English Department Considers Eliminating Proficiency Examination

By Roxaan Mohamed
Managing Editor

The English Department at York College recently discussed the possibility of eliminating the English Proficiency Examination from its curriculum. The exam, which is given two times a year, is a requirement for graduation and should be taken after the successful completion of English 120 or its equivalent.

According to Dr. Alan Cooper, chairman of the English Department, "The exam is not serving the purpose for which it was originally intended." When the exam was created in 1975 the percentage of students who required help was much smaller and the English Department was able to provide services to enhance each student's writing ability.

Due to extreme budget cuts, many of the services have failed to produce the results that were expected. The percentage of students who fail the exam the first time greatly outweighs those who pass.

"For many reasons, the majority of our students' written or spoken English is non-standard or English as a second dialect," said Cooper. "88% of York students are placed in English 100, 115 and ESL." If the proficiency exam is to be discontinued, there will be changes in the curriculum. The aim is to continue to produce students with college level writing.

No transfer students will be admitted until they have taken the assessment exams or have taken the exams at another college. This has just been instituted this semester.

Dr. Cooper goes on to point out that every department could offer one or two courses that require extensive writing and that two grades could be given. One grade could be for writing and the second grade could be for content.

With the English Department and other faculty members working together, the writing skills of all York students will definitely improve. "I think the entire faculty needs to be involved and interested in working on these problems," said Lewis.

Continued on page 11.
A First Amendment Issue:

Student Governments Vs The Press

In what may be an outbreak of partisan feelings as Election Day approaches, or just a building of frustration toward college papers, angry students at the University of South Dakota, Georgia State University and California State University at Long Beach have threatened to censor their campus papers in recent weeks.

The student government at Cal State-Long Beach, in fact, has shut down the Union, an irreverent "alternative" student paper, for violating campus prohibitions of "lewd, indecent or obscene behavior." "To just cut off what you find offensive is not fair, and I think it violates some rights," complained Union Associate Editor Ethel Powers.

"By closing the Union down, they can silence an opposing voice," Editor Gary Stark added.

There has been a series of campus newspaper censorship episodes since last January, when the U.S. Supreme Court to censor student papers. "Most probable decision in recent months.

"This paper is degrading to me and others as well," agreed Justino Aguil, president of the Journalism Students Association. "This degrading does not help students in any way."

Two years ago, student politicians blasted the Union for publishing a page of stick figures engaged in sex. Last year, students at the University of South Dakota, angry at the paper, for violating campus prohibitions toward college papers, angry students at the University of South Dakota, Georgia State University and California State University at Long Beach have threatened to censor their campus papers in recent weeks.

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There is no desire to lay people off." said Pavia. "For one week, we have the equivalent of 12 work days/' discour- age costs in the areas of energy, security, maintenance and equip- ment.

Temporary Services. That includes Campus Planning and Operations, the government President.

"I understand that steps had to be taken to cope with this problem. My only regret is that students have not been consulted on the cuts that have been proposed," said Donald Vernon, Student Government President.

Other cost reduction measures include closing the campus in the evenings after classes, on days when classes are not in session and on Sundays when the library is closed. Raymond Pavia, director of Campus Planning and Operations, maintains that these cutbacks will produce cost savings in the areas of energy, security, maintenance and equip- ment.

"In the course of a typical academic week, we are open something like 95 hours," said Pavia. "For one week, we have the equivalent of 12 work days." Vernon suggested that students who come to study during "off hours" could be restricted to the cafeteria rather than locking them out of the campus.

"There's going to be a lot of second looking at the security budget," said Pavia. "There is no desire to lay people off."

The college also intends to give up the Genes parking area and to close Beaver Road and 159th Street to parking. Then, the security guards formerly assigned to those areas will be transferred to the East parking lot (behind the Auditorium and Theatre building).

The new lot will have 400 parking spaces. The West and East lots will have a combined capacity of about 600 vehicles.

According to Pavia, the additions to the campus will be completed regardless of the budget situation. But, staffing, maintaining and buying supplies for the Auditorium/Theater and Athletic Center will be a problem if the cuts are made.

"In the worst scenario, we may not be able to open the buildings," said Pavia. "If we cannot safely staff them, we shouldn't open them."

According to Vernon, student activi- ties will not be affected by the proposed budget cuts. He said that the money comes directly from the students.

Several people close to the situation reiterated that the last thing they wanted to do was to cut back the teaching staff. However, Diatra Jones admitted that there will be positions available. In this way, students from a variety of majors will be able to enhance their classroom learning through meaningful internships at the Center.

"All positions are filled at the present time," Campbell said. "However, vacancies will be announced to students as well as to the community when they occur."

The Center offers comprehensive pre-school education, including health and nutrition. The children learn pre-reading, numbers and control of their small and large muscles through motor coordination.

They also learn about social studies and ethnicity, as well as the ethnic background of others.

Student-parents interested in enrolling their children in the program are advised to call Ms. Erskin at (718) 523-6455.
By Sean N. White

Entertainment Editor

On February 28, the York College Student Government, the African-American Club and the Black Student Caucus presented "A Gala Celebration for Black History Month." This brought the festivities commemorating Black History Month to an end.

The event was held in the Central Mall, which had taken on the appearance of a carnival when the student body set up, offering traditional clothing, jewelry, fragrances and nostalgia pertinent to African-American history.

The ceremony opened with a performance by the York College Gospel Chorus. The group turned in a spirited rendition of the Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

The York College cheerleaders have had a rough season. Ten young ladies make up the predominantly freshman squad. And most of them have no understanding of Pan-Africanism and economics.

"The understanding of economics is critical to our upliftment or liberation. We live in a world that is based on economics," said Vernon.

The next speaker on the agenda was Beatrice Mills, President of the African-American Studies Club. She urged African-Americans to broaden their scope of Black History by celebrating their heritage every day of the year instead of one short month.

Ian Reid, President of the Black Student Caucus was the final speaker on the program. He directed part of his speech at the low student turn-out for the event. "I think it's a downright disgrace because the majority of York's students are Black," remarked Reid.

"The event was purposely held during club hours so that students who wanted to come could attend," explained Vernon.

In the next segment of the program, awards were presented for outstanding work and leadership in African-American culture and the improvement of Black History Month at York.

The recipients were Dr. Dallas Browne, Professor of Afro-American Studies, Dr. Jo Carolyn Lewis, Sociology Professor, Dr. Amos Odenyo, Chairperson of the Social Science Department and Betty Windam, a York student majoring in Afro-American Studies.

The audience was then treated to a dramatic performance by Gloria Lowrey Tyrell, a former York student and a sensational actress. She is most noted for her portrayal of Harriet Tubman, Mary Bethune, Madame C.J. Walker and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Her impersonation of Harriet Tubman was haunting.

Tyrell gave an autobiographical depiction of Tubman's life, from her work on the Underground Railroad to her involvement in the Civil War. She then delivered a posthumous message from Tubman on issues which affect African-Americans today. She discussed racism, materialism, drugs and poverty.

In an August, 1988 issue of the Charlotte Observer, Tyrell explained that because her son has sickle cell anemia, she was determined to play a historical figure who could overcome the disease.

"I thought Harriet Tubman had it, though it turned out to be narcopelosy,"

According to Gloria Lowrey Tyrell, her mission is to build better race relations.

"Most of us dislike each other because we just don't know each other," she said. "We have to communicate better because we're sharing this planet."

HerTyrell's performance was followed by the York College Gospel Chorus which brought the audience to a frenzy with a composition entitled "All In His Hands."

The ceremony closed with a performance by the Mekea Keith Jazz Quintet.
Innovative Electives To Set Your Program Free

By William Pesek, Jr.
Reporter

York, as a four year liberal arts college, has a responsibility to its students. This responsibility is to provide all students with the opportunity to receive a well-rounded education.

Most colleges succeed in this capacity by presenting a curriculum which is diverse and innovative. This means incorporating numerous voluntary or elective courses. These elective courses are designed to support the student's major as well as broaden his interests.

