

Academic Affairs Update

YORKCollege

The Provost Lecture Series: A Celebration of Opportunities, Ownership, and Outcomes

The Roman philosopher Seneca is said to have averred, “Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.” Although there is much to be said for Seneca’s proposition, luck revolves around chance, and it lacks the kind of intentionality that should define the pursuits of those of us who labor in the academic vineyards. Opportunity matters, though.

Intentionality was the hallmark of our desire in fall 2007 when we embraced the opportunity to create a research-enhanced environment and a mechanism to facilitate discourse about research. Thus was born the Provost Lecture Series (PLS). The intent was to offer our faculty the opportunity to present finished work or work in progress of such quality as to be acceptable for publication in peer-reviewed journals, presented at regional or national conferences, or displayed or performed in prominent venues.



Provost Ivelaw L. Griffith

Our faculty embraced this intentionality, took ownership of the initiative by defining the standards of the works to be accepted, competing keenly for the six PLS slots each year, and have viewed the PLS as an invaluable part of the college’s intellectual fabric. The evidence suggests this:

1) There were 29 Lectures, delivered by 38 presenters. Some Lectures were delivered solely, others collaboratively, with the number of collaborators ranging from two to five. Presenters spanned all tenure track ranks—Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor—and two of them were adjuncts, reflecting our embrace of

adjuncts who conduct research.

2) Faculty from all three Schools competed and presented, with one Lecture involving faculty from three different departments and all the Schools: Robert Clovey from Accounting and Finance (Business and Information Systems), Fabiola Salek from Foreign Languages, Humanities, and ESL (Arts and Sciences), and Michael Flynn from Behavioral Sciences (Health and Behavioral Sciences).

3) Arts and Sciences has had largest number of presentations; the Department of Behavioral Sciences the single largest percentage of faculty presenters; and the Department of Earth and Physical Sciences has pride of place in having a presenter in each of the five years.

The outcomes have been both tangible and intangible. In the latter respect, the PLS has infused a new pride by the college community in the stellar work being done by some of our fac-

ulty. As well, it has enabled students to see and know about their professors as more than purveyors of existing knowledge—teachers—but also as producers of new knowledge: scholars. Moreover, the PLS has aided the enhancement of our institutional image, both within and outside CUNY.

In order to ascertain some of the tangible outcomes we conducted a survey of presenters. Although we had just below 50 percent response, it is wonderful to note some of the outcomes:

1) 79% of the respondents indicated that they did follow-up work on the subject of their PLS talk, and 47% said that they presented their PLS research at a conference.

2) 37% noted that they published journal articles on the PLS topic after the Lecture, and 11% said that they published a book on the subject of their PLS Lecture afterwards.

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Presenters in the Provost Lecture Series, 2007-2012

A wide range of topics and research was presented in the ## lectures held between October 2007 – April 2012. They are a testimony to the breadth of research being conducted at York College:

York College, CUNY-Provost Lecture Series						
School	Department	Date	Title	Presenter(s)	Rank at Time of Lecture	
Academic Year 2007-2008						
Arts and Sciences	Earth & Physical Sciences	10/24/2007	Water at the End of the Tunnel	Nazrul Khandaker	Assistant Professor (now Assoc. Professor)	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Teacher Education	12/03/2007	Linking Research and Practice in Teacher Education	Coleen Clay, Lindamichelle Baron, Leslie Keller, Jane Keleher and Veronica Shipp	Clay: Asst. Professor Baron: Asst. Professor Keller: Asst. Professor (now Assoc. Professor) Keleher: Asst. Professor Shipp: Asst. Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities; History and Philosophy; English	02/20/2008	Perspectives on Colonialism	Hamid Bahri Laura Fishman, and Kelly Baker Josephs	Bahri: Asst. Professor Fishman: Professor Josephs: Asst. Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Chemistry	04/08/2008	What Do Opera and Computational Chemistry Have in Common?	Angelo Rossi	Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Mathematics and Computer Science	05/07/2008	Recent Developments in Pattern Recognition	Lou D'Alotto and Lew Lasser	D'Alotto: Assoc. Professor (now Professor) Lasser: Asst. Professor	
Academic Year 2008-2009						
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	09/24/2008	Supporting Family Caregivers in a Multicultural Society	Deborah Majerovitz	Professor	

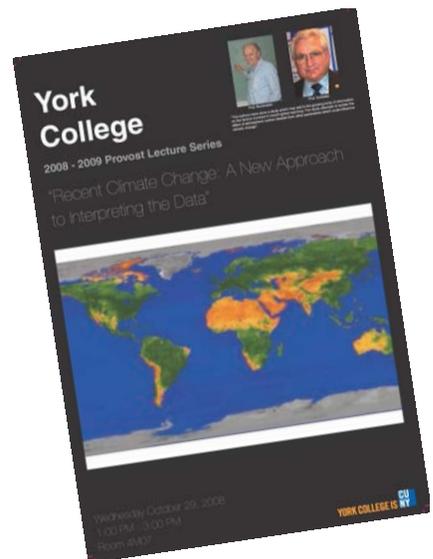
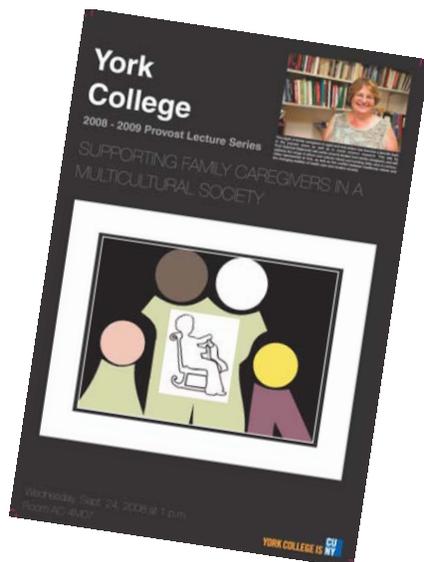
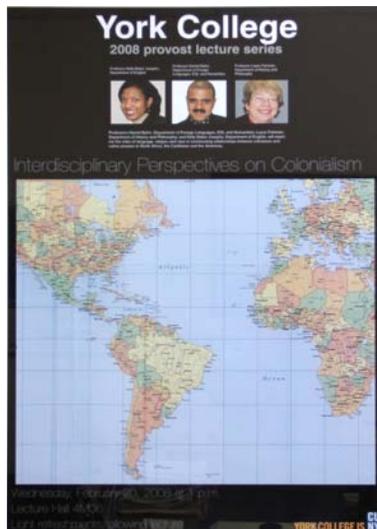
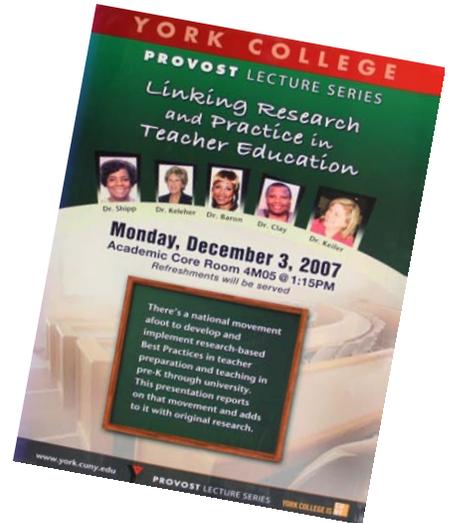
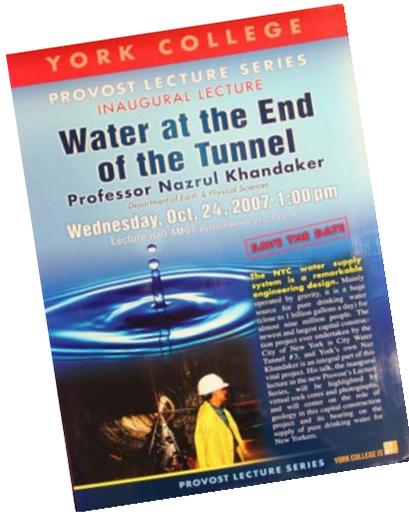
Arts and Sciences	Earth & Physical Sciences	10/29/2008	Recent Climate Change: A New Approach to Interpreting the Data	Samuel Borenstein and Stanley Schleifer	Borenstein: Professor Schleifer: Assoc. Professor	
Arts and Sciences	English	12/03/2008	The 'Salt' of Peace	Helen R. Andretta	Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Social Sciences	02/25/2009	PotoMitan: Haitian Women, Pillars of the Global Economy	Mark Schuller	Assistant Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Health and Physical Education	03/23/2009	Online HIV Prevention and Education: Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors of Men Who Have Sex with Men in new York City – An Internet Study	Nicholas Grosskopf	Assistant Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	04/27/2009	Using MRI to Measure Individual Differences in Behavior and the Brain's Response to Injury	Robert Duncan	Assistant Professor	
Academic Year 2009-2010						
Arts and Sciences	History & Philosophy	09/30/2009	The Birth of York College: Higher Education and Politics at the State and Local Level	Robert Parmet	Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	10/26/2009	How Do Contested Illnesses Become Public Health Concerns?: Understanding Stakeholders and the Process of Transformation	Debra Swoboda	Associate Professor	
Arts and Sciences	History & Philosophy	12/02/2009	The Lord Has Called Us to a Hard Task: Chaplain Robert Dokes, Black Soldiers, and The Practice of Transgressive Citizenship in World War II	George White	Assistant Professor (now Associate Professor)	
Arts and Sciences	Mathematics and Computer Science	02/24/2010	Teacher Identity and Math for Social Justice	Lidia Gonzalez	Assistant Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Biology	03/22/2010	Recurrent Miscarriages: Can we Prevent Fetal Rejection	Guillermina Girardi	Associate Professor	

Academic Year 2010-2011						
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Social Sciences	04/19/2010	Psychological Distress among College Students	Beth Rosenthal	Professor	
Business and Information Systems	Business and Economics	09/20/2010	Chicanas and Chicanos in Aviation: Overcoming Barriers	Robert Aceves	Associate Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Earth & Physical Sciences	10/21/2010	Star Formation from One End of the Spectrum to the Other	Timothy Paglione	Associate Professor	
Business and Information Systems; Health & Behavioral Sciences; Arts and Sciences	Accounting and Finance; Behavioral Sciences; Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities	12/02/2010	Women's Empowerment and the 'New Immigration': York's VITA Program	Robert Clovey, Michael Flynn, and Fabiola F. Salek	Clovey: Assoc. Professor Flynn: Assoc. Professor Salek: Asst. Professor (now Associate professor)	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Health and Physical Education; Occupational Therapy	02/17/2011	Urban Renewal and Aging in New York City	Alex Costley and Beverly P. Horowitz	Costley: Asst. Professor Horowitz: Assoc. Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Earth & Physical Sciences	03/16/2011	Mapping and Managing the Earth from Space	Sunil Bhaskaran	Adjunct Asst. Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	04/28/2011	The Trickster in Pop Culture and Politics	William Ashton	Associate Professor	

Academic Year 2011-2012						
Arts and Sciences	Performing & Fine Arts	09/12/2011	The Domino Effect: How Development in New York City is Often Bittersweet	Daniel Phelps	Adjunct Lecturer	
Arts and Sciences	Earth & Physical Sciences	10/25/2011	The Muon Diaries: One Particle's View of the Coming Revolution in Physics	Kevin Lynch	Assistant Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Social Sciences	11/16/2011	The more fights you have ... the less fighting you have to do: Interrogating girls' violence	Rebecca Rivera-Maestre	Assistant Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Performing & Fine Arts	02/22/2012	Will Write Later': Postcards, Technology and Social History in Early 20th Century New England	Eric Metcalf	Assistant Professor	
Arts and Sciences	Biology	03/15/2012	Don't Come so close to me': Using the fruit-fly to understand the genetic basis of social interactions	Anne Simon	Assistant Professor	
Health & Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	04/18/2012	Foreign Workers and Israeli-Jewishness Dilemma	Robin Harper	Assistant Professor	

Provost Lectures: A Celebration in Art & Design

2007-2008



2008-2009

Provost Lecture Series

"The Salt of Peace"

Dr. Helen R. Andretta
(Professor of English)
Wednesday, December 3, 2008
1:00-3:00 pm, Room 4M07

Dr. Andretta will present the impact of her research on literature across the Faculty of Culture and on a topic of vital interest to our community. With characterization of the history and significance of the common thread of salt and with lectures on the history of biblical allusions, the lecture will associate with peace efforts and strategies in our time. All are welcome.

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PROVOST LECTURE SERIES

POTO MITAN
HAITIAN WOMEN, PILLARS OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
A DOCUMENTARY FILM

Wednesday, February 25, 2009
1:00 - 3:00 PM Room AC - 4M07

Professor Mark Schaller
Department of Social Sciences

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PROVOST LECTURE SERIES

ONLINE HIV PREVENTION AND EDUCATION
"ATTITUDE, BELIEFS AND BEHAVIORS OF MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN IN NEW YORK CITY AND OTHER CITIES"

Monday, March 23, 2009
1:00 - 3:00 PM Room AC - 4M07

Professor Nicholas A. Groszopf
Department of Health and Physical Education

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PROVOST LECTURE SERIES

USING fMRI
TO MEASURE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCE
IN BEHAVIOR AND THE BRAIN'S RESPONSE TO INJURY

Monday, April 27, 2009
1:00-3:00 PM Room AC - 4M07

Professor Robert Damjanovic
Department of Health and Physical Education

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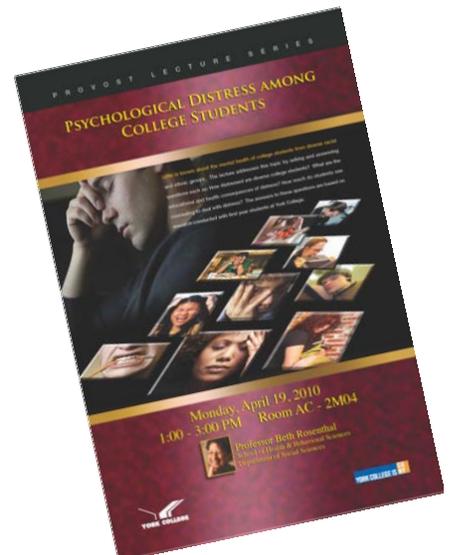
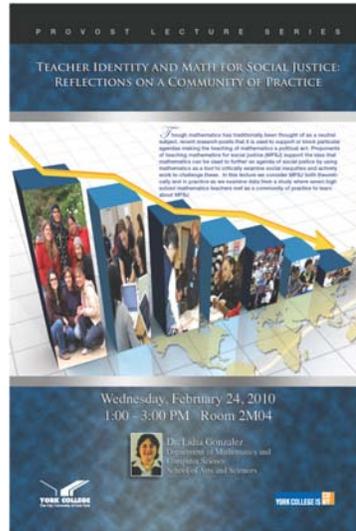
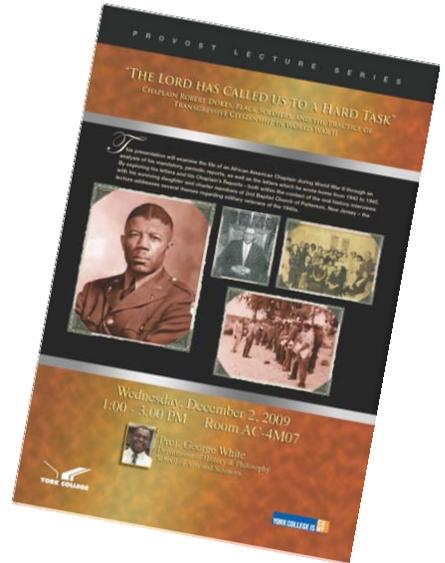
"THE BIRTH OF YORK COLLEGE"
HIGHER EDUCATION AND POLITICS AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL

Wednesday, September 30, 2009
1:00 - 3:00 PM Room AC - 4M07

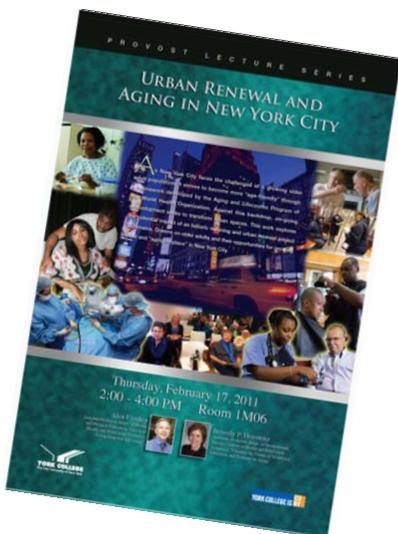
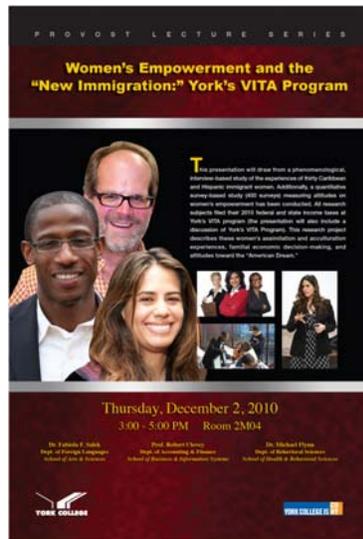
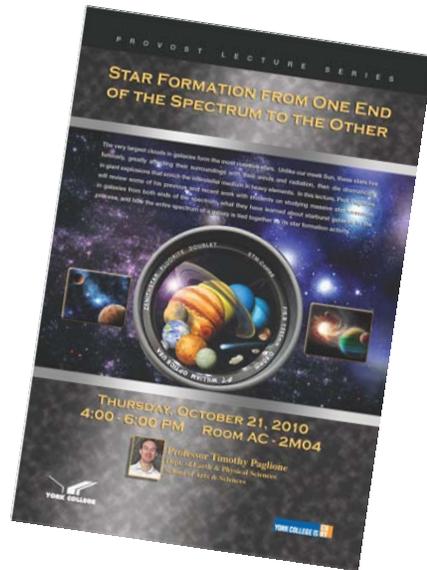
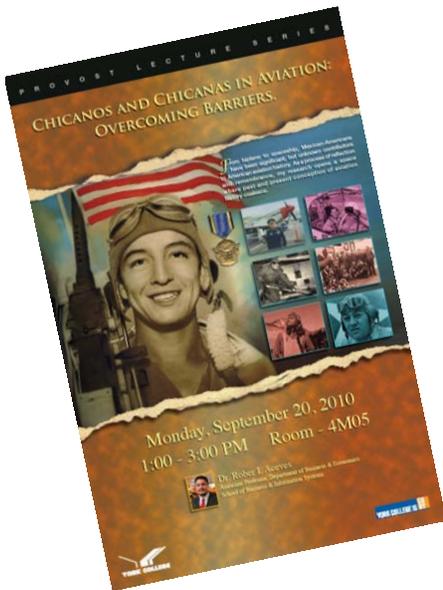
Professor Robert Farnick
Department of History and Political Science

YORK COLLEGE

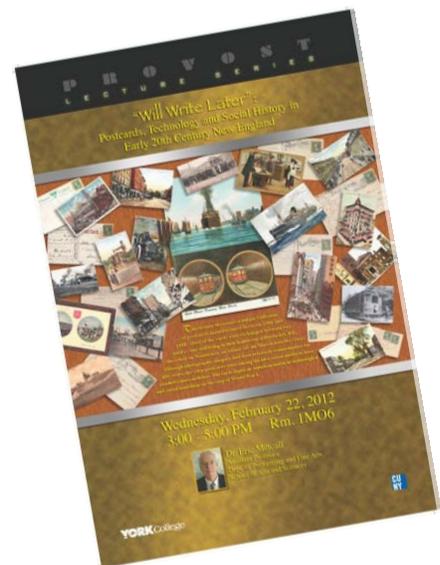
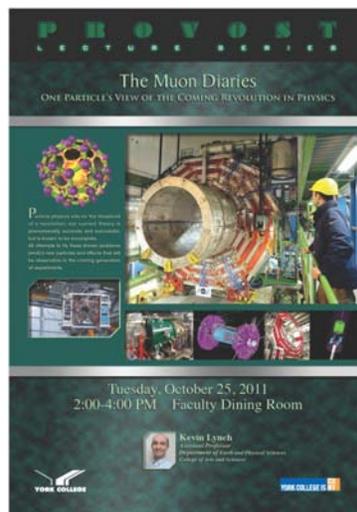
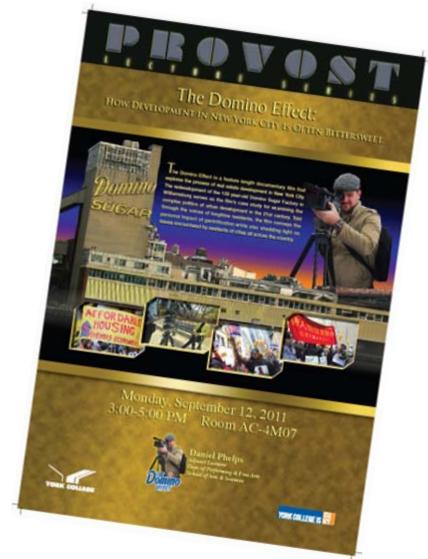
2009-2010

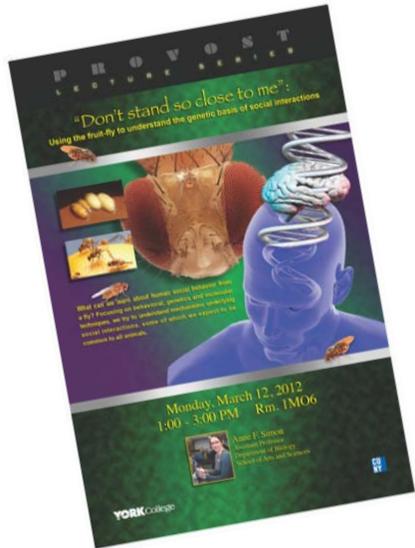


2010-2011

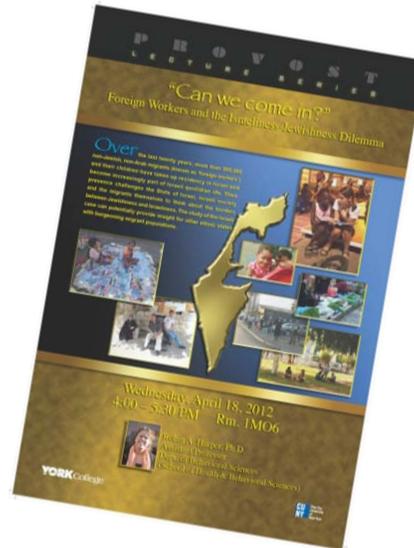


2011-2012





2012

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3) 21% reported receiving grants for additional research on the topic.

Not to be forgotten is the Provost Distinguished Scholars Lectures, launched in Spring 2009 to facilitate research conversations with external scholars.

The luminaries we hosted included Nobel Peace Prize Co-Winner Balgis Osman-Elasha, who inaugurated the series with a sobering analysis of environmental degradation in Africa; prize-winning author and MacArthur Genius Edwidge Danticat,

who discussed some of her works; distinguished Florida International University geologist Grenville Draper, who examined the science of earthquakes in Hispanola; Harvard researcher Zoe Trodd, who spoke passionately about modern-day slavery; and Chief Scientific Officer of Profectus Biosciences John Eldridge, who offered historical and pharmaceutical insights into the development of the AIDS vaccine, which he helped pioneer.

Understandably, translating intentionality into opportunity

for ownership, which enabled outcomes, did not just happen. Therefore, I want to thank all the colleagues who have enabled having a milestone to be celebrated, especially James Commo, Laura Fishman, and Linda Grasso who headed the PLS Committees over the years, and through them to the Committee members; Assistant Provost Holger Henke who managed the logistics; graphic artist Curtis Thomas for producing fabulous posters; Dan Phelps and his team for producing the PLS videos; and Avis Lau-Quan for managing

the receptions and sundry other areas. My appreciation also extends to the U.S. Department of Education, as Title III grant funds were used for aspects of this initiative.

Thus, I applaud our faculty and staff for embracing the PLS as an opportunity to extend our scholarly perimeters, for exercising full ownership of the initiative, and for achieving notable outcomes in doing so. May the next five years bring even greater successes!

About York College

York College, a senior college of The City University of New York (CUNY) in Jamaica, Queens, offers baccalaureate degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, accounting and business, journalism, communications technology, computer science, social work, teacher education, aviation management, and various health professions including nursing and physician assistant.

Founded in 1966, York is the only CUNY senior college offering majors in gerontology, biotechnology, information systems management, a BS/MS degree in occupational therapy, and a BS degree in pharmaceutical sciences. In 2009 the college organized its academic departments into three distinct schools: the School of Business and Information Systems, the School of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Health and Behavioral Sciences.

With an exceptionally diverse student population of close to 8,000, York students are from 125 different countries of birth and speak 84 different languages. More than 82% of the student population represent various ethnic groups (Black, Latino, Asia/Pacific Islander, Native American, and others), and for a vast majority, York provides an opportunity for the first generation of college-educated family members.

Since 2000, York College/CUNY has had a partnership with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA's Northeast Regional Laboratory/New York District Office is located on York's 50-acre campus. The college has a thriving internship program that allows qualified students to work directly with FDA scientists.

York College is also home to the CUNY Aviation Institute, which was established in 2003 by a grant from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to promote high quality education and research for the aviation industry.

Full-time tuition for in-state students costs \$5,130 per year. CUNY is the nation's leading urban public university system, serving more than 480,000 students at 23 member institutions sprinkled throughout the five boroughs of New York City ■