

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

YORK College

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MARCH 2013

College Symposium Gives Updates on Pending Changes



Provost Griffith (at the podium) introducing Prof. Cynthia Haller (r.), and Dean Panayiotis Meleties (seated, ctr.)

In a wide-ranging discussion at the Spring 2013 College Symposium, senior administrators and faculty members updated the college community on a range of topics related to the event's topic, "Leading Change, Managing Chal-

lenges."

Among the topics taking center stage were CUNYfirst, Pathways, Foundations of Excellence (FoE), the Periodic Review Report (PRR) and Charter Review.

In his introduction of the CUNYfirst topic,

Vice President Ronald C. Thomas reassured the audience of students, faculty and staff that the system set to replace eSIMS will not be as intimidating as some think it might be.

"It will move around seamlessly within the integrated university," said Thomas at the February 21 event held in the Little Theatre of the Performing Arts Center.

Michel Hodge, executive director for Enrollment Management is well versed in the "what, how and why" of CUNYfirst and contributed to the discussion by demonstrating some aspects of the system, em-

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York Student-Athlete Represents CUNYAC at 2013 NCAA Convention

The CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) and York College teamed up to sponsor the attendance of student-athletes at the 2013 NCAA Convention in Dallas, Texas in January.

The Convention's events provided a variety of opportunities for CUNYAC staff and student-athletes to engage with athletics professionals and students from across the country and

all three divisions.

For several student-athletes, this was their first experience at an event of this scale. Sophomore student Jon Peter Sardea represented York

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- **Verizon Donates to Nursing Program**
- **CUNYfirst Comes to York**
- **Peer-tutoring grant in Math & English**

CUNYfirst Comes To York

by Shanaa Harvin (York Journalism Major)

Valentine's Day at York this year was more about rolling out a new system of doing business than about Cupid's arrow landing the perfect target.

The Office of Communications and Marketing conducted a town hall meeting for the college community to learn about the college's transition from eSIMS to *CUNYfirst*, a gargantuan CUNY-wide project.

In her remarks to the gathering of students, faculty and staff in Lecture Hall 3D01 on February 14, President Mar-

cia V. Keizs reminded everyone that it was important to adapt to the new system because the old one is being retired.

"It is crucial that everyone know the process," said President Keizs. "This is a major system change."

The meeting was the first official one of many informational sessions to come. The attendees were mostly students interested in knowing how to enroll, check their grades and deal with matters of financial aid.

Heavily marketed in

advance, the Marketing staff, student interns others wore "*CUNYfirst*, 'How May I Help You'?" T-shirts and walked around to answer questions, hand out flyers and in general promulgate the information about the town hall.

The York College Choir even recorded the catchy jingle created by York Marketing student/intern Paige Williams and Tanifsher Smith, a member of the Marketing staff ("So long, farewell, eSIMS is going bye, bye"). The song was piped through

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YORK COLLEGE IS CUNY

Provost Lecture Series

"Literacy Narratives in Composition"

Monday, March 18, 2013

Rm. AC 4M05 • 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm



Dr. Shereen Inayatulla

(Assistant Professor, Department of English,
School of Arts & Sciences)



This lecture examines autobiographical stories that describe one's process of acquiring literacy. Literacy narratives by "minority" writers are frequently assigned in English Composition courses as a way to promote diverse and inclusive curricula, challenging students to reflect on their own acquisition of academic English. This research explores the ways in which literacy narrative assignments are effective while also revealing how they can, in fact, uphold the tools of writing they mean to challenge or critique.

Nursing Alumni Reunion Inspires Verizon Donation



In its ongoing efforts to build on past success for an outstanding future, the York College Nursing Program recently celebrated members of its alumni community at a reception at the college and treated guests to a tour of its facility.

The event also provided the opportunity for Verizon Communications to make an impressive investment in the program in the interest of the general community.

Patrick Lespinasse, a York College Foundation Trustee, and a deputy director of Public Policy and External Affairs at Verizon Communications, presented the nursing program with a generous donation of \$10,796.25 that will be used for downloadable software for patient education.

"One of the most important things we can do is to invest in the well-being of our community," said Lespinasse. "Verizon looks into the future and it's no surprise they wanted to partner with York and for York to partner with them." Approximately 30 graduates attended



Dr. Joanne Lavin, far left and Dean Lynne Clark, far right, flank students and Verizon executive, Patrick Lespinasse (in blue vest) to celebrate a donation of almost \$11,000 from the communications company toward the Nursing Program.

the program.

"It was very well attended with graduates from the early 1990's through 2010," said Dr. Joanne Lavin, Director of Nursing Programs at York. "It was a wonderful opportunity for the nursing graduates to reminisce and network with each other as well as with the current nursing students."

Attendees at the alumni event are graduates who received their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at York, having entered with the RN from area community colleges. At the time they attended York, the Nursing program applied only to those who already held the Registered Nurse (RN) certification.

In the fall 2011 semester, York finally

launched the BSN in Generic Nursing program, which continues to take RN to BSN students as well as freshman students starting from start to finish through the program.

To enhance the program, York, with support from the Queens Borough President, Helen Marshall, opened a state-of-the-art nursing training lab last spring with realistic diagnostic mannequins and computers.

"It is really my delight to welcome you," said York's president, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs. "And thank you, alumni, for advocating for the program and for being a support system through advising. I am more than delighted with the fruition of the Generic

Nursing Program."

President Keizs added that the college will build the program all the way to the Masters in Nursing (MSN). The MSN will include a teaching element built into the training so that participants will have the option to be teachers in addition to clinicians.

Michael Campbell, a current student sang the praises of the program.

"York is seriously on the move," said Campbell, president of the Nursing Club. "This nursing program is preparing students for the NCLEX and we are learning to give quality care with training from wonderful professors. The Simulation Lab makes it seem like we're in a hospital so we won't have to be nervous when dealing with real patients when we do clinicals."

The nursing alumni were also asked to participate with the program with opportunities for mentoring, teaching, internships and fundraising.

The event ended with a tour of the Nursing Lab, located in the Science Building.

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



2012-13 Theme: Enhancing Instructional Effectiveness in and out of the Classroom

Thursday, Mar 7	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>The Art of Scientific Writing</i>
	12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Facilitators: York College WAC Writing Fellows
Thursday, Mar 14	<u>Presentation:</u> <i>Blogs@Baruch and the Possibilities of an Open Academic Publishing Platform</i>
	12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Presenter: Luke Waltzer, B. Schwartz Communications Institute



York Faculty Update



- **John Drobnicki**, (Professor, Library), published a personal essay looking back at 25 years of working in libraries in the Winter 2012 issue of News from CUNY Libraries; available online at <http://lacuny.org/news/winter12/full-circle/>

Adjunct Faculty Workshop

On Thursday, January 24, 2013 the Office of the President in conjunction with the Office of Academic Affairs and the Department of Education hosted an adjunct training workshop for newly hired part-time faculty.

The workshop, which was offered before the start of the semester, was intended to help orient new faculty on issues related to York College, its students and the classroom. The workshop, designed by Dean Panayiotis Meleties of the School of Arts and Sciences and led by Professor Timothy Amrhein (Chair of the Department of Performing and Fine Arts and Associate Professor of Theatre), was the second in a series of two

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phasizing that it is imbued with a “guided training mode.” He also revealed that York employees who are alumni will have their academic and employment information connected.

Provost Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and liaison to CUNY; and Dr. Cynthia Haller, a professor in the

adjunct workshops over the past few months. Faculty who attended the workshops received a modest stipend from the Department of Education grant that York received, as well as an in-depth look at York by some of its full-time teaching faculty.

Some of the topics discussed were the new *Pathways to Degree Completion* program, led by Dr. Donna Chirico (Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences, Professor of Psychology, and Chair of York College *Pathways to Degree Completion* Committee), policies and procedures concerning classroom management led by Dr. Gerry McNeil (Chair of the Department of Biology and Associate Professor

Department of English and chair of the Advisement Committee, discussed the long and winding road to Pathways, which will streamline the process for transfer and other students. They also addressed the necessity to ensure that advisors be well versed in the ways of Pathways.

Dr. Meleties advised that York should identi-

fy some “foundational courses accommodated across the university” rather than aspiring “across the board across the university.”

Dr. Holger Henke, Assistant Provost, and Associate Dean, Dr. Thomas Gibson addressed Foundations of Excellence (FoE) and the idea of producing learning, not just teaching

The Adjunct Training Workshop allowed new faculty to learn more about York College students, policies and operations before entering the classroom.



Dr. Chirico (standing, right) explaining *Pathways*



Many faculty colleagues attended the workshop

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

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Journalism Program collaborating with Germany's University of Bamberg

by Professor Thomas Moore

Jamaica (Queens) and Germany are collaborating – aiming to learn more about Broadcast Journalism via the web. It's a story of one of the youngest CUNY colleges collaborating with an over 350-year old university based in a medieval Bavarian town.

The York College Journalism Program and University of Bamberg in Germany are working together to learn more about Broadcast News reporting, writing and producing by coming up with story ideas, writing scripts and recording radio stories and passing them back and forth across the Atlantic. It's all part of the curriculum connected to York's Introduction to Writing Broadcast News, Journalism 282 class, offered each semester.

York College's Broadcast News specialist, Professor Tom Moore is working with Bamberg University Professors Markus Behmer and Holger Müller, all thanks to a tip from Assistant Provost Holger Henke and his connections at Bamberg.

York started working

with this German university, located in town dating back to the Middle Ages – using one of our modern era's great media inventions, Skype web video.

After the recommendation from the Provost's office to contact Bamberg, the Director of the Journalism Program, Professor Glenn Lewis invited Professor Moore to join him for a summer 2012 video conference call with Bamberg. The group decided to try and launch the project right away. By the late summer and into the fall 2012 term, Professor Moore was talking with Bamberg's Professor Holger Müller – again via Skype – planning ways to collaborate. As the semester progressed – radio news story ideas flew back and forth, the classes started writing radio scripts and recording the stories ... in English, of course. Bamberg students speak English a lot better than most New Yorkers speak German.

One of the most important parts in the early stages of this project was thinking about who would hear the radio

news reports. It connects to one of the big rules of news writing: keep your audience in mind. York journalism students came up with story ideas and emailed them to Bamberg to measure their interest level on various topics like women's soccer, visiting New York and the German tradition of Oktoberfest versus Halloween. Then the reporting and writing started.

One goal was to work through the semester using a step-by-step process: topic selection, research, reporting and writing and then recording the radio news reports during a two-week learning module. The key was coordinating and sharing information at each step along the way. Last semester, York Broadcast News students headed down to the York College Radio studio and recorded newscasts based on the stories students wrote with the Bamberg audience in mind.

It's early in our collaboration but in terms of outcomes here are a few ideas:



Prof. Thomas Moore



Prof. Markus Behmer
(University of Bamberg,
Germany)

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Whither student peer-tutoring



Dr. Heather Robinson

Faculty members Heather Robinson, Debbie Rowe and Parisa Babaali, in the English and Mathematics & Computer Science Departments at York College, have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$39,770 as part of the *CUNY Improving Outcomes in High Enrollment Remedial and Gateway Courses* initiative.

With this grant, these two departments will redesign two of gateway courses, English 125: Composition I, and Math 120: Precalculus, to include an embedded, or “curriculum-based,” peer-led tutoring component, in an effort to increase pass rates in these courses. The course redesign project will occur throughout 2013, with its development phase in the Spring, and implementation phase in the Fall.