Elective courses are set as a vehicle for students to explore different areas of knowledge. These courses are of great importance because they allow students to break free of the monotony of required courses.

Since colleges function outside the "real world," it is here where students get a chance to have experiences which they might have little or no exposure to in the work world. Courses are offered in a variety of unique areas such as Astronomy, Gerontology, Fine Arts, Afro-American Studies and Psychology.

"York College offers the usual college courses although we do have a number of unique courses only found in a few other schools," said Professor Stuart Dick, chairperson of the Department of Psychology and Social Sciences. As a service to the students of York College, Pandora's Box has conducted a survey of students and faculty to find Ten Truly Superior elective courses. Each of these courses is innovative in style and unique in nature.

Music 225: Computer Music

This course, taught by Professor David Ernst, deals with the programming of microcomputers to play electronic music. Topics such as multi-track recording, wave form synthesis, digital sampling, and MIDI interfaces will be covered during the semester. All musical styles are represented in the course.

"This course is different," said Prof. Ernst, "because students get the opportunity to experiment with state of the art musical and electronic instruments. They can learn how contemporary musicians use this equipment."

Fine Arts 381: Photography I

Photography is an art form unto itself. This course is for anyone who wishes to experiment with the art of photography. During the semester basic shooting skills and darkroom techniques will be illustrated, as well as operation of a camera.

English 291: Introduction to Journalism: Principles and Practice

In this course, Professor Glenn Lewis, introduces students to news and feature writing for today's print media. Lessons are also given on the development of new concepts and understanding the mass communications industry. It is a chance to receive vital writing and perception skills which can be of great importance in any career field.

Cooperative Education III: Work Experience and Seminar I

Designed chiefly to foster the students professional and career development, along with contributing to their traditional academic preparation, this course gives students an opportunity to test their professional and academic skills in a practical setting.

Afro-American 341: The Black Experience in the Caribbean

This engrossing course discusses the African experience in the Caribbean. It examines the political, economic, and social problems facing the region. The offering combines a unique perspective and vital subject matter.

"This course is innovative in subject matter because it helps people develop a better understanding of the Caribbean cultures. It deals with the relationships between the Caribbean nations and their relations with the rest of the world—something that few other courses cover," said Professor Dallas Browne.

English 367: Fantasy and Prophecy

This course, taught by Professor Frances Louis, centers around selected readings in fantasy and prophecy from ancient to modern. It is an in-depth analysis of various writings and novels, most of which are science fiction. Students take a candid look at the state of our society now and extrapolate where it is going.

"This course allows us to spend a little time outside of our daily concerns, to think outside ourselves," Prof. Louis said.

Astronomy 121: Satellites, Stars, Galaxies

Astronomy 121 is concerned with the properties of extra-terrestrial objects such as their composition and evolution. Other areas covered are black holes, quasars, Big Bang versus the steady state view of the universe, stars, galaxies and life in outer space.

"Students are interested in Astronomy because they're curious about themselves in the universe. This course teaches them about their own beginning," said Professor Spiegel.

Psychology 311: Psychology of the Religious Experience

This course stresses the psychological dimensions which lie at the foundations of religiosity and the religious experience. The doctrines of several religions are discussed from an expanded psychological perspective. This course is unique in that it stresses the differences as well as similarities of religions around the world.

Gerontology 101: Introduction to Gerontology

Gerontology is an area of study which has accelerated pace due to an abnormal growth syndrome. Even though he's only five years old, he has grown into a handsome young man named Martin (Eric Stoltz).

Martin's guardian, Dr. Bartok (Lee Richardson), owns Bartok Industries. Martin takes Bartok as his father. While working at Bartok Industries, he meets employee Beth Logan (Daphne Zuniga). Things lead to romance.

The plot revolves around Dr. Bartok's plan to exploit Martin as a breakthrough in medical technology. He also wants the boy to help him learn how to use his late father's teleportation machine.

Eric Stoltz brings sensitivity and innocence to the character. He makes us feel sympathy for Martin, who is betrayed by the only father he knows.

The special effects are great. Martin's long awaited transformation into a grotesque, giant fly is very convincing. "The Fly II is full of scenes that would make any audience cringe.

