

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

YORK College

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SEPTEMBER 2014

York Approved for Start-Up NY



Governor Andrew Cuomo

It was an exciting summer for York College. During the break, the College received great news on two fronts. First, the Empire State Development approved the College's Start-Up NY Campus Plan, which enables businesses to now apply to New York State to participate in Start-Up NY, and, if accepted, to apply to York

College to participate in the College's Campus Plan.

The College was also excited to learn that it has been selected to participate in Governor Andrew Cuomo's first round of the NY-CUNY 2020 Challenge Program, a \$55 million initiative. York College will be a partner with Queensborough Community College, Queens College, the School of Professional Studies, and CUNY Law School in a \$10 million grant to establish a teaching clinic in Northern Queens. That program will provide jobs and healthcare

services to the community.

According to the Office of Governor Cuomo, over a three-year period, nearly 700 graduates of healthcare programs from the partner institutions will find employment as a result of this initiative. Start-Up NY will also bring additional economic benefits to the Greater Jamaica community.

As part of the Start-Up NY initiative, York College's campus will bolster a growing economic hub where businesses can establish their companies as tax-free

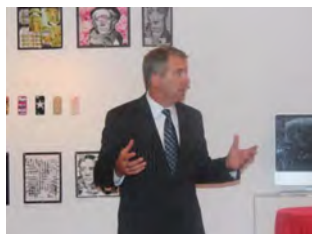
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New CUNY Chancellor Visits York

CUNY Chancellor James "J.B." Milliken saved York for ninth on the system-wide tour of his new domain of 24 campuses, and loved it. Arriving at York on the morning of July 22, the Chancellor, his wife,



Chancellor Milliken addressing York students during his campus visit

Nana Smith and Chief of Staff, Doris Suarez, spent time meeting with the constituencies of York – administrators, faculty and students. As a new chancellor the tour has been more about

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Special points of interest:

- **Human Resource Management chapter launched**
- **New Faculty profiles**
- **Student Research & Awards**
- **Provost Lectures**



Dr. Linda Gerena

“Here in the States we’re passing laws to outlaw bilingualism .. and keep foreign languages out of our schools ... when the rest of the world really is embracing this. I think it's a loss for us ... Language is a resource, not a problem.” Dr. Gerena made these remarks recently during her Provost Lecture. Her lecture shared her experiences living and working in Spain – a country that is striving to take bilingual education much more seriously.

In the spring of 2012, Dr. Gerena went to Spain on a Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research on the bilingual education system developing there. “The Fulbright was a lifetime dream to be able to take part in,” Dr. Gerena began. She dedicated her presentation to her dad, who passed away while she was in Spain. May 1 would have been his birthday. Spain has other institutions that make the widespread institution of bilingualism more achievable. Dr. Gerena pointed out that all school in Spain is paid for with taxes, including nursery school,

from birth to age 3, and preschool, from age 3 to 6. Primary school, from age 6, is compulsory, as is secondary education, up to 10th grade. University is free for citizens of the European Union.

Dr. Gerena explained how, in 2005, the European Council made policy that European Union member countries must encourage fluency in at least 2 other languages aside from the home language. The Spanish ministry of education thus teamed up with the British Council to implement the policy with regard to education in English. Spain began an immersion program for a select few schools –mostly more affluent ones. Many other schools have since joined the program. In 2007 there were about 250 bilingual schools in Madrid.

Spain’s goal is that by 2015, 100% of nursery schools will be bilingual, as well as 50% of primary schools and 30% of its high schools. Spain is currently seeking 3,000 bilingual teachers, including language assistants – who are paid about 1,000 Eu-

ros a month (approximately US\$ 1,360).

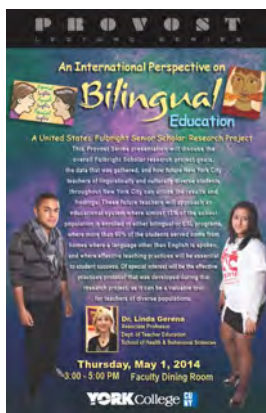
Dr. Gerena had three focal research questions for her Fulbright project:

(1) What are the perceptions of the teachers, language assistants and students: What are their opinions, beliefs and attitudes about the bilingual program?

(2) What effective practices would she see? Would they be standardized across schools?

(3) Of this data, how could she and her colleagues use it to promote bilingual education in Spain and in the U.S.? The goal was to promote “additive bilingualism” – adding a second language while holding on to the first.

Dr. Gerena and her colleague interviewed teachers and language assistants, while asking students to do a reflective journal. 22 teachers took part, as well as 80 secondary students and 53 language assistants. They visited 27 classrooms (16 primary and 11 secondary), spending about 3 hours total in each place. They also conducted face-to-face interviews with 13



Student Chapter of Society for Human Resource Management Launched



York's Human Resource Management program is now in the big leagues. Students in the major recently launched the York College Student Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (York SHRM) and were inducted during a chartering and induction ceremony on campus.

The event, which saw the induction of the executive team by Jeanne Marrin, director, New York State SHRM, was a seminal moment for York and this important major in the School of Business and Information Systems.

"We now have a Society of Human Resource Management student chapter here at York College," said chapter president, Brandon Breary. "It is with great pleasure that the Human Resource Club and its leaders share this very memorable and vital experience with the York College community as this initiative will continually improve the institution and enhance the learning process of Human Resource Management students."

But Breary added that

contrary to its name, the chapter aims to serve more than students in the Human Resources Management program.

"We envision this chapter being useful not only to students majoring in Human Resource Management," said Breary, "but also to other students majoring in disciplines such as Accounting, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Psychology and International Business as these majors and their principles are utilized within the field of human resources and provide opportunities for these majors to demonstrate leadership and commitment."

According to the students, the chapter's aim will be to support students on their professional path by providing leadership opportunities, establish and support standards of excellence in human resource management and develop contacts in the field.

Dr. Alfred Ntoko, former dean of the School of Business and Information Systems was delighted with this important development in his school.

"This is a good

thing," said Ntoko. "I thank Dr. Massimino and the rest of the team. It's important when you are in the business school to be part of professional organizations to give you proximity to what's going on in the field. This is a first step. Now we have the affiliation on campus, but you must do the heavy lifting, York Chapter. You must compete and bring back the trophies. We will support you to go to conferences to raise the flag for York College. It is an important thing to be part of this type of organization."

Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, acting provost, is also pleased with this development.

"This new honor society chapter in the college will help you to grow," said Meleties.

Dr. Olajide Oladipo, chair of the Department of Business and Finance was also encouraging.

"Be active members," he admonished. "Don't just have your name as a member. You have to invest time and effort to keep it oiled. We have funding for Study Abroad and Study Away [programs]."



L - r: Jeanne Marrin (Director, New York State SHRM), and student members Brandon Breary, Razika



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

Nelson Mandela

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Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



2014-15 Theme: Supporting Learning Outcomes Across Curricula

Thursday, Oct. 9	Presentation:	Assessment in the Classroom: Suggestions from Middle States 12 – 1:45 pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Presenter:	Bernadette Amicucci, Health Professions
Thursday, Oct. 16	Panel:	Rereading Across the Curriculum 12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Panelists:	Eric Metcalf, Performing and Fine Arts and Faculty Members from each of the Schools
Friday, Oct. 31	Symposium:	York College Symposium on Teaching and Learning with Technology 2014 10am–2pm TBA
	Organizers:	Co-sponsored by Academic Computing and Educational Technology (ACET) & the CETL



York Faculty Updates



- **Basdeo Mangru**, (Assoc. Professor, Dept. of History & Philosophy, School of Arts & Sciences), published a new book (edited). *Colonial Emigration from the Bengal Presidency*. London: Hansib Publications Ltd., 2014.
- **Gerri Chanel**, (Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Accounting & Finance, School of Business & Information Systems), published her new book *Saving Mona Lisa: The Battle to Protect the Louvre and its Treasures During World War II*, Poughkeepsie (NY), Heliopa Press 2014.
- **Selena T. Rodgers**, (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Social Work, School of Health & Professional Programs), “Posttraumatic Growth,” in: *Encyclopedia of Social Work Online (ESWO)*, May 2014, p.1-19.
- **Girija S. Dubey**, (Adjunct Asst. Professor, Dept. of Earth & Physical Sciences, School of Arts & Sciences), (with Pooja Rani and V.K. Jindal), “DFT study of optical properties of pure and doped graphene,” in: *Physica E*, 62, pp.28-35.
- **Emmanuel J. Chang** (et al.), (Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Chemistry, School of Arts & Sciences), “A Cell-Intrinsic Inhibitor of HIV-1 Reverse Transcription in CD4+ T Cells from Elite Controllers,” in: *Cell Host & Microbe*, Vol.15:6 (June 2014), pp.717-728.
- **Michael O. Sharpe**, (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Behavioral Sciences, School of Arts & Sciences), “Race, Color, and Nationalism in Aruban and Curaçaoan Political Identities,” in: Essed, Philomena and Isabel Hoving (eds.), *Dutch Racism*, The Netherlands: Rodopi 2014, pp. 117-131.

Welcoming our New Faculty Colleagues (Pt.1)

In Fall 2014 a cohort of new faculty across several disciplines and departments will begin their work as teachers and researchers at York College. We are proud of the new colleagues joining us and are happy to introduce them (in no particular order) in the following pages of the newsletter. In the next newsletter issue, we will list the remaining members of the new cohort.

Andrea Silva

Dr. Andie Silva is an Assistant Professor of British Studies in the Department of English. Her research seeks to analyze the marketing strategies that publishers, booksellers, printers, and translators used to define their niche markets and to attract new and returning readers.

Her work explores how these sixteenth- and seventeenth century “print agents” utilized

paratextual materials like prefaces, dedications, title-pages, indexes, and illustrations to advertise new genres, promote cultural capital, and corral unique reading publics. Her research interests include History of the Book, New Bibliography, and Digital Humanities.

Dr. Silva has presented at various national and international conferences, including the

Shakespeare Association of America and the Renaissance Society of America, and is looking forward to contributing to Digital Humanities initiatives at York. She is currently working on a database, Printed Paratexts Online, that will catalogue paratextual materials authored and designed by early modern print agents.



Dr. Andrea Silva

Carlos Sandoval De Leon

Professor Carlos Sandoval De Leon is a contemporary artist. He currently lives and works in New York City.

Sandoval De Leon explores political, social, and personal narratives through sculpture, photography and site-specific installations. While Sandoval De Leon’s work has been described previously as a process of embedding personal narratives and feelings into material objects he seems just as

interested, if not more so, in the richness of the histories embedded in the materials themselves. During his last solo show in spring 2014 he explored closely the idea that materials exist in tandem with discourses and how they participate with and in.

He received a B.F.A from The Art Institute of Chicago in 1999 and later received an M.F.A. from Columbia University in 2008. Sandoval De Leon has exhibited both

nationally and internationally. He was included in the 2011 Biennale at El Museo del Barrio in New York and Younger then Jesus exhibition at the New Museum in New York. He has also exhibited at Sikkema Jenkins & Co and Artist Space in New York, and Artspace in San Antonio, Texas.

Professor Sandoval De Leon joins the Department of Performing and Fine Arts as an Assistant Professor.



Prof. Carlos Sandoval De Leon



Dr. Louis M.T. Bradbury

Louis Bradbury

Dr. Bradbury uses comparative genomics and biochemistry to determine the function of 'unknown' proteins. His current research is focused on the discovery and characterization of enzymes involved in the repair of chemically

damaged metabolites, specifically of carotenoids and apocarotenoids. This work has significant relevance to aging and age-related diseases, such as macular degeneration and cancer.

Previous work in-

involved characterizing an enzyme that repairs S-adenosylmethionine, identifying an enzyme involved in preventing damage to b-carotene (pro-vitamin A) and identification of the gene for fragrance in jasmine and basmati rice.

Fenio Annansingh-Jamieson



Dr. Fenio Annansingh-Jamieson

Dr. Fenio Annansingh-Jamieson holds a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Information Systems and a Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (PGCHE) from the University of Sheffield (UK). Until recently she was a Lecturer in Knowledge and Information Management with Plymouth Business School at the University of Plymouth (UK). During this time she taught and supervised

both Ph.D. and MBA students. Prior to that, Dr. Annansingh-Jamieson worked at the University of Sheffield as a Researcher and Teaching Assistant.

For more than a decade, Dr. Annansingh-Jamieson has been conducting research in Information Systems and Education. Her main area of research is Information Systems (IS) in two collateral areas, namely: Information Management and

Knowledge Management. Her research interest includes: Knowledge Leakage, Risk Identification and Analysis, Mobile Technologies and IS in Small and Medium Size Enterprises. Dr. Annansingh-Jamieson has several publications and professional papers with a number of affiliates.

She will join the Department of Business and Economics as an Assistant Professor.

Maki Hajikano



Prof. Maki Hajikano

Maki Hajikano received MFA degree in sculpture from the University of Oregon and taught at Stephen F. Austin State University for 9 years.

She was awarded a residency program at the Pilchuck Glass School

where she began using glass in her work. In addition, she has been awarded residencies at the Bemis Contemporary Arts, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, and also received Pollock Krasner Foundation grant.

She frequently exhibits her work in the U.S.A and Asia.

Professor Hajikano joins the Department of Performing and Fine Arts as an Associate Professor.

Lesley Emtage

Dr. Emtage's work has focused on cellular processes in neurons, the cells that make up the nervous system. Her current research focuses on identifying and characterizing factors that influence neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's.

Interest in the development and function of neurons has been the unifying theme of Dr. Emtage's career: her

doctoral research (Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons) focused on neurons that sense touch and other mechanical stimuli in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. After finishing her Ph.D., she investigated cellular responses to habituation, a form of non-associative learning, at Rutgers University, and then worked on the development of a novel assay to assess changes in the excitability of neurons in re-

sponse to neuropeptide signals, also in *C. elegans* at New York University's Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine.

In addition to research, I have taught a number of different subjects within the Biological Sciences, including Human Genetics, Cell Biology, and Introductory Biology.

Dr. Emtage joins the Department of Biology as an Assistant Professor.



Dr. Lesley Emtage



Matthew Garley

Matt Garley joins the Department of English as an Assistant Professor.

Dr. Garley graduated with a Ph.D. in Linguistics in August 2012 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign after receiving an M.A. in Linguistics from the same institution in 2008 and a B.A. in Government and Foreign Languages (German) from New Mexico State University in his hometown of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

After completing his

Ph.D., he went on to a six-month research fellowship at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS) in Freiburg, Germany, and most recently taught a range of courses on language and culture as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Murray State University in Murray, KY.

Dr. Garley's investigates questions about language change by analyzing large collections of natural language data.

He is an avid hip hop fan and scholar, and has

previously conducted extensive research on the influence of English in the German hip hop scene. Most recently, he has started a research project on the use of English-Spanish code-switching in Latino hip hop culture. Dr. Garley is excited about starting at York College, and is especially looking forward to getting to know and sharing ideas and perspectives on language with students and faculty.



Dr. Matthew Garley



Dr. Trace Schillinger

Trace Schillinger

Dr. Trace Schillinger formerly worked as a secondary Humanities educator and the Humanities Coordinator at Poughkeepsie Day School in New York's Hudson Valley. She also taught in the Secondary Education Department at SUNY New Paltz, where she continues to serve as a Returning Fellow and Teacher

Consultant for the Hudson Valley Writing Project.

Dr. Schillinger earned her doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University, and she has published articles about teaching poetry in the secondary classroom, integrating technology in the English classroom, and the use of imaginative writ-

ing in the history classroom. Her book, *Entering the Conversations: Practicing Literacy in the Disciplines*, written with Patti and Andrew Stock and published by NCTE came out in August 2014.

Dr. Schillinger joins the Department of Teacher Education as a Clinical Professor.

Nicholas Fraser

Nicholas Fraser creates text based work in a variety of media, including installation, performance, sculpture and video. Often site specific and drawing from the history or day to day occurrences of the location, he adapts a variety of voices and sources for each text: factual, poetic or mundane. He is currently working on *Fronts*, amassing a video lexicon from thousands of signs on urban storefronts (1800+ to date). From this resource (vimeo.com/channels/fronts), a series of single and multi-channel videos and video installations will be created, using the live-action signage to create larger scrolling texts filled with

bustling street activity.

His most recent projects include *Ground Rules*, a performance/installation in Nizhny Tagil, Russia, as artist in residence for the 2nd Ural Biennale and new public installations for the Art Prospect Festival in St. Petersburg. He has completed residencies at Skowhegan, Sculpture Space and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Swing-Space on Governors Island and was a BRIC Media Fellow in 2012.

His work has been featured at the Drawing Center, Interstate Projects, Jack the Pelican Gallery, La Mama La Galeria, Taller Boricua, the Flux Factory, Art in Odd Places, and the

Bronx Art Space (all NYC), as well as the Brain Factory (Seoul) and Eyedrum Gallery (Atlanta). His video work was included in PixelPops in Paris, the Camagüey Festival of Video Art in Camagüey, Cuba, Videophagy/Videofagia at Function13 & Hotshot Gallery in Toronto and in the Giguk Video Art Festival in Gießen, Germany.

He earned an MFA at the School of Visual Art in 2008 and a BFA at the Atlanta College of Art in 1995. Mr. Fraser joins the Department of Performing and Fine Arts as a College Laboratory Technician.



Mr. Nicholas Fraser

Lloyd Amaghionyeodiwe

Dr. Lloyd Amaghionyeodiwe is an Assistant Professor in the Accounting and Finance Department in the School of Business and Information Systems. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and has worked as a lecturer, researcher, analyst, economist and consultant in various institutions for more than fifteen years.

Dr. Amaghionyeodiwe who holds Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Ibadan served

as a Senior Consultant at the Economic Analytics Group LLC, Mclean VA, USA. He has worked as a professor in Nigeria, The University of the West Indies (Mona, Jamaica), as well as in Prince Georges Community College and Strayer University.

He has served as a reviewer for many journals and has a good research record with many publications to his credit. His research activities have taken him to several international conferences, workshop and seminars. His re-

search interests include Business Finance, Microfinance, Small Business Management & Information Technology, Public Finance and Health Economics. He is a member of the following professional bodies: American Economic Association (AEA), Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), Project Management Institute (PMI), African Finance and Economics Association (AFEA) and the Nigerian Economic Society (NES).



Dr. Lloyd Amaghionyeodiwe

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teachers and 15 language assistants.

While they were impressed with some aspects of the pedagogy (e.g. vocabulary development, lack of shyness encouraged in students, and the way language assistants acted like cultural ambassadors of English), they noted that there was very little higher order thinking and student-to-student interaction. The focus was often on rote learning, copying, and filling in blanks. While there were rigorous requirements for reading and writing, Dr. Gerena described instruction in speaking as “the Achil-

les heel of it all.” She noted that instructors often avoided peer-to-peer interaction in English out of a concern about “chaos in the classroom.”

Among the things that Dr. Gerena felt would be necessary to achieve to be more effective were:

(1) A professional development plan for bilingual teachers and language assistants

(2) Bringing into the pedagogy 10 effective practices her talk identified (e.g. greater student-centeredness of instruction)

(3) Incorporating what Dr. Gerena called a

“Plan-Do-Check-Act” model of evaluating teaching practices, in which they plan to make specific effectiveness-oriented changes to teaching practice, work to implement those changes, seek feedback on whether these changes have been perceived by students and others, and acting to improve their approach based on the feedback.

Dr. Gerena knows that these processes of change will not come easily or instantly. “I think it's going to take at least 20 years,” she said.

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

“I prefer to be true to myself, even at the hazard of incurring the ridicule of others, rather than to be false, and to incur my own abhorrence.”

- Frederick Douglass



Dr. Phoebe Massimino, advisor to YorkSHRM

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President Marcia V. Keizs congratulated the students as well.

“This is a real breakthrough for the program, said President Keizs. “Congratulations, students for leading this effort. I am really delighted. This will grow to all of our benefits.”

According to the SHRM website, the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) was founded in 1948 and is the world’s largest H/R membership organization devoted to human resource management, representing more than

275,000 members in over 160 countries.

“Having a SHRM student chapter at York College enhances our Business Administration/ Human Resources academic program by enabling students to attend professional conferences and other events, and provides access to networking opportunities for our students with Human Resource Professionals,” said Dr. Phoebe Massimino, an HR professor and faculty advisor to

YorkSHRM. “SHRM’s job board listing, updates regarding employment legislation, educational materials such as studies and publications that focus on Human Resource management, and potential guest speakers for York College student chapter events [will benefit our students].” Students also gain valuable skills by taking leadership roles in managing the chapter, and coordinating events for our students.”



The Chancellor during his meeting with members of the faculty

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listening than about speaking. Dr. Milliken expressed delight in York’s campus, which prompted English Professor Theresa Rooney to mention York’s proposed Academic Village and Conference Center (AVCC) as needing CUNY support, Milliken responded that York is not alone in this need.

“Most of the campuses have space challenges and we (as a university) need to do a better job of articulating our message to policy makers,” said Milliken. “We need to be open about what our needs are.”

Milliken added that CUNY will explore phi-



Upon his arrival at York the Chancellor happened to meet one of York’s faculty members, Dr. Emmanuel Chang (r.), at curbside. President Keizs (ctr.) making the introductions.

lanthropy for support of educational objectives but also as a means of funding capital projects such as the AVCC.

Following the meetings, which concluded in the College’s Art Gallery, Chancellor Milliken and his guests paused to

enjoy live jazz in the cafeteria with the York College Summer Jazz Program students under the direction of Dr. Tom Zlabinger. There was one final stop before leaving York: a requisite tour of the Nursing Department’s state-of-the-art Simulation Labs, complete with life-sized patient mannequins.

As the direct successor to Dr. Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor Milliken has hit the ground running by assessing the university’s collateral, both physical and intellectual and left with a positive impression of York.



VP Ron Thomas provided a campus tour to the Chancellor

Remembering Clarence L. Irving, Sr., 1924-2014

On Monday, June 2, York College held a memorial tribute in the Little Theater of the Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center to Clarence L. Irving, Sr., who passed away at age 89 on March 23. A longtime friend and supporter of the College, Mr. Irving was the Founder and Chairman of the Black American Heritage Foundation. In March 1989 he and then president Bassin agreed to establish a music history archive at York College to preserve the legacy of the Black American musical artists and composers who have lived and continue to live in Southeast Queens.

Currently housed in the York College Library, this archive will be expanded and in the future occupy a prominent place in the York

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entities for up to 10 years. Start-Up NY will expose York College students to innovative emerging businesses, internships, entrepreneurship, job opportunities, subject matter experts, and new technology. Faculty in relevant fields may also find collaborative opportunities

College Academic Village and Conference Center.

The program, which was organized by Dr. Howard Ruttenberg and moderated by Dr. Robert Parmet, featured numerous speakers. Following a tribute by Dr. Parmet, Vice President for Administrative Affairs Ronald Thomas spoke of Mr. Irving's relationship to the College. A slide presentation of forty images of scenes from Mr. Irving's life and work then followed, narrated by Ms. Lillie B. Crowder, Dr. Parmet, Judge Alton Waldon, and Mr. Walter Edge. Judge Waldon and Mr. Edge were members of the Bisons, a Brooklyn Kiwanis League team that Mr. Irving led to the New York State Kiwanis Senior Division Championship in 1955. Mr. Jonathan Quash per-

formed the Bisons Athletic Club Theme Song composed by Ms. Crowder, who later performed a piano rendition of a song she had written expressly for Clarence.

Numerous personal tributes followed. Among Mr. Irving's family and friends who spoke were his niece, Selidia Juniis Johnson, daughter, Carole Roney, Jacqueline McMickens, Esq., Halcyone Thomas, Councilwoman Valerie Cartright, Velma Banks, Olivia Banks, Rabia Aziz, Moira Jack, Al Rankins, Roger Faison, Brian Adams, Allyson Quammie, Roy Fox, and Bisons Walter Edge, Fred Wilpon, and Judge Waldon. York College faculty offering tributes included Professors Lindamichelle Baron, Margaret Vendryes, and George White, Jr. Pro-

Quash per-

formed the Bisons Athletic Club Theme Song composed by Ms. Crowder, who later performed a piano rendition of a song she had written expressly for Clarence.

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more hands-on learning opportunities."

Start-Up NY was established by Governor Andrew Cuomo to create tax-free communities for new and expanding businesses on public and private college campuses throughout the state.



Clarence L. Irving, Sr.
(Picture by Robert Parmet)



Provost Lecture Series

Religion and Politics through the Lens of Social and Political Psychology



Dr. Ian Hansen

Earlier in the Spring semester Dr. Ian Hansen spoke to a packed audience, including several dozen students. His lecture focused on religion and politics through the lens of social and political psychology. Dr. Hansen opened with a quote from WS Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan showing the absurdity of the dichotomy of liberalism and conservatism, as well as negative popular views of both religion and atheism, bringing into focus the common perspective people often have of themselves as superior to others without allowing themselves to learn from others.

Dr. Hansen challenged the audience with the “big questions” that we as people face, such as “Does being religious make you better, or does abandoning religion make you better?” This question is

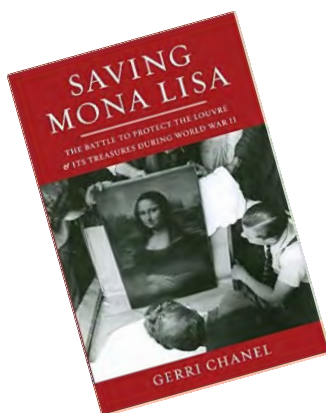
difficult because people often do not know what “Religion” is and what is “better” means.

To illustrate, Dr. Hansen gave examples of Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu and atheist communities all doing good, and bad. He then drew the connection to political identity, which operates on a similarly slippery slope, giving examples of the far-right Tea Party – which emphasizes liberty and constitutionalism, yet embraced the Patriot Act that limits personal freedom – as well as liberal American administrations that perpetrated the use of drone killings around the world.

The main thesis that Dr. Hansen presented was an assault on the common interpretation that religion and political conservatism, and similarly atheism and political liberalism, are ideologies linked

at their core. Instead he presented alternative scales (rather than liberal vs. conservative, and religious vs. atheist) to describe the political spectrum, and how those scales can be linked to fundamental religious characteristics. He presented five

Dr. Hansen concluded that the one-dimensional liberal/atheist vs conservative/religious model not only fails, but distorts the natural arrangement of values. In many cases religion can result in tolerance rather than social exclusivity, as opposed to the prevailing view. For one example, Benjamin Franklin proposed that rebellion against tyrants (a liberal concept) is obedience to God (a religious one). Religion, it turns out, does not make one conservative, but nevertheless tends to make one right.



Congratulations !

Dr. Gerri Chanel, (Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Accounting & Finance, School of Arts & Sciences), recently published her new book *Saving Mona Lisa: The Battle to Protect the Louvre and its Treasures During World War II*, Poughkeepsie (NY): Heliopa Press 2014.

Harvard MLE Institute Reflections

by Holger Henke, Ph.D.

The month of June saw splendid weather in Boston and Harvard's Graduate School of Education hosted a splendidly organized and executed Institute for Management and Leadership in Education (MLE). The annual professional development event was a superb opportunity to take a few moments to reflect with the help of theory, research-driven lectures and conversations, and practical exercises on what we do on a daily basis as we work at a university or college – teaching, researching, and managing and leading the administrative aspects of the venture called higher education. What are the foundations of our vision, imagination, organizational skills and how can administrators self-consciously understand and enhance these?

There are of course always a few who will cynically opine that administrators don't have a clue or are not of great relevance in the scheme of higher education and that "it" all just happens in the classroom, the "field", the library, or the laboratory. However, this is of course not so, and with more intense assessment and federal and state

regulation, tightening accreditation standards, as well as close scrutiny of the tax- and tuition-paying public, college administration and leadership actually becomes more and more a critical function for institutional and student success.

The Harvard MLE provides a space where enthusiastic, accidental, and more reluctant administrators get an opportunity to reflect on current issues in higher education, and develop tools to better cope with those and actually become leaders in their respective areas. I consider myself fortunate to have been able to participate in MLE and learn from and with various higher education thought-leaders, practitioners, and fellow administrators from around the nation, as well as countries such as Australia, Canada, Denmark, India, and New Zealand.

This year's two-week program offered numerous lectures, conversations, workshops, and opportunities for formal and informal conversations pertaining to issues such as understanding different dimensions of leadership, collaboration in groups, college budgets and financial sustainability, strategic planning and

development, diversity issues, internationalization, and the emergence of new formats and institutions of learning. The various sessions were steered by distinguished Harvard faculty such as Robert Kegan (MLE director), Bridget Terry Long, James Honan, Daniel Wilson and Justin Reich, and equally accomplished "adjunct" faculty such as Lee Bolman (University of Missouri), Kent Chabotar (President, Guilford College), Carlos Cortés (Univ. of California), Judy Jackson (University of Kentucky), Tamar March (Arden Seminars), and Laura Palmer Noone (President emeritus, Univ. of Phoenix).

Focused plenary conversations with two very successful college presidents – Lawrence Bacow (President emeritus, Tufts University) and the charismatic and visionary Freeman Hrabowski (President, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, who was accompanied by his VP for Institutional Advancement, Gregory Simmons) – rounded out the intense program by giving MLE participants an opportunity to apply and probe some of the knowledge



Asst. Provost Henke (2nd from left) and fellow members at this year's MLE Institute



MLE members during a break

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gained in the lecture and workshop sessions. Dr. Hrabowski – like the previous CUNY Chancellor, a mathematician – coined one of the most memorable blunt phrases issued during this year's MLE, when he unapologetically stated with regard to underserved and minority students such as those served by his Baltimore-based institution: "We don't know how to deal with America's geniuses. That's why we're ending being a**holes."

Almost each session was guided by extensive reading that had to be prepared in advance. The

multiple sessions led by Robert Kegan required reading in his (and Lisa Lahey's) book *Immunity to Change* and Lee Bolman's lectures were to be prepared by covering his book (with Joan V. Gallos) *Reframing Academic Leadership*. Numerous themed lunchgroups, social gatherings, a harbor cruise, and a last-night New England Clambake allowed participants to exchange experiences and network among themselves. Social networking was also encouraged by exercises that extend beyond the Institute itself.

The fact that the Insti-

tute was accompanied by two weeks of sunshine only helped to cement and positively reinforce the lessons of this transformational professional development opportunity. I have no hesitation recommending the MLE to colleagues who embrace the pursuit of academic leadership and seek ways to improve their managerial sensitivities and leadership skills in an environment of supportive colleagues and guided by nationally-acclaimed scholars, practitioners, and thought-leaders.



Congratulations !

Dr. Basdeo Mangru (Assoc. Professor, Dept. of History & Philosophy, School of Arts & Sciences), recently published his edited book *Colonial Emigration from the Bengal Presidency* (London: Hansib Publications Ltd., 2014.)

cont.'d from p.11

essor Emerita Laura Fishman sent a statement, which was read aloud. Other tributes that were likewise read were from Drs. Dolores Sandoval and Barbara McCloud, Glennette Tilley Turner, Tommy Davis, William

White, and Flora Jones.

Jonathan Quash and Mr. Mark Adams provided an additional musical interlude and closing selection. Finally, Dr. Parmet noted that guests could remember Clarence Irving by sending a dona-

tion to the York College Development Department payable to the York College Foundation with a notation directing it to the Black American Heritage Music History Archive.

Highlights from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Workshop

Creating and selecting assessment tools was the focus of a workshop sponsored by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education on May 9, 2014 in Philadelphia. Assessment strategies that help to answer the question “Is the institution fulfilling its mission and achieving its goals?” were presented by Dr. Jodi Levine-Laufgraben, the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, Assessment and Institutional Research at

Temple University. Dr. Bernadette Amicucci, Associate Professor of Nursing, attended the workshop on behalf of York College.

Specific strategies were provided that faculty could use to gather evidence that assessment is being conducted in each classroom and in each course. The use of rubrics for evaluation was a primary method of assessment presented. The goal of the workshop was to empower

faculty with assessment techniques and strategies that can be used to better evaluate achievement of student learning outcomes and prepare for Standard 14 in the Middle States Standards for accreditation.

In order to disseminate the information provided, Dr. Amicucci will be presenting a summary of the workshop at an upcoming CETL presentation in Fall 2014.



Physician Assistant Alumnus wins Award

Mr. Abdul Abdur-Rahman, Physician Assistants class of 2008 – just received the *Damon Argento Physician Assistant Education Award*. The award is given by the Hospital for

Special Surgery once a year to a PA who demonstrates excellence in leadership, patient care, and mentoring of other PAs.

Mr. Rahman said about the award,

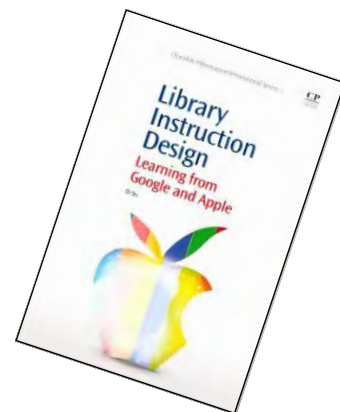
“Everyday I’m proud to have come from the York PA program – one that instilled great work habits and motivation for continued excellence.”



Abdul Abdur-Rahman

Congratulations !

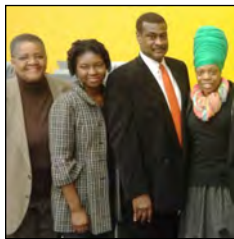
Professor Di Su’s (Associate Professor, Library) book *Library Instruction Design: Learning from Google and Apple* was recently published by Chandos. In it, Professor Su - who is Coordinator of the Library’s Information Literacy program - explains how library instruction programs can benefit from adopting philosophies from the two IT powerhouses.



Global Social Work is on the move ...



Dr. Rodgers presenting at Joint World Conference in Melbourne



Posing at the United Nations: Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, Dr. Angelo McClain (National Association of Social Workers Chief Executive Officer), and YC social work students

On July 11, 2014, Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, Fulbright Specialist and assistant professor in the Department of Social Work, presented her paper titled, “Fulbright Specialist’s Report on revising social work education in Europe’s most impoverished country: Global perspectives, post-Soviet pedagogies, curriculum development” at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development: Promoting Social and Economic Equity, held in Melbourne – originally called Kulin Nation by Aborigines of Australia.

According to the Organizing Committee, 1,500 social work and social development practitioners, researchers, educators and consumers from the international

community attended the conference.

Another significant reason for Dr. Rodgers’ travel to Australia in July 2014 was to attend the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) General Assembly and IASSW North America and Caribbean Regional meeting, held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. As an individual member of IASSW and International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), Dr. Rodgers and other members exercised their vote at these historical meetings which approved the Global Definition of Social Work. To read the approved definition, please visit: <http://ifsw.org/get-involved/global-definition-of-social-work/>

Dr. Rodgers’ work on

Global Social Work situates well with experiential learning opportunities for York College students.

On April 28, 2014, Professor Rodgers and students who were enrolled in her Introduction to Social Work and Social Research II classes attended the 31st Annual Social Work Day at the United Nations. Students enthusiastically shared their experiences about the 2014 conference theme, Social Work Practice and Education: Voices on the Post-2015 Development Agenda with classmates. Rodgers affirms that she will continue to provide students with innovative learning opportunities and sustainable knowledge that will help contribute to communities locally, nationally, and globally.

York Students at 3rd Annual Westchester Undergraduate Research Conference

Mercy College recently hosted the 3rd Annual Westchester Undergraduate Research Conference, sponsored by Manhattanville College and Mercy College, and York College Geology and Environmental Health Science

students were in the mix. The event showcased the outstanding original research and service learning projects that undergraduates from two- and four-year colleges undertook under the direction and mentorship of dedi-

cated faculty members. The conference opened up with guest-speaker Dr. Stephanie Le Melle, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University, who provided insight about proper ca-

cont.’d on p.17

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reer planning and how being adequately prepared for one's career can open up the right doors.

Her address was followed by a poster presentation by students from several two- and four-year colleges who have been conducting research in the Natural Sciences. The level of research displayed in this session was remarkable. It was interesting to see young people working on research aimed at improving health and finding cures for diseases. The poster presentation was followed by panel presentations which covered topics in Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Behavioral Sciences. This session provided ample room for discussing a range of important issues plaguing children, adults and the environment.

The conference was well planned and very organized from beginning to end. Our students are

one of the truest measures of excellence we have as a college. Three of Dr. Ratan Dhar's research students participated both in panel and poster presentations featuring the following research projects:

Avanel Riley (Geology) gave an oral presentation on her research "Evaluation of the sorption capacity of bio-char amended sediments: an effective way to remove contaminants from natural resources and to reduce carbon emission" funded by a PSC-CUNY grant. "What I appreciated most about this experience was the fact that I had the opportunity to present to people who were attentive and were able to provide feedback," says Avanel.

Olusola Aremu (Environmental Health Science), an LSAMP Scholar, was inspired by the opportunity to share his groundwater research

"Temporal Variation in groundwater chemistry of upper glacial aquifer" with the students and faculty of different institutions. His research poster was able to draw the attention of quite a few fellow students to become motivated to think about transferring to York for BS degree in Environmental Health Science. "I simply wish that York would consider inviting undergraduate students to share their research at York annual undergraduate research symposium," says Olusola.

Ana Chavaz (Environmental Health Science), another LSAMP scholar, also presented her research on local environment "Microbial Mobilization from Urban soils to adjacent lakes and ponds," funded by a PSC-CUNY grant. The oral presentation was followed by a lively discussion on NYC water quality issues.



Dr. Ratan Dhar (Asst. Professor, Department of Earth & Physical Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences)



Congratulations !

Congratulations to Chemistry Professor Dr. Stephen Fearnley who recently received a NIH MBRS SC3 Award in the amount of \$123,809 for his research, "Oxazolone Cycloadducts as Heterocyclic Scaffolds for Decahydroquinoline Alkaloids!"

The grant supports Dr. Fearnley's research project, "Oxazolone Cycloadducts as Heterocyclic Scaffolds for Decahydroquinoline Alkaloid Synthesis. Dr. Fearnley, who also teaches at the CUNY Graduate Center, also invited his graduate mentee, Mr. Maciej Domaradzki, to defend his dissertation at York in early September.



Associate Professor Stephen Fearnley (Dept. of Chemistry, School of Arts & Sciences)

Women's Tennis Head Coach Named



Gemma Alexander-Mozeak



The York College athletic department is excited to announce the hiring of Gemma Alexander-Mozeak as the new Head Women's Tennis Coach at York College.

Alexander-Mozeak brings many years of coaching experience, coaching at the highest levels of collegiate athletics. Most recently, she was the head coach at St. John's University from 2008-2012, where she led the Red Storm to two top-10 finishes at the conference championships, while compiling 21 victories in her second stint as head coach.

She also served as head coach at St. Johns from 2003-2005, where she helped guide a team that finished 3-7 the year before to a 12-5 mark in 2003-04.

In between her two

stints coaching at St. John's, she served as the Regional Director/Community Outreach Specialist for the United States Tennis Association/Eastern Section. With USTA Eastern, Alexander-Mozeak was responsible for community outreach efforts in New York City. She helped the organization in an effort to grow the game of tennis in the area. She was responsible for helping put together events, making grant proposals and helping locate sponsors for tennis programs, as well as planning and designing the programs.

Prior to St. John's, Alexander-Mozeak spent two years as the head coach at Fordham University. The Rams went 25-9 during her tenure.

Gemma is no stranger to the CUNY system, as she got her start in coach-

ing at Hunter College in 1985, where she coached the Hunter College women's tennis team and the Hunter College High School men's tennis team for three seasons.

She is a 1987 graduate of St. John's University, earning a degree in Government/Politics and Theology, after transferring from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She had a very successful career as a collegiate tennis player as well. In 1987, while at St. John's, she was the team captain and Most Valuable Player, while winning both the Singles and Doubles Championship of the Metropolitan Conference.

Alexander-Mozeak is very familiar with the York College community, as she resides in Jamaica, NY with her husband and two sons.

Roberto Rivas Hired as Women's Soccer Head Coach



Roberto Rivas

The York College athletic program is pleased to announce the hiring of Roberto Rivas as the new Women's Soccer Head Coach.

Rivas becomes the second head coach in the women's soccer program's history. He will be replacing Kafui Koukou, who accepted the

vacant York men's soccer coaching position, after coaching the women's team since its inception in 2011.

Rivas brings years of coaching and playing experience to the program. He served as the head coach of the NYU-Polytechnic women's soccer team from 2011-12

and assistant coach of the NYU-Poly men's soccer team from 2008-12. During his tenure as assistant men's soccer coach, he took over a team with just two wins the previous season and guided the Blue Jays to a 10-10-2 record the following season, and a 12-5-2 record

cont.'d on p.19

Alumni Association Gets Talented New President

The York College Alumni Association has a new president with a new theme: growth, engagement and opportunity (G.E.O).

Michelle D. Mack, a member of the Class of 2011, has succeeded Tracey Bowes ('91) and plans to keep existing fundraising and community service plans in place while adding new ones.

Mack, who majored in Business with a minor in English, plans to build on existing programs in the Alumni Association such as the annual awards gala, cyclone ball games and the vendor market; which is held at the college; then there is "Toys for Tots," a charitable effort for children living in shelters.

She would like to add a "night at the races" to the fundraising repertoire as well.

"We have a great new team and everyone is excited," said Mack. For Mack, stepping up to be-

cont.'d from p.18

two seasons later.

Prior to his stint at NYU-Poly, Rivas served as an assistant coach for Concordia College (NY) men's soccer team.

Most recently, he was employed by the New York Cosmos Training and Development program, where he was in

charge of training various clubs teams throughout the New York area.

As a player, Rivas played for Molloy College, in Rockville Centre, NY, in 2004 and 2005, where he was a two-year starter for the Lions.

Rivas will take over a women's soccer team that

has had its growing pains in its three years of existence, but he is confident that he can bring success to the program. "I'm coming into a fairly new program and I'm going to try and make them stronger in the conference and make them a contender," said Rivas.

come president of the Association is a way of expressing gratitude to college and community.

"I didn't just come to York," she said. "I live in the community. I came to York through the Bridge to College Program and was really blessed with great professors such as Professor Michelle Gregory (Social Sciences), Professor Wayne Forrester (Business and Economics) and Professor Mychel Namphy (English)."

Mack also remarked that a York education is in many ways on par with what is available anywhere else, including an Ivy League university.

"When I was a student here I was also working on Madison Avenue and one day I had my accounting book open on my desk and a co-worker said, 'You have my book,' and I said, 'No, that's my book,'" she recalled. "Here he was a student at Columbia Uni-

versity and he was using the same book I was using at York."

The motivated president believes that the college and the Alumni Association should be on a parallel path.

"I thought that as the institution grows we would like to be a reflection of what the college is doing. I want to build relationships with the departments and offices so I'll be able to connect them. It's interesting where they've placed us (the Alumni Office) across from Admissions. They're the beginning and we're the end."

Aside from her leadership skills, Mack is also a multifaceted talent in the arts. Some of today's most celebrated gospel artists, including Grammy Award winner Hezekiah Walker. She is now in the studio recording with Stella Awards artist James Hall and Worship and Praise.



Michelle D. Mack

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY



Human Resource Major Scores Impressive Internship



Suzanne Sylvester

Suzanne Sylvester is on a roll.

The York College junior recently won a \$1,000 Frame My Future Scholarship along with the matching \$1,000 to the York College Foundation Scholarship Fund. Frame My Future is a national scholarship entity, in which candidates submit an essay and photo and encourage supporters to vote for them online.

Sylvester also secured an INROADS corporate internship at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. INROADS, is a non-profit organization that seeks to develop and places talented underserved youth in business and industry, and prepares them for corporate and community leadership.

“As the INROADS Diversity and Work Life intern in Human Resources employed with Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, I was frequently assigned comprehensive assignments in managing events for the company’s INROADS interns,” said Sylvester. “Through trial and error, persistence and mentorship, I learnt the relevance of flexible mindsets and essentially the power of communication. All this has a direct contribution in fulfilling

one’s true potential.”

Sylvester also cited “Relationships” as key to success in business.

“Value, invest and nurture them in order to produce long term rewards,” she noted. “No one excels without the help and support of other people. Be adventurous.”

Asked if the INROADS internship had opened her eyes about her chosen field of Human Resource Management, Sylvester was decisive in her answer.

“My INROADS internship was a very effective experience in the Diversity and Work Life aspect of Human Resource Management,” said Sylvester. “I now have a better understanding of the key functions and perspectives of Diversity in Human Resources. Diversity in the workplace has become an industry unto itself. It goes beyond the representation of race, gender and age, and also embraces affinity groups, richness of cultures, physical ability and enhancing employees’ talents.”

Following her experiences with the scholarship and internship opportunities, Sylvester is encouraging her peers to engage with the offices responsible.

“Both Career Services

and the Scholarship Office are led by exceptionally bright teams of individuals whose leadership and years of experience will enlighten you,” said Sylvester. “My constant affiliation with both entities has ignited vision and purpose in my objectives. “I thank Ms. [Linda] Chesney and Mr. Randy Punter for believing in me and [for] pushing me towards achieving more than I first imagined.”

Sylvester added that as the Diversity and Work Life INROADS intern, she worked closely with and reported directly to the Chief Diversity Officer in planning events, programs, meetings and sessions for a group of 14 interns. Responsibilities included facilitating peer debriefing meetings, planning and coordinating meet-and-greet sessions with senior officers.

As though all that were not enough, Sylvester was also honored at the organization’s 2014 Annual Awards Reception & Ceremony, at the McGraw Hill Financial Building in Manhattan. She received the 2014 INROADS Rising Star Award, “for dedication, hard work and active involvement.” She was the first college junior to have ever received the award.

York Panel Discusses Donald Sterling Controversy

It was inevitable that basketball team owner Donald Sterling's incendiary remarks to his "special friend" V. Stiviano, would make their way into the academic discourse; and York faculty and students were quick to empanel on the subject.

Moderated by English professor Mychel Namphy, the panel discussion featured students and faculty, such as Dr. Michele Gregory, Associate Professor of Sociology, director of the Program in Black Studies; Dr. George White, Associate Professor of History, Chair of Department of History; Satish Ram, York College Sociology Major; Noel Torres, York College English Major and Josh Carrington, York College English Major.

The topic of the discussion, "Why Bring IT to My Games?": Donald Sterling and the NBA: What is the Proper Analysis?" is based on Sterling's rhetorical question to his friend about her

bringing famous African-American friends such as basketball legend Earvin "Magic" Johnson to Clippers Games. It provided plenty of grist for the recent discussion at York.

Sterling, who is white, was ranting to his friend Stiviano during a conversation, which unbeknownst to him, was being taped. The revealing conversation got Sterling "banned for life" from basketball ownership.

Questions of discussion at the York roundtable included, "What is the best way to understand the Donald Sterling incident? What do we think of the way the players have responded? Were the NBA's response and the Commissioner's statement appropriate and effective? Does the response to Donald Sterling's comments represent a sea-change in the history of white supremacy in American sport? What does any of this have to do with the overall struggle of people of color for dignity and justice? What

is being missed in the media coverage and popular analysis of the Sterling incident?"

Dr. Namphy also posted a number of quotes taken from the publicized conversation. Among Sterling's taped diatribe, was this "gem": "It bothers me a lot that you would want to broadcast that you associate with Black people. I want you to love them in private."

Stiviano, who describes herself as Mexican and black, brought Sterling's true character to light and has been described both as a hero and a traitor for her efforts.

"A lot of us love when things like this happen," said Dr. Namphy, who is also director of the African-American Research Center. "They all come up to the surface so now we can deal with what's real."

For more on the lively discussion, visit <http://youtu.be/SmWwrRLzLs8>, courtesy of York's Communications Technology Program.



The forum was well attended by students and faculty



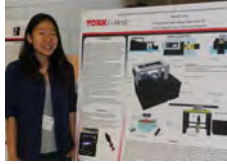
Sterling and Stiviano

FAREWELL !

Farewell and best wishes to Dean Alfred Ntoko who said goodbye to York to become Provost of SUNY-Empire State College! York College thanks Dr. Ntoko for his service.



Dr. Alfred Ntoko



Jiyoony Lee

Research Fulfills Summer Dreams at York

Summer Research this year was as exciting as ever and featured one of York's own professors as keynote speaker at the culminating event on August 8. Dr. Richard Boris, a Political Science

professor at the college, addressed the audience of mostly high school students with some York College undergraduates in the mix.

"I have never seen a group of young people

more excited about talking to each other about the work you've done than you were, standing in front of your posters this morning," said Dr. Boris, an expert in labor

cont.'d on p.23

3rd Annual Research Day at Graduate Center

As President of the CUNY Graduate Center Alumni Association (GCNDAA), Dr. Bernadette Amicucci (Associate Professor, Dept. of Nursing, School of Health and Professional Programs) was involved in the planning, review, and implementation of the Third Annual Research Day held on Friday May 16th, 2014 at the Graduate Center.

York College was well represented by Prof. Margaret Alexandre, Prof. Lilly Mathew, and Prof. Nadine Donahue, as well as by Dr. Amicucci.

There were poster presenters from other CUNY schools, private institutions and health care organizations, representing nursing research in a variety of stages and projects. Seventy-five attendees participated in the event

and a keynote speaker who is a leader in the field of nursing research and health care policy.

York College's participation in this event demonstrated the College's nursing faculty's continued engagement with the process of scholarship and helped to make us even more visible within the CUNY environment.



L.-r.: Dr. Keville Fredrickson, Dr. Mary Fridman from the Graduate Center Alumni Association Board, and Dr. Bernadette Amicucci

Top History Students Honored

The Department of History and Philosophy recently held its annual year end party and honor society ceremony. At that event the Tau Lambda Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national honor society in history, initiated five new members, increasing the total membership in the chapter since its founding in 1972 to 115.

The honorees are Al-

exandria Chyrack, Monique James, Priscila Moreira, Anthony Ortiz, and William Persaud.

At the event, the department also cited Matthew Wilson for winning its contest for the best essay in history at York College during the 2014-2014 academic year. Matthew's paper is titled "No Respect: Anti-Semitism in Germany from the Middle Ages until the Fall of Berlin."

For his achievement, he received a copy of Jon Meacham's highly acclaimed biography of Thomas Jefferson.

On May 28, at York College's Honors Recognition Ceremony, the department announced that Feyad Mohammed was the recipient of the Daniel Kelly Award for the highest Grade Point Index in history.



L.-r.: Roberto Benedito, Howard Ruttenberg, Kay Neale, Monique James, Robert Parmet, Matthew Wilson, Anthony Ruiz, and George White, Jr.

(Photograph courtesy of: Hilma Krla De Souza)

cont.'d from p.22

relations with 20 years experience in collective bargaining.

In encouraging students to be “bigger than yourselves,” Boris invoked three of modern history’s most enduring civil and human rights names: Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. all of whom, Boris says, shared the trait of tolerance.

“The best way to fight intolerance is with our brains and mouth,” said Boris during his lunchtime address. “Have a dialogue to heal your world; talk to people you don’t agree with; learn who people are as human beings, not as caricatures and stereotypes. In each of our lives you have a choice of what kind of lives we want to live: a private one or a giving one. You stay young longer when you live giving lives. I wish all of you a giving life.”

Dr. Robert Duncan, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at York, also encouraged the students.

“Stay in touch and give us feedback,” said Duncan, who mentioned that there is a research club in development at York. Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research in Room 3E07.”

Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, acting provost, was

pleased with the output from the young researchers.

“We are very proud that we have made a small contribution to your lives this summer,” said Meleties, who brought the Summer Research Program to York.

Among the high school presenters were Jiyeon Lee, a Stuyvesant High School senior who presented on “Rapid Prototyping of a Microfluidic DDT Biosensor for Insecticide Resistance in Malaria Vectors” under the mentorship of Professor John-Thones Amenyio, of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department.

“I learned more about engineering Using CAD,” said Lee who hopes to attend Johns Hopkins University.

Nursing Professor Margaret Alexandre mentored two non-nursing York students on “The Incidence of Hypertension Amongst College Students.”

Students Olainka Oladipupo, a Biology major and Sadaf Ahmad, a Clinical Laboratory Science major, explained that their research is timely.

“Hypertension – and its related cardiovascular diseases – is the number one killer in America,” said Oladipupo, who plans to be a physician.

“Studying college students is important because they are young. Giving them the knowledge now could help them prevent the disease. We designed a methodology to help us: age, gender, ethnicity, lifestyle, family history, stress level, economic status and health insurance ...”

According to Prof. Alexandre, all those factors have to be taken into account when looking at the disease.

“If stress level is high, it’s all co-related,” said Alexandre. “If you can help them develop the knowledge of hypertension now that helps. The research shows that African-Americans don’t process salt as well as some other ethnicities do. This is such a diverse group. Finding answers helps with intervention. It’s all about identifying what’s out there. But the first thing is to see what exists on campus ...”

Ahmad also expressed gratitude for the research experience.

“It has a lot of impact on the community,” said Ahmad. “It’s great that York provides this opportunity.”



Dr. Richard Boris



Students during the poster session

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The deadline for submissions to the October 2014 issue of Academic Affairs Update is September 26, 2014.

*All items should be submitted in MS
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