

Academic Affairs Update

YORK COLLEGE

Dean's List Reception Honors York's Brightest

On March 22, 2012, York College held a reception at the Health and Physical Education Center in honor of students who excelled academically and made it onto the Dean's List. There was an array of speakers including Provost Ivelaw L. Griffith, who gave students words of encouragement.

"As the standards rose at York, the students rose with the standards as well," said Dr. Griffith, expressing how proud he was and that "excellence is not



Provost Griffith (r. at the podium) addressing students during the Dean's List Reception

an act; it's a habit."

Other speakers included Merit Scholar Christina Geffard, a Psychology major who will also be inducted into the National Honor Society. She noted that "great opportunities happen

unexpectedly."

Reno Rafly, of York's Class of York in 2007, was the keynote speaker. She shared her story of hardships overcome by determination. Rafly graduated Magna Cum Laude from York and was accepted at Polytechnic Institute of New York University, where she earned a Master of Science degree in Organizational Behavior. She was valedictorian of her class (in the discipline). Impressed, the university hired her in its

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York Student Receives CUNY's "Nobel Science" Award

York College senior and chemistry major, Daryl Ramai, recently placed third in the annual CUNY Nobel Science Challenge.

The competition asked interested CUNY undergraduates to submit an essay in the following categories, physiology and medicine, physics, chemistry, and economics that described the



Daryl Ramai showing his Nobel Science Award

science behind one of the winners of the Nobel Peace Prize last year.

Ramai based his es-

say on the late Rockefeller University biologist Ralph Steinman's discoveries of immune cells formed in mammal immune systems called dendritic cells. The awards were distributed at a ceremony held on February 29th at CUNY's Central Office located on East 80th St. in Manhattan.

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Special points of interest:

- **PoliSci Student wins Ralph Bunche Internship**
- **Business Students visit United Nations**
- **English Prof. publishes Poetry Book**

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A Health and Behavioral Sciences Alliance



Dr. Charlene Lane (l.) and Dr. Selena Rodgers (r.)

On March 23, 2012, Dr. Charlene Lane and Dr. Selena T. Rodgers of the School of Health and Behavioral Sciences presented their PSC-CUNY funded research papers at the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education National Conference of Blacks in Higher Education in Atlanta, GA.

The 2012 Conference theme focused on *Healthy Communities through Access, Education, Research and Collaboration*.

Dr. Lane's paper, titled "Community Dwelling Seniors Perceptions of Aging & Healthcare Experience," emphasized the extent to which seniors internalize ageists' beliefs and attitudes, and the relationship of these to their health care providers visits.

Dr. Rodgers presented her research about the "Lived Experiences of Vicarious Trauma, Coping, and Posttraumatic Growth in Undergraduate Social Work Stu-

dents who Attend Urban Public Colleges." The study considers pedagogical implications for Social Work Field Education.

The American Association of Blacks in Higher Education "pursues the educational and professional needs of Blacks in higher education with a focus on leadership, access and vital issues impacting students, faculty, staff, and administrators" (see www.blacksinhighered.org).

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

George Santanyana



York Faculty Update



- **O. S. Oladipo**, (Dept. of Business and Economics, School of Business & Information Systems), "Estimating the Impact of Exchange Rate Volatility on Exports: Evidence from Mexico's Trading Relationship with the United States," in: B. I. Vásquez-Galán, M. A. Jurado Montelongo and J. L. Castro Ruiz (eds.), *Procesos Economicos, laborales y Urbanos en la Frontera Noreste en el Contexto de la Apertura Economica* (El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, 2012), pp.29-54.
- **O. S. Oladipo**, "An analysis of sectoral exchange rate pass-through effects on a small open economy using the Leontief Input-Output technique," in: *International Journal of Economic Policy in Emerging Economies*, Vol. 5, No 1 (2012), pp. 47 - 65.
- **O. S. Oladipo**, "Oil Price Shocks and Macroeconomic Activities: Evidence from an Oil Dependent Exporting Economy." Paper presented at the Annual Conference on Innovations in Business and Management (CIBM), Senate House, The University of London, London (UCL), February 27, 2012.
- **Tania Levey** & Dina Pinsky, (Dept. of Social Sciences, School of Health & Behavioral Sciences), "Skill and Creativity in the Life Stories of Professional Dominatrixes," *Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society*, New York, NY., February 25, 2012.

“Social Work Matters” to Rochdale Village NORC

According to the National Association of Social Workers, the White House first officially recognized March as National Professional Social Work Month in 1984. This year’s theme was “Social Work Matters.”

On March 20, 2012, Rochdale Village *Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities* (NORC) honored their very own Dr. Selena T. Rodgers – presenting her with the Rochdale Village NORC Award in recognition of Social Work Month for her Outstanding Leadership in Education and Research in field of Social Work. Professor Rodgers is a 15-year resident of the Rochdale Village Community and a former Rochdale Village Social Services, Inc. Board Member.

Selena T. Rodgers, Ph.D., LCSW-R, is Assistant Professor and Field Education Director of Social Work in the Department of Social Sciences, School of Health and Behavioral Sciences at York. She has strengthened the pro-

fessional and collaborative partnership between Rochdale Village NORC and York College/CUNY. In her role as Field Education Director, Professor Rodgers is instrumental in securing field internships and employment opportunities for students.

Dr. Rodgers and Dr. Charlene Lane (Department of Health & Physical Education, Gerontological Studies & Services) were recently invited by Rochdale Village NORC Director Sherba Austin to offer technical assistance during the summer of 2012 on the Health Indicators Survey for Advancing Healthy Aging in Communities (United Hospital Fund/Department of the Aging Sponsored). The aim of the survey is to determine health risks for Rochdale’s aging population.

Ms. Austin presented NORC social workers, Elaine Cooper (York Alumna ‘10), Nirquette Guillaume (York Alumna ‘04), and Nadine Robinson (York Alumna ‘04) with Certificates of Appreciation for their

dedication and commitment to the Social Work Profession and the Seniors of Rochdale Village.

Ms. Austin’s indefatigable commitment to York College and students is undeniable. She provides invaluable support and mentorship to everyone she encounters.

Stephanie Jeanty is expected to graduate in June 2012. Ms. Guillaume and Ms. Robinson earned a Master in Social Work (MSW) from Stony Brook University.

During the recognition breakfast, Professor Rodgers reflected on her 17-year journey as a professional social worker. She stated, “As a social worker who remains steadfast to serve individuals, families and communities with empathy and respect, my purpose and passion is awakened with each sunset and moonrise – I’m grateful that the profession chose me.” To read more about why “Social Work Matters” to Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, visit: www.york.cuny.edu/Members/srodgers



L.-r.: Dr. Selena T. Rodgers (York College/ Social Work Program) and Sherba Austin (Rochdale Village NORC Director)



NORC Social Workers (l.-r.): Elaine Cooper (BSW), Stephanie Jeanty (York College social work student), Nirquette Guillaume (MSW), Nadine Robinson (MSW), and Sherba Austin (LMSW)