2016
Employee Recognition Ceremony – May 12, 2016

President Chase Robinson with Employee of the Year - Joan Reid

President Chase Robinson with Outstanding Achievement Awardees – Clockwise: J. Silvia Cho, Stephanie Evans, Kendra Sullivan, and Nancy Silverman

HR Connect - July 2016 Issue
President Chase Robinson with the HR Team at the Employee Recognition Ceremony
At this year’s CUNY HR Conference, the GC Offices of Human Resources and Career Planning & Professional Development presented our new program “Crossing Bridges: Putting Your Ph.D. to Work in University Administration”. The program gives Ph.D. students the opportunity to shadow senior administrators and learn essential components of their job.

From Left to Right: Christopher Jaggon (Campus HR Liaison), Ella Kiselyuk (Executive Director of HR), Howard Aspen (University Director of Environmental, Health, Safety, and Risk Management-Central Office), and Jennifer Furlong (Director, Office of Career Planning & Professional Development)

If you have any general questions/comments, please contact the HR team via phone (212-817-7700) or email (hr@gc.cuny.edu).

For more specific inquiries please contact the appropriate team member from our HR Directory.