Peer tutoring has been shown to improve pass rates and student retention by increasing their involvement in the academic community as well as providing them more opportunities to work on the content of their course assignments. Supplemental instruction increases

students’ self-efficacy, helps students make connections with upper-classmen and with peers outside the classroom, all of which are known to contribute to students staying at college, and doing better in their classes.

Peer tutoring has been shown to improve pass rates and student retention by increasing their involvement in academics

Selected sections of both of these courses will have tutors assigned to them. These tutors will work with students in class, leading individual small group conferences and workshops, and will also be availa-

ble for extra consultations outside of class in the Writing and Math Tutoring Centers. Professors Rowe and Babaali will be contacting instructors of these courses shortly to identify students who have done well in recent semesters; these students will be invited to apply to tutor in the program.

The benefits of the grant-funded project go beyond helping students in Math 120 and English 125 during the Fall 2013 semester. Without an extensive training curriculum for tutors, tutoring programs tend not to have great success; therefore, support for a semester-long training workshop for tutors is built into the grant proposal.

The coordinators also plan to develop a course based on the grant project’s training program so that students can benefit from the work beyond the duration of the grant. The training will prepare students well to work as Writing and Math tutors in the future, and may also be attractive to Teacher Education students.



Dr. Debbie Rowe



Dr. Parisa Babaali



University of Bamberg campus



Old Town Hall, Bamberg

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- Describing the process of researching, writing, reporting, editing and recording a broadcast news radio report – and comparing how all those things are done at York College versus Bamberg University.
- Laying out some of journalism program differences – comparing and contrasting teaching and journalism program management techniques at each college and analyzing those differences.
- Providing news stories that each college can use in its own radio programming.
- Establishing a new series of professional connections for both the professors and students in order to learn more about journalism and our cultures.
- Setting up more frequent video conferences so classes in New York and Bamberg can collaborate throughout the semester and engage in a dialogue about what's being covered in class – and beyond. The potential for international personal interaction is an important outcome.
- Building longer term, far-reaching research and teaching journalism partnerships between the two programs down the line.

Of course, launching this international partnership in the fall of 2012 meant that superstorm Sandy slowed York down a bit. Almost two weeks of cancelled classes threw a wrench into the works. As Bamberg sent finished audio reports via email, our campus and

the New York area scrambled to catch up.

However, the work continues. This semester, the spring 2013 Broadcast Journalism students will research, report and write, edit and record more stories as part of the York-Bamberg collaboration.

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg is the school's full name in German and it sits right in the middle of Germany – not far from Frankfurt. The university has about twelve thousand students. It's located in a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site in Germany's southern region of Bavaria. The school's roots go all the way back to 1647, making it the oldest university in Bavaria. Its campus is in Bamberg's historic section which dates back a thousand years. [see also, story on p.9]

cont.'d from p.5

ing. Thus, Dr. Henke advocated being “more deliberate in our efforts to break down silos of everyday routines and perspectives, and to recognize that institutional success is equivalent with student success, and vice versa.”

Meanwhile, PPR co-

chairs, Dr. Timothy Paglione, Earth and Physical Science, and Dr. Linda R. Barley, chair of the Charter Review Committee, updated the community on their efforts to adhere to Middle States recommendation from 2008 in relation to the charter review.

“PPR's main work is to respond to Middle States recommendation and make sure the college follows up on the recommendations,” said Paglione.

Dr. Barley added that in addition to faculty, there also be two non-faculty members of the

College community on the committee. The report will include the fact that York has reorganized into the schools model, since the last review in 2008.

Collaboration with York: Selecting Radio News Stories

by Professor Holger Müller (University of Bamberg)

What is interesting enough in Bamberg to write about for an American audience? Sometimes journalists, or in this case the students in Bamberg's radio reporting class, are unaware of the obvious topics in their immediate surroundings.

Therefore the focus of the first half of the Bamberg semester has been to identify the target audience, and then to choose and research the topics. The final news reports included

stories on (the imported "new tradition" of) Halloween in Germany, the scrapping of student fees in Bavaria and, of course, the start of the strong beer season in Bavaria.

Writing and recording the news reports was a challenge for most of the students. For example, when doing the story on German beer – it was hard for the students to describe the difference between lager and strong ale. And of course, writing for radio differs from the style of

academic essay writing. You're writing for the ear, writing conversationally.

The University of Bamberg is looking forward to deepening its collaboration with York College, begun in the Fall 2012 semester. With the start of the summer semester in April, the new Bamberg University radio studio will be capable of FM broadcasting. The plan is to incorporate York's radio reports into Bamberg's new weekly radio magazines.



Prof. Holger Müller

cont.'d from p.2

speakers in the Atrium as an invitation to students to attend the meeting in 3D01.

Presenters included Michel Hodge, executive director for Enrollment Management, who captured the students' attention when he announced that there would be opportunities to win prizes during question and answer breaks.

CUNYfirst is E-Sims and other administrative functions consolidated into one software platform that is accessible to all CUNY students, staff, faculty, and advi-

sors. It is one of the new systems all CUNY schools will use, the other being the Pathways Initiative.

In *CUNYfirst*, students can register for a class and order a transcript. Currently, students would have to use two separate systems to do each task.

On March 21, E-Sims will cease operation. Some CUNY campuses have already rolled out their *CUNYfirst* system and by mid-April it will be finalized for all campuses within the system. This means there will be a short period during

which no accessible system is in place. However, *CUNYfirst* will be up and running in time for class registration on April 15. Students can claim their accounts after the launch and the attendees were given directions on how to claim their account.

"I hope the *CUNYfirst* system simplifies things for everyone who's going to use it because everyone is used to E-sims," said Clariluz Rojas, a senior at York.

CUNYfirst Communications Manager, John

"To know what people really think, pay regard to what they do, rather than what they say."

— George Santayana

cont.'d on p.10

Political Science Students Present Independent Research



Student presenter Vierka Vasquez

Shortly before the holiday break in December four of Dr. Michael Sharpe's independent study students – Antonette Smile, Ashley Torres, David Stoll Gray, and Vierka Vasquez – along with Dr. Robin Harper's independent study student Hematie Kishan presented on their research work in progress.

Their presentations were very thought provoking and really showed the advancement made over the years. Various developing research interests were presented, including economic and political development, government accountability, regime change and sustainability, democratic transition, as well as interpretive methods.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

– Nelson Mandela

cont.'d from p.9

Ray says, “The “BARFA” [Bursar, Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid] offices have been trained on how to use *CUNYfirst*. Ray mentioned a feature of *CUNYfirst* that the students found “cool.”

When students are planning their classes for the semester, they can place the classes they

Ashley Torres's project entitled “Development: Does it Rely on Who You Know?” focused on Cuba, Puerto Rico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic and asks if a Caribbean state's economic and political development is influenced by its relationship with the United States.

Antonette Smile, a native of Jamaica, wrote on “What limits Jamaica's Economic and Political Progress?”

David Stoll Grey's paper was on “Democratic Transition: What were the factors that led Portugal to become a democracy?” and Vierka Vasquez's presented her work entitled “The Contentious Iran: What Sustains the Iranian Regime?”

want in a “shopping cart,” similar to shopping online. This does not mean they are registered for the class; but it helps students to organize their choices.

Ray revealed that one challenge *CUNYfirst* could face is students forgetting their password or students leaving the classes in the “shopping

These presentations were based on each student's thirty page substantive research papers written over the course of the semester.

Hematie Kishan presented on what she learned about interpretive methods by analyzing interviews of immigrants in Israel. She shed light on what interpretive methods can add to analyzing and understanding social phenomena.

The event was well attended with many students asking informed and very probing questions. The students showcased their ability to do independent research as well as their analytical and presentation skills. It is another example of York excellence!

cart,” assuming it makes them registered for the class. He also said that adjuncts and graduate assistants will be kept in the system after the term so they can post grades. Blackboard will not be affected by *CUNYfirst* and students can still access it via the CUNY portal website.

4th Annual Student Research Day

The Office of Undergraduate Research at CUNY-York College is now accepting registrants for the 4th Annual Student Research Day which will be held on **Thursday, April 18th**, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm in the Atrium of the Academic Core building.

Registration is open to all York College students, whether part-time or full-time, who have engaged in research or creative works under the supervision of a faculty member. Students may register in one of three categories: poster presentation or panel presentation. [If a student intends to conduct a performance they should e-mail uresearch@york.cuny.edu.]

The registration page can be found here:

www.york.cuny.edu/academics/undergraduate-research/research-day-registration

Please note that all students who have co-authored papers are required to register individually. Advisors should receive a confirmation email indicating that their students have registered. Students should seek the approval of their advisors before registering. Registration will close March 15, 2013.

Student Research Day is the largest annual exhibition of student research and creative efforts at York College. The day is organized into three sessions: poster and panel sessions – which run concurrently – and the lunch session during which a keynote speaker gives an invited talk.

Past keynote speakers have included:

- Dr. Ken Furton, Dean of Arts & Sciences at Florida International University;
- Staceyann Chin, performance artist and author of “The Other Side of Paradise”;
- Hari Kunzru, novelist and winner of the Somerset Maugham Prize.

This year’s keynote speaker will be **Dr. Partha P. Mitra** (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory). Also, Provost and Senior VP of Academic Affairs Ivelaw L. Griffith will be announcing several awards to be given at the 4th Student Research Day.

Thank you in advance for helping to make this Student Research Day even more engaging and remarkable than it has been for the past three years.

For more information or any questions, please contact Dr. Rishi Nath, Director, Office of Undergraduate Research, at rnath@york.cuny.edu or (718) 262-2813.

“All History Is Local”: Exploring Jamaica’s (Queens) Past

by Shanaa Harvin (York Journalism Major)



Local historian Carl Ballenas (ctr.) with Dr. Mychel Namphy (l.) and Dr. Rishi Nath (r.)

It is fairly common knowledge that Edgar Benson, New York’s very first attorney general, is buried in St. Monica’s Cemetery on York’s campus, but few knew a New York governor also grew up on the York College campus.

According to Carl Ballenas, a history teacher at Immaculate Conception School of Jamaica, former governor Mario Cuomo, father of the current governor, grew up in a home on the campus long before York was built.

Mr. Ballenas, the featured speaker on February 7 in the “Research Conversations” series of the Office of Undergraduate Research, gave a well-received presentation to students, faculty and staffers after introductions by English Professor Mychel Namphy and Math Professor Rishi Nath, who is also director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at York.

Ballenas, a York College graduate of the Class of 1976, showed a photograph of the childhood home of former New York Governor Mario Cuomo on what is now York’s campus.

The family lived upstairs of the house and used the lower-level as a store. The house was located along the Long Island Railroad on 160th Street next to St. Monica’s Roman Catholic Church, where Cuomo, a son of Italian immigrants, spent his early years serving as an altar boy at the church. Although the church itself is gone, its Romanesque façade was rescued from decay and utilized as the façade of the York College Child and Family Center.

The photos Ballenas shared are part of the book *Images of America: Jamaica* written along with his students in the Aquinas Honor Society of the Immaculate Conception School.

St. Monica’s Church was opened in 1857. It was designated a New York City landmark in 1979. Ballenas showed pictures of landmarks of Jamaica, dating back to the 1800s. He has been an educator for more than 30 years teaching mostly fifth and sixth graders.

The audience was in awe that students from 10 to 14 years old were so involved in research. Ballenas was commend-

ed not only for encouraging students to learn about the history of their town, but for their involvement in their community such as raising funds to get a bust of 19th century businessman, Jacob Riis made and placed in Riis Park.

“Our greatest natural resource is children but it is a shame that the United States does not invest in them,” said Ballenas who says he will retire soon.

A pivotal part of the presentation that garnered much applause was when Mr. Ballenas showed a photograph of Elizabeth Cisco, an African-American woman who lived in Jamaica during the late 1800s. Mrs. Cisco’s story was intriguing because although her case pre-dates *Brown vs. Board of Education* by nearly 60 years, both cases challenged the legal doctrine “separate but equal” regarding education for their children.

Mrs. Cisco, along with her husband Samuel Cisco, refused to send their children to the school for colored children because they rightly believed that the quality of education was not



Assistant Athletic Director Cherry Completes Prestigious NCAA Program

York College Assistant Athletic Director, Jessica Cherry recently completed the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) Pathways Program, which was created by the NCAA in 1997 in an effort to enhance the professional skills of women and people of color who seek to become athletic directors. She graduated from the course at the 2013 NCAA Convention, which was held in Dallas, Texas from January 15-18.

A select group of associate athletic directors and senior women's administrators are picked each year to take part in

the year-long professional development course. Each class is picked from an accomplished group of associate athletics directors and senior women's administrators who boast the background and talent necessary to make the leap to leadership positions. Cherry was one of just 12 people chosen out of 75 applicants.

"I hope to become an athletic director," noted Cherry. "I really believe there is no greater mentor than our AD, Ronald St. John. Christopher Howard, the President of Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, was also a tremendous men-

tor for me during this process."

Pathways helps the participants understand how to use the tools they have already cultivated in an athletic director's role by allowing them to step back from their daily routines to take a broad view of the position. It allows them to consider the unanticipated challenges an athletics director faces and the importance of strong leadership.

"The program was challenging but it was rewarding to see that other schools that are much larger than us, deal with the same challenges we do," said Cherry.



Asst. Director Jessica Cherry

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Shamburger CUNY/HSS Scholar-Athlete of the Month

For the month of January, Women's Swimming standout Sandra Shamburger has been named the CUNYAC/Hospital for Special Surgery Women's Scholar-Athlete of the Month.

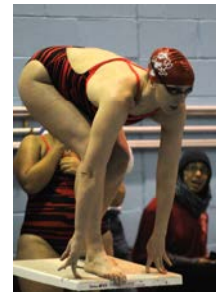
Despite being a 37-year old rookie, she has had one of the best years of any York swimmers. Alongside her prominent swimming accomplishments, the freshman has been pinned to the Dean's List with a per-

fect 4.0 GPA. Shamburger is taking the prerequisites for majoring in the Physician's Assistant program. Her two-hour daily commute and current work as an EMT emphasize her desire to work in the medical field.

"It's really hard," said Shamburger. "It's taken so much effort to do both, but this is what I want. I want to be a physician's assistant."

A native of Germany,

the first-year swimmer did not lose a single event in a dual meet in January, placing first in eight individual events. In the CUNYAC Swimming & Diving Championships, Shamburger placed fourth in the 50-yard freestyle, finishing ahead of her younger counterparts. She also earned the honor of being named CUNYAC Swimming Rookie of the Week during the month.



Scholar-athlete Sandra Shamburger



Student-athlete Jon Peter Sardea in action

We need to strengthen the synergies between athletics and academics, and improve the communication about athletic events and achievements and greater involvement by faculty in athletics activities.

cont.'d from p.1

College and was the youngest member of the CUNYAC team attending the convention. A native of Guam, Sardea has bold ambitions for the future. A two-sport student-athlete for the Men's Soccer and Men's Volleyball teams, Sardea is a Biology major with plans to attend medical school after York, and eventually become a pediatrician.

The convention featured a series of educational sessions, ranging from diversity on campus, student-athlete well being, academics, and leadership. Also on the agenda were educational sessions on LGBT inclusion on college campuses, rules and NCAA compliance. On the final day, student-athletes were able to sit in on the voting session for Division III. CUNY student-athletes also had the opportunity to interact with other students from across all three divisions and geographic areas of the country.

After interacting with student-athletes from across all divisions, Sardea recognized the differences in Division III

student-athletes and their peers from other divisions: "A number of qualities set us apart from other student-athletes. Since we aren't allowed to receive scholarships for athletics, we join and make the team for the sole reason of the love for the sport."

"What an impressive group of student-athletes representing our conference at this year's Convention," exclaimed Zak Ivkovic, Executive Director of CUNYAC. "This year's successful trip just proves that taking our students out of their comfort zones and allowing them to interact with other student-athletes and administrators at the highest level convention of all produces an unforgettable learning experience."

Also in attendance was York College Provost, Ivelaw Griffith, who hoped the convention would assist in better bridging the gap between athletics and education.

"My attendance at this year's Convention allowed me to better appreciate the outstand-

ing achievements of scholar-athletes within and beyond CUNY and the tremendous work being done by Dr. Ajuluchukwu, Director St. John, Assistant Director Cherry, and our entire academic-athletics team," noted Dr. Griffith. "But the Dallas experience also left me convinced that we need to strengthen the synergies between athletics and academics, and improve the communication about athletic events and achievements and greater involvement by faculty in athletics activities. This is why I invited Dr. Ajuluchukwu and his team to speak at the first meeting of the Academic Council about how this might be accomplished. (The 40-member Council comprises all the Deans, department Chairs, and directors in Academic Affairs).

The CUNY Athletic Conference plans to continue sponsoring the attendance of student-athletes at the NCAA Convention. Next year's event will be held in San Diego, on January 15-18, 2014.

Black History Month Lecture Explained Lincoln's "Proclamation" Dilemma

by Clariluz Rojas (York Journalism student)

In a wide-ranging Black History Month lecture, York College Distinguished Lecturer, Dr. Ron Daniels wowed a packed lecture hall of students, faculty and staff.

The lecture, entitled, "Forced into Glory: The Truth About Abraham Lincoln, the Emancipation Proclamation and the Black Freedom Struggle" was timely not just because of Black History Month but also due to the Steven Spielberg film, "Lincoln," which covers the 16th president's fight for the 13th Amendment.

Dr. Daniels, who is based in the Department of Behavioral Sciences (School of Health & Behavioral Sciences), also pointed out that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Martin Luther King, Jr.-led March on Washington as well as the assassination of Medgar Evers in Mississippi in 1963.

The Emancipation Proclamation, an order issued on January 1, 1863 by President Lincoln during the Civil War, declared that all people who were enslaved in the rebellious states at the time would be freed. The Emancipation Proclamation was

limited because it only applied to those states that did not follow the Union and the freedom it promised ultimately depended on the military.

Besides the Emancipation Proclamation, the speech focused on the status of the black freedom struggle after slavery was abolished and the struggle of black people and other minorities even in contemporary times – including the issue of immigration.

"Abraham Lincoln is considered to be one of the greatest presidents of the United States and although he was a great president for abolishing slavery because he did not agree with it, he also did it to save the union," said Daniels who quoted from history books such as John Hope Franklin's book *From Slavery to Freedom*.

The lecture, held in Lecture Hall 3D01 on February 19, also pointed out that in order to build the federal union in the U.S. at the time, compromises were made. Those compromises were made to balance the tension between the North and the South. Slavery was a huge part of the southern economy which made it an economic interest for the

South. Although there were slaves in the North, the Northern States experienced an industrial boom so its economic interest in slavery was negligible.

According to Dr. Daniels, some of the compromises made were in the interest of shaping the future of the United States economy because many of the states were at odds. Dr. Daniels discussed the Missouri Compromise which involved the regulation of slavery in the western region of the country. The Fugitive Slave Act which declared that the captured runaway slaves be returned to their masters and also the Kansas-Nebraska Act which let the people decide on the differences between the states.

"It was a combustible cauldron of conflict," said Daniels. "The Republican party comes of the debate about slavery. Lincoln was the first president from that. Lincoln's key objective was to save the Union. Lincoln's objective was to save the union. He saw slavery as morally repugnant but it was also a threat to paid labor."

But despite the moral repugnance of slavery,



Dr. Ron Daniels

YORK COLLEGE IS CU NY

cont.'d on p.16



President Lincoln

cont.'d from p.15

the president also felt that “Africans and Europeans could not co-exist in the same society.” Reading from Franklin’s book, Dr. Daniels revealed Lincoln favored “gradual emancipation and repatriation to other countries such as Liberia, Africa, for the freed slaves.”

The lecture also covered how the Emancipation Proclamation transformed the dynamics of the Civil War. It allowed for the acceptance of black men into the

Army and the Navy.

There were 22 black elected officials. Black people had more political power than in any previous period; there were 20 in the House of Representatives and two in the Senate.

On the flip side, according to Dr. Daniels, was the “cruel hoax of the emancipation because black people had political rights without social rights.” They helped build the U.S. economy with free labor but were denied the

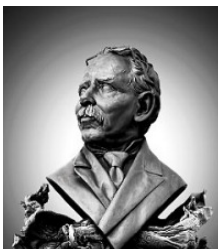
compensation of “40 acres and a mule” to help them establish themselves as freed people. Rather, they were left to work as sharecroppers and tenant farmers. And those without employment were criminalized for their plight.

The 90-minute discussion also covered white terrorist organizations like the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and the White Brotherhood to ensure that black people did not have power.

“The best teacher is the one who suggests rather than dogmatizes, and inspires his listener with the wish to teach himself.”

Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton

cont.'d from p.12



Jacob Riis bust

equal to the schools for white children. In addition, the colored school for children was some distance from where the family lived. In 1895, Mr. Cisco took his case to the Supreme Court saying, “I pay taxes and have the right to send my children to the school in the district where they reside.”

Mr. Cisco faced arrests and continuous court battles until his

death in 1897. But Mrs. Cisco continued the fight. Finally in 1900, Governor Theodore Roosevelt, who later became the 26th president of the United States, signed a law abolishing segregation in all New York public schools. According to the historian, the Ciscos lived on the area of York’s campus near South Road.

Ballenas says through

his research he is bringing the history and past residents of Jamaica back to life. He is currently engaged in a battle with officials from the Jamaica Social Security Building about placing a plaque on that property to commemorate President George Washington time at a hotel that once stood in its place there.

Chancellor Honors Hurricane Sandy First Responders

More than three months after York College served as CUNY's largest evacuation site during the Hurricane Sandy crisis, the University held a reception to thank its first responders and administrators.

Billed appropriately as "Hurricane Sandy CUNY Stars," the event was hosted by Chancellor Matthew Goldstein at Gracie Mansion, the official but currently unoccupied residence for the city's mayors.

The February 7th event was convened for the Chancellor to personally thank university personnel who served their fellow New Yorkers during and after the super storm.

The chancellor singled out York in particular for its role as the campus, which served the largest number of evacuees. The college was also cited for having to keep its guests for the longest period (more than two weeks) delaying the resumption of classes long after other campuses had resumed normal academic functions.

"Being recognized by name at Gracie Mansion

for the service that the staff, faculty and students of York College provided during and after Hurricane Sandy will be a lasting and cherished memory for all who attended," said Ronald C. Thomas, Vice President for Administrative at York. "

Asked what the college would do differently in the event of another crisis that requires use of the college facilities, Vice President Thomas noted that every emergency presents unique challenges.

"Hurricane/Super Storm Sandy was no exception," said Thomas. "[But] what was exceptional about Sandy was the scale of its destruction and the duration of its immediate aftermath. One lesson learned from that experience is the importance of limiting sheltering operations to a single location, thus enabling the campus to return to its core mission as quickly as possible after the peak of the emergency."

According to James B. Smith, York's Labor supervisor, the Chancellor's event was special.

"It was more than I

expected," said Smith in his trademark raspy voice. "I thought it would be boring; but it turned out nicely – especially when they called out York's name. I was beaming. They said we were the 'spearhead' of everything because York had the most people. It was well worthwhile because a lot of people didn't have anywhere to go and we were able to accommodate them."

Smith added that he was prepared for hosting during Hurricane Sandy because the comparatively modest Hurricane Irene had already tested York's readiness when the college also served as an evacuation site during the 2011 storm.

In addition to Thomas and Smith, President Marcia V. Keizs, Vice President Geneva Walker Johnson, Chief Tyrone Forte and representatives from Information Technology, Buildings and Grounds and other areas of the college also attended.



L-r: Chief Tyrone Forte, President Keizs, VP Administration Ron Thomas, James B. Smith

YORK COLLEGE IS CUNY

Study Abroad in Moldova

York's Study-Abroad Program in Moldova has entered its second year with campus announcements drawing applicants from a number of disciplines and professions.

The program builds on a very successful pilot project last summer when four CUNY social work students joined by eight students from local universities in Moldova took part in a month-long summer session at the Free International University of Moldova. The session included classroom seminars, field practice in social and medical settings, and empirical research.

This year, a larger contingent of students from York and other

colleges will travel to Chisinau, the capital of Moldova to participate in an expanded project with a wider range of field practice being offered in order to accommodate students taking independent study courses in social work, sociology, anthropology, education, history, and other relevant disciplines.

Three York College faculty members – William Divale, Selena Rodgers, and Vadim Moldovan will be joined by colleagues from the University of St. Luis, Northern Kentucky University, and University of Minnesota as well Moldovan counterparts to teach classes, conduct research, and supervise field work.

This project is evolving into an important multi-disciplinary international educational venture with far-reaching implications for the global education agenda, which is particularly relevant to the famously multi-cultural student population at York College.

Students' experience and creative input will determine the scope and trajectory of the project. At the 4th Annual Student Research Day, a group of students will report on results of the last year's research project and present research methodology for the upcoming summer semester in Moldova.

**The York College Department
of Occupational Therapy &
*MNYD of NYSOTA:
Stroke Study Group Present the**

6th Annual Occupational
Therapy Research Colloquium



Presentation: Dr. Deirdre Cooke

**Development of a
Standardized Visual Perceptual
Screening Tool for
Occupational Therapists,
and an International
Perspective of
Stroke Rehabilitation**

MARCH 5, 2013

*Metropolitan New York
District of the New York
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YORK College

Remembering Civil Rights March in Selma (Alabama)



York College President Marcia Keiz (ctr.) with Dr. Daniels (r.) and the Rev. Jesse Jackson during their visit in Selma

Dr. Ron Daniels joined civil rights leaders reenacting the March across Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. York College President Marcia Keiz and five York College students also attended the Bridge Crossing Jubilee and marched across the bridge with an estimated 5,000 participants from around the country and the world.

Vice-President Joseph Biden expressed apologies for not having been in Selma forty-eight years ago for the historic Selma to Montgomery March which led to the passage the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Vice-President Biden delivered a stirring address in defense of the Voting Rights Act before leading the march across the Bridge. (Note: A follow-up article will appear in the forthcoming April issue)

York Alum Making News in AIDS “Cure”

In the 46-year history of York College countless students and graduates have made tremendous contributions to their various professions and in March 2013 Deborah Persaud, M.D., '81 is being celebrated as part of the team that may have discovered a way to “functionally cure” AIDS in infants.

Dr. Persaud, a professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, was called upon to help study the case of a Mississippi toddler diagnosed with the virus at birth and may have been cured of the disease even though the mother suspended treatment.

The baby, said to have been infected by its mother during birth, was given a “faster and stronger treatment” than is usual, with a “three-drug infusion” within the first 30 hours of birth. The treatment, according to reports, was administered before lab results even confirmed the baby’s HIV status.

Now two and a half-years old the extensive tests found no active signs other than “traces of the virus’ genetic material still lingering.”

Persaud and her colleagues announced the news at an AIDS conference in Atlanta. Experts say the news, “offers promising clues” in the fight against HIV infection in children.

Dr. Persaud, a Guyanese immigrant was a Chemistry major at York who studied in the lab of Dr. Paul Young and took a Genetics course with Biology professor, Dr. Leslie Lewis, known for his groundbreaking research in jumping genes.

“This is huge,” said Lewis. “Debbie took my genetics course and was brilliant. There was no doubt in my mind that she would be doing medical research. She is living proof of what the MBRS (Minority Biomedical Research Support) can do to help students reach their full potential. Kudos to York!”

Lewis added that if Persaud had gone to any other City University of New York (CUNY) institution she would not have had the same opportunities provided at York due to the MBRS program and York’s specialties in microbiology, biochemistry, immunology and genetics.

MBRS awards grants

to educational institutions such as York, “with substantial minority enrollments to support research by faculty members; strengthen the institutions’ biomedical research capabilities; and increase the interest, skills and competitiveness of students and faculty in pursuit of biomedical research careers.”

After graduating from York, Dr. Persaud attended New York University School of Medicine, graduating in 1985 with her medical degree.

“I am delighted to see Dr. Persaud’s cutting-edge research in pediatric AIDS making news for her role in the possible cure for children afflicted with the disease,” said Dr. Marcia V. Keizs, president of York College. “Dr. Persaud developed her early research skills in the labs of great professors at York and I am honored to call her our alum. Her work is the stuff of Nobel Prizes and I look forward to seeing her life’s work make a difference not only in the United States but across the globe.”



Dr. Deborah Persaud,
Class of 1981

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

Nursing Students Learn at UN



Prof. Alexandre (l.) and some of the students visiting the United Nations

York College Nursing students recently had the opportunity to mingle with professionals in the global health field during a visit to the United Nations (UN).

Professor Margaret Alexandre organized the trip for her students to be a part of the Global Health Education Technology summit.

“The event was truly fantastic for all of us,” said Professor Alexandre. “I was able to take 15 students with me. I appreciated the fact that it gave them a chance to visit the UN, participate at a global event, but most importantly, they were able to see how the theory that they are reading about is incorporated into action form globally.”

The students agreed with the professor’s assessment.

“The UN event was exciting in the sense that I was able to interact with and be among highly-educated and accomplished professionals,” said Natalie Velasco upon her return to campus. “It was a truly educational experience for me personally. It was self-affirming to be involved in matters that globally affect healthcare, further reinforcing my dreams and

aspirations to be a knowledgeable and experienced nurse.”

For Laryssa Toussaint the UN conference was a great opportunity to learn how new technology research will enhance learning outside the classroom.

“I get to view the global aspect of my particular field and I am so much more open to exploring these different aspects of it,” she said. “I would like to participate in other events that can help us look at ourselves as not only future care givers but as leaders who can impact the world on a global scale.”

Iddan Brown saw the trip as an opportunity “to see the bigger picture of health care education, from the top down as opposed to the bottom up like students are normally restricted to.” It also provided an insight into how technology in the field “has significantly improved the education of healthcare professionals and the provision of care in countries and remote areas that otherwise would not have access to care.”

Mery Mustafa enjoyed seeing doctors, nurses, pharmacists, professors and other professionals all under one roof “pushing an important topic.” For

her the UN visit was “motivational.”

“It would be interesting to be able to participate in more projects like these, said Mustafa. I would find it beneficial to see what other initiatives are taking place here in New York City.”

Professor Alexandre is also working with her students to develop a project for presentation at the college’s Undergraduate Research Day in April. That project which will look at the use of technology in the classroom and bringing theory into practice in the community. Other students will also be travelling with her for a service learning trip to Haiti, her birthplace.

“The idea is for them to see that while learning is taking place in the classroom,” said Alexandre, “it’s what you do with it that makes a big difference.” They have to be able to take the theory from the classroom, make sense of it and apply it in the community and be adaptive to the changes that can occur. When they learn to be adaptive in their thinking and their actions, they will in turn become better care providers, better advocates for themselves, their patients and their community.”



YORK COLLEGE FOUNDATION
6th Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert
TO BENEFIT THE YORK COLLEGE MERIT SCHOLARS

Monday, APRIL 15, 2013 7:30 PM

FEATURING



The EDDIE PALMIERI SALSA ORCHESTRA

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York College Merit Scholars

The Benefit raises funds for our Merit Scholarship Program which helps retain academically high-performing students during their full four years at York to degree completion.

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2013

Saturday, March 1st



Event: "Women in Math Day"
Location: AC 2C07
Time: 9:30 am - 1:45 pm
Organized by:
 Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Dr. Lidia Gonzalez and Dr. Rishi Nath

Wednesday, March 20th



Event: Screening of "Saving Face" (Director Alice Wu, 2004).
Location: 3B04 (African American Studies Resource Center)
Time: 3 - 5 pm
Organized by:
 LGBT Alliance (Mychel Namphy, Shereen Inayatulla, and Fabiola Salek).

Tuesday, March 19th



Event: Sarah Vaughan: The Divine One (1991)
Location: The Chapel
Time: 7 - 9 pm
Organized by: Department of Performing and Fine Arts, Tom Zlabinger

Tuesday, April 16th



Event: Gloria Waldman Fourth Annual Lecture for Women's History Month "Reality of Cuban Women's Lives: Advancing Global Feminisms" (featuring Patricia L. Pego Guerra, First Secretary Cuban Interests Section to Washington).
Location: AC 2D01 (Faculty Dining Room)
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Organized by: Department of Foreign Languages, ESL & Humanities, Men and Women's Center, Dr. Sonia Rivera-Valdés, and Dr. Fabiola Salek

Friday, March 15th



Event: Gender & Historical Context Colloquium in Honor of Prof. Laura Fishman. Keynote Presentation Luncheon (followed by Q&A): "Musings on Women's History: How the Second Awakening in the Western World Produced a New Scholarly Area," Prof. Sandi Cooper (CSI and Graduate Center)
 With panel presentations from: Gila Acker, Linda Grasso, Anika (Keens-Douglas) Hylton, George White, Martin Atangana, Robert Parmet, and Howard Ruttenberg
Location: AC 2D01 (Faculty Dining Room)
Time: 1 - 5 pm
Organized by: Department of Foreign Languages, ESL & Humanities, Department of History and Philosophy, Men and Women's Center, Dr. Donna Chirico, and Dr. Fabiola Salek.



For more information contact: Dr. Fabiola F. Salek, Coordinator of Women's Studies.

Phone Ext: 718.262.2443 E-mail: fsalek@york.cuny.edu

This program is being sponsored by the York College Auxiliary Enterprises.





Life of Alberta Hunter – Musical

March 2, 2013

3:00 pm *and* 7:00 pm

YORK College Performing Arts Center

Tickets \$10 / \$20

The story of one of the most prolific Blues singers of the 20th century.



Ed Jackson

March 22, 2013

7:00 pm

YORK College Performing Arts Center

Tickets \$10 / \$20

Jazz Saxophonist Ed Jackson performs with the York College Big Band.

On the Move

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Provost

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The deadline for submissions to the April issue of Academic Affairs Update is March 22, 2013.

All items should be submitted in MS Word

via email to:

AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu