

# The Pioneer

OCTOBER 2011  
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## THE COOPER PIONEER IS BACK!

*We're back and better than ever!*

BY THE COOPER PIONEER

The Cooper Pioneer is back and better than ever! You have the honor of holding the first ever “mini-issue” of the Pioneer. This year, the Pioneer is taking a new approach to getting news out to the Cooper community with short, but very informative and satisfying, publications every two weeks along with interspersed editions of our original publications. Over the next few months, we plan on providing you with up-to-date coverage on Cooper’s financial situation, including a future (scheduled for November 10th) interview with President Jamshed Bharucha.

The Pioneer aims to connect the three schools by allowing them to voice opinions and concerns about the school and its future. With the union of the three schools, an entirely new chapter of Cooper can be born.

Of course, while we’re serious about bringing you the news, we wouldn’t be the Cooper Pioneer if we didn’t

have some fun as well. Look for our coverage of New York City Comic Con in an upcoming issue. Additionally, we will hold contests to motivate more interactions between the community and the Pioneer (check out the caption contest in this mini-issue). We also encourage clubs and teams (including sports teams) to be involved with publications by submitting stories and information about club events.

But we cannot do this without you. Send us questions, voice your concerns. Your input is needed for the community to get the most out of this paper, and what better reason is there to contribute than to do it for yourself? This newspaper is for you, the Cooper community, so take charge of it. Make yourself aware and act. We welcome all submissions (within reason), including those from staff and faculty. E-mail [cooperpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpioneer@gmail.com) with comments/questions/concerns/suggestions.

## CU INAUGURATES NEW PRESIDENT

BY JASMINE AHUJA (EE '13)

On Tuesday October 18th, Cooper Union reached a significant milestone with the inauguration of its 12th president Jamshed Bharucha. The inauguration ceremony took place in the Great Hall, but to accommodate the large anticipated attendance, the ceremony was projected on a screen that could be viewed from the Grand Staircase of the New Academic Building. Speakers such as Frances Fergusson (President Emeritus of Vassar College), James Wright (President Emeritus of Dartmouth College), and Lawrence Bacow (President Emeritus of Tufts University) described how Bharucha had fulfilled the roles of professor and administrator at their respective universities, and also spoke of the power of education. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament of India, was unable to attend the ceremony because of parliamentary obligations, but spoke via video conference. He congratulated President Bharucha and talked about the importance of students receiving an international education, through which they learn to work with people from all cultures and all nations.

Board of Trustees Chairman Mark Epstein formally declared Jamshed Bharucha the president of the Cooper Union, and bestowed him with a medal. In his acceptance speech, Bharucha admired the greatness of Cooper’s tradition, saying “I cannot have asked for a more inspiring founder, I cannot have wished for a more lofty purpose, and I cannot have dreamed of a more exciting mission than to project Peter Cooper’s expansive vision into the second decade of this century.” Bharucha had certainly done much research on Cooper Union and Peter Cooper, and told a story about how Peter Cooper worked with Samuel Morris and Cyrus Field to connect North America and Europe



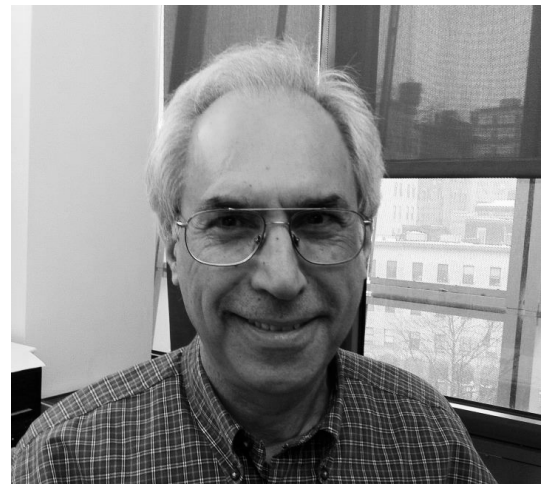
President Jamshed Bharucha. Image from [cooper.edu](http://cooper.edu)

with a telegraph cable. When an expensive cable snapped and sank in the waters near Ireland, Samuel Morris and Cyrus Field were unwilling to continue, but Peter Cooper persevered. A year later, the cable was retrieved. According to Bharucha, “this is the spirit of determination and innovation that we must reclaim today, as a nation and as an institution.”

Bharucha has a long repertoire of talents and achievements. He is already very involved at Cooper Union: joining Cooper’s scholar athletes at Cape Cod over the summer, teaching a humanities course called “Seminar in Social Sciences: Cooper Union World Forum”, and speaking at Cooper’s financial services event are just some of the things he has done and will be doing to immerse himself in the Cooper culture. Congratulations, President Bharucha! We look forward to seeing how you will carry on Peter Cooper’s vision.

## PROF AHMAD IS BACK TOO!

BY CHRISTOPHER HONG (EE '13)



Professor Hamid Ahmad. Photo courtesy of Calvin Ball.

Professor Hamid Ahmad is an electrical engineering professor who teaches Circuits I, Solid State Materials (now Electronics I), Junior Electrical Engineering Lab, and Control Systems. He taught at Cooper Union for over 20 years. Professor Ahmad is a very dedicated professor who knows everyone he teaches.

Professor Ahmad was forced to leave the Cooper Union last semester despite his great contributions. Many students and faculty fought for his return, but with little

I appreciate all the students, faculty, and staff for their support.

-PROF. HAMID AHMAD

availability. Fortunately, with the new President and his open policies, Professor Ahmad was given the opportunity to return and teach. Professor Ahmad accepted and he is now back in Cooper Union. If you would like to talk to him, he is usually in his office, room 615.

“It’s nice to be back. I’m happy to be back and see the familiar faces at Cooper,” Professor Ahmad said. “I’m looking forward to meeting the new faces and get to know them next semester in Electronics I. I appreciate all the students, faculty, and staff for their support.”

*welcome back Professor Ahmad*

## STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Art Student Council Meeting

When: Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 9PM

Where: 6th Floor Foundation Building

Who: All schools are welcome to attend to discuss the financial situation of the Cooper Union. Dean of the Art School, Saskia Bos, will be present.

Engineering Student Council Meeting

When: Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 5PM

Where: LL101, New Academic Building



# COMIC CONTEST RESULTS

Some of you may have noticed a poster about the first of many contests that the Pioneer is holding. It was a comic contest where participants submit original work in order to compete for cash prizes of up to \$50.

We received several comics and the winners have been decided. It was a tough decision, but there could only be three. The illustrators below will be contacted by email in the next few days regarding prizes.

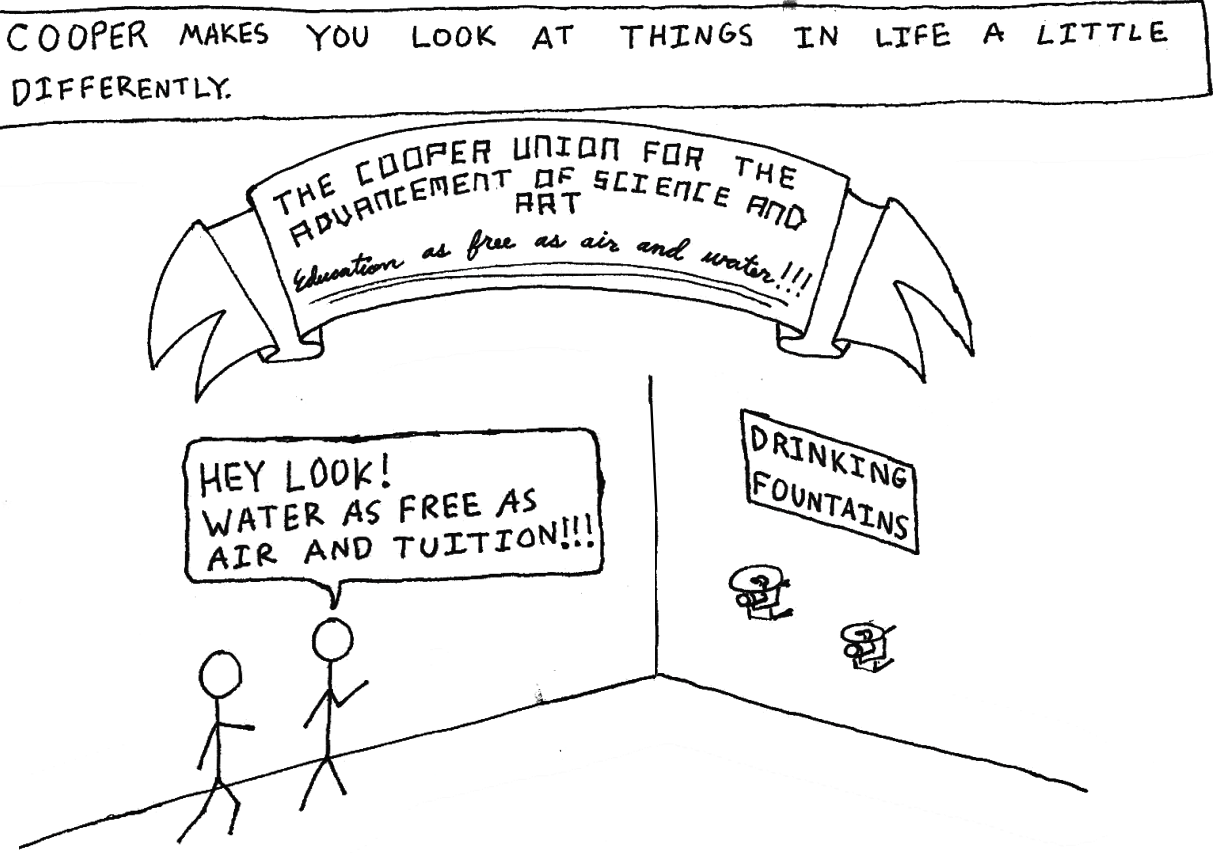
The first prize winner of \$50 is Leelah Holmes with her comic below:



The second prize winner of \$25 is Ramon Sandoval with his comic below:



The third prize winner of \$10 is Uyen Nguyen with her comic below:



HAIKU BY TAYLOR KNOBLOCK (MCHE'13)

*Hallowe'en nightmare.  
October snow, to our bones.  
What's next? No one knows!*



Photo by Christopher Hong (EE'13) - 10/29/2011

## DO YOU NEED ADVICE? ASK PETER COOPER

Ask Peter Cooper any question that is troubling you and he may respond to your question in the next issue of the Pioneer.

Submit questions to [cooperpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpioneer@gmail.com).

## THE PIONEER NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for motivated writers/photographers/artists to contribute. When you submit content, it is not only for the school newspaper, but for the entire Cooper community! If you are interested, please send an email to the Pioneer at [cooperpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpioneer@gmail.com).

# RES HALL LEAK

BY CHRISTOPHER HONG (EE '13)

On Monday, October 24, 2011 at around 11:30PM, the fire alarms in the Cooper Union Residence Hall went off and students had to be evacuated from the building for about 45 minutes. This evacuation was caused by a sprinkler malfunction in apartment 9A. The water leaked down mainly through the A line of the Residence hall down to the first floor lobby. There were reports of dirty water leaking through the phone jacks of the A line apartments, but it was confirmed by Christopher Chamberlin, the Assistant Residence Hall Manager, that the sprinkler water is well water that may have been tainted by the rust in the pipes over the years.

Due to this malfunction, the fire department was informed and arrived on the scene. Students waited outside in the cold while the issue was investigated. Cooper's Buildings and Grounds department helped clean up the mess.

The students in the A line under apartment 9A were allowed to return to their apartments after the cleanup was completed, but the students in 9A had to sleep in other apartments, including the Menschel room.

The total cost of damages from this incident is still to be determined. In regards to reimbursement for damages, according to Christopher Chamberlin, students were given the opportunity at the beginning of this semester to buy insurance for their apartments. Those who did can obtain reimbursement from the insurance company. In addition, those who had insurance under their parents can also try to claim damages. Those who do not have insurance and have incurred property damages should still report them as there is no information on whether or not Cooper Union will pay for these damages.

# CAPTION CONTEST



Image from thehairpin.com.

Think the above picture is hilarious? Think the picture would be even funnier with your own words underneath it? Then this Caption Contest is for you! To enter, e-mail [cooperpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpioneer@gmail.com) with your witty banter and a subject line of Caption Contest. A gift card of \$10 will be awarded to the top three entries, and the winners will have their words in a future issue of the Pioneer. Runners-up will have thier captions published in the next issue as well. Good luck, and we're looking forward to your submissions!

Limit one entry/caption per entrant. Please keep the caption within reason and appropriate to the readers. No purchase or payment of any kind is necessary to enter or win. Writers for the Cooper Pioneer may enter, but writing for us does not increase the chances of winning. Writers who enter will not be the judges of this contest for the integrity of this contest. Faculty and staff may enter as well. This contest is void where prohibited (i.e. outside of Cooper). Contest begins at 12:01 A.M. Eastern Time ("ET") on 10/31/2011 and ends at 12 P.M. Eastern Time ("ET") on 11/14/2011. All submissions must be sent to [cooperpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:cooperpioneer@gmail.com). All late submissions should still be sent. The Cooper Pioneer has the right to cancel this contest at any time. Please do not spam The Cooper Pioneer or else the contest may be deemed void for eternity. Three grand prize winners will receive a \$10 gift card to a store of choice and have their captions published in an upcoming issue (ARV: \$10). All runners-up will have their captions published in an upcoming issue (ARV: priceless). Limit: One prize per entrant.

All are invited to an intercollegiate  
SWING DANCE PARTY  
in room 104 (NAB) on November 4th, 2011 at 7pm.