

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

YORK College

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Change of Guard in Academic Affairs



Acting Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs, Dr. Panayiotis Melietis

After six years as provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs, Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith left York this past summer to assume the presidency of Fort Valley State University in Georgia.

It is a position for which he was well prepared and after years of honing his leadership and “paying his dues” in academia.

When Dr. Griffith interviewed for the position as provost at York in 2007, it was a homecoming of sorts and he was greeted in that manner as soon as he arrived on the campus and greeted by a guard who recognized him from the 1980s when he served as an adjunct professor of Political Science at York.

It was a circuitous route back to home base to score a top position after serving in various leadership roles at Flori-

da International University and elsewhere.

His interviews, both private, with top administrators and search committee members, and publicly to the larger college community, demonstrated that Dr. Griffith was a worthy partner to team with President Marcia V. Keizs for York’s growth as she would later acknowledge.

“[Dr. Griffith] has led the academic revival of York with distinction,” said President Keizs in announcing his impending departure in June. “Starting with the successful completion of the decennial Middle States

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York Professors Receive Rare Grant

Two York professors have won a grant of \$291,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), toward a joint project at Fermilab, in Batavia, Illinois; the grant is the first of its kind from the DOE to

any CUNY college, most likely, in more than a decade.

Dr. James Popp and Dr. Kevin Lynch received the grant to support their research on the Muon-to-Electron Conversion (or Mu2e) project, whose design and

construction will be ongoing until at least 2019. Thereafter, data collection will begin and last at least three years in order to execute this high-sensitivity search for the extremely rare and as-yet

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Special points of interest:

- NCATE Accreditation with “flying colors”
- Fulbright Award
- Astrology Ph.D. for York graduate

York's Assistant Provost Earns Fulbright Award



Dr. Holger Henke

York College is proud to report that Assistant Provost, Dr. Holger Henke, recently earned a Fulbright U.S.-United Kingdom International Education Administrators Program award.

The award took Dr. Henke and other participants on visits to eleven universities across Great Britain (in London, Birmingham, Brighton, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Norwich, York, and Durham) to meet executive administrators responsible for internationalization. During numerous meetings, workshops, and Q&A sessions participants shared experiences, discussed international education issues, reviewed programs and best practices pertaining to international student recruitment, internationalization of

the curriculum, study abroad opportunities, and international research collaboration.

“While there are other such Fulbright programs in India, Germany and elsewhere, we are actually the pilot cohort for this program in the United Kingdom,” said Henke, a native of Germany, who earned his Ph.D. in Government at the University of the West Indies (Mona, Jamaica). “It is very competitive.”

Henke, a past president of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), is a respected scholar in international relations. His six books include *The West Indian Americans*, *Constructing Vernacular Culture in the Trans-Caribbean*; and *Modern Political Culture in the Caribbean*.

He has also published

numerous articles in scholarly journals such as “Cultural Critique,” “Latin American Perspectives,” “Social Epistemology,” and “Social and Economic Studies.”

“Dr. Henke is to be congratulated for his Fulbright Fellowship to participate in the program sharing his experience and expertise with international colleagues while at the same time he’s expanding York’s participation,” said Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, Acting Provost and Senior Vice President at York College.

Dr. Henke is currently preparing an article reflecting on his recent journey to England and Scotland and hopes to share it with the wider college community during the fall semester and beyond.

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

— Nelson Mandela



York Grad Succeeding in Ph.D. Studies in Astronomy



Three years into his Ph.D. program at the University of Washington and Nicholas Hunt-Walker '10 is proving that a York College undergraduate degree can compete with the best of 'em.

"I'm doing well enough," he understated recently. "I'm currently in the midst of my third year and have chosen my advisor, Dr. Zeljko Ivezic, for the remainder of my program. We're working together on a number of projects revolving around large-scale surveys and evolved variable stars. I also have time to help maintain our campus' digital planetarium: the World Wide Telescope."

Asked how York prepared him for graduate school, Hunt-Walker recalled the importance of time management as crucial.

A Physics and Mathematics major while at York, Hunt-Walker will earn his Ph.D. in Astronomy "and with all luck" will complete it during the summer of

2016. His thesis is "currently working toward" understanding the atmospheres of evolved Main Sequence stars, as well as their distribution throughout the Milky Way galaxy.

Dr. Timothy Paglione, chair of the Department of Earth and Physical Sciences at York, was one of Hunt-Walker's mentors and has high expectations of his former student who graduated Summa Cum Laude from York.

"Nick is in one of the top astronomy departments in the nation," said Paglione. "He was accepted to every program he applied to, and so I expect [that] once he defends that he'll continue his success and find a post-doctorate that suits his career track. I certainly hope he ends up a faculty member eventually as he is a rare and tremendous role model for others. African-Americans are severely underrepresented in astronomy, so I'm encouraging his persistence in the field be-

yond his Ph.D. because of his talent and embodiment of the next generation of scientists."

Paglione added that Hunt-Walker was nurtured to succeed at York.

"He was drawn to York because of my research program here, and on the advice of a colleague at the College of Staten Island whom he met at the American Museum of Natural History," said Paglione, who holds a Ph.D. in Astronomy and undergraduate degree in Physics.

We recommended him to the Bridge to the Ph.D. program at Columbia [University]; and that experience wrapped up his undergraduate career and prepared him for grad school. In this way he had a host of mentors around CUNY, American Museum of Natural History, and Columbia, all facilitated by his presence here at York as one of the most promising and amiable physics majors we'd ever had."



Nicholas Hunt-Walker (r.) and his York mentor, Dr. Paglione

"African-Americans are severely underrepresented in astronomy, so I'm encouraging his persistence in the field beyond his Ph.D. because of his talent and embodiment of the next generation of scientists."

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



2013-14 Theme: Pedagogies that Enhance Connection & Competence

Thursday, Oct. 3	Workshop:	<i>Seminaring: Letting Students do the Talking about Primary Source Texts</i>
		12 – 1:45pm, CETL, AC 4EA1
	Facilitator:	Debra Swoboda, Behavioral Sciences
Thursday, Oct. 10	Presentation:	<i>Using Service Learning in All Disciplines</i>
		12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Presenters:	Debbie Rowe, English, Thomas Gibson, Student Development
Thursday, Oct. 24	Workshop:	<i>Creating a Virtual Presence and Sense of Community in Online Courses</i>
		12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Facilitator:	William Divale, Social Sciences
Thursday, Oct. 31	Workshop:	<i>Using Technology to Support Writing Pedagogy and Students' Writing</i>
		12 – 1:45pm CETL, AC 4EA1
	Facilitators:	York Writing Across the Curriculum Writing Fellows



York Faculty Updates



- **Njoki Kinyatti** (2013), (Chief Librarian), “Elder Abuse,” in: *Encyclopedia of Domestic Violence and Abuse* (ABC-CLIO, 2013), pp.136-140.
- **John Drobnicki** (2013), (Professor, Library), “Preface,” in: *Vision of Silence: Pastel Paintings by Lin Shih-Yu* (Taipei: Kaun Tang International Publications, 2013): 4-5.
- **John Drobnicki** (2013), (Professor, Library), presented a paper on “The History and Future of Librarian Faculty Status,” *LACUNY Dialogues*, held on May 10, 2013 at the CUNY Graduate Center.
- **Beverly Horowitz**, Nochajski, S. & Schweitzer, J. (2013), (Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy, School of Health & Behavioral Sciences), “Occupational Therapy Community Practice and Home Assessments: Use of the Home Safety Self-Assessment Tool to Support Aging in Place,” in: *Occupational Therapy In Health Care*, 27 (3), pp.216-227.

Welcoming our New Faculty Colleagues (Pt.1)

In Fall 2013 a cohort of new faculty across several disciplines and departments will begin their work as teachers and researchers at York College. We are proud of the new colleagues joining us and are happy to introduce them (in no particular order) in the following pages of the newsletter. In the next newsletter issue, we will list the remaining members of the new cohort.

Bernadette Amicucci

Dr. Bernadette Amicucci is an Associate Professor in Nursing in the Department of Health Professions (School of Health & Behavioral Sciences).

Dr. Amicucci has been practicing as a Registered Nurse since 1981 and became a Nurse Educator on a fulltime basis in 2004. Since that time, she has taught at both the associate degree and baccalaureate degree levels and maintains a part-time clinical practice role.

Most recently she served as the Director of the Upper Division Bachelor of Science (RN to BS) program at the Helene Fuld College of

Nursing in New York.

Dr. Amicucci has been certified as a Nurse Educator (CNE) since 2007. She has served as a Vice-President for Zeta Omega Chapter-at Large for the past four years, and is currently serving as President of the Graduate Center Nursing Doctorate Alumni Association (GCNDAA).

Dr. Amicucci remains focused on increasing her knowledge and expertise in nursing education and exploring new initiatives on educational pathways for nurses.

Dr. Amicucci's clinical nursing experience includes adult acute care/telemetry, public

health and community nursing, school and camp nursing, and nursing administration.

She participated in medical mission trips to the Dominican Republic in 2011 and 2012 to broaden her scope of community nursing to include environmental and global health issues.

She earned her Diploma in Nursing at the Cochran School of Nursing, her BSN and MS in Nursing from Mercy College, a Post-Masters Certificate in Nursing Education from the College of Mount Saint Vincent, and her Doctor of Nursing Science from the City University of New York's Graduate Center.



Dr. Bernadette Amicucci



Daniele Musumeci

Dr. Daniele Musumeci holds an MS and BS in pharmaceutical science from Università di Catania in Catania, Italy, and a Ph.D. in physical and supramolecular chemistry from Sheffield University, in the United

Kingdom. He has previously held a postdoctoral position at NYU (2009-2011) and a postdoctoral position at the School of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2011-present). Dr. Musumeci has published

eight journal articles and presented two meeting posters.

Assistant Professor Musumeci joins the Department of Chemistry in the School of Arts & Sciences.



Dr. Daniele Musumeci

Helene DePalma



Helene DePalma

Helene DePalma has been appointed as an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Professions in the School of Health & Behavioral Sciences.

Since 2007, she has held a position as an adjunct assistant professor in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences Program. Her other teaching experience includes CUNY's College Now program for high school students and transfusion medicine training for pathology residents and hematology fellows.

Professor DePalma obtained her Master's Degree in Adult Educa-

tion and Human Resource Development from Fordham University. She joins York with over twenty years of experience in laboratory management and most recently held the position of Director of Operations at New York Blood Center's Laboratory of Immunohematology and Genomics. Her expertise is in laboratory management, quality assurance and transfusion medicine, particularly blood group genomics.

Professor DePalma holds specialty certifications in blood banking and quality assurance,

and is an active member in many professional associations. She is a volunteer assessor for the College of American Pathologists (CAP) and AABB.

She has also served on many committees and currently is a member of AABB's standard-setting committee for Immunohematology Reference Laboratories.

Professor DePalma served on the board of directors for the Blood Banks Association of New York State and was the association's president from 2001-2003.

Margaret Rose Vendryes



Dr. Margaret Rose Vendryes

Dr. Margaret Rose Vendryes received her AB in fine arts from Amherst College, MA in art history from Tulane University, and a second MA and Ph.D. in art history from Princeton University.

Dr. Vendryes taught at Princeton University and Amherst College before joining the faculty in 1999 at York College and the Graduate Center where, as an Associate Professor of Art

History, she received tenure in 2006.

In 2008, University Press of Mississippi published Vendryes' book *Barthé, A Life in Sculpture*, the first comprehensive monograph on the late African American sculptor Richmond Barthé, which served as the catalog for the 2010-2011 retrospective she curated at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art in Biloxi.

In addition to teaching, curating, and writ-

ing, Dr. Vendryes has a full-time studio practice. In June 2012, Vendryes's debut NYC solo painting exhibition, *33 1/3: Pushing the Needle, Selections from The African Diva Project* introduced her interest in black female identity and performance.

Dr. Vendryes joins the Department of Performing and Fine Arts in the School of Arts and Sciences as a Distinguished Lecturer.

Benjamin MacKrell

Benjamin MacKrell holds a Bachelors Degree in Theater from Goucher College in Baltimore.

As Technical Director for Manoa Valley Theater, Hawaii's premier off-Broadway playhouse, he received the award for "Outstanding Technical Direction" by the Hawaii State Theater Council in 2010, a category created that year.

He also received Po'okeala Awards for his outstanding set designs on *Little Shop Of Horrors* in 2011, *Sleuth* in 2010, and *Tuesdays with Morrie* in 2009 – all at Manoa Valley Theater.

He was also awarded Broadwayworld.com Outstanding Lighting Design of a Play for *Sight Unseen* at Baltimore's Fells Point Corner Theater in 2006.

Mackrell's passion lies in helping theater artists realize their vision, and making it possible for audiences to be emotionally and intellectually transported.

He will join the Department of Performing and Fine Arts in the School of Arts and Sciences as a College Laboratory Technician.



Benjamin MacKrell

George Lam

Hong Kong-born composer George Tsz-Kwan Lam (b. 1981) grew up in Winthrop, Massachusetts, and holds a Ph.D. in music composition from Duke University.

George is interested in projects that intersect music, theater, and the documentary, and he is currently at work on a new documentary trio for New Morse Code (New Haven, CT).

George's recent one-act opera *The Persistence of Smoke* (2011), with a libretto by North Carolina playwright John Justice, focused on the once thriving cigarette industry in Durham (NC), inspired by collected interviews, oral histories and archival

materials. The opera was staged in April 2011 at Golden Belt, the site of a former cotton mill that manufactured bags for Bull Durham tobacco.

George Lam's music has been performed by Gotham Chamber Opera (New York, NY), Christ Church United Methodist (New York, NY), Emerging Voices Project (New York, NY), Contemporary Musiking (Hong Kong), Volti (San Francisco, CA), American Opera Projects (Brooklyn, NY), Red Clay Saxophone Quartet (Greensboro, NC), AM/PM Saxophone Quartet, Boston University Concert Band, Charles River Wind Ensemble

(Boston, MA), Aspen Contemporary Ensemble and Hong Kong Voices.

From 2009 to 2012, the Hong Kong Sinfonietta and conductor Yip Wing-sie commissioned three orchestral works, which were all premiered by the orchestra. George is the current co-artistic director of Rhymes With Opera, an ensemble dedicated to commissioning and producing new operas in Baltimore and New York City.

Dr. Lam joins the Department of Performing & Fine Arts (School of Arts & Sciences) as an Assistant Professor.



George Lam

For additional profiles,
see p.16

Reflections on the 2013 GSC-GSA “Roof of the World” China Meeting and Chengdu

by Nazrul Khandaker



Dr. Khandaker during the inaugural ceremony



Left to right: Dr. Dong (CAGS and PI: SinoProbe), Professor Xianlai Meng (Vice President, GSC), and Dr. Khandaker (York)

The recently concluded First Joint Scientific Meeting of Geological Society of China (GSC) and Geological Society of America (GSA) proceeded efficiently in the modern setting of the Jinjiang Hotel, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China.

GSA's International Section played a key role bringing this meeting to the overseas communities. The meeting, titled “Roof of the World,” ended on 19 June, 2013, followed by several field trips that lasted from three to six days. The meeting was designed to promote and bolster the academic communication between the GSC and GSA, and covered a wide range of topics presented through 15 technical sessions, including: Evolution of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, Continental Deformation and Deep Lithosphere Processes, Intra-Continental Deformations and Geohazards, Accretionary Orogens, Deep Earth Processes through Geochemistry, Mineral Deposits, Basins and Petroleum Resources, Permian-Triassic Mass Extinctions, Ultra High-

pressure Metamorphism, Ophiolites, Carbon Sequestration, Water Resources and Hydrogeology, Gas Hydrates, Critical Transitions in Earth's History and Foreland basin tectonics.

The GSC-GSA meeting took place just about six weeks after an earthquake struck Sichuan Province; however the City of Chengdu largely remained unharmed.

Chengdu is the capital city of Sichuan province, and is currently recognized by many as the focal point of science and technology, finance, trade and commerce in southwestern China. It is the regional hub for communication and transportation. Chengdu's 14 million inhabitants have a noticeably high proportion of science and technology skills, and the city is home to a large number of international financial institutions. Chengdu ranked fourth out of all Chinese cities in terms of permanent resident population after Chongqing (28.8462 million), Shanghai (23.0191 million), and Beijing (19.6120 million).

Chengdu is the flag-

ship city for foreign investment in China. As a city famous for its tourism and its historical culture, Chengdu boasts Three-Kingdom-Period Culture, Jinsha Relics, the Dujiangyan Irrigation System (over 2000 years old), and other historical sites. Given its booming economy, tourism, and recent high-tech establishments, Chengdu was honored the “Best Tourism City of China” by the World Tourism Organization and the National Tourism Administration in 2006. The city of Chengdu is situated in the southeastern portion of the Chengdu Plain, with high relief to the west and low to the east, a typical inland area. Tectonic units of Chengdu include the Mt. Longquan thrust belt, Chengdu Depression and Longmenshan Fold. For the most part, the Chengdu plain has an elevation ranging from 450 to 720 meters. Chengdu is bordered by the high and steep Longmen Mountain in the northeast and by the Qionglai Mountains in the west. Miao Jiling (5,364 m or

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Aviation Major Scores Second NAFA Scholarship

For the second year in a row York College student, Muhammad Khattak has won an impressive scholarship from the National Aircraft Finance Association (NAFA).

The Aviation Management major at York won \$3,400 in the spring of 2012 and recently won the organization's highest scholarship, in the amount of \$5,000.

Khattak, who maintains an outstanding grade point average (GPA), was surprised by the repeat scholarship.

"I didn't think I'd get it two years in a row, but it was worth a shot," he remarked. "It's always the guys like Embry Riddle Aeronautical University who get these awards; but we're moving up. I think Aviation at York is moving forward at a high pace."

According to the organization, the NAFA Corporate Aviation Business Scholarship award was established to benefit full-time college students enrolled in bachelors, Masters/MBA or Ph.D. degrees for business careers in corporate aviation, "specifically within the

corporate aircraft Finance, Legal and Insurance community with an emphasis on aviation business management."

Dr. Chun-Pin Hsu, Khattak's Finance professor who is also director of the CUNY Aviation Institute at York College, consistently informs his students about scholarship opportunities.

"I always promote the scholarship in my class," said Hsu. "It's very competitive. It is the highest standard association in aviation finance. They only give out three to four scholarships per year and they usually go to institutions like Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida Institute of Technology, University of North Dakota ... and they don't get it every year. It's almost impossible for the same student to get it two years in a row."

NAFA explains that it all depends on the credentials of the applicant and the availability of the funds.

"The amount of NAFA Scholarship funds bestowed to any individual applicant is

based on donor contributions received by NAFA, and each applicant's credentials," says Anthony Kioussis, of the (NAFA) Scholarship Committee. "NAFA is committed to providing Scholarships on an annual basis to worthy candidates majoring in Accounting, Business Marketing, Economics, and/or Finance, with a focus on Aviation Business/Management. As such, Muhammad Khattak's GPA, major coursework, and specific courses taken earned him high marks, and placed him within the group of recipients."

Mr. Kioussis added that, based on his performance while attending York, "Mr. Khattak should have a bright future – in whatever sector of business aviation he elects to pursue – and our industry looks forward to his contributions. "



Muhammad Khattak

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

— *George Santanyana*

YORK COLLEGE CUNY

Student Development Colleague Earns Doctorate Degree



Dr. Truett Vaigneur and department colleagues Paola Veras (l.) and Amira Mills (r.)

Truett Lee Vaigneur, Jr. just completed his doctorate degree this past spring and the busy scholar already has plans to employ the knowledge he gained from the experience to help York's students.

"I would like to use what I've learned and put the literature review to use in the Student Development courses I teach," said Vaigneur. "The dissertation has stimulated me to want to learn more, so I will do a quick master's in identity development as well."

The dissertation to which Vaigneur refers is an Ed.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies.

"It's the melting pot degree," he joked. "But I did a concentration in subcultures within the mainstream campus culture. I concentrated on athletics and the subculture of gay athletes."

Dr. Vaigneur also produced a companion documentary to his dissertation. The documentary on identity formation is called, "The University Pool," and has its roots in [Eric] Ericson's, "Eight Stages of Development."

Screenings of the documentary will take place in various venues

across the country including at Columbia University, the CUNY Graduate Center and York College, where he has served as an adjunct professor in Student Development and as a counselor in the LEADS (Linking, Education, Academics and Disability) program, as well as in the SEEK (Searching for Elevation, Education and Knowledge) as both counselor and instructor.

Vaigneur, who earned the doctorate degree from Long Island University, also gives credit for his success to the Student Development team led by Dr. Geneva Walker-Johnson, Vice-President for Student Development. She, in turn, expressed the value of advanced training for those supporting students' development.

"On behalf of the Division of Student Development, I offer our sincere congratulations to Dr. Truett Vaigneur," said Dr. Walker-Johnson. "Being in Student Affairs / Development represents the importance of the juxtaposition of the curricular and the co-curricular educational experience that is essen-

tial to the development of students as whole individuals. The credentialing of those of us whose professional experience and life calling is in the co-curricular domain of the student experience, further supports the whole student development mode. It undergirds our work, focuses on developing the student as a whole person, in both the cognitive and affective domains."

Vaigneur who earned his previous degrees at CUNY's Hunter College, agrees with the VP. "College is not just about the classroom," says Vaigneur, who came to York approximately six years ago. "Through the co-curricular we learn how we want to position ourselves within a social position to where we have strong goals, and through that interaction, we learn who we are."

Already an in-demand expert in his doctoral field, Vaigneur will return to Columbia University in October to help moderate a panel with the LGBTQ (Lesbian Gay Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning) group.

"Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education: they grow there, firm as weeds among stones."

— Charlotte Brontë,
Jane Eyre

York College Receives Continuing Accreditation from NCATE

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), recently granted York College's initial Teacher Education preparation programs continuing accreditation for six years through spring 2019.

"It re-affirms to the College, School, Department and greater external communities that York College's Teacher Education programs are of the highest academic quality," said Dr. Lynne Clark, Dean of the School of Health and Behavioral Sciences at York. "As such, [it] prepares diverse and exceptional educational leaders and teachers who are prepared to insure that all children in a New York City public school learn to their maximum potential."

Dr. Lindamichelle Baron, chair of the Department of Teacher Education, is looking forward to continuing to build on the program's success.

"We are thrilled that NCATE reaccredited our

Teacher Education program, indicating that we met all the rigorous national standards, with no areas for improvement noted," said Dr. Baron. "The Department of Teacher Education has been building on the strong foundation of our initial accreditation six years ago, under consistent, intentional department leadership, dedicated, student centered faculty and support from all levels of administration."

Baron added that the on-site Board of Examiners' team report gave York the highest recommendation of "Target" on the diversity-based standard

"Special congratulations are in order," said James G. Cibulka, president of NCATE in his notification letter to York's president, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs. "No areas for improvement, relative to any of the standards, have been cited."

The standards include field experiences and clinical practice, diversity, faculty qualifications,

performance and development; as well as governance and resources. Some of the targets include training for special needs teaching and English Language Learners.

"I am very pleased that for the second time in our history, York College's Teacher Education program has received re-accreditation, from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education," said President Keizs.

"Getting the stamp of approval from the body that determines national standards of excellence in Teacher Education is of great significance for any Teacher Education program. York has accomplished this with its outstanding professors led by the chair, Lindamichelle Baron and with guidance from Dean Clark. Our Teacher Education majors and the public schools, in which they will work, have further assurance of the quality of their training for 21st century teaching professions."



"Special congratulations are in order," said James G. Cibulka, president of NCATE. "No areas for improvement, relative to any of the standards, have been cited."

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Former Provost, Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith



Dr. Griffith addressing the college community at his farewell event



Acting Dean, Dr. Donna Chirico

review and other external accreditation visits, he redesigned the academic infrastructure of the college into three distinct schools. He collaborated with the academic chairs and deans to strengthen existing academic programs and he led the creation of new programs: Journalism, Pharmaceutical Science, Generic Nursing, Logistics and Supply Chain, and Health Sciences. He built the newly established Aviation Business major.”

Of course there were many other goals he achieved that would also enhance, “the academic enterprise,” as he was wont to say. To this end, President Keizs added that Griffith demonstrated his commitment to both access and excellence of York College students “by recruiting and mentoring in their behalf, stellar new faculty from across the world thus increasing the faculty rank 40 percent during his time.” He also, with the aid of Title III funding, led the creation of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning; imagined and executed the Provost Lecture Series and its various offshoots; and he expanded the Undergraduate Student Research Program beyond

its initial location in the sciences that has resulted in a robust undergraduate activities across the curriculum including study abroad.”

President Keizs emphasized her admiration several times.

“Ivelaw cultivated enhancements in our system: syllabi review and standardization; timely grade submission; online management of reappointment, promotion and tenure; improvement of external review of candidates for promotion and tenure; systematic academic program reviews of departments and much more,” she said. “Moreover, Ivelaw fostered a culture that encourages, challenges and celebrates faculty accomplishments; and he supported students’ success while keeping the college and the wider community informed through the monthly publication, *Academic Affairs Update*.”

Beyond this, President Keizs also noted that he celebrated faculty research and student mentorship in the newly-established journal, *Discovery*. The Convocation Professor was yet another way he presented front and center the intellectual contributions of our faculty to the col-

lege community-- students, faculty, and administrators, all. Only this past year, he launched a new initiative, the Provost Conversations on Research and Scholarship, to marshal and guide the formidable, if sometimes latent talents, of our faculty in their various research and scholarship efforts.”

President Keizs, in closing her message to the college community referred to Dr. Griffith with three Ps. “Professor, provost and president: please join me in wishing Dr. Griffith the very best in his new role; and in thanking him for his bold academic leadership these past six years.”

The provost’s departure has also served as opportunity for other leaders to come to the fore in new roles.

Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, formerly the dean of Arts and Sciences, has been appointed acting provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Donna Chirico, formerly the chair of the Behavioral Sciences Department, has been appointed acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

The Inaugural Michael Flynn Memorial Lecture



Wednesday, September 25th, 5:00-7:00 pm
Performing Arts Center Lobby

Speakers:

Professors Uwe P. Gielen and Dinesh Sharma,
 authors of

The Global Obama: Crossroads of Leadership in the 21st Century

A wine and cheese reception will follow the presentation.

For additional information: Dean D. Chirico (718 262 2687, DChirico@york.cuny.edu)

Social Psychology Poster Class

On the final day of class, May 16, students in Dr. William Ashton's Social Psychology course presented their semester-long research projects in a class poster session. The final result of the project was a poster describing a research proposal in Social Psychology.

These posters included an Introduction and Method section, and pre-

dicted results. The project began early in the semester with students being assigned to a "journal club" to read and analyze one of the four "foundation articles," students then worked in pairs to propose an extension to the foundation article, and finally write and design the poster. The foundation article topics this semester were: embodied cognition and pain,

the Just World Hypothesis, the framing of political messages regarding torture, and using "name dropping" as an ingratiation technique.

In addition to presenting their posters, students had to visit and talk to other presenters; then write a brief report on a favorite poster. Dr. Ashton repeats this assignment every semester.



Students in Dr. Ashton poster class



Ongoing work in Fermilab's Muon Collider section

“The international project involves scientists from numerous other colleges, universities, and National Laboratories who work to reveal more about the universe”

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unseen decay of a muon directly into an electron.

“The Mu2e Collaboration has proposed, and Fermilab has granted, stage one approval to a new experiment to search for charged lepton flavor violation with unprecedented sensitivity...,” said Dr. Popp “We will measure the rate of the coherent neutrinoless conversion of a negatively charged muon into an electron in the field of a nucleus relative to the rate of the muon capture process,” that is, the rate of muon capture by the nucleus.

Dr. Lynch explained that the international project involves scientists from numerous other colleges, universities, and National Laboratories who have come together as a collective to realize the ambitious project that will reveal more about the universe.

“On the physics side, we’re hoping it will shake up our understanding of the structure of the universe,” said Lynch, an expert in experimental particle physics, data acquisition and data analysis. “As particle physicists, we try to understand, as much as we can, the makeup of the universe: ‘For example: why do we need both protons and neutrons in atomic nuclei,

and why are these particles made up of yet other things?’”

In addition to their work at Fermilab, the two professors are also engaged in muon beamline simulation and carrying out tests to design the Mu2e electron tracking detector at York; and are actively engaging their York students in the process. The two are uniquely qualified to represent York on this exciting project. Lynch, who also serves as the pre-engineering coordinator at York, earned his bachelor’s degree in physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Master’s and Ph.D. from Boston University. At York he is an in-demand mentor for students.

“I am glad that Drs. Popp and Lynch received the well-deserved award,” said Dr. Panayiotis Meleties, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at York. “It will propel their research and expand the opportunities for them and their students contributing to that exciting field of research.”

Dr. Popp is not new to Fermilab. He spent academic year 2009-2011 at the prestigious lab where he worked on advancing the Mu2e

Project, and remarked at the time that no one else within CUNY is doing this type of research. He is excited about this new turn of events.

“It only happens once in a great while for the Department of Energy to fund a newly established group to study high energy physics,” said Dr. Popp, whose expertise includes experimental elementary particle physics, ultra-relativistic heavy ion collision physics, relativistic plasmas, and health physics. “They are very project-driven. The goal is lofty but the knowledge we gain from the funding presents problems that young scientists and engineers can use.”

Popp, who holds the Ph.D. in Physics from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a Masters in Physics from Northern Illinois University and Bachelor’s degrees in Mathematics and Physics respectively, from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has also published and presented extensively in his field. His affiliation with Fermilab pre-dates his tenure at York.

cont.'d from p.8

17,598 ft) and Xiling Snow Mountain (5,164 m or 16,942 ft) are the loftiest mountain ranges. The western mountainous area is also home to a large primitive forest with abundant biological resources and a Giant Panda habitat. East of Chengdu stands the low Longquan Mountain and the area bordering to the west is comprised of the hilly middle reaches of the Min River. Since ancient times, Chengdu has been known as owing to its fertile soil, favorable climate, and novel Dujiangyan Irrigation System.

The weather was hot and humid and early morning showers kept humidity at a high level for both Tuesday and Wednesday (June 18 and 19, 2013). The conference venue was comfortably located in a downtown setting with lots of eateries (including Starbucks) within walking distance. The nearby

Funan River walk was a pleasant break for many participants after the meeting, and it was quite peaceful. Lots of local residents were enjoying the scenery and doing physical activities: dancing, meditation, and other forms of aerobic exercises even close to midnight. Many residents easily get around the city on scooters. It was quite interesting to see several dozen scooter riders waiting patiently for traffic light turning green. Everyone followed their designated path with no apparent conflict with pedestrians!

The Geological Society of China was founded in Beijing on 27 January 1922. It is one of the earliest scientific organizations in China, whose predecessor was the Chinese Society of Earth Sciences formed in Tianjin in 1909. The earliest geological map ever produced in China (that of

the former Zhili Province, covering the present Hebei Province, Beijing, and Tianjin) was published in the founding issue of the Journal of the Chinese Society of Earth Sciences in 1910. Currently GSC has well-over 80,000 members. Apart from the GSC, the International Professionals for the Advancement of Chinese Earth Sciences (IPACES) coordinates with other geological agencies in China. The IPACES is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 and registered in the State of Michigan, USA. The missions of the IPACES are a) to promote cooperation in earth sciences between China and the US, and between China and other countries, and b) to advance earth science research and education in China.



Dr. Khandaker (ctr.) with CUNY & Columbia University Professor Dr. Yan Zheng (r.)

“Be not afraid of growing slowly, be afraid only of standing still.”

Chinese Proverb



On May 11, Dr. Selena Rodgers was honored as the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award from the York College Alumni Inc. at their 25th Annual Scholarship & Awards Dinner Gala. The event also honored York staff members Claudette Small and Bakary Jammeh (posthumously) with Meritorious Service Awards. In the picture, Dr. Rodgers (l.) is posing with York College president Dr. Marcia Keizs.

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

Welcoming our New Faculty Colleagues (cont'd)

Mavis Green



Dr. Mavis Green

Dr. Mavis F. Green is a leading voice in collegiate aviation education. She is a past president of the University Aviation Association, which represents over 100 institutions of higher education offering non-engineering aviation programs, and has served on their executive committee for five years. She was awarded both the Wheatley Award for outstanding contributions in the field of aviation education and the Laurson Award for

excellence in college teaching. Dr. Green has numerous publications and has made many domestic and international presentations.

Dr. Green holds a Ph.D. in Educational Organization and Leadership from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She also holds a MPA from Harvard University and a Masters in aviation safety from CMU. Her undergraduate degree is in environmental science.

Dr. Green is rated as an Air Transport Pilot. She also holds Gold Seal Flight Instructor certificates. Dr. Green has amassed over 10,000 flight hours. She has volunteered with the FAA as a safety team member for many years.

Dr. Green joins the Department of Business and Economics (School of Business & Information Systems) as an Associate Professor.

Kangbok Lee



Dr. Kangbok Lee

Kangbok Lee graduated with B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in industrial engineering (Operations Research) from POSTECH (Pohang University of Science and Technology), Korea in 1998, 2000 and 2004, respectively.

Before joining York College, CUNY, he worked at Rutgers Business School, Newark, as a research associate professor (2010-2013), New York University as a visiting scholar (2007-2010) and LG Electron-

ics as a senior research engineer (2004-2007).

He is a well-balanced scholar in solving real-world problems and doing academic research. During his graduate studies and his working period at LG Electronics, he had extensive industry project experience. At Rutgers Business School, he worked for a project on Pharmaceutical supply chain management with Department of Homeland Security, USA.

He has published more than two dozen

papers in refereed journals, such as *Production and Operations Management*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Naval Research Logistics*, *International Journal of Production Economics*, and *International Journal of Production Research*. He serves as an associate editor of *Journal of Scheduling*. His main research interests are Operations Research, Management Science and Supply Chain Management.

York Grad Completes MS in Science Teaching at Museum of Natural History

A York College alumnus has completed a Master's degree at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) to train young minds in the sciences.

Wilfred Beauzile is a York alum two times over. First he graduated in 1995 with a degree in Sociology and then he returned for another bachelor degree, this time in Geology, graduating again in 2011. It was while he was pursuing the Geology degree that Beauzile received information passed out by Dr. Timothy Paglione, chairperson of the Department of Earth and Physical Sciences at York and an associate in the Astrophysics Department at AMNH, about the program at the museum.

"I never had Will as a student, since I never teach Geology, just physics and astronomy," said Paglione. "But I knew him from around the department and [I] take pride in all our

graduates from Earth and Physical Science. I followed his success at AMNH. The AMNH folks adore him and spoke very highly of his classroom presence and rapport with the kids."

That bodes well for Beauzile as he has just accepted a teaching position, having done teaching rotations in the New York City public school system as part of his training.

"I was in a Masters in Teaching at the Museum," said Beauzile. "It is a program designed to train earth science teachers, which is a high needs area in the Department of Education. I will be teaching science at a middle school in Harlem. I am looking forward to engaging young people and getting them interested in science. In many communities they do not have the benefit of good teaching, which I hope I will provide in certain content areas."

Asked how York pre-

pared him for this new chapter in his professional life, Beauzile had high praises for his alma mater.

"The Earth and Physical Science Department provided me with an excellent foundation in Geology in particular," he said. "But more specifically, the courses that I took at York in Chemistry, Physics and other disciplines, taught me to think critically and to articulate my understanding. These skills translate well into teaching."

Putting the accomplishment into perspective, Paglione said being accepted into the AMNH program consisted of a "rigorous screening process, since only 25 applicants would be accepted out of hundreds."

Beauzile agrees.

"None of this would have been possible without the preparation I received from my professors in Earth and Physical Sciences Department at York College," he re-



Mr. Beauzile (l.) with students at the American Museum of Natural History

The Earth and Physical Science Department provided me with an excellent foundation in Geology in particular.

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

JAZZ

and Improvised
Music in Vienna

Based on his extensive fieldwork and performing with Austrian musicians both in Vienna and New York, Dr. Zlabinger will discuss various characteristics and trends regarding the jazz and improvised music scene in Vienna.

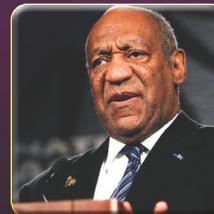


Dr. Thomas Zlabinger
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Performing and Fine Arts
School of Arts and Sciences

Monday, September 9, 2013

3:00 - 5:00 PM Room 1M07

“Justice for Trayvon Martin: Where Do We Go from here?”



Thursday, September 26, 2013
Atrium
12-2 p.m. public forum

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The deadline for submissions to the September issue of Academic Affairs Update is September 20, 2013.

All items should be submitted in MS Word

via email to:

AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu