'LEAKY PIPELINE' BETWEEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND BACHELOR'S — CUNY researchers received a $1.4 million grant from the federal Institute of Education Sciences to conduct a four-year study on the extent to which the college transfer process might prevent community college students from getting bachelor's degrees. More than 80 percent of community college freshmen in the United States seek to get a bachelor's degree but fewer than one in five do so within six years. "CUNY is at the forefront of a national effort to improve associate degree completion for community college students," Interim CUNY Chancellor Vita Rabinowitz said in a statement. "This research addresses the next critical step for the success of many students: transferring and completing a bachelor's degree."

— "There's a huge drop-off of students who transfer or plan to transfer from a community college to a bachelor's-degree college," said Alexandra Logue, the study's principal investigator and a research professor at CUNY's Graduate Center. "There is some evidence that it's not necessarily the students themselves but the nature of the college transfer process and the obstacles that are put in their way. That's what we need to find out about." — Madina