REMARKS FOR
THE SUBOTNICK FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTER
RIBBON CUTTING
September 15, 2016 at 1:00PM

Pres. Wallerstein and Borough President Gale Brewer Cut the Ribbon

Good afternoon. It is my pleasure to welcome you all to Baruch College and this official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the modernized Wasserman Trading Floor in Subotnick Financial Services Center.

Opened in the year 2000, thanks to the generous support of three of our most distinguished alumni—Bert and Sandra Wasserman and Stuart Subotnick—the Center was at the time a state-of-the-art instructional facility that gave students hands-on trading and financial services practice. Groundbreaking in its day, the Wasserman Trading Floor in the Subotnick Financial Services Center provided a simulated trading environment with:

- 74 high-end workstations,
- Real-time market data feeds,
- And high-output financial analytics tools.
It was one of a handful of comparable facilities at top educational institutions in New York and nationwide, and it really moved the needle for our business and financial engineering programs.

- The Center has been a resource for the New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ, and other corporations that hold workshops and training sessions here.
- And the trading floor was also used by two financial firms that were displaced after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11.

But as we all know, technology advances at a rapid rate and a mere 16 years later, it was time for a major upgrade.

We are extremely fortunate to have a wonderful friend, Borough President Gale Brewer, who provided the funding for a major technology overhaul. Thanks to the borough president’s funding, we were able to install new systems that feature low-power LCD technologies that can display graphics in a flexible, customizable fashion. They are interactive, using touch-screen technology and a mix of multimedia content on various screens.
In this space, our faculty and staff will continue to develop and expand cutting-edge experiential learning modules in:

- market analysis,
- financial modeling,
- trading,
- and information systems design and development.

Our students also benefit from access to tools that they will soon use professionally in real-world trading and investment environments.

I am particularly excited by this event because all of the Center’s benefactors are represented here today—Gale Brewer, Sandra Wasserman, and Stuart Subotnick—all whom took time out of their busy schedules to help us celebrate this milestone.

Stuart and Sandra, as well as Sandy’s late husband Bert, are both longstanding Trustees of the Baruch College Fund. And on behalf of Baruch students—past, present, and future—I want to thank you again for your original vision and for your enduring support and interest.

*(Lead Round of Applause)*
I also want to offer our deep appreciation and thanks to Borough President Gale Brewer, whom I will have the pleasure of introducing to you in a moment. I also would also like to thank Fenwick Huss, Dean of the Zicklin School of Business, and Zicklin Professors Richard Holowczak (Hollow-Zak) and Bernard Donefer (Don-Eh-Fer) for leading this important project to completion.

Today, we are also joined by many of the students who use the Center, including people from:

- The Investment Management Group,
- The Wall Street Club,
- And the incredible Financial Engineering team that won first place at this year’s Rottman International Trading Competition—the most renowned trading competition in the world. After months of training in this Center, Baruch’s team came in first among 52 universities, including Harvard, MIT and Princeton.
It is now my pleasure to introduce Daniel Dornbaum—President of the Undergraduate Student Government, who would like to say a few words on behalf of our students.

(Daniel Dornbaum Speaks……)

Thank you, Daniel, for speaking on behalf of your classmates.

Let me now say a few words about our wonderful Borough President, Gale Brewer. She is the 27th Manhattan Borough President, and she previously served on the City Council for 12 years and was the founding chair of the Council’s Technology Committee. As Councilmember, she successfully passed legislation

• guaranteeing paid sick leave for most hourly employees,
• compelling landlords to fix repeat violations,
• requiring all City data to be published online, and
• protecting domestic workers—the first law of its kind in the nation.

Since becoming Borough President, she has (among other things) been a champion of the City University of New York. Every year, she has
ensured the allocation of capital budget resources to CUNY schools. In fact, in the three years since her election, BP Brewer has provided Baruch with funding that is allowing us to modernize our technology infrastructure.

I am honored to have this opportunity to thank you personally and publicly, Gail, and to invite you now to say a few words.

(Brewer says a few words.....)

Thank you, Madam Borough President for your words and for your support.

We will now have a brief walk-through of the Center led by Juan Carlos Rivera and Yuliya Tdabosh (Yoo-lee-ya Da-bosh). Both are full-time students from the Zicklin School of Business, who help run the Subotnick Center and support other students who use the Center on various school projects. Please join us!

###