Dear Faculty, Staff, Students and Friends of York College:

I want to extend a welcome as we begin what will be a challenging and productive academic year. This year is quite a special one for us in that we are celebrating 40 years of excellence. We are acquainting our newest students, faculty and staff with campus programs and services, and are pleased that they have joined us. I am pleased to say that York continues to be “on the move” and I write to share with you some of the recent and future activities and events at the College.

Below are some of the highlights from this past year and plans for the coming academic year:

**FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS**

It is impossible to capture all the intellectual energy and accomplishments of our amazing faculty in this limited space, but I would like to acknowledge some of the remarkable scholarship and public service:

- **Professor Valerie Anderson (English),** summer visiting professor at the Gullah Institute at Penn Center, SC.
- **Professor Mesfin Araya (Social Sciences),** authored chapter “Contemporary Ethiopia in the Context of the Battle of Adwa, 1896.” P. Milkias & G. Metaleria (Eds.), The Battle of Adwa.
- **Professor Martin Atangana (History & Philosophy),** authored book, French Investment in Colonial Cameroon: The Fides Era.”
- **Professor Lindamichelle Baron (Teacher Education),** keynoter at the Summer Conference of the Association of Teacher Educators: “Reinventing the Educational Landscape: Renewing Hope, Hearing and Vision for Teachers, Learners and Communities;” as presenter at the International Reading Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL; and published an original poem “Stressed” in Jolie Magazine.
- **Professor Michael Cripps (English) and co-authors,** on the publication of book chapter, “Minimum Qualifications: Who Should Teach First Year Writing?” Discord and Direction: The Postmodern Writing Program Administrator. ED. Sharon James McGee and Carolyn Handa; and received the Kairos Best Webtext Award for published article.
- **Professor Margarita Drago (Foreign Languages) produced several publications and participated in numerous panel discussions in the Dominican Republic and U.S.**
- **Professor Jean Francois (Foreign Languages) co-wrote a play (“Elles, tryptique de l’absence”).**
- **Professor Dana Fusco (Teacher Education) presented at the annual meeting of The After School Institute, Baltimore, MD; the annual meeting of the American Educational research Association, San Francisco, CA; and the 4H Afterschool Statewide Conference for Extension Educations and Collaborators, Penn State University, PA.**
- **Professor Linda Grasso (English),** recipient of an H.D. Fellowship by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University.
- **Professor Michele Gregory (Social Sciences) presented at the American Sociological Association’s 101st Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada and Tunis, Tunisia; the Critical Management Studies Research Workshop, Atlanta, GA and Tunis, Tunisia; and the 6th International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations, Monash University Centre, Prato, Tuscany, Italy.**
- **Professor Samuel Hux (English),** authored chapter, “Our Uncle Irving: Howe’s Conservative Strain in John Rodden (ed) Irving Howe and the Critics: Celebrations and Attacks.”
- **Professor Jong-Il Lee (Natural Sciences),** authored chapter, “Mechanistic Overview of Phototriggers and Cage Release,” Dynamic Studies in Biology, Maurice Goeldner and Richard S. Givens, (eds.)
- **Professor Glenn Lewis (English),** named member of the faculty for the new CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.
- **Professor Basdeo Mangru (History & Philosophy) authored a book, “The Elusive El Dorado, Essays on the Indian Experience in Guyana.”**
- **Professor Elizabeth Meddeb (Foreign Languages),** conference presenter, “The Interaction between Speech Recognition Dictation Technology and Language Use: A Socio-Linguistic Study.” The Second International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society, Hyderabad, India.
- **Professor James Papa (English) authored four creative works in Fire Island Tide, The Long Island Quarterly and Main Street Rag,**
- **Professor Robert Parmet (History & Philosophy) authored a book, “The Master of Seventh Avenue: David Dubinsky and the American Labor Movement;” and a book chapter on the same subject.**
- **Professor Sonia Rivera-Valdes (Foreign Languages) presented at 6 conferences in the Dominican Republic and the U.S., authored two chapters and participated in four televised interviews.**
- **Professor Eva Vasquez (Foreign Languages) presented an original one-woman show reading produced by Teatro IATI Studio, New York, and received the 2006 HOLA Award (Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors) for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor for the production “UN QUIJOTE EN NUEVA YORK.”**

The following faculty have reported the publication of peer-reviewed articles or book reviews: Professor Helen Andretta (English), Professor Vicki Ashton (Social Sciences), Professor Margarita Drago (Foreign Languages), Professor John Drobnicki (Library), Professor Laura Fishman (History & Philosophy), Professor Jean Francois (Foreign Languages), Professor Linda Grasso (English), Professor Njoki-wa Kinyatta (Library), Professor Louis Levinger (Natural Sciences), Professor Vadim Molodovan (Social Sciences), Professor Michel Namphy (English), Professor Detlef Ronneburger, co-author(Math/CS), Professor Beth Rosenthal (Social Sciences),
Welcome to those who have joined our faculty since Spring 2006:
• Tamara Avi-Itzhak, Substitute Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy
• Kelly Josephs, Assistant Professor, English
• George Bercovitz, Substitute Lecturer, Accounting & Business
• Lois Butcher-Proffley, Assistant Professor, Health & Physical Education
• Emmanuel Chang, Assistant Professor, Natural Sciences
• Daniel Cleary, Substitute Lecturer, Library
• Robert Clovey, Assistant Professor, Accounting & Business
• Andrew Criss, Substitute Lecturer, Natural Sciences
• Emily Davidson, Associate Professor, Health Professions
• Karla Fabiola Fernandez de Aseff, Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages
• Errol Fraser, Substitute Associate Professor, Health Professions
• Gilbert Escomilla, Associate Professor, Behavioral Sciences
• Michelle Gregory, Assistant Professor, Social Sciences
• Pedro Jackson, Associate Professor, Health Professions
• Leslie Keiler, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education
• Jane Keleher, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education
• Lewis Lasser, Assistant Professor, Math & Computer Studies
• Tania Levey, Assistant Professor, Social Sciences
• Ray Marks, Assistant Professor, Health & Physical Education
• Rishi Nath, Assistant Professor, Math & Computer Studies
• Lawrence Preiser, Assistant Professor, Behavioral Sciences
• Xiaodan Zhang, Assistant Professor, Social Sciences

Welcome back to those returning refreshed from sabbatical leave:
• Boadnarine Bharosay, Professor, Accounting & Business
• Lisa Halstead, Lecturer/Counselor, SEEK
• James Papa, Associate Professor, English (who will depart again this Spring)

We bid ‘adieu’ to those who have departed for sabbatical or other approved leave:
• Mary Jo Kranacher, Associate Professor, Accounting & Business
• Harold Gellis, Professor, Accounting & Business
• Franklin Gutierrez, Professor, Foreign Languages
• Daniel McGee, Associate Professor, English
• Wynne Shilling, Professor, Teacher Education
• Tsu Wu, Professor, Mathematics & Computer Studies

Congratulations to those promoted to:
Executive Service:
• Linda R. Barley to Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs
• Janis W. Jones to Acting Vice President for Student Development
• Ronald C. Thomas to Dean of Administrative Affairs
• Paula LaLande to Acting Associate Dean for Student Development

Administrative Service:
• Sharon Hawkins to Acting Manager of Health Services

Full Professor:
• Helen Andretta, English
Associate Professor:
• Ouida Murray, Director of Nursing, Health Professions
• Stanley Schleifer, Natural Sciences
Assistant Professor:
• Grady McNeal, Foreign Languages

We continue to make key appointments that solidify our leadership and improve our infrastructure across the campus, and welcome the following executives and staff members who joined us in a full-time capacity since the Fall 2005 Convocation:
• Panayiotis Meleties, Acting Dean for Academic Affairs
• Betsy Seidman, Acting Executive Director of Development & Alumni Affairs
• Peter Tighe, Acting Chief Information Officer
• Hisham Abdulfattah, Campus Public Safety Sergeant, Public Safety
• Teresa Allen-Michaud, College Laboratory Technician, Natural Sciences
• Ruth Andrade, CUNY Office Assistant, Buildings & Grounds
• Victor Baqtawar, Campus Security Assistant, Public Safety
• Sharon Beharry-Singh, CUNY Office Assistant, English
• Tara Bonaventura, CUNY Office Assistant, Registrar
• Jerome Brown, Print Shop Assistant, Print Shop
• Marjorie Brun-Theus, Coordinator of Administrative Services, Business Office
• Peter DeLeon, Campus Security Assistant, Public Safety
• Latoya Franklin, CUNY Office Assistant, Health Professions
• Marlene Graham, Media Resources Manager, Educational Technology/Academic Computing
• Kia Haigler-Yarbrough, CUNY Office Assistant, Bursar
Several members of our faculty and staff have or soon will retire, deciding after many years of service to move on to the next phase of their lives. We extend our well wishes to:

30+ years of service: Stuart Bailin, Professor, Health & Physical Education
Adolphus Frazier, Assistant Dean, Student Development
Alfredetta Johnson, Lecturer/Counselor, SEEK
Amos Odenyo, Professor, Social Sciences
Arleen Schreiner, Professor, Counseling
Gloria Waldman, Professor, Foreign Languages

20+ years of service: Jorge Diaz, Locksmith, Buildings & Grounds
Gregory Niedzwiecki, Assistant Professor, Mathematics & Computer Studies
Johnnie May Stanfield-Lindsey, Assistant to the Director, SEEK

5 to 10+ years of service:
Guillermo Bernal, College Laboratory Technician, Educational Technology/Academic Computing
Ann Bacchus, Assistant to the Executive Director, Compliance Programs & Legal Affairs

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS
- Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management registered.
- Teacher Education Program accredited by the NCATE Board of Examiners.
- Nursing Program accredited by the National League of Nursing.
- Physician Assistant Program: first graduating class completed all clinical rotations.
- National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) completed its 8th year and for the second year earned the coveted Meritorious Award.
- Queens High School for the Sciences at York College graduated its first class.
- The York College Early Academy opened to 81 6th graders.
- Adult & Continuing Ed and the FDA partnered to offer workshop, “Pharmaceutical Microbiology.”

SPONSORED RESEARCH/PROGRAMS
- Faculty and staff awarded over $7.5 million in research funding this year, an 80% increase over last year.
- Twenty-one faculty members awarded a total of $67,644 in PSC-CUNY grants.
• Major equipment grants totaling $260,640 from DASNY awarded to the Natural Sciences Department.
• York received $80,166 from the CUNY Workforce Development Initiative (WDI) for FDA Natural Science Internships, Small Business Development Center Business Interns, and the Aviation institute Aviation Internships.
• Application submitted to the US Department of Education for Title III/Institution Development Grant in the amount of $2,000,000.

**UPDATES ON INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING INITIATIVES:**

**Strategic Planning Committee (H. Strassberg, J. Posman, A. Mohammadi, Co-Chairs):**
- Strategic Plan approved by College Senate in April.
- Major objectives of the Plan included in the President’s Goals and Targets for 2006-2007.
- Phase 2 begun: development of department/unit activities targeted to meet institutional goals.

**Middle States Committee (G. Acker, M. Ballantyne, T. Paglione, Co-Chairs):**
- Approval received from MSACHE of College’s Self-Study Design, followed by successful visit to the College by Dr. Robert Schneider, MSCHE liaison.
- For 2006-2007, gathering information and drafting reports and Self-Study document, to be available for College Community review next Fall. Site visit: April 2008.
- Progress available on College website.

**Outcomes Assessment Committee (D. Chirico, D. Agin, Co-Chairs):**
- Implementation of coordinated plan for Shared Academic and Institutional Outcomes being implemented this academic year.
- Creating “road map for assessment.”
- Currently gathering information, incorporating aspects of previous reports and current practices, to address future goals and targets.

**ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

**Recruitment Initiatives:**
- Increased external recruitment efforts
- Change in Admissions criteria, effective Fall 2006: 75 HS average or better.
- Fall 2006 class: 83% (non-SEEK) have HS average of 75 or more, up 25% over Fall 2005.
- 30% of entering class have HS average of 80 or more.
- 80 Merit Scholars in Fall 2006 class (criteria: 80+ HS average, 12 HS academic units, pass Skills test on first sitting or exempt). Median: HS average of 84 with 18 academic units.
- Merit Scholars receive awards of $750 to $4,000+ each year.
- One FDA Honors winner in Fall 2006 class.

New marketing materials have been developed to support our student recruitment efforts. Using our new theme (on the move), we are aggressively marketing the College.

**Enrollment (Headcount):**
- 2006 – 6184
  - 2005 - 5900
  - 2004 - 5741
  - 2003 - 5672
  - 2002 - 5714

**Retention Initiatives:**
- “Campaign for Success”
- Greater collaboration between Academic Affairs & Student Development
- Provides enriched programming and increased student support (e.g., workshops for transfer and new students, peer-assisted tutorials)
- Team approach to provide supplemental instruction in gateway courses
- Expanded service hours and targeted advisement support
- Master Tutors and Master Advisors
- On-line CPE tutorial
- Enhancing student campus life
- Mentoring Support Programs (e.g., sophomore student retreat)

**CAMPUS FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS**

With the help of many of you, CUNY and many members of the community, we have either completed or continue to progress on major initiatives to increase the use and improvement of our space:
- The Indoor Walking Track has been resurfaced.
- 159th Street Beautification Project is completed, providing a beautiful walkway and easy access to the campus from Archer Avenue.
- Crosswalk Project and Science Lab Upgrades are in final design stage.
- Classroom Building underwent resurfacing and installation of new Security Station.
- Plasma Screens have been installed, providing for increased ways to communicate with College Community.
- Starbucks’s Café is open
- Parking Lot Lighting Project is completed.
- New Signage has been installed on the Performing Arts Gallery.
- Other On-going Projects: Upgrading Fitness Center’s Equipment and Pool, Improving Signage, PAC Balcony Egress, Financial Aid Office Renovations, Water Abatement Project, Redesign of Academic Core and Student Lounge/Study Spaces, and Landscaping Enhancements

**CAPITAL PROJECTS:** Funding approval received to support the following projects:
- $6 million planning grant for a Student Center
- $7 million to renovate the Academic Core (through the efforts of Assemblymember Vivian Cook)
- $2 million in support of the College’s Reso A projects (through the efforts of Borough President Helen Marshall and Councilmembers Leroy Comrie and Thomas White, Jr.)
- $500,000 to support the College’s Master Planning efforts

**TECHNOLOGY UPDATE:**
- Our first Chief Information Officer appointed, charged with reorganizing and expanding IT efforts to improve availability, reliability, and accessibility.
- Two key senior IT positions currently being searched.
- Current projects include:
  - On-line CPE tutorial and test registration
  - E-mail
  - Student Recruitment Database
  - Enterprise IT Service Desk
  - Web Redesign and Content Management System
  - On-line Media Resource Request forms
  - e-PAF and on-line departmental budgets
  - DegreeWorks

**OTHER ON-GOING IMPROVEMENTS**
- Enhanced Professional Development Series and Intellectual Life Series
- Customer Service Workshops

**DAY CARE CENTER**
- Construction expected to be completed by October
- Opening anticipated late Fall

**STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**
- Voela Caze ’07, newly elected Student Government President, and congratulations to all student-governors.
- Vanessa Grevecour ’07, awarded UNCF/Merck Undergraduate Science Research Fellowship.
- Max Saenz ’06, Jonas E. Salk Scholar, University of Virginia School of Medicine ’10
- Yisa Rumala ’06, recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
- Yi Di Zhang ’06, awarded full graduate fellowship from the Stevens Institute of Technology.
- York College Cardinals wins first place in CUNY Athletic Conference Basketball Championships
- Opened York College Men’s Center (the Male Initiative Program)

**ADVANCEMENT/OUTREACH INITIATIVES**
- Initiated Executive Breakfast Series
- Produced College Bulletin and virtual campus tour CD
- George Aridas (SVP, Albanese Org.) named Chair, York College Foundation Board
- Implemented new policy and procedures for College Advisory Boards and Councils.
- Implemented enhanced marketing and branding strategies, including collaboration with CUNY’s marketing campaigns (“Back2Back,” featuring Fiona Smith ’05 & Max Saenz ’06, and “Meeting of the Minds,” featuring Yisa Rumala ’06 and Professor Gregory Boutis).
- “York-on-the-March” newsletter
- Celebration of 40th Anniversary
- Opened CUNY Immigration Center at York College
- The York College Performing Arts Center Jazz Series

**ALUMNI COMMUNITY**
York College alumni continue to be “on the move:”
- Robert Clovey ’90, appointed Assistant Professor, Accounting & Business Department at York.
- Shirlene Holmes ’80, author, playwright, and poet, Associate Professor, Georgia State University, 2006 Commencement Keynote Speaker.
- Kathy Jedruckez ’06 received a full scholarship to the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.
- Mary-Jo Kranacher ’79, named Editor-in-Chief, The CPA Journal.
- Deborah Persaud ’81, appointed Medical Scientist, Pediatric AIDS Research, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; and winner of $700,000 Elizabeth Glazer Award for AIDS Research.
- James Siegel ’77, authored “Derailed” that became a major film of the same name.

As part of our upcoming 40th anniversary celebration and in order to build our connections to alumni and friends, we will be reaching out to our 17,000 alumni as much as possible. We are planning a number of alumni events, from cocktail receptions, focus groups, class reunion, 40th year anniversary celebration and the development of a new student/alumni mentoring program.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to thank each of you for your commitment and hard work. As you can see, it has been a busy and productive year. I welcome your comments on, and involvement in, our many activities this year. Remember York is on the move and we want you to continue to move with us.

Sincerely,

Marcia V. Keizs
President