

# The Pioneer

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## CULTURE SHOW 2012

FERDY BUDHIDHARMA (CHE '14)

Last weekend, the South Asian Society presented its annual Culture Show for Cooper Union. Exhibiting a variety of traditional performances and acts from different cultural backgrounds, this year's "Culture Night Live" was hosted by Cooper's own Marcello Ricottone (ChE 14) and his friends.

The hosts invited the audience to laugh along as they perform their own act of the culture show, based on Saturday Night Live, which includes humorous skits in-between the actual performances. This year's skits parodied a number of popular films and TV shows such as Mean Girls, Modern Family, Arrested Development and Paula Deen's Home Cooking. In addition, there were Cooper inside jokes as well, ranging from poking fun at some of the faculty to Frankie's regular pranks on sleeping students.

This year's acts include the event regulars such as the Coopertones, Ballroom Dancing Club, and the South Asian Society, along with newcomers such as the Sons of Pitches, Polina Smirnova's Russian Dancing, and Wei Dai's Lindy Hop routine. The Coopertones



The SAS Group Dance and the Ribbon Dance. Photos by Florence Huang (NYU '14) Business Management and Pre-Med Major.

not only graced us with their voices by singing with a mash-up and many different popular songs, but also produced a spin-off group: the Sons of Pitches, to sing "Kiss from a Rose" (by Seal) and "Hallelujah" (by Leonard Cohen). The Ballroom Dancing Club performed a salsa routine and West Coast swung to Maroon 5's  
*(continued on back)*

## CU VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS

YARA ELBOROLOS (CE '14)

On Thursday, March 29th, the Cooper Union Men's Volleyball Team defeated Yeshiva University, winning them the championship game. The entire team has been working very hard this entire year and they were able to demonstrate the fruits of their labor through this win. They usually practice for a couple of hours every Friday and Saturday. Games are usually on Tuesday nights or Saturday afternoons. During official games, each team has six people on the team, three people in the front and three in the back. The team players  
*(continued on back)*



The Mens Volleyball Team. Photo by Joanna Cruz (EE '12).

## DATATEL ONLINE REGISTRATION UPDATE

YARA ELBOROLOS (CE '14)

T.C. Westcott is the Vice President of finance and administration, and she is also the treasurer of Cooper Union. She was able to give us more information on the online registration system that Cooper is implementing.

She stated, "The projected total cost to implement the Colleague System by Datatel is approximately \$2.8 million and will take 18 to 24 months. The implementation cost includes all hardware software, and consultant services. Consultants provide support for system setup and training. Colleague by Datatel is an integrated system that will support all aspects of the institution's data processing including finance, human resources, development, recruitment, and student.

"The student module includes online registration, financial aid, degree audit, advising, pre-requisite checking. Additional features will include Student Web Access Self Services, MOX, the mobile access product for smart phones and the implementation of an Institutional Portal for students, faculty, and staff. Colleague will interface to Schedule 25, a room scheduling optimizer and document imaging applications. In the future, Colleague will also interface to Moodle, the course management system currently in use at Cooper. The annual license fee for the Colleague software will be \$148,004.

"As you may know, the actual implementation of the system is being conducted by Cooper staff alongside the ongoing operations of the institution. The staff has made a significant commitment to the successful implementation of this new system. Once the system is fully implemented we will be able to make access to timely and complete information available to department heads as well as to faculty members with research grants. There will be a single source of information reducing errors and time needed to access information and simplifying access. Reporting to regulatory bodies

will ultimately be automated.

"Students will no longer wait on line to register manually. Timely information and announcement will be available through the portal. We will optimize the use of space across the institution. Document imaging will allow us to reduce the space we need to store paper documents. Information will be available off campus via the web. Systems like Colleague are the norm at most academic institutions. Implementation or system upgrade costs are usually in the millions. The cost to Cooper for the implementation of a totally new system is well within market norm."

It will take a few years before it is a fully integrated single source database. This system also comes up updates with no additional costs. There will be one record per student so it will be much more organized. Westcott recognized the staff for all their hard work and the huge commitment that the successful implementation of this system requires. This system will save time and allow people to do other more meaningful work. Cooper Union has been without a system for far too long.

People from all across the board were invited to give their opinions about the system. There were two systems being considered, but the other one was not as supportive nor was it fully integrated. Cooper Union will try to use to this new system to its optimum use. We plan on stepping back, taking full advantage of the system.

There are always growing pains associated with implementing new things. Throughout the implementation of the system, training occurs. Some get it pretty quick, others don't. There are a lot of resources and Datatel has a user's group where Cooper can consult other schools using the same system for advice. Hopefully, this system will emerge successful and worth all of Cooper Union's pains and money.

## THE DINING ROOM

CHRISTOPHER HONG (EE '13)

Last Sunday (April 1st), Cooper Dramatic Society (CDS) performed A. R. Gurney's ensemble comedy-drama "The Dining Room." Approximately 90 people were in attendance and pizza and soda were served after the show.

"The Dining Room" is a series of 18 vignettes, each featuring different characters. Each scene takes place in different dining rooms across American history. The scenes range from slapstick humor (an old lady threatening to cut off a man's "anthropological balls") to touchingly poignant (an old man somberly discussing his funeral with his son). While the scenes are incredibly different, they are tied together in many ways; they all concern the meaning of family and the place the dining room has in day-to-day life.

While the show features over sixty characters, only twelve actors were used in CDS's performance, each playing approximately five to six parts.

On the whole "The Dining Room" was very different than CDS's last show, a stage version of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." Instead of the absurd and campy humor and music of "Rocky", the audience was met with a more serious play with "The Dining Room."



An advertisement for The Dining Room.



# CULTURE SHOW

(continued from front)

“Moves Like Jagger.” The SAS presented their acts in three parts: the Girls Dance started off with a Mean Girls skit, the Guys Dance performed a part of LMFAO’s Party Rock Anthem choreography, and finished off the night with Group Dance. Other groups include the Chinese Students Association and their Wushu and Ribbon Dance routine, the Gospel Choir, the Breakdancing Club, and the Cooper Union Hillel.

Of course, the Culture Show would not be complete without the ending feast. On the menu for last weekend was a variety of Indian, Italian and Chinese dishes, to top off the night and make sure the audiences’ bellies are full and satisfied. According to Facebook, over 150 participated in the event, and I encourage you to help this number increase by 2013!



Photos by Florence Huang (NYU '14) Business Management and Pre-Med Major.



## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Cooper Community,

I hope you enjoyed reading these small issues this past year. This is the last mini-issue of Volume 91, but it is not the last issue of the year. We plan on releasing one final special issue by the end of this semester. Keep a lookout for it in the coming weeks.

-Christopher Hong  
Editor-in-Chief  
The Cooper Pioneer  
EE '13

# SITUATIONS

RAMON SANDOVAL (EE '12)

Solution to cryptoquote from mini issue #11:  
The good thing about science is that it's true whether you believe it or not.  
- Neil Degrasse Tyson



# CU TUTORING CLUB

YARA ELBOROLOS (CE '14)

Cooper Tutor is a volunteer organization, which allows for Cooper Union students to tutor in schools around the neighborhood. It was started by Ben Schenker (EE '14). One of the schools that we have started tutoring in is George Jackson Academy, located on St. Marks and 1st avenue. It is an all-boys school comprised of about one hundred and thirty students. On my first day, I met with Aisha Lloyd who is the Assistant Head of school, faculty, and curriculum at George Jackson Academy. The students were very polite and willing to help me find my way around. On my first week, I tutored two brothers in algebra and they were very grateful for my help. I ran into their father who was also very grateful and kind. On the following week, Calev, a freshmen at Cooper, came along as a math tutor. When I asked him of his opinion, he said “I think it’s a worthwhile thing to do; something that more engineering students should definitely be doing.” The teachers were ecstatic to hear that they had another math tutor. If we are the beneficiaries of a free education, isn’t it fitting that we should help educate others? If you are interested in learning more about this wonderful opportunity, feel free to contact us at [coopertutors@gmail.com](mailto:coopertutors@gmail.com).

# VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS

(continued from front)

ideally, pass the ball off to the setter, who sets up the ball for the power players, also known as spikers, who aim to hit the ball over the net. When a team scores a point, they continue to serve the ball. Rotations of the players around the court occur every time a team switches serves. A team wins when they have won the best of five games in a single match and each game goes to twenty five points. Cooper Union and Yeshiva were two of the four teams who were in the championship. It was single elimination with Cooper Union and Yeshiva making it to the finals. Cooper won the first two games, Yeshiva won the third, but Cooper came back to win the fourth game, granting them the championship. The team is filled with wonderful people who all work very well with one another. They give each other nicknames (e.g. Nelsanity) and it is this chemistry that helps them do so well. Congratulations!

# CRYPTOQUOTE

MARCUS MICHELEN (CE '14)

A Cryptoquote is an encoded quote. It is encoded such that each and every occurrence of a letter is substituted with a different letter of the alphabet. Using clues such as frequency of occurrence and placement, the original quote can be found. For instance, the word XBDIKCXXBZ could be deciphered to reveal the word LONGFELLOW.

LHNBJSFV ZBH KPHF WPHC DLH ULSYHZ

WS MH WLGH. VQBHFQH BV WPH LHQSLZ

SA ZHDZ LHNBJSFV.

-SVQDL KBNZH

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# KENKEN

MARCUS MICHELEN (CE '14)

KenKen is a Japanese paper puzzle by Tetsuya Miyamoto much like Sudoku, only it involves both math and logic.

**Instructions:** Like Sudoku, each row and column must contain the numbers from 1 to 6. The number in the upper-left corner of the bolded shape made up of squares is the number you need to get by using the operation next to the number. For example, the “3-” rectangle in the bottom

1	3	5	2	6	4
3	2	1	6	4	5
4	1	2	3	5	6
2	6	4	5	1	3
6	5	3	4	2	1
5	4	6	1	3	2

right corner can be filled in with a 5,2; a 4,1; a 2,5; or a 1,4.

The solution to this puzzle will be released next week. The solution to the KenKen from mini issue #12 is to the bottom left.

2÷		8+		
60×		6×		7+
	2	5+	9+	
6+				
	1-		3-	