

# ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

**YORK**College

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## Dean's List Reception



**L-r.: Dr. Deb Chakravarti, the event emcee, keynote speaker Dr. Vanessa Crevecoeur-Ducas, and President Keizs**

On March 20th, the Health and Physical Education complex was joyfully filled to capacity with more than 300

students, guests, faculty and staff for the annual Dean's List Reception. Each spring, matriculated students with exceptional academic records are recognized for having satisfied the established academic criteria that includes achieving a grade-point average of 3.50 or higher. For Spring and Fall 2013, more than 700 students made the list for one or both semesters.

President Marcia Keizs acknowledged the outstanding work and dedication of the Dean's List students, the support of their families and the guidance provided by

faculty and staff members. Provost Panayiotis Meleties offered congratulations in his role as the chief academic officer of the college. Dr. Deb Chakravarti, Professor of Chemistry and York's liaison to the FDA, was the emcee for the formal program.

The highlight of the presentations was the keynote address by Dr. Vanessa Crevecoeur-Ducas who successfully completed her doctorate in Chemistry at Yale University only six years after graduating from York as a Chemistry ma-

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## Career Center hosts Success Seminar

by Bryan White, York student journalist

The York College Career Service Center recently held its leadership conference led by graduating senior, Stephane Labossiere.

Labossiere, a Community Health major, spoke about his experi-

ence as a Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholar. The event, held in Room 3M01, was showcased by Randy Punter, the Senior Career Opportunity Specialist at the Career Services Center.

"I learned so many things here at York, but being balanced academically and participating in any club is the best way to excel in and outside of college," said Labossiere as he clicked

*cont.'d on p.7*

### Special points of interest:

- **New Book on Caribbean Literature**
- **York Students at Psychology Conference**
- **Lobbying for Social Work in Albany**

## Provost Lecture

## How Do We Prevent HIV from Infecting Normal Cells?



Dr. Emmanuel Chang

On March 6, 2014, the Provost Lecture Series held its first presentation in the Spring semester: Dr. Emmanuel Chang and his research team presented their research titled “A New Mechanism for Control of HIV Reverse Transcription.”

The team led by Dr. Chang consists of Hsin-Pin Ho and Pratikkumar Rathod, his graduate assistants from the Ph.D. program at the Graduate Center, and four undergraduate students, Ai-Mei Chen, Chemistry major, Abbas Nazir and Emeka Nnaji, both Biotechnology majors. This is the first time at the Provost Lecture Series that students joining the faculty together presented their research collaboration. The lecture was also well attended by faculty and students from different departments.

The project was initiated about three years ago with the financial supports from NIH and PSC-CUNY grants. The presentation started with a brief overview on the development of HIV/AIDS as well as its solutions. As the biological aspect of HIV usually

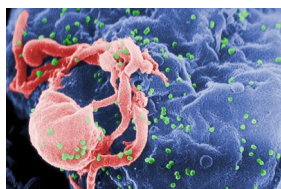
develops in three stages (acute infection, clinical latency, and AIDS), this research focuses on the so-called “reverse transcription” part of its life cycle. In other words, that is the stage where the virus enters the cell and synthesizes with one’s DNA.

Previous research has found that there is a group of patients, also called “Elite Controllers,” whose infection is virtually maintained undetectable even without drugs. The team intends to find out what mechanism prevents “Elite Controllers” from getting sick. One discovery was that this group of virus carriers contains high levels of Protein 21 (P21). P21 is known as a tumor suppressor as well as an intrinsic inhibitor of CDK (cyclin dependent kinases). Thus, one of the main hypotheses of the project is that CDK phosphorylate the reverse transcription (RT).

To test the hypothesis, Dr. Chang and his team have conducted a series of experiments. They first incubated CDK, ATP and RT-derived peptide to ob-

serve whether there would be any increase of molecular weight corresponding to phosphorylation. When the result is positive, they further incubated CDK with RT protein that contains CDK phosphorylation motifs. The team then incubated RT with RNA template and DNA nucleotides to monitor the new assembly of DNA. They have found phosphorylation of RT by CDK enhances its ability to create reverse transcription, which means that if we inhibit CDK phosphorylation we would slow down the reverse transcription process and thus hinder HIV infectivity.

Consequently, another experiment was conducted. The team blocked CDK in HIV infected cells to see whether the production of reverse transcripts is affected and what is the percentage of cells that are infected. The result is again positive and renders the following implication: if we can use drug treatment to prevent CDK phosphorylation, HIV infectivity will be reduced at the



HIV virus

## Coaching with a Cherry on Top

by Bryan White, Student Reporter

*For the past eight years Jessica Cherry has been the Assistant Athletic Director and Assistant head coach, for York College men and women basketball teams. Cherry worked her way through the ranks at York, starting out as an athletic trainer, to assistant coach, then Assistant Athletic Director. She is the only woman to be on the staff of a men's college basketball team in Division III. Coach Cherry is an accomplished woman, who is striving for more.*

**AAU:** Coach Cherry, what is your biggest Accomplishment as a coach?

**JC:** My biggest accomplishment is seeing my players graduate. It is the best feeling. Everything we do here is as a team. Especially the players that I recruited, seeing people give up on them and then see them graduate and come back and say thank you. That is enough for me.

**AAU:** What got you into coaching?

**JC:** I was a student Athlete in high school. I did not play in college because I got hurt on my first day in college. I tore my ligament in my hip, my knee and my

ankle. I played five sports in high school. I went the athletic trainer route, but changed my mind after graduate school. I was really passionate about sports. I watched college basketball endlessly, never watched the pro's and that was what I wanted to do.

**AAU:** Was York College your first coaching job?

**JC:** Yes it was. I have been coaching the men's team for 16 years.

**AAU:** What was your most disappointing season?

**JC:** I don't know the exact year. I think it was the 2000 season. We did not do well that year. The student athletes changed that year. I felt like the coaches wanted it more than the athletes. So we were pushing them and they just wanted to play. I was not OK with that. I wanted them to win and win big. I wanted them to workout. I wanted them to do what I expected of them. And so that year, I told Coach St. John that this was going to be my last year. I told him that the team did not have the same passion I had and he laughed and said he felt

the same way. So he said let all the coaches have a meeting, then recruit true student athletes and if that doesn't work out then we can all say goodbye. It takes a big person to know when to say goodbye. To leave it all alone, the four coaches at the time decided that we were going to "bust our tails" during the summer and recruit heavily and we did. [And] two years later we won a championship.

**AAU:** Was that the first championship you won?

**JC:** No, that was the second championship. The first Championship was my first year at York.

**AAU:** As an Assistant Woman coach for the Men's Basketball Team, were you disrespected by any of the players?

**JC:** When I first came here, No. Coach Reeves was on that first team. My first year here, I was the athletic trainer and the assistant head coach for the women's team. The players respected me because I came from a Division One program. My work ethic was running every day and the women were like, who is this woman!? But the



Jessica Cherry



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## Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



### 2013-14 Theme: Pedagogies that Enhance Connection & Competence

<b>Thursday, Apr 3</b>	Workshop/ Webinar:	<i>Maker-Culture and You: How 3D-Printing and Hands-On Learning Can Augment Traditional Pedagogy</i>
		12 – 1:45 pm    Maker-Space, AC 4M04
	Facilitator:	Dan Phelps, Performing & Fine Arts
<b>Thursday, Apr 10</b>	Panel:	Infusing Undergraduate Research into the Curriculum
		12 – 1:45pm    CETL, AC 4EA1
	Panelists:	Rob Duncan, Behavioral Sciences Nicholas Grosskopf, Health & Physical Education Nazrul Khandaker, Earth & Physical Sciences
<b>Thursday, May 1</b>	Workshop:	Telehealth Nursing: Educating Future Nurses in Technology to Deliver Care
		12 – 1:45pm    CETL, AC 4EA1
	Facilitators:	Margarett Alexandre, Health Professions Lynette Hope, Visiting Nurse Service NY Lilly Mathew, Health Professions Maryann Rosa, Nursing CUNY Queensborough Community College



## York Faculty Updates



- **Kelly Baker Josephs**, (Associate Professor, Department of English, School of Arts & Sciences), recently published her new book *Disturbers of the Peace: Representations of Madness in Anglophone Caribbean Literature*, Charlottesville (VA): University of Virginia Press 2013.



## In the Field ... at Social Work Legislative Day

The journey to Social Work Legislative Day in Albany (NY) began much earlier than the bus departing York College at 6:30 a.m. It began with learning in the classroom!

For York's social work students, preparation for Legislative Day begins with a liberal arts education and core competencies embedded in the social work curriculum (accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Social Work Education, 2014-2021). York College faculty members teach undergraduate social work classes – policy, practice, research, human behavior and social environment, and field education.

These courses help students prepare for lobby day by examining the Foster Care Independence Act (FICA) of 1999 effect on youth. Students are able to identify theories to understand adolescent development, identify evidence based practice models, as well as discover social policy and strategies for establishing coalitions among nonprofits within communities.

Preparation for lobby

day continued with the collective efforts of faculty, students and staff who volunteer their time outside the classroom. In mid-February 2014, Professor Crystal George-Moses engaged social work club officers – President LaChanda Moor and Vice President Amir Khan – engaged in initial conversations about their policy interests. Professor George-Moses also helped the officers identify relevant policy such as FICA, which outlines services available to adolescents. Professor George-Moses' mentoring was also a major contribution towards helping social work students pinpoint specific aspects of the Act that warrant nuanced attention and additional funding.

Ms. Moor used this helpful information to coordinate phone conferences with parent advocates and case planners who provide foster care services to youth aging out of care. Ms. Moor also spoke with a representative from *Represent Magazine*, a quarterly publication founded in 1993 to provide a voice for youth in foster care. In addition, Ms. Moor, alongside Mr. Khan,

conducted fundraising efforts to supplement the delegation's travel to lobby day in Albany, NY.

Subsequent trainings for students planning to attend lobby day were facilitated by Dr. Rodgers (via video conferencing), Mr. Amir Khan (Vice President, York College Social Work Club), Ms. Isabelle Hubert, and Mr. Earl Simons (York College Director of Government and Community Relations). Trainings provided an opportunity for students to frame their advocacy agenda and practice lobbying skills for their visits with NYS legislators.

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Advocacy Toolkit was especially helpful with these efforts. The journey to Social Work Legislative Day in Albany every March ends with preparation for the next year. Social work faculty members use post-lobby day discussions during scheduled classes to assist students plan for another year of advocacy. York College social work courses enact poli-

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Dr. Selena Rodgers on the bus to Albany

YORKCOLLEGE CUNY

## Social Work Students Lobby Day in Albany



**R. to L.:** New York State Senator James Sanders, Jr., President Dr. Marcia Keizs, York College Social Work Club Vice President Amir Khan, and York College Director of Government and Community Relations Earl Simons



Group picture of the student delegation in Assemblywoman Vivian Cook's office

In 1984, the White House officially recognized March as National Professional Social Work Month. This year's Social Work Month theme was, "All People Matter." Aligned with this year's theme and social work's *respect for the dignity and worth of the person*, a diverse York student delegation lobbied for youth who age out of foster care, without achieving adoption or independent living at the time of their discharge.

On March 4, Dr. Selena T. Rodgers, Faculty Advisor for the York College Social Work Club, Amir Khan (Vice President, York College Social Work Club), and Isabelle Hubert (Stony Brook MSW student) led 17 social work students to Social Work Annual Legislative Day in Albany, NY. Social work students alongside York College President Dr. Marcia Keizs and Mr. Earl Simons, Director of Government and Community Relations, engaged in a productive day of meetings with NYS Assembly and Senate members and their senior staff. It was especially rewarding for students to meet with legis-

lators who chair and/or hold memberships with standing committees invested in addressing youth who age out of care – New York State (NYS) Assemblywomen Vivian Cook (Housing, Ways and Means), Assemblywoman Michele Titus (Foster Care, Children and Families, Social Services), and Senator James Sanders, Jr. (Social Services, Economic Development).

Youth who have aged out of foster care endure challenges in obtaining housing and employment. The student delegation lobbied to enhance resources in this area.

Students also lobbied for additional funding. Students also urged elected officials to support the CUNY 2014-2015 State Budget Priorities. In particular, they advocated for funding to support the York College Academic Village & Conference Center to support state-of-the-art space for students.

Child care and the Black Male Initiative were also strong advocacy points. Students thanked legislators for their continued support.

Amir Khan, Vice

President of the Club, said, "This was the best experience I ever had meeting local legislators. It was a great learning experience to advocate for youth in foster care who age out of care and to lobby for York's new academic building. I was also very pleased with the positive response we received from the legislators." Mr. Khan plans to recruit political science students to participate in future lobbying experiences.

The York College Social Work Club wishes to extend a special thanks to York College Student Government Association (SGA) President Shaikh A. Amin and members for their support in helping secure sponsorship to travel to Albany, York College Office of Marketing and Communications for preparing materials that promote the institution, and York College Director of Government and Community Relations Earl Simons for helping to schedule appointments and coordinate a successful day in Albany, NY.

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through the slides he showed about the Thurgood Marshall College Fund.

Labossiere spoke about his experience when he visited Washington D.C. as a Thurgood Marshall College Fund ambassador and the vast amount of knowledge that he gained in the seminar.

"You have to apply for as many scholarships you can," said Labossiere. "Make sure you have 3.0 GPA or better and apply for scholarships."

Labossiere also spoke about his recent acceptance to the master's program in Community

Health Education at Teachers College, Columbia University and scholarships he hopes to get.

"I will be applying for two scholarships from the National Society of Leadership and Success," said Labossiere. "You cannot attend college for four years and don't participate in clubs do research papers and have a solid resume. I update my resume monthly."

Labossiere also stressed the importance of mentorship.

"I would not accomplish anything without my mentor here at York," said Labossiere.

"Every student should have a mentor in their respected area of study."

Punter agreed and was pleased with the presentation.

"This young man is a leader," he said as he listened to Labossiere from the back of the room. "Everyone should aspire to be a leader, a person that can command attention when he speaks. And can articulate the way this young man can. The career center has helped many students in the past and we are here to help many more students that come for assistance."



Stephane Labossiere

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cy frameworks throughout its intentional connection with the Council on Social Work Education Core Competencies.

In reflecting on her *scholarly service* as a Faculty Advisory for the York College Social Work club, Professor Rodgers affirms, "I hope

to inspire the next generation of emerging social work leaders to embrace macro-level advocacy. For me, Social Work Legislative Day is a lifetime of sustainable learning, political justice and social movements at local and global levels!"

Dr. Rodgers and social work students are gearing up to attend the International Federation of Social Workers and the International Association of Schools 31<sup>st</sup> Social Work Day at the United Nations in April 2014.

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reverse transcriptase stage in the HIV life cycle. One more highlight worth mentioning is the discovery that the reverse transcriptase, the phosphorylation of the protein, is site-specific. It suggests that in the

reverse transcriptase sequence, only the Threonine 216 site is strongly phosphorylated and highly conserved, which can be the potential target for drug treatment. As a next step, the team will continue

their project by further exploring how CDK phosphorylation of RT interface with other aspects of HIV biochemistry and what are therapeutic possibilities to control RT phosphorylation.



**I identified the right people to whom I can talk about my interest, my aspirations, and I surrounded myself with those who unconditionally supported me and my dreams.**



Dean's List? Sweet!

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jor in 2007. She conducted her thesis work in the Biomedical Program at Yale using single-molecule fluorescence techniques. Her dissertation investigated the dynamics and conformational properties of two proteins characterized as intrinsically disordered, meaning, they do not natively have “a well-defined secondary/tertiary structure.”

Dr. Crevecoeur-Ducas did not come to York as an academic star. She instead started out in Prelude to Success, a one-semester remedial program that facilitates a student's transition into college. In her own words, “When I first started college, the future was as uncertain as it could be. However, the path did get clearer through determination and great mentorship.” Dr. Crevecoeur-Ducas acknowledged that there is no clear-cut route to success; however, based on her experiences she offered the following advice.

“First, I identified the right people to whom I can talk about my interest, my aspirations, and I surrounded myself with those who unconditionally supported me and my dreams. Once I had a better idea of where I wanted to go, I did not waste time. It is easier to be diverted from your goals than you might think, so do not waste your time, make it count. Look actively for opportunities, seek out internships and apply for as many as you can. You will not only be learning new skills but you will be expanding your circles. The worst thing that could happen is not to have your application accepted: your ego will take a hit, but you will survive, believe me. Do not dwell on it and move on to the next opportunity! Lastly, and most importantly, I always took time off to breathe and enjoy life. There must be a balance in everything that you do. One of the greatest satisfactions in life is to have

a sense of accomplishment but one can accomplish so much more when mentally and physically fit.”

Dr. Crevecoeur-Ducas went on at York to become a student in the Honor's Program, a McNair Scholar and she maintained an active undergraduate research program working in Professor Ruel Desamero's lab. In 2006, her efforts were rewarded when she received a Merck Science Initiative fellowship and then acceptance for doctoral study at Yale. Dr. Crevecoeur-Ducas illustrates that hard work, dedication, and motivation are essential.

This year's shortened program and table arrangement provided a relaxing social opportunity for students to enjoy each others' achievements and company in the midst of the hectic work of the semester – not to mention refreshment and cake!



**Dear York College Colleagues,**

The ad hoc Charter Review Committee (CRC) has completed its work and is posting the recommended revisions to the York College Senate Charter. To view the document, please log on to [www.york.cuny.edu](http://www.york.cuny.edu) and click on *Charter Review*. Logon is required.

The following schedule of dates is intended to facilitate the process of proposing amendments:

<b>April 3, 2014</b>	Faculty, student and/or administration may submit proposed amendments to the Faculty Caucus Leader (Professor Theresa Rooney), the Student Caucus Leader (Shaikh Amin) and/or the College Compliance Officer (Olga Dais), respectively, by 5 pm.
<b>April 10, 2014</b>	Respective caucus leaders and college compliance officer may submit final versions of proposed amendments to the Office of the President (Attention: Dean Dinello) by 5 pm.
<b>April 22, 2014</b>	Office of the President will post proposed amendments on the College's website.
<b>April 29, 2014</b>	York College Senate Plenary Meeting

The Charter Review Committee invites the York College Community to discuss the recommended revisions with your senators and in your respective departments. The next York College Senate Plenary is April 29, 2014.

Respectfully,

Charter Review Committee

**YORK**College

## **A Marine tells it as student journalist**

by **Adrian Polanco, York Journalism Student**

The preparation for drill weekend is a long and arduous process. Many weeks before report date, York College senior Bryan White is already at work organizing his unit to ensure that next weekend will go according to plan for his 24 Marine Reserves.

Meal allocations, pa-

perwork and gear preparation are all a part of the logistics for drill. But for the Journalism major, the military aspects of his preparation are only half of his responsibilities. The responsibility is twice as much when you are a student active in the military. The ability to

manage time and excel in school can be a daunting, but for Sergeant Bryan White, discipline and preparation are his life.

The contrast between York College and a weekend with the Marines can be a difficult transition, requiring a



**Bryan White**

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men were like, Yeah push us! After my first year, Coach St. John said, "I want you on my coaching staff. [You] are going to push the guys to be better."

**AAU:** Have you thought about being a Head Coach?

**JC:** I thought about it. I don't want to be head coach.

**AAU:** Why not?

**JC:** I am not going to say I am afraid of responsibilities, but being a head coach is not my passion.

**AAU:** What is your passion?

**JC:** Administration is my passion, to be in charge of the whole show. Not just part of the show but the whole show.

**AAU:** Is your goal to be an Athletic Director?

**JC:** Yes, it is.

**AAU:** Of the four championships, which one did you enjoy the most?

**JC:** I enjoyed the first championship a lot. I was not a part of the coaching staff then. I spent a lot of time with the guys. I treated their injuries. One guy had ten broken fingers. I was with them. I stretched all of them. I did not have to push them to want to win. I enjoyed the half-court shot. This last championship was different.

**AAU:** How was the last championship different?

**JC:** They really generally care for each other. This group will be life-long friends and that is what college is all about. You don't [generally] see that with commuter schools. They play and then they leave. But not this group; they are going to be lifelong friends. We were all close. They could tell me anything, may it be about girls or school. I was closer with this team than the previous teams. It was a good year.

**AAU:** In your sixteen-year career, have you experienced discrimination because you are female, coaching men?

**JC:** In terms of my coaching staff never. Other people absolutely have discriminated against me. It happens to this day. The referees would walk past me thinking I am an athletic trainer or something. I said to Coach St. John 'they are ignoring me.' He said, 'Don't be ridiculous.' I said 'Ok, watch.' One game he stood first, I stood second and the other coaches were behind me. The referee went to head coach, skipped over me and shook the other coach's hand behind me. The next game, I stood third, the referee went first, second skipped me and shook other coaches'

hands. One time I stood first. And they skipped me and went to the other three coaches. Finally Coach St. John said something to the officials.

The locker room situation, you would think that the accompanying schools would look at the coaching staff and say, 'Hey there is a female on the coaching staff, lets accommodate her. I cannot go to into the NYU locker. Because, their team locker room is inside the men's locker room, which is open to the public. As a result, for pre-game I cannot be in there. That has happened at several CUNY schools as well. They know I am coming, yet they don't accommodate me. The only school to accommodate me was Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

**AAU:** Do you think that because you are the only female in Division III basketball coaching staff, is the reason why colleges do not logistically accommodate you?

**JC:** No, it is relative to their facility so I understand. They can make the allowances for the males who coach women's basketball team. But they could not do it for me. I don't know why.

**AAU:** Do you think that there should be more women coaching men college teams?

**JC:** Yes, because we are smart, we can do the job. People don't give us the opportunity. I also think that [as] women [we] sell ourselves short.

**AAU:** How so?

**JC:** For instance, if a woman is applying for a job and a man is applying for a job. Women would look at the criteria for the job and wait until she has all those criteria before apply for that job. While a man would look at the same criteria for the job have one qualification and apply for the job and may get the position he applied for. Women need to be proactive.

**AAU:** Have you spoken to your female athletes about leadership?

**JC:** Absolutely, I took my female athletes a couple years ago to a leadership conference for women. They had a ball. They met athletic directors from other schools. They did not hear only from me to be successful. They heard it from everyone. 'Be the best you can be. Don't limit yourselves.' I tell them every day.

**AAU:** Give me one word that describes your career?

**JC:** Awesome.

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## York Students present at Boston Psychology Conference

York students Abraham Dickey and Rafael Salas both had posters accepted to the Undergraduate Poster Session of the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference took place from March 13 to 16.

Although only Mr. Dickey was ultimately able to attend, Assistant Professor Ian Hansen – independent study mentor to both students – presented Mr. Salas’s poster in Boston. Both posters attracted attention and interest, and Abraham, who presented energetically and largely without pause to several waves of conference-goers, was told by a number of people that his topic and findings were the most interesting they had seen in that session.

Abraham’s poster, coauthored with York College alumna Marlin-da King, examined the relationship of subclinical psychopathy to various indices of political attitudes, clusters of values, and moral foundations. The poster presented evidence from a large, publicly-available dataset that psychopathy

is correlated both with certain psychological proclivities associated with “liberalism” – particularly the inclination to seek stimulation and hedonic pleasure, and with certain proclivities associated with “conservatism” – particularly the inclination to value wealth and seek power over others.

Those scoring higher on the psychopathy scale administered to the sample were somewhat more likely to vote Republican and to support economically, militarily, and environmentally right-wing policies. However, high scorers in psychopathy were not any more or less likely to support socially conservative policies like restricting abortion or opposing equal marriage, and they scored lower than average on scales measuring religiosity.

The poster also indicated where psychopathy could be placed on a circular map of values adapted from empirical findings by cross-cultural psychologist Shalom Schwartz. Interestingly, psychopathy’s strong correlations with hedonism and drive for

power placed it in a wedge on the Schwartz circle that represented the intermediate value between Hedonism and Power: Achievement (though psychopathy’s positive correlation with Achievement values was only modest in the sample examined).

Salas’s poster presented a novel experimental test of a core assertion from Moral Foundations Theory (MFT) – a theory made famous by Jonathan Haidt’s book *The Righteous Mind*. MFT claims there are a finite number of moral foundations which people are evolutionarily inclined to weigh emotionally when having moral reactions and making moral decisions. Empirical findings inspired by MFT suggest that liberal individuals and cultures prioritize a subset of these foundations--particularly Care (compassionate concern for the welfare of others, avoidance of harm) and Fairness (concern for procedural and outcome equality) while rejecting other foundations like Ingroup (valuing loyalty to those in your family, race, na-



Abraham Dickey (r.) explaining his poster



Dr. Ian Hansen

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**AAU:** Why awesome?

**JC:** I am doing what I love to do. I have friends who work to provide for their families. Do they love what they do or are they working

to feed their families? I have a sneaker collection, wearing sweats to work.

**AAU:** Where do you see yourself in five years?

**JC:** I will be an Athletic Director in five years. Where? I don't know, but I will be an Athletic Director.

**AAU:** Thank you for the interview.



cont.'d from p.11

tion, religion), Authority (doing what you are told by those in authority) and Purity (seeking to maintain sexual and spiritual "cleanliness"). The same empirical findings suggest that conservative individuals and cultures prioritize all foundations roughly equally.

Rafael's poster presented evidence that when assigned to an experimental manipulation that made Care-Fairness values appear incompatible with Ingroup-Authority-Purity values, participants in the study decreased their support for Ingroup-Authority-Purity values. Interestingly, this effect held both for those who called themselves "liberals" and those who

called themselves "conservatives." In other words, though conservatives might rank all moral foundations as equal when not aware of any potential tension between them, their value priorities move in a more "liberal" direction once that tension is highlighted.

The results suggest that there may be consensus across liberals and conservatives that Care and Fairness deserve higher moral priority than Ingroup, Authority and Purity – at least to the extent the two broad value orientations are sometimes incompatible.

Abraham's poster also addressed Moral Foundations: those scoring high in psychopathy

scored low on all five foundations – Care, Fairness, Ingroup, Authority and Purity – but particularly low on Care and Fairness. These moral priorities are presumably experienced as an unwelcome drag on the relentless pursuit of pleasure and power.

Professor Hansen presented this and other research with York College students more in depth in his Provost Lecture Series lecture on March. The lecture was titled "Religion and Politics Through the Lens of Social and Political Psychology" (*for a summary review of the lecture, please see the forthcoming May issue of AAU*)



# Cuba at York's Art Gallery

by Hilma Krla De Souza, York student



The York College Art Gallery continues its series of thought-provoking exhibitions, this time with the launch of a Jacqueline Herranz Brooks' contemporary exhibition.

The Cuban-born photographer, writer and York alumna, choose a provocative and daring way to record her hometown. Herranz Brooks' work is a photographic document of the streets of Havana. During a recent trip to Havana she was running errands for her mother and could not help but notice the interaction of people, house facades and street graffiti. The photographer managed to capture everything

that Cuba offers.

Almost everything about Cuban life is depicted in Herranz Brooks' photo exhibit, from food, young girls playing dominoes, a group of young men contemplating the sea from a rock on the beach, bar scenes and dirty words written on a wall.

There is also the profane indication of animal sacrifice. To complete the absurdity, there is a photo of a decapitated rooster, perhaps an offering to the hidden forces. It is not uncommon to see people in South America practice religion based on the pantheon of Orishas.

Orishas are West Af-

rican, Yoruba deities that in the Americas were blended with elements of Catholicism and other spiritual beliefs. During the time of slavery this practice found its way into Cuba, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Haiti, Venezuela, Argentina, Uruguay, and the United States among other places. The religious rituals incorporating orishas are seen as traditional and often involve sacrificing of animals or offering foods.

Some people were shocked at some of the images of the dead animals, considering it animal cruelty

For Herranz Brooks, who teaches in the Performing and Fine Arts Department, photography is a complex language without barriers. However, her images do not convey a sense of joy. Instead of moments of happiness and celebration she captures street drama. It is a documentary photography, above all. They are wordless stories.



**Jacqueline Herranz Brooks (l.) with her department colleague Prof. Margaret Vendryes** (Photograph courtesy of H.K. De Souza)

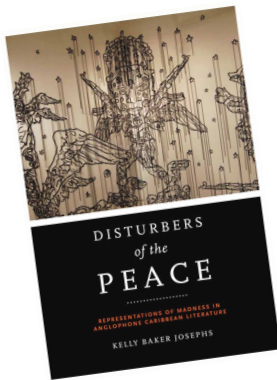


**Prof. Herranz Brooks' exhibition at the Art Gallery**

## Students and colleagues laud Dr. Baker Josephs' new book



Dr. Baker Josephs (ctr.) with several attendees at the book party



After years of research and discussion, Dr. Kelly Baker Josephs recently unveiled her book, *Disturbers of the Peace: Representations of Madness in Anglophone Caribbean Literature*, at an afternoon reception in the African American Resource Center at York.

Emceed by English Department colleague Dr. Mychel Namphy, the program included commentary by Dr. Josephs' English students and colleagues across the disciplines.

English professors Cindy Haller and Dan McGee, History professor George White, Acting Provost Panayiotis Meleties, Assistant Provost Holger Henke and Dr. Donna Chirico, acting dean for the School of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Freya Pritchard, chair of the Math Department, and Andrew Jackson, an adjunct professor and York alumnus were among the attendees celebrating Josephs and her scholarship.

Josephs, whose expertise includes Caribbean Literature, Postcolonial Literature and Theory, Gender and Sexual-

ity Studies, Literature of the Black Diaspora, World Anglophone Literature and African American Literature, did not verbally participate in the discussion of the book. Rather, she left it to her colleagues and student critics, to do the critiquing.

Each in turn discussed their experience with an assigned chapter.

Dr. McGee described the tome as not a novel *per se*, but said that in Josephs' capable hands, it succeeds.

"It's not a novel," said McGee. "But Kelly makes the point that to make that a flaw is wrong. The book is its own genre. She connects the social and political in a period of decolonization..."

Dr. George White, a History professor and chair of the Department of History and Philosophy, borrowed from Shakespeare in his assessment.

"Toward the end of Shakespeare's play 'Othello,' the title character addresses the men who betrayed him and urges them to remember him as a noble general whose lone fault might

have been that he loved too much," said White. "In particular, he says to them 'I have done the state some service'."

"I am reminded of this passage because of the remarkable work of Dr. Kelly Baker Josephs' book," said White. "[It] is well thought-out, thoroughly researched and superbly written. Dr. Josephs informs her critique of Caribbean literature with a sure grasp of Caribbean politics and deep knowledge of revolutionary psychology, among other things. The book accomplishes a number of things, not the least of which is revealing the ways that Caribbean authors used the metaphor of insanity to demystify power."

To add ambience to the proceedings, Dr. Nath provided a brand of Caribbean music that he explained was also disturbing the peace.

Songs such as Bob Marley and the Wailers' "Crazy Baldheads," where, as Nath explains, "madness is projected onto the oppressors who persecute Rastafarians; and Bunji Garlin's "Yuh

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select attitude and skill-set to manage the responsibilities that come with each situation.

The utilization of the military and education has been ongoing for White since his graduation from Francis Lewis High School in 2007, which has a robust ROTC program.

For White, who started life in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, where he was also a cadet, the transition from high school to college carried a level of uncertainty for the direction of his future. He postponed college to join the Marine as a reservist, signing a six-year contract. Following months of active duty, including training in California, White, who speaks, reads and writes several languages to varying degrees of competence, served in Afghanistan, Romania, Georgia, Macedonia and Spain, before finally getting the opportunity to enroll in college.

His military experi-

ence has enhanced White's college career.

"The life of a Marine Reserve consists of many responsibilities on and off base. Mandatory drill weekends and weeklong Alternate Training (AT) excursions are the basis of duty within the military reserves," said White. "As a sergeant and logistics coordinator of the 6th Communication Battalion, stationed at the Floyd Benefit Aviation Center in Brooklyn, my commitment to the Marines and my unit are a constant aspect of life. The military taught me how to be disciplined and take things seriously. There are certain aspects of the military mindset that will forever stay with you."

From the base to the classroom, the transition to York College has allowed White to develop a new skill set. As a member of the Journalism program and the college newspaper, *Pandora's Box*, the interac-

tion with a new environment enabled him to develop the communication skills necessary to excel as a student.

"As Journalism major I learned how to speak respectfully and articulate myself better," says White. "When you are in the Marines, the way we communicate is totally different, and now as a student I've learned to express myself differently."

"The military made me more disciplined, level-headed and focused for school," White says.

His education has been interrupted many times as duty demanded. However, the former cricket player from Jamaica will finally graduate on May 31, 2014. He plans to write a business plan and present it to the military with hopes that they will fund his business, a boxing gym, which will sell products and host exhibitions.

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

**Nelson Mandela**

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Mad or Wha'."

"The songs," explained Nath, "intersect in topic or theme. These 14 songs reflect the richness of meaning that the word 'mad' can have in the region."



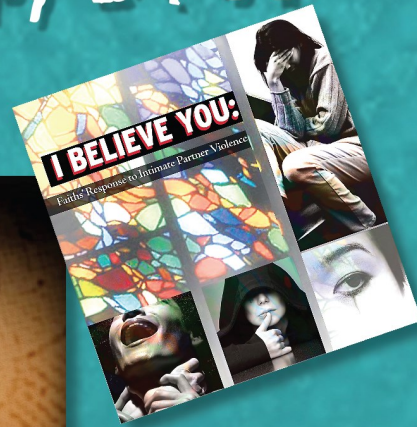
**Dr. Josephs (l.) thanking the audience. Looking on are Dr. Namphy (ctr.) and Asst. Provost Henke (r.)**



P R O V O S T  
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS LECTURE

# What's Up, Doc?

**DIVINE  
PRESCRIPTION:**  
STORIES OF FAITH, HEALTH AND COMMUNITY



**Dr. Debra Gonsher**  
Chair  
Dept. of Communication Arts  
and Sciences  
Bronx Community College

**Thursday, April 10, 2014  
2:00 - 4:00 PM • Faculty Dining Rm.**

## **Risks, Rewards, and Realities of Social Justice Documentary Filmmaking**

In an era of ever increasing inequality, documentary filmmaking remains a crucial medium that can give voice to the disenfranchised. Dr. Debra Gonsher, a three-time Emmy Award winning documentary filmmaker, will examine the state of the art and the benefits and drawbacks of wading into these competitive waters.



# Women's History Month



## FEBRUARY 21

### "Women in Mathematics Day"

Location:  
Math/CS Department Conference  
(AC 2037)  
Date:  
Friday, February 21st, 1-4pm  
Organized by:  
Dr. Lidia Gonzalez and Dr. Rishi Nath



## MARCH 18

### Women's History Film: 20 Feet from Stardom (Hawth, 2012)

Date: Tuesday, March 18th, 7-9PM  
Location: Rivoli-Jacquet Performance Space  
(aka The Chapel)  
Organized by: Tom Zlabinger and  
Dr. Fabiola Salek



## MARCH 25

Women's History Month Colloquium  
featuring a keynote address by  
Freida Foster, B.A., M.S.

Location: Faculty Dining Room (AC 2D01)  
Tuesday March 25th, 2014, 11 am - 1:30 pm

Organized by: Office of the President, York  
College Women's Center, Student Activities,  
the Women's Club, and the LeaderShape  
Club



## APRIL 10

Provost's Distinguished Scholars Lecture Series:  
What's Up, Doc?: Risks, Rewards, and  
Realities of Social Justice Documentary  
Filmmaking (Dr. Debra Gonsler, Chair Dept.  
of Communication Arts & Sciences,  
Bronx Community College - CUNY)

Location: Faculty Dining Room (AC 2D01)  
Date: April 10th, 2-4 pm  
Organized by: Academic Affairs Office



## APRIL 7

Event: Screening of "Tales of the Waria"  
(Director Kathy Huang, 2012)  
<http://www.thewaria.com>

Date: April 7th, 2-4 PM  
Location: African American Studies  
Resource Center (AC 3B04)

Organized by: LGBT Alliance,  
Dr. Shereen Inayatulla, Dr. Mychel Namphy,  
and Dr. Fabiola Salek



## APRIL 29

Women Writers of the Diaspora  
(featuring writer  
Mecca Jamilah Sullivan)

Tuesday, April 29th, 3-5 pm  
Location: African American  
Studies Resource Center (AC 3B04)

Organized by:  
Dr. Shereen Inayatulla and  
Dr. Fabiola Salek



## MAY 6

Gloria Waldman Sixth Annual Lecture for Women's  
History Month: Gender Equality and the Role of Women  
in Today's Cuban Society (featuring Norma Vasallo,  
Director of Gender Studies at the University of Havana)

Date: Tuesday, May 6th, 6-8PM  
Location: Faculty Dining Room (AC 2D01)

Organized by: Dr. Sonia Rivera-Valdés,  
Women's Center, and Dr. Fabiola Salek





## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Undergraduate Research Day

### Conference Registration Open

The Office of Undergraduate Research at York College is pleased to announce registration to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Day is open. **All attendees must register to attend, including presenters who submitted an abstract.** The conference will take place from 9 to 5pm in the Academic Core building at York College on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Research Day is a celebration of undergraduate research and creative scholarship in all disciplines at York College. The conference also offers opportunities for students to connect with potential faculty mentors. Abstract submission is open for reports of original research and creative scholarship as well as classroom projects that engage students in research-like experiences. All submissions require sponsorship by a faculty mentor. Submissions should conform to the Student Guidelines for Oral and Poster Presentations. Accepted abstracts will be published in the York College Undergraduate Research Day Proceedings. Consequently, faculty mentors should be careful to review all submitted work.

- The deadline for abstract submissions has passed. Contact [uresearch@york.cuny.edu](mailto:uresearch@york.cuny.edu) to submit a late abstract.
- **Conference registration for attendees will close on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

For conference registration, please refer to our web page:  
<http://www.york.cuny.edu/academics/undergraduate-research>

For information on scholarships and research opportunities, find the York College Office of Undergraduate Research on Facebook and Twitter.

find us on **facebook**

follow us **twitter**



#### Keynote: Charles Duhigg

In 2013 Charles Duhigg was awarded the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Reporting as a member of *The New York Times* staff for the series "The iEconomy," which examined Apple's manufacturing practices overseas and what they can tell us about the American economy. Duhigg is also the winner of the National Academies of Sciences, National Journalism, and George Polk awards, and a frequent contributor to television and radio, including the *Newshour* with Jim Lehrer, *Frontline*, *Dr. Oz*, *This American Life* and various programs on CNBC and NPR. He is a graduate of the Harvard Business School and Yale College.



The Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center & York College Theatre

presents

**William Shakespeare's**  
**A MIDSUMMER**  
**NIGHT'S DREAM**



**Choreography by Lisa Hilliard & Mesha Millington**    **Music by Tom Zlabinger**

**Directed by Tom Marion**

Friday, May 2 at 7pm

Saturday, May 3 at 7pm

Sunday, May 4 at 3pm

Tuesday, May 6 at Noon

Friday, May 9 at 7pm

Saturday, May 10 at 7pm

Sunday, May 11 at 3pm

Tickets: General Admission - \$20

Group Sales - \$15

Students/Seniors - \$10

Box Office: 718-262-2840

Tickets available online at [YorkPAC.com](http://YorkPAC.com)

More information at [dreamatyork.com](http://dreamatyork.com)

**YORK** College

**YORK COLLEGE IS** 

The Milton G. Bassin Performing Arts Center 94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11451

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**The deadline for submissions to the May 2014 issue of Academic Affairs Update is April 25, 2014.**

***All items should be submitted in MS Word***

***via email to:***

***AcademicUpdate@york.cuny.edu***