At one point, a man's head was crushed leaving blood and chunks of flesh everywhere.

The musical score helped to create a sense of evil and impending doom. "The Fly II is gristy fun all the way through."

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African Ivory Exhibit Only Touches On Greatness Of Their Art

By Paula Goings
Community Affairs Editor

The Center for African Art is presenting an exhibit entitled "African And The Renaissance: Art In Ivory." These works explore the first artistic and cultural contact between Europe and Africa in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The exhibit is extremely small and does not do justice to the time period it represents. The works displayed are Afro-Portuguese ivories. The African sculptors, who were from Benin, Nigeria, would reproduce their works from European drawings. These works reflect the artistic ability and craftsmanship of the Benin people.

There are 203 Afro-Portuguese ivories known to exist. Only a third of these are presented in the exhibit. They consist of ivory saltcellars (which were used in European homes to serve salt), knives, spoons, forks and dagger handles.

The display includes African Renaissance tapestries, drawings and prints which were the models supplied by the Portuguese visitors.

The display also includes 16th-century African stone sculptures from Sierra Leone. There are ivories from the Benin Kingdom and the city of Owo, and bronze plaques from the royal palace as well. All of these were untainted by the European influence.

The above works are the only ones in the exhibit that show the importance of African culture during this time period. They reflect the historical context in which the Afro-Portuguese ivories were created.

Ivory was a very important material in Benin art. Many items were carved in ivory to please African Royalty. One of the most popular items is a cuff (bracelet). Customarily, it was worn only by the African Kings.

Among the bronze works in the exhibit is the "Plaque Of Warrior And Attendants." This plaque is 16th-century bronze from Nigeria, court of Benin.

Bronze casters working for the powerful oba of Benin created over 700 plaques for the decoration of columns in the palace. Many of these plaques display human figures that represent members of the Court and occasionally the Portuguese visitors.

The Center for African Art was chartered in 1982 in order to promote the interest in African Art. The items are from private collections on loan to the center and will be displayed through April 9.

"If you want to know all about Andy Warhol, just look at the surface of my paintings and films and there I am. There’s nothing behind it," said Warhol.

Warhol and his radical works were celebrated by the public. However, he also found much success beyond painting by making films and starting his own magazine entitled "Interview." He also published several art books and autobiographies. His studio became the well-known "Factory." Warhol died at age 58 on February 22, 1987.

The Warhol exhibit is the most popular art show in town. It will be running until May 2 and is free to CUNY students.

This exhibit was organized by Kynaston Mashine, senior curator. The MOMA is located on 11 West 53 Street. Further information can be obtained by calling (212) 708-9850.
Entertainment

“Callalloo” Show Receives Raves At Big Magic Lantern Opening

The cast of Callalloo from 1. to r.— Jemal Jones, Ghislaine Sulmers, Nadine Pritchard, Carmen Torres, Roger Drysdale, Hector Hernandez, Caroline Rinehardt, Christopher Diaz and Dr. Barbara Nickolich.

By Felice Sims
Reporter
Marvelous and sensational are the terms to use in describing the York Theatre student presentation of “CALLALOO,” on March 9 - 10, in the Magic Lantern, Room 2M05.

Dr. Barbara Nickolich was the director of “CALLALOO.” She primed her students to give a superb dramatic reading of the literature taken from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The readings were performed by two Trinidadians (Roger Drysdale and Christopher Diaz), two Black Americans (Jemal Jones and Caroline Rinehardt), one Haitian (Ghislaine Sulmers), two Puerto Ricans (Hector Hernandez and Carmen Torres) and one Italian - English student (Nadine Pritchard). Music arrangements were done by another York student, John Alexander.

Jemal Jones opened the presentation by reciting “The Negro Speaks of Rivers” by Langston Hughes. He followed this selection by reading an excerpt from the autobiography of Malcolm X.

“I’ve found a new form of expression,” said Jones. “I’ve appreciated working in the Spring production.”

Caroline Rinehardt contributed “The Stranger” and “The Dog and the Flask” were presented by Ghislaine Sulmers, who is of Haitian-French extraction. A third selection from Tartuffe by Molliere ended her readings.

“Dr. Barbara Nickolich is terrific to work with,” said Hector Hernandez. Hernandez did satisfying renditions of “Born Anew at Each A.M.” by Piri Thomas and “Sursum Corda” (We Lift Up Our Hearts) by Manuel Fernandez Juncos.

Carmen Torres performed selections of “Puerto Ricaness” from Getting Home Alive by Aurora Levins Morales and the Puerto Rican love song “Que’ Te Pedi?” They were a real treat indeed.

The most hilarious presentations of the evening were two Paul Keens-Douglass pieces. “Vibrant Reach Home,” performed by Christopher Diaz and “Tanti At De Oval” performed by Roger Drysdale.

“I’m very proud of my ethnicity and I’ve always wanted to perform work from my country in the U.S.,” said Diaz. “This has afforded me the opportunity to do so.”

Roger Drysdale also presented “Trinidad Jere” (Land of the Hummingbird) by Allister Mac Millan. It’s a piece based on the legends of his ancestors, the Carib Indians.

The performance of “Murder in De Market” a Trinidadian folksong was lead by Christopher Diaz.

“My life will never be the same after having worked with them on some of the pieces,” said Nickolich. “For example, I will never look at a beggar man the same way as I would have before I worked with Christopher Diaz on his selection.”

“Skin Deep” Goes Below Surface

By William Pesek Jr.
Reporter
“Skin Deep,” a new comedy starring John Ritter, shares much in common with other films written and directed by Blake Edwards. A middle-aged man tries to escape his fears and responsibilities by drinking and womanizing.

It’s the story of Zack Hutton (John Ritter), a Pulitzer prize winning playwright, whose life is falling apart.

Zack’s wife has left him. His agent is dead. His house burned to the ground. He’s been arrested for drunk driving. And, worst of all, he’s got writer’s block.

Although Zack vows to change his ways, the best he can do is change his career. One of his enraged lovers, played by Julianne Phillips, set fire to Zack’s piano before she stormed out of his life.

Zack’s bartender-friend Barney (Vincent Gardenia) is one of the few Zach openly confides in. While staying at his friend’s house, Zach went on a bender and glued Barney’s dog to the ceiling.

After several hilarious sessions with his analyst, Zack decides that the breakup of his marriage is at the root of his problems. He feels that once he is reunited with his ex-wife Alex he will be able to triumph over the bottle and the type writer.

“Skin Deep” is a booz. The film keeps the audience laughing. But it goes far below the surface as it chronicles a man trying to halt his personal self-destruct sequence.

“Working Girl” Appeals To All

By Silvia Orellana
Feature Editor
“Working Girl,” directed by Academy Award winner Mike Nichols, is one of the most successful movies of the year. The movie will make you laugh and cry, love and hate, and finally triumph along with its characters.

Tess is the sweet, but smart secretary of Katharine Parker (Sigourney Weaver). Katharine is a high-powered wolf, disguised as a lamb. She is able to win Tess’s trust and comes across as her friend. Katharine also assures Tess that she will help guide her up the corporate ladder.

While on a ski trip, Katharine breaks her leg and has to remain in bed for the next six weeks. She asks Tess to take care of whatever needs to be done in the office and to keep an eye on her house.

Tess discovers Katharine’s plan to meet with broker, Jack Trainer (Harrison Ford). They are supposed to discuss to discuss a business idea that Tess developed. However, Katharine has claimed the idea as her own.

Tess is determined to move up quickly. She doesn’t plan to be a secretary for the rest of her life. Realizing that she is in a love scene, she decides to make Jack, the “white-collar prince charming” her ally.

The movie does show some realistic problems. If you did not attend the right school, or if you do not belong to the right family, your voice may not be heard.
Ten Studying Tips To Thrive By

By Silvia Orellana
Feature Editor

It's the night before an exam. Although you've known about the exam for a week, you've put off studying until the last minute.

You decide that the only thing you can do is make a pot of coffee, get all your notes out and pray that you can stay awake long enough to do some heavy cramming.

The next morning when you go in to take the exam you are so tired from the previous night, you can't seem to remember anything.

Most students have found themselves in this situation at one time or another. Students endure quite a bit of stress because of sporadic studying, especially during midterms.

Dr. Pearl Rosenberg, Coordinator of Student Development Courses recommends the following 10 tips for stress-free midterms:

1. Use the three senses; sight, hearing and touch.
2. Get a good night's sleep.
3. Reward yourself.
4. Intend to remember.
5. Use index cards to help you review.
6. Choose a suitable place to study.
7. Set reasonable goals.
8. Set up a study schedule.
9. Take breaks after an hour.
10. Set up a schedule is very helpful. It should include all obligations that must be met, such as work or family.

Once that's done, setting up times for doing homework and reviewing class notes will be simpler. Also, mark all exam dates and other deadlines on your calendar.

"Set reasonable goals," says Dr. Rosenberg. "You will get more benefit from studying for an hour and taking a break, than from studying three hours straight."

Don't study for extended periods of time. If you do, take breaks. A ten minute break after an hour can be a real life saver.

Knowing where to study is very important. Have proper lighting and never study in bed or in a comfortable chair. It will be very hard to keep awake.

Make sure that there aren't too many distractions. Don't study with the television set on. If you must listen to music, keep it soft and mellow.

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Using the three senses includes: repeating things out loud, and paying close attention to material that your teacher emphasizes.

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Rewriting notes from a textbook or other sources of information sums up visual aids.

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Continued on Page 11.
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Proficiency
Continued from Page 1.

The English Department will assist those disciplines that want a gate exam for special certification. They are also eliminating the ABS grade and the F grade in English 115. The department plans to replace these grades with an N/C grade that would require students to repeat the course.

Hopefully, the changes in English 115 and 120 will produce positive results for all York College students.

Studying Tips
Continued from Page 8.

Using index cards is one good way to review while waiting for a train, on a line or between classes. Make two sets of cards—one with familiar material and another set with new information. Then, work through them until all the material is mastered.

When studying, intend to remember. Create rhymes or use other techniques that will make memorization easier, faster and more enjoyable.

"If we were to put chemistry and math to rap music, we would all be walking geniuses," said Rosenberg.

Weekends and holidays are good times to do papers or review for class because they are usually less hectic.

There should be a reward for reaching a study goal. Go and do something just for fun.

Get a good night's sleep before taking a test. Being wide awake improves test scores by leaps and bounds.

Most important of all DON'T CRAM! For more information contact Pearl Rosenberg room 1G02. The Department for Student Development and Counseling will be offering Study Skills Seminars during March and April.

Career
Continued from Page 4.
career development, please contact Dr. Harriet Vines at 262-2268 or in Room 1G02. For evening students, her office hours are from 6 pm-8 pm on Thursdays.

Susan Heineman can be reached at 262-2098 from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm or in Room 1C01.

Innovative Electives
Continued from Page 5.

anxiety and spending, and psychosexual disorders. The course was designed by Professor of Psychology, James D. Wynne.

"After doing research in the field," said Prof. Wynne, "I decided to put together a course on addiction being that we're all affected by it. Since there is such a demand today for counselors in this area, I feel that it gives students a taste of working in this up and coming field."

Please note that several of these courses have prerequisite requirements. However, if you have not fully met these requirements, be sure to see the course instructor to request admittance to the class.

If you wish to register for an elective course which you feel is above your ability, a PASS/ FAIL grading option is available. The PASS/ FAIL option is only open to students who have completed twenty-eight or more credits.

Cheerleaders
Continued from Page 4.
The season had its lowpoints as well. They lost cheerleaders to academic problems, but this was overshadowed by all the good times. And they finally got uniforms in the last half of the season. They also had a few embarrassing moments. Madejow talked about how she almost lost her skirt at the John Jay College game.

The York College cheerleaders worked together to overcome obstacles and build spirit. "I believe cheerleading is like a type of discipline. You have to be really dedicated. Then, your squad comes together and functions successfully," said Green.

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