

# ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

**YORK** College

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## President Keizs At Regional Council Summit



**President  
Marcia V.  
Keizs**

In August, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs, president of York College, attended a summit called by Governor Andrew Cuomo and Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy in the state capitol.

The meeting of the New York State Regional Economic Development Council Summit in Albany was convened for the Regional Council co-chairs and a select number of regional council members such as Dr. Keizs, to share the

results of the Regional Council initiative.

The Regional Economic Development Council was established a year ago by Governor Cuomo and charged with identifying projects that will stir economic development and job growth statewide. The New York City Regional Economic Development Council is co-chaired by CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein.

The all-day meeting featured updates from each of the 10 regions on the implementation of the strategic plans, and their respective transformational projects, as well as a discussion on future directions. Following the summit,

Chancellor Goldstein released a statement expressing his gratitude.

“I would like to thank Stuart Appelbaum and Marcia Keizs for representing the New York City Regional Economic Development Council at the summit,” said Chancellor Goldstein. “The governor applauded their excellent presentation on our region’s vision, the status of our implementation agenda and priority projects, and the criteria for the 2012-2013 priority projects. In response to several questions, Stuart and Marcia emphasized our focus on areas of high need and opportunity zones and

*cont.’d on p.24*

## York College Mourns President Emeritus Bassin

The York College/CUNY community is in mourning following the death of its former president, Mr. Milton G. Bassin, who died on August 13, 2012. The president emeritus had been in



**Milton G. Bassin**

failing health in recent years but still had a great love for the college to which he was devoted. He literally and figuratively built York College from the ground up.

*cont.’d on p.5*

### Inside this issue:

New Honors Director York in “CUNY All Stars”	2
Busy History Prof. Faculty Update	3
New scholarship Probing Physics laws	4
Social Workers in Cuba Math conference @ York	6
Business students @ CUR conference	8
OT Department news	10
Summer Jazz Program	11
New Volleyball coach	13
Astrophysicist’s big grant	14
New Center Director	15
New Faculty Welcome	16
Library Prof. gets grant	17
In Memoriam	19
	21
	22
	23

### Special points of interest:

- **Astrophysicist Wins Major Grant**
- **New Honors Director**
- **New Director for African American Studies Resource Center**

## English Professor Takes Over Honors Program



Prof. Kelly Baker Josephs

The York College Honors Program recently transitioned leadership from Math Professor Rishi Nath to English Professor Kelly Baker Josephs.

The Honors Program was established in 2002 “to provide academic, cultural and social opportunities to enhance the intellectual development of its highly motivated students.” The program is designed to provide students opportunities for research and exploration in a wide array of courses across the disciplines.

Participating students

are introduced to a variety of topics in seminars, lectures and cultural programs, both on and off campus. They pursue a course of study which includes self-designed courses based on their individual interests and are mentored into developing a self-designed honors thesis.

Although she is a new Honors Program director, Dr. Josephs is no stranger to working with the Honors students.

“I have supported the Honors Program since my first semester at York College,” said Professor Josephs who came

to York in Fall of 2006. “My experiences with Honors students have always been positive, but I mostly participated from the margins – mentoring students, offering H-courses and sometimes attending events.”

Josephs, whose expertise includes Caribbean Literature, Postcolonial Literature and Theory, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Literature of the Black Diaspora, World Anglophone Literature and African-American Literature, also remarked on the timing of the appointment.

cont.'d on p.18

## Provost Distinguished Lecture Series



### *“Mirar Adentro/Looking Within”*

**Nancy Morejón**

Thursday, November 1, 2012

6-8 PM • Room: Tbd

*Nancy Morejón is one of the most outstanding living poets of the Spanish language. Born in 1944, in Havana, to working class parents, Morejón graduated from Havana University. She was the first black woman poet to publish widely and be accepted as a professional writer, critic, and translator. Morejón has published more than twelve collections of poetry highlighting the Afro-Caribbean experience. She is the recipient, among many other prestigious national and international Literary prizes, of the Critic's Prize (1986) and Cuba's National Prize for Literature (2001), the Golden Wreath (Macedonia, 2006) and the Rafael Alberti Literary Prize (Spain 2007). Currently, she is the President of the Association of Writers of UNEAC (Unión Nacional de Escritores y Artistas Cubanos).*

## York Student Member of CUNY's "2012 Science All Star Team"



York College is included in CUNY's "2012 Science All Star Team" ad featuring recent grads throughout the university, who have received prestigious scholarship/fellowships to graduate programs. Kirk Haltaufderhyde (Class of 2011), the York graduate featured in the ad, was a mentee of Biology professor, Gerald McNeil. Kirk was recruited to Brown University by Dr. Andrew Campbell (York, '81) a professor of Medical Science at the Rhode Island-based Ivy League.

After rotating through several labs, looking for the best fit as he began his pre-doctoral research at Brown University, Kirk Haltaufderhyde (York College, BS in Biotechnology, 2011) became intrigued with research that is probing the role of photoreceptors in the skin.

Now, he will get to explore the implications of light sensitivity in skin cells with the support of a 2012 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. This is the most prestigious award a graduate student in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) can receive. Provid-

ing \$126,000 over three years, the grant recognizes and supports exceptional students who have proposed graduate-level research projects in their fields.

Before his arrival, the laboratory of his mentor, Assistant Professor Elena Oancea, found that melanocyte skin cells – those in the epidermis that produce melanin, which affects skin color – detect ultraviolet light using a photosensitive receptor that formerly was thought to exist only in the eye.

Oancea's team determined that the receptor rhodopsin lets skin protectively begin to tan within a couple of hours of exposure to UVA radiation, one of two types of ultraviolet light found in sunlight. Previously, melanin production was only known to occur days after exposure to the other ultraviolet type, UVB, had damaged DNA. Dr. Oancea's lab is in Brown's Department of Molecular Pharmacology, Physiology and Biotechnology.

In a related finding, other scientists have found that photoreceptors in the skin help everyone – including blind people – keep normal, 24-hour cycles called circadian

rhythms, such as awakening when the sun rises.

"This is really new, and it's exciting trying to figure out the mechanism of phototransduction outside of the eye," Haltaufderhyde says, referring to the bodily process that converts light into an electrical signal that's transmitted to the brain.

In the summer of 2010, he joined the lab of York Associate Professor Gerard McNeil, whose research focuses on the role of the RNA-binding protein Lark and its importance in early development; he uses the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* as a model system.

Under his direction, Haltaufderhyde plunged into genomics research via the Genomics Education Partnership, a consortium of more than 50 colleges and universities that involves undergraduates in bioinformatics (using computers to study vast amounts of biological data, like genomes). He completed three original research projects on the genomes of *Drosophila mojavensis* and *Drosophila grimshawi* and is a co-author of a manuscript that is in preparation.



Kirk Haltaufderhyde

**"I went to York because I get close interaction with all the professors, and you might not get that at other institutions."**

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## History Professor Stays Busy With Scholarship For Spring And Summer '12



Professor Bob Parmet

York's Robert Parmet had an especially productive spring and summer season this year.

He contributed as a discussant of the documentary film *Schmatta: Rags to Riches to Rags* (New York: HBO, 2009), Juan Carlos Center, New York University, May 2012, sponsored by New York Labor History Association. As well, he was busy with the book review for Eric Alterman and Kevin Mattson, *The Cause: Fight for American Liberalism from Franklin Roosevelt to Barack Obama* (New

York: Viking, 2012).

"For decades conservatives have equated liberalism with weakness in domestic and foreign policy, big government, and heavy taxation," Parmet says in his review. "Eric Alterman, a frequent spokesman for American liberalism, argues that identification with it should be a source of pride rather than embarrassment."

Also seeking out Dr. Parmet's scholarship, was News Network.com. He was also busy with the paperback reprint of his popular 2005 book, *The Master of Seventh Avenue: David Dubin-*

*sky and the American Labor Movement* (New York: New York University Press, 2005); reprinted by NYU Press, for September 2012).

Parmet recalled, "I was one of two people who discussed the documentary film, "Schmatta," on the decline of the New York City garment industry, the 'rag' ("schmatta" in Yiddish) trade."

He also wrote the review for "The Cause," a study of American liberalism from the 1930s to the present, which appeared on the Internet on July 2.



## York Faculty Update



- **O.S. Oladipo**, (Department of Business and Economics, School of Business and Information Systems), "Does Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) cause long run Economic Growth? Evidence from the Latin America and the Caribbean Countries", in: *Applied Econometrics and International Development*, Vol. 12, Issue 1 (April 2012), pp. 93- 106.
- **Paglione, T.A.D.** & Abrahams, R.D. 2012, (Department of Earth and Physical Sciences, School of Arts and Sciences), "Properties of Nearby Starburst Galaxies Based on their Diffuse Gamma-Ray Emission," in: *The Astrophysical Journal*, 755, 106
- **Parmet, Robert**, (Department of History and Philosophy, School of Arts and Sciences), *The Master of Seventh Avenue: David Dubinsky and the American Labor Movement* (New York: NYU Press, 2012; originally published in hardcover in 2005).
- **Parmet, Robert**, (Department of History and Philosophy, School of Arts and Sciences), "Eric Alterman and Kevin Mattson, *The Cause: The Fight for American Liberalism from Franklin Roosevelt to Barack Obama* (New York: Viking, 2012)," (book review) History News Network.com, July 2012.
- **Parmet, Robert**, (Department of History and Philosophy, School of Arts and Sciences), "Eric Laursen, *The People's Pension: The Struggle to Defend Social Security Since Reagan* (Oakland, CA: AK Press, 2012)," (book review) History News Network.com, August 2012.

cont.'d from p.1

Mr. Bassin served as York's indefatigable president from 1971 until his retirement in May of 1991. Under his steady leadership, York survived the fiscal crisis of the 1970s, which had threatened to close the burgeoning college forever. President Bassin exhibited a steely determination and knack for bringing the external community together with the college community. He led the fight for York's survival as a senior college and for it to remain in Jamaica, Queens.

The president spearheaded the task of building a state-of-the-art permanent campus housed on 50 acres in the heart of downtown Jamaica.

"Without Milt Bassin, the York College campus in Jamaica would never have been built," said Dolores Swirin, vice president for Institutional Advancement at York. "Thanks to Milt, thousands of students have received a high-quality education at a senior

college in the heart of Southeast Queens. Milt won the deep respect of faculty, staff, students and the community for his work. He will be deeply missed by all of us at York."

Born in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, in 1923 to Russian immigrants, Milton G. Bassin was the second president of York College and, to date, its longest serving. He was a staunch advocate of a tuition-free CUNY on behalf of the students who, like himself, came from humble beginnings.

Taking advantage of the free tuition opportunities of the City University of New York's (CUNY) City College, Bassin earned a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1944 and a Masters degree from Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1954. President Bassin was also a military man who served in the United States Navy.

His CUNY career began with his hiring as an instructor in mechani-

cal technology at New York City Community College (now New York City Technical College, a Brooklyn-based senior college) and he worked his way up the ranks from dean to dean-in-charge and, eventually, president.

Under Bassin's leadership, York College graduated thousands of students who now serve as respected physicians, researchers, New York City judges such as Jeremy Weinstein and George Grasso; college professors – some of whom now teach at York; and numerous other successful professions.

In 2007, York showed its appreciation for his service with an honorary doctorate degree, which meant the world to him. Last fall the college family also honored Mr. Bassin at York during the 45th year anniversary celebration where he basked in the love of faculty, community members and alumni.

**"Thanks to Milt, thousands of students have received a high-quality education at a senior college in the heart of Southeast Queens."**

**YORKCOLLEGE CUNY**

**"To know what people really think, pay regard to what they do, rather than what they say."**

*George Santanyana*

## Love Story Leads to York College Scholarship



Matthew Szlapak and his wife Melinda Cokley-Szlapak

Twenty three years ago Matthew Szlapak graduated from York College with two prizes: a baccalaureate degree in Political Science and a charming bride-to-be.

Szlapak and Melinda Cokley were married for 21 years until her death earlier this year due to stage-four metastatic colon cancer.

Now the grieving widower has reached out to his alma mater with the intention of funding a \$1,000 per-year scholarship “in the memory of my wife, Melinda Cokley-Szlapak, who

thanks to fate, destiny ... I met at York, where she was also attending.”

Mrs. Cokley-Szlapak was the daughter of the Rev. Rev James B Cokley – a long-time community activist, and until his passing, the minister at Abraham Thompson AME Zion Church in Queens. He was among those who advocated for York’s survival during the fiscally-turbulent 1970s.

“Unfortunately,” says Szlapak, who graduated in 1989, Melinda was taken from me on May 30 (2012) at the age

of 43.”

Szlapak wanted to honor his wife at their alma mater with the modest scholarship to be “aimed to those with financial need” and studying the liberal arts, the sciences, nursing, education or human services, and are residents of South Jamaica and graduates of New York City public schools.

“I would like to be able to give back to the institution where I met this woman who gave me life, who taught me how to be,” he said. “Without York, I would

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Those projects, he says, involved the sequence improvement (finishing) and annotation of the gene-rich region of the fourth chromosome of several *Drosophila* species. This chromosome is thought to be mainly heterochromatic (consisting of tightly packed DNA).

These results provide insight into gene structure, repeat types, densities and evolution in different species of this form of chromatin (the complex of DNA and proteins in the cell nucleus that is essential for

maintaining chromosome structure).

“Working from an already well characterized *D. melanogaster* genome, we can use computer software to perform a comparative analysis of DNA sequences from other *Drosophila* species to detect genes of common ancestry,” he says. “These are called orthologous genes.”

Haltaufderhyde says that he “went to York because I was able to get close interaction with all the professors, and you might not get that at oth-

er institutions. To have the research experience with Dr. McNeil was definitely a turning point.”

As an undergraduate, he was supported by a CUNY Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation grant. He graduated from York summa cum laude.

He is enjoying the change of scene in Providence, R.I. He adds that he is working toward a Ph.D. “to discover something no one else knows.”

What could be a bigger challenge than that?

## Former Field Education Director Honored

The Office of Field Education of the Social Work Program marked its first “Social Work Matters” Special Brunch on, Wednesday, May 23, 2012. The event was a way to introduce the forthcoming Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) assessment trainings and to acknowledge social work supervisors, seminar instructors and field education advisory council for their dedication to mentoring and supervising our students.

The CSWE is a non-profit national associa-

tion representing more than 2,500 individual members, as well as graduate and undergraduate programs of professional social work education.

Presenters at this special brunch included York College administrators, social work program representatives, field education supervisors and alumni.

The keynote address was delivered by our former Field Director, Dr. Alma Norment (1985–86) and (1996–2003). She gave a riveting account of how the

program and field education progressed to solidify itself in the college. Dr. Norment was awarded a “Special Recognition Award” in appreciation for helping to establish the Office of Field Education, Social Work Program at York College and for her invaluable contributions and leadership to students, faculty, and community partners.

York College President Marcia Keizs attended and offered her heartfelt thanks to an estimated 50 attendees.



**L. to r.:** Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith (Provost & Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs), Lynne Clark (Dean, School of Health and Behavioral Sciences), Alma Norment (York College Former Field Education Director), Selena T. Rodgers (Field Education Director), Vadim Moldovan (at the time Social Work Program Director)

## Environmental Science Major Scores Big Internship

Ezazul Haque, a senior majoring in Environmental Health at York College/CUNY, had an inspiring spring and summer this year.

Haque recently wowed the College community with his presentation on using the nutrition from New York City’s waste water for processing as bio fuel. Equally important, he is concerned with the damage being caused to humans by toxins in the

water supply in developing countries such as his homeland of Bangladesh. So between fuel and drinking, his academic focus seems to be all water all the time.

His faculty mentor, Dr. Ratan Dhar, whose expertise includes biogeochemistry, environmental science and hydrogeology, explained that New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was sending waste water

to the University of Tennessee for the process.

“I asked them, ‘Why are you sending it all the way to Tennessee when York is right here,’ said Dhar. “[So] we’ve brought it to York. We [have] found lots of toxic metal in it. After this we’ll send it back to DEP.”

Haque’s research, which he presented at York’s Third Annual Undergraduate Research



**Ezazul Haque**

cont.’d on p.9



Prof. James Popp

## York Professors Probing Physics Frontiers

Professors James L. Popp and Kevin R. Lynch are founding members of the Mu2e Collaboration. The Mu2e Experiment planned for Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, in Batavia (IL) received Critical Decision 1 (CD1) approval from the Department of Energy (DOE) in the second week of July,

2012.

Mu2e is a world-class experiment at the beam intensity frontier of particle physics aimed at probing Nature on the smallest length and time scales yet achieved in the laboratory to reveal physics beyond the Standard Model of Elementary Particles.

Mu2e will make use of the proton accelerator

complex at Fermilab that formerly serviced the now retired Tevatron to make an intense beam of muons. The goal of the experiment is to search for direct evidence of a muon decaying into an electron in the absence of any neutrinos. The cost range for this experiment is \$208M–\$287M. Dr. Lynch and Dr.

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not have met this incredible person, someone whom I will love forever.”

Szlapak had met Melinda Cokley – also a Political Science major – in a class taught by Professor Richard Boris, known for his non-nonsense teaching style.

“I had taken Professor Boris’ classes for four years,” recalled Szlapak. “And I never heard him interact that way with a student before. So I started paying attention. He and Melinda had this thing where they needled each other. He would come into the class and right away would say, ‘Madam Cokley ...,’ so I moved to the back of the room where I could be nearer to her.”

Szlapak, who grew up

in Rego Park and Cokley who grew up in Jamaica (Queens) soon started dating and were married in 1991. The marriage, produced two children, a son, now 18, and a 13½ year-old daughter. The couple eventually moved their family to Virginia.

In the ensuing years, Szlapak earned a Masters degree in Government from St. John’s University and he is an adjunct professor in addition to his career as a human resource director in charge of benefits and risk management. The late Mrs. Cokley-Szlapak worked with special needs adults for about twenty years, eventually as a director for a job training program, and the last four years of her life in an elementary school.

Her unexpected ill-

ness, which began in November 2011 and was initially misdiagnosed as diverticulitis, was unrelenting and despite aggressive treatment, she died within six months after her first symptoms.

“She died at 12:50 a.m. on May 30,” said Szlapak, who fluctuates between the past and present tenses when speaking of his wife. “She’s always been just an extraordinary person. She was the one who really pushed me to do what needed to be done. She was right about almost everything, all the time. Not just because she is my wife. She could look at someone for a minute and know where they’re coming from. She always turned out to be right.”

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Day has also impressed beyond the college's 50-acre campus. This summer he was engaged in research at Summer Public Health Scholars Program (SPHSP) at Columbia University, with Dr. Joseph Korevec.

SPHSP is a 10-week program that ran from May 28 through August 3 under the Columbia University Medical Center, Mailman School of Public Health. His first week was spent in orientation at Columbia followed by a week at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia for more orientation. He is also receiving free GRE Preparation and courses in public health, epidemiology, health disparities and cultural competence.

Haque, who came to the United States as a child from Bangladesh, was initially studying Computer Engineering at City College. However, a trip back home triggered a switch in his academic and professional interests.

"After going to Bangladesh for the first time in 12 years in January of 2011, I was moved by the experience," he explained. "I wanted to help improve the quality of life of so many people by providing them with

something simple: clean water."

Haque chose to enroll in York's Environmental Health program for purely practical reasons of geography; but he was in for a real bonus.

"After deciding to change my major, I chose York College because it is within walking distance from my house," he said. "And after speaking to Dr. Dhar, I was very motivated to pursue my degree here. I told him about my interest in helping [to] improve the lives of so many people around the world. He asked me to start working with him in the lab. I'm very fortunate to have him as my mentor, he inspires me to work hard and have fun with it."

At Columbia, Haque was also fortunate to be working with impressive mentors. He has been invited by Dr. Joseph Graziano, director of Environmental Health Science at Columbia University, to spend part of his internship with him.

Dr. Graziano's scholarship is dedicated to "researching and understanding the various causes and consequences of exposure environmental metals." His work, reportedly, has led to the

strengthening of healthcare legislation, development of "critical medication to treat lead poisoning and helped roughly 100,000 people reduce their levels of arsenic exposure." Arsenic, according to reports, can lead to heart damage and multiple organ failures.

Coincidentally, Haque's York mentor, Dr. Dhar, last year published a new book, *Arsenic, A Silent Killer, and its Biogeochemistry in Groundwater*. The book, Dr. Dhar explains, is "the result from a series of laboratory microcosm experiments using a representative natural sediment sample," collected from Araihaazar, Bangladesh.

Not surprisingly, Haque is also a volunteer with the nonprofit group, Charity: Water. Their mission, he says, is "to help bring clean and safe drinking water to the billion people" who live without it. At a fundraising event in December, 2011, he spoke to potential donors about current projects, the mission, and importance of clean water.

"Haque's acceptance into the internship program at Columbia followed a rigorous application process where more than 1000 applied.



Haque and his York mentor, Dr. Ratan Dhar (l.)

**"The best teacher is the one who suggests rather than dogmatizes, and inspires his listener with the wish to teach himself."**

**Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton**

## York College Social Work Professors in Cuba

by Vadim Moldovan



Dr. Moldovan (4th from the right) and Dr. Rodgers (5th from the right) during their Cuba visit with the Council on Social Work Education

Early this June, Drs. S e l e n a R o d g e r s (Director of Field Education) and Vadim Moldovan (then Program Director) had the honor of visiting Cuba with a group of American social work scholars and administrators. It was the first such delegation sponsored by the *Council on Social Work Education*. The itinerary consisted of meetings with agency administrators, social work practitioners, faculty, and other academics. Among places visited by the delegation were the University of Havana, a model housing project in the country, a senior citizen center, a community center, a psychotherapy center, and an after-school program.



Dr. Rodgers and Dr. Moldovan visiting Plaza de la Revolución in Havana

Clearly, Cuba is a country in transition. This can probably be said about most countries in the world. Stability is a rare luxury of closed regimes and prosperous states. Yet, the Cuban transition is particularly important to an American observer as it is long-expected. The United States has been doing its best for the past 50 years to isolate

Cuba, damage its economy, and ultimately effectuate a political turnaround.

For five decades Cuba has stood up to the American economic blockade and even prospered as a client state of the late Soviet Union. The early 1990s, however, were calamitous. With the demise of the Soviet Union, vast economic assistance has suddenly stopped. Sensing that the Cuban regime is on the ropes, the United States government has attempted a coup-de-grace by imposing additional economic sanctions and tightening the embargo via the Helms-Burton law in 1996. Standards of living plummeted and Cubans experienced hunger and malnutrition for the first time since the Revolution.

Despite the recent developments that have led to some improvements in the economy, the country is gearing up for more hardship and its leadership is planning significant economic reforms, such a wholesale reduction in the public sector workforce, in the hope that the new-

ly unemployed would be absorbed by the growing private sector. It was particularly telling to hear from a prominent Cuban academic that the old socialist model has “exhausted” itself.

As the entire Cuban society is in crisis, so is the profession of social work. In the 1980s and 1990s, Cuban universities prepared 40,000 social workers creating such a glut that currently universities have closed their social work programs altogether. What concerns Cuban social workers even more is the role and status of social workers in the Cuban society. In the state-controlled society, the profession of social work lacks autonomy and suffers from an ill-defined identity. Low status of social workers stems from the fact that social work is not considered a bona fide profession on par with that of medical doctors, nurses, lawyers, etc. but an auxiliary service to other professions – a cadre of para-professional helpers so to speak.

Consequently, the profession is fragmented

cont.'d on p.16

## Math Conference at York “Nspires” Regional Middle School Teachers

Math teachers from across the tri-state region recently converged on the York College campus for a math conference centered around technology.

Some of the teachers came to conduct workshops and others to learn from them during the two-day conference, “Teaching Mathematics to a Digital Generation.” The T3 Regional (Teachers Teaching with Technology) Conference created quite a buzz on the campus.

The event, co-chaired by Dr. Virginia L.

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Popp’s own areas of expertise in this experiment lie in high power target development, muon beamline systems, electron tracking detector design, and particle physics simulation and software development.

Both York College physicists have worked hard, along with their collaborators, to reach CD1. The DOE project approval process consists of five milestones. Mu2e received Critical Decision 0 approval in December of 2009 after

Thompson, a York College Mathematics professor and Dr. Irina Lyublinskaya, a professor of mathematics, science and computer science at the College of Staten Island. They were supported by Dr. Lidia Gonzalez and Dr. John-Thones Amenyo, Dr. Thompson’s colleagues at York, as well as Craigon Campbell a data analyst in the Office of Institutional Research, and Ed Monk, a Texas Instruments Representative. The sponsor, technology giant *Texas Instruments* (TI), also had representatives on hand

a successful review of the experiment proposal; CD1 is awarded after a successful review of the detailed project conceptual design, cost range, and schedule.

Substantial funding has now been made available to the Mu2e Project Office at Fermilab to generate the preliminary engineering design. Critical Decision 2 is approved pending a successful review of that design, planned for mid 2014. Critical Decision 3 requires ap-

with some of the products being demonstrated.

Instruments, such as the TI-nspire, are expected to change the way teachers teach mathematics in K-12 classrooms. With gadgets such as the TI-nspire calculator, students can tab, save, escape, etc. and the teacher is able to send quadrilaterals and other mathematics problems right to the student during the class, allowing them to work on them during or after class for homework as there is a “save” feature.

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**An attentive audience of math experts during the conference**



**Prof. Kevin Lynch**

proval of a full engineering design; such a review is planned for mid-2015.

This marks the beginning of procurement of the massive Mu2e superconducting magnet system and construction of the muon beamline. Critical decision 4 is granted upon project completion and marks the beginning of data taking in 2019.

The experiment will run for four years, and possibly longer depending on the results.



President Keizs (r.) and Prof. Thompson welcomed the audience



Keynote speaker Dr. Frank Gardella (Hunter College)



Math's "cool factor": Student with her "learning toy"

cont.'d from p.11

The two-day event (June 8–9) featured topics such as, "Enhancing Students' Understanding of the Classification of Triangles and Quadrilaterals through the use of the Geometer's Sketchpad"; "Exploring the Unity Circle and Trig Graphs on the TI-Nspire"; and "Dealing with Data in Middle Grades Using Multiple Representations."

The workshops were well-attended by Mathematics teachers from elementary through middle and high schools and university levels.

Dr. Thompson, a graduate of York College (Class of 1998) grew up in South Jamaica near York's campus and dreamed of attending the CUNY College. She would go on to earn Master's and doctorate degrees in Mathematics Education at Teachers College, Columbia University.

In 2009 Thompson returned to teach at York as a doctoral lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Her expertise includes Technology in Mathematics Education; and Computer Algebra Systems.

In addition to *Texas Instruments*, she also secured sponsorships from McGraw-Hill

Companies, Pearson Education, MathMITT, Inc. and Math Manipulatives, Instructional Technology and Training.

According to Dr. Thompson, about 117 registrants and 40 speakers attended the conference. Participants came from schools as nearby as the Queens High School for the Sciences at York College, and PS 48 four blocks away as well as more distant schools such as Great Neck South High School and Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan.

But the K-12 set was not the only level represented. Faculty from Cornell University, St. John's University, New York University, and Teachers College Columbia University, were also in attendance.

"Participants were able to get hands-on experience on how to implement technology into their mathematics classrooms," said Dr. Thompson. "I was very overwhelmed as I addressed the crowd just before the keynote speaker, Dr. Frank Gardella (executive director of the Hunter College Mathematics Center for Learning & Teaching)."

Gardella, a recipient of the 2010 Hall of Fame Award for New York State Outstanding Math-

ematics Education, addressed a capacity crowd in the gymnasium of the Health and Physical Education Building. His topic, "Change and Technology: Synonyms as We Move Forward," was informative and well-received.

Thompson was pleased with the turnout.

"I felt honored that these teachers chose to attend our first technology conference at York," said Thompson. "I was very satisfied by the quality and expertise shown by our speakers, and was able to get positive feedback from our registrations."

Dr. Gonzalez also appreciated the turn out and the excitement it generated.

"The conference went really well," said Gonzalez. "There were some wonderful presentations, interesting exchanges and a buzz about technology in mathematics at the college throughout the event, but what was most exciting to me was seeing educators of all grade levels and varying degrees of experience genuinely excited about teaching mathematics with technology. I'd love to see this event repeated and expanded year after year!"

## **Business Students present Research at 2012 Council on Undergraduate Research Conference**

**Dr. Olajide Oladipo** of the School of Business and Information Systems mentored 12 Business students and supervised their research for the York College Undergraduate Research Day 2012. With his encouragement and oversight, some of these students submitted their research to the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) for presentation at the 2012 conference.

The research projects by NaTia Shanee Haynes, Anna-Kay Vaz, and Faisal Suleman were accepted and presented at the conference with the theme “Leveraging Uncertainty: Toward a New Generation of Undergraduate Research.”

NaTia presented on “Poverty Trends in the United States” using annual census data from 1980 to 2010. Her results revealed that after a decline in the 1990s, the population in extreme-poverty neighborhoods – where at least 40% of individuals live below the poverty line – rose by one-third from 2000 to 2010. Also, the proportion of families with incomes below \$5,000 increased from 3.9% to 9.7% and the median

income for poor families declined. “With the presentation at the CUR conference, and Dr. Oladipo’s encouragement, I am taking my research to the next level,” said NaTia.

Anna-Kay’s “Online Technology in Undergraduate Research: Possibilities, Threats and Challenges” revealed that emerging technologies are entering the mainstream use in undergraduate research. The growth of online resources and tools is changing the way that researchers find information, process data, collaborate, and disseminate research findings.

Her research highlights the effective technologies and explores the challenges and threats researchers face when using these technologies with the aim to encourage research mentors and supervisors to carefully consider how technology can best serve undergraduate research.

Suleman’s research examined the impact of social networking on Business. While it is initially intended to make friendship and stay connected with col-

leagues, nowadays every businessman knows how important social networking is for their business. Initially businesses watched on the sidelines as the social media phenomena became part of society.

Corporations are gradually becoming more involved in the trend and are beginning to incorporate social networking into their business structure. Still, despite the rise of a phenomenon that has become a fundamental part of our society’s culture, corporations tend to utilize social networking very little because of the challenges associated with allowing employees to use social media at work.

Although there are also many corporate advantages associated with social networking, there remains a great deal of media criticism regarding social networking policies within the internal business environment.

“For Business students interested in pursuing graduate programs, attending the conference was an excellent opportunity for them,” says Dr. Oladipo.



**Prof. Oladipo (r.) with York students Faisal Suleman (l.) and Natia Heynes (ctr.) at the CUR conference**



**Prof. Oladipo (2nd. From left), Faisal Suleman (l.), and Natia Heynes (r.) posing with other conference participants**

## Occupational Therapy's Active Spring Semester



**L. to r.:** Dr. Lilian Kaplan, Dr. Glen Gillen, Prof. Donald Auriemma, and Prof. Sharon Faust

During the past Spring semester the Occupational Therapy Department organized and sponsored several programs for Occupational Therapy students and faculty and the York College community:

On March 8, we were honored to have Dr. Glen Gillen as a guest speaker to Occupational Therapy (OT) graduate students in their advanced neuroscience class. Dr. Gillen is a full-time faculty member of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and is the associate director of their Clinical Occupational Therapy Program.

A past recipient of multiple awards for clinical excellence in neuro-rehabilitation, Dr. Gillen was recently awarded the prestigious Eleanor Slagle Lectureship. Dr. Gillen is best known in the neuro-rehabilitation community for his contribution to the literature. His book, *Cognitive and Perceptual Rehabilitation: Optimizing Function* (Elsevier), is the textbook for the OT course.

He lectured on anosognosia, unilateral neglect and apraxia

(conditions typically occurring with brain trauma or stroke) and subsequent OT assessment and treatment.

On March 13, the Department sponsored an annual research colloquium enabling primary researchers to speak directly to clinicians in order to foster dialogue about applications of their findings to rehabilitation. The speaker for this 6th annual Occupational Therapy Research Colloquium was Dr. Anthony Lequerica, a clinical research scientist in the Traumatic Brain Injury Laboratory at Kessler Foundation Research Center and assistant professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – New Jersey Medical School. Included in the audience were clinicians and students, multiple years of York College OT alumni, clinical fieldwork supervisors, and faculty. Dr. Lequerica gave a well-received talk on his work investigating factors that facilitate or inhibit patient engagement in rehabilitation.

On March 29, “Ergonomics and Occu-

pational Therapy: Practice for Our Technological World,” was presented by Professor Karen DeChello, OTR, CEA. Professor DeChello is Vice-Chair of the Occupational Therapy Program at Stony Brook University, a hand therapist and Certified Ergonomics Associate (CEA). She discussed core concepts of ergonomics and methods to prevent and treat common musculoskeletal conditions. On May 3, the Visiting Nurse Service of Greater New York (VNSNY) provided an interdisciplinary presentation focusing on the role of occupational therapy and nursing in home health care.

On May 3, the Occupational Therapy Department participated in York College's annual Wellness Festival to provide health promotion information for individuals across the life span. Deborah Wilson, RN and Jessica Gross, OTR of VNSNY discussed home health practice and its critical role in promoting the health and recovery of individuals with acute and chronic medical conditions. Dr. Beverly Horowitz and



**Dr. Anthony Lequerica during his colloquium presentation**

## York Summer Jazz Program Goes to the Movies

The York College Summer Jazz Program (SJP) reached new heights this year. Made possible by Les Raphael and CUNY's College Now Program, the SJP offered New York City public high school students the opportunity for six weeks to study jazz performance on our campus with professional jazz musicians, where they earned five college credits and performed actual gigs! This year twenty-nine students from all over the city explored this year's theme, *Jazz Goes to the Movies*.

Jazz has been part of film since the beginning. In fact, one of the earliest "talkies" was Al Jolson's *The Jazz Singer* in 1927. As part of their coursework, SJP students viewed, discussed, and wrote about the landmark film. In addition, SJP screened three more important jazz-related films in their entirety: *The Five Pennies* with Danny Kaye, *Paris Blues* with Paul Newman and Sidney Poitier, and the recent Jamie Foxx-produced documentary *Thunder Soul*. At the end of the program, students gave presentations



Summer Jazz Program 2012 members - (photograph courtesy of Arianys Wilson)

on the top ten jazz films of each decade from the 1930s to today.

But the intersection of jazz and film did not end there. The band also played music made famous in films, including well-known and lesser-known songs including "Funkathustra" inspired by *2001: A Space Odyssey*, a Basie-esque version of the title song from *Beauty and the Beast*, the classic "As Time Goes By" from *Casablanca*, "Beyond the Sea" from *Finding Nemo*, the title song of the film noir classic *Laura*, "Rainbow Connection" from the original *Muppet Movie*, "Gonna Fly Now" and "Living in America" from the *Rocky* saga, the ballad "I Believe I Can Fly" from *Space Jam*,

"Cantina Band" from the original *Star Wars*, "You've Got a Friend in Me" from *Toy Story*, and "Pure Imagination" from the original *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. And no jazz and film tribute would be complete without the title song from *The Pink Panther*!

In addition to picking apart jazz and films plus working music, SJP was a functioning band that performed five times this summer. In addition to their three campus performances, SJP took their music to the Louis Armstrong House in Corona and performed as part of the Live at The Gantries concert series in Long Island City right on the East River with Manhattan as their backdrop.

YORK COLLEGE CUNY



Louis Armstrong (1901-1971)

cont.'d on p.17



Head Coach Ashley Greene

## New Women's Volleyball Head Coach

York's Athletics Department is pleased to announce the hiring of Ashley Greene as the new Head Women's Volleyball Coach at York College.

"After an extensive interview process, Ashley truly stood out as the candidate that we believe can get the job done," said York Athlet-

ic Director Ronald St. John.

Greene comes to York after a stellar playing career at SUNY Old Westbury where she graduated in 2011 with a degree in Secondary Mathematics Education and made the Dean's List for three straight years. A three-year member on the women's volleyball team, Greene

earned Skyline Conference Second-Team All-Star honors in both 2010 and 2011 after leading the Panthers in kills and ranking second in hitting percentage both seasons.

Over the past year, Greene has also served as the head coach of the Performance Volleyball Club in Long Island, as well as the Assistant Coach for the Bay Shore Middle School team.

*cont.'d from p.10*

– scattered among different areas of application and lacking cohesiveness and integrity. The lack of social work tradition is typical for all socialist and post-socialist states as they have been sole providers of direct social remedies in the form of free education, medical care, child care, cheap housing, etc. Besides, the very existence of social problems in a socialist state is somewhat of a taboo because socialism as an ideology derives its credentials from the purported ability to eliminate social problems.

Yet social problems abound in Cuban society – poverty, prostitution, substandard housing, and substance abuse. One of the main official concerns is ageing popu-

lation. Cuba boasts one of the highest life expectancies in the developing world – 79 years – quite an accomplishment when compared to 73 years in the Dominican Republic and 63 in Haiti. However, this accomplishment has turned into a demographic crisis against a plummeting birth rate that simply cannot support the growing elderly population.

The emerging mixed socialist/capitalist economy will claim its victims, but the social work profession in Cuba should be responsible for mitigating the effects of growing economic inequality. Whereas the Cuban socialist state, due to fiscal constraints, is renegeing on some responsibilities for welfare of the people, the social work profession can step

up as an advocate and a policy-maker, particularly due to the fact that social work ethics are socialist in character.

It is also up to the American social workers to attempt to export an integrated value-based brand of social work to Cuba. Our Cuban counterparts are hungry for such collaboration, and we should hope that the connections we have made will evolve into much more than academic tourism. At the same time, American social workers have much to learn from our Cuban counterparts – from their struggles, successes, and resilience in the face of global oppression and economic adversity.

## York Astrophysicist Scores Big Grant

Dr. Timothy Paglione, the current chairperson of the Department of Earth and Physical Science, recently received a National Science Foundation award from the Partnerships in Astronomy & Astrophysics Research and Education program (PAARE).

The five-year award, starting in September 2012, totals \$1.74 million and is set to benefit students from under-represented minority communities throughout the City University of New York (CUNY).

Paglione is teaming with colleagues from CUNY member colleges

such as Borough of Manhattan College (BMCC), New York City College of Technology (City Tech), Hunter College, Lehman College and the College of Staten Island (CSI), as well as Columbia University and the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), to mentor students.

Known as AstroCom NYC, the program is “designed to improve access by urban minority students to opportunities in astrophysical research by greatly enhancing partnerships between research astronomers” in New York City.

“We are creating a substantive and sustainable partnership spanning New York City to provide centralized, personalized mentoring as well as financial and academic support to CUNY undergraduates throughout their studies, plus the resources and opportunities to further CUNY faculty research with students,” said Dr. Paglione.

According to Paglione, the group is creating a formal conduit for CUNY students, of which he says well over half are African Ameri-



Prof. Paglione in the American Museum of Natural History in New York City

cont.'d from p.15

SJP has maintained a connection with the Louis Armstrong House for over six years, performing every summer on or close to Armstrong's “real” birthday, August 4th. Armstrong in fact had two birthdays, as he thought throughout his life that he was born in July 4th, 1900. But a baptismal record found after his death clearly states he was born on August 4th, 1901.

Our students helped to ring in his real 111th birthday on the date this summer with two songs

from two of his most famous films: “Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans?” from *New Orleans* with Billie Holiday and the title song to *Hello, Dolly!* with Barbara Streisand. And the world was well aware of the festivities as the event was previewed in *The New York Times* and was featured on NY1.

To say that the York College Summer Jazz Program was a success this summer is an understatement. Since its start in 2005, SJP has gotten stronger and bet-

ter every year. Students come and learn to love this thing called jazz. It gets into their bones. They start talking like “cats.” And – most importantly – they walk away as better musicians. They also make a lot of friends along the way. And after tearful good-byes, we carefully closed the book on SJP '12 this August. But the good news is that many of them plus others will return to be part of the adventure that will be the York College Blue Notes '13!!



Billy Holiday (1915-1959)

cont.'d on p.20

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

**– Nelson Mandela**

cont.'d from p.2

“I wanted to become more involved in the Program,” she said. “And with Dr. Nath’s term as director coming to a close at the same time as the end of a few of my own projects, the timing was auspicious and I was happy to accept the Provost’s offer to step into the role.”

The new director views her appointment as an opportunity to have direct impact on students.

“Like most professors here at York College, I consider interaction with students to be an important part of my contribution to the College,” she said. “I spend quite a bit of time speaking individually with students about their academic performance and goals. Excepting the English majors I advise, however, many of these discussions are limited to the scope of the course the student is taking with me. I am looking forward to being able to

help in guiding students more holistically via the Honors Program.”

Dr. Nath, sees nothing but a bright future for the Program under its new leader.

“Dr. Kelly Baker Josephs is a first-rate scholar who has showed tremendous initiative and creativity in organizing high-quality academic programs such as Caribbean Epistemologies Seminar at CUNY and editing the journal *Small Axe*,” said Nath. “She has mentored several students through the Honors Program and I look forward to her initiatives and leadership.”

Josephs cites Nath’s work with potentially making the transition less bumpy.

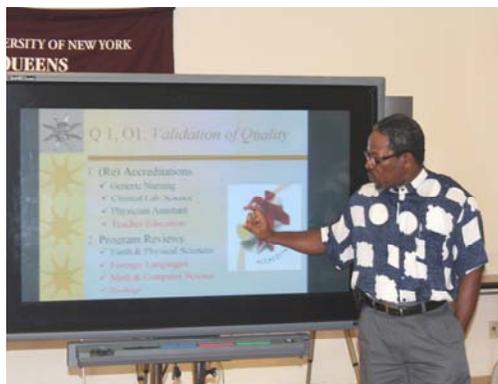
“In his capacity as both Director of Undergraduate Research and Director of the Honors Program, Dr. Nath has done much to increase student interest in sustained academic in-

quiry,” she notes. “I believe his success in raising awareness of such research here at York (amongst both faculty and students) is reflected in our current crop of Honors students.”

Nath and Josephs were preceded as director of the Program by founding director, Dr. Debbie Majerovitz who was succeeded by Dr. Hywel Morgan and Dr. William Ashton, respectively.

Graduates of the Honors Program include Yisa Rumala, ’06, who recently earned a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Thulashie Sivarajah, ’07, now a medical student at American University of Antigua; and Vanessa Crevecoeur, a Ph.D. candidate in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University (degree pending 2013).

Provost Griffith during his presentation to the President’s Leadership Retreat in August 2012.



## African American Resource Center Welcomes New Director

The African American Resource Center launches the 2012-2013 year with a new director, Dr. Mychel J. Namphy (English). For the past two years the AARC has been directed by Dr. Mark Schuller (Anthropology/Social Sciences) under whose leadership the Center has grown into a dynamic space that welcomes the campus and local community and challenges students, faculty, and our neighbors in South Jamaica to advance our analysis of the history and experience of peoples of African descent. As described on the Center's webpage, the mission of the AARC is to "promote the study of the history, culture, and society of Africa and the African Diaspora. The Center is a resource, community space, and forum for colloquy, presentations and discussion." In the service of this mission the AARC has hosted a wide variety of formal and informal events and discussions.

Not enough can be said of Dr. Schuller's work at the AARC. Two years ago he convened an advisory committee of community

leaders and York College students and faculty, and together he and the committee have created something special on our campus.

Last year alone the Center hosted over 50 events, including formal lectures by such scholars as the author William Loren Katz, former director of the Schomburg Center Howard Dodson, and author and Haiti expert Valerie Kaussen; panels on the Haiti earthquake, the prison industrial complex, and Stevie Wonder; a monthly film series exploring the work of, among others, Dee Rees, Spike Lee, Denzel Washington, and Deborah Thomas; graduate school application workshops and informational sessions about the *CUNY Pipeline to the Ph.D.* program; and a rigorous Africana works-in-progress colloquium organized by Dr. Kelly Josephs (English) and Dr. George White (History).

The AARC also hosts several student groups, whose interests range from African American Studies to yoga and meditation. Dr. Schuller's energy, expertise, and organizational skills have been a kind of bed-

rock around which all this has happened. Dr. Schuller has accepted a faculty position at Northern Illinois University. He leaves York College and the AARC a richer and better place. All of us at the Center wish him the very best.

Dr. Namphy thus takes over a vibrant and valuable York College institution. He holds degrees from Columbia and Princeton Universities, and specializes in African American and Native American literature. He has published and lectured on Malcolm X, the Nation of Islam, and African American autobiography, and includes analyses of Black music and film in his scholarship and teaching. At York he teaches classes on American, African American, and Native American literature, music, and art.

Dr. Namphy hopes to build on Dr. Schuller's and the Advisory Committee's work by continuing to connect the vision of the Center to the lives and struggles of the people in our surrounding South Jamaica neighborhoods. For two years Dr. Namphy also served on the steering committee for the



Prof. Mychel Namphy



**AstroCom NYC will be a model to urban areas with large and diverse minority populations.**

**YORKCOLLEGE**CUNY

**cont.'d from p.17**

can or Hispanic, to research experiences.

“We hope AstroCom NYC may serve as a model to urban areas with large and diverse minority populations,” said Paglione. “And to this end we plan to widely publish our results and present progress reports at national conferences.

AstroCom NYC, “will provide – and prepare them for – research opportunities with structured and centralized mentoring, personal attention, and a rigorous Methods of Scientific Research course developed specifically to this purpose.”

The program offers a seminar course around the weekly Columbia colloquia, scholarships and stipends, and regular assessment. The stipends help to “alleviate the burdens at home typical for CUNY students so they may concentrate

on their academic success.”

“I applaud Dr. Paglione for this signal achievement,” said Dr. Ivelaw L. Griffith, provost of York College. “The grant not only allows us to push the envelope on grant productivity, but also to extend our undergraduate research engagement. As well, it allows us to strengthen educational partnerships, both within and beyond CUNY.”

According to Paglione, the various student research projects will form the backbone of AstroCom NYC.

“We have years of experience mentoring undergraduates in research on galaxy properties and evolution, nearby and low mass stars, evolved stars, numerical simulations and modeling, and observational astronomy from the radio to gamma-rays,” he says in the abstract for the program. “AstroCom

NYC will facilitate further research by CUNY faculty, resulting in more contributions to their fields, and enhanced research collaborations among the program partners, while attracting more diverse students to astrophysics.”

The participants will be a mix of high school students, CUNY freshman, and other CUNY undergraduates early in their studies. AstroCom NYC applications from eligible students will be reviewed by the Selection Committee and ranked according by a “demonstrated level of academic seriousness and quality. Standardized tests and GPA will be considered, but the entire student transcript will be taken into account, with greater weight given to science courses. Two letters of recommendation will also be required “and given substantial weight.”

**cont.'d from p.19**

CUNY Pipeline program, and has run dozens of graduate school workshops at the Center and elsewhere.

He brings a student-centered focus to the AARC that he hopes will lead to the Center

becoming a kind of conduit to graduate study, particularly for students of color and other students who are not naturally or traditionally tracked for graduate school.

Dr. Namphy and the

AARC welcome the campus and local community, and encourage input and participation from all corners of our college and city. We look forward to another vibrant and challenging year.



Dr. Mark Schuller

## York's New Faculty Members

cont.'d on p.22

### Margarett Alexandre

**M**argarett S. Alexandre is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Professions in the School of Health & Behavioral Sciences.

Ms. Alexandre obtained her Masters Degree from Adelphi University in Nursing Administration with a minor in Education. Her expertise is in Medical/Surgical Nursing and Nursing Administration. She is currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the CUNY Graduate Center where she is also a Jonas Scholar.

Margarett's current

interests include community initiatives locally and internationally, especially in Haiti, and she is actively working with the CUNY Chancellors' Haiti Initiative. She traveled to Haiti to assess and provide support for the nursing program at the Universite Publique de L'Artibonite aux Gonaives-Faculte des Sciences Infirmieres (FASI), where she also presented courses in conversational English and Medical Terminology, and Medical/Surgical Nursing Case Studies related to the care of patients diagnosed with Hypertension

and Diabetes Mellitus.

Ms. Alexandre also shares a great interest in transcultural nursing education, service learning, and health disparities. She comes to York with over 20 years of experience in nursing education and hospital administration.

In summer 2012, Ms. Alexandre was a recipient of a Globalization and Social Justice Fellowship from the CUNY Graduate Center to conduct health related research in Granbois, Haiti.



**Prof. Margarett Alexandre**

### Heather Gibson

**H**eather Gibson has been appointed as an Associate Professor in the Health Professions Department (Nursing Program) in the School of Health & Behavioral Sciences.

She began her career in academia at Medgar Evers College where she held the positions of Coordinator of the AAS Nursing Program and Chairperson of the Nursing AAS/PN Department. During her ten-

ure, the institution's NCLEX-RN pass rates were 100% for two consecutive years.

Prior to joining the academy, Professor Gibson worked at New York Methodist Hospital as a staff nurse, Joint Replacement and Bloodless Surgery Coordinator and finally, as a Clinical Analyst/Integration Test Coordinator.

She has a Master's Degree in Nursing Informatics from New York

University and is currently ABD in the pursuit of her Doctor of Nursing Science degree from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. The focus of her dissertation is "Afro-Caribbean Parents' Perceptions of Childhood Weight and Food Practices in London and New York."

Her primary research interest is childhood obesity and she is a



**Prof. Heather Gibson**

cont.'d on p.22

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

**cont.'d from p.21**

member of a CUNY multidisciplinary collaborative that investigates global health in urban areas such as New York

City, London, England and Cape Town, South Africa.

Professor Gibson is a Jonas Nurse Scholar and

has memberships in multiple nursing organizations.

### Carol Martin Brown

Carol Martin Brown is a Registered Nurse and proud graduate of the Borough of Manhattan Community College (CUNY).

She completed her Bachelors in Nursing from Molloy College and Masters Degree in Nursing with a specialization in Nursing Education at St. Joseph Col-

lege (Maine).

She is currently pursuing a Post-Masters Certificate in College Teaching and a Ph.D. in Education with a specialization in Post-Secondary and Adult Education.

Her practice experience includes homecare, long-term-care, hospital, and nursing education.

She actively volunteers in the community. She is passionate about nursing and teaching.

Professor Martin Brown will be teaching as a Substitute Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Professions in the School of Health & Behavioral Sciences.

**cont.'d from p.14**

occupational therapy students shared health promotion information and brochures with the public that include ways to reduce musculoskeletal injury, back pain, strategies to increase

home safety, and methods to build play skills for healthy children.

Lastly on May 12, 2012 York Student Occupational Therapy Association (YSOTA) participated in the walk

through New York City supporting the National Alliance for Mentally Ill (NAMI).

A very active OT department!

## Professor Dasgupta Receives Grant



Prof. Anamika Dasgupta

Prof. Anamika Dasgupta (Library) was honored to receive the 2012 Travel Grant awarded by the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP).

The grant provided her a complimentary registration to the 34th SSP Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia; a

one-year complimentary SSP membership; and reimbursement of \$1,000 for travel and lodging expenses.

The theme of this year's SSP Conference was "Social, Mobile, Agile, Global: Are You Ready?"

Prof. Dasgupta con-

ducts her research on discourse in virtual communities, particularly on online scholarly communication. As such, she was thrilled to receive this grant that allowed her to attend the conference and network with researchers and industry practitioners in this field.

## In Memoriam

*The York College family has been saddened by the recent deaths of a number colleagues, both active and retired. Their contributions to York College were immeasurable and we will long remember them.*

cont.'d on p.24

### York's Veterans' Counselor Passes Away

The recent passing of Mr. Herman Wright, a stalwart of the York College Counseling Office, has greatly saddened the York College family.

Mr. Wright started his career in academia at the CUNY Central Office in 1978 and transferred his employment to York in September, 1991.

Armed with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, with a minor in Sociology as well as a Masters degree in Educational Psychology – both from City College – Mr. Wright was a natural fit for the Counseling Office where he served not only veterans, but the

general student population as well. He wore many hats at York, including that of advisor to the Bangladeshi Club, Student Government and the York College Alumni Inc.

According to his colleague, Brunilda Almodovar, his fervent wish was to see the opening of the pending Veterans Center at York, which sadly, he did not live to see.

"Herman was always available to our students," said Almodovar, who once reported to Wright. "He was often here until late at nights and on Saturdays and Sundays ... whenever

they needed him he was there for them. He was completely dedicated. His motto to students was, "Don't worry about it. I'll take care of it."

Vice President Geneva Walker-Johnson also sang Wright's praises.

"A man may be measured by his girth or his height," said Dr. Walker Johnson. "But the true sense of a man is by the strength of his commitment and the depth of his conviction to enriching the lives of those who are fortunate enough to encounter him. In the year that I knew Herman Wright, this was the man I knew him to be."



Herman Wright

### Renwick Jackson (1928-2012)

Dr. Jackson was appointed Dean of Students and Professor of History at York when it launched in 1967. He left York two years later to assume the presidency of St. Mary's College

in Maryland where he was credited with transforming the institution during his 13-year tenure. He visited York in the summer of 2011 to discuss the possibility of a student exchange program between York and

St. Mary's but became ill shortly thereafter and the program never got off the ground.



Renwick Jackson

### Pearl Skeete Bailey-Franklin (1931-2012)

Nursing Professor Skeete Bailey-Franklin initiated the York College RN/BS Program in 1985 and served as its

director for more than a decade. Under her leadership, the program obtained its initial National League for Nursing (NLN) accreditation in

1989; in 1997 she guided the Program to a full eight-year re-accreditation through 2005.

**“Education’s purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”**

– Malcolm S. Forbes

cont.’d from p.1

made the case for the need for investment in New York City.”

At the summit, the governor announced that he had launched the “Connect NY” program, set to provide \$25 million in grants to bring high speed Internet access to underserved communities throughout the state. Progress reports and priority projects this fall will occur in each of the 10 (Council) regions scattered throughout the state.

“It’s a privilege to serve on this important council, not only serving York, but the borough of Queens,” said President Keizs. “The governor’s vision of bringing all these disparate entities together, industry leaders, unions, government and urban education is a model to chart a long-term road map of economic development for

our boroughs, city and state.”

The New York City region is already seeing results from the Council.

In early August, President Keizs, joined representatives from the Arker Companies, which is developing the project; and New York State Housing Commissioner, Daryl Townsend, local elected officials and community leaders to break ground for the construction of the coming Rufus King Court Apartments, in Downtown Jamaica, Queens.

The pending construction at 148-19 90th Avenue will feature 65 units of affordable housing (apartments) and employ sustainable practices including photovoltaic solar panels in its construction. The project was approved in the first round of Regional Economic Council Funding.

“The availability of these units will provide much-needed housing for working families and for seniors,” said President Keizs at the groundbreaking ceremony. “Indeed, some of my very students and their families could benefit from this.”

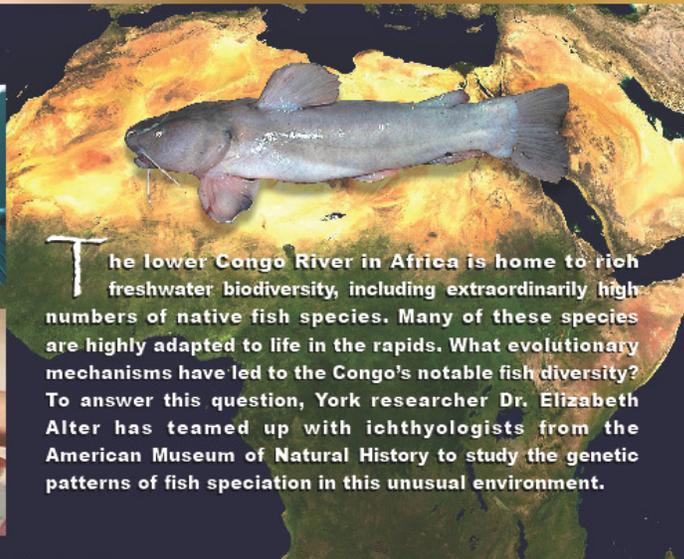
It is worth noting that this project is one of the first green-lighted under the Regional Council and that it is located in the York College neighborhood.

The Albany summit drew not only the members of Regional Councils from across the state, but several key commissioners including Labor Commissioner Peter Rivera, Housing Commissioner Daryl Towns, Port Authority Executive Director Patrick Foye and Empire State Development President Kenneth Adams.



P R O V O S T  
L E C T U R E S E R I E S

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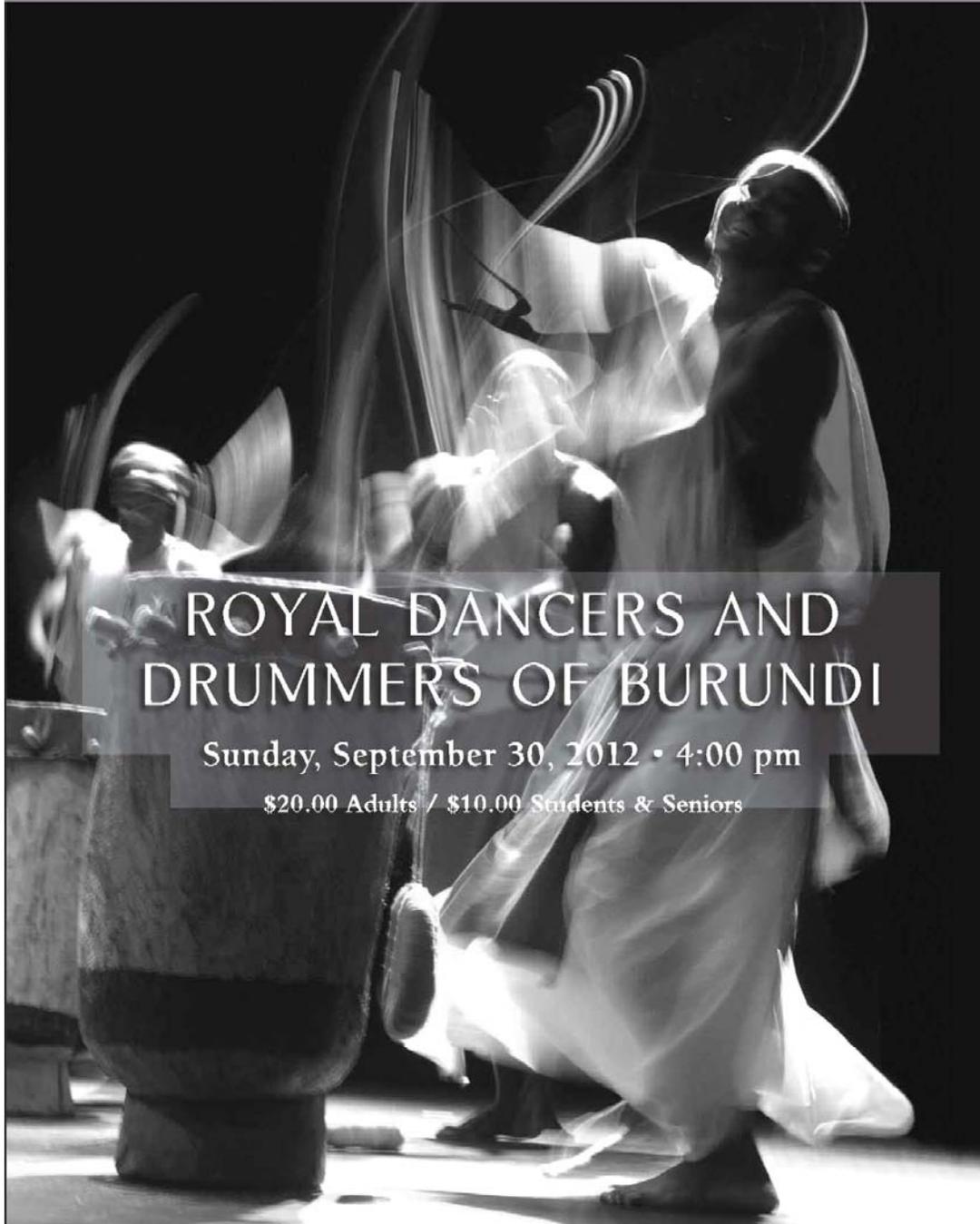
Monday, September 10, 2012  
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**Elizabeth Alter**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Biology  
School of Arts and Sciences

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*All items should be submitted in MS Word*

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