

Special points of interest:

- Nobel Winner Dr. Yunus on campus
- NYC Deputy Mayor Visits York College
- Provost Leadership Retreat
- Spotlight on York's Library
- Political Science Students Meet Ambassador
- York Faculty Honored
- York Athletics

Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
NY Dep. Mayor's Visit	3
Laursen Award	4
Second Provost's Lecture	5
Dr. M. Yunus at York	6
New Faculty Featured	8
Atangana at African Show	9
Math & Sciences Dept.	10
Provost's Retreat	11
Library News	12
PoliSci Students Meet	13
Ambassador	13
Three Mo' Tenors	14
York Athletics Moving Up	16
Provost Lecture Series	17
Spring 2008	17
CETL Workshops	18
President's Lecture Series	19
York Faculty Honored	19
Assessment Workshops	20
Occupational Therapy Colloquium	20
Education Outside the Walls	21
Social Work Programs	22
Writing Committee Report	23

Commission Presents Report To Governor Spitzer

President Marcia V. Keizs and other members of Governor Eliot Spitzer's Commission on Higher Education submitted their preliminary report in December 2007.

The report calls for a Compact to ensure New York's public higher education institutions are adequately funded and equipped to prepare the state's students for twenty first century careers and leadership roles.

Comprised of public and private university chancellors and presidents, such as Keizs,



From left to right: York College President Dr. Marcia V. Keizs, SUNY Chancellor John Clark, Commission Chair Hunter Rawlings and Governor Eliot Spitzer.

Queensborough Community College president, Dr. Eduardo Marti, CUNY Chancellor, Matthew Goldstein, members of the New York State Senate and Assembly, and a Queens College student, the Commission called for the hiring of an additional 2,000 full-time faculty over the next five years.

Cont.'d on p. 7-8

Kouakou Named Scholar-Athlete of the Month

Leadership on campus, and leadership on the soccer field, are both traits that York senior goalkeeper Kafui Kouakou exhibits. Given those attributes, his remarkable performance to help the Cardinals men's soccer team to their first CUNYAC title and NCAA Divi-

sion III Championships appearance in six years, and a standout grade-point average as a business management major, and it is easy to see why Kouakou has been tabbed as the Hospital for Special Surgery/CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete of the Month for November, 2007.

Cont.'d on p.8

Reflections

A Message from President Marcia V. Keizs to the York College Campus Community

Welcome to the Spring Semester and to the continuation of our efforts on retention. We will learn more about this effort at Convocation on February 14th. However, I just wanted to welcome you back and update you briefly at this time.

From March 2nd to the 5th York College will undergo a very important process vital to its very existence as an institution of higher learning. That is when the Middle States Commission will converge on our campus to examine our eligibility for reaccreditation.

On January 23rd we submitted the Self-Study report – including the Certification Statement and I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to acknowledge the superb leadership of Professors Gila Acker, Timothy Paglione and Margaret Ballantyne, as well as the rest of the committee for their tireless effort on this task. I ask that the entire College community prepare to support this crucial endeavor to show York at its best during the Commission's visit on the days of March 2nd through the 5th.

The self-study process provided York an opportunity to reflect on its recent past and to chart a promising course for the future. Emerging from a period of challenge and change, the College is now firmly on course toward its greatest sea-

son and we could not have done it without your collective support.

Last summer Senate Democratic Leader, Malcolm Smith (D-St. Albans), nominated me to Governor Eliot Spitzer's Higher Education Commission. Comprised of public and private universities, state legislators and CUNY/SUNY students, the Commission, which consisted of various subcommittees, presented Governor Spitzer with its findings.

The Governor's charge was for the Commission to recommend "bold and actionable proposals" which, "must meet the challenges posed by rapidly changing demographic, scientific, technological and economic trends in order to prepare students to be successful in commerce, science, education, government, social sciences, humanities and the arts."

Among the Commission's recommendations are: a \$3 billion "Innovation Fund" to strengthen higher education efforts; "affordable and predictable" tuition compact with modest, occasional increases; strengthening of the articulation between community and senior colleges within SUNY and CUNY thereby enabling a more seamless transition from community to senior colleges; the hiring of 2000 faculty experts and world class scholars

throughout the system; the financing of public colleges and universities and K-12 Partnership Zones in high-needs communities.

I am also delighted to report that York's first annual benefit concert, featuring Three Mo' Tenors, was a roaring success. With the extraordinary concert, starring the versatile and energetic talent of the off-Broadway production, York has never looked better in the eyes of the public and more importantly, in our own eyes.

Those who attended the concert, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, are probably still humming and smiling at the unforgettable event enhanced by the aesthetics of the art, quilt and flowers which "decked the halls" of the Performing Arts Center.

Kudos to everyone involved in pulling off this seemingly impossible task in just three months! Such social events help [to] put York on the map, in the minds of those who effect change in our city and state.

I will bring you a more detailed report in my "Spring Update" to be posted about the time of Convocation on February 14th.

Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of our students.



Deputy New York Mayor at York

In its ongoing effort to achieve ubiquity as a quality institution of a diverse population and of diverse interests, York College recently hosted another Executive Leadership Breakfast in the series launched last year by President Marcia V. Keizs.

The November 30th Breakfast featured as keynote speaker Deputy New York City Mayor Dan Doctoroff, who elaborated on Mayor Michael Bloomberg's plans for the future of the city.

Known as "Plan NYC," the ambitious pro-



President Keizs and Deputy Mayor Doctoroff fielding questions from the audience

posal Mr. Doctoroff discussed gave the packed auditorium food for thought over breakfast and elicited pointed questions afterwards.

Among the important points of discussion were plans to improve the quality of air by making New York "greener." This is a key aim of Mayor Bloomberg's controversial Congestion Pricing Bill, which was rejected in its present configuration by the New York State Assembly this past summer.

Doctoroff also disclosed plans to build 265,000 new housing units to be constructed to

meet the needs of the expected million plus people who will move into New York City over the next two or so decades. Mass transit, he said, will also undergo a renaissance "the likes of which have not been seen in 50 years." New York City water will be improved and the flooding problems in Southeast Queens will be all but eliminated, according to the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development.

The plan, which was initially dubbed "The 2030 Plan," will make it possible "for every New Yorker to live within walking distance of a park." Doctoroff explained that this will be made possible not just by using available land more effectively, but by opening the 300 schoolyards which were normally closed after 3:00 pm on school days and closed on weekends and vacation breaks.

The parks proposal, the Deputy Mayor said, will help combat the high incidence of obesity among the city's youth population—a major bone of contention for Bloomberg almost from the start of his mayoralty.

"We have 760 days left to put our plans into effect," said Doctoroff, referring to the days the time-limited mayor has left in office. "So, everything has to move quickly."

Among the people who attended the early morning breakfast were College of Staten Island president Tomas Morales, Councilman Leroy Comrie, Assemblywoman Audrey Pheffer, former Queens Borough President and York College Foundation Board member Claire Shulman, a cadre of local business and nonprofit leaders, and York College students, faculty, and staff.

The breakfast was sponsored by Jet Blue Airways, whose founder, David Neeleman, was an earlier speaker in the Breakfast Series.



Spring 2008 Convocation

Thursday, February 14, 2008



12:30–2:00 pm

Little Theatre, Performing Arts Center

“Retention: What Can be Counted and What Counts”

Prestigious Laursen Award for Aviation Director



The University Aviation Association (UAA) awarded its V. L. Laursen Award for 2007 to Dr. Triant Flouris, Aviation Institute director and Accounting and Business professor.

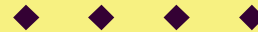
The Award, presented at the UAA Fall Education Conference Awards Banquet on October 19, 2007 in San Jose, California, recognized Dr. Flouris for the achievement of teaching excellence in collegiate aviation education.

The Award honors former Trans World Airline Captain Vern L. Laursen, a highly respected member of the airline industry whose expertise and knowledge are well known throughout the aviation community. He made significant contributions in the areas of flight training, equipment, and procedures and is renowned for his technical and administrative abilities in evaluating flight simulator and visual system applications.

Dr. Flouris has been actively engaged in university collegiate aviation since earning his doctorate in 1995. In addition to his present role

at York he has taught undergraduate and graduate courses and taken on administrative roles at Auburn University, Concordia University, and San Jose State University.

A prolific scholar, Dr. Flouris has authored three textbooks, with two additional ones under contract, as well as over 75 refereed aviation proceedings, reports, book reviews, journal articles and other publications. He has been invited speaker at numerous national and international venues in his specialty area of aviation business and management. In addition to significant accomplishments in teaching, Dr. Flouris has provided valuable service to the organization. He has served on the UAA Board twice, including as treasurer.



The University Aviation Association (UAA), a nonprofit organization, represents more than 600 members consisting of educators, students, two- and four-year collegiate institutions offering aviation degree programs, and organizations and industry representatives that support collegiate aviation. The UAA also serves as the voice of collegiate aviation education to government, industry organizations and the general public.

PROVOST LECTURE SERIES: SECOND LECTURE

Linking Research and Practice in Teacher Education

Nazrul I. Khandaker*

There is a national movement afoot to develop and implement research-based Best Practices in teacher preparation and teaching in pre-K through university. On December 3, 2007 the second lecture of the Provost Lecture Series included a panel discussion on that movement. Following the conventions of national and regional conference presentations, five faculty members from the Teacher Education Department contributed their original research involving experiential learning approaches, Blackboard responses, field components, and teaching within multicultural backgrounds.

Interactive discussions conducted by Drs. Veronica Shipp, Jane Keleher, Lindamichelle Baron, Coleen Clay, and Leslie Keiler (who had brought the panel's work to the attention of the committee and, with the indispensable logistical support of Stephanie Cooper of the Office of Academic Affairs, had organized the event) emphasized the need for linking research to practice in teacher education. Dr. Keleher, the Director of the York Teacher Academy, also described the timely involvement of York College within the CUNY-wide initiative for preparing our next generation of teachers, particularly in the much-needed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. A capacity audience included faculty, administration and students. Dr. Dana Fusco, Acting Dean, Professional Programs, moderated the panel and summarized the presentations.

The discussion that followed inquired into the nature of Bloom's Taxonomy (a revelation to many non-Teacher Education colleagues), the process of "scaffolding," and

some of the shortcomings of field experience (reality does have a way of knocking up against theory!). A special delight was the introduction of three students now in our Teacher Academy whom the audience acknowledged with a loud round of applause.

Professor Adam Profit, representing the Provost Lecture Series Planning Committee, opened the event by reminding the assembly that three lectures are already scheduled for the spring. He then introduced President Marcia Keizs, who welcomed the efforts of Dr. Ivelaw Griffith, Provost, and members of the Provost's Lecture Series Planning Committee in establishing a new forum for York faculty to disseminate their scholarly work to the York community and beyond.

At the conclusion of the presentations, Provost Griffith presented the members of the panel with a handsomely framed version of the impressive poster that had announced their colloquium, a custom marking our collective appreciation of our colleagues' achievement.



* *Dr. Nazrul I. Khandaker, professor of Geology in the Department of Earth and Physical Sciences, delivered the inaugural lecture in the Provost Lecture Series.*

NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE TO SPEAK AT YORK

Dr. Muhammad Yunus, a banker and economist, is famous for extending small loans or micro-credit to entrepreneurs too poor to qualify for traditional loans. The founder of Grameen Bank, Yunus and the Bank were jointly awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize “for their efforts to create economic and social development from below.”

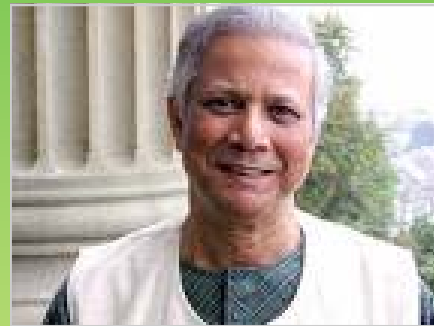
Dr. Yunus will be York College’s guest of honor on Monday, February 11, 2008, from 7-9 pm in the Performing Arts Center. He will speak about his latest book, *Creating a World Without Poverty*, and about how to use markets to solve the problems of poverty, hunger, and inequality. Dr. Yunus also will receive the City University of New York Chancellor’s Medal, which will be presented by Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Dr. Selma Botman.

Dr. Yunus will also help launch a major scholarship program at York for the children of Grameen Bank members and a summer internship interchange program for York College students to go to Bangladesh and Bangladeshi students to come to York.

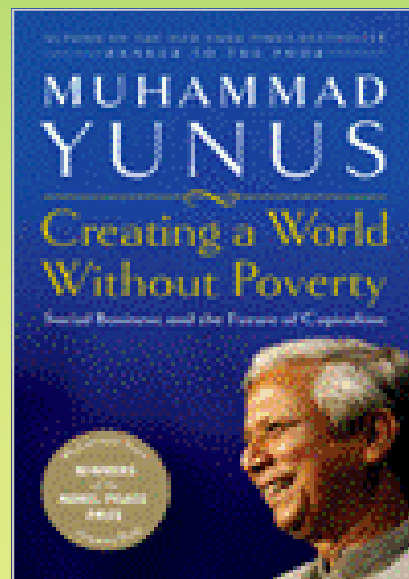
This event is open to students, faculty, staff and visitors. Admission is free, but a ticket is necessary. Attendees must register for tickets online (<http://york.cuny.edu/events/muhammad/Registrant>) and pick them up at the Performing Arts Center Box

Office starting Thursday, February 7, 2008 at noon. They must bring their confirmation notice (print out from the web) to receive up to two tickets.

The visit by the Nobel Laureate will give a boost to York’s quest to extend its international educational engagements and stimulate greater interest in the College by students from Asia in general and Bangladesh in particular.



Dr. Muhammad Yunus



Commission Presents

Cont.'d from p.1

It is expected to kindle change in the system of public higher education, creating a fund to support research proposals with significant economic development promise. The impact is expected to trickle down to the lowest grades according to a statement released by the Executive Chamber.

"It is a remarkable experience being part of a movement designed to shape the future of education in our state," said Dr. Keizs, whose focus on the commission is the improvement of the math and science performance outcomes for the state's middle school children. "Being part of this diverse group of intellectuals dedicated to the goal of educating our young people to take their places in the leadership of our country and indeed, our world, is an awesome responsibility."

The Commission, chaired by Hunter Rawlings, president emeritus, Cornell University, was created last spring by Governor Spitzer to identify ways in which New York State's public higher education can be improved. But the Commission's findings do not stop at higher education. According to Keizs, any meaningful change in higher education has to start in K through 12. The Commission recommends a program that would guarantee free college tuition for seventh and eighth grade students who meet Mathematics and English Language standards, as well as high school graduation requirements. These "Education Partnership Zones," would be based in high-need school districts.

According to Senate Democratic Leader Malcolm Smith, who nominated President Keizs to the Commission, this is a good thing for Southeast Queens. "I applaud the thoughtful and creative recommendations of the Commission, particularly the creation of Education Partnership Zones," said Smith. "Once created, these Zones will help the children of Southeast Queens obtain the college readiness skills they need to become successful, starting at the earliest ages and continuing on through high school, with guaran-

teed access to higher education for students that meet adequate standards. This would be a tremendous opportunity for the children of my district."

Among the Commission's initial recommendations in the 85-page document are the establishment of a \$3 billion research fund, the Empire State Innovation Fund, "to support meritorious research important to New York's future;" creating a low-cost student loan program for residents attending college in New York State; establishing the New York State Compact on Public Higher Education to delineate shared responsibility for public higher education resources; rebuilding CUNY and SUNY faculty ranks by the strategic hiring of at least 2,000 full-time additional faculty, including 250 "eminent scholars," over the next five years.

The Commission also recommends ensuring high school graduates are well prepared for college through a College Readiness Act; strengthening transfer of academic credits between colleges throughout SUNY and CUNY for a more seamless transfer between similar programs by 2011-12 and addressing the backlog of "critical maintenance" at SUNY and CUNY with a sustained program of capital re-investment.

During his State-of-the-State address in January 2008, Governor Spitzer announced, upon the Commission's recommendation, that over the next five years the State "will move to hire 2,000 additional full time faculty members for SUNY and CUNY, including "250 eminent scholars—the type of professors whose research draws grants and collaboration from around the globe and whose stature lifts entire campuses."

The Governor also advocated the establishment of an "innovation fund" for cutting-edge research at New York's public and private colleges similar to the national Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

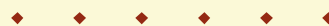
"Supercharging cutting-edge academic research will also supercharge our innovation economy," he said, explaining that the funds for the ambitions plan will come, in part, from the New York State Lottery.

Cont.'d on next page

CUNY Chancellor Goldstein also had high praise for the recommendations. "By delineating shared responsibility for public higher education resources, the New York State Compact for Public Higher education would renew public investment in our public universities," said Goldstein, who not only serves as CUNY's Chancellor, but who also is a product of the nation's most prominent public university system as a graduate of City College. Moreover, he once served as president of Baruch College. "As the City University of New York has affirmed since introducing the

CUNY Compact two years ago, a partnership among stakeholders is critical to generating the resources necessary for true investment."

"York College is ready and willing to take its place in preparing the children and young adults in our area to take advantage of this great opportunity initiated by our Governor," said Keizs. "I look forward to the Governor's response to our recommendations and I am thankful to Senator Smith for the confidence he has placed in me with this appointment."



Kouakou Named Scholar-Athlete

Cont.'d from p.1

"It has been an incredible year," said Kouakou, who carries a 3.575 grade-point average. "It seems like all the hard work is finally paying off. I want to thank every one who believed in me and gave me their support."



York's Scholar-Athlete Kouakou in action

Kouakou pulled off a rare double in the beginning of November, as he was named the CUNYAC Men's Soccer Championship's Most Valuable Player after making 10 spectacular saves in York's 3-0 victory over Staten Island. Further,

the keeper was voted the CUNYAC's Player of the Year by the conference's coaches. Kouakou helped the Cardinals to a 14-6-1 record on the year, and posted a 1.94 goals against average to go with a .773 save percentage. He made 14 saves in York's NCAA first-round contest at Keene State, and finished the season ranked No. 56 nationally with a mark of 6.38 saves per game.

Though Kouakou's kudos on the field are remarkable, so, too, are his accomplishments off the pitch. York's team captain, he also demonstrates his leadership around the Jamaica campus, serving as president of the school's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and vice-president of the Student Government. To top things off, Kouakou volunteers in his spare time by tutoring his peers at York in subjects such as economics.

"Kafui is a wonderful kid," said York men's soccer head coach Linval Cunningham. "Nobody is more deserving of this honor than he is. Player of the Year, Championship MVP and Scholar-Athlete; what more can you say about him?"



Dr. Wright Joins Nursing

York College welcomes Dr. Renee Wright this Spring as a Distinguished Lecturer in Nursing, on leave from New York Hospital Queens Emergency Department where she manages 125 employees. She holds Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Pace University and a Doctor of Education from Teachers College Nursing Executive Program. Her appointment is the first at York under an affiliation partnership between CUNY and several hospitals. Dr. Wright's experience as a nurse practitioner, a manager, and a nurse educator will be a great asset to our nursing program, which will grow significantly this fall.



Dr. Wright in her office

Atangana at the “African Show”

Associate Professor of History Dr. Martin Atangana, who also holds an appointment at the CUNY Graduate School, participated in a radio program entitled the “The African Show.” This show was broadcast live on WKCR-FM (89.9FM – the radio at Columbia University) on Thursday December 6, 2007, from 10pm until midnight. The Program was hosted by musicologist Dr. Richard Donald Smith who is a faculty member at the United Nations International School. The other guests included Emperor Adiche, an accomplished musician from Nigeria, and Edward Jaheed Ashley, a filmmaker who has just made a terrific documentary on Fela Anikulapo Kuti.

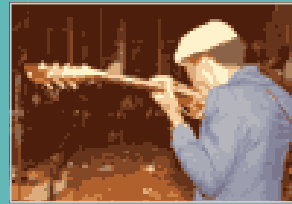


Dr. Martin Atangana

Dr. Atangana and the other show participants had a rich discussion on African music, with an emphasis on the legacy of Fela Kuti, the king of Juju music or Afro-beat, who died in 1997 and who had influenced many generations of musicians, including Dr. Atangana and Emperor Adichie themselves.

Dr. Atangana explained that “Fela’s music started to be very popular in the 1970s. This was the time when I was growing as a musician. Juju was one of the rare African rhythms that we loved to play. One of the negative effects of colonialism is that the Europeans made us believe that everything African was negative and bad. So when I was growing up as a musician I preferred to play music by Carlos Santana, Jimi Hendrix, Deep Purple ... and

when you mentioned people like Franco—a very popular Congolese musician—you sound like a country boy and that was not good. Fela’s music was strong and he also had a strong personality. Many of us ... wanted to dress like Fela. I learned how to play Afro beat and up to now, every time I make a record there is always an Afro beat song in it.”



Dr. Atangana in action.

Some live material that Dr. Smith did in Africa with Fela and Chief Stephen Osita Osadibe, another Nigerian artist who died in 2007, was featured and discussed. Both Fela and Osadibe were friends of Dr. Smith who visited their homes many times in Nigeria. Recordings by Dr. Martin Atangana and Emperor Adichie were also played and discussed.



Math and Sciences End of Term Celebration

The Division of Mathematics and Sciences had its End of the Term Holiday Celebration on December 13, 2007. All the faculty and staff in the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Studies, the Library, and the college community were invited to enjoy the science and mathematics projects of faculty and students. The celebration took place on the fourth floor of the Academic Core, with a poster display and refreshments near the 4E corridor.

The organizing committee which was headed by Ms. J. Albertini from Biology, and included Ms. D. Sample (Chemistry), Ms. I. Tainey (Mathematics), and Ms. P. Miles (Earth and Physical Sciences), arranged for refreshments, chairs and tables. In addition, on their own initiative, they decorated the space with holiday ornaments. The light snow, which was visible through the glass ceiling and glass windows, provided an extra holiday touch.

Students, faculty and staff responded enthusiastically to the invitation to participate in the celebration and presented posters they created from their research work during the 2006-07 academic year. Professors N. Khandaker and S. Schleifer and their students presented their research on the New York City Water Tunnel while Professor S. Fearnley with his students presented their latest synthetic work. Students from the labs of Professor R. Desamero, Professor A. Profit, Professor A. Rossi and Professor E. Chang presented their latest work on enzymes and molecular modeling and some from the labs of Professors G. McNeil, I. Arsov and L. Levinger presented posters on their genetics and RNA research.

More than a hundred division students, faculty and staff attended and discussed the research work presented. In addition, several faculty and students from other departments attended and admired the presentations. President M. Keizs, one of the first guests to arrive, was very impressed with the quality of the work, and she congratulated students and faculty for their excellent presentations. Among the students presenting were Ms. Joanna

Coradin, Ms. Chrystal Dol, Ms. Justina Chinwong, and Mr. Angelo Damanti. Students and faculty were also excited to share their presentations and to explain the potential of their research.



Professor Mawyer and a student discussing one of the posters

Students, faculty, staff and guests enjoyed holiday music and refreshments provided by CulinArt and Professor F. Mawyer provided entertainment with his playing cards magic tricks.

The celebration was sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs. Provost and Senior Vice President Ivelaw L. Griffith funded the event, acknowledging the opportunities and support afforded to students and faculty by programs such as Lewis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC), the Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS), the McNair Scholars program, and the Computer Science and Mathematics Scholars program.

Special thanks to the organizing committee, CulinArt and the Buildings and Grounds Division for their help and contributions to the success of the presentations. Dorothy Sample of Chemistry supplied banners announcing the festivities with our division and departments. Pauline Miles of Earth and Physical Sciences handled the catering, working with Andre of CulinArts and Irene Tainey of Math and Computer Sciences arranged with Building and Grounds to set up tables and chairs. Coordinating the day was Jane Albertini of Biology.

Provost Hosts Leadership Retreat

“Listening, Learning, Leading” was the theme of a two-day academic leadership retreat hosted by Provost Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith for some 40 college officials on January 17-18, 2008 at the CUNY Graduate Center in Manhattan. The retreat, which brought together the Provost, the Academic Deans, Chairs, and the Directors, examined all aspects of York’s academic operations and interrelationships with the central university.



President Marcia V. Keizs addresses retreat participants while Provost Griffith listens.

President Marcia V. Keizs set the stage for the two-day retreat by outlining some of the key programmatic

and operational areas where the pursuit of excellence is necessary. Among other things, retreat discussions centered on challenges and opportunities of educational excellence, testing, registration, and other support services, and Academic Affairs and college-wide initiatives.



Fenix Arias speaks at the retreat.

The retreat had a mixed format: discussions with panels led by full-time and adjunct faculty, students, and an alumnus, breakout session discussions on motivating and mentoring faculty, managing time, stress, and deadlines, retention and student success, and managing and engaging adjunct faculty, and luncheon addresses.

Cont.'d on p.15

What's New in *Your* Library

by John Drobnicki

After more than a decade of not ordering many books at all due to budget woes, the Library over the past year successfully organized a large-scale book ordering project, with significant start-up funds from York's Student Government Association of 2005-2006, which was subsequently endorsed by SGA of 2006-2007. This took place during a time of transition in the Library, as the Chief Librarian who had served in that role for 15 years was replaced by an Acting Chief Librarian/Visiting Professor from LaGuardia Community College who left after 5 months and was replaced by the current Acting Chief Librarian.

To their credit, the Library faculty and staff continued to perform their duties professionally and without interruption, despite having three Department Chairs in seven months and undergoing the stress of Phase One of the Library's renovation.



Photo by Prof. Di Su

With the support of CIO Peter Tighe and the Student Technology Fee, the Library added several important electronic resources over the past year, which have greatly expanded the materials available online for research: Blackwell-

Synergy Journals; Cambridge Journals Online; The Cochrane Library; Medline With Full Text; and Scopus. Starting on Jan. 1, 2008, the Library also added subscriptions to Ovid Nursing and Health Professions, and to SciFinder Scholar.

The Library has also welcomed three new Faculty members, and one new Staff member over the past year:

- Anamika Dasgupta joined us in February 2007, and is Coordinator of Electronic Resources and Library Webmaster.
- Sandra Urban started in January 2008 as our Cataloging Librarian.
- Daniel Cleary, who has previously been an Adjunct and a Substitute in the Library, officially became our first-ever Science Librarian in February 2008.
- Cindy Rodriguez joined the Library team as a CUNY Office Assistant in Circulation/Reserve in January 2008

The Library's faculty and staff are highly qualified and dedicated to assisting you. Remember, we can't do the research for you, but we can teach you how to do it.

We are proud both of the improvements in our appearance and the improvements in our print and electronic resources. Be sure to come in or access these resources on-line!

Professor John Drobnicki is Acting Chief Librarian of the York College Library



York College

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Visit us Online:

**York College —
Office of the Provost
website:**

**[http://york.cuny.edu/
academic-affairs](http://york.cuny.edu/academic-affairs)**

Political Science Students Meet Ambassador Marc Wall

Students of Professor Euclid Rose and Professor Shirley Ostholm had an opportunity on December 6, 2007 to meet with Ambassador Marc M. Wall, who is currently serving as Diplomat-in-Residence at City College. Ambassador Wall has served as a diplomat in a number of locations, including China, Taiwan, Zimbabwe, and, most recently, Chad, where he had the opportunity to work on economic development and to assist refugees entering Chad from nearby Darfur. He has volunteered for a post in Baghdad, Iraq, to begin after he concludes this year's service as a Diplomat-in-Residence.



(Left to right): Ambassador Marc M. Wall, Professor Shirley Ostholm, and Provost Ivelaw L. Griffith.

Ambassador Wall discussed with students the challenges and rewards of foreign service and the many avenues for contributing to international affairs through careers with the Department of State. The Department of State hires from a wide variety of disciplines and fields for foreign and civil service, as is attested by the range of positions listed on www.careers.state.gov.

Students at York may also be eligible to apply for a Graduate Fellowship or Summer Enrichment Program through the Charles B.

Rangel International Affairs Program (www.howard.edu/rjb/rangelprogram.htm).

The program, sponsored collaboratively by Howard University and the U.S. Department



Students in Professor Rose's course on Global Change discussed benefits and pitfalls of globalization with Ambassador Wall.

of State, seeks to attract outstanding young people who have an interest in pursuing a career in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State. The Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program encourages the application of members of minority groups historically underrepresented in the Foreign Service and those with financial need.



OFF-BROADWAY'S THREE MO' TENORS LIGHT UP THE NIGHT AT YORK COLLEGE

York College held its First Annual Scholarship Benefit Concert: "One Dream. Many Realities." starring the off-Broadway sensation, Three Mo' Tenors on January 21, 2008. The dazzling performers played to a packed house in the resplendent 1,500-seat Performing Arts Center in a concert which raised funds for merit scholarships. Attendees included college and company presidents, elected officials, senior CUNY administrators, alumni, Tuskegee Airmen, community supporters, faculty, staff, students and their families. It was a chilly winter evening but the air inside the center was electric! The audience thrilled to the amazing vocal acrobatics of the critically acclaimed trio whose repertoire included opera, rock, gospel and soul – both old and new school.



President Marcia V. Keizs and the phenomenal Three Mo' Tenors.

Major sponsors included: Ciampa Organization, Astoria Energy, Barnes & Noble, City University of New York, American Express, Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, Commerce Bank, Albanese Organization, Inc., Spiritos Properties, ICOR Associates, Bombardier, Citibank, POKO Partners LLC – Urban Equities NY, HSBC Bank USA, N.A., Elmhurst Dairy/Steuben Foods, The Mattone Group and North Fork Bank.

The event paid tribute to the York College/Community Commemorative Quilt Committee (YCCCQC) in recognition of its 10 years of unwavering dedication to provide scholarships to deserving students. Each year, YCCCQC pro-

duces an annual exhibition of new quilts and artwork for sale, curated by internationally recognized artist Charles Lilly, which coincides with the birthday anniversary of Dr. King and remains in place through February during Black History Month.



Foundation Board Member Jeff Spiritos of Spiritos Properties, Greater Jamaica Development Corporation Director Carlisle Towery, York College Provost Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith and York College President, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs.

"It was only fitting that we honored the Quilt Committee at this inaugural event of the York College Foundation Board," said President Marcia V. Keizs. "Their selfless service to the college and to our students has made a huge impact." The benefit, emceed by Dominic Carter of NY1 News, was the first of its kind in the college's 41-year history and will become an annual event.

Further information on upcoming College events is available at www.york.cuny.edu. The next major event is the Male Initiative Program's Second Annual Men of Achievement Recognition Program. It will honor, among other notable male role models, former NYC Mayor David Dinkins and Rev. Charles Norris Sr. The program will be held on Thursday, February 7 at 5:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.



Provost's Leadership Retreat

Cont.'d from p.11



Dr. Howard Ruttenberg, Chair of History and Philosophy, delivering one of the breakout session reports.

The luncheon addresses were delivered by two key CUNY leaders. Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Selma Botman spoke about excellence in an urban educational environment and Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Allan Dobrin focused attention on recent accomplishments and challenges and opportunities on the horizon.

Provost Griffith closed the proceedings by highlighting the organizational and programmatic initiatives in the cards in Academic Affairs. These include several executive searches, continuation of the Provost Lectures launched last fall, the search for 30 additional faculty and 17 support staff, the inauguration of new programs in nursing and journalism and the development of programs in pharmaceuticals and health sciences, implementation of the strategic plan for the Aviation Institute, and the pursuit of general educational reform as a high priority.



Dr. Jim Como, Performing and Fine Arts, addresses retreat participants. To his right are Provost Griffith and Adjunct Biology faculty, Dr. John Casey.



Attending the Three Mo' Tenors concert (left to right): CUNY Senior Vice Chancellor for University Relations and Secretary of the Board of Trustees Jay Hershenson, York College benefactors Neil Foster Phillips and wife Carole Phillips of Jay Foster Phillips Funeral Home, Councilman Leroy Comrie, York College President Marcia V. Keizs and North Fork Bank Branch Manager Carl Fields, a Foundation Board member.





York Athletics on the Move

by John Scarinci

(Photographs by Verity Rollins)



There is still another semester of games to be played but the 2007-08 school year has already been a successful one for the York College Athletics Program. A strong fall semester, coupled with the recent success of the program in the past few years, has established York as one of the premier athletic programs in CUNY.

The highlight of the Cardinals season thus far has been the men's soccer team, which on November 3 captured their fifth CUNYAC title in school history with a 3-0 triumph over the College of Staten Island. Senior goalkeeper Kafui Kouakou was named the Conference Most Valuable Player as well as the Tournament MVP. A few weeks later he would be named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Metro-All Region team and the D3kicks.com Metro All-Region Team. In addition, head coach Linval Cunningham was named CUNYAC Coach of the Year, while Michel Nicolas, Arahman Bashiru, and Dukens Richie were also named to the CUNYAC All-Star Team.

Although Kouakou and Richie will be graduating this year, the team has a strong nucleus in place for next year when they will defend their title. Freshman Francisco Florez, who was named to the D3kicks.com All-Region Team and the CUNYAC Rookie of the Year, is just one of many players returning for the title defense.

In men's basketball, the two-time defending CUNYAC champion Cardinals look poised for a three-peat. Coach Ronald St. John's team is once again one of the top squads in the league despite playing with ten freshmen on the roster. The team recently completed a successful five-day trip to San Diego (CA) during Christmas break where they captured the Surf & Slam Classic Title. Also, Junior Aaron Wilson was just named the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Week and freshman Omari Phipps has been named CUNYAC Rookie of the Week on four different occasions.

Meanwhile, on the women's side, the Lady Cardinals feature a much improved squad which

look like they can make a playoff run of their own. After struggling last year, they have tripled their wins from last season. Freshmen Niya Jarvis and Maimouna Dabo have each been named CUNYAC Rookie of the Week this season.

There have also been numerous highlights in cross country and track and field. Freshman runner Kenny Jacquet was named CUNYAC Rookie of the Year after finishing second in the CUNYAC Championships. Recently, four members of the women's indoor track team qualified for the Colgate Women's Games at Madison Square Garden on February 2. Taneisha Renaud (1500-meter run), Alexandra Nkrumah (800-meter run), Wendella Rankin (400-meter dash) and Shanine Bogan (shotput) all qualified for the prestigious event.

In women's volleyball, senior Renee Thompson capped off a stellar career with her fourth consecutive selection to the CUNYAC All-Star Team. Thompson led all of CUNYAC in digs and was in the top ten in several other important statistical categories.

Looking ahead to the Spring sports, the tennis team hopes to capture its first CUNYAC title after falling short in the semi-finals a year ago. Furthermore, the women's outdoor track team will look to repeat as CUNYAC Champions. Also, the hiring of Sports Information Director John Scarinci will help to publicize these accomplishments and increase the awareness of York Athletics throughout the community.

Talks are also in the works to add women's tennis, women's soccer and baseball in future years. With record enrollment for incoming freshman, the program is hoping to meet the athletic needs of the increasing student population. "We are very excited about the success of our athletics program," said assistant Athletic Director Jessica Cherry. "However, we are not satisfied. We hope to establish ourselves as an elite program, not only in the CUNYAC but on a national level."

John Scarinci is Sports Information Director at York

Provost Lecture Series-Spring 2008

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Colonialism

February 20, 2008 - 1 pm – Room 4M06

Professors Hamid Bahri, Department of Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities; Laura Fishman, Department of History and Philosophy; and Kelly Baker Josephs, Department of English, will examine the roles of language, religion and race in constructing relationships between colonizers and native peoples in North Africa, the Caribbean and the Americas.

What Do Opera and Computational Chemistry Have in Common?

April 8, 2008 - 1 pm – Room 4M05

Scientific researchers have discovered the power of what is being called the third branch of science: computer simulation. Frequently, the ability to perform exceedingly complex calculations unlocks the door to a new understanding of nature. This talk by Angelo Rossi, Professor of Chemistry and Director of the York/FDA Partnership, will demonstrate how extremely fast computers can play an integral role in the ability to understand important problems such as the misfolding of proteins implicated in Alzheimer's disease and the binding of a protein to RNA, a crucial factor in the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) life cycle.

Recent Developments in Pattern Recognition

May 7, 2008 - 1 pm – Room 4M06

With recent advances in technology, it is now known that small differences in strands of DNA among people result in similar characteristics in appearance, learning ability, physical development, and behavior. Hence, searching a strand of DNA for portions similar to a known strand is an important task in bioinformatics: a problem in pattern recognition. And searching a strand of DNA for given segments is a daunting task for a person – but not for a properly programmed computer! Professors Lou D'Alotto and Lew Lasser of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science will present a classic algorithm in pattern recognition as well as some recent improvements.

CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

Spring 2008 Forums and Workshops

- February 8 **Speaker Forum:** *Thinking, Writing and Publishing about Teaching and Learning*
10:30 am-Noon Faculty Dining Room, 2D01
Guest Speaker: Dr. James Rhem, Executive Editor, The National Teaching and Learning FORUM
- February 21 **Thursdays at the Center:** *Using Technology to Enhance Pedagogy*
Noon-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Discussion led by: Wenying Huang-Stolte, Educational Technology
- February 28 **Workshop:** *Using Blackboard and Live Webcasting to Improve Learning*
12-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Presenters: William Divale, Social Sciences and Danyang Zhang, Performing and Fine Arts
- March 7 **Speaker Forum:** *How Students Learn, How Teachers Teach, and What Usually Goes Wrong with the Process: An Introduction to Learning Styles*
10:30am-Noon Faculty Dining Room, 2D01
Guest Speaker: Richard Felder, Hoechst Celanese Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering, North Carolina State University
- March 13 **Workshop:** *Strategies for Teaching in a Classroom of Diverse Learners*
Noon-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Presenter: Margaret Ballantyne, Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities
- March 27 **Thursdays at the Center:** *Interdisciplinary Teaching and Learning*
Noon-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Discussion led by: Laura Fishman, History and Philosophy, Deborah Majerovitz, Behavioral Sciences, and Margaret Ballantyne, Foreign Languages, ESL and Humanities
- April 10 **Workshop:** *Leading Classroom Discussions: How to Talk to People Who Do Not Want to Talk to You*
Noon-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Presenter: Howard Ruttenberg, History and Philosophy
- April 11 **Speaker Forum:** *Alternatives to Blaming the Students: Applying the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning to Make Real Differences in Achievement, Equity, and Retention in Any College*
10:30 am-Noon Faculty Dining Room, 2D01
Guest Speaker: Craig Nelson, Past President, International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning & Professor Emeritus of Biology, Indiana University-Bloomington
- May 1 **Thursdays at the Center:** *The Impact of Faculty Research on Student Learning*
Noon-2:00 pm CETL Office, 4EA1
Presenters: Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Provost and Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs, and Tim Paglione, Earth and Physical Sciences

The President's Lecture Series & the Department of English

present

Rosalind Kilkenny McLymont
Editor-in-Chief, *The Network Journal*
Author, *Middle Ground*



Tuesday, February 5; Noon-2:00 pm in the Little Theatre

This event is an opportunity to meet a professional in the fields of journalism, entrepreneurship Development and fiction writing. Rosalind Kilkenny McLymont is the editor-in-chief of the widely read *The Network Journal*, a source of business, economic and global news relevant to people of the African Diaspora. Ms. McLymont will present her experiences and lessons learned as a working journalist, editor, businesswoman, and creative writer. The event will provide time for questions and answers between Ms. McLymont and the audience.

York's Dr. Lindamichelle Baron Honored

Assistant Professor of Teacher Education Dr. Lindamichelle Baron, has been selected as one of The Network Journal Magazine's 25 Influential Black Women in Business for 2008. Published monthly, The Network Journal is dedicated to educating and empowering Black professionals and small business owners through a variety of ways, such as providing news and commentary on issues that affect the growth of business and the advancement of professionals in the workplace, and highlighting business and career trends in key industries.

Dr. Baron, a member of the York faculty for nearly five years, is extremely active in community affairs and in outreach on behalf of the College. A former New York City public school teacher, she earned her Master's Degree in Reading and her Doctorate in Cross Categorical Studies from Columbia University's Teachers College. Lindamichelle is a much sought-after poet whose poetry has been featured in a number of anthologies and on stage in the recent musical and dance production, *The Groove that Got the Move of Us!*



**Dr. Lindamichelle
Baron**

Her books include: *The Sun Is On*, a recommended book for New York State middle schools, *Rhythm & Dues*, *For the Love of Life* and *Anthony Ant and Grady Grasshopper*. Dr. Baron, also coauthor of *The Write Direction* will receive her award along with the other recipients on March 13 at a function in Manhattan.

Assessment Workshops

Presenter: Dr. Ephraim Schechter

**March 19, Noon-2:00 pm
March 20, 10:00 am-Noon)**

Mark your
calendar !

Topics: “Student Outcomes Assessment: From Planning
to Implementation”

Venue: Faculty Dining Room

Dr. Schechter has been a faculty member, directed an academic program, and served as an institutional researcher and assessment director. Involved in outcomes assessment for two decades, he maintains the well-known meta-list Internet Resources for Higher Education Outcomes Assessment at <http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/assmt/resource.htm>. Since retiring from North Carolina State at the end of 2004, Dr. Schechter has been consulting widely on assessment and institutional effectiveness.

For more information, please contact the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment at ext. 2333 or ext. 2737.

Research Note

On March 11, 2008 Dr. Donna Chirico (Department of Behavioral Sciences) will present “Transcendent Imagination as an Agent of Change Among Italian American Women,” a paper on the educational attainment of Italian American women at a day-long symposium on contemporary Italian American youth. The event will be held at Stony Brook University.



Science faculty and staff at Holiday celebration

Occupational Therapy Department Colloquium

**March 6, 2008 – 3:30-6:30 pm
Faculty Dining Room**

The Occupational Therapy Department announces its second Research Colloquium. This year, Dr. John J. Fox, director of the Neuroscience Program in the Departments of Psychology and Biology at City College, will be presenting his research on sensory integration.

Faculty and students are all invited. Please join us for this stimulating presentation. Brochures with more information are available in 1E12.

Special Feature: Education Outside the Walls

A Call for Proposals

Academic Affairs Update would like to feature examples of how student learning extends beyond the boundaries of York. Are you and your students currently involved in activities outside the classroom that enhance the achievement of course learning objectives and connect course content to things and events in the community, city, or beyond? Have you taken learning outside the classroom during the Fall 2007 semester? Please share your activities with us for possible inclusion in a special issue of *Academic Affairs Update*. If your idea is accepted, we will ask you to prepare an article, written by you and/or your students, of approximately 800 words, including at least one photograph.

Proposal Due Date: March 15, 2008

Your Name _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Course Name _____

Write a description of your activity and how it extends and builds upon student learning in your course. If the activity is planned for the current semester, please include information on the projected date(s) of the activity. (300 words or less). Please email your proposal to: AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu.

Social Work Program Events

February 21, 2008 Field Instructor Orientation Meeting, 9:30 am- 11:30 am

This meeting is to welcome and provide an overview of expectations and policies regarding field education to all new Field Instructors to the Social Work Program.

February 26, 2008 Student Orientation Meeting (for students accepted into the Social Work Program, 5:00-6:00 pm)

February 27, 2008 ACS Child Welfare Scholarship Information Session, 5-6 pm

An informational meeting open to students from undergraduate Social Work Programs in the NYC area who wish to apply for up to a \$10,000 scholarship, carry out their senior-level field placement at the NYC Administration for Children's Services, and work in the field of public child welfare. Any student interested in applying must attend this meeting to obtain an application.

For more information please contact Susan Letteney at x 2614 or letteney@york.cuny.edu



Participants at the recent Provost Leadership Retreat



York's volleyball player Renee Thompson

Curriculum Committee

Meetings Notice

The York College Curriculum Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month during club hours. Spring 2008 meetings will take place on February 5, March 4, April 1 and May 6, 2008, Noon–2:00 pm, Room 2M05.

Laura Fishman
Associate Professor of History
Chair, Curriculum Committee



President Keizs and Dean Meleties
with students



Report from the Writing Intensive Advisory Committee

by Timothy Amrhein, Michael J. Cripps, Andrea Krauss, Susan Letteney, and Louis Levinger

New in Fall 2007, an interdisciplinary Writing Intensive (WI) Advisory Committee assumed responsibility for reviewing proposals for WI courses. As the members of the WI Advisory Committee, we review WI course proposals, communicate with instructors proposing WI courses, and make WI course approval recommendations to the Course Coordinating Committee. Our primary role is to ensure that the WI review process is fair, rigorous, and legitimate. At the same time, we hope to stimulate helpful conversations about the role of writing in learning.

As we look forward to Fall 2008, we want to remind our colleagues that the committee requires a complete, electronically submitted proposal that includes the proposal form (<http://york.cuny.edu/wac/faculty/wi-proposal>), a draft syllabus, and a one-page (maximum) statement describing the role of writing in the course. We encourage you to contact any of us to discuss our work, a possible WI course proposal, or any aspect of WAC.

Department Chairs identified possible WI courses for Fall 2008 back in May 2007. These lists may have changed significantly since that time, and we are working with Chairs to get updated lists of courses. There is still plenty of time to propose new WI courses, and student feedback suggests that we would do well to offer more WI courses in the lower-division. Any faculty member wishing to teach WI courses in Fall 2008 should prepare a proposal in consultation with his or her Chair. Permanently Designated WI courses are not governed by this process and need not be proposed to WAC in order to run as WI.

Important Dates for Proposing Fall 2008 WI Courses

Friday, February 22, 2008 – Complete WI proposals due (Form available at <http://york.cuny.edu/wac/faculty/wi-proposal>)

Monday, March 10, 2008 – Initial approval/feedback/requests for revisions of WI Proposals

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 – Deadline for clarifications/revisions to proposal, if applicable



The deadline for submissions to the March issue of Academic Affairs Update is February 22, 2008.

All items should be submitted via email to:
AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu

<http://york.cuny.edu/academics>

Academic Affairs Update
is published by the
Office of the Provost

York College

Office of the Provost

94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd., AC-2H07

Jamaica, NY 11451

Phone: 718-262-2780

Fax: 718 262-2786

Email: AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu