

Academic Affairs Update

YORK COLLEGE



Distinguished Alumnus Shares Expertise

New York’s most famous political consultant addressed a large audience of students, faculty, staff and administrators during his visit on November 14. Henry “Hank” Sheinkopf, a member of the York College Class of 1973, made the much-anticipated return to the college to discuss his favorite topic: politics.

The lecture, entitled “Democracy Needs You. Are You Ready for Democracy?” showed the legendary strategist at his best as the address ran the gamut from the community activism that saved York, to the state of elected politics today



Hank Sheinkopf delivering his talk at York College

through new social movements such as Occupy Wall Street.

Introduced by State Senator Malcolm Smith, a former client, and York student Shameka Headen, Sheinkopf was in his element as he discussed the state of electoral politics today.

“Many people thought that the greatest voter turnout for a presidential election was for

Barack Obama,” he said. “But the greatest voter turnout was in 1952 when Eisenhower ran. Then, neighborhoods like this went fallow for 30 years. Don’t tell me that participation doesn’t matter. When you are not involved in protecting democracy, democracy is put at risk.”

Sheinkopf, speaking in the sun-splashed lobby of the Performing Arts Center in mid-afternoon, also remarked that movements such as Occupy Wall Street and its various spawns are good for democracy.

“There should be more of them,” he said. “The problem is that the people who are talking

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Special points of interest:

- Hank Sheinkopf lecture at York
- 4th Annual Health Fair
- Three year anniversary of Entrepreneurship Club
- Social Work Faculty & Students presenting research

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Italian-American Heritage and Culture Week at York

Over the last two decades, the relationship between Italian-Americans and African-Americans in New York City has been fraught with tension. Despite a generally congenial rela-

tionship between the two groups in the early to mid-twentieth century, several incidents in the 1980s and 1990s that received national attention have created a rift that has never fully been

repaired.

It was the aim of this project to help ameliorate these negative feelings within the diverse southern Queens community. York College is

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Social Work Professor Invited to Present at International Symposium in Korea



Dr. Rodgers during her presentation at the Korea Press Center in Seoul

With only 72 hours notice, Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, Assistant Professor of Social Work, of York College boarded Korean Air headed for Seoul, Korea to serve as the United States Representative at the Meeting the Challenge of Social Service Delivery Symposium.

The Symposium was co-organized by the Gyeonggi Welfare Foundation and Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs following an urgent call to improve the social welfare system in Korea.

Dr. Rodgers embraced the 12-hour time zone difference and 12-hour flight to Asia by reading about Korea's history and customs. After landing at Incheon International Airport in South Korea on November 7, 2011, she joined Gyeonggi Province Governor Moon-Soo Kim along with representatives from Korea, Japan, New Zealand, and Sweden for dinner, introductions, business decorum, and an exchange of cultural translations—a prelude conversation to the Symposium.

On November 8, 2011 Governor Moon-Soo Kim opened with

his congratulatory speech and welcomed the distinguished panelists. He remarked that his commitment to social welfare delivery reform in Korea is premised on his investment in the sustainability of human beings and family—"my daughter, son-in-law and sister-in-law are social workers" stated Governor Kim.

The media-covered event was well attended, with over 350 participants and simultaneous translations in Korean, English, and Japanese. Dr. Rodgers presented her invited paper, titled "The Role of Posttraumatic Growth and Social Work in Existing Social Service Integrated Models in New York City," at the Korea Press Center in Seoul.

The first half of the conference was a presentation of domestic and global cases. Her talk reflected Integrated Service Models and emphasized client-driven services, empowerment, cultural competence, and community cooperation with local, state and federal governmental officials. She also emphasized themes of trauma and post-trauma experiences. Korea representative, Professor Seonmee

Hong introduced the Gyeonggi-do's customized integrated service delivery model and the existing partnership challenges between private and public sectors.

Spain representative, Dr. Gosta Esping-Andersen, delivered his video presentation about the relevance of women's roles and human resources. Sweden representative Dr. Sven Hort's paper addressed the Nordic social policy globalization strategy in relationship to Korea and other East Asian countries. Japan representative, Dr. Takayuki Hirano discussed the welfare service delivery with respect to older adults and long-term insurance in Japan. New Zealand representative Ms. Sue Jarvis offered a presentation on Child, Youth and Family social service delivery model.

Chaired by Gyeonggi Welfare Foundation President, Professor Jong Man Paik, the 2nd half of the conference was a ten-panel debate (see photo upper right) and Q&A regarding domestic and global social welfare reform. During this session, Professor Hong commented on Dr. Rodgers' presentation as

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L.-r.: Sven E. O Hort (Linnaeus University, Sweden), Sue Jarvis (Child, Youth and Family, New Zealand), Selena T. Rodgers (York College), Sang-Mok Suh (Chairman, Gyeonggi Welfare Foundation, Korea), Takayuki Hirano (Nihon Fukushi University, Japan), Jong Man Paik (Chonbuk National University, Korea) Kyung Sook Park (Kyonggi University, Korea)