

Alumni Panel

August 5, 2007



Kawana Cohen is a Cook College (SEBS) Class of 2003 alum with a BS in Environmental Science. After college she moved to Boston, MA for a position with the US EPA as a Biologist. After 2 years in Boston, she transferred to the headquarters office of EPA in Washington, DC where she serves as the National Biosolids Coordinator and is working on the development of regulations for the management of manure from large agricultural farms.

Kawana is currently pursuing a M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy at The Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore. She enjoys volunteering with a Washington, DC based needle exchange program called *Prevention Works!* and mentoring high school students in their journey to get into college. She is also an active member of the National Council of Negro women and serves as the Outreach Coordinator for the Mitchellville-Bowie Section. Kawana lives in Hyattsville, MD with her fiancé Ogonna Hopkins and will become Mrs. Hopkins in October 2007.

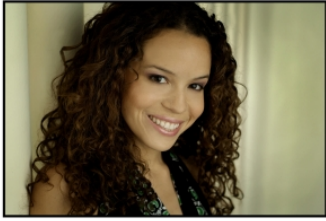
Valeria Cristales graduated from Cook College and the Rutgers University-Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in 2002 with a B.S. in Public Health. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Health Education at Saint Joseph's University.

Ms. Cristales is the Community Relations Coordinator at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Her role is to promote community relations by developing, fostering and maintaining collaborative programs, services and events with community partners, including school systems, child advocacy groups, civic organizations and faith based organizations. She also works to assist with maintaining the Health System's processes for supporting community relation programs, including an employee volunteer program. She lives in Camden, NJ.



Nicole Gordon is a Cook College graduate (Class of 2007), with a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Psychology. Born in Jamaica to Mary and Edgar Gordon, Ms. Gordon is the youngest of four girls. She arrived in the USA at the age of 13, where she began high school in Hackensack, NJ and graduated top 20 in a class out of 406 students.

At Rutgers, Ms. Gordon was involved in Cook College Leadership and M.E.C.C.A and served as a Student Orientation Ambassador. She also participated in the Rutgers-Yale Summer Undergraduate Research fellowship Program (SURF) in New haven, CT, performing research at the medical school on a project with children with hemophilia. Her future goal is to pursue an M.D. in pediatrics.



Sandra Williams participated in the Cook College EOF Summer Program in 1997. Though she transferred to and graduated from Livingston College/Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, she says she is “still Cook EOF at heart.” At Rutgers, she was involved in NJPIRG and the Paul Roberson Club. She volunteered as a mentor/tutor at the Livingston Elementary School, was an Resident Advisor for Transfer Students, and Resident Advisor for Livingston EOF students.

Currently, Ms. Williams is the Assistant Director, Office of Pre-College Initiatives and Student Support Services at LEAP Academy Charter School in Camden, NJ.



Kwabena Yamoah, a 2001 graduate of Cook College, Rutgers University, is a child of God and knows that God has a purpose and plan for his life. He is a proud son of two Ghanaian emigrant educators who have worked diligently and paved a way not only for him, but also for his brother Emmanuel and sister Diana. In 2005, Mr. Yamoah earned a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Kean University.

Mr. Yamoah joined the United States Department of Justice in Washington, DC, as Program Analyst for its International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program. In conjunction with the Department of State, Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), he travels to and provides direction for the design and implementation of foreign law enforcement institutional development, technical assistance, and training programs for foreign law enforcement and criminal justice organizations in Benin, Gambia, Ghana, Iraq, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sudan, Somalia, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda. He currently resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

Other participants: Quawad McDonald; Cinque Soto, Ph.D.; Scott Struthers