

# Rowan Magazine

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY

*New York Times* best-selling  
writer Malcolm Gladwell:  
"Henry Rowan is my hero," p. 7

SUMMER 2016



40 under 40 **22** | Checkered past **48** | More than the M.D. **56**

# alumni.rowan.edu alumni events

## Rowan Alumni Career Webinar Series Every Wednesday

Whether you're contemplating a career change or interested in developing a new skill set, the weekly Rowan Alumni Career Webinar Series has something for you. Webinars are free to all alumni and are hosted every Wednesday evening. To learn more, please visit [alumnirowan.org/careerservices](http://alumnirowan.org/careerservices).

## Rowan Alumni Regional Meet-Up, Monmouth County Thursday, September 15

Rowan's in Red Bank! Come by one of Monmouth County's best upscale pubs after work. Grab a drink and bite to eat with fellow Rowan alumni.  
6:30 p.m., The Downtown, Red Bank

## Diamond Club Golf Tournament

**Friday, October 7**  
Enjoy a day on the greens with fellow Rowan/GSC baseball alumni. Registration is \$150 per golfer, including breakfast, greens fees, alumni giveaways and lunch. To learn more and to register, please visit [alumni.rowan.edu/diamondclubgolf](http://alumni.rowan.edu/diamondclubgolf).  
9:30 a.m., Scotland Run Golf Club, Williamstown

## PROlympics Homecoming 2016 Block Party

**Friday, October 7**  
Come out to the annual homecoming block party to enjoy delicious food, music and fun from around the world as we celebrate the PROlympics! There will also be a kids' zone, live performances, artisan vendors and much more. RAH will provide free food

vouchers to Rowan students with a valid Rowan ID—all others will be required to pay a minimal fee. Rowan students, faculty, staff, alumni and the outside community are welcome at this event.

5 p.m.–10 p.m., Hollybush Green

## Black Alumni & Friends Reunion

**Friday, October 7–Sunday, October 9**  
*See page 77 for more information.*

## PROlympics Homecoming 2016 Alumni Tent, Athletics Tent & Beer Garden

**Saturday, October 8**  
Alumni, family and friends are invited to enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet, a PROlympics beer garden, tailgating games, kids' activities and a photo booth. Each alumnus and one guest can attend FREE of charge, as long as you preregister by September 16. For alumni and guests who do not preregister, there will be a \$10 fee. The PROlympics beer garden and food truck are cash only. Families, friends and reunion groups are encouraged to meet under the large tent or in the tailgating area. Athletics alumni, family and friends are invited to reconnect in a special section of the alumni tent.

11 a.m., Parking Lot C, Wackar Stadium

## Class of 1966 50th Reunion

**Saturday, October 8**  
*See page 77 for more information.*

## Homecoming Football vs. Salisbury University

**Saturday, October 8**  
Cheer on the Profs as they face Salisbury University. The 1991 football team and

Alumni Ambassador will be recognized at halftime.

2 p.m., Wackar Stadium

## Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

**Sunday, October 9**  
Celebrate the 1990s Men's Soccer National Championship team, Crystal Feo Engelhart '99, Maggie Goodman-Reed '06, Maurice Ransome '94 and Josh Schwartz '09 at the 2016 Rowan-Glassboro State Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

11 a.m., Eynon Ballroom,  
Chamberlain Student Center

## NJEA Networking Event at Tun Tavern

**Thursday, November 10**  
The Rowan University College of Education and the Office of Alumni Engagement invite Rowan alumni educators to enjoy a networking reception following the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) Convention. Appetizers will be provided and a cash bar will be available. Registration for this event is free.

4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m., Tun Tavern,  
Atlantic City

## save the date

### Holiday Helper

**Saturday, November 19**

### Boro in Lights

**Friday, December 2**

### #RowanGIVES Day

**Wednesday, March 1, 2017**

### Run for Rowan 5K

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

### Golden Years Reunion

**Friday, June 2, 2017**

## stay connected

We have many ways to help you stay connected with the Alumni Association:

### E-mail

Each month the Alumni Engagement office sends an e-newsletter to catch you up on all things Rowan. We also send e-mails that specifically address the needs of our alumni—events and programs, networking receptions, reunions, professional development opportunities and more.

If you're not receiving Rowan Alumni e-mails, please contact [alumniupdate@rowan.edu](mailto:alumniupdate@rowan.edu) or visit [alumni.rowan.edu/update](http://alumni.rowan.edu/update) to update your information.

### Social media

Contests, breaking news, event announcements, alumni profiles and more.

Join the conversation with

@rowanalumni    

If you'd like to volunteer as a "digital ambassador" for the Alumni Association, please e-mail Dana Benjamin, Alumni Engagement program assistant, at [benjamin@rowan.edu](mailto:benjamin@rowan.edu).

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#### ON THE COVER

Turning heads and changing minds, Rebekah Marine '10 models the future of fashion, adaptive technology and possibility for the differently-abled.

PHOTO: CHRIS LOUPOS

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editor@rowan.edu or Rowan Magazine, 201 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028

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### Timely info?

I recently discovered your website and am a big fan. One area for improvement that could make it even more valuable and more often visited: dates on the articles. In particular, those related to taxes and investments need to be dated so a reader can discern whether an article is still current.

It's entirely possible that I missed the date. Can you tell me if the article content is still current with respect to today's tax laws?

*Jim McMahon  
via e-mail*

*Ed. note: Jim, thank you for writing about this gap in the online magazine. In fact, the Alumni Advisor article you refer to is from our Fall 2007 issue, so I've redirected your query to our friends at Edelman Financial Services. We're grateful and proud that Ric Edelman is one of our most frequent contributors.*

*It means so much to have interested and thoughtful readers who care enough to be in touch about Rowan Magazine. We've had some rough spots with our online presence and are planning solutions to the problems. We'll include your concern about dating the content in our list of things to address.*

**UNDER FORTY**

Who should be in our next 40 Under 40 profiles? Tell us who's on your list and why he or she should be on ours. With your help, we'll recognize more of our most promising, creative and inspiring alumni.

[alumni.rowan.edu/40under40](http://alumni.rowan.edu/40under40)

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- Public Relations
- Theatre Arts Administration
- Writing

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## Keith & Shirley Campbell Library

### Run for Rowan

A few hundred alumni and friends pounded out a 5K in April to help raise more than \$5,000 for Rowan's Emergency Scholarship Fund that helps students with life-altering crises to stay in school. Charlie Grab '16 blazed across the finish line at 17:38 and Jeanine Dowd '00, M'03 and Evan Stone '13 posted firsts for the alumni women and men. Put next year's event on your calendar to warm up your spring and support students in need: April 22. More photos on p. 66.

PHOTO BY CRAIG TERRY



# Rowan researches how to build better roadways and runways

ONE OF ONLY A DOZEN  
WORLDWIDE, ROWAN'S NEW  
RESEARCH FACILITY WILL  
TEST PAVING MATERIALS AND  
TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE  
THE TRANSPORTATION  
INFRASTRUCTURE THAT  
EVERYONE DEPENDS ON

The performance, reliability and endurance of the nation's highways and runways may soon get a big boost from research at the South Jersey Technology Park at Rowan University.

Part of the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering, the new Center for Research and Education in Advanced Transportation Engineering systems (CREATES) is the only facility in the Northeast and one of fewer than a dozen worldwide capable of testing paving materials in near-actual conditions to help design better road surfaces.

Funded by nearly \$5 million in grants and contracts from the State of New Jersey, the U.S. Department of Defense/Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey Department

of Transportation, CREATES will house a heavy vehicle simulator (HVS) to help determine the long-term impact of wear, weather and other variables on the road surfaces that are critical to our economy, environment and defense.

The HVS can simulate up to two decades of highway and runway use in just months, enabling researchers to assess existing materials and evaluate the potential of new ones.

Dr. Yusuf Mehta, professor of civil and environmental engineering, will head the new center where he and his staff will conduct work for New Jersey and other states, government agencies and private industry.



KEVIN MUNKO

In the asphalt laboratory, student researchers Andrae Francois and Harsh Pandya prepare to test aggregate samples.

“If something (related to a road surface) fails, we can determine if that happens in all situations, such as different weather conditions or at different temperatures... and help find a solution,” Mehta said.

CREATEs will include a 50-by-90-foot hangar that will house equipment, offices and lab space as well as an outdoor testing environment that can be designated for specific types of materials and clients.

Mehta said that while it’s difficult to simulate actual use, CREATEs can closely mimic the way road surfaces perform in the long term.

“The HVS can demonstrate what happens in the field and that is why it is so valuable,” he said.

College of Engineering Dean Anthony Lowman expects the new facility to boost the economy as it furthers Rowan research initiatives while meeting the needs of government agencies, manufacturers and contractors.

“CREATEs will help ensure the quality of our roads and help our clients save money,” Lowman said. “It will enable Rowan to attract manufacturers, which in turn will lead to more highly skilled jobs in our region.”



**David Joseph**  
@DavidJoseph1408  
@Gladwell @Panoply  
Great episode. Incredibly thoughtful. A must for anyone interested in philanthropy and real impact.

**Phil Renato**  
@genericjewelry  
@Gladwell @Panoply  
I have never forwarded a link to a podcast to more people than this one. #GoingToAnnoy EveryoneInAcademe

**Gary Baker**  
@GJPBaker  
@Gladwell Yes! Such a good podcast. Very cool to hear my favorite author talk about my college like that. #RowanPROUD

**Pcook**  
@pcook3384  
@Gladwell @Panoply  
Hopefully wealthy donors will hear this and educate themselves by visiting Rowan before giving to the same old “top” univ(ersities).

**Jeffrey Greeson**  
@mindfulnesslab  
@Gladwell As a prof at Duke & UPenn, moving to @RowanUniversity this fall, I am INSPIRED after hearing your podcast!

## “MY LITTLE HUNDRED MILLION” Henry Rowan, podcast hero

“This episode is my eulogy for Hank Rowan. I never met him, but he’s a hero of mine. I want to understand why he didn’t become everyone’s hero... why Hank Rowan’s example didn’t spread beyond Glassboro, New Jersey.”

That’s how *New York Times* best-selling writer Malcolm Gladwell introduced his July 21 podcast that used analogies from professional sports management, air travel and the Industrial Revolution to examine and explain—and some might say expose—the imbalance in higher education philanthropy. Higher education “runs on philanthropy,” Gladwell said, but a lot of contributions don’t make any sense and go to “the wrong places for the wrong reasons... **basically we’re talking about the same wealthy, elite schools getting the biggest donations again and again.**”

The podcast includes a 2006 interview with Mr. Rowan in which he discusses the possibility of donating to his alma mater, MIT, which at the time of his gift in 1992 was in the middle of a \$750-million fundraising campaign. “My little hundred million wouldn’t have made hardly any difference at all,” he said.

With that conviction and sense of purpose, Mr. Rowan committed to the gift that would

transform a public college in

New Jersey and everyone associated with it for generations to come.

Listen or download Episode 6, “My Little Hundred Million,” at iTunes or visit [revisionisthistory.com](http://revisionisthistory.com).



# Drs. Lowman and Blank inducted into National Academy of Inventors



Dean Anthony Lowman and Senior Vice President Kenneth Blank are Rowan's first inductees into the prestigious national academy.

In a first for Rowan University, Dr. Anthony Lowman and Dr. Kenneth Blank were inducted in April as Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).

Lowman, dean of the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering, is a prolific international speaker who has attracted more than \$25 million for research and published more

than 75 papers in peer-reviewed journals.

Rowan's senior vice president for Health Sciences, Blank is a professor of biology with more than 30 years' experience in research program development, technology commercialization and regional economic development.

"The NAI induction of Dr. Lowman and Dr. Blank is a major milestone for Rowan University," said President Ali Houshmand. "It speaks to the dream of Henry Rowan, an innovator and entrepreneur who saw that kind of potential in our school. They are role models who represent what may be achieved."

Lowman's hydrogel research, which has earned 11 U.S. patents, has a number of promising orthopedic market applications and may one day be used to treat patients with lower back pain from damaged

vertebral discs. Recently he founded ReGelTech, a company focusing on injectable hydrogels for noninvasive treatment of degenerative disc disease. His research also could lead to more effective oral delivery of insulin and other treatments.

Blank has received numerous grants and contracts from the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense and has published more than 60 articles on molecular and cellular pathology and genetics. He holds three patents related to the use of nonthermal plasma for medical and other applications. He is the recipient of a Leukemia Society of America Scholar award (now the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society) and is a fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians. He is vice chair of the Board of Directors of the University City Science Center in Philadelphia and a member of the New Jersey Council on Innovation.

Established in 2009, NAI recognizes and encourages inventors with patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.



## Sen. Cory Booker visits Rowan with encouraging words

With a welcoming standing ovation and an hour of appreciative attention, 157 incoming Rowan University Educational Opportunity Fund students embraced U.S. Sen. Cory Booker when he made Rowan the Gloucester County stop on his 21-county Jersey Summer Road Trip in August.

He strode into Eynon Ballroom with energy that kept him moving from his first anecdote to his farewell, a 360-degree-spin-around SnapChat video that he shot on his cellphone with the students.

President Ali Houshmand joined students to welcome U.S. Sen. Booker to campus.



JONATHAN VOLBE

Soon to be doctors Sherri English and Daniel Lefler showed off their match results at CMSRU in March.

## First M.D. match

A crucial rite of passage occurs at U.S. medical schools each spring as Match Day pairs graduating students with residency programs.

On March 18, members of the first graduating class of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in Camden opened sealed envelopes to learn where they'll complete three- to seven-year residencies, which vary by specialty. Forty-two were offered residency matches at programs around the country. The 43rd student, a colonel in the U.S. Army

Reserve, learned his placement in December's Military Match.

Haddonfield native and class president Daniel Lefler is headed to an internal medicine program at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, his first choice.

"It's one of the best programs in the country," said Lefler. "I couldn't be more excited!"

At Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, all 160 students in this year's class secured residencies, including four who are heading to military programs.

AMERICAN CITY BUSINESS JOURNALS

# TOP 100

PUBLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Almost annually, top rankings organizations give Rowan high marks overall and for special programs and colleges. In May, Rowan received an especially strong notice— inclusion in a list of the nation's top 100 public schools by American City Business Journals, the parent company of the *Philadelphia Business Journal*. In its listing, the organization ranked Rowan #97 among the top 477 public colleges and universities examined across the United States.

During his spirited talk, Booker peppered listeners with life lessons from his college football days at Stanford University, encouraged them to make the most of their educational opportunities and pushed them to change the world.

The former mayor of Newark told about his habit of writing out his goals and how he skipped parties so he could study. He quoted writers and leaders and took questions from the students in Rowan's EOF Pre-College Institute. The institute is the first step in the EOF program at Rowan, which provides academic,

financial and personal support services to about 600 educationally and economically disadvantaged students.

Describing his freshman encounter with a 6-foot-8-inch, 350-pound football player and many other experiences, he talked about overcoming his own youthful fears and insecurities and offered subtle suggestions and high-energy exhortations.

"If you want in life what other people don't have, you have to be willing to do things in life other people won't do."

"I'm telling you right now, the crowds will never lead you in the right direction. They will lead you to mediocrity."

"If you want to be great at something, you have to study greatness."

Among the attendees were 16 incoming freshmen from Newark, including Nathesia Brown. She was impressed, especially with the senator's message of people needing to go after what they really want. "It was inspiring. It was amazing," she said of Booker's talk. "It was a moment I will never forget."

## 2ND ANNUAL ROWAN GIVES DAY RAISES NEARLY \$87K

Rowan hosted its second annual day of giving during the spring, a 24-hour online marathon under the hashtag #RowanGIVES that raised \$86,895 to support programs and initiatives that the Rowan community believes in.

When the drive ended at midnight, 1,240 donors had contributed, exceeding individual donor goals and far surpassing the \$63,629 that was raised in 2015.

First time donor Omarey Williams '07 gave to support Rowan Radio WGLS-FM, where he was student station manager and where he continues to host the "African American Profile" each Wednesday.

"Rowan has given me so much, especially Rowan Radio," said Williams, the Cumberland County deputy clerk. "It continues to be an important part of my life."

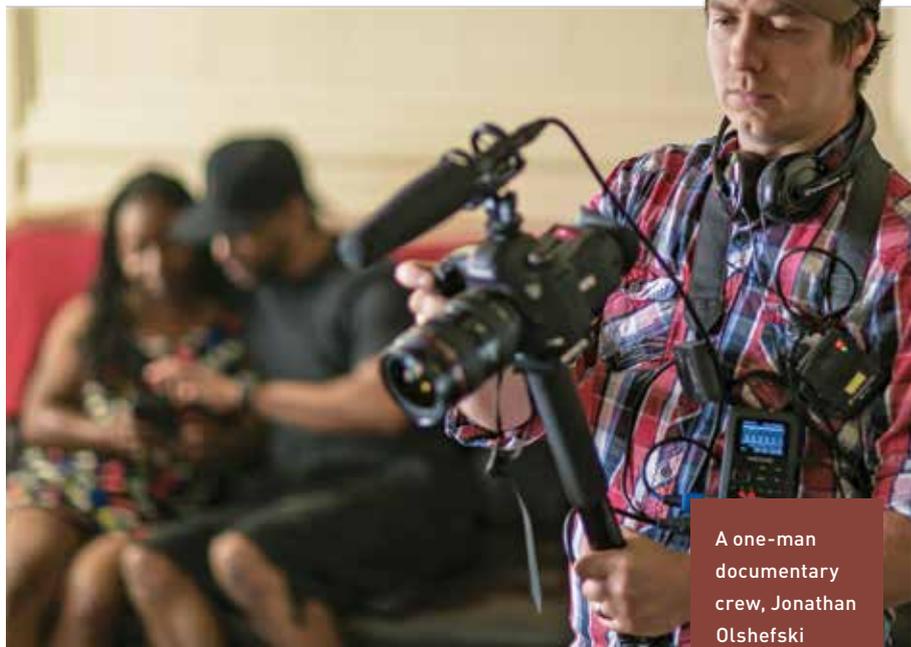
The March pledge drive, which drew several challenge gifts, asked for help from students (including Ralph Anderson '16, below), staff, faculty, administrators, alumni, family and friends. The challenge gifts totaled \$26,000, including \$15,000 from philanthropist Robert Carr and \$6,000 from President Ali Houshmand.

The challenge funding was split among the eight designations with the most individual gifts: CMSRU Street Medicine, The Rowan Fund, SOM Annual Fund, the Early Childhood Demonstration Center, Rowan EMS, the Office of Social Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion, the James S. Huff-Miller Memorial Scholarship and Rowan Unified Sports.

Rowan will host its third annual day of giving March 1, 2017.



# Winner of two major awards, film professor's "Quest" on path to PBS



A one-man documentary crew, Jonathan Olshefski earned two major grants for his decade-long project with the Rainey family.

KEVIN MONIKO

Jonathan Olshefski's decade-long movie project about a North Philadelphia family soon may come to PBS and this year won a prestigious MacArthur grant and an Independent Television Service (ITVS) grant, providing funds and support that make it even more likely to air.

Now in post-production, Olshefski's "Quest: the Fury and the Sound" earned the ultracompetitive ITVS grant that funds, promotes and presents projects for public television and cable, often for PBS.

While he could not disclose the award details, Olshefski, an assistant professor in the department of radio, television & film in the College of Communication & Creative Arts, said that in addition to considerable financial support the grant could provide a fast lane to public television.

A "coproduction agreement," the ITVS award follows Olshefski's acquisition in January of a \$100,000 MacArthur Foundation Documentary Film Grant.

In his third application to the ITVS, Olshefski was one of five successful filmmakers out of 242 applicants.

"ITVS comes on board as a coproduction partner, which involves financial investment, networking and various other support," he said. "I retain full creative control so my vision for the film won't change."

His film documents a decade in the life of Christopher "Quest" and Christine's "Ma Quest" Rainey as they work, raise their children and run a music studio from their North Philadelphia home to provide a positive alternative to the violence, addiction and poverty afflicting parts of their neighborhood.

While the quality of the finished film is paramount, Olshefski said the 10-year movie project has also greatly informed his teaching.

"Students entering the creative arts fields often have to scratch, claw and grind their way forward," he said. "You often have to fight for a few years, but if you do that, good things will happen."



## Public-private progress

Stretching east to west, nudging borders north and south and rising five or more stories in some places, construction projects on Rowan's campus and its neighboring public-private project, Rowan Boulevard, are transforming the area and the opportunities they provide for serving the university and region.

Developed in partnership with Nexus Properties, SORA Holdings, Kinsley Construction and the borough, the \$350-million Rowan Boulevard project stretches one-third of a

A seven-story parking garage (15, above) is set to open in December and soon after, more student and market-rate housing and mixed-use facilities for retail, recreational and professional space.

mile from Route 322 to the Main and High Street downtown district. New Rowan Boulevard, businesses include an Inspira Urgent Care center, Tony Luke's cheesesteak shop and a South Jersey Federal Credit Union branch. A Chickie's & Pete's Crab House and Sports Bar will open this fall. Elsewhere, Holly Point Commons (student housing) and an engineering research facility (CREATEs) are set to open at press time, with Business Hall and Engineering Hall scheduled for January 2017.

### A BIRD'S EYE VIEW (NEW PROJECTS IN TEAL)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Bunce Hall                              | 9. Whitney Center   |
| 2. Business Hall (opening January 2017)    | 10. Courtyard by Marriott hotel                                       |
| 3. Engineering Hall (opening January 2017) | 11. Enterprise Center   |
| 4. Campbell Library                        | 12. 220 on the Boulevard  |
| 5. Evergreen Hall                          | 13. Barnes & Noble  |
| 6. Chestnut, Magnolia and Willow Halls     | 14. Housing (opening September 2017)                                  |
| 7. Holly Point Commons (now open)          | 15. Parking garage (opening January 2017)                             |
| 8. Rowan Boulevard Apartments              | 16. 301 High Street (University Art Gallery and PR/Advertising dept.) |

GEOFF GELAY '04 RCH/ELCAM

## LEAP Academy helping parents earn Rowan degree

Julio Sanchez is going back to college, and he's thrilled about it.

A Camden father of two, one of whom attends LEAP Academy University Charter School in Camden, Sanchez was among 24 students who graduated in June from the school's inaugural LEAP Institute for Adult Learning.

The eight-week program provided two hours of instruction each week, covering such topics as time management, stress reduction and strategies for staying in college.

Rowan partnered with LEAP Academy to increase access to a four-year degree by offering institute graduates a range of benefits at Rowan's Camden campus, including

mentoring, academic counseling, financial aid guidance and a 15-percent discount on tuition. Rowan offers five undergraduate degree programs in Camden: sociology; human services; law and justice; construction management; and disaster preparedness and emergency management.

Sanchez, who holds an associate degree and is a certified drug counselor, will begin classes this fall for a degree in human services after more than a dozen years out of school.

"The biggest thing about this program was it opened my eyes to see returning to school as plausible," Sanchez said. "It warmed me up to the classroom environment and let me know that it's OK to go back."



LEAP Academy students Canaah and Hannah celebrate with their mom, Kellie Woods, at her graduation from the LEAP Academy-Rowan program that helps parents go back to school.



### SUMMER FUN-DAMENTALS

About a thousand little kids, tweens and teens got a taste of science, arts, sports and more in 11 different summer programs at Rowan. Campers took to music, football, cheerleading and academic programs that turned hazy, lazy days into brain-building, goal-setting, friend-making days. More than just something to do on summer vacation, the camps are part of Rowan's mission to improve exposure and access to higher education.

## Scholarships take students to study abroad

**M**aria Hidalgo and Tyler Jiang are taking that whole “I’m-an-ambassador” responsibility to a whole new level.

Both juniors and ambassadors for the Admissions Office, Hidalgo and Jiang each landed highly competitive scholarships

and academic growth for me,” says Hidalgo, who is seeking more opportunities to study or work abroad.

Meanwhile, Jiang, a resident of Bryn Mawr, Pa., this year became the first Rowan student to earn a coveted \$20,000 David L. Boren Scholarship. Beginning in January, Jiang, a history and inter-

national studies major, will study for seven months at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.

Sponsored by the National Security Education Program, Boren awards provide American students with resources and encouragement to acquire language skills and experiences “in countries critical to the



Tyler Jiang (left) and Maria Hidalgo both landed prestigious scholarships to study abroad. Jiang is the first from Rowan to receive a \$20,000 Boren Scholarship to study in China. Hidalgo spent four weeks at the Fulbright Summer Institute in the United Kingdom.

to enhance their undergraduate experiences and help launch their careers.

Hidalgo, a communication studies major, earned a spot in one of the most prestigious and selective scholarship programs internationally when she studied at the Fulbright Summer Institute at the University of Bristol in England.

The third Rowan student to land a summer Fulbright, Hidalgo spent four weeks in the UK on a research project focusing on slavery and the Atlantic heritage. Hidalgo, who was born in the Dominican Republic and earned her American citizenship as a freshman, seized the opportunity to study alongside students from colleges throughout the nation.

“It was social, cultural, historic,

future security and stability of our nation,” according to Boren officials.

Upon their graduation from college, Boren awardees are guaranteed a 12-month job with the federal government. Jiang, who will study Mandarin, is considering a future as a policy analyst for the Department of Defense or the State Department.

According to Boren officials, out of 820 applications, only 165 Boren undergraduate scholarships were awarded this year.

“It’s a great opportunity for me to study abroad and to demonstrate that students from Rowan do amazing things,” says Jiang, who plans to earn his doctorate. “Analysts are always challenged to stay one step ahead. I’m drawn to that.”

### ONCE AGAIN, SOM GERIATRIC MEDICAL PROGRAM AMONG “AMERICA’S BEST”

For the 15th time, the annual *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of America’s top medical schools includes Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine for geriatric medical education. The Stratford-based school tied at 12th for geriatrics with the University of Pennsylvania’s Perelman School of Medicine in a tally released March 16.



# Rowan athletes score inaugural Conference Cup and more

Rowan University Athletics this spring was named the best overall program in the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) and took the inaugural NJAC Cup, capping a year of really big wins.

Rowan won the NJAC Championship in women's soccer and softball, the women's and men's track and field teams were conference champs for the indoor and outdoor seasons and the women's basketball team captured the regular season title.

Softball tied for third at the NCAA Division III Championship Tournament.

Women's basketball hosted the first- and second-round games of the NCAA Division III Championship Tournament and

athletes qualify for nationals, three of whom earned All-America status. The men's and women's 4x100-meter relays also received All-America honors.

## ALL-AMERICA AND OTHER HONORS

A total of 25 Rowan athletes earned All-America honors in 2015-16, including softball players Shilah Snead and Ashley DeYoung, who made the All-America first team.

Among women track and field athletes, senior Shailah Williams received All-America honors in the 200- and 400-meter dashes and her 400-meter time broke the school record that she set in the prelims (54.93).

The 4x100 meter relay team

Seven-time All-American Shailah Williams '16 is the most decorated athlete in program history.

Eighteen student-athletes were named NJAC Special Award winners and 179 received All-Conference honors, the most of any school in the conference.

Classroom stars, too, 128 Rowan athletes carried a grade point average of 3.4 or better. Rowan swimming was named a Scholar All-America team by the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America, and 10 field hockey players were named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association National Academic Squad.

## GREAT COACHING

Four members of Rowan's coaching staff were named NJAC Coach of the Year: Scott Leacott (women's soccer), Brad Bowser (men's swimming and diving), Derick "Ringo" Adamson (women's indoor and outdoor track and field) and Dustin Dimit (men's indoor and outdoor track and field).

Leacott also was named the South Atlantic Region Coach of the Year and Dimit the Outdoor Track & Field Atlantic Region Coach of the Year.

Rowan's softball team ranked fourth in the final National Fastpitch Coaches Association Top 25 Poll after a 42-11 season, a school record.



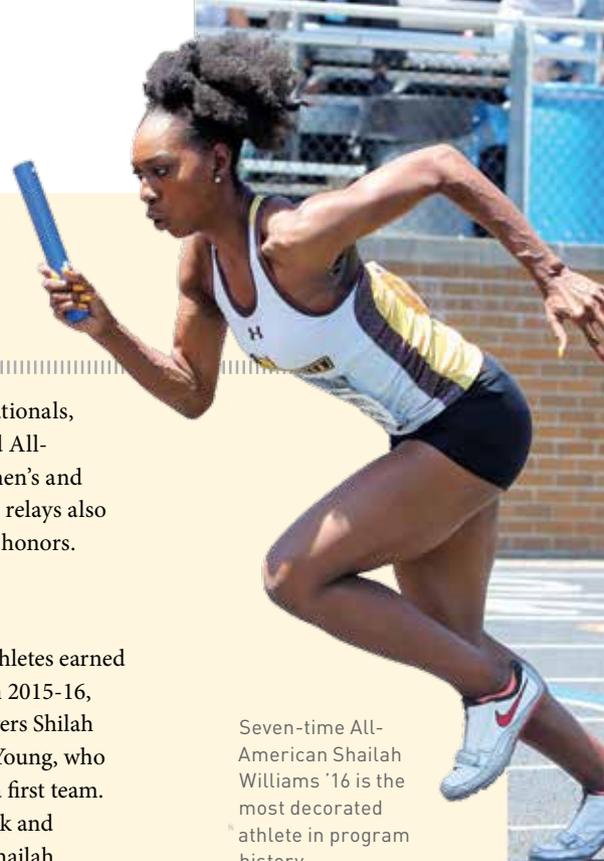
advanced to the second round.

Men's swimming and diving finished 11th at nationals out of 57 teams where junior Jesse Novak placed second in the 100 freestyle and third in the 50 free. Named All-America in both events for the second straight year, Novak competed at the Olympic trials in the 50 freestyle this summer.

Always in the running, the men's and women's outdoor track and field teams had 17

of Williams, freshmen Aspen McMillan and Ebonique Jones and junior Lexxus Matos earned All-American recognition.

Williams, the most decorated student-athlete in program history, ends her tenure as a seven-time All-American in indoor and outdoor competition. This is the first time since 1992 (Rona Henderson) that one student-athlete was an All-American in three events at one championship.



# Commencement

# 2016

## Bigger, better than ever

Rowan held five days of Commencement celebrations in May for some 2,800 participants, beginning with a ceremony for the first graduating class of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

More than 650 people celebrated the CMSRU milestone in Camden as 43 medical students received their degrees under a giant white tent. Joining in the festivities were Gov. Chris Christie, Camden Mayor Dana Redd, deans, faculty, administrators and hundreds of family members and friends.

On the Glassboro campus, seven more Commencement programs featured a wide range of distinguished speakers, including:

- Derrick Pitts, chief astronomer and director of the Fels Planetarium at The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia (College of Science & Mathematics and School of Health Professions)
- philanthropist and businessman Robert Carr (William G. Rohrer College of Business)
- state Sen. and Rowan alumnus Fred H. Madden Jr. (College of Humanities & Social Sciences)
- Tony-award-winning producer Nicholas Paleologos, executive director of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (College of Communication & Creative Arts and College of Performing Arts)
- founder and executive director of the University of Pennsylvania Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education Dr. Shaun Harper (College of Education)
- engineering executive and longtime friend of Rowan engineering education Robert C. Braun (Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering)
- Dr. John Becher, president of the American Osteopathic Association (School of Osteopathic Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences)

See videos of the ceremonies at [rowan.edu/commencement](http://rowan.edu/commencement) (choose Live Streaming from menu).



BOB HILL



1



3



4



5

1. Happy hands and faces, all in the family for College of Communication & Creative Arts.
2. Rohrer College of Business MBA grads Natallia Szeligowski, Marina Campo, Christian Locke, Jamie Kifferly, David Corum, Matthew Slevenski, Nafisa Soeltan, Kathleen Radaszkiewicz, Sarah Fecteau.
3. Qi Zhong, Shono Bin Zhong, Shumin Yao at the College of Performing Arts ceremony.
4. Rohrer College of Business graduates during the Wednesday morning ceremony.
5. President Houshmand photo-bombs SGA President Anthony Wohrab's selfie with the Class of 2016.
6. Thursday morning excitement at the Communication & Creative Arts and Performing Arts ceremony.
7. Marking a Commencement moment with a new master's degree in computer science, Quadii McMillan, Arafat Qureshi, Joseph McMillan.
8. Scott Morschauer, history professor (center) and master's degree in history grads Rachel Corma, Victoria Parks, Andrew Karaszkiwicz, Joseph Cranston, James Thatcher, Matthew Douthitt, Jessica Mosley, Ivorine Fung.



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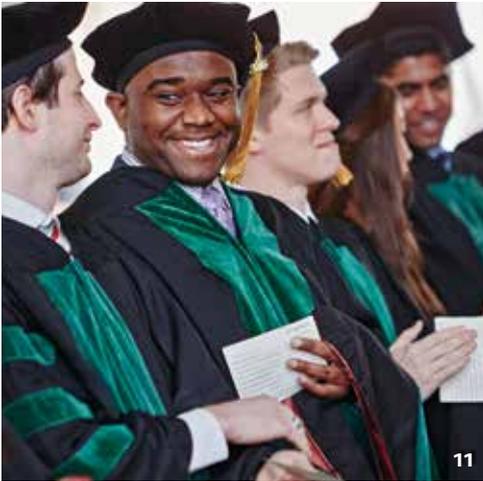
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15. Science & Math and Health Professions grads kicked off the ceremonies in Glassboro with smiles.

16. On Friday afternoon, SOM honored its graduates in the military with commissioning as well as degrees in medicine. New Jersey Army National Guard Medical Corps Col. Gary Brickner presided as grads recited the oath of service, from left: Jiewen Yu DO '16, Air Force; Amanda Olagunju DO'16, Air Force; David Kephart DO'16, Air Force; Robert DiFilippo DO'16, Army; Paul Cusmano DO'16, Navy; Samantha Bartling, DO'16, Navy.

17. Master of Biomedical Sciences graduates Aaron Connell, Jasmine Cortez, Bela Desai, Subhanu Dheri, Michael Fabiano, Sarah Galarza, Davendra Goswami, Melanie Linton.

9. Michael Lazzarus and Caprice Chase at the College of Education festivities.

10. Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering graduates enjoy the ceremony.

11. Robert Goldberg and Imoh Ikpot share a proud memory at the CMSRU ceremony.

12. Gaby Rochino, CEO & cofounder of "Think like a girl!" collects congratulations from professor Tom Merrill at Friday's engineering ceremony.

13. Master's in public relations grads Fabio DiColandrea '12, M'15 and Shatoyah Best '15, M'16.

14. The "Lit Girls Group" snap a selfie for their digital diaries, front: Olivia Langerhans, Kathryn Lehocky, Kaitlyn Greenwood, Anna Ay, Courtney Mahnken. Back: Megan Lynch, Allyson Horowitz, Rachel Kinsey, Ellen Bonitatibus, Jamie Howell, Samantha Picone, Lisa McCloskey.



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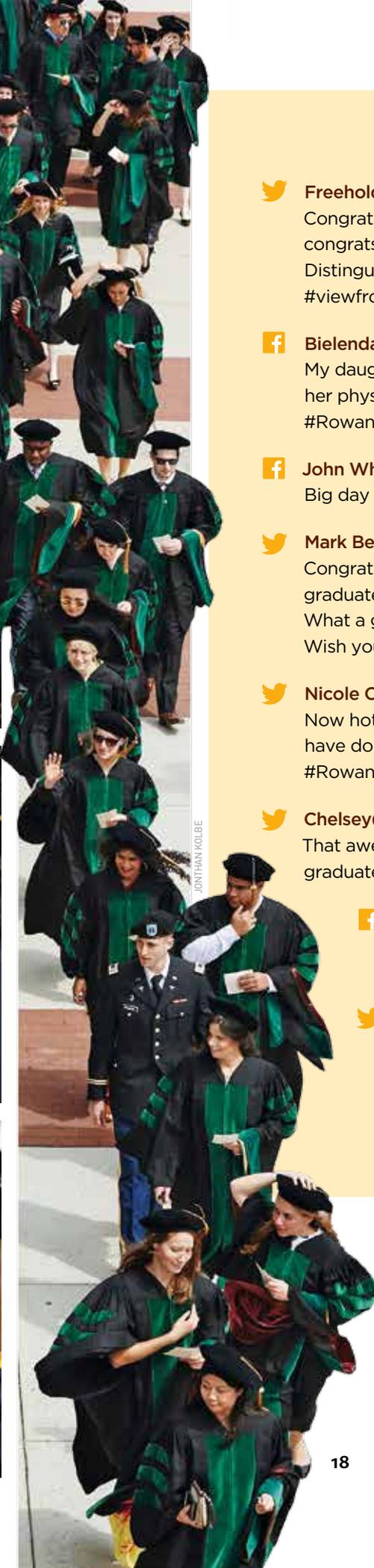
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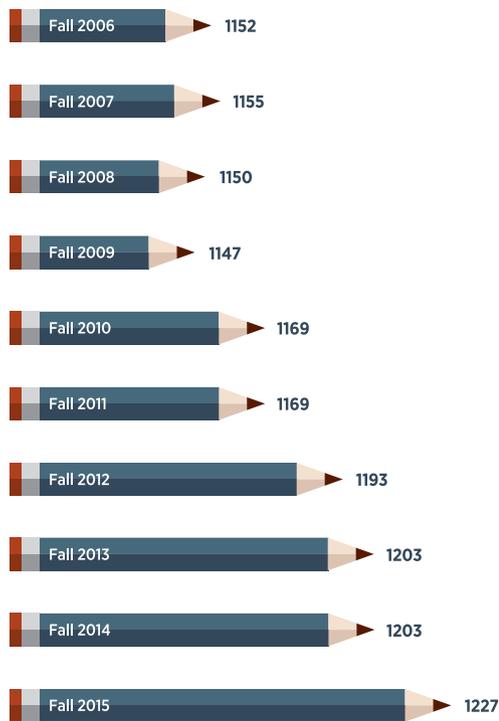
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-  **Freeholder Bill Moen @BillMoen**  
Congrats @RowanCHSS grads! Also congrats my friend @WJCastner on Distinguished Alumnus recognition! #viewfromstage
  
-  **Bielenda Leigh**  
My daughter graduated last Tuesday with her physics degree. I graduated in 1994! #RowanPROUD
  
-  **John Whitesall**  
Big day today! #rowan16 #proud parents
  
-  **Mark Berkey-Gerard @mabege**  
Congrats to all of the #journalism graduates at @RowanUniversity today. What a great crew. You make my job fun. Wish you the best. #Rowan16
  
-  **Nicole Clark @nicoleeee\_clark**  
Now hotter by two degrees! Couldn't have done it without you Rowan #Rowan16
  
-  **Chelsey(CJ)Fairfield @fairfielc4**  
That awesome moment when you graduate #rowan16
  
-  **Sammi Mazza**  
Only a few more minutes of being an undergrad #Rowan16
  
-  **Stephen Cirino @futuremgmt**  
@NickPaleologos great Commencement speech at Rowan today! #Rowan16

18

## initiatives



**75-POINT INCREASE**  
in regular-admit SAT scores

# ROWAN,

Ask anyone who visits a Rowan campus or follows the University via news media, social media or word-of-mouth, and it's clear that Rowan has a lot going on. It's almost too much to keep up with—new buildings, new programs, more students, greater access, expanding partnerships, more research—and the list continues.

To put Rowan's progress and promise in perspective, a 2016

report offers key statistics, easy-to-read graphs and photos in *Rowan on the Rise: A 10-Year Snapshot*. Drawing from topics in the report, including affordability, economic impact, enrollment, research, athletics, construction and fundraising, *Rowan Magazine* illustrates a few of the stats from the last decade here.

"Rowan has a responsibility as a public institution," President Ali Houshmand said. "We've set ambitious goals as a higher education leader, so it's important to be a model in communicating what we aspire to achieve and how we're progressing. In most areas, we're doing tremendously. In the few areas in which we have more work to do, our

path is clear. All of this is good news for students, alumni and friends of Rowan University."

See the full report at [rowan.edu/ontherise](http://rowan.edu/ontherise)

**\$1.23B**

annual economic impact statewide

9,200

jobs supported

\$108M

annual impact in Glassboro

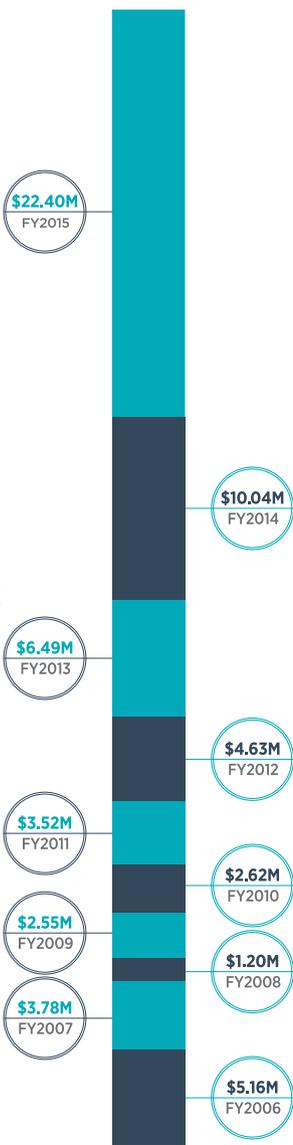
\$19M

state tax revenues generated per year

**\$630M**

worth of projects under construction or in design

# ON THE RISE

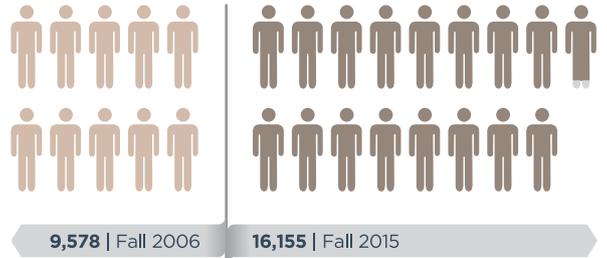


**\$62.3 MILLION**

raised in new gifts and pledges from FY06 to FY15

**69% INCREASE**

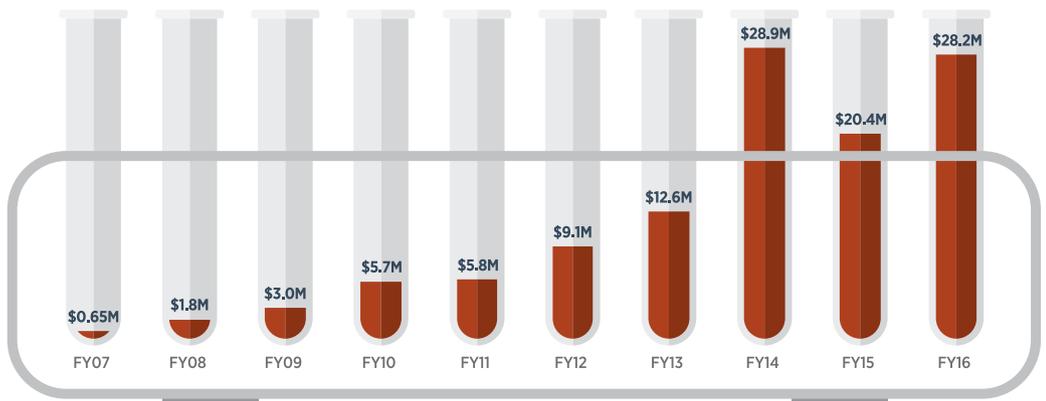
in total enrollment headcount



**0% tuition increase** in 2014; committed to keeping college affordable by keeping increases near inflation rate

**4238% increase**

in research award funding from FY2007 to FY2016



# BARNES & NOBLE

ROWAN UNIVERSITY

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YOUR STORE



**BARNES & NOBLE**  
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**SAVE 20%**  
ON ONE EMBLEMATIC ITEM\*

\*Limit one coupon per customer. This coupon can be redeemed for 20% off one (1) emblematic item. Coupon may be used only once. Not valid on previous purchases and cannot be combined with any other offer or promotion. Not valid on online purchases. Coupon is not redeemable for cash. Expires 10/16/16. Valid only at the Rowan University B&N Bookstore.

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# INTRODUCING

## THE NEW ROWAN ENGINEERING

A leader in education and innovation since its start, the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering is breaking new ground, literally and figuratively. The College:

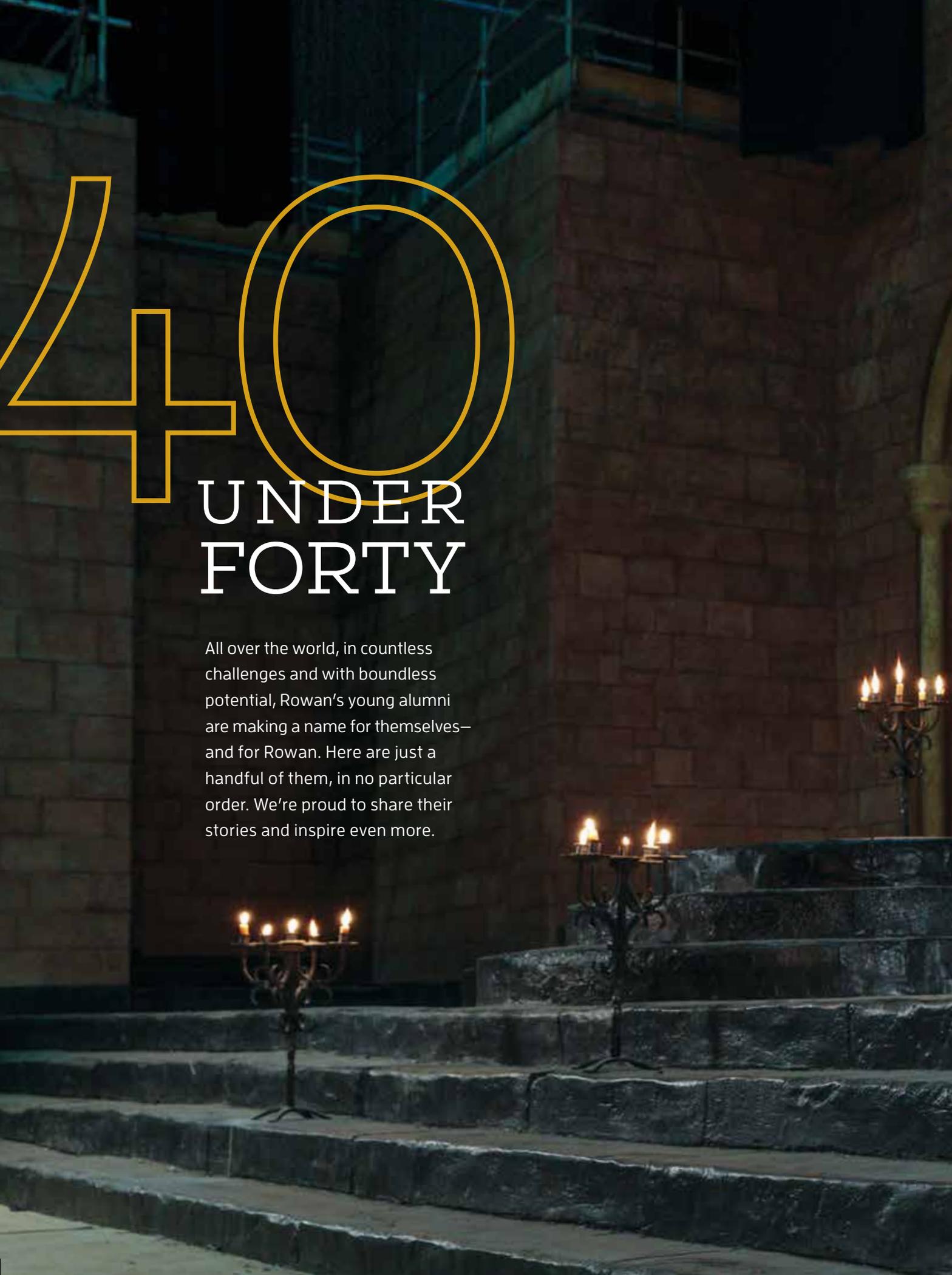
- Began construction in Summer 2015 on an addition to Rowan Hall that will enable the College to double enrollment to 2,000 to meet the demands of students and employers. The new building will contain state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities as well as collaborative learning spaces to support the College's world-class programs.
- Established the Rowan CREATEs center as a national leader in research and education in transportation engineering. CREATEs will open in fall 2016.
- Increased externally sponsored awards 108 percent from FY14-16.
- Increased faculty size by more than 25 percent.
- Grew its newest program, biomedical engineering and the Ph.D. program in engineering with multiple tracks.

The New Rowan Engineering is growing: in people, programs and prestige.

# 40

## UNDER FORTY

All over the world, in countless challenges and with boundless potential, Rowan's young alumni are making a name for themselves—and for Rowan. Here are just a handful of them, in no particular order. We're proud to share their stories and inspire even more.





# Adam Chazen

30 | B.A. Radio, Television & Film '08

Visual effects coordinator, HBO's "Game of Thrones"

Those fire-breathing dragons on HBO's "Game of Thrones"?

"100 percent real," Adam Chazen says. Spoken like a man devoted to making the fantastical believable.

From Titanic Studios in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Chazen spends 10-, 12- and 15-hour days bringing the dragons, battle scenes and other computer-generated effects on "Game of Thrones" (GOT) to life. He joined the visual effects team at the critically acclaimed series five years ago in its second season.

Now visual effects associate producer, Chazen has won four Primetime Emmy Awards for outstanding special visual effects. In September, he's up for his fifth. He marvels at his good fortune to work with colleagues he treasures in an environment that fuels his creativity daily.

"I'm fortunate to work with some of the best in the world," says Chazen, whose industry credits include "Yogi Bear," "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief," "Iron Man 2," "2012" and "Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen."

"I'm working on the coolest stuff on TV that is right up there against blockbuster movies," continues Chazen, who likens "Game of Thrones" to "Lord of the Rings" meets "The Sopranos."

"It's amazing that a show with dragons and mythical things

would do so well. The biggest kick for me is how many people love it. I love that what I'm doing in a small black room is bringing joy to millions of people."

Chazen, who lives in Belfast during shooting and in Los Angeles during post production, left for Hollywood soon after his Rowan graduation. Like many RTF alumni who go west, he slept on the couch of a fellow Prof as he built his career.

The Rowan network in LA is strong and growing, but there's also a solid University connection on GOT. Paul Russo RTF '11 joined the visual effects staff four years ago. Jake Chusid RTF '12 is a post production assistant.

"We've made the Rowan name known on 'Game of Thrones,'" says Chazen, Rowan's 2013 Distinguished Young Alumnus awardee. "It's a large industry, but also very small. In our business, teams bring teams along. At 'Game of Thrones,' we haven't hired anyone just off of their resumé."

Though one of his Emmys is in LA—the others are in Belfast and New Jersey—Chazen rarely spends time in Hollywood. A bit of a nomad due to his intense work schedule, he just moved out of his 12th apartment.

Chazen attributes his success to his RTF education and to his extracurricular activities, such as

Student University Programmers (SUP), Rowan Television Network and Cinema Workshop. For SUP, he oversaw a \$150,000 budget, personally booking talent.

"When I was 19 or 20, I was talking to agents. It was fun to make those connections," he says, noting that the negotiations he entered into helped him understand the industry. When he landed in LA, he met up with those same agents for lunch as he built his professional network.

Chazen makes his career decisions based on opportunity—and fun.

"I've never really said, 'In 10 years, I'm going to do this or that,'" he says. "I just kind of roll with the punches. If something comes along, I think about it and say, 'Maybe this will be a great opportunity.' I just kind of go with it all. "I tell everyone, 'If you work hard and you're a good person, good things will happen.' I'm enjoying the ride."



2

### CATHERINE NI

38 | B.S. Mechanical Engineering '00  
Deputy director of International Apache Fire Control Programs at Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control

In short, Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering grad Catherine Ni's job is to save the lives of military personnel.

In her current position, Ni serves 15 international customers, focusing on the Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor and Fire Control Radar.

"What I love the most is working with war-fighters. When I sit down with customers, I sit down with pilots who fly the world's best attack helicopter," Ni said. "I know the equipment and the technologies my team is responsible for are saving people's lives. We're protecting our soldiers. We're protecting our allies. This isn't just the United States that is in the battle. This is a world fight. I feel responsible for that."

Lockheed has fast-tracked Ni from Day One, placing her in its Operations Leadership Development Program right out of Rowan.

"For the most part, every 18 months my job changes," the mechanical engineer says. "It's all been centered on a greater leadership role in the business, but it's been very diverse—from international business development to strategic planning/mergers and acquisitions to program management."

Grateful to Henry Rowan and a full scholarship, Ni said the College was wonderful preparation. "It was a well-rounded program that made you think of all aspects of your project. I feel like it was more of an incubator for what the real business world was like."

## Jay Gould

37 | B.A. Law & Justice Studies '01  
Technology entrepreneur/angel investor

At a time when the average person could scarcely grasp what the Internet would become, Jay Gould already was building Internet businesses in his dorm room. A few short years after graduating from Rowan, he pioneered and sold one of the first social networks, RateOrDate, and the first video-sharing site, Music Video Codes.

The Toms River resident has built a reputation as a high-growth technology entrepreneur and angel investor. He sold his most recent company, Yashi, a leading local video advertising platform, for \$33 million in 2015. Gould co-founded the company with his wife, Caitlin.

Success, he says, comes with a positive attitude...and exceptional focus. "I believe habits, character and temperament are

the most important qualities to succeeding at anything in life. Then being absolutely and relentlessly obsessed with accomplishing your goal," Gould says.

He learned those lessons early in his life. "My grandfather told me if you love what you do, it's not work. So I'm blessed that I haven't worked a day in my life and get to hang out with my best friend every day, my wife," says Gould.

Even with his success, he is driven by something more. "I was working toward creating a better life for my kids before they were born," says the father of two. "I was thinking about them before I even met my wife. I'm very family oriented. At the end of the day, that's what it's all about."



## SHAUN T.

38 | B.A. Health & Exercise Science '01 | Motivational fitness expert & host

It's *INSANITY*.

How else do you describe how Shaun T (now Shaun Thompson Blokker) turned the freshman 15—actually, 50—into a phenomenal career as an international fitness expert, motivator and host?

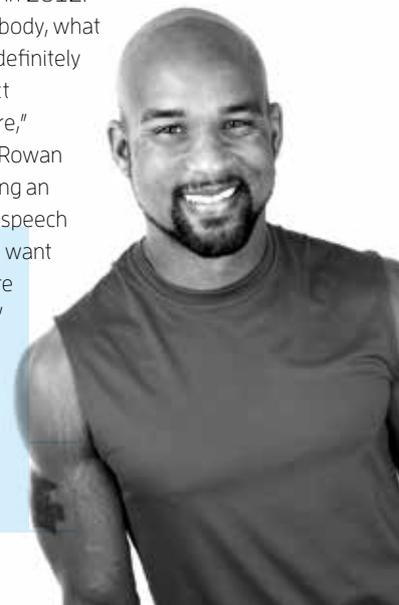
When he hit the Rowan Rec Center to drop some weight, Shaun T found his calling in helping others to get in shape through movement and motivation, dance and fun.

The founder of the successful Hip Hop Abs and *INSANITY* workouts, Shaun T has sold more than 10 million workout DVDs since 2007. His workouts now stream to a half-million viewers on demand.

Whether he's leading live self-coined "ShaunTervention" events or providing motivation and inspiration via his "Trust and Believe With Shaun T" podcast, Shaun T focuses on changing people's lives.

In addition to his workout videos, he also has footwear, clothing and prepared food lines. Shaun T married Scott Blokker, president and chief operations officer of Shaun T, Inc., in 2012.

"The outer body, what we look like, definitely has an impact on who we are," Shaun T told Rowan students during an impassioned speech on campus. "I want your inner core to thrive, too."



## CHRISTOPER LUKACH

34 | B.A. Communication with a specialization in public relations '04  
President & Co-owner,  
Anne Klein Communications Group

At age 24, Chris Lukach joined the ownership team of a national public relations firm specializing in strategic communication, planning and crisis management.

In January, Lukach officially takes sole ownership of Anne Klein Communications Group (AKCG), a company that's slightly older than he is. Yet, Lukach doesn't find that clients or peers take him less seriously because of his age.

"The confidence you project overcomes any perceptions you get based on age," says Lukach. "Early in my career, I was given opportunities to work and learn. I have really great confidence in the counsel that I give."

And that counsel has led to a very successful career in crisis communication.

"Crisis practice is extraordinarily rewarding," he says. "We are constantly getting our hands dirty. We're dealing with how our clients operate, stay in business and keep their staffs employed. A crisis is not a crisis because it makes noise. It affects the bottom line."

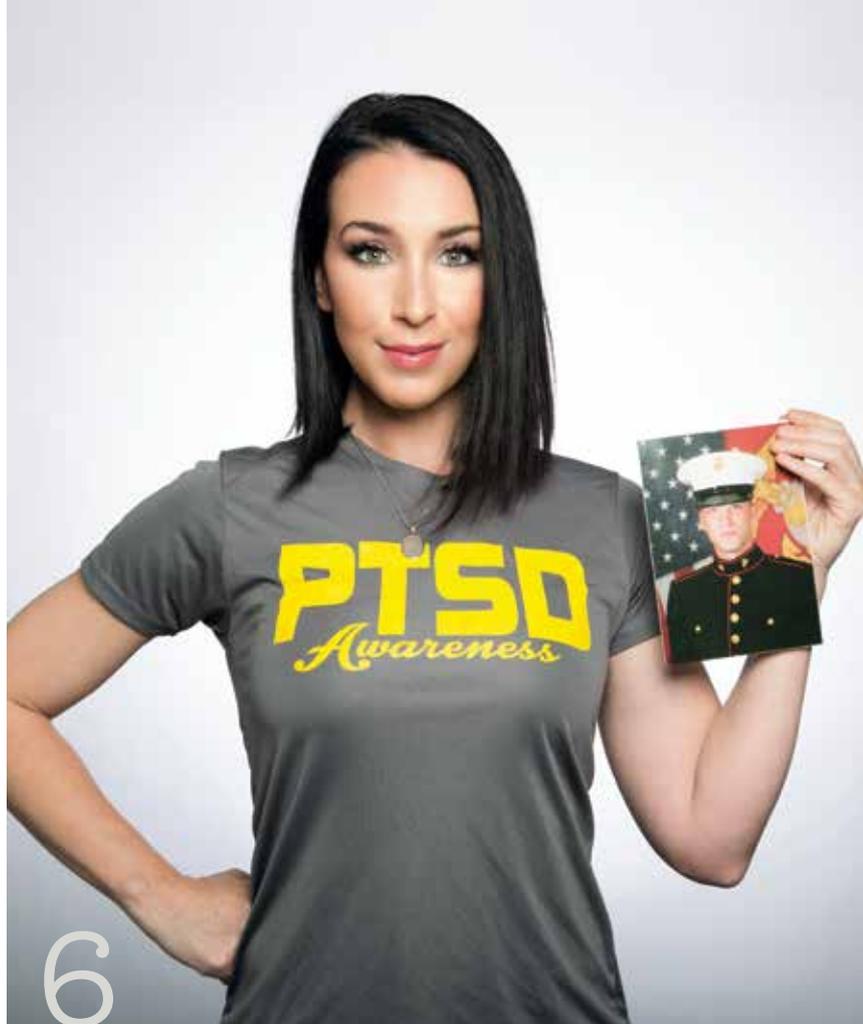
Based in Mount Laurel, AKCG's expansive client list includes several health care providers, hospitals, higher education institutions, nonprofits and many more.

"I love the diversity," says Lukach. "I love the fact that we work with so many different types of projects. It's hard to get bored by a project."

Becoming a president and owner of a national company in his early 30s isn't the peak of his success, Lukach says. "My title and role are nice, but I measure success based on the value and effect of the work we do with clients."



PHOTO BY CRAIG TERRY



6

## Leigh Paynter Martinez

34 | B.A. Communication '04  
Television reporter

Her grief immeasurable, Leigh Paynter Martinez did what she does best. She told the story.

"I was grateful for the opportunity," says Martinez, who landed her 'dream job' in May as a general assignment and

breaking news reporter at KTVU Fox2 in San Francisco—the top-rated news organization in the nation's sixth-ranked media market.

"I had so many questions about heroin. My brother never admitted to using it. His death shocked everyone. It was therapeutic to get some of my questions answered and attempt to help someone else who has someone they love suffering from an addiction."

Martinez' piece, produced for NBC affiliate KGET 17 News in Bakersfield, Calif., aired in May of 2014—just two months after her only sibling died of an accidental overdose. When he couldn't get the assistance he needed for his PTSD, Marine Corps Cpl. Jared Paynter turned to drugs to self-medicate.

Jared served tours of Iraq and Afghanistan with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines Echo Company. He saw his best friend die in battle.

"Jared never got over it. He felt responsible," Martinez says. "He really was just a broken man when he came back. He used drugs to try to feel normal and happy again."

Martinez told the story of her family's loss as she produced a compelling segment on heroin addiction. Fittingly, the piece ended with a dedication to Jared.

Adept at telling other people's stories—"In my work, I'm helping someone either be informed or get their story out," she says—Martinez says the segment "showed a side of me the viewers hadn't seen and, also, how attached I was to the story."

Not backing down from a challenging assignment is a quality that has helped Martinez rise steadily in her career.

In just seven years, she has been a self-described "one-man-band" reporter—camera person, producer, editor, writer and on-air talent—in Sarasota. Additionally, she was a general assignment and investigative reporter at two Sacramento stations. In Bakersfield, she was a weekend news anchor, evening producer and senior reporter.

For KGET in Sacramento, she spent five months investigating gang culture in Stockton, Calif. Gang members gave her unprecedented access, she says, because they wanted to change their community.

"I'm really proud of that work," Martinez says. "I'm grateful to the gang members. They were willing to tell their story and they did it because they were frustrated with what was happening in Stockton."

After leaving Rowan, Martinez spent two years teaching English in Armenia with the Peace Corps. The experience, she says, helped her become a better reporter.

"I've seen people struggling to make ends meet," says Martinez. "That makes you so much more sympathetic to people's experiences. You gain a great appreciation for the hard work that they put into their daily lives. Seeing that helps me persevere a little bit more for a story."

As her career grows, Martinez continues to honor her brother's memory. Before his death, Jared, a talented artist, told his friends he was working on a huge project to address PTSD.

After his death, she found the canvas he bought. It was blank. "Not a pencil mark on it," Martinez says. "To this day, I don't know what he was thinking. But he wanted to do something."

Recently, Martinez teamed up with South Jersey-based printer Dan Uszaki to develop T-shirts promoting PTSD awareness. Proceeds from online sales go to causes focusing on PTSD or mental health.

"I just want to wear a shirt so that people ask what it means. Veterans come up to me and say, 'I'm a Marine. Or I'm Army. Thank you.' I couldn't save my brother. But I want to try to help others."

# 7

## Michael John Trotta

38 | B.M. Music Education '02  
M.M. Choral Conducting '08  
Composer, musician, visiting professor



How do you get to Carnegie Hall?

If you're Dr. Michael John Trotta, you spend a year composing a feature-length composition commissioned by four choirs from across the country that culminates with a performance at the iconic 125-year-old New York City venue.

Trotta wrote "Seven Last Words" for choirs in Louisville, Ky., Raleigh, N.C.; Greenville, S.C.; and St. Louis, Mo. Choirs and orchestras in those cities will perform the 40-minute work, ending with a Carnegie Hall performance Trotta conducts next Memorial Day.

No stranger to that stage, Trotta first performed at Carnegie Hall with the Rowan Concert Choir in 2001. He made his conducting debut there in 2014, leading a concert of his own compositions. This past season, he was commissioned to write two world premieres for the prestigious institution.

In addition to providing access to world-class venues and an excellent education, Trotta says Rowan provided him a solid undergraduate music education and a high-level graduate program that gave him practical solutions for the real-world challenges of musicians and educators.

One year ago, in response to increased demand for his compositions, Trotta relocated to Manhattan to work as a full-time freelance composer. He also serves as a guest conductor and clinician, working with choirs throughout the country. He is a former director of choral activities at Virginia Wesleyan College and K-12 choral music educator.

"Being a composer is the culmination of all of my learning and teaching experiences," Trotta says. "When I'm doing my job at the highest level, I write something that shows off the best parts of a particular group. By immersing myself in what they do, through composer residencies, I can learn about what will fit the group, then translate that into music."

Often organizations find him through his recordings. He has three CDs out, with three to be released in the next year. Trotta has published 50 pieces, and he expects to release 25 more compositions in the next three years.

His biggest thrill is being married to his wife, Rachel. Second to that, he says, is "being able to do what I love the most every single day, which is writing music that communicates to performers and audiences."

# Rebekah Marine

29 | B.A. Advertising '09  
Bionic model

Sometimes—but not often—Rebekah Marine’s arm clashes with the fashions she models.

“That’s why it’s more of a black/grayish/silver tone. It matches more of what I’m modeling,” says Marine, who has modeled at New York Fashion Week three times, wearing Anna’s Loud, Archana Kochhar, Josefa da Silva, and Antonio Urzi, among others.

“My arm is a fashion accessory.”

Born without a right forearm, Marine was told—repeatedly—that she was not model material because of her limb difference. But in her early 20s, just as she began using a myoelectric prosthesis called the i-limb quantum, she decided to follow her heart and pursue a modeling career.

Doing all of her own marketing and public relations—“I write my own press releases, do my own PR,” she says—Marine dubbed herself the “bionic model.”

“I knew I had to brand myself as a product, which is something Rowan taught me,” Marine notes.

Since then, her career has exploded. Marine’s modeling work for the Nordstrom’s anniversary catalog in 2015

led to New York Fashion Week appearances, public speaking engagements and press coverage from major media outlets such as “Today,” *TIME*, *People*, *US Weekly*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *Teen Vogue*. The *Daily Beast* dubbed her “one of the most talked-about models at New York Fashion Week.”

Earlier this year, Marine modeled for Runway of Dreams, a gala honoring the debut of an adaptive new clothing line by Tommy Hilfger.

“I don’t think the industry was ready for me 10 years ago,” she explains. “Now, it’s more open to models like me.”

An ambassador for both Touch Bionics, which developed her prosthetic, and the Lucky Fin Project, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness and celebrates those born with limb difference, Marine travels the country sharing her story with young people, disability rights advocates



PHOTO BY CHRIS LOUPOS

and even people in technology fields. Yet, she struggles with being considered “inspirational.”

“To me, I’m just living my life,” Marine says. “But I love being able to make this statement, to make a difference for people.”

“We’re all beautiful. We’re all unique. And we should celebrate that.”



## JOHN SADAK

37 | B.A. Radio, Television & Film '00, MA Public Relations '03  
Broadcaster CBS Sports Network

John Sadak doesn’t just love sports. He lives them.

Sadak has broadcasting in his blood and it really began to boil when he was still at Rowan, calling Profs games and running the sports department for Rowan Radio 89.7 WGLS-FM. “It’s the cornerstone of my career in broadcasting,” Sadak says.

Sadak calls football, basketball and other sports nationally for CBS Sports Network. Additionally, he is the lead announcer for the RailRiders, the

New York Yankees’ Triple-A farm club in Scranton, Pa.

Last fall, he was part of a small but elite group of broadcasters announcing NFL games for the Westwood One radio network, calling the play-by-play in a dozen NFL stadiums.

He even called an NFL playoff game, the Kansas City Chiefs versus the Houston Texans, as well as his second NCAA Division I men’s basketball tournament and the women’s Final Four. Moreover, he has called games for ESPN and FOX.

“I was always a big sports fan,” he says. “But I realized early that I was not going to play professionally. My only varsity letter was on the math team.”

Sadak was named Broadcaster of the Year by Ballpark Digest in 2013 for his work with the RailRiders and was twice named Delaware Sportscaster of the Year by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

“I’m very fortunate,” he says. “For me, the end game would be to work at the highest level in sports—football, basketball, baseball, hockey. I love it all.”



## Chad Mire

39 | B.S. Biology '02  
Assistant professor  
Galveston National Laboratory,  
Department of Microbiology  
and Immunology  
University of Texas Medical Branch

When Dr. Chad Mire dresses for work, it's in a positive pressure suit—"our space suits," he says—with a HEPA filter hooked up to an air hose.

Such precautions are critical to Mire: he's conducted research on Ebola since 2008.

A virology class with Dr. Joanne Scott at Rowan triggered the biology graduate's interest in viruses. After earning his Ph.D. in molecular sciences at University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, he's studied several other Biosafety Level 4 viruses—those for which there are no approved vaccines or therapeutics—in Boston and Texas.

"We know we have things that work against Ebola," says Mire.

Indeed, a vaccine he helped assess the safety of proved 100-percent effective when administered within 10 days to West Africans exposed to others who had the virus. "That was such a thrilling moment when we learned that."

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## ASHLEY ABDULLAH

30 | B.A. Spanish '06  
Enterprise marketing manager, Univision

Since earning her Spanish degree magna cum laude, Ashley Abdullah's passion for Hispanic culture has driven her to ever-loftier heights at Univision, a Spanish language media company.

Joining Univision in its Vineland office shortly after graduation, Abdullah swiftly advanced in the company, moving to Miami in 2013. In October 2015, she crossed over from media planning management creative marketing as enterprise marketing manager for the Enterprise Development Division. The division creates and incubates new businesses, products and services designed to meet the needs of the Hispanic community.

"In this role, I've been able to develop that creative muscle, and I'm loving it," she says. "I think it's the perfect combination of being strategic and creative."

Numerous influences came into play for Abdullah, beginning with Rowan, which offered her a rich multicultural student body, supportive faculty and a comfortable environment in which to develop, she says.

"Rowan had the most amazing and embracing program out of everywhere I had looked," she says. "It seemed like a place where I knew I could grow, but it felt like home."



In 2015, Abdullah returned to campus to inspire College of Humanities & Social Science graduates as Commencement speaker and to receive the College's first Medal of Excellence for Alumni Achievement.

She brims with energy and enthusiasm for her career and more.

"I love, love, love Hispanic culture, history and language—every aspect," says Abdullah.

On a personal level, she cherishes her family. "Those are all big passion points for me," she says. "I think that paints the background of why I have pursued the paths that I have personally and professionally."

On a day-to-day basis, Abdullah heartily champions those in underserved communities and provides content that helps them feel empowered.

"This is what I bring every day to work and what drives me," she says. "I love being able to work in Hispanic media, showing that we are just as good, if not better, than the general market."

"I love this field. Nothing excites me more."



## LINETTE RIVERA RODRIGUEZ

29 | B.A. Sociology '11  
Sergeant, New Jersey Army  
National Guard

While terrorism has prompted wariness throughout the world, Sgt. Linette Rivera Rodriguez is courageously charging into new territory.

One of only two female combat engineers in the New Jersey Army National Guard, in November 2015 she was among the first women in the Army to earn the 12B combat arms military occupational specialty.

"We are no longer limited to staying behind a desk in the military," says Rodriguez, who lives in St. Augustine, Fla. "There is now full integration—adding great balance to our military. Resiliency, discipline and desire to continue to educate yourself to become a subject matter expert is key."

Rodriguez, who is pursuing a master's degree in homeland security from Fairleigh Dickinson University, embraces the challenges and opportunities offered through her service.

"My values align with the Army's core values—personal courage, integrity, discipline, loyalty and respect. Those are all required and expected characteristics of a great soldier in all military occupation specialties," she says "That is one of the many reasons I love serving."

## David Lester

28 | B.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering '10  
Show programmer, Walt Disney Imagineering

Once upon a time in a faraway land—actually, it was 2005 in a computer lab in Monroe Township, Middlesex County—David Lester dreamed of becoming a Walt Disney Imagineer.

So he did.

"It's a dream job in so many ways," says Lester, a show programmer for Walt Disney Imagineering in Glendale, Calif. "It's just a magical experience."

In 2009, Lester and three friends entered a project in the Disney Imaginations, a design competition open to college students beginning in their junior year. They'd been planning for the competition since that discussion in the computer lab their sophomore year of high school.

"My friend said, 'Dave, we're going to enter this when we're juniors in college.' It didn't seem crazy to me at all," Lester says.

In a studio in a basement, the team spent years fleshing out ideas, ultimately deciding on "Disney's Spaceport," a conceptual futuristic interactive theme park with an original storyline and characters.

Among 130 international entries, the team took first place, putting them on Imagineering's radar. Though winning the competition was no guarantee of a job, it did open up a series of interviews.

One of Lester's interviews turned into a three-month internship as a ride controls engineer at Walt Disney Imagineering. The following June, he began full-time work as an associate ride controls engineer. In 2012, he was promoted to show programmer.

"Disney is my only job," says Lester, who became a show programmer while working on Star Tours, a motion simulator attraction based on Star Wars. There, he caught the attention of leaders who invited Lester to work on updates to the Orlando version of the attraction.

"In Florida, I did show integration and started my creative work," he says, adding that working at Disney has allowed him to work with outstanding mentors.

"Show programming is what brings the attraction to life. It's what integrates the experience."



© DISNEY

In 2013, Lester, then just 25, got the opportunity of his young career when he was named “star pilot” of Star Tours in Tokyo Disneyland. He spent seven months in Japan working on every nuance of the show—from overseeing animatronics, lighting and painting to getting the sensations of flight just so.

Lester has since worked on attractions for Disney’s Animal Kingdom and Magic Kingdom in Orlando, animated vehicle ride systems for the immersive Mystic Manor at Hong Kong Disneyland, and, most recently, helped bring a new version of the popular Pirates of the Caribbean boat ride to life for Shanghai Disneyland, which opened in June.

Lester also helped to bring a bit of Disney history back to life. At the 2013 D23 Expo, a convention for Disney’s official fan community, he worked on a team that resurrected the famed “Hatbox Ghost” figure, originally proposed for Disneyland’s Haunted Mansion. Popular in Disney lore, the ghost was removed from the attraction in 1969 because Imagineers at the time could not get the figure’s special effects to work to their liking.

Instituting what Lester calls “trade magic,” the team engineered a way to make the ghost work to perfection. For the 60th anniversary of Disneyland in 2015, the ghost was added back to the ride.

“Working on it was an absolute thrill,” says Lester, whose current project is Walt Disney World’s much-anticipated Avatar attraction.

Though he knows all that goes into the Disney magic, Lester still enjoys moments of genuine awe. That happens to him on Journey to the Center of the Earth, located in Tokyo DisneySea. It’s one of his favorite attractions.

“There are so many tricks to that ride. You really do feel like you’ve gone to a deep, dark, cavernous area of the earth,” he says.

Ever the engineer, Lester pauses. “It also has an excellently crafted control system.”

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## WALT WALKER

32 | B.S. Civil Engineering '05  
M.S. Environmental Engineering '06  
Project manager, Greeley & Hansen

In a village of about 800 in the Philippines, Walt Walker spent five years helping residents develop a reliable water supply, learn to troubleshoot the system and find ways to generate revenue, including issuing water bills.

“When you leave a community, you have to have the confidence they can sustain the system on their own,” Walker, who’s been involved through Engineers Without Borders-USA, says. “You’re basically taking farmers and having them evolve into social entrepreneurs and innovators.”

He’s been doing that kind of volunteerism since his Rowan days, when he worked on a water project in Bangladesh and later conducted related research with Dr. Kauser Jahan in civil & environmental engineering.

Since then, he has spent vacation time on initiatives in El Salvador, Guatemala and Malawi as well.

Walker also served as president of the EWB-Philadelphia Chapter from 2012 to 2016 and still is a regional EWB student chapter mentor and advisor.

The new Brooklyn resident plans to volunteer with the New York City chapter in the future.





## ADRIENNE GIORDANO O'HARA

31 | B.A. Journalism & Public Relations '07

Executive director, global communications & public relations  
Toys "R" Us

Her company's vision statement is to put joy in kids' hearts and a smile on parents' faces.

It's as fun as it sounds, says Adrienne Giordano O'Hara, executive director of global communications and public relations for Toys "R" Us, which boasts more than 1,000 stores and 66,000 employees in 36 countries.

"It's a very positive and exciting atmosphere to be in," she says from her North Jersey office, where Nerf games are always close at hand. "There's a lot you can love with this business."

Two weeks after leaving Rowan, O'Hara landed at Toys "R" Us.

In nine years, she's advanced from public relations coordinator—"the lowest rung," she notes—to becoming, at 28, one of the company's youngest executive directors. In July, she was promoted to her latest role as executive director, where she's responsible for external media relations, global internal communications and corporate communications.

As spokesperson for both Toys "R" Us and Babies "R" Us, O'Hara is an expert on toys and baby products, giving hundreds of media interviews annually.

Plus, she says, "I can spot a hot toy when I see one."



## BRIAN SEAMAN

35 | B.S. Physics '03

B.S. Mathematics '03

Director of engineering for  
data science at Walmartlabs

The average Walmart shopper might not think there's a connection between ultracold atomic physics and the low, low prices they've come to expect. But there is one.

His name is Brian Seaman.

Having graduated from Rowan, Seaman earned a Ph.D. in physics at the University of Colorado, Boulder. After writing a dissertation focused on the abstract field of ultracold atomic physics—artificially chilled, slow-moving particles—he considered a career in academia. Instead, Seaman turned to industry.

As director of engineering for data science at Walmartlabs, Walmart's San Bruno, Calif.-based technology division, Seaman leads a Silicon Valley team of product managers, engineers and data scientists to help shape the Walmart shopping experience online and in person across areas like inventory management, customer preferences, and of course, pricing.

"These things are all very math, science and data driven," he says.

Seaman, who married alumna Rachel Specht (chemical engineering '13), has been with Walmart for about five years. A San Francisco resident, he also is a competitive ultradistance runner and trains up to 50 miles a weekend for a 100-mile race.

Working at Walmartlabs fits a career goal of trying to help people, Seaman says. "At Walmart, they really try to live by the motto 'save money, live better,'" he says. "Even with products like organic food. It's generally expensive, but when a company like Walmart gets behind the organic food trend, they can make a difference in making it affordable."



PHOTO BY ZACHARY KIESCH

## David A. Wilson

39 | B.A. Radio, Television & Film '99  
Founder/executive editor, theGrio.com

David A. Wilson cut his own path after graduating Rowan, pursuing a career in journalism, becoming a filmmaker and launching theGrio.com, an independently owned news site geared toward the African-American community.

Born and raised in Newark, Wilson is one of 10 children. After graduation, he

launched a TV journalism career that included stints at local news outlets and a position with "48 Hours" on CBS in New York.

Wilson wrote and co-directed the acclaimed, feature-length documentary, "Meeting David Wilson," becoming a media sensation and civil rights champion with the film, which traces his family's origins as slaves in America.

In the documentary, Wilson locates and befriends a descendant of the family that enslaved his own, a man with nearly the

same name as his: David B. Wilson. The film was broadcast on MSNBC in 2008 and sparked a national conversation about race relations in America.

"Meeting David Wilson" enabled me to launch theGrio," Wilson says. "It gave me the credibility but also the relationships."

Following the success of "Meeting David Wilson," he returned to Rowan in 2009 for the University's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast, where he delivered the keynote address. That same year, Wilson and Dan Woolsey, his "Meeting David Wilson" co-director, founded theGrio.com.

The site provides stories and perspectives for an African-American target audience through aggregated and original video packages, news articles and blogs.

"It's an important site and people trust it. I think that's why it's been around for seven years and why it has the potential to be around for many more," says Wilson.

Because of his site's influence, Wilson last year was invited to the White House to meet President Barack Obama and the First Lady.

## CATHERINE DYCIEWSKI BEAUDOIN

27 | B.A. English '12, B.A. Education '12 | Instructional coach and teacher

Jorgensen-isms.

That's what Catherine Dyciewski Beaudoin calls the nuggets of wisdom shared by emeritus College of Education Professor Donna Jorgensen.

"Many times I've thought, 'Would Dr. Jorgensen approve of my outfit?'" laughs Beaudoin, who says Jorgensen's lessons have stuck with her.

"She always reminded us that we are professionals and that it's important to act and look the part."

Clearly, Beaudoin was a model student. Now, just four years into her professional career, she's also a model teacher.

After becoming teacher of the year in Florida's Okaloosa County School District, Beaudoin last year was named one of the top five teachers in the entire state of Florida.

This year, she was promoted to instructional coach in her school district. Beaudoin works with teachers on professional development initiatives that improve

learning and student achievement. In that role, she serves as a mentor and coach to some teachers who are decades her senior.

"The teachers I work with are very open to new techniques, which is really fun. I get to model lessons for them and help them plan lessons. I'm in the classrooms every day," says Beaudoin.

She attributes much of her success to Rowan's challenging curriculum. Attending classes in City of Camden schools while an undergraduate helped prepare

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her for teaching in Okaloosa County, where many of her students struggle with poverty and challenging family situations, Beaudoin says.

"I chose Rowan because it had the best, most rigorous, program in the state. Rowan has played a big part in my success as a teacher," she says.



### NAFISA SOELTAN

35 | B.A. Psychology '13  
M.B.A. Management Information Systems '15  
Senior consultant, HighPoint Solutions,  
Philadelphia

English is not her first language, and America is not her first country, but Nafisa Soeltan is flourishing in both.

From Rotterdam, the Netherlands, but raised largely in Suriname, a former Dutch colony in South America, Soeltan arrived in the U.S. with a degree from Inholland University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands and, after completing studies at Rowan, set out to make her mark in America.

At HighPoint Solutions, a multinational consulting firm, Soeltan works with life science and health care clients to ensure that business processes are operating at peak efficiency through the support and implementation of complex communication systems.

She is a frequent traveler for business and pleasure, has family in the Netherlands, Suriname and Aruba, and speaks six languages: Dutch, English, Spanish, French, German and Surinamese.

"Fate brought me to America and I'm so glad it did," she said. "In America, there's a feeling that everything is possible. There is always a creative way to figure out a solution."

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### MICHAEL MARTIRONE

32 | M.S. Teaching '09  
High school social studies teacher

What does he love about teaching?

"So many things," Michael Martirone says, pausing. "What I love most is the journey I make with the students. I get to see them grow from adolescent to adult. It's a journey we're taking together, not just with the kids, but with their families."

It's also a journey Martirone himself has taken.

Martirone is a social studies teacher at Egg Harbor Township High School, his alma mater. He laughs that his old locker outside the yearbook room is usually inhabited by a junior unconcerned about neatness. Sometimes, he wants to say in jest, "Have some respect, man," as he walks by.

But there's no question Martirone, an eight-year teacher,

has gained plenty of respect statewide for his giftedness in the classroom.

Honored as his district's 2015 Teacher of the Year, Martirone was a runner-up for the statewide competition. Additionally, he was named one of 10 finalists for the Princeton University Distinguished Secondary Teaching Award, which recognizes the finest secondary teachers in New Jersey.

Martirone began his professional career in Washington, D.C. as a legislative assistant to two former congressmen.

"Working in D.C. was fun, but it wasn't fulfilling," says Martirone, who counts among his mentors Karen Scerni Burd (Education '75, '85), who has taught in EHT for 40 years.

"People told me teaching was what I should be doing. But I had to find it for myself.

"Teaching gives me a chance to give back and be someone else's mentor for a new generation of students. It's what I was put here to do."





PHOTO BY CRAIG TERRY

## Anthony Mongeluzo

35 | B.S. Management Information Systems '02  
President, PCS, pilotLight LLC and Monge Realty LLC

Creativity. Innovation. Passion. Customer service. Those tenets have driven Anthony Mongeluzo to tremendous success as an award-winning businessman and serial entrepreneur.

Of course, the TechTank, his fully equipped, 26-foot-long mobile office, helps, too. When you're the president and CEO of three thriving companies, partner for two others, and a sought-after technology expert on television, you look for every possible advantage.

"I'm on the road 25 hours a week. Working in the TechTank, I pick up two to three office days each week," Mongeluzo says of his sleek 2016 Ford transit van.

With TechTank "captain" Rick Sayers at the wheel, Mongeluzo deals with the minutia of business—managing e-mail, making appointments, handling phone calls. That frees up his time to engage with his staff when he arrives at the offices of his companies, which earn a combined annual revenue of nearly \$13 million.

"The TechTank is a customer service vehicle," says Mongeluzo, whose companies

boast nearly 700 clients and more than 100 employees. "By using it, we're creating time."

Time is something the ever-dapper, ever-in-motion Mongeluzo never wastes.

At age 20, he founded PCS (Pro Computer Service) in his parents' house. Now with five offices in four states, the company provides customized, built-to-scale IT service plans. PCS was recognized as one of the fastest growing firms in the region for five consecutive years by both the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and *NJ Biz*.

In 2009, Mongeluzo founded pilotLight Studios, which provides web application development. He's also president and CEO of Monge Realty LLC.

Additionally, Mongeluzo is a partner with both Speakeasy Creative, a digital agency that provides website design, content marketing, and reputation management, and ConnectOps, which helps businesses use LinkedIn to attract new clients.

Since 2008, Mongeluzo has appeared as a technology expert and adviser on Fox 29 news' "Good Day Philadelphia." On the weekends, he hosts his own segment,

"TechBytes." "A lot of tech guys are uncomfortable in front of the camera," he says.

Not so Mongeluzo.

After graduating second in his class at Shawnee High School in Medford—"No. 1 went to Yale. No. 3 went to Princeton. I'm a South Jersey guy. I wanted to stay in the community," he says—Mongeluzo entered Rowan as a radio/television/film major.

A discussion with his sociology professor, Jay Chaskes, changed that. Chaskes told him he should consider management information systems instead. "Dr. Chaskes told me that if I was good enough, I'd find a way to do both television and MIS. I look at that advice as one of the crossroads in my life."

Rowan's first-ever Distinguished Young Alumnus awardee, Mongeluzo has been honored repeatedly for his accomplishments and community service. At age 29, he was the youngest CEO inducted into the Philadelphia 100 Hall of Fame. He's also a five-time winner of *SmartCEO* magazine's Philadelphia Future 50 Award, which recognizes the fastest growing companies the region with more than \$5 million in sales.

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## STEPHEN GILL

30 | B.S. Entrepreneurship & Marketing '08  
Internet entrepreneur/innovator

Settling for the status quo isn't Stephen Gill's style.

While still at Rowan, Gill launched his first business, NoLimit Interactive Media, a digital marketing agency. Shortly before graduation, he co-founded socialreach, a general internet-marketing company that was one of the first businesses in the Rohrer College of Business Incubator.

Since then, Gill has relentlessly built businesses by being customer-first and product-focused, creating efficiency through innovation and building topnotch technology and sales teams.

He co-founded Red Online Marketing Group, a diversified technology and digital media company that helps advertisers and publishers maximize their revenue; Tiller.com, an advertising platform for native, the emerging digital format;

and Leadnomics, which reached 26th in the *Inc.* 500 ranking of the country's fastest-growing companies.

Witnessing the evolution of the technology landscape is exhilarating, says Gill, who also advises approximately 20 internet startups and other digital media companies.

"I've been immersed in tech, watching the landscape evolve over the last 12 years. There's still so much room for growth. The ad tech space has shaped the face of modern commerce, and it's an exciting time to build tools that make advertising better," he says.

The challenges that unfold daily energize him as he solves new business problems and relieves pain points for his clients, particularly in the digital and advertising industry.

Like most successful entrepreneurs, he has devoted countless hours to growing his businesses. He's fortunate, he says, to have a great network of successful influencers and business partners.

"They help me focus on being the leading organization in our category in a rapidly growing market," says Gill.



## Kevin Basden

33 | B.A. Accounting '03  
Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers

As he races up the ladder of one of the largest, most prestigious international firms, Kevin Basden unstintingly extends a hand to others just beginning their career climb.

"Reflecting on what has made a difference to me, I point to the countless mentors, sponsors and other supporters in my life," said Basden, director in the risk assurance practice at PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers). "No one does anything on their own. Because I've benefitted from the support of people in my life, I have an obligation to support others."

Basden, who also holds a master's degree in accounting from Villanova University, helped forge a relationship between PwC and Rowan University, which became a strategic recruiting source for the firm. He is one of the youngest members of the Rohrer College of Business Accounting Advisory Board. In addition, he mentors students through its accounting mentorship program.

Based on his leadership, the Philadelphia resident was invited to join the board of directors of the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program and serves on the development committee. This year, he also helped lead PwC's 2016 State of the Internal Audit Profession study and was invited to Genesis Park, which is PwC's global leadership development program.

In his career at PwC, he enjoys connecting with executives at some of the largest companies in the world.

"I have many opportunities to interact with leaders and work on unique strategic initiatives—to see business in a different light than many people would at this point in their careers," he says.

His commitment to others rounds out his perspective. "Any of us could measure our success based on professional accomplishments, but being more balanced makes it imperative to challenge yourself with questions like, 'Am I an effective mentor? Have I made a difference in some way?'"

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## Briana Feola

30 | B.F.A. Studio Art '08  
Creative director, Brainstorm Prints & Goods

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## Jason Snyder

33 | B.A. Art Education '07  
Art director, Brainstorm Prints & Goods

In the printmaking classrooms of Rowan's Westby Hall, Briana Feola and Jason Snyder learned about art, technique, equipment and teamwork. Together, they pursued a printmaking hobby housed in Snyder's childhood bedroom—using the bathtub to clean print screens.

Nine years later—mirroring Rowan's print studio right down to the same exposure unit—Feola and Snyder own Brainstorm Prints & Goods, a full-fledged, 1,700-square-foot illustration and poster design company located in a former textile mill in Dover, N.H.

Initially printing 25 to 30 limited-edition runs that they hoped would sell at craft fairs, the husband-and-wife team now prints 1,000-run retail projects for big-name companies such



PHOTO BY BILL KRAMER

as Urban Outfitters, L.L. Bean, and Bed Bath & Beyond.

"We didn't set out to start a company," Feola says. "We were just floating along doing projects for ourselves and freelancing and realized that we weren't really finding career jobs that we wanted to do."

Now, they're their own bosses. Feola guides the direction of the company and each project. Snyder designs each piece. Yet, both also handle Brainstorm's accounting, marketing, customer service,

packaging and all other managerial business responsibilities.

"It's good stress," Snyder says. "I'm dealing with all these things that are going to help us move the company forward. I wish I could stay up for 24 hours."

"I love that we can make this really weird life work somehow," Feola adds. "It's like job security in a weird way. We can't be fired. We can have hard times and things not go our way, but it's just us in a room making art and trying to sell it."



## JOLENE HERNANDEZ

30 | B.A. Psychology '12  
Global dance teacher

There's something there. Whether she's in Malaysia or New York, Jolene Hernandez can feel it. "Dance," she says, "transcends language."

Hernandez saw that firsthand when she established dance classes in her school in Kuala Rompin, Malaysia, as part of her 2013-14 Fulbright Program English teaching assistantship. She watched teens gain confidence—and a means of self-expression—as they grooved to Taylor Swift.

She formed Dance With Me, a program that offers dance workshops in Malaysia.

In between working as an activities specialist at Harlem RBI, a nonprofit youth program where she also teaches dance, Hernandez does her own fundraising to travel to Malaysia each year.

Last year, she offered 15 dance workshops in Malaysia. This fall, she'll return to expand the program and explore avenues to create "cross cultural dance exchanges" between students in New York and Malaysia. She's looking to establish a dance video pen pal exchange program.

"They would learn about each other's cultures and see that dance really is their common language," says Hernandez.



PHOTO BY KEVIN MONKO

# Greg Casterioto

39 | B.A. Radio, Television & Film '99  
Director of baseball communications,  
Philadelphia Phillies

He has a shiny World Series ring and counts as his friends the winningest manager in Philadelphia Phillies history and one of the best home run hitters of all time.

Yes, Greg Casterioto says, baseball has been very good to him. "I've met some of the best people in my life through baseball. It's the best sport there is," says Casterioto, who, through a little luck and a lot of pluck, turned an undergraduate internship in the Phillies' ticket office into a public relations career with the team.

A lifelong Phillies fan, Casterioto joined the media relations office full time in 1999 and worked his way up to director during the team's championship seasons. It has been, he says, the best of times.

"135 years of Phillies history and I had a front row seat to the best five years," says Casterioto. "I've been fortunate to work for the team in the greatest time in Phillies history."

Through his work, Casterioto became close to many in the organization, including Jim Thome, who is seventh on the all-time Major League Baseball home run list, and Charlie Manuel, who guided the team to victory in the 2008 World Series.

That October, he watched from the batting cage as the team clinched the series. Casterioto knew he had to get hustling—"There's a lot that goes into it after you win. I had to get Charlie to the interview room," he says—but he cherishes the few moments he shared with Manuel in his office after the victory. Dallas Green, who led the Phillies to their only other World Series win in 1980, was there, too.

"It was just me, Charlie and Dallas Green," says Casterioto, who cherishes a photo taken that night. "It was a very special moment for me that I know nobody else got to have."

## JULIA ENGLAND

24 | B.A. Education '13, B.A. Math/Science Liberal Studies '13  
Special education teacher

When the mood hits her, Julia England transforms her cane into a limbo stick in the hallways of Westampton Middle School.

"Sometimes, I make my students limbo under it," chuckles England, who teaches special education students in fifth through eighth grades. "I'm pretty open with my students about my health problems."

Diagnosed with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome, an extraordinarily painful nerve condition, England in recent years has gone from being wheelchair bound to using a walker to now using

a cane. Upbeat and ebullient, she has learned to walk three times.

"I figured out by going through some of the tough things in my life that teaching special education is what I need to do. It's my purpose," notes England, whose students include those with ADHD, dyslexia, autism and schizophrenia.

She hopes her determination encourages her students to work through their own challenges.

"It's easy to kind of give up. But it's more rewarding to get it done."



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## Freddy Araujo

39 | B.A. Law & Justice Studies '00  
Detective sergeant, New Jersey State Police

Freddy Araujo thinks about freedom a lot. "I tell my detectives, 'Don't get complacent when you're arresting someone. They're losing their freedom. Wars have been fought for freedom. People

treat someone. I learned how to respect someone's constitutional rights. That background helped tremendously when I went to the academy. I use what I learned every day."

In a meteoric 15-year career with the New Jersey State Police, Araujo has been a general road duty trooper, a uniformed member of a special task force in Irvington and Newark and an officer for the drug trafficking north and the cargo theft units.

Promoted to detective sergeant for the central security unit, Araujo is assigned to the gangs and organized crime north unit, where he previously served as an officer. His state police duties have included working security details for President Barack

Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Those high-profile assignments were fascinating, Araujo says. But he takes the most pride in protecting—and serving—New Jerseyans.

"I've had people shake my hand when I hauled them off to the county jail," says Araujo, the son of Peruvian immigrants. "I always ask them for their story. I want to know what led them down that road. Then, I try to offer advice to help them improve their situation."

have died for that.' The person they arrest may also be willing to die to preserve their own freedom and to take the officer's life in the process," he says.

Araujo first explored the concept of freedom in depth in law and human rights, an undergraduate course taught by professor Herbert Douglas. He got a hard-earned C plus.

"That grade probably means more to me than any 'A' I ever got. Herb Douglas was tough.

"In that course, I learned as a law enforcement officer how to



30

## DEVI PARIKH

32 | B.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering '05  
Assistant Professor,  
Bradley department of electrical and computer engineering  
Allen distinguished investigator of artificial intelligence  
Head of the Computer Vision Lab at Virginia Tech



Someday, if Dr. Devi Parikh has her way, people who are blind or visually impaired will be able to hear photographs popping up on social media.

Parikh specializes in artificial intelligence with an emphasis on visual intelligence, which involves machines making sense of visual data.

"We have a lot of data on social media that is not accessible to a large percent of the population with visual impairment," says Parikh, whose cousins Amip Shah '02 and Amol Shah '00 also are Rowan engineering graduates.

Currently, she's researching ways in which devices, such as computers and smartphones, can take visual information and translate it into words, even enabling people to ask questions about that fundamental visual information to get more expansive verbal responses.

As an undergraduate, Parikh worked with Dr. Robi Polikar. She knew she wanted to take her education further, though she hadn't planned on pursuing a Ph.D.

Indeed, Parikh, who earned her master's degree and her doctorate in electrical and computer engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, isn't the kind of person to make long-term plans.

"I tend to work on a day-to-day basis. I want to ensure I'm happy on a day-to-day basis," she says. "I think my long-term goal, if I have one, is to just keep doing that."

Thus far, that approach has played out quite well.

Parikh, whose husband also is a Virginia Tech professor, has earned numerous awards, presented at conferences around the globe and published extensively.

She is most proud of two accolades: a Sloan Research Fellowship, decided by senior members in her field; and the Rowan Medal of Excellence for Alumni Achievement she received at Commencement 2016.

# 31 Randel Swanson



PHOTO COURTESY OF PENN MEDICINE

29 | D.O. '11

Assistant professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

She was 19. So was he. She was driving outside of Pittsburgh. He was in western Pennsylvania on leave from the Marines. Their lives intersected when she crashed and he tried to assist her.

She died.

Her death inspired him, this kid who barely finished high school. Inspired him to leave the Marines, medal in hand for trying to save her life. Inspired him to pursue his childhood dream.

Today, Dr. Randel Swanson is doing just that. After earning a Ph.D. from Rutgers and a D.O. from Rowan, Swanson is working to discover links between traumatic brain injury (TBI) and secondary neurodegeneration, such as cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease.

A professor for about a year, Swanson received his first grant from the combined National Institutes of Health/Association of Academic Physiatrists Rehabilitation Medical Scientist Training Program shortly after landing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

He works with a mentorship team comprising two Penn physicians (Drs. Douglas H. Smith and Eline Tjetske Luning Prak) and Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine researcher Dr. Robert Nagele.

"I'm particularly interested in the role of the immune system and autoimmunity in secondary neurodegeneration," says Swanson. "We are actively investigating the role of autoantibodies in post-TBI neurodegeneration and also investigating the utility of autoantibodies to serve as novel TBI diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers."

If successful, their work could impact survivors—from kids who suffer mild TBIs from sports-related concussions to individuals who suffer severe TBIs from car accidents.

It also could impact veterans Swanson treats once a week at Philadelphia's Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center. Says Swanson: "They ask, 'What's my risk? Am I going to get Alzheimer's? Am I going to get dementia earlier in life?'"

Swanson's road to pursuing answers to those questions was circuitous. "I've always, since I was in the second grade, said I was going to be a brain doctor," he recalls. There was a time that hardly seemed likely.

A curious kid with a short attention span, Swanson didn't do well in classes, barely made it through high school and lacked confidence in his ability to handle college.

Ungrounded, he joined the Marines with a friend, auditioned, was accepted into the

U.S. Marine Corps Band and spent four years traveling the world as a USMC musician.

After leaving the Marines, he joined the Army National Guard and attended college on the GI Bill. He surprised himself. Carrying with him the lessons he learned in the military, he finished his undergraduate degree in two and a half years.

He applied for a paid summer internship at Penn, but didn't make the cut. So he volunteered to work for free with a professor performing neuroimaging research.

Work he did. After a couple of weeks the professor found money to pay him, and, in nine months, Swanson contributed to three scientific publications. The experience helped him land a full scholarship to graduate school/medical school.

Having a calling to work in the field of neurorehabilitation, he completed residency training in physical medicine and rehabilitation in the Temple University School of Medicine/Moss Rehabilitation program.

Today, his mentored research is performed in Penn's world-renowned Center for Brain Injury and Repair. Tomorrow, he hopes to uncover answers in his own lab to improve the quality of life for patients who have suffered TBIs.

## AMANDA C. SHOFFEL

33 | B.A. Law & Justice Studies '05  
Senior counsel, Special Federal Litigation Division  
New York City Law Department

Over a few short years, Amanda C. Shoffel practically went from law and justice to “Law & Order.” She’s not acting in or otherwise affiliated with the TV show. But she is living the life—as a litigator in the New York City court system.

Part of a team of about 120 attorneys, Shoffel defends employees of the New York City Police Department, the District Attorney’s Office and the Rikers Island correctional facility against lawsuits alleging violations of civil rights.

Her cases most often involve alleged violations of the Fourth Amendment, which guarantees protection against unlawful search and seizure and excessive force, or the First Amendment, which protects the rights to freedom of speech and religion.

Shoffel, who has tried about 35 cases since beginning her law career six years ago, says cases in which she defends police shooting

incidents can be emotionally draining but among the most satisfying to try.

“Those cases are much tougher, higher profile...but not for good reasons,” she says. “Someone was hurt badly and an officer had to make a split second decision to use deadly force.”

The 2009 graduate of New England Law Boston began her career in a similar position, as a deputy city solicitor in the Civil Rights Unit of the Philadelphia Law Department.

She loves the career she’s charted and sees herself in it for the foreseeable future. But, she adds, it’s not like stories on TV—at least not “Law & Order.”

“Some days it feels closer to ‘CSI,’” she said. “Every jury wants to see forensics and DNA.”



PHOTO BY TOM STOLKNER

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## Gerard Ohen

33 | B.S. Business Administration '05  
Director, global talent acquisition, Verizon

Gerard Ohen believes the right talent on a team can make all the difference.

His passion for problem-solving initially landed him in academia, where he created environments inspiring students to meet their full potential.

Seeking broader challenges, he jumped into recruiting, branding Verizon as an employer of choice to professionals. Now, Ohen is responsible for delivering an innovative, data-driven talent acquisition strategy that will help Verizon win in the global market.

PHOTO BY CRAIG TERRY

At Rowan, Ohen served the community through campus leadership positions, including president of Alpha Phi Alpha. He was the first African-American Board of Trustees student representative.

He urges students to welcome challenges, be passionately curious and constantly seek to improve themselves and their environments. “I took advantage of opportunities that pay dividends years later,” he said. “Do not wait to start making a difference once you graduate or reach a certain career level. Start now.”

33



## Brian Murphy

30 | B.A. Radio, Television & Film '08 | Comedy writer/actor

34

He was *thisclose* to the “fun, cool world” of comedy. Too bad Brian Murphy was making copies, answering phones and trying to regulate the office air conditioning.

“I had that job for two years,” says Murphy, who, at 22, landed a job at the Manhattan reception desk at CollegeHumor, a website of original comedy content that draws 10 million viewers monthly. “I would get to contribute and then I was consistently reminded that I was the office manager.

“Looking back, I can tell you I most definitely should not have been a writer right away. The job actually allowed me to grow as a writer and learn by being right there. It gave me time to improve.”

By late 2009, Murphy was appearing in videos and writing sketches for CollegeHumor Originals. By 2011, he moved up to a full-time sketch writer and performer. He worked for CollegeHumor for seven years, writing and starring in comedy sketches that irreverently illuminate the world’s absurdities.

With more than 200 million views, his writing credits include “Tinderella: A Modern Fairy Tale,” “The Boy Who Cried Literally” and “Star Wars Cantina Band Auditions,” among many others. With his wife/“comedy life partner” Emily Axford, he created the popular “How to Plan a Wedding in Ten Steps (The Honest Version).”

After a season as host and writer for MTV’s “Middle of the Night Show,” he’s now an actor for “Adam Ruins Everything” on TruTV.

Murphy, who grew up watching “The Simpsons,” “South Park,” and “Saturday Night Live,” got his start as a writer for *Venue*, the student alternative press magazine at Rowan. “It was the first time I realized that comedy took a lot of work and wasn’t just messing around with your friends,” he says. “At *Venue*, everyone was so funny and so good. I was so impressed and intimidated.”

Currently, he and Axford are collaborating on a satirical relationship advice book. “There are grains of truth in it... but mostly it’s crazy,” he laughs.

## MELISSA SCHIPKE

29 | M.B.A. '14 | Entrepreneur

Melissa Schipke thrives on making connections.

Inspired by the Collingswood resident’s passion, the Rowan University Innovation Venture Fund committee last year invested \$100,000 in Tassl, a company she co-founded.

“Our company is all about building relationships and understanding how to strengthen relationships, so it’s

easy to be passionate about it,” says Schipke, CEO of Tassl, an alumni engagement platform designed to enhance college alumni networks.

“The alumni network is one of the most valuable networks that we’re part of and is often untapped,” said Schipke, who is working with the Rowan University Alumni Association and Penn State University.

“Being an alumna is more than just giving donations,” she says. “There are so many amazing ways to stay connected, give back and grow personally and professionally through the resources provided by our alma maters. Tassl hopes to make that as easy as possible.”



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# Trymaine Lee

37 | B.A. Journalism '03 | National reporter MSNBC

Trymaine Lee has achieved more than many people see or do in a lifetime.

Just two years past his Rowan Commencement, Lee, along with a small group of colleagues at *The Times-Picayune* newspaper in New Orleans, won a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of Hurricane Katrina.

Thereafter, he spent four years as a reporter for *The New York Times*—the elusive Holy Grail for many journalists—but left for new media opportunities with the Huffington Post.

Now, as a national reporter for MSNBC, Lee tells stories online and reports live as news is breaking.

Besides Katrina, Lee covered some of the biggest stories in recent memory. Among them: the 2012 slaying of Trayvon Martin, where he was one of the earliest reporters to take the story national; the 2014 police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo.; and the San Bernardino and Orlando terror attacks.

In addition to his Pulitzer, Lee in 2006 was named Emerging Journalist of the Year by the National Association of Black Journalists and later won the April Sidney Award for coverage of the Trayvon Martin case. In 2015, he was named to the *Ebony Magazine* Power 100 list honoring heroes of the African-American community, a group that included Prince, NBC news anchor Lester Holt and talk show host Wendy Williams.

A true multimedia journalist, he's now at work on a book about the real cost of gun violence in America.

"I don't do this job just for the thrill of it," Lee says. "I do it because it's important work and because I know that what I do really matters."

Others agree. Between 2015 and 2016, Lee's work helped MSNBC receive three Salute to Excellence Awards from the National Association of Black Journalists—two last year for coverage of the Ferguson protests and one this year for the network's digital series, "Geography of Poverty."

## JONATHAN BARNES

31 | M.M. Jazz '06

Musician first class, U.S. Navy

A professional trumpet player with the Commodores Jazz Ensemble, Jonathan Barnes plays a key role in a 19-member unit of the U.S. Navy Band.

After graduating, the College of Performing Arts alumnus earned a master of music in jazz performance from the Manhattan School of Music. Before joining the Navy, he was an adjunct professor at Rowan.

Since his acceptance into the highly competitive Navy Band program in 2012, Barnes played at the White House, during President Obama's second inaugural parade, and scores of concerts and programs.

"The greatest reward is getting to see our veterans at concerts," Barnes said. "At the end of each show, we play a medley of the service songs and ask veterans to stand and be recognized. There's a great deal of pride and I really think they love it."

PHOTO BY CRAIG TERRY



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37

## Jonathan Tevis

28 | B.A. Public Relations '12  
Director of external relations, PhillyVoice.com

Jonathan Tevis is a modern public relations practitioner in a somewhat unexpected position. Where most PR people “pitch” media for coverage, Tevis has embarked on a public relations career with the media.

A magna cum laude Rowan alumnus, Tevis is helping reinvent news in the Philadelphia market at PhillyVoice.com, a purely online news source.

In his position, he serves as company spokesperson, oversees production of external communication pieces, handles corporate social media, builds partnerships with organizations and manages “native” advertising—paid content that site visitors want to read.



He held a similar position after college with Philadelphia Media Network, owner of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Daily News* and Philly.com news site.

Tevis says he and others in PhillyVoice.com management use analytics—online tracking tools—to measure readership of features, sports and other content and use that information to plan future content.

Analytics enable them to cull specific data, such as the number of visitors clicking on stories, how long they stay to read them and where they click off when they’re through, Tevis said.

“With print newspapers there’s no way to know how many readers you actually had for a given piece,” he says. “We can see exactly what readers want.”

PhillyVoice.com, which launched in January of 2015, has since had more than 13 million unique visitors, according to Tevis. The company has about 30 employees, including journalists and support staff.

“In a startup culture you tend to wear a lot of hats,” he says. “But it’s a lot of fun.”



39

## JEREMY ZEE

26 | B.S. Mechanical Engineering '11  
Operations engineer  
Honeywell Technology Solutions Inc. –  
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, Md.

When NASA’s Earth Observing System’s flagship satellite Terra suffered an anomaly earlier this year, was shut down and subsequently repaired, Jeremy Zee helped transition it from safe mode to science mode, making it fully operational again.

“That was one of the most important roles in my job,” says Zee, who focused on the hardware and software needed to facilitate communication between the spacecraft and NASA ground stations in Alaska and Norway and ensured the functionality of all ground components while the spacecraft was being recovered.

As a Honeywell employee contracted to NASA in Greenbelt, Md., Zee works on Aqua and Aura missions, as well as Terra.

“Those three missions provide a lot of earth science data, including carbon dioxide, ice melts and ocean temperatures,” says Zee, who lives in College Park, Md. “They also take pictures that are used for things like forest fire responses and weather forecasting.”

38

# Caitlin Terry

34 | B.S. Civil Engineering '05

Director of projects, Hydromissions International

She contracted parasites and high fevers; was targeted by leeches; patched her own injuries; trekked for hours with drilling equipment; lost her boot in thigh-high mud and lived in jungles, mountains and the African bush.

Meet Caitlin Terry, of Vineland—sort of. The licensed professional engineer has spent the past seven years traveling to places like Tajikistan, Nepal, Uganda, South Sudan, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama and Haiti. There, she has implemented safe water and adequate waste systems, first as a volunteer and then full time with the small nonprofit organization Hydromissions International. She shares stories and photos from her outposts on her blog at [howmanycows.com](http://howmanycows.com)

She raises her own funds to do this, with monthly supporters and crowdfunding, so she can help most of the year in places few Americans see. Prior to joining Hydromissions, she worked as a licensed engineer for The Shaw Group (now CB&I) in Moorestown, largely self-

financing her projects in developing countries.

Sometimes on her own, sometimes partnering with a few others, Terry doesn't simply install projects.

"My primary role is to design systems alongside community leaders with resources generally found on the ground, unique to each village," she says. "The highlight for me is when a community comes together to participate in the project, and they have pride in what they've done.

"If they can say 'Look what we've done for our families' and they see it as something they have done with my assistance and not something I have just done on my own for them, then I feel accomplished."

A couple of things drive the woman who developed her skills in Rowan engineering clinics and who has volunteered post-



PHOTO BY ELLIANA DANIELA SONNTAG WOOD

graduation on projects in Central America with Dr. Beena Sukumaran's Engineering Innovators Without Borders students.

"I do this because I'm passionate about helping people in need. Very simply, I want those I serve to know, above all, they are loved by God. I worked in one community in El Salvador where they actually called themselves The Forgotten People of the High Mountains. I go to these remote communities because I want to let them to know they are not forgotten."

## PROFILES BY

**DIANE DONOFRIO ANGELUCCI '81** is a South Jersey-based freelance writer whose work has appeared in numerous consumer and professional publications.

**BARBARA BAALS** is celebrating her 10th year as assistant director in Rowan's Office of Media & Public Relations.

**ROSIE BRAUDE B'08, M'09** is assistant director of Rowan's Office of Media & Public Relations.

A writer in Media & Public Relations, **STEVE LEVINE B'87 M'07** was formerly a journalist in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

**PATRICIA QUIGLEY, B'78 M'03**, assistant director of Media & Public Relations, is an award-winning PR practitioner and journalist who has been published regionally, nationally and internationally.

Photos not credited were provided by the alumni.

# Fantasy football, real strategy, real fun

Guru and analyst Matt Camp talks fundamentals of the virtual game

by Matt Camp '08

**W**hen I entered my first fantasy football draft in a league of five friends 20 years ago, we were all clueless. We didn't know how to draft the "perfect" team, much less run an entire league. But after starting out so ill-prepared on that day in late August

all those years ago, I was eventually able to parlay a love of fantasy football and the NFL (National Football League) into a career as a fantasy football analyst.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the term, fantasy football is a recreational activity in which participants serve as owners of virtual professional football teams. The "owners" choose their team rosters from NFL players. During the season, they amass points based on the players' performances in real-world competition, such as rushing, passing, scoring, interceptions, etc. Teams with the most points move to the playoffs and eventual championships.

As I prepare for the upcoming season, it's still exciting to think about Draft Day, the day when team selections begin. But the dynamics have shifted greatly, turning fantasy football into an activity that's gone from five months of fun to an almost year-round discussion of players, strategy and the NFL news cycle that never seems to end.

To deal with major shifts in both the real and fantasy football worlds, I have had to adjust my philosophies to fit the times. Based on my experience, here are some guidelines you may find helpful.

## Take the long view

While the draft is an exciting day, it's nowhere near as important as it used to be to your



fantasy team's success. Even so, you need to keep on top of the effects of free agency, the NFL draft, coaching changes, injury updates and any interesting tidbits coming out of off-season workouts. It's a lot to process, which can be overwhelming as you prepare for your drafts, but it's necessary.

Assuming that how you've successfully strategized and played in the past will continue to work can be foolish. Also, too often fantasy owners are too rigid with their draft strategy, and that leads to reaching for lesser players. In short, the fantasy football player who refuses to adapt will lose.

### Keep it simple

One of the most popular questions I'm asked in July and August is what players to take in the early rounds and when to take them. For the early rounds, my best advice is to take the best player available. It seems overly simplistic and not very insightful, but there's really no reason to overthink it. If you're second-guessing a pick you made in the first or second round, it can often lead to additional mistakes with subsequent picks. Keep it simple and stick with players you feel the best about regardless of position (other than quarterback, which you should always wait to get in later rounds).

Most fantasy owners have ditched the old-school philosophy that your first pick has to be a running back. The position has become much too volatile to build your team around with the same confidence fantasy

managers once showed in picking players who were both runner and receiver. That strategy no longer works because those roles have become more specific in today's game. Also, running back injuries are a big concern, so teams don't invest as much money in them.

### Stay open

If you want to stay competitive throughout the season, making trades and working the waiver wire are paramount. (The waiver wire allows managers to replace injured players and poor performers.)

You must be vigilant when it comes to managing your roster. The NFL is a week-to-week league thanks to injuries, matchups and new gameplans changing all the time. Consistency isn't easy to find, so you must stay on top of players on the rise, even if it's only for a short time.

### Keep it fun

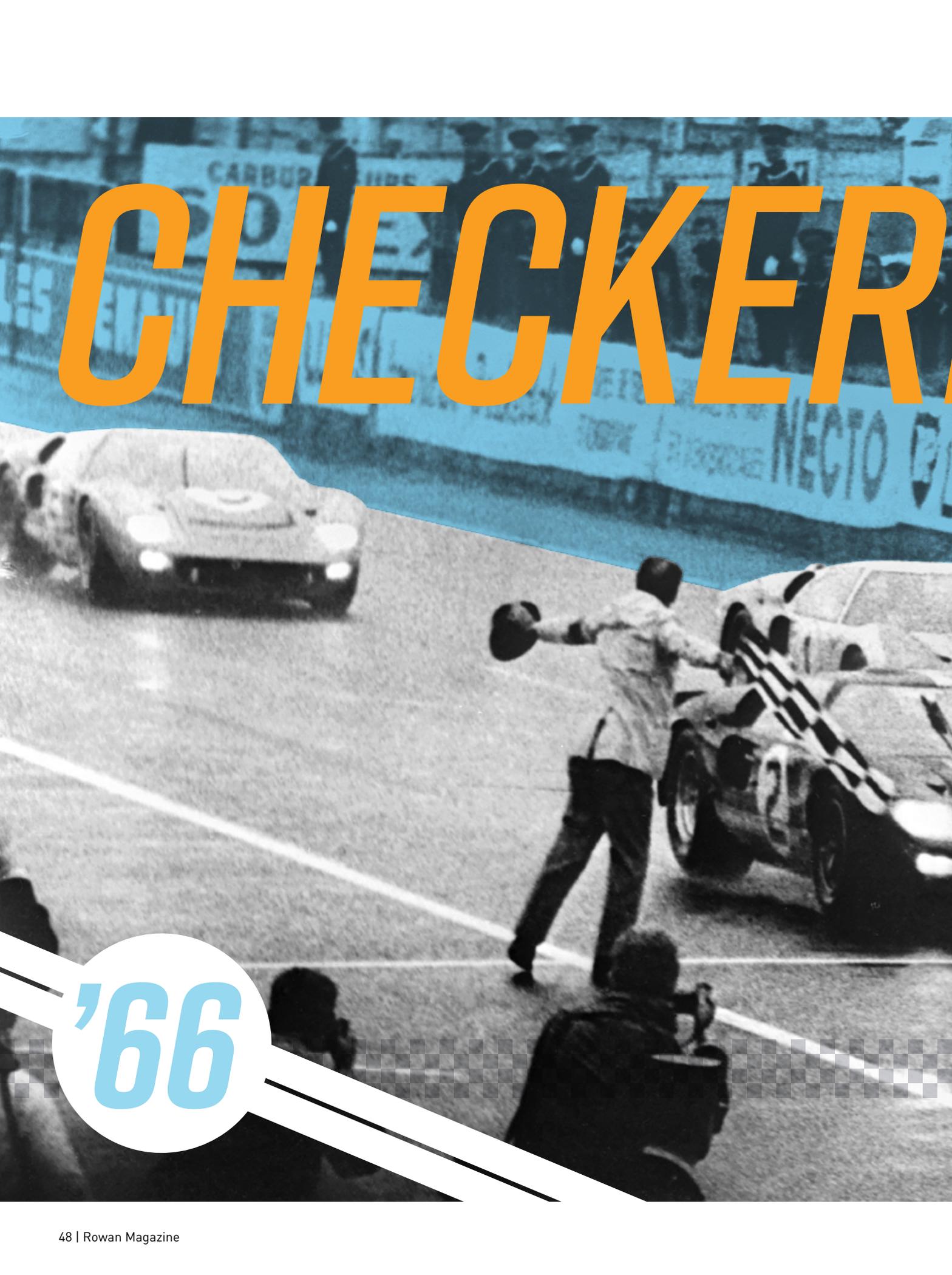
Many of us play fantasy football with varying degrees of stakes, so while I appreciate the levels of commitment, excitement and disappointment I see throughout the season, just remember that it's still supposed to be fun. Don't tweet a player because he fumbled at an inopportune time or got injured during your championship game. Share your complaints with your friends, pretend to run a superstar team and enjoy the fact that no matter what happens, you get to do it all over again next year. ■



Matt Camp '08 is the lead fantasy football analyst for Bleacher Report, one of the biggest sports media companies in

the world. Camp can be seen in multiple videos each day during the NFL season on Bleacher Report's multiple platforms analyzing the latest news, statistics and injuries to provide advice for both season-long and daily fantasy leagues. Camp is also one of the original hosts on Sirius/XM Fantasy Sports Radio (Sirius 210/XM 87) as part of Sirius/XM Fantasy Football and Gameday. At Rowan, Camp held multiple positions at the Rec Center's intramural department and was a brother of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. If you have a fantasy question, follow him on Twitter, @TheMattCamp.

# CHECKER



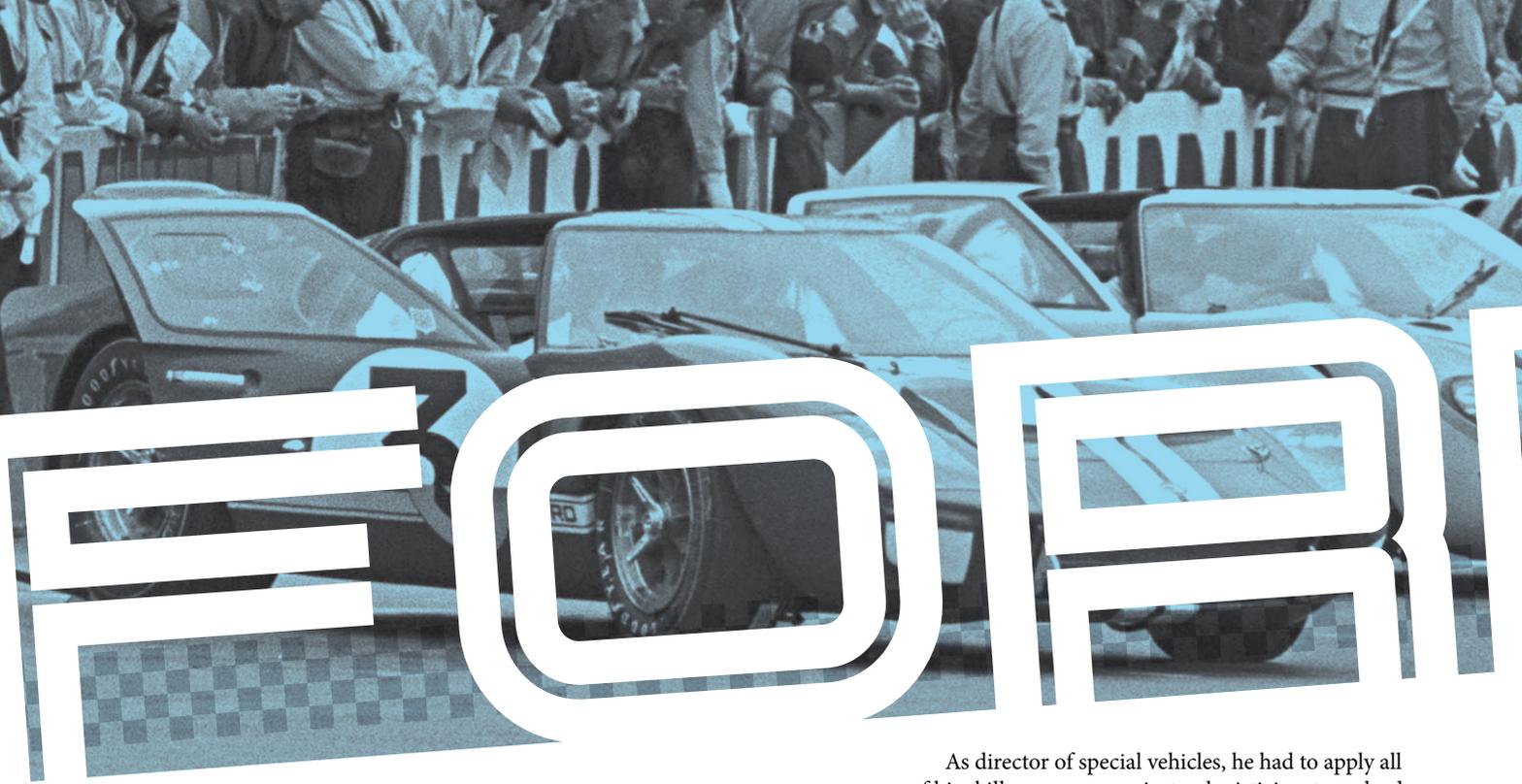
'66

# ED PAST

BY FRANK COMSTOCK '77

*PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY ARCHIVES AND THE ROWAN UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS*

The thick stench of gas and burning rubber hung in the summer air. The bone-rattling roar of dozens of race cars deafened officials and spectators. Always thrilling and sometimes deadly, the 24 Hours of Le Mans began in June 1966 as usual, with the French tricolor signaling the start of the grueling endurance contest. When the checkered flag waved at the finish the next day, Leo Beebe M'85 had helped make history for Ford Motor Company and international motor sports.



Beebe, who would become the first dean of what is now the Rohrer College of Business, was at Le Mans to settle an international feud between auto titans Henry Ford II and Enzo Ferrari. With a business deal gone bad when Ferrari walked out on Ford, Beebe became Ford's point man in the corporate grudge match. Ford wanted wins in all the major auto races in the world within two years. No American had won at Le Mans, so beating Ferrari in Europe was paramount.

### FINDING CHALLENGE WITH FORD

Beebe had never seen an auto race when Lee Iacocca and Henry Ford II asked him to take over Ford's racing program. His route to racing began in World War II as the Navy assigned him to a young officer named Henry Ford II, grandson of the first Henry Ford, founder of the company that bore his name. Young Ford quickly saw Beebe's potential and invited him to work for his family's company after the war. Specializing in fixing broken programs, Beebe became Ford's favorite troubleshooter.



As director of special vehicles, he had to apply all of his skills as a communicator, logistician, team leader and motivator to bring the people and teams in various racing venues together to reach his goal. For many years, Beebe carried a small card from Ford in his wallet. It said simply, "You better win."

Beebe knew exactly what those words meant. He was to use all his talents, as much of Ford's money as he could get his hands on, find the best drivers, the best engineers, the best cars, engines and transmissions and then go out and conquer worlds that Ford had, at that point, dabbled in only on a small scale. To dominate the racing world, Henry Ford II would take his company back to its roots in a very real sense because his grandfather, the first Henry, had shaped his early reputation by building racing cars—and sometimes racing them himself—to prove that his cars were reliable.

### LEARNING TO WIN

Beebe's first two challenges were to win on Southern and Midwestern stock car tracks with the NASCAR and USAC series in open-wheel racing—commonly known then as Indy racing—and in Grand Touring (GT) style racing, then mostly concentrated in Europe. To learn about racing, Beebe did what he did best: he listened, he observed, he visited racing venues and he took meticulous notes—probably mostly in his head. When he had command

# "YOU BET"

Above: Before the race, GTs rested among the line-up.

Inset: Henry Ford II arrived at Le Mans '66 depending on Beebe to deliver a win. Beebe's team stunned the world and satisfied the boss.

Opposite: Beebe's #13 badge didn't hinder the Ford team's performance.



of the situation through careful observation, Beebe took over. There was no question that he was in charge.

While not ignoring any type of racing, the fastest results could be achieved in the stock car racing venues in the South and Midwest because Ford already had well-established programs in both areas. Beebe threw money at the teams, argued with racing circuit officials and occasionally threatened to pull Ford support from stock car racing. In the Daytona 500 stock car race in February 1965—one of the three majors Leo had to win—Ford took the top 13 positions and 19 of the top 21 positions. The first box on his list could be checked off: dominance at Daytona.

The Indianapolis 500 had been a disaster for Ford in 1964 as Beebe, new on the job, just looked on and learned. He vowed 1965 would be different. He reorganized the teams, redistributed money, hired more drivers and, with his team, developed an innovation that would change Indy style racing forever: cutting time in a typical pit stop to less than half. With a new fueling system, redesigned wheel locks and a total team effort, Ford and driver Jim Clark won the 1965 Indianapolis 500 and Beebe checked off box number two on his to-do list.

### THE FINAL CHALLENGE

Only one box remained to be checked: the 24 Hours of Le Mans, a race that took a terrible toll on men and equipment, a race that Henry Ford II wanted to win more than anything. There wasn't much chance for the 1965 Le Mans race, but Beebe and his team flew to France right



TER WIN."



The Le Mans course uses a combination of permanent race circuit and public roads temporarily closed for the competition. This illustration shows the race route in 1966 on which [A] competitors sped on the Dunlop Curve; [B] a Ford GT40 outpaced a Ferrari; and [C] a Ford entry navigated the Mulsanne Corner hairpin turn.

and their various parts started lasting longer. Engines and transmissions were run with reaching Beebe's goal of lasting 48 hours. Every part of the car was improved and tweaked before the racing fleet was finally shipped to France.

### THE WINNING STRATEGY

The 24-hour race traditionally begins on a June afternoon and ends where it started, with pit stops measured in seconds throughout the day and night. Fifty or more cars contend for the Le Mans title, raced by multiple drivers on the closed course at average speeds above 200 mph.

Those who finish the race can log more than 3,000 miles, depending on the conditions.

Eight factory Ford GT40 Mark II cars started the 1966 race, but only one had to win to satisfy Henry Ford. Several of the factory Fords and all of the independently entered Fords had dropped out with only hours left in this severe test of drivers and cars. Three factory cars were still running in the pre-dawn, rain-slicked hours when everyone's nerves were frayed and the cars were being stretched to their limit of endurance. But by then the Ferrari vehicles were out of the running and Henry Ford was all but assured of his win. It would be the first for an American team at Le Mans.

Several hours before the end of the race, the Ford team started talking about how it would end. Beebe was confident but cautious. The Ken Miles/Denis Hulme GT40 Mark II number 1 Ford was in the lead with the Bruce McLaren/Chris Amon number 2 Ford running in second place with another factory entry several laps behind. Everyone expected the race to end with the first two cars in those same two positions. Le Mans officials approached the team and said they could agree to a tie if Ford wanted that.

Team members expressed opinions but Leo understood that responsibility for the decision ultimately rested with him. In an unpublished interview with noted automotive historian and author David Lewis, Beebe said, "Ken Miles, who later died, regrettably didn't win the race that year. I had some real difficulties over that. But, he was a daredevil and I pulled him in and literally engineered the end of that race—one, two, three... I called Ken Miles in and held him back because I was afraid the drivers would knock one another off. All you need is one good accident and you lose all your investment."

Beebe made the call on the team's plan to have the three remaining Fords come across the line together, although an arcane rule at Le Mans in those days would ultimately affect the finish. The rule said that if there was a tie, the car that had traveled the furthest in 24 hours, based on its starting position, would be the winner. Miles was leading in the number one car and would have won as long as he crossed the line 100 feet or so in front of McLaren, who had started

after winning Indianapolis. They knew they had to try and had to learn from their mistakes if they couldn't win.

Beebe had only one more year to check off that final box. Through the end of 1964 and into 1965, the Ford team tweaked their Le Mans cars, trying different engines, transmissions, brakes and body configurations. The team's goal was to get the cars to last through 24 hours at high speed without breaking any significant parts. Beebe's goal was 48 hours because the former insurance salesman wanted an insurance policy of his own. The 1965 race offered hard, valuable lessons. Car by car, the Ford teams dropped out with failed engines, transmissions or accidents. While most team members went back to their hotels, Leo stayed up all night, as he had done in 1964, listening and watching.

Planning for the 1966 Le Mans began the next morning as Leo held what he called a victory meeting in a French hotel. He told his team that they would return the next year and win. There was no other option. Beebe was known in meetings to sit back, even when he was the leader, and just listen and take notes. When all had said their piece, he would look at everyone and say something like: "I don't know much about [insert any subject], but it's obvious that none of you do, either. Now, here's what we're going to do." He would then rattle off—sometimes without the benefit of notes—what had to be done, who was going to do it and—sometimes, exactly how it should be done.

The Le Mans committee met every two weeks at Ford after that and all red tape was eliminated in the Ford bureaucracy. Le Mans was on the front burner at Ford with all departments involved. Slowly, the cars

LE MANS CIRCUIT 1966  
8.4667M (13.6259KM)

1. START/FINISH
2. DUNLOP CURVE
3. ESSE
4. TERTRE ROUGE
5. MULSANNE STRAIGHT
6. MULSANNE CORNER
7. INDIANAPOLIS CORNER
8. ARNAGE CORNER
9. MAISON BLANCHE

# SHIFTING PEARLS

- CONSULTED FOR AND ADVISED PRESIDENTS EISENHOWER, JOHNSON, NIXON, FORD AND REAGAN
- LED 1956/1957 RELOCATION OF 35,000 HUNGARIAN REFUGEES TO THE U.S.
- HEADED EFFORTS TO RELOCATE THOUSANDS OF CUBAN REFUGEES IN 1960
- PROVIDED DAY-TO-DAY LEADERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESSMEN IN 1968 WITH GOAL OF PLACING 100,000 HARDCORE UNEMPLOYED MEN AND WOMEN BACK IN THE WORKFORCE; RETURNED ALMOST 200,000 PEOPLE TO WORK
- SERVED AS LEADER AND BOARD MEMBER FOR BOYS CLUB, ROTARY, YMCA, UNITED WAY
- WAS FOUNDING MEMBER OF READING IS FUNDAMENTAL
- SAT ON BOARDS OF DIRECTORS FOR MANY COMPANIES AND THREE UNIVERSITIES
- SERVED AS PRESIDENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL AUDIO VISUAL ASSOCIATION
- WAS BOARD MEMBER, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ACHIEVEMENT
- HELPED FOUND WHAT BECAME THE ROHRER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
- WORKED WITH DR. BOB LYNCH TO FORM THE GSC MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
- WAS TWICE CEO OF K-TRON
- SERVED AS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS DEAN FOR EIGHT YEARS IN GLASSBORO



## IF

a Hollywood producer held a casting call for the perfect professor, Beebe would have been the first choice with his carefully tailored wool suits, button-down

shirts and tweed jackets. Yet, he had some decidedly nonacademic turns in his career, including heading up Ford Motor Company's racing program during its most successful period in the 1960s. Beebe came from a working-class family. He hawked newspapers as a boy, sold car insurance at a time when people didn't even need it and taught and coached in several Michigan school districts. He joined the Glassboro State College faculty in 1972, helping found the business program. In 1973, he hosted Henry Ford II as the keynote speaker at GSC's first Management Institute. He became dean in 1977 and retired from academia in 1985, having helped increase business enrollment ten-fold. He immediately returned to industry for an encore career and passed away in 2001. His vast collection of papers and memorabilia is archived at Rowan as a special collection in Campbell Library.

At a White House reception with President Gerald Ford in 1976, Beebe was in familiar territory, having advised presidents and their staffs for decades.

# '16



On Father's Day in June, 50 years after his dad celebrated the Ford victory over Ferrari at Le Mans, Edsel Ford II watched the new GT take the title again. The win satisfied fans of the American supercar as it did in '66. As Beebe recalled the result of the Ford-Ferrari rivalry years later, "Ford's reputation for performance soared."

several positions behind Miles. Miles backed off as he approached the line, possibly irked by Beebe's restraint. The McLaren car came across first and would have been declared the winner anyway since it had traveled farther because of its starting position.

The Ford team had won, but many thought the wrong Ford car had placed first. The racing media exploded and the result is still discussed more than 50 years later. The Ford team, and Leo Beebe as the man who made the ultimate decision, were both praised and vilified in the press at the time and the controversy over the finish line strategy continues today among die-hard racing fans.

Few at the time understood that Beebe had gone back to basics to win for Ford: teamwork was paramount. His instructions from Henry Ford II were clear. Ford needed to win at Le Mans. Not any particular driver, but Ford Motor Company. Beebe, in deciding to have the cars come across the line together, had secured a win for the team. He had done what he had to do for Henry Ford and his company. He could check off the third and final box.

## **SAME BEEBE, DIFFERENT OPPORTUNITY**

The 1966 24 Hours of Le Mans stands out in racing history in large part because Beebe was in charge. By the time he arrived in Glassboro to guide the business program, he had also counseled U.S. presidents, orchestrated major international humanitarian relief efforts and led business, industry and civic organizations to innovate in countless ways. Far from the acrid, noisy racetrack, Beebe invested the extraordinary insight from his experience of international motor sports, corporate leadership and public service in another 30 years as an executive, volunteer and educator. Fifty years later, his example still teaches and inspires.

---

*Frank Comstock '77 turned to writing fiction and nonfiction about 10 years ago after doing technical writing for many years. With two published novels, many short stories and a number of articles, he has also won awards for his photography and stained glass.*

Beebe, center, and some of his staff. Known for studying details before proposing a plan, he said in 2001, "Our experience at LeMans illustrates the importance of knowing your market and developing the right product for the market."





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# COOPER MEDICAL SCHOOL OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY

## MORE THAN THE M.D.

BY PATRICIA QUIGLEY '78, M'03

"I will always remember my first patient. She called me 'doctor' since day one... even though I told her that I was not a doctor."

That's how Marci Fornari described the start of her clinical experience at the Cooper Rowan Clinic. She and several classmates told their stories as part of a video history of the first Cooper Medical School of Rowan University class.

Located across from Cooper University Hospital in Camden, the clinic reflects CMSRU's commitment to

providing a humanistic education for tomorrow's physicians.

Students, supervised by clinical faculty, run the facility and work with patients ages 14 and older from Camden who may have no insurance or be underinsured. Service in the clinic is mandatory for all medical students during their first three years. On any given day, they may take histories or perform physical exams of people with the kind of conditions for which those with adequate insurance would see a primary care physician.

The clinic is one of the things that sets CMSRU apart from other medical schools. It brings to life CMSRU's mantra: "Camden is our classroom. Camden is our home." And it's as important to the medical students as it is to the patients, reflecting the school's commitment to

providing the opportunity to work with patients early and often.

Holly Caten noted: "People love to go to clinic and have their own patients. I think that is truly special. You are able to provide care to Camden residents very early on, really get entwined in their lives and learn about the city through a patient's perspective."

Martin Weaver, Jr., one of the co-directors of the student clinic board, said, "My patients at the clinic taught me what it meant to be a proud member of the Camden community and that the practice of medicine is not purely science but an art that is influenced by many socio-politico-economic factors. The clinic taught me how to be a competent and compassionate doctor—skills that I'm sure my future patients will appreciate."

### SHARING SUCCESS

DRESSED IN BLACK CAPS AND GOWNS ON A WARM MAY DAY, Fornari, Caten and Weaver were among 43 students to graduate as part of the first CMSRU class. All of those students have stories to tell—stories of sacrifice, grit and, most of all, success. But theirs are not the only stories that were a part of Commencement 2016 or the early days of CMSRU. A much larger story goes beyond individuals who one day will deliver babies, remove diseased organs and ensure healthier lives. It is the story of a new medical school and the city it calls home.

See the students' video stories at [rowan.edu/coopermed/TheJourney](http://rowan.edu/coopermed/TheJourney)



“CMSRU—AND ITS STUDENTS—HAVE BEEN THE IMPETUS FOR ALL THAT FOLLOWED. CMSRU IS CENTRAL TO THE REBIRTH OF THE CITY.”

CONGRESSMAN  
DONALD NORCROSS

### CREATING A PARTNERSHIP

“WHEN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY ASKED, THE UNIVERSITY RESPONDED. There were many conversations of course, but there was no doubt we were going to do this.”

That’s how Dr. Ali Houshmand, Rowan University president, recalled the phone calls and meetings with state officials and others in 2009.

The state’s request was straightforward: Partner with Cooper University Health Care to found a new medical school.

The state’s expectations were clear: Create a program that prepares physicians with exceptional clinical skills and a commitment to the community, build a school that addresses the health care needs of a city and region.

“Rowan already was growing in programs and recognition,” Houshmand said. “The request by the state was an opportunity we had not dreamed of, but it was one we knew was critical for our school and region.”

The partners built the medical school



JONATHAN KOLBE

under the founding dean, Dr. Paul Katz, who had facilitated the start of The Commonwealth Medical College in Scranton as its vice dean. His team included other administrators with experience starting and leading medical school programs.

It was not an easy process. Tackling something that complex while so many are watching never is. But both Rowan and Cooper brought much to the table, not least of which were the vision to see what could be, the drive to make it happen and committed leaders and staff eager to expand 21st century medical education in New Jersey.

CMSRU evaluated more than 3,000 applications from students who wanted to take a chance on the brand new medical school. In the summer of 2012, it welcomed 50 students, men and women from New Jersey and beyond, many with nontraditional backgrounds, some pursuing second careers, some from underrepresented populations in medicine.



JONATHAN KOLBE



Some people would say, “And the rest is history.” But the truth is, the opening of CMSRU was just the start.

## BOLSTERING COMMUNITY

PERHAPS IT’S EASY TO LOOK AT THE SIX-STORY MEDICAL SCHOOL ON South Broadway, close to Cooper University Hospital, and assess it in isolation.

Here’s where a relatively small group of students came to study. But the students came to study in a place where they believed they could make a contribution. They have not studied in isolation, nor will the others who follow them.

Opened in 2012, the partnership of Rowan and Cooper has from its formative days emphasized providing students with the first-class academic training needed for them to become outstanding clinicians and instilling in them a commitment to serve the community.

Students’ days were filled with mentoring youngsters in their adopted city and providing health care services as

well as studying anatomy and diagnosing illnesses based on symptoms. Together, they contributed more than 7,000 service hours to their adopted hometown.

Katz likened most medical schools in the United States to Starbucks, where you can get a predictable cup of coffee.

“I think we were very intentional in the kind of medical school we wanted,” the dean said. “We wanted to distinguish ourselves in the shadow of five medical schools in Philadelphia and three in New Jersey.”

To do that meant attracting students eager to provide care to underserved communities, flourish in an innovative environment and strive to be physician leaders.

## CHANGE ONGOING

BUILDINGS ARE GOING UP. BUILDINGS ARE COMING DOWN.

There’s a life cycle of sorts playing out in the City of Camden right now. Some abandoned structures have given way to

*Above: Brian McCauley discusses a new medication with his patient at the Cooper Rowan Clinic.*

*Opposite: midway through their medical education, Rebecca Lowy and Alexandra Vrancik harvested greens to share with Camden neighbors as part of the students’ service learning commitment.*

housing. Some empty lots are now home to community gardens. The eds-and-meds presence, that colloquial reference to education and health care, is growing, and opening CMSRU was a pivotal stage in the process.

Make no mistake, Camden already was a player in health care and education. Cooper University Health Care has served the city since 1887. Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center dominates the landscape

Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act to develop educational and research assets to support growth in the regional health care arena.

“The medical school is an anchor for the eds-and-meds corridor,” Kolluri said. “What makes the school so important for the city and its residents is its focus on urban health and urban health care services. The vision that all of us have for an eds-and-meds corridor starts with a context-sensitive development and context-sensitive services. When you are talking about urban development, it is very important to make sure the project is relatable to the community and provides access to members of the community. CMSRU is on the forefront of this thinking.”

Richard Stagliano, president and CEO of the Center for Family Services, agrees. The nonprofit human services agency he has led for 35 years, headquartered in 14 historic houses on Benson Street about a half block from CMSRU, shares the medical school’s commitment to the city and its residents.

“There have been many starts and stops in terms of how to rejuvenate this city,” Stagliano said. “I see the medical school as sort of a beacon of hope, the transformation of Broadway and the downtown area, the transformation of our neighborhood here. It’s a symbol of the renaissance happening here in the city.

“It’s the way Rowan and Cooper are going about it,” he added. “They are not just in an ivory tower. They are engaged in the community.”

Today, the change in a city that has gone through decades of ups and downs is highly visible.

- The Rowan/Rutgers-Camden Board is developing a Joint Health Science Center at Broadway and Martin Luther King Boulevard, to be shared by Rowan and Rutgers.
- New student housing, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments with hardwood floors and an onsite café, faces the medical school.
- Rowan, in conjunction with the



JONATHAN KOLBE

*Above: Each year, students spend time shadowing physicians at Cooper University Hospital during Week on the Wards, a program supporting CMSRU’s commitment to providing students with early and ongoing patient care exposure.*

*Opposite: The charter class marched to its Commencement ceremony in Camden in a procession of students, faculty and leadership from Rowan and its primary CMSRU partner, Cooper University Health Care.*

in the Parkside section of town. Virtua Camden is nearby. The world-renowned Coriell Institute for Medical Research has been making advances in scientific studies for six decades. Rowan has had a campus in the city since 1969, and Rutgers-Camden’s predecessors—South Jersey Law School and the College of South Jersey—date to the 1920s.

WORKING IN A 140-SQUARE-FOOT OFFICE at 200 Federal Street, three floors above downtown Camden, Kris Kolluri has as good a handle as anyone on the impact CMSRU has had on health care and the city.

Kolluri is CEO of the Rowan University/Rutgers-Camden Board of Governors, the body created by the 2012 New Jersey

Camden County Improvement Authority, plans to build a 1,000-car parking garage as part of the planning and build-out of the medical school.

- Rutgers is constructing a school of nursing near the Walter Rand Transportation Center.

All of this will impact the economy of the region. Eds and meds are the largest employers in many large cities, the segment with the fastest-growing job categories. In Camden, almost 40 percent of jobs are in these fields.

“Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is an integral part of the redevelopment of our city,” said Camden Mayor Dana Redd. “CMSRU brought more educational opportunities and greater access to health care services to our community. It also brought more jobs and construction to Camden. This medical school is helping to transform its hometown and is improving the quality of life for our residents in many ways. CMSRU has been a catalyst for change.”

U.S. Congressman Donald Norcross, who as a state senator guided all the legislative steps now bearing fruit in Camden’s renaissance, agrees. “CMSRU—and its students—have been the impetus for all that followed. CMSRU is central to the rebirth of the city.”

Perhaps Gov. Chris Christie said it best addressing graduates at Commencement: “You are the first tangible evidence of Camden’s future.”

## GROWING SUCCESS

ON A WARM MAY DAY, in front of hundreds of family members, friends, faculty and dignitaries—including Gov. Christie—the first class graduated.

These new doctors now are spread across the country, at places like Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, D.C., the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and Cooper University Hospital. They plan to practice family medicine, emergency medicine, surgery and more.

These new physicians are just the start. CMSRU has welcomed increasingly larger



classes and now enrolls 305 students. For the class entering in August 2016, more than 5,900 people applied for admission to CMSRU, which accepted 88. The Liaison Committee for Medical Education, the nationally recognized accrediting body for medical education programs leading to the Doctor of Medicine degree in the U.S. and Canada, in June awarded CMSRU the highest level of accreditation available to a medical school in the United States.

Houshmand is part academic, part visionary, part collaborator and part proud father when he assesses the graduates, the people who made their education possible and the future.

“That Rowan had a role in creating a medical school in New Jersey, that we are contributing to such an important city as Camden, that we are educating the next generations of physicians—this has been rewarding, of course. It also has created new opportunities for our distinguished University. I couldn’t be more proud.” ■

“YOU ARE  
THE FIRST  
TANGIBLE  
EVIDENCE OF  
CAMDEN’S  
FUTURE.”

GOVERNOR  
CHRIS CHRISTIE

# class notes



## Farewell to Coach Wackar

The University community lost legendary professor, coach and mentor Richard Wackar in August at press time.

Plans for a memorial service during the Profs football season are under way.

For information, please visit [alumni.rowan.edu](http://alumni.rowan.edu) or call 856-256-5400.

## 40s

**Sara Foster Roberts '43** lives in Sea Isle City and spends the winter in Louisiana with family.

**Riletta Twyne Cream '44** served as an elementary school teacher, supervisor, principal and Camden County freeholder throughout her career.

**Florence Ferrarie '45** retired 30 years ago and spends winters in Palmetto, Fla.

**Marie Angello Fitzpatrick Warner '45** enjoys retirement by traveling with her husband. They live in Silver Spring, Md.

**Phyllis Hitchner Cramer '47** has traveled to every state except Alaska. She belongs to the California Retired Teachers Association and Travelers Joy, a Japanese drumming ensemble. She has 10 great-grandchildren.

**Grace Downer '47** retired in 1985 after teaching for 31 years in New Jersey, Texas and Pennsylvania. She has volunteered with the American Red Cross, the Ocean County Historical Society and the Community Medical Center in Toms River.

**Barbara Dacy '48** is still taking classes after teaching for 40 years.

**Arlene Drake Measely '49** retired after 26 years in education.

## 50s

**Jesse Leroy Bright '50** resides in Glassboro and owns Land of Canaan Cemetery in Elk Township. He is a former Glassboro School Board member and served as a counselor and teacher for 44 years in Philadelphia schools.

**Dolores Bryant Johnson '51** takes part in missionary activities with senior citizen groups.

**Phyllis Mae Kuhlthau Pall '51** taught in Japan from 1967-1970.

**Emily Sciarrotta Conti '52** is an active member of Mercer County Retired Educators. She and her

husband, Ronald, have two children and two grandchildren. One grandchild is **Christopher Napoleon '19**, a Rowan engineering student.

**Don Fague '52** spends his time painting landscapes and participating in church activities.

**Joan Ebert Marcell '52** retired in 1993 after being awarded with Teacher of the Year from Washington Elementary School in Bergenfield. She has two children, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Carmella Spallone Roadarmel '52** moved to Florida after retiring from the Maple Shade School District in 1992.



### WGLS inducts new Hall of Famers

Family and friends celebrated with WGLS staff and students in April as the station welcomed its newest Hall of Fame inductees, **Omarey Williams '07**, **Kelly Viseltear '97** and **Ken Kopakowski '79, M'99**. Started in 2005, the Hall of Fame honors graduates, faculty and staff who have been instrumental in the growth and development of WGLS-FM and have been long-term supporters of the station and Rowan University.



**Golden Years celebrates veteran educators**

Alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago returned to campus for a special reunion including breakfast and a tour of the College of Education at James Hall. At the Golden Years luncheon, the Alumni Association recognized the 2016 Lifetime Service Award recipients, Dr. Joseph Renzulli '58 and Dr. Robert Belle '58.

1. BACK: Louise Chinnici '55, Carl Scheetz '56, Robert Gerardi '55, M'63, Edward Colangelo '55, Joe Chinnici '55, M'64, Harry Beaudet '54, Robert Freno '57, W. Robert Smith '57. MIDDLE: Leroy Bright '50, M'68, Emily Conti '52, Janet Bussom '56, Constance Mazzola '56, Caroline Freno '57, Priscilla Riegel Flynn '57, Laura Ferral Boyd '58, M'76, Janet Nutt Gibbins '54, Ben Lynch '53, M'63. FRONT: Virginia Lutz Scheetz '56, Anita Eberhart '55, Dolores Johnson '51, Florence Ritter Ferrarie '45, Marilyn Campbell Plasket '50, M'71, Josephine Campbell Carson '55, Theresa Guadagno Winslow '55, M'70, Riletta Twyne Cream '48.
2. Lifetime Service Award honoree Joseph Renzulli '58, College of Education Dean Monika Shealey.
3. BACK: Ed Markman '58, M'70, William Horton '59, Eugene McCann '59, M'69, Bill Pentony '59, M'63, Robert Belle Jr. '58, Joseph Renzulli '58, Joan Markman '58. MIDDLE: Joyce Hoffman Cooper '58, M'97, Martha Swain Norbury '58, Helen Shannon Kunicki '58,

Barbara Castelli DeRuchie '59, Jean Lang Stelmach '58, Donald Farnelli '59, Elinor Lubin Bernstein '58, Alberta Binaghi Harnyak '58. FRONT: Etta Jane Wigglesworth Heiser '60, Doris Ledden Tice '59, Maryanne Spiesz Brown '59, Marjorie Hamilton-Bill '58, Marion Loew Moore '58, Alma Young Dobson '59, Rita Barker Krall '59, Marven Hill '59, M'66.

4. BACK: Patricia Frudden Cottrell '66, Harriett Reardon Bailey '60, M'66, Constance Lechowicz '67, Cyril Dunn '62, Ed Bouvier '61. MIDDLE: Judy DiJoseph Fields '66, Lorraine Meschi-Ollek '66, Carrol Matwiow DeMarco '66, Elaine Doherty Ansink '60, Geraldine Bernard '66 Barclay, Robert Kirkbride '62, M'66, John Gruccio '61, M'65, D'73. FRONT: Ann Louise Furman Grippo '66, Olivia DiRico '62, Anne McGroarty Heck '64, Richard Klimek '63, Mary Cocove Lamey '63, M'83, Janice Kilby Witting '65.
5. College of Education Dean Monika Shealey, Lifetime Service Award honoree Robert Belle '58.

## class notes

**Alta Dill Bogush '53** had a career as a teacher and writer, teaching in New Jersey, Missouri and Massachusetts and writing and editing numerous papers and book manuscripts.

**Bernard "Ben" Lynch '53** received the Lifetime Service Award from the Rowan University Alumni Association in 2015. He retired as principal of Highland Regional High School in Blackwood.

**Laurel Dirkes Nealer '53** retired in 1996 and spends the summer at Lake Garrison in Monroeville.

**Janet Nutt Gibbins '54** has a grandson graduating from Rowan in 2016 and a granddaughter who plans to attend Rowan.

**Anthony Razzano '54** and **JoAnn Perrino Razzano '56** have been married for 60 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

**Josephine Campbell Carson '55** retired in 1991 from Vineland Development Center as a speech therapist and teacher of the handicapped.

**Joseph Chinnici '55** and **Louise Chinnici '55** both volunteer as ESL teachers and enjoy spending time with their four children, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Both Joseph and Louise are retired from teaching.

**Ed Colangelo '55** served two years in an Aviation Army unit in Korea after graduating. While at then-GSC, he was the class president both freshman and sophomore years. He retired 20 years ago after teaching and coaching for 41 years.

**Anita Eberhart '55** retired in 1997 after 42 years teaching first, second and third grades and working with a child study team as a learning disabilities teacher consultant in Egg Harbor Township.

**Nancy Froelicher '55** lives in a senior health care apartment in Moorestown and enjoys gardening, reading, acrylic painting and writing.

**Robert J. Gerardi Sr. '55** spends time selling vintage sheet music on eBay after a 57-year career in education. Dr. Gerardi worked in eight states in various capacities and was an adjunct at eight universities.

**Janet Bussom '56** and **Charles Bussom '72** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June.

**Carl Scheetz '56** and **Virginia Lutz Scheetz '56** live in Ocean City and celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this year.

**Priscilla Riegel Flynn '57** is on the Board of Elders and in the choir at the Woodbury Presbyterian Church. She has four children and five grandchildren.



### Small world on the high seas

GSC grads **Diane Lisa Mazzei '69** and **Rose Dobosz Daku '66** met while on a cruise to Greece. See note, p. 66.

**Elizabeth Lee Dias Haarlander '57** and her husband divide their time between Tortola, British Virgin Islands, and the Jersey Shore.

**Katherine Bixby Nix '57** enjoys volunteer work, playing bridge, reading and spending time with her great-grandchildren.

**W. Robert Smith '57** retired in 2015 after serving in many positions: 22 years as a Methodist church pastor, 27 years as a Millville teacher, 25 years as administrative assistant

for the St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Bridgeton and 25 years as a part-time announcer for radio station WSNJ in Bridgeton.

**Robert Belle '58** received the Alumni Association's Lifetime Service Award at the 2016 Golden Years Reunion. He directs two Southern Regional Education Board programs: the SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program and the SREB Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Doctoral Scholars Program. Prior to joining SREB, he served as the director of the Office of Federal TRIO Programs for the U.S. Department of Education.

**Elinor Bardfeld Bernstein '58** retired after teaching elementary school in Vineland for 28 years. She also volunteered for the American Red Cross and mentored elementary children for 17 years.

**Marjorie Hamilton Bill '58** retired in 1994 after teaching for 27 years in Upper Pittsgrove Township, Daretown, Monroeville, Pittsgrove



### SOM friends and foodies grads gather

SOM alumni and friends met in June for lunch, networking and a cooking demonstration at Basilico, the Italian cuisine favorite in Millburn.

1. Abigail Herron DO'05, Staci Kallish DO'05 and Stacy Thompson DO'05.
2. Daniel Conte DO'86, Martin Blackwell DO'88, David Bollard DO'86, Michael Ruzek DO'10, Heba Zaky, Ira Monka DO'84 and Gloria Canizales DO '13.

Township, Johnstone, Deerfield Township and Olivet.

**Joyce Hoffman Cooper '58, M'59** is a retired teacher and celebrates 60 years of marriage to her husband, Paul. They have two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Rose Forcinito '58** is a lifelong member of St. Mary Magdalen Church in Millville and also the parish organist. She and her husband, **Peter V. Forcinito '58**, have been married for 56 years and have three children and two grandchildren.

**Alberta Binaghi Hornyak '58** is a member of two singing groups: The Notables and Coro Lirico. She has four children and four grandchildren.

**Edmund Markman '58** has an educational consulting business and works with charter schools that receive funding through the No Child Left Behind and Individuals with Disabilities Education acts. He is married to **Joan Markman '58**, who retired after a successful teaching career and is a partner in her husband's business.

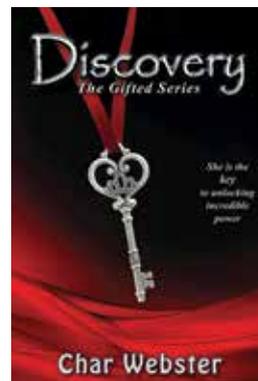
**Martha Swain Norbury '58** taught for 27 years in Lower Township, Cape May and Millville. She has one daughter, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Joseph Renzulli '58** received the Alumni Association's Lifetime Service Award at the 2016 Golden Years Reunion. He is a professor of educational psychology at the University of Connecticut, where he also serves as director of the Neag Center for Creativity, Gifted Education and Talent Development.

**Maryanne Spiesz Brown '59** works with children as a member of St. Mary's Grandparent Association in Buena, where she served as president and vice president.

**Robert Colangelo '59** retired in 2000 after 23 years as a teacher and administrator in East Brunswick and as an administrator in Freehold Township. He has two sons and lives in Naples, Fla., with his wife, Ginny.

**Barbara Castelli DeRuchie '59** retired after 35 years of teaching. She enjoys traveling, reading, and



### Webster book

**Charlene Webster '95** published *Discovery*, her first novel. See note, p. 74.

spending time with friends, family and her three grandchildren.

**Alma Young Dobson '59** spent 33 years teaching and now spends time with her three children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Donald A. Farnelli '59** retired after 52 years as a Rowan professor of astrophysics and the earth sciences. He is the University's longest-tenured faculty member and served as Commencement grand marshal through 2016.

**Marven Hill '59** is retired and lives in Atlantic City with his wife and two sons. Three generations of his family are Rowan graduates: his mother-in-law, **Leona Jackson Hayes '70**; his wife, **B. Devolia Hill '80** and his daughter, **Melanie Hill White '01, M'12**. He is a member of Alpha Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and The Golden Circle of South Jersey, a senior citizens social club.



### Alumni return to mentor and inspire

Volunteering their time and expertise, alumni from the Peer Referral and Orientation Staff, Rec Center student staff, and panels from the Black Alumni Reunion Committee and Student Alumni Association came back to campus to meet with students. Drawing on experience that began in college, they offered advice about getting careers started, making changes and making the most of their opportunities.

1. PROS alumni panel: Daniel Errera '12, Jake Brown '13, Kara Ohlson '12, Dayna Silver Ensminger '09, John Stephan '08
2. What's Next? panel: Anthony Phillips '84, Sherri Eldridge '13, Terry Henry '85, Angeliqne Hilton '15, Paul Hilton '83, Joana Allie-Hopkins '86, Sherrie Hicks '85, M'99, M'15, Melanie Burney '84, Francisco Morales '99, Derek Jones '01, M'03
3. Surviving Your 20s panel: Brighid Burgin '12, Saleem Wright '07, Beth Burnston '10, Benjamin Donia '15, Shannon Hug '09
4. Rec Center alumni panel: Sara Tsivikis Soleccki '10, Ed Dean '09, Kyle Rosa '12, Bridgette McMahon '11, Kevin McMahon '06

## class notes

**William Horton '59** retired as superintendent of Pitman schools.

**Rita Barker Krall '59** retired after 41 years teaching fourth, fifth and sixth grades, and as a principal, in Atlantic City. She earned a master's degree from Villanova University.

**Eugene McCann '59, M'69** taught in Vineland from 1959 through 1971, when he became a united service representative at the New Jersey Education Association. He served in that post for 28 years, retiring in 1999. He is married and has five children and 11 grandchildren.

**William Pentony '59, M'63** retired in 1992 after a career in education.

**Doris Ledden Tice '59** is a retired guidance counselor but is still involved with school

tours and training adolescents. She lives in the Cornelia Hancock house in Salem and chairs Cornelia Hancock/Civil War Weekend.

**Jean Tomasella Vanderford '59** retired as a district administrator from Burbank, Calif., schools. She is still involved in education as a writer and publisher of over 260 books for teaching basic skills. She lives in Southern California with her husband of 47 years.

## 60s

**Harriett Reardon Bailey '60** plans to open the Endicott Reardon Family Museum in Ocean View this fall.

**EttaJane Wigglesworth Heiser '60, Maryanne Speisz Brown '59, Barbara**

**Castelli DeRuchie '59, Judy Silver Hoffman '59, Anita Mikytuck '59, Anne Weidner Gill '59, and Judy Bodener '60** have gathered for monthly lunches since graduating.

**Rose Dobosz Daku '66** and her husband, Walter Daku, met a couple for the first time on a 2015 cruise in Greece. The couple: **Diane Lisa Mazzei '69** and her husband, **John Mazzei '69**. They enjoyed reminiscing about their times at GSC. Rose retired from working for the federal government after 25 years. She and her husband have three daughters and six grandchildren. They live in Olney, Md.

**Antoinette C. Libro '60, M'67** received the Lifetime Service Award from the Alumni Association in 2014.



### Generations of Rowan family pride

At Bunce Hall to celebrate another graduation, the Damiri clan: **Carl Lange '98, Danielle Sharples Lange '08, Valerie Gambino '16, John Damiri '16, Kathleen Lange Damiri '89, M'11, Peter Damiri '89, Carol Lange '93 and Darren Boyle '89 (Mary Hewitt Damiri '91, M'01, not pictured)**. See note, p. 74.

Dr. Libro's latest book of poetry, *The Carpenter's Lament in Winter*, is available from Finishing Line Press or Amazon.

**Sandra Clifford Eck '61** retired in 2002 after teaching and keeps up with NEA and NJEA through local retired teachers.

**John P. Guccio '61, M'65, M'73** retired after 25 years as a teacher, principal and chief school administrator, as well as director of education at Leesburg State Prison. He served as deputy coordinator of Vineland's Office of Emergency Management for 29 years.

**Cy Dunn '62** taught high school and college after graduating from GSC as class president. He is enjoying retirement in Forked River.

**Robert Kirkbride '62** taught junior high until 1973 when he obtained a real estate license and began working in the real estate profession full time.

**Grace Kuebler Sheppard '62** retired after 51 years of teaching.

**Nancy C. Smith '62** travels with senior citizen groups from Glassboro.

**Richard Klimek '63** retired from Burlington City High School. He was inducted into the Burlington City Athletic



### And they're off—in the first Alumni 5K

More than 250 alumni, family and friends ran through campus for the inaugural Run For Rowan 5K in April. Runners and sponsors raised more than \$5,000 to support the Rowan University Emergency Scholarship Fund. Save the date for the 2017 Run for Rowan 5K: Saturday, April 22.

1. Robert Taclan '12 leads the way.
2. Whoo RU, Kristina Ryder M'12
3. Some of the day's winners: Jim Ryan, Evan Stone '13, Jeannine Dowd '03, Charlie Grab '17



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**Big California mountain, small Rowan world**

At top of the Wisdom Tree Trail in Burbank, Calif., **Patrick Bean '11**, Lauren Avon and **Maria Wilson '07** took a break. Out on her own hike with another Rowan grad, **Maria Brasco '15**, right, noticed they had Rowan bag and knew the surprise Rowan rendezvous deserved a snapshot.

Hall of Fame, the South Jersey Soccer Hall of Fame, and the Soccer Coaches Association of New Jersey Hall of Fame. He has two sons and two grandchildren.

**Barbara Hafenmaier Kyritsis '63** retired after more than 30 years as an elementary teacher in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District and Hamilton Township in Mercer County.

**Mary Cocove Lamey '63, M'83** taught as an adjunct at Rowan and Rutgers and now enjoys traveling with **Richard Klimek '63**.

**Eva Borden Wincek '63** is retired. She and her husband were honored as the 2015 County Volunteers of the Year in Albany, N.Y.

**Frances Ziegler Garrity '64** retired after 52 years in education and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

**Anne McGroarty Heck '64** taught first grade, second grade and children with learning disabilities for 11 years. She married her husband, Tim, in 1974 and had a son in 1977. She is now partially retired from their company, Holt Realty.

**C. Richard Miller '64** is retired and enjoying life in Boynton Beach, Fla.

**Carol Stuart '64** earned a master's degree from Lehigh University and a six-year professional diploma from The University of Connecticut. She taught literature, environmental science and geography to elementary school students.

**Joseph Anastasia '65** retired in 1994 after teaching psychology and sociology at Long Branch Senior High School. He earned a master's degree in 1968 from West Virginia

University and studied at the New School for Social Research.

**Lorraine T. Carr '65** is enjoying retirement after teaching kindergarten and Pre-K for 25 years.

**Eleanor Evanouskas Kover '65** taught for 29 years in Edison Township, 25 as a reading specialist for grades K-8.

**Benjamin Pulcrano '65**, who spent the past 21 years as an instructor at Georgian Court University, is the author of 10 local history manuscripts. He is celebrating 50 years of marriage with **Sharon A. Pulcrano '65**, who is retired and works part-time at auctions.

**Marie Marino Adair '66** is executive director of the New Jersey Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She has received several outstanding director awards, including the ASCD Affiliate of Excellence award.

**Robert H. Bakley '66, M'69** retired in 1998 after 32 years of teaching in Collingswood and Cherry Hill. He writes patriotic and historic stories for local newspapers and lives in Sea Isle City with his wife, Bonnie.

**Pat Fradden Cottrell '66** retired in 2006 after being awarded Teacher of the Year in Mine Hill Township. She is a bicyclist and traveler along with her husband, with whom she is celebrating their 50th

wedding anniversary this year.

**Carol Matwiow DeMarco '66** retired in 2009 after a 39-year teaching career in Buena Regional School District. She and her husband, Leonard, have been married for 52 years and have two children.

**Judy DiJoseph Fields '66** taught for 25 years and now enjoys traveling.

**Judith Gustafson Isaksen '66** is enjoying retirement and has traveled to China, Russia, Italy and France. During the summer, she works at the Ocean Grove Beach office.

**Gloria Van Steyn Mohr '66** taught elementary grades for over 29 years in Indiana, New Jersey and Illinois.

**Barbarasue Pratt Schmidt '66** and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in April. They have three children and one grandchild.

**Nancye Davies Tuttle '66** works as a freelance writer for several New England newspapers. She lives in Maine with

her husband and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity.

**Mary Angresano Voskian '66** taught elementary education for 25 years and has lived in Vienna and London.

**70s**



**Kathleen Woodruff Wickham '71** is a professor

at The University of Mississippi where she has taught for 17 years. This past year, Dr. Wickham lectured at the Sorbonne on civil rights issues. She has published articles in *American Journalism* and *Newspaper Research Journal*. Her fourth book, *The Time of Your Sadness*, is due out in 2017. She once worked at the *Atlantic City Press* and the *Newark Star-Ledger*.

**Mary Ritzer Christianson '72** and **Linda Romano Gardner '72** visited Rowan for the first time in over 40 years. They toured Mimosa Hall, where they lived the year it opened.



**A warm Warner Bros. welcome**

**Sue Kroll '83**, Warner Bros. Pictures president, Worldwide Marketing and Distribution, made time for lunch with R/T/F major **Erin Cahill '17** during her summer internship in Los Angeles.

# GET YOUR GAME ON!

## ATHLETIC EVENTS 2016-17

### Water Bottle Giveaway

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer vs. John Jay College  
Soccer Stadium

Free Rowan Athletics water bottle to first 100 students with ID.

### Friday Night Lights

Friday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m.

Football vs. William Paterson University,  
Wackar Stadium

Pregame inflatables, free food, halftime contests and fireworks. Gift card and T-shirt giveaways.

### Break the Record

Saturday, Sept. 17, 1 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. Eastern University  
Wackar Stadium

Help Rowan break the NCAA Division III attendance record of 2,381! Cell phone wallet giveaway and Fitbit halftime competition.

### \$15,000 Soccer Shot

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer vs. New Jersey City  
Soccer Stadium

One student with ID in attendance will have the chance to win \$15,000 during the halftime competition.

### Women's Volleyball Alumni Night

Friday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Volleyball vs. Frostburg State University  
Esby Gym

Alumni will be honored during the match and reception afterward.

### Men's Soccer Alumni Night

Saturday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. William Paterson University  
Soccer Stadium

Dinner reception at 5:30 p.m. and alumni honored at halftime. Free cell phone wallet to first 200 students with ID.

### Fan Appreciation Night

Tuesday, October 4, 7 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. The College of New Jersey

Free T-shirts to first 150 students with ID. Halftime competition for a flat-screen TV.

### Homecoming

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m.

Football vs. Salisbury University  
Wackar Stadium

See page 77 for details.

### Water Bottle Giveaway

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. Rutgers-Camden  
Soccer Stadium

Free Rowan Athletics water bottles to first 100 students with ID.

### Gold Rush Match

Thursday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

Women's Volleyball vs. Stockton University  
Esby Gym

Fans, wear your Rowan gold. Free T-shirts to first 100 students with ID. Free food and serving competition for Apple watch and more.

### Cross Country Alumni Day

Saturday, Oct. 15, (races start at 11 a.m.)

Inter-Regional Border Battle  
West Campus

Alumni honored between races and at 3 p.m. reception.

### Unified Sports Night

Monday, Oct. 17, 5 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. Brooklyn College  
Soccer Stadium

Unified Sports athletes recognition and game at halftime. Free soccer stress balls.

### Military Appreciation Day

Saturday, Nov. 5, 1 p.m.

Football vs. Kean University  
Wackar Stadium

Active military and veterans receive free admission with ID and will be honored during the game. Free Rowan Athletics camo rally towel to first 100 students with ID.

### Kids Day

Saturday, Dec. 3, 1 & 3 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. William Paterson University (1 p.m.)

Men's Basketball vs. William Paterson University (3 p.m.)

Esby Gym

Photos with Santa. Shooting for Santa Toy Drive.

### Faculty and Staff Appreciation Night

Monday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Eastern University  
Esby Gym

Faculty and staff pregame reception and recognition at halftime.

### Ugly Sweater Day

Saturday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Montclair State University  
Esby Gym

Ugly sweater competition for Beats headphones.

### National Girls & Women in Sports Day

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 6 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. The College of New Jersey  
Esby Gym

Pregame activities for youth up to grade eight.

### Unified Sports Night

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 8 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. The College of New Jersey  
Esby Gym

Unified Sports Club will be honored during pregame warmups and will play a game at halftime.

### \$10,000 Half-Court Shot/Alumni Day

Saturday, Feb. 4, 3 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. New Jersey City University  
Esby Gym

One lucky fan will have the chance to hit a half-court shot for \$10,000. Alumni reception after the game.

### Football Alumni Career Day/ Spring Practice

Friday, April 7

Alumni Career Day (4-6 p.m.)

Spring Practice (6-8 p.m.)

Wackar Stadium

Alumni social at Landmark Americana Tap & Grill at *when?*

## ALUMNI PARTICIPATION GAMES 2016-17

Athletics alums are invited back to competition on friendly home turf throughout the sports seasons.

Contact coaches for more info.

### BASEBALL

Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m.  
Baseball field

Head coach  
Mike Dickson  
dickson@rowan.edu  
856-256-4687

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m.  
Esby Gym

Head coach  
Gabby Lisella  
lisella@rowan.edu  
856-256-4681

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Friday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m.  
West Campus

Head coach  
Lindsay Delaney  
delaney@rowan.edu  
856-256-4680

### SOFTBALL

Saturday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.  
Softball field

Head coach  
Kim Wilson  
Wilson@rowan.edu  
856-256-4688

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
Esby Gym

Head coach  
Joe Crispin  
crispin@rowan.edu  
856-256-4672

### FIELD HOCKEY

Sunday, April 9, 4 p.m.  
Wackar Stadium

Head coach  
Michelle Andre  
andre@rowan.edu  
856-256-4891

### MEN & WOMEN'S SOCCER

Saturday, April 22, 3 p.m.  
Soccer Stadium

Head coach  
Scott Baker (men's)  
bakera@rowan.edu  
856-256-4684

Scott Leacott (women's)  
leacott@rowan.edu  
856-256-4694

### FOOTBALL (FLAG GAME)

Saturday, June 17, 3 p.m.  
Wackar Stadium

Head coach  
Jay Accorsi  
accorsi@rowan.edu  
856-256-5466



**President's Forum friends**

President and Mrs. Houshmand hosted the largest gathering of President's Forum friends at The Union League in Philadelphia this spring. The annual reception brings together alumni, corporate and foundation allies and regional leaders to celebrate Rowan successes and to inspire support for more ambitious achievements.

1. Kavita Gupta, D.O. '98 and Sanjay Gupta, M.D.
2. Dana and Anthony Marino '02, M'03.
3. Rosemarie and Joseph Matranga '80, M'14.
4. President Ali Houshmand, Patricia '87 and Joseph Miskel '87, Farah Houshmand.
5. Kathleen and Joseph Wisniewski Jr. '84.
6. Michael Vernamonti '09, President Ali Houshmand, William Moen, Jr. '09.
7. President Ali and Farah Houshmand with Diane '74 and Craig Welburn.
8. Sean '05 and Ivena Fischer.



**Albert Morgan '73** celebrated his 30th anniversary as pastor of Bridgeton's Union Baptist Temple Church on May 22. Former classmates attended a daylong service honoring him. Known as "God's Mailman," Pastor Morgan has a congregation of more than 1,500, the largest church membership in Bridgeton. A former Vineland schools educator, he has also served as a Bridgeton City Council member.

**Jeff Margolis M'75** and **Ida Margolis M'75** were honored by the Collier-Lee Chapter of Hadassah for their outstanding community achievement and leadership. Jeff was an academic advisor and adjunct faculty member in Rowan's College of Education and was elected to the Wall of Fame three times. Ida, a retired Ocean City High

School social studies supervisor, was an adjunct instructor in the college. Upon retirement, they endowed the Ida and Jeff Margolis Medallion in Multicultural Education in the college.

**Cynthia Mather Crowthers '76** retired in June 2015 after teaching for almost 40 years, most of them in Medford's Taunton Forge Elementary School, where she taught various grades. She lives in Laurel Springs with her husband, Roy, and two sons, **Patrick Crowthers '07** and **Robert Crowthers '10**.

**Ann Rempkowski Rizzi '77** retired in November 2015 after 39 years of service in the judiciary. Her last position was assistant manager of the Middlesex County Superior Court's Criminal Division.

**Gerald N. Covella '79** is president of the College Funding Authority. The organization, located in Vineland, helps parents

and students navigate the challenges of financing a college education. He also founded the Future Stars Foundation, a nonprofit that provides scholarships to students who find creative ways to celebrate their cultural heritage.

## 80s



**Frances Frola Wise '81**, impact manager for United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, was inducted into the Atlantic County Women's Hall of Fame in March. The county organization recognizes women who have made outstanding achievements and significant contributions to women's and girls' causes or in community endeavors. Fran has worked with United Way for more than 20 years.



### '80s all over again

Laurie Dodd's 35-year-old GSC sweatshirt brought vintage style to a mini-reunion in Savannah, Ga., in April. **Diane Massa Shulman '84**, **Marylynn DeMarco Murray '86**, **Julie Altieri Follis '84**, **Jacqueline Inferrara Hesketh '84**, **Laurie Kofod Dodd '84** and **Jackie Pizzi Dorflauer '84** had a great time and are eager for their next adventure.



**Michelle Roberts Jones '82** is a Delaware Department of Corrections internal affairs investigator at the James T. Vaughn Correctional Facility, Smyrna, Del. The first female to serve in this position, she trained with the critical incident and hostage negotiations

teams at Gander Hill Prison in Wilmington, Del. Previously, she served 21 years as an investigator for the Camden County Prosecutor's Office, retiring in 2011. During those 21 years, the New Jersey Police Training Commission certified her as a physical training instructor for the Camden County Police Academy. She was also a member of the hostage negotiations team and worked part-time as a mental health therapist at the South Jersey Behavior Resources Center in Camden.

**John Bertagnolli DO '83** is president of the SOM Alumni Association. Dr. Bertagnolli is an associate professor of family medicine at SOM. He has received the American Osteopathic Association's Mentor of the Year award.

**Ira Monka DO '84** received the 2016 SOM Distinguished Alumni Award at Commencement



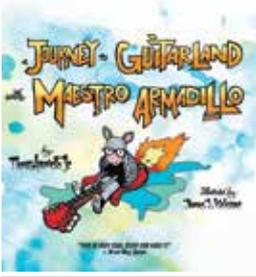
### Alumni catch Phillies pun

The Alumni Association welcomed more than 200 grads and friends to Citizens Bank Park when the Phillies hosted the Braves in May. A pregame party and other amenities made the outing a winner.

1. '16 grads attended their first alumni event.
2. Marianne Venezia '14, Raymond Santiago '14
3. Thomas Hagen '78, Michael Riggs '78, Gene Miller '78, M'97, William Alvaro M'98.



## class notes



### Amoriello book

**Thomas Amoriello Jr. '96** wrote a book introducing the guitar to children. See note, p. 74.

in May. A former University Hospital trustee, he was a member of the UMDNJ Board of Trustees, where he provided a strong voice for the School of Osteopathic Medicine. He is the first SOM alumnus to be named a trustee on the Board of the American Osteopathic Association and is the immediate past president of the SOM Alumni Association. In 2014,

he was named Physician of the Year by the New Jersey Association of Physicians and Surgeons.

**Lori Wells '84, M'94** retired from public education in October after 30 years of service. She spent the last 16 years at Haddon Township as a counselor at the Van Sciver Elementary School and the William G. Rohrer Middle School. She plans to move to her cabin in Rangeley, Maine.

**Kristine M. Simoes '85, M'91** received the 2016 PR Pro of the Year Award from the New Jersey chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. The award honors excellence in public relations and service as a role model to staff and practitioners entering the field. Simoes is a professor, director of the journalism/public relations program and internship coordinator at Monmouth University in West Long Branch. A longtime PRSA member,

she is the immediate past president of the New Jersey chapter.

**Wayne Carlsen DO '86** announces the March birth of his first grandchild, Kenna Lee Wilson. Wayne is immediate past chair of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners' Board of Directors.



**Keith Forrest '88** received the 2015-16 Atlantic Cape

Community College "Faculty of the Year" award for the third time. The award is decided by a college-wide student vote. Forrest, an associate professor of communication who founded the college's communication program in 2007, has earned 15 teaching awards since 2004. He created the college's Communication Awards show, now in its ninth year. Forrest writes about parenthood, media and politics, with more



### Art teachers make history

Rowan alumni swept all categories of the National Art Education New Jersey State Art Educator of the Year awards, representing all levels of art education from elementary to higher education. From left, above: **Dave Johnson '05**, **Jane Graziano M'95**, **Kelly Digioia '07** and **Dawn Carson '06** accepted their awards in May at the New Jersey Governor's Awards in Arts Education ceremony in Trenton. It was the first time in the 30-year history of the awards ceremony that Rowan College of Education alumni earned recognition at every level.

than 100 published articles, essays and commentaries. He is an accomplished runner with more than 50 medals in events including marathons, half marathons and duathalons.

**Richard Kader DO '88** is a partner with Virtua at a new location in Linwood, Virtua Atlantic Shore Family Practice. **Farrell Silverman DO '11** joined Dr. Kader's practice.



### Another engineering milestone

The College of Engineering Alumni Council welcomed grads and honored the Class of 2016 at its first Alumni Initiation at Rowan Hall in May. Students shared their clinic projects, met alumni from within the industry and everyone signed a beam connecting Henry M. Rowan Hall to the new Engineering Hall.

FROM LEFT: Robi Polikar, Cherish DiSante '12, M'13, Nathaniel Lowman, John Benigno '13, Kellianne Bond, Robert VonBriel '13, Doug Cleary, Stephen Pindale '13, Bethany Brigandi '15, Daniel Einbinder '13, Kimberly Johnston, Matthew Wojcik '14, Beena Sukumaran, Nicolette Camishion, Kokeb Abera '15, Anthony Marino '02, M'03, Daniel Bailey '15, Xavier Rose '08, Nicholas Pytlowany '15, Philip Baillie '15, Andrew Haupin '15, Jeffrey Eker '16, Freha Tahir, Nicholas McBride, Harrison Hawkins, Joe Hader '04, Kevin Schmalbach, Michael Deemer '16, Rachel James '13, Tony Lowman, Patrick Myers '16, Mariah Soyring '17, Kevin Dahm, Charles Grab, Stephen Kulik '16, Brighid Burgin '12, Eric Constans, Barbara Wynn, Jenn Vernengo, Robert Hesketh, Jennifer Kadlowec, William Kearsley '00, Ian Miller '16, Carter Bagnell '16, Matt Leoncini '16, Marcos Villa-Gonzalez '04, M'05, Kate Everett '16, Alexander Herman '14, Jillian Sharkey, Bryan Nese '04, Steven Chin, Patrick Mawhinney '14, Hnin Khaing

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**David Raudenbush '88, M'91** teaches English language arts at Pennsauken High School. He has been in the district for 24 years. He also works as an independent literacy consultant and blogger and is editor of *GolfStyles New Jersey* magazine.

**Deborah Bayer DO '89** has created a blog at Harmony Communications (*harmonycommllc.com*) to help clinicians improve their communication skills. Deborah encourages Rowan alumni to visit her site.

**Kathleen Lange Damiri '89, M'11** and her husband, **Peter Damiri '89**, returned to campus to see their son, **John Damiri '16**, receive his bachelor's degree in public relations in May. Their second son, Nicholas, is a freshman at Rowan College at Burlington County.

**Michelina DeSanti DO '89** is president of the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

**Richard Edevane '89** is a cameraman with the Eagles and Phillies.

**Tony Pinizzotto '91** is an on-air manager for the creative department of BUZZR/FremantleMedia, the country's first all-vintage game show channel, seen in over 30 million homes.

**Charlene Webster '95**, writing as Char Webster, has published *Discovery*, her first novel. The book, which is aimed at a teenage audience, is available at *smashwords.com* and other online sites.

**Thomas Amoriello Jr. '96** has published *A Journey to Guitarland*, a book designed to introduce children ages 5-12 to their first guitar experience. The story takes place in the classroom of a special musical character named Maestro Armadillo. The book, published by Black Rose Writing, is the first in a series and is available at *blackrosewriting.com*.

**Amoriello**, a music teacher, who has introduced the guitar to more than 5,000 children, earned a master's degree in classical guitar performance from Shenandoah Conserva-



**Welcome, baby Calabrese**

**Lisa Haneke Calabrese '93** and her husband, Michael, welcomed Angela in January.

tory. He frequently contributes guitar advocacy articles to *Tempo Magazine* and serves as the guitar education chairperson for the New Jersey Music Education Association. He lives in Lambertville.



**Jennifer Gilbreath '97** is a freelance copy editor

and proofreader. She has a son from her first marriage to **Jason Wood '97**. After being diagnosed in 2001 with a molar

**90s**

**Franklin Brown '90** is deputy chief of police in Glassboro. He began his career with the borough in 1991 and has been part of many units including the Bike Unit, K9 Unit, Police Athletic League, and Detective Bureau. He is a graduate of the West Point Command Leadership Program as well as the NJ Certified Public Manager Program.



**Magically appearing alumni**

**Danielle Delaney Harkins '99, Gena Krug '99, Melissa Garrison Retano '99, Steve Magid '01 and Patrick McAuley '98.** attended a magic show performed by **David Corsaro '98** at Philadelphia's South Street Magic Theater in March.

**Foundation hosts 28th Annual golf outing**

Alumni and friends golfed to benefit the Collard and Harris memorial scholarships and others.

1. Joanne Runner, William Runner, Brittany Petrella '11, Tony Galvin '89.
2. Eli Carter, Gus Bader '68, Lou Butler '92.
3. Mike Caramanica '11, Al Irons, Mike DeAngelis, J.T. Mills '92, M'94, D'09.
4. Melissa Dersch '02, Tom Holland '79, Rhonda Locklear Holland '72, Wes Allen.



**Alums' film project wins big**

Rowan grads competing in the 2016 48 Hour Film Project Los Angeles won Best Film, Best Writing and Audience Award, beating 91 other entrants. Jack Swiker '04, M'07, Ed Bauman '11, Adam Bradshaw '11, Jenny Vogel '11 and Tommy Oceanak '09 made the short film with a local cast (above) in just two days. It will screen at the Burbank International Film Festival in September and will go on to represent Los Angeles against all the city winners around the world at Filmapalooza 2017, with the chance to be one of 10 films to screen at the Cannes Film Festival.

pregnancy, one form of rare miscarriages known as gestational trophoblastic diseases (GTDs), she created *MyMolarPregnancy.com*, the first comprehensive online information and support system for women with GTDs. Her website and support groups have helped women around the world deal with miscarriage, the misunderstanding of others and the fears that come with these diagnoses. She has compiled, edited and published two book collections of women's stories about dealing with GTD.

**George Scott DO '97** is president of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Scott has served on the board since 2005, holding every office in the organization. He was president from 2012-2014. He serves as assistant dean for clinical education and is an associate professor in the SOM department of

family medicine. Previously, he directed the department's residency program.

**Cosmo F. Terrigno '98** is headmaster of Woodland Country Day School in Bridgeton. With the extension of his contract through June of 2018, he will have served

14 years, making him the headmaster with the longest tenure throughout the school's 57-year history. Terrigno is also secretary for the Hug-a-Bear Foundation's Board of Trustees. The Cumberland County-based organization provides toy bears to

children in heartbreaking and traumatic situations.



**Denise Vitola '98**, managing director of Makovsky

Integrated Communications in New York, received the 2016 American Business Award for Executive and Woman of the Year. She has also been listed among the Top 25 Women in PR by *PRNews* and by *PRWeek* as one of the "40 Under 40" PR Professionals. Before joining Makovsky, she was with MSLGROUP, a public relations network of companies.

**Rich Wiest '98** is a librarian at the Glassboro branch of the Gloucester County Library System. He earned a master's degree in library and information science at Drexel University in 2010.



**Barbara Bungy '99** is chief operating officer at

Philadelphia FIGHT community centers. FIGHT is a community health organization which serves low-income communities. Bungy, who has served on FIGHT's board of directors since 2012, previously worked for the Drexel University College of Medicine through the St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. During her time at Drexel, she was the Center of the Urban Child executive director, HIV Prevention Services program manager and director of grant funded programs within the Dorothy Mann Center for Pediatric and Adolescent HIV. She has earned two master's degrees at Drexel, one in public health and the other in business administration.



**"Rowan West" gathers at Angel City Brewery**

West Coast alumni gathered at Angel City Brewery in April at one of several annual meet-ups organized through the Rowan Alumni in LA Facebook group, a networking tool and support group for alumni making the leap to pursue careers in Los Angeles.

BACK: Juan Sanchez '11, James Amatrudi '10, Vincent Yearly '12, Benjamin King '10, Ryan Murphy, Michael Nagle '10, Cameron Baker '11, Eddie Ewing '12, Mark Torres '12, Jake Chusid '12, Kevin Lau '06. MIDDLE: Ed Bauman '11, Gianna Gugliuzza '14, Maria Brasco '15, Adam Bradshaw '11, Sarah Hollins, Jenny Vogel '11, Cait Walsh '12, Kathy Paterson '12. FRONT: Michael Gallo '09, Paul Russo '12.



**Welcome, baby Pimpinella**  
Steven Pimpinella '05 and his wife, Erin, announce the birth of Alexandra on July 19.

## 00s

**Gina Lemanowicz Pusloski '03** became a Certified Fraud Examiner in February. She is a fraud investigator for the state of New Jersey.

**Gloryvie Reyes '03** received the 2016 Atlantic Cape Community College Distinguished Alumni Award. The award recognizes graduates for their professional, personal, public or community-based accomplishments. Reyes is a senior bilingual probation officer in the Gloucester County Probation Department's

adult supervision–sex offender unit. She is a leader for the Latina-Hispanic Network, the Professional Latinas Alliance and the Hispanic Alliance of Atlantic County.

**Russell McNeil '04**, who has taught sixth grade at Linda Vista Elementary School, in Orange, Calif., since 2013, was named 2015-16 Teacher of the Year. He earned a multiple teaching credential at California State University, Fullerton, in 2011.

**Jessica Lea Pingitore '04** (Sigma Sigma Sigma) and her husband announce the May birth of Jaxson.

**Katie Brownlow Rayburn '04** married Ryan A. Rayburn at the Pitman Golf Course in Sewell on December 12, 2015.

**Frank Williams '05** married Annie Raczko on July 25, 2015. Williams, a film producer, has a documentary titled "I am Santa Claus" on Netflix. He's working on his first feature film.

**Ashley M. Kalena '07** received CableFax Digital Award for Best Official Show Site: Breakthrough and for Best Website Design: Breakthrough. Ashley is a digital media producer for National Geographic Channel.



**Joseph Lizza '07** is assistant director of Campus Center operations and programs at Stockton University. He also is



### Recognition for PR pro

**Darrah Foster '12** (left) received the Philadelphia Public Relations Association's 2016 Fast-Track Award in June. The award honors a PPRA member who has made great contributions to the organization, the profession and the community, and who exemplifies PPRA's vision for the future.

a board of directors member of the National Association for Campus Activities, the recognized leader in higher education for providing the knowledge, ideas and resources to promote engagement in campus life. Board members are responsible for the association's overall strategic direction, effectiveness and financial stability.

**Kimberley Jackson DO '08** works with the Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition. She visits clinics throughout Colorado to train physicians on working with people with disabilities. She is a board member of the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition and Phamaly, a theatre company in Denver for people with disabilities.

**Ellen Parry Lewis '09** had her fourth novel, *Risking a Life*, published by Metal Lunchbox Publishing. *Risking a Life* takes place in South Jersey and Philadelphia.

She and her husband, **Al Lewis '06**, and their two children live in Williamstown. Visit [ellenparrylewis.com](http://ellenparrylewis.com) or e-mail [ellenplewis@gmail.com](mailto:ellenplewis@gmail.com). See photo, p. 77.

**RJ Salls '09** married **Lauren Foy Salls '09** on July 8. Lauren's maid of honor was **Nikki Broome '20**, daughter of **Mike Broome '84**. See photo, p. 78.

## 10s

**Raffaele Bernardo DO '10** is an assistant professor of medicine at Yale School of Medicine. He completed a fellowship as chief fellow in infectious diseases at Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven, Conn., in June.

**Jessica Hauser Ortega '10** married David Ortega on May 7 in a surprise ceremony disguised as an engagement party.

**Alexis Davison LaPietra DO '10** received the 2016 Innovative Practice Award, which recognizes her



### Weddings and engagements

1. Francesca Parrillo '11 and Kyle Ragonese '10; note, p. 78.
2. Jessica Hauser Ortega '10 and David Ortega; note, this page.
3. Katie Brownlow Rayburn '04 married Ryan A. Rayburn; note, this page.
4. Julia Swope Carite '12 and Carl Carite III '09; note, p. 78.



# PROFLYMPICS

ROWAN UNIVERSITY • HOMECOMING 2016

[alumni.rowan.edu/homecoming](http://alumni.rowan.edu/homecoming)

## FRIDAY 10/7

### Diamond Club Golf Tournament

9:30 A.M.

*Scotland Run Golf Club*

### Homecoming Block Party

5 P.M.–10 P.M.

*Hollybush Green*

## SATURDAY 10/8

### Homecoming Parade

10 A.M.

*Parking Lot O*

### Homecoming Tailgate

11 A.M.–2 P.M.

*Parking Lot C*

### College Corner

11 A.M.–2 P.M.

*Bowe Blvd. & Carpenter St.*

### Homecoming Football Game

2 P.M. | *Wackar Stadium*

### Annual Step Show

7 P.M. | *Pfleeger Concert Hall*

### RAH Paint Night

Time TBD | *Student Center Pit*

## SUNDAY 10/9

### Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

11 A.M. | *Eynon Ballroom,*

*Chamberlain Student Center*

## Alumni Tent, Athletics Tent & Beer Garden

Saturday 10/8 | 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.

*Parking Lot C | Wackar Stadium*

Alumni, family and friends are invited to enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet, a PROFlympics beer garden, tailgating games, kids' activities and a photo booth. Each alumnus and one guest can attend FREE of charge, as long as you preregister by September 16. For alumni and guests who do not preregister, there will be a \$10 fee. The PROFlympics beer garden and food truck are cash only. Families, friends and reunion groups are encouraged to meet under the large tent or in the tailgating area. Athletics alumni, family and friends are invited to reconnect in a special section of the alumni tent.

## Class of 1966 50th Reunion

Saturday 10/8

The Class of 1966 Reunion Committee invites members of the "Class of Construction" to celebrate their 50th reunion. Multiple activities have been planned, including: breakfast, campus tours, lunch, reserved seating at the Homecoming football game, a cocktail hour and dinner.

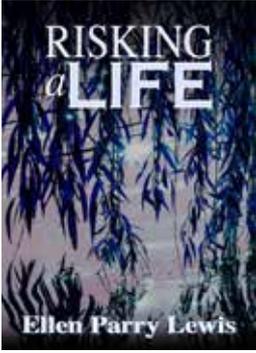
*For more information, please visit [alumni.rowan.edu/classof66](http://alumni.rowan.edu/classof66)*

## 2016 Black Alumni & Friends Reunion

Friday 10/7–Sunday 10/9

The Black Alumni Reunion Committee will host a series of events during this year's Homecoming festivities. A meet and greet with fellow alums, faculty, staff and students and the Old School Jam will take place on Friday night. The Jazz Soiree will take place on Saturday, and the reunion weekend will conclude with a fellowship breakfast on Sunday morning.

*For more information, please visit [alumni.rowan.edu/blackalumnireunion](http://alumni.rowan.edu/blackalumnireunion)*



**Novel setting**

Ellen Parry Lewis '09 set her fourth novel in the Delaware Valley. See note, p. 76.

Alternative to Opiates (ALTO) program that helps emergency departments to use pain medication other than opiates.

**Matthew LaPorta DO'10** has joined the department of surgery at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. He completed a surgical critical care fellowship at Innova Health System in Falls Church, Va., in June.

**Michael Ruzek DO'10** and his wife, Heba, welcomed their first child, Juliana, on July 10.

**Adam Bradshaw '11, Tommy Oceanak '09, Shane Meredith '10 and Eddie Ewing '12** won Best Independent Short Film at the Independent Filmmakers Showcase for the film "Other Side."

**Gabriel Lerman DO'11**, who completed a critical care fellowship at Inspira

Medical Center in Vineland, is a staff intensivist with The Intensivist Group, a division of Sound Physicians. He will practice in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del.

**Francesca Parrillo Ragonese '11** married **Kyle Ragonese '10** in August 2015. The wedding party included **Anthony Spatola '10.**

**Jeanette Wehner '11** was named the 2016 Ocean County Teacher of the Year by the New Jersey Education Association. A fifth-grade and special education teacher at Brick Township's Emma Havens Young Elementary School, she was also the district's teacher of the year. She has been recognized for creating one of the state's first elementary STEM classrooms. A grant she wrote provided \$30,000



**More GSC and Rowan family ties**

**RJ Salls '09** and **Lauren Foy Salls '09** met at Rowan in 2006 and married in July, adding to their Rowan family connections. Above, **RJ Salls '09, Lauren Foy Salls '09, Ronan Colman '84, Mike Broome '84, Nikki Broome '20, Tricia Cregan Colman '84.**

to outfit her classroom with technology and engineering materials.

**Julia Swope Carite '12** married **Carl Carite III '09** (Sigma Pi) on October 9, 2015. Julia is a graphic designer at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine.

**Betty Chung DO '12** has begun a pathology-

hematology fellowship at Houston Methodist Hospital. She completed a pathology residency, serving as chief resident, at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

**Rachel Swarrow DO'12** has begun a cytopathology fellowship at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa. She completed a pathology residency at the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in June.

**Jordan DiPinto '13** begins his final year of law school at University of Pennsylvania this fall. He has accepted a position with Drinker Biddle & Reath in Philadelphia.

**Danielle Brasco '13** earned her master's degree in school counseling from Wilmington University in May. She is employed as a school counselor at Bells Elementary School in Washington Township.

**Veronica Jeziorski '16** and **Jesse Kosior '16** received Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowships, which provide each \$30,000 to complete a



**Class of 2016 Senior Send Off**

The newest members of the Alumni Association gathered in the Student Center Pit one last time before Commencement Week. The annual send-off gives seniors a chance to pick up yearbooks, enjoy live music and toast their accomplishments.

1. Some of the graduating class, all ready to celebrate.
2. Ed Martinez, Matt Kotch, Dylan Colon, Dylan Corring, all '16.



### It all started in the ballroom

On the University Green at Commencement, **John Kong '10** and **Grace Shao '12, M'17** celebrated her new master's degree—just days after John's marriage proposal, which took place on campus, too. The couple met at a movie night in the Student Center Eynon ballroom in 2009 but didn't exactly hit it off right away. Eventually, they became best friends and then started dating. In May, John tricked Grace into planning her own proposal party back in the ballroom, where **Carolyn Strow '13**, family and other friends were in on the surprise. After working at Blacklight Power Inc. in the Princeton area, John is in a Ph.D. program at Purdue University, planning a career with a pharmaceutical company. Grace looks forward to a career in public relations and the beauty industry—and maybe a wedding in the ballroom.

specially designed master's degree. In return, they are committed to teaching for three years as part of a statewide effort to prepare science, technology, engineering and math teachers for careers in New Jersey's high-need schools. She will teach biology at Vineland High School North and he will teach physics at Millville Senior High School.

**Nick Vicente '16** works at Smith & Diction with **Mike Smith '10**, the studio's co-founder and art director. The firm, which started in 2015, is working on a design, branding and signage overhaul of the Independence Visitor Center in Old City.

## Stay in touch

Start a new job? Take a trip? Get married? Do something fun? Share your Class Note and photo a couple ways: Post your note and photo (online only) through the Alumni Association Online Community. Visit [alumni.rowan.edu](http://alumni.rowan.edu) to register. Click on new user and enter your name, birth date and Alumni ID (from the Rowan Magazine mailing label) and choose a username and password. Or send your submission to [alumni@rowan.edu](mailto:alumni@rowan.edu).

## Our sympathies

Vincent DiRenzo '50	Helen Mougakos '74
John Odorisio '51	Bernice Robinson '74
Frank Bortle '53, M'61	Patrice Ware '74
Janet Saul Magliocco '54	Dayton Cooper '75
Virginia Randall '54	Mary Ann Simon Pensiero '75
Frank Bortle Jr. '55, M'60	Barbara Meyer Snyder '75
Sandra Rosenblum '59	Mary Lore '76
Eugene Hawn '60	Donna Pedrick Paradis '76
Patricia Nutt Procaccino '61	Betty Stoneking Anderson M'77
Edith Walsh '63	Dorothy Barna '77
Mary Paczkowski Tilton '64	Gary Beard M'77, M'88
Margaret Vanderslice Bucklin '65	Otis C. Hicks '80
Virginia Penney Boyce '66	Bess Green Kidd '77, M'80
Beatrice Still Reed '68	Maryellen Kelly '80
Christine Dommergue Winfield '68	Patricia Bardello '81
Ernest Cipolone '69, M'72	Dan Rovner '81
Harriet Emonds Slavoff '69, M'76	Dolores Gilbert '82
Mary Coulter Baitinger '70, M'74	Bernadette Hamilton Melberger '82
Norris Biron M'70, M'75	Joan Grogan '83
James Brimer M'70	Joseph Kolb M'83
Michael McEvoy '70	Patricia Nichols Lummis '84
Elva Morris '70	Thomas Goga '85
Marvin G. Sills '70	John Hartman '85
Susan Messinger Monahan '71	Sean Harvey '86
Betty Strittmatter Drozd '72	Mary McColligan Tucker '86
Patricia Foltz '72	Dawn Cain Canady '88
Alberta Jackson '72	Mary Ott M'92
Irene O'Neill Sauro '72	Lynn James '93
Joseph Feuda '73	Elizabeth Welch '94
Doris Shapiro Grossman '73	Robert Easter '96
Janet Huggan '73	James Allen '98
Patricia Raiczky Nicgorski '73	Michael Yetter '99
Ivan Arcaya '74	Genevieve Farnan '09
Augustine Figueroa '74	Jeffrey Melillo '14
Barbara Dranoff Fomalont '74	

**Faculty and friends**  
Richard J. Ambacher Jr.  
Richard Wacker

# Remembrances

Fond eulogies of campus friends offered by AFT colleagues

**Richard J. Ambacher Jr., Communication Studies**

Richard J. Ambacher Jr. died on July 19. He was 82.

A 1961 GSC graduate, he earned a Yale University master's degree in fine arts before coming to then-GSC. He served as the college's community relations director and was a member of the communications department, serving three consecutive terms as its chairperson.

He was president of the University Senate from 1992 to 1995 and retired in 2000 after 33 years as a professor and administrator. After retiring, he taught a public speaking course for the College of Communication for several years and was *Rowan Magazine's* associate editor for two years.

He was chairman of the Gloucester County College Board of Trustees and served on the Gloucester County Library Commission and the Brown and Gold Alumni Association.

Richard was an avid golfer and an accomplished photographer who moved easily from the darkroom to digital. He wrote and produced several plays and a textbook, *Arriving at Meaning*, published by Kendall Hunt.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Elaine (nee Bonelli); two sons, Richard J. III (Marge), and John J. (Karen); four grandchildren, Katie, Liz, Alissa and Emily; three brothers, Harry, Robert and Bruce and two sisters, Heather Samit and Candace Parkins. He was predeceased by his brother, Jeffrey.

Memorial services were held on July 25. Contributions in his name may be made to the Rowan Foundation Bagin/Ambacher Scholarship Fund, 201 Mullica Hill Rd, Glassboro, N.J. 08028-1701.

# History repeats itself in a Rowan family affair

By Donald A. Errera '77

*Don Errera is the chief of investigations for the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement.*

In 1969, Richard Nixon became the nation's 37th president, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon and the Vietnam War was still raging. Sesame Street debuted and my eldest sister, Jackie, entered Glassboro State College. I was a high school freshman and recall viewing the first of four children going to college as a big change for our family. Even though the college was only 16 miles away, it seemed like a long distance to me then. But as a commuter, she would be home often. No matter what I thought, it would be a great experience for her. She wanted to be a teacher and for that career, GSC was as good as it gets.

In 1970, Nixon was still president, the Beatles broke up and my second eldest sister, Bobbi, began her college education—also at Glassboro. She, too, wanted to be a teacher, so my parents reasoned, if GSC was good enough for Jackie, it was good enough for Bobbi. The foundation was laid for their long careers in education.

It was 1973. Watergate broke but Nixon was still hanging on as president, a Vietnam cease-fire agreement was reached, Sesame Street was still on TV and I was next in line for college. I didn't want to follow in the footsteps of my sisters, so I enrolled in Rutgers,

New Brunswick. After a very short stint there, I realized that the "big city" university experience was not for me and, yes, soon after I found myself a GSC student. Unlike my two elder sisters, I was an accounting major and credit that degree with helping me to enjoy a very successful career and go on to earn graduate degrees.

In 1976, Gerald Ford was president and NBC tossed the peacock logo. And continuing the family tradition, my sister, Patti, was off to GSC to major in education.

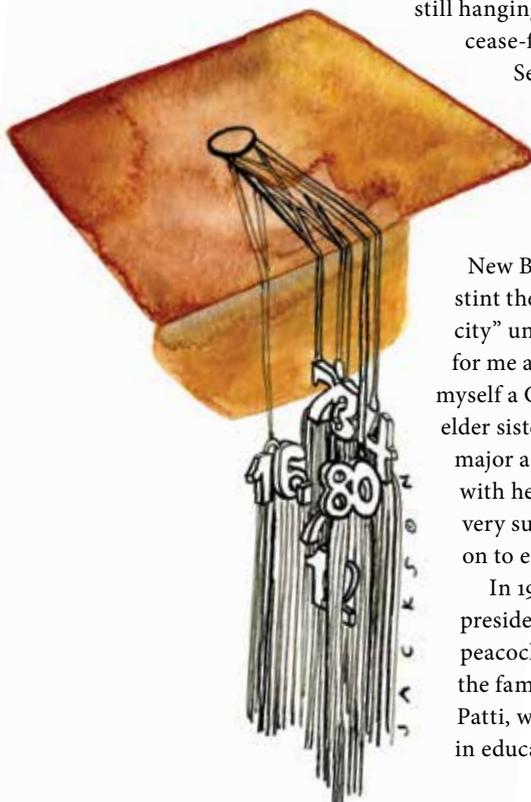
GSC was good to us. It provided the basis for sound careers that enabled each of us to find fulfillment in our jobs while raising our families. At the time, I don't think any of us actually realized what a great opportunity we had in our own backyard. GSC was truly a value in terms of what it cost my parents to give us the quality of education we received.

In 2008, Cuban President Fidel Castro stepped down and President Bush began attempts to avoid the Great Recession. Apple began selling the MacBook Air, and my eldest son, Dan, was about to begin his college career. He wanted to be an accountant, so our college search looked for schools with a quality accounting program that were also affordable. Dan was academically successful in high school and had several offers. But the final selection led him to the same place that has served my sisters and me so well—Rowan University. As with us all those years ago, the decision was the right one. The topnotch, affordable education he received launched him on his career as a CPA with the accounting firm of Deloitte-Touche.

In 2012, gas was \$3.91 per gallon, Curiosity Rover landed on Mars, the Mayan Calendar ended (but the world didn't) and my youngest child, Mark (Middle child Megan went to Stockton only because Rowan did not offer her major.) was about to begin his college career. I guess you could say we have zero career imagination in our family, because Mark also chose accounting. He, too, had several college offers, but in the end, Rowan would be his home for four years. He graduated this year and has accepted an offer with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Four years ago, I started what could become another family tradition, and once again I returned to the place that has led to such fulfilling lives for so many of my family members.—back on the campus as an adjunct professor in Rowan's law and justice program.

So, as you can see, Rowan has played an extremely important part in my family's lives. I stopped long ago seeing it as just another local state school, for I have experienced many times over just what a precious resource the school has been and continues to be. ■



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photo op



## The torch of knowledge, literally, a running theme

On the steps of the state Capitol in 1959, senior Donald Farnelli accepted the Torch of Knowledge from Gov. Robert Meyner at the start of a

50-mile relay to campus in Glassboro. Farnelli would hand off the torch to cross country teammates, all seniors and models of the best student athletes—and future educators—coming out of Glassboro State College.

When ties between state colleges and Trenton were stronger, symbolic gestures like GSC's torch run were a big deal, with Student Council President Marven Hill '59 and Education Commissioner Frederick Raubinger

(right) officiating at the kickoff, and a state police escort for the run on the turnpike.

Still a symbol of enlightenment, the torch appears in the University seal and logo, a reminder of the promise and power of education.