

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

With our phenomenal benefit concert starring the versatile and talented off-Broadway sensation, Three Mo' Tenors, York has never looked better in the eyes of the public. Those of us who attended the concert last month enjoyed an unforgettable event enhanced by the aesthetics of the art, quilt and flowers which "decked" the Performing Arts Center. Kudos to everyone involved in pulling off this Herculean task in two months! Social-type events, such as this and the recent visit of Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, help to put York on the map in the minds of those who effect change in our city and state.

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 members of the Middle States Commission will visit 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 season and we could not have done it without your collective support. For the full report and recommendation you may visit the York College website and click on "President's Corner."

Last summer Senate Democratic Leader **Malcolm Smith** (D-St.Albans) appointed me to Governor Spitzer's Higher Education Commission (HEC). Comprising of public and private universities, assembly members and even a student, the Commission presented Governor Spitzer with its findings to ramp up higher education by, among other things, shoring up education for the K through 12 set. The governor is now in the process of adapting the Commission's proposal starting this fiscal year and invited me to a press conference in Albany earlier this week where we announced the formation of a \$4 billion endowment fund for CUNY and SUNY schools throughout the state.

We are also proud of the accomplishments of our faculty over the past year and invite everyone to join me in congratulating our colleagues on their scholarship as well as in welcoming new faculty and staff to the York family even as we wish those who have left us and those leaving at the end of year the very best in the next phase of their lives. Among them, **Dean Yvette Urquhart**, the former director of Human Resource and

Professor Edvige Coleman – Professor - Foreign Languages

Vincent Kerns (Student Financial Services)

Professor Carolyn Kirkpatrick (former chair, English Department)

Professor Ina Richards (SEEK)

Antoinette Sumter (Occupational Therapy)

Professor Jack Schlein (Natural Sciences)

Dr. Diatra Jones (Special Asst. to the President - President's Office)

Geraldine Gault (Purchasing).

Regrettably, we will also be saying goodbye to faculty stalwarts like **Professors Joseph Malkevitch** and **Helen Strassberg** (Mathematics and Computer Studies) as well as **Professor Shirley Ostholm** (Political Science) who will all retire in September. Their contributions to the College and our students over the years are incalculable.

And a warm welcome to **Sandra Laureano** (Interim Director – Office of Faculty & Staff Relations); **Dr. Susan Lindner**, Director – Counseling; **Professor Renee Wright**, Visiting Distinguished Lecturer – Health Professions/Nursing; and Susan Urban, Instructor – Library. We wish them all the very best and look forward to touting their successes in this same space next year.

Provost Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith continues his scholarly engagement in international forums on crime, drugs, and terrorism, his areas of expertise. Earlier this week he participated in a discussion via satellite on the international drug trade and its multi-national corporatist dimensions. The host of the Hot 102 FM program was veteran journalist and former First Lady of Jamaica, Beverly Anderson Manley. In a few weeks Dr. Griffith will be the guest of the Canadian Defense Ministry to speak at a meeting in

Barbados to prepare for the 2008 Meeting of the Defense Ministers of the Americas, being held this fall in Canada. Last fall Provost Griffith was invited to deliver the Keynote Address at the Second Annual Conference on Military Intelligence in the Caribbean, hosted by the United States Southern Command and held in the Dominican Republic. The Provost plans to develop and teach a course on global terrorism this fall at York.

Professor James Como of the Performing and Fine Arts has once again proven himself the definitive C.S. Lewis scholar, earning a feature review, "Arc of surrender: The Collected Letters of C. S. Lewis," *The New Criterion*, 25:7 (March 2007), pp. 60-64; "Culture and Philosophy: Another

C. S. Lewis Plenary Address," October 27, 2007 and C. S. Lewis: The Man and His Work, October 26-27, 2007, Southeastern College at Wake Forest.

Professor Donald Auriemma (Occupational Therapy) is leading the charge to make York's Green Initiative a model for the City University of New York. He has formed the Green Initiative to study and implement programs such as parking for hybrid vehicles, bike racks and recycling programs. Soon there will also be a complete overhaul of our lighting system in the atrium and cafeteria area.

Dr. Dana Fusco (Academic Affairs) has just had an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*: "School vs. After school: A Study of Equity in Supporting Children's Development."

Professor Deborah Majerovitz (Psychology) and **Prof. David Ajuluchukwu** (Gerontology) collaborated on a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in November, 2007. The title of the presentation was: "Perceptions of Elder Care in an International College Setting in New York City." Professor Majerovitz also has an article forthcoming in the peer-reviewed journal, *Health Communication*. This work was done in collaboration with the Long Term Care Community Coalition of New York State, a non-profit community-based advocacy group for long term care reform and legislation.

Prof. Majerovitz is a board member of this organization. The citation for the article is: Majerovitz, S.D., Rudder, C., Mollott, R. (in press): "We're on the same side: Improving communication between nursing home and family;" *Health Communication*.

Professor Glenn Lewis (English) has been selected to serve on the initial **Governance Council (governing body)** for the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism. He is one of only two Consortial Faculty members to be appointed. He will also serve on the four-member **Faculty Standards Committee**. The Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Dean and Council on hiring and retention standards for full-timers, Consortial faculty and adjuncts; standards for promotion and granting tenure; and qualifications for each level of faculty member. Prof. Lewis also continues to appear as a commentator on Fox 5 News discussing everything from Arab TV coming into the US to Super Tuesday.

Professor Scott Sheidlower (Library) presented a talk on teaching the disabled as part of an Instructional Section contemporary issues discussion sponsored by the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) at the American Library Association's (ALA) midwinter conference in Philadelphia in the winter of 2008. Additionally he presented a paper about teaching information literacy to millennials of lower SES at the Georgia Information Literacy Conference in Savannah, Georgia, sponsored by Southern Georgia University, in the fall of 2007.

Professor Beth Rosenthal (Social Sciences) and her department had a banner year, with publications, presentations and even a mentee from the program who is making us proud: Publications: Rosenthal, B. S., & Wilson, W. C. (in press). "Mental health services: Utilization and disparity among diverse college students;" *Journal of American College Health*.

Wilson, W. C., Rosenthal, B. S., & Battle, W. S. (2007); "Effects of Gender, Ethnicity and Educational Status on Exposure to Community Violence and psychological distress in adolescence;" *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma*, 15, 93-111. Presentations: Rosenthal, B. S., & Wilson, W. C. (2007, August), *Risk and protective factors in relation to PTSD symptoms*; paper presented at International Congress on Stress, Budapest, Hungary. Rosenthal, B. S., & Wilson, W. C. (2008, April); *PTSD Symptoms: Results of trauma or correlates of psychosocial characteristics*; paper will be presented at European Congress of Psychiatry, Nice, France. Rosenthal, B. S., & Wilson, W. C. (2008, May); *Traumatic Experience, Protective Variables and Psychological Distress in Late Adolescence*: paper

to be presented at European Association for Research on Adolescence, Turin, Italy. Student Mentorship Achievements: International Presentation by **York College graduate** (and **now, Ph.D. student** at GC), Ms. Trisha Baboolal (this is her third international presentation); Baboolal, T., & Rosenthal, B. S. (2007), *College students' use of counseling: Comparison between Jamaican-Americans and Jamaican-West Indians*. Paper presented at Caribbean and International Social Work Educators Conference, Trinidad, West Indies. Collaboration: collaborating with Psychology professors, George Bonanno (Columbia University) and Christopher Burke (NYU), on new statistical procedures for analyzing longitudinal data.

Professor Tom Zlabinger (Fine Arts) keeps York “on the move” with a busy performance schedule both on and off campus. On January 12th, 2008, he presented the paper, “‘No America, No Jazz’: Black Identity Constructed through Sound via Art Blakey’s African and Caribbean Recordings and his Resulting ‘Big Beat’” at the 35th Annual International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE) Conference in Toronto, Canada. The paper will be published in the 2008 IAJE Jazz Research Proceedings Yearbook. For more information on IAJE, go to: <http://www.iaje.org/> The York College Summer Jazz Program (made possible by Les Raphael and College Now) returned to the Louis Armstrong House and Museum in Corona, Queens last summer and gave a performance on what would have been Satchmo's 106th birthday on August 4, 2007. The Summer Jazz Program has already been invited back to perform again for a third time this coming summer. For more information on the Louis Armstrong House and Museum, go to: <http://www.satchmo.net/> The York College Jazz Workshop will give a performance at LaGuardia Community College Performing Arts Center as part of LGCC's Jazz Jam Series on March 14, 2008. The performance will feature Jazz Workshop alumnus turned professional saxophonist Kunal Singh. For more information on the event, go to: http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/lpac/details.asp?Event_ID=16280. Bravo, Tom!

Professors Stanley Schleifer and Professor Nazrul Khandaker (Earth and Physical Sciences) are also taking York on the road with a presentation at the quarterly meeting of the Greater Jamaica Development Corporation at the Harvest Room at Jamaica Market. Drs. Schleifer and Khandaker discussed the troublesome water table in Jamaica. Their presentation “Cause, Status and Outlook” and “Starting Point for Remediation,” took place earlier this week.

Professor Basdeo Mangru (History and Philosophy) continues to contribute to our strength in the area of history, with his most recent scholarship. Book: edited and introduced, C.F.Andrews, *Impressions of British Guiana, 1930; An Emissary's Assessment*. Adams Press, 2007. Articles in Referenced Journals:

1. "Annotated Bibliography of Works of Basdeo Mangru;" *The Arts Journal, Guyana*, (in Press).
2. "The Campaign against State-aided Immigration into British Guiana, 1860s-1903," *Journal of IndoCaribbean Research*, University of Windsor, (in press).
3. "Indian Militancy on Sugar Estates. The 1969 Leonora Episode," *Guyana Journal*, Vol 13, No 2, Oct 2007.

Professor Angelo Rossi, director of the York College/FDA Internship Program, has reported that his student, Angelo Damanti, a Chemistry major, and an intern in the program, has been offered a permanent job with the agency (Food and Drug Administration) when he graduates in June! Now that's what we call "outcome assessment!"

Anamika Dasgupta (Reference Librarian) Dasgupta, A. (in press). "Water in disguise: Introducing the three phases of water in primary grades through fiction books, experiments, and art-work," *Science & Children* (Peer Reviewed Journal). Dasgupta, A. (August 2007). 24/7 Reference cooperative: A global network service, *Library High Tech News*, 24(7). Book reviewed by Dasgupta, A. (CHOICE), Gilton, Donna L. Multicultural and ethnic children's literature in the United States, The Scarecrow Press 2007. Dasgupta, A. (January 2008), "Paradox of Privacy and the Role of Libraries in Social Networking," presented at the LACUNY Dialogues, CUNY's Lehman College, New York.

Professor Andrea Krauss and the Department of Occupational Therapy

have had a productive year. At the Fall New York Occupational Therapy Association Meeting several of our recent graduates from our first graduating BS/MS in (Occupational Therapy) class made poster presentations from their research; in addition professors **Tamara Aviltzhak**, Krauss and **Elizabeth Chiariello** prepared presentations and **Professor Sharon Faust** was presented with a Merit Award for practice. We also have a recent graduate from the BS/MS program presenting his research with **Prof. Diane Tewfik** on Spirituality at the National American Occupational Therapy Association meeting this Spring; in addition, **Prof. Avi-Itzhak** and Prof. Krauss will be presenting a paper together.

Professor George White In response to the publication of *Holding the Line: Race, Racism, and American Foreign Policy Toward Africa, 1953-1961*, the editors of H-Diplo, an internet-based community for scholars of diplomatic history within the larger H-Net (Humanities Network) invited Dr. White to participate in a Roundtable Review of the book. Although H-Diplo publishes numerous book reviews of works regarding foreign policy, it reserves its Roundtable discussions for notable works authored by junior and senior scholars. The scholars who participated in the Roundtable included faculty from Cal State Northridge, the University of Evansville and Indiana State University.

Kudos to **Bruni Almodovar** (Counseling) for her work on the Scholarship Center (found on the York College website) which provides information and assistance to students looking for scholarships as well as specialized guidance for those students currently holding scholarships. There is also a scholarship brochure in the works and we encourage our faculty to inform their students to take advantage of these resources.

A productive and exciting semester to all!