

York College (YC) Social Work Club/Social Workers Empowering and Encouraging Together (SWEET) Club

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, 2002-2018

Year YC Social Work Club/SWEET Club New York State Legislative Advocacy Priorities 2007-2018

2007	Advocated with elected officials for funding for higher education; CUNY 2007-2008 State Budget - York College Child and Family Center.
2008	Public service loan forgiveness; action against tuition increases, cuts to Tuition Action Program (T.A.P.), and state funding for higher education, loan forgiveness CUNY 2008-2009 State Budget Priorities - York College Child and Family Center.
2009	Action against tuition increases, cuts to Tuition Action Program (T.A.P.), and state funding for higher education, loan forgiveness; CUNY 2009-2010 State Budget Priorities, invest in CUNY Campaign, including York College Child and Family Center.
2010	Issues that impact student learning, the Social Work Profession, and the college community. York College/CUNY 2010-2011 State Budget Priorities, including York College Child and Family Center; enhancements and repairs to the Academic Core Building: including outdoor seating, student common space renovations, and a down payment for the construction of the York College Academic Village (student union building).
2011	2011: York College Featured in Hon. Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook Reports to the People support to allow higher education to meet TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) work requirements at 4-year colleges; funding for The Safe Harbor Act-legislation to provide housing, legal, educational, and other services for commercially sexually exploited youth; funding to build safe houses for these victims; York College/CUNY 2011-2012 State Budget Priorities, funding a tuition credit for New York-resident students who receive Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) awards, ensuring those students most in need of financial assistance aren't put at a further disadvantage; the York College Academic Village Center.
2012	2012: York College Featured in Hon. Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook Reports to the People support passage of the Anti-Cyberbullying Bill (S6132/A8978) which prohibits cyberbullying of minors; New York Dream Act (S.4179/A.6829) allowing undocumented students (an estimated 146,000 youth in New York) to access state financial aid to help pay for college; advocate on behalf of York College and the CUNY 2012-2013 Operating State Budget Priorities, including, restore funding for Student Services: CUNY LEADS Program; Restore funding for the 17 licensed CUNY campus-based child care programs currently providing services to over 1,600 student parents and 2,400 children. Funding for the York College Academic Village Conference Center. This project intends to create a new Academic Village and Conference Center at the current site of the Classroom Building. The Center would be a hub for student life activities, providing students with classrooms, offices for student government clubs, lounges, conference rooms, a bookstore and a coffee shop. The conference rooms would be open to the community. securing \$5 million for the building of the land-marked York College Child and Family Center, now officially open; and (2) for securing \$11 million, for enhancements and repairs to the Academic Core Building (e.g., outdoor seating, student common space renovations) and as a down payment for the construction of the York College Academic Village.
2013	2013 - York College Featured in Hon. Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook Reports to the People advocate for support for a new MSW at York College; support of NASW-NYC Chapter and other organizations for a two-year temporary exemption to give agencies the opportunity to further clarify functions of licensed social workers. York College and the CUNY 2013-2014 Operating State Budget Priorities, including York College Academic Village.
2014	2014 - York College Featured in Hon. Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook Reports to the People York College, CUNY Student Reflections: Social Work Lobby Day in Albany, NY [Video] Youth who age out of foster care, without achieving adoption or independent living at the time of their discharge. Advocate the enhancement of resources for youth who age out of care - New York State (NYS); support for the CUNY 2014-2015 State Budget Priorities. In particular, funding to support the York College Academic Village & Conference Center to support state-of-the-art space for students. Childcare and the Black Male Initiative were also strong advocacy points.
2015	2015 - York College Featured in Hon. Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook Reports to the People Advocate for social justice initiatives, including an increase in New York City and New York State minimum wage and loan forgiveness for social workers. The York delegation also urged NYS elected officials to restore and allocate funding for critical resources identified as York College/CUNY 2015-2016 State Budget Priorities-the Black Male Initiative, childcare, and the York College Academic Village/Conference Center to support state-of-the-art space for students.
2016	Loan forgiveness, opposition to tuition hikes, and York College and the CUNY 2016-2017 Operating State Budget Priorities, including continued funding for maintenance of effort provision where the state would be required to provide SUNY and CUNY with the same amount of operating support; York College Academic Village.
2017	Reinforcement of Choices of Education Act of 2017; Redlining in School Districts, intended to uphold equitable funding and practices for public school education. York College and the CUNY 2016-2017 Operating State Budget Priorities Monies to extend childcare services to evening hours throughout CUNY and advocacy for funding to fix York's infrastructure; Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), the Proposed Excelsior Scholarship Program, CUNY Critical Maintenance funding.
2018	Social Work Delegation. <i>NYS Lobby Day, Albany, NY</i> . 2018, March 6: [York College Webpage], 2018 https://www.york.cuny.edu/news/york-delegation-has-day-of-advocacy-in-albany Leaders. Champions. Advocates: Social Work Delegation in 2018 Albany, NY." <i>NYS Lobby Day, Albany, NY</i> . 2018, March 6: York College Video], 2018