

Rowan Magazine

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2024





stay connected



featured events

WGLS-FM 60th Anniversary Reunion

Friday, September 27
Eynon Ballroom
Glassboro Campus

Since 1964, WGLS-FM has been the voice of Glassboro State College/ Rowan University and a mainstay on our Glassboro campus. Join us to celebrate this special milestone.

Registration closes on Friday, September 20. Tickets are \$35.

Rowan-Virtua SOM Drive for Scholarship

Sunday, September 29
Mount Laurel Township

Join Rowan-Virtua SOM alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends at Topgolf to support student scholarships. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Visit go.rowan.edu/driveforscholarships24 for more information and to register.

Operation Uganda Renewed: Betty Bowe Castor '63

Lecture & Banquet

Saturday, October 5
Eynon Ballroom
Glassboro Campus

In 1962 the Glassboro State College community supported Uganda's independence from British colonial rule. GSC students, faculty and staff collected more than 50,000 books and classroom supplies for the recently liberated nation. Operation Uganda Renewed is a student-led effort to celebrate the African diaspora's rich cultural and diverse history and provide scholarship support to a Ugandan scholar. This lecture and banquet is open to alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit go.rowan.edu/operationuganda.

Alumni Reception at NJEA

Thursday, November 7
Atlantic City Sheraton

Join the Alumni Association and College of Education at the New Jersey Education Association's 2024 Convention for a special reception.

Registration is free through Friday, October 18 and \$5 beginning October 19.

Chamberlain Student Center 50th Anniversary

Celebration & Open House

Saturday, November 23
Chamberlain Student Center

This year marks 50 years of Chamberlain Student Center serving students, faculty, staff and alumni. Join us for tours of the newly renovated facility and a cocktail reception.

Registration closes on Friday, November 15. Tickets are \$10 and include two drink tickets. Visit go.rowan.edu/csc50anniversary for more information.



Scan here or visit alumni.rowan.edu/events for more information and a calendar of events

Profs Connect

Our exclusive networking and mentoring platform creates opportunities to connect alumni and students. Find job listings, view upcoming events, access the Alumni Business Directory and more.

Visit rowanprofsconnect.com today.

Update your info

Each month the Office of Alumni Engagement sends its monthly e-newsletter, Prof Post, and other timely information about events, announcements and all things Rowan!

Update your information at alumni.rowan.edu/update

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Stay connected with us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to stay up to date on alumni events and more!

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On the horizon of our second century: new ways to teach and learn, new buildings for new programs and momentum to keep leading the way

by Kim Mulford '94, with Barbara Baals, Steve Levine '87, M'00 and Jon Hartley

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ON THE COVER

Ten years from now, Rowan's new century will boast innovation, discovery, growth and opportunities—many already on the drawing board, all ever forward.

ROWAN MAGAZINE

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Worth waiting for the 100

I was catching up on some reading yesterday and the 60+ minutes I spent in the 100 Years issue of Rowan Magazine was perhaps most enjoyable of all.

The magazine has always been good but this issue is definitely prize-worthy. Probably the best compliment from me is the fact that my husband, who is not an avid reader, started looking at one item and found other articles to peruse and comment on.

The issue was certainly worth waiting for and I

am proudly sharing it with others, including my granddaughter, a student in the Martinson Honors College.

Again, thank you for all your hard work.

Betty Griffin '66, M'71

Sympathies to share

We were pleased to receive our magazine, excellent as always.

At my age, I read the "Our Sympathies" column and, unfortunately, recognize names of classmates. I am amazed at the extent with which these records are kept.

I am writing to point out two names that

didn't make the list: Martin Weiss '67 and Paul Mayberry '70.

Bill Zeltman '67, M'68

Ed. note: Sometimes our alumni family learns of losses before the Alumni Records office receives information to verify. Thank you for helping with our updates and reminding us of friends and colleagues.

Enjoyable reading

During the holidays I got a chance to look through the last issue. I just wanted to comment on how enjoyable it is. I especially enjoyed the articles about Gerry Shreiber's support

of the new vet school and the Red Bank dig.

Keep up the great work!

Mark Pirolli '82

Business merit

Another excellent edition. I appreciated the reference to the Rohrer College of Business student who received a Management Institute scholarship, especially as a reminder of longtime MI friend Bob Danziesen, who passed away this year. The three annual merit awards are the result of vision and generosity by business legends like Bob.

Robert D. Lynch
Professor emeritus

CENTENNIAL SHOP

LAST CHANCE!



NEW ITEM!

Faux-fur blanket, just \$45



Residence Hall T-shirts, now \$10



Cent'anni pasta, now \$5

plus much more online

rowan.edu/centennial

Shop closing September 4. Quantities and sizes are limited. Orders filled as received—order now to avoid disappointment.



homecoming2024

Monday, October 28–Sunday, November 3

Join us for a celebration of Prof pride that brings the Rowan community together!

Chamberlain Student Center & Campus Activities and the Office of Alumni Engagement invite you to the Glassboro campus for a week of cherished traditions and exciting new experiences. It's the perfect opportunity for students, alumni, families, friends and employees to reconnect and create new memories.

Homecoming Celebration

Saturday, November 2

- Food trucks
- University Showcase
- Kids Zone
- University Tailgate
- Rowan vs. Montclair State football game
- Beer gardens
- Pride of the Profs Marching Band performance

More All Week

- Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering Nine & Dine and Alumni Happy Hour
- Diamond Club Golf Tournament
- Homecoming Harvest Festival
- RUBAN Homecoming Weekend Kickoff
- The Show
- Paul A. Hilton '83 Fellowship Breakfast
- Rowan Relationships to Infinity with Jason Levin '97



Scan here or visit
rowan.edu/homecoming
for more information

A group of people, including students and a professor, are standing on a path under a massive, ancient-looking tree with a thick trunk and a dense canopy of green leaves. The sun is shining brightly through the branches in the upper right corner, creating a lens flare effect. The people are mostly seen from the back or side, looking up at the tree. They are dressed in casual attire like t-shirts, jeans, and a denim jacket. The ground is covered in dark mulch or dirt.

Lifting high, leafy arms to the sky

It's easy to see why the lyrics to the alma mater refer to the historic trees of the main campus, especially the majestic ginkgo on the University Green.

As part of our Centennial, popular tours like this one in May, led by biology professor Sara Wright, Ph.D., welcomed alumni, students, employees and neighbors to enjoy and learn about the trees throughout the seasons.

For more about Rowan's wonderful trees and future tours, please visit arboretum.rowan.edu.



Doubled and driving growth: economic impact at \$2.9 billion

**BUCKING NATIONAL
TRENDS IN HIGHER
EDUCATION BY
BUILDING, INNOVATING
AND DRIVING BILLIONS
IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY,
ROWAN PROVES ITS
AGILITY AND INFLUENCE
THROUGHOUT NEW
JERSEY. EACH \$1
ROWAN SPENDS IN
THE STATE GENERATES
\$12, NEARLY DOUBLE
THE IMPACT JUST FIVE
YEARS AGO.**

Rowan University's economic impact on New Jersey stands at \$2.9 billion annually, a remarkable figure that has nearly doubled in the past five years.

"Rowan is an economic engine and also has an impact regionally and societally," said Lee Huang, president of Philadelphia's Econsult Solutions, Inc. (ESI), which released the study in the spring. "There has been significant growth during the last decade."

Building off its 2019 study that calculated the University's annual economic impact at \$1.53 billion, ESI calculated Rowan's nearly \$3 billion impact in 2024 based on annual operations, research activity, capital investments, ancillary spending and alumni wage premium.

Simply stated, for every \$1 that Rowan spends, \$12 in economic activity is generated in New Jersey, according to Huang.

"The doubling of Rowan's economic impact is impressive," added Huang. "The Rowan story has an impact on local, regional and societal levels."

The annual tax revenue generated by the University is \$150 million, according to the report. Moreover, the study noted that Rowan-related activities impact the Borough of Glassboro a total of \$225 million annually.

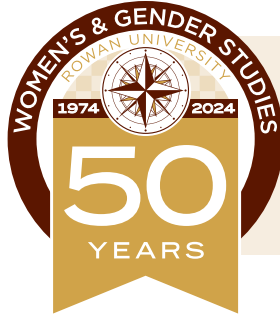
There are a number of key reasons for Rowan's "impressive" economic impact, according to Huang.

They include:

- annual research and operating expenditures, which is at \$1.6 billion, translating into \$59 billion in total tax revenue and 7,390 jobs supported;
- capital investments, including new construction, major renovations and operations, translating into \$194 in impact while supporting 1,000 full-time jobs and generating \$6.3 million in tax revenue;
- student and visitor spending, which, at \$195 million in the region, generates \$7 million in tax revenue;
- alumni wage premium, which, with 70,400 alumni employed in New Jersey and 54,700 in South Jersey, generates \$78 million in tax revenue.

The University is "instrumental in shaping the state's future workforce," while "its commitment to diversity enriches the regional economy by developing a skilled and inclusive workforce as seen in its partnerships with community colleges and specialized health care training centers," the report noted.

The fourth fastest-growing public research institution in the nation, Rowan expects to grow



RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS FOR 50 YEARS

"Where are the women?" was one of the not entirely rhetorical questions that led to the start of women's studies on campus. This year, Women's & Gender Studies celebrates a half-century of answers—and more questions—aimed at expanding perspectives and progress in society, language, art and more.

On Rowan Boulevard, restaurants, retailers and professional services attract thousands of students and regional visitors year-round. The \$426 million public-private redevelopment project created a thriving campus-community corridor in Glassboro. Another \$1.5 billion in construction planned for Rowan campuses and partner initiatives will contribute to the next decade's growth and opportunity.

even more in the next decade. President Ali A. Houshmand recently outlined \$1.5 billion in future expansion projects.

The University anticipates an enrollment of 38,500 students by 2033. That includes increasing undergraduate enrollment to 26,000 students, graduate enrollment to 10,500 and professional enrollment to 2,000—the vast majority of growth coming from online programs at all levels.

That growth would call for 6,000 employees and an annual operating budget of \$1.4 billion, leading to \$4.9 billion in economic impact on the state and \$4.4 billion on South Jersey, according to ESI.

Capital projects underway include the \$75 million Edelman Fossil Park & Museum of Rowan University; a \$30 million expansion of Chamberlain Student Center; a \$125 million building for Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine and \$50 million for the adjoining Virtua Health College Research Center on the West Campus. A \$9 million building for Rowan Medicine Vineland opened in June.

"We've seen firsthand that serving more students and providing more access and educational opportunities benefits the entirety of New Jersey," Houshmand said.

Scholars distinguished by drive and dedication

Each year, Rowan's educators and students win accolades with national significance and generous support to expand their work. Among the most prestigious: Lindback, Goldwater and Fulbright awards that commend both veteran and rising scholars.

EXEMPLARY EDUCATOR EARNS LINDBACK AWARD

Passionate about teaching and intensely devoted to students, Bill Carrigan, Ph.D., is in his 25th year as a history professor at Rowan.

In the spring, Carrigan received the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award, the University's most prestigious honor for exemplary teaching.

Recognized for high standards and boundless energy, Carrigan has taught 15 distinct courses—and more than 3,200 undergraduate and graduate students—throughout his Rowan career.

He founded CLIO (Community of Learning in Operation), a learning community for first-year history majors that helps students thrive. He's also adviser to the history honor society and the Student History Association.

NATIONAL HONORS FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS

Rowan University engineering students Madeline Dunsmore and Matthew Conway have been named recipients of the 2024 Goldwater Scholarship.

Awarded to students pursuing research careers in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics, the prestigious Goldwater Scholarships are among the oldest national scholarships supporting the next generation of research leaders in those fields.

Dunsmore and Conway both are students in the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering and the John H. Martinson Honors College.

They are two of only 64 students in engineering and materials research nationally to earn the award. Altogether, 438 scholarships were awarded.

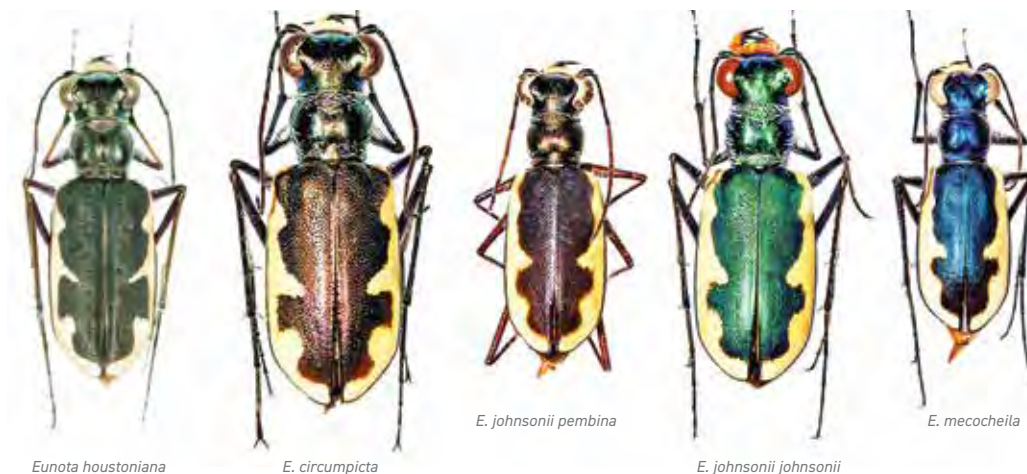
Since 2006, 10 Rowan students have earned Goldwater Scholarships.

FULBRIGHT FUNDS INVALUABLE OPPORTUNITIES IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Law & Justice Studies Professor Carla Lewandowski, Ph.D., will head to Mexico next year as a Fulbright scholar.

Coordinator of international studies in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences, Lewandowski will spend the spring 2025 semester as one of five Fulbright-Garcia Robles U.S. Studies Chairs. She will teach at the Universidad Veracruzana in Xalapa and also will focus on building relationships with Mexican scholars to gain insights into communication among law enforcement agencies at the border.

"This experience will not only enrich my own research and teaching, but also offer invaluable opportunities for my students, fostering a deeper understanding of global issues," says Lewandowski, who researches homeland security, terrorism and policing.



Using the new method, Daniel Duran has discovered and described as new species 14 tiger beetles, including the first pictured at left, *Eunota houstoniana*.

Answers for when DNA doesn't tell a creature's whole story

Daniel Duran, Ph.D., has found a better way to identify bugs—and birds, bats, trees and more.

An assistant professor of environmental science in the School of Earth & Environment, Duran helped devise a new means of identifying and discovering new species of insects and other organisms that combines DNA analyses, observational techniques and complex mathematical calculations to determine whether a species is truly new.

"I'm interested in conserving biodiversity and you can't conserve biodiversity if you don't know what the units of biodiversity are," he said.

Accurate identification of organisms and the discovery of new species is especially important as researchers work to catalogue all living species.

"This method applies to all types of life," he said. "It could be used to find new birds or plants or gorillas or any other species, as it addresses a fundamental problem."

That problem, he said, is that DNA testing alone can be flawed if used as a sole identifier of new species.

The lead author for a study published in March in the prestigious journal *Nature Scientific Reports*, Duran and a small team of researchers studied DNA and other factors like behavior, body parts and

geography to conclude if an unrecognized insect is new or just unfamiliar.

Among the world's leading experts on predatory tiger beetles, Duran has discovered 14 species of the insects.

He said the pace of his work is fueled partly by the dual climate and biodiversity crises, which are threatening life on Earth.

A prolific researcher who's published 19 peer-reviewed papers in the last five years, Duran serves as a naturalist who provides community education for the public, in addition to teaching on campus.

NEW ROWAN MEDICINE SERVICES IN VINELAND

Specialized health care for children and adults will be more accessible with three Rowan Medicine practices on the Cumberland County campus of Rowan College of South Jersey. Rowan President Ali Houshmand emphasized the importance of connecting communities with health and education. "In order for Rowan to thrive, our community needs to thrive," he said at the ribbon cutting.

Learn more: rowanmedicine.com



President Ali Houshmand and Virtua Health CEO Dennis Pullin (fifth and fourth from right) joined Rowan Medicine, RCSJ and Cumberland County leadership to open the building.

RECOGNIZING RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Four named 2024 NSF CAREER Award winners

The U.S. National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program offers the federal agency's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty serving as academic role models in research and education. In 2024, four faculty from the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering and the College of Science & Mathematics earned recognition for their potential as outstanding leaders in their fields of research.



GERARD CAPELLADES, PH.D., assistant professor of chemical engineering, is investigating the mechanisms by which impurities incorporate in growing crystals, work that could point the way toward improved medications and potentially fewer side effects for patients.

ERIK HOY, PH.D., an assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry, is developing comprehensive methods to facilitate the design of molecular-scale quantum electric and magnetic field sensors. His work has the potential to revolutionize sensing technology in areas ranging from medical imaging to GPS navigation.



CHEN SHEN, PH.D., assistant professor of mechanical engineering, focuses on high-frequency vibrations known as surface acoustic waves (SAWs), which can transmit electrical signals using devices called SAW filters. Shen is developing new ways to manipulate such interactions to expand their functionality for communication, sensing, biomedical devices and more.

KIRTI YENKIE, PH.D., associate professor of chemical engineering, researches ways to improve process synthesis and design of complex systems such as wastewater treatment systems to help predict failure due to factors such as aging or extreme weather.



Creating abstract art, including the painting above, became a source of healing and restoration for James George, M.D., after an accident changed everything for the emergency room physician.

Healing through art

George Family Center opens to inspire creativity and recovery

James George, M.D., is living testament to the healing power of art. Soon, his passion and generosity will bring those capabilities to southern New Jersey through the recently established James E. George, M.D., J.D. & Family Center for Healing Arts of Rowan University.

George, who rediscovered a love of the arts while in therapy following a catastrophic fall in his home, donated \$1 million through the Ric Edelman College of Communication & Creative Arts (Edelman CCCA) to launch the new center.

A 2016 accident left the now-retired emergency room physician and attorney paralyzed, but he regained partial use of his limbs—and developed a love of abstract painting—during a six-month stay at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital in Philadelphia. He has since painted more than 5,000 abstract works.

"I know how the power of creating can be truly therapeutic," George said. "Practicing art has made, and continues to make, a huge impact in my recovery and my life."

In partnership with the Edelman CCCA, the George Family Center will foster wellness and growth around southern New Jersey through expressive arts that heal and inspire.

As part of the center's development, the Edelman CCCA this summer hired Morgan Yacoe, an artist and researcher from the University of Florida, as its founding director.

Sanford Tweedie, Ph.D., dean of Edelman CCCA, said he expects the center to have tremendous impact well beyond Rowan's borders.

"We know, based on Dr. George's experience and that of so many other patients, that creating art can be life-changing," Tweedie said. "Through the George Family Center and Morgan Yacoe's leadership, Rowan students and professionals will bring such healing arts to South Jersey health care settings, including our two medical schools and through our health care partners."



PHOTO: MITCH WUHLBAUER

Student entrepreneurs make it to market and a Broadway billboard

Like any new business, Bobica Bars started with a dream.

As a first-year student in the Rohrer College of Business (RCB), Harrison Nastasi's dream for Bobica (bo-BEEK-ah) was to produce a tasty, easily digestible, superfood snack bar.

In 2023-24, his sophomore year, Nastasi and Bobica Bars co-founder and classmate Justin Iannelli saw their dream take off as the company founded in Nastasi's mother's kitchen sold box after box of healthful bars.

They've since moved production to a commercial kitchen and last fall, the partners took first place in the RCB's annual Idea Challenge and won the College Entrepreneurs' Organization's 40th Global Conference & Pitch Competition in Tampa, Florida, along with an \$8,000 prize.

"Our next step is to go retail and we're working to get into some of the big box stores," Nastasi said.

That goal—and the dream, drive and commitment that fuel it—moved a step closer to fruition this summer with a digital billboard in Times Square featuring Bobica Bars and retired NFL great Tiki Barber. The entrepreneurial students connected with Barber when they won the New Jersey sector of the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards. Harrison said Barber will also appear in a TV spot for Bobica Bars that is planned to run in select markets.

BOOSTING BUSINESS OF ALL KINDS

While the entrepreneurial pair may stand out, they do not stand alone. RCB hosts business-building competitions throughout the year, starting with the Idea Challenge each fall and ending with the New Venture Competition in the spring.

In April, senior Anna Demasi, a marketing/entrepreneurship major, won the competition with an idea for a company inspired by her mother, who made greeting cards for her

lunchbox when she was in middle school. Demasi is launching Lunch Box Cards Co. and secured \$30,000 in funding through the competition for its startup.

"There's nothing like Lunchbox Cards on the market," she told the judges. "We can't wait for our cards to become yours."

Partnered with faculty in the Ric Edelman College of Communication & Creative Arts, RCB also hosts Creatives 230, an interdisciplinary learning lab that was named among the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business's 2024 Innovations That Inspire.

The lab pairs communication and other students for work on commercial ideas, from artwork to advertising.

"Entrepreneurship isn't just for business majors," said Jenny Drumgoole, associate professor of photography and co-founder of the creative space. "It's a mindset that is crucial for artists and other creatives."

NIH SUPPORTS A ROBOTIC ADVANTAGE:

Precise alignment for surgeons, better healing for patients

A Rowan University researcher is developing the first robotic-surgery system designed to align fractured long bones, such as the thigh bone. These bones often don't heal properly, causing pain, difficulty walking and other long-term problems.

Mohammad Abedin-Nasab, Ph.D., and his research team won a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to further develop the system, named Robossis, and bring it to market.

The research "could have a huge impact in reducing malalignment, reoperation and even mortality for patients with femur fractures, a large and growing population," according to the NIH reviewers. More than 430,000 femur fractures occur annually nationwide and that figure is expected to rise due to an aging population, Abedin-Nasab said.

"Our goal is to help address the challenges of treating these fractures and improve outcomes for patients," noted the associate professor of biomedical engineering in the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering and Rowan-Virtua School of Translational Biomedical Engineering & Sciences.

Research team member Christopher Haydel, M.D., an orthopedic trauma surgeon at Virtua Reconstructive Orthopedics, described a key challenge that Robossis could address.

"Fractures of the thigh bone are common, and the surgery is physically difficult to conduct. An assistant has to hold the leg in place, pushing against large muscle groups for an extended period. Robossis could make holding that alignment far easier and with greater consistency and accuracy," Haydel explained.

Robossis is among Rowan's first NIH-backed, translational research projects with a combined investigator team that includes Virtua Health—a result of Rowan's academic health partnership with southern New Jersey's largest

Mohammad Abedin-Nasab demonstrates a robotic-surgery system under development to repair long-bone fractures. Using X-ray images from two angles and cameras to track the fractured pieces, Robossis creates a 3D computer model of the surgical site and recommends a path to precisely realign the broken bone. The surgeon can then manipulate both the robot and the patient's leg using only the haptic controller, while viewing the animated model through a virtual reality headset.

health system. Translational research turns scientific discoveries into medical advances that directly benefit patients.

Abedin-Nasab's team includes orthopedic surgeons from Virtua Health and researchers at Johns Hopkins University. Also on the team are students from Virtua Health College of Medicine & Life Sciences.



Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver and Julie Haynes, professor of communication studies, center, celebrated with students at the April event.

ALUMNA AMPLIFIES WOMEN'S VOICES

The Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver Advancement of Women in Communication Suite opened in Bozorth Hall, supported by Kopenhaver '62, a talented journalist in college who became a nationally respected communication expert, educator and generous advocate of women in all forms of communication. *For more:* go.rowan.edu/womenincommunication



More room for building community at Chamberlain's growing hub

Construction is nearing completion on the \$30 million, 28,500-square-foot expansion to the Chamberlain Student Center on the Glassboro campus. Designed by ikon.5 architects, the addition includes a student commons with demonstration and performance areas, a seminar room, eight meeting rooms, a student-run Saxbys coffeehouse, an amphitheater, Student Government Association offices and collaborative student organization workspaces. Modeled after a Greek "agora," the building is designed to be a social and intellectual hub for students and community members in the 21st century. Opened in 1974, the Student Center celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.



RENDERING AN IMAGE OF RED BANK

His is the face of an unknown Hessian soldier killed at the Revolutionary War Battle of Red Bank in 1777.

"It gives me chills," Rowan Public History Professor Jen Janofsky, director of Red Bank Battlefield Park, says of the sketch that brings humanity to the remains.

As experts work to learn more about the remains of 15 Hessian soldiers discovered at the park in 2022, New Jersey State Police artist Moises Martinez drew the composite from a skull of one of the men killed in 1777 and buried in a mass grave.

National experts in DNA and historical analysis hope that they can eventually identify one or more of the soldiers.

See the original story: go.rowan.edu/rbb



Robinette wrote and directed the 1986 production of "Beanstalk!" at Glassboro Summer Theatre with students in cast and crew.

CURTAIN'S UP ON NATIONAL TOP 10

Theatre professor emeritus Joe Robinette is again on the annual list of the nation's most-produced artists in theater for children and families—even nudging out William Shakespeare by one notch.

Robinette taught, wrote and directed for more than 30 years on campus, delighting audiences and guiding students with his reliable creative charm and skill. His career includes writing 56 plays, many of them translated into foreign languages and produced broadly, from Lincoln Center to the BBC.

Robinette appears on the most recent review of perennial production favorites compiled by TYA/USA.



Matched with the best

They began medical school during a global pandemic. They finished it with triumph.

Every graduating medical student at Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOM) and Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) matched this year with residency programs across the country, where they'll spend the next three to seven years.

The majority will pursue careers in primary care, including family medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics-gynecology. The rest will train in other fields, including anesthesiology, emergency medicine, neurology, psychiatry and surgery.

Most took part in vast vaccination clinics and other outreach efforts during their years at Rowan, noted SOM Dean Richard Jermyn.

"We were under tents, in bus terminals, in food banks, from Atlantic City and back, doing vaccinations, telehealth for addiction and so much more," Jermyn said. "This class makes me optimistic because they embody what the mission of SOM is all about."

The 100 percent match rate for both schools far surpassed the national average. Many 2024 graduates will continue their training in New Jersey, said CMSRU Dean Annette Reboli.

"Our fantastic match rate and the caliber of programs our students are entering, both locally and nationally, are truly impressive," Reboli said.



Climate scientist Andra Garner researches the impacts of a changing climate on natural hazards, including increased flood risks associated with tsunamis and sea-level rise, as well as the evolving characteristics of tropical cyclones.

Categorical proof: the 50-year trend in hurricane escalation

It doesn't just seem like Atlantic hurricanes are getting stronger, faster. Now there's proof.

Research by Andra Garner, Ph.D., an assistant professor of environmental science in the School of Earth & Environment, has confirmed a disturbing, 50-year trend: Atlantic hurricanes are developing and strengthening faster.

Garner, in a research paper published in the journal *Nature Scientific Reports*, found that from 1971 through 2020, intensification rates from Atlantic hurricanes changed as human-caused greenhouse gas emissions escalated a warming of the planet and oceans.

Her 2023 study, "Observed Increases in North Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Peak Intensification Rates," was covered by more than 1,200 news outlets around the globe.

"The increase in the number of times hurricanes turned from Category 1 or weaker to a major storm, (Category 3 or greater), is particularly concerning, since major hurricanes often produce the most damage in our coastal communities," Garner said.

Ultimately, she said, proof of quicker-intensifying hurricanes as the planet warms should serve as a warning.

"There is an urgency," Garner said. "If we don't make some pretty big changes and rapidly move away from fossil fuels, this is something we can expect to see worsen in the future."



SHAHIN IZADI

A DIFFERENT TYPE OF FAMILY FILM

Professor Jonathan Olshefski (left) promoted his feature-length film “Without Arrows” at Montana’s Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in February. Olshefski, who shot the film over 13 years, celebrated the world premiere with protagonist Delwin Fidler Jr., (above, right) a champion grass dancer who left his Cheyenne River Sioux reservation as a young man but returned a decade later to continue the tradition of “thiyóšpaye,” or extended family.

After screening at festivals in Milwaukee, Dallas and San Francisco, a Philadelphia debut is being scheduled, as well as a broadcast premier on Independent Lens with PBS on January 13, 2025.

RIISING TO R1: READ ALL ABOUT IT

With a research portfolio more than tripled in little over a decade and helping propel Rowan’s remarkably rapid ascent toward Carnegie R1 status (very high research activity), Rowan keeps making news in all types of national media—and in a new University publication: Rowan Research.

The first two issues offer a look into the groundbreaking work based in southern New Jersey and taking place around the globe, all with real-world impact, including discoveries and new solutions for:

- the ongoing opioid epidemic
- early diagnosis for Alzheimer’s disease
- climate resiliency
- understanding cosmic geology
- safer roads and runways
- and much more.



Read today:
research.rowan.edu/magazine

Mission in practice: real-world medicine



Student volunteers care for patients and gain experience with individuals who depend on the clinic’s services.

Patients travel from Philadelphia, Bridgeton and beyond to the Rowan-Virtua Community Health Center, which operates twice a month out of the Commitment Community Church in Lindenwold.

At the student-run pop-up clinic, Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine students and physicians provide free medical care. Patients can have their vision checked, receive referrals to social services and help themselves to free food and hygiene items.

“We’re trying to better these patients’ lives, whether it’s helping manage their chronic hypertension, connecting them with the social services they need, or providing them free resources,” said Emily Forester, clinic director and third-year D.O. candidate.

TREATING THE WHOLE PERSON

For the 10 to 12 patients the clinic treats each month, the free health care amounts to so much more. Student teams, overseen by faculty preceptors, provide individual attention and a multidisciplinary, whole-person approach. Students consider the experience so valuable that there is a wait list to sign up to volunteer.

“Being able to understand all of the key factors that go into our patients’ health and find solutions for their problems is the essence of being an osteopath,” Forester said.

“You have to account for all of the social determinants that can influence the health of the patients,” said faculty adviser Nils Brolis, D.O.’11, associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine and a clinic volunteer when he was an SOM student. “This is real-world medicine.”



RowanProud of our hometown!
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"Best Small Towns to Visit in 2024"

The Borough's Heritage Glass Museum, Angelo's Diner
and our thriving Rowan Boulevard are just a few things
that helped make Glassboro one of 15 small towns
in the nation on Smithsonian Magazine's places to visit list.

We're proud to be part of the community and continue
to help build a destination for visitors—and a campus home
for our students, employees and neighbors.

**CONGRATULATIONS,
GLASSBORO!**

Scan the QR
code to go
directly to the
Smithsonian
Magazine article.





Sophomore Emily McCutcheon, who set a national record for pitching all 20 innings in one game, helped the softball team to its second straight appearance in the NCAA College World Series.

Profs win fourth NJAC Cup and place 21st in national Learfield Cup standings

Rowan Athletics continued its tradition of success during 2023-24 as third-place national finishes by the softball and men's outdoor track and field team were among the highlights. The softball team, under the direction of 2023 National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame inductee Kim Wilson, made its second straight appearance in the NCAA College World Series, advancing to the semifinals.

The Profs placed 21st in the 2023-24 Learfield Directors' Cup Division III standings, recognizing a program's overall performance in the NCAA Championships. Five Rowan teams reached the NCAA Championships (field hockey, women's soccer, men's basketball, baseball, softball) and numerous Prof student-athletes participated in the NCAA Championships in swimming and track and field.

Rowan clinched the New Jersey Athletic Conference Cup for the fourth consecutive year, recognizing overall success during the year of league competition. The Profs won five conference championships (men's cross country, field hockey, men's indoor and outdoor track and field, softball), with the field hockey, men's basketball and softball teams also earning NJAC regular-season titles.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Rowan captured its second straight NJAC title and took second at the NCAA Metro Region Championship. Senior Jake Riley qualified for the NCAA Championship after his fourth-place finish at regionals.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Profs placed third at the NCAA Championship and then achieved a fourth-place finish in the team standings at the NCAA Metro Region Championship.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Profs were conference champions for the third year in a row and earned their fifth straight bid to the NCAA Championship, advancing to the second round. Julia Cavicchio and Vanessa DiDonato were named to the All-America team.

FOOTBALL

In head coach Jay Accorsi's final season before retiring, the Profs went 4-2 in the NJAC to claim a tie for second place. A pair of freshmen, Nate Maiers (Offensive) and Carter Williams (Defensive), earned the conference's Rookie of the Year honors, while a total of nine players were named to the All-NJAC Team.

MEN'S SOCCER

Rowan, which had seven players earn All-Conference honors, was the runner-up after playing in the NJAC Final for the fourth consecutive season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Rowan went through the regular season with an undefeated record (13-0-2) to capture its second straight NJAC regular-season title and then made its 16th all-time appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

VOLLEYBALL

Jena Kaul was chosen to the All-Region Team and joined with Brooke Adams and Vanessa Hutchinson on the All-Conference Team.



The field hockey team won its third straight conference title and contributed to Rowan earning the NJAC Cup for the fourth year in a row.

Assistant Coach Norm Tate joined three of Rowan's 13 All-America honorees at the track and field outdoor championships. Sophomore Kwaku Nkrumah, far right, became the 73rd NCAA Champion in Prof athletics history as he won the 110m hurdles. Second and third from left, Jason Agyemang, placed second, and Marquise Young took fifth.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Under interim head coach Eric Brennan, the Profs repeated as NJAC regular-season champions and NCAA Sweet 16 participant. Senior Ja'Zere Noel received back-to-back Player of the Year awards in both the district and the conference, as well as All-American First Team honors.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Profs qualified for the NJAC Tournament under first-year head coach Kate Pearson, who came to the program after a successful 14-year career at Cabrini University. Senior Nicole Mallard and junior Kate Herlihy earned spots on the All-Conference Team.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Jack Watson was an All-American for the second time and the Profs placed third at the inaugural NJAC Championship meet, placing 12 swimmers on the All-Conference Team.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Sophomore Ella Pennington became a back-to-back All-American while Kaitlyn Crouthamel gave the Profs their third-straight NJAC Rookie of the Year. Rowan placed fourth at the inaugural NJAC Championship meet.

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

The Profs continued their dominance in the NJAC, winning their ninth consecutive conference title while recording the largest point total in league history. The 4x400 relay team earned All-America status at the NCAA Championships as did Jason Agyemang, Amara Conte and Kwaku Nkrumah in their individual events.

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

The 4x400 relay team (Molly Lodge, Nevaeh Lorjuste, Kat Pedersen, Jasmine Pope) broke the school record in placing fifth at the NCAA Championships and earning All-America honors for the second year. Izzy Deal was recognized as the NJAC's Outstanding Field Athlete as the Profs finished second in the conference meet.

BASEBALL

Rowan was ranked nationally all season long, reaching a high of No. 6, and participated in the NCAA Regionals for the seventh consecutive year. Tyler Cannon was an All-America selection and Mike Shannon was the NJAC Pitcher of the Year.

LACROSSE

The Profs were the runner-up in the NJAC, competing for the championship for the third consecutive season. Junior Molly Green repeated as the conference's Midfielder of the Year and headed a group of four Profs to be named to the All-Conference Team.

SOFTBALL

The fourth-ranked Profs reached the national semifinals while capturing their second-straight NJAC Championship. Sophomore All-American Emily McCutcheon set an NCAA record for innings pitched in a game in the 1-0 win over The College of New Jersey and Liz McCaffery became the first in the program's storied history to be awarded a Rawlings Gold Glove. Coach Kim Wilson recorded her 900th win at Rowan and headed the NFCA Region Coaching Staff of the Year.

MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Sophomore Kwaku Nkrumah became Rowan's latest NCAA Champion as he won the 110-meter hurdles. The Profs achieved a third-place finish at the NCAA Championships for the second straight year with 13 athletes receiving All-America honors. Rowan also won its ninth straight NJAC crown and third-straight regional title.

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

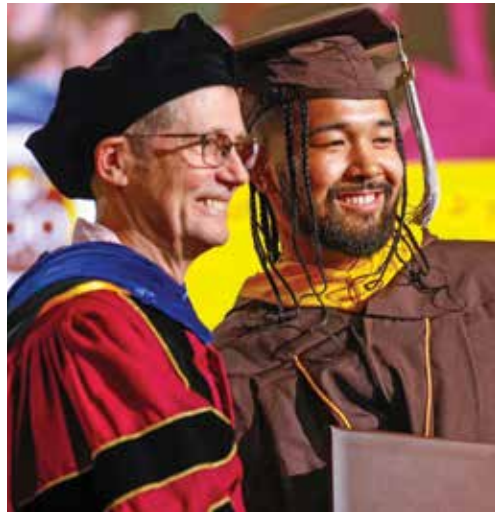
The 4x400 relay team duplicated its All-American effort from the indoor season with a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Championships. Seniors Izzy Deal and Molly Lodge picked up individual All-America honors in their events.

ACADEMICS

Rowan's student-athletes excelled in the classroom, posting an average cumulative grade-point average of 3.2. A total of 187 received All-Academic honors from the NJAC while numerous student-athletes were recognized with awards specific to their sport.



Ja'Zere Noel became the first Prof to repeat as Player of the Year in the NJAC.



Commencement 2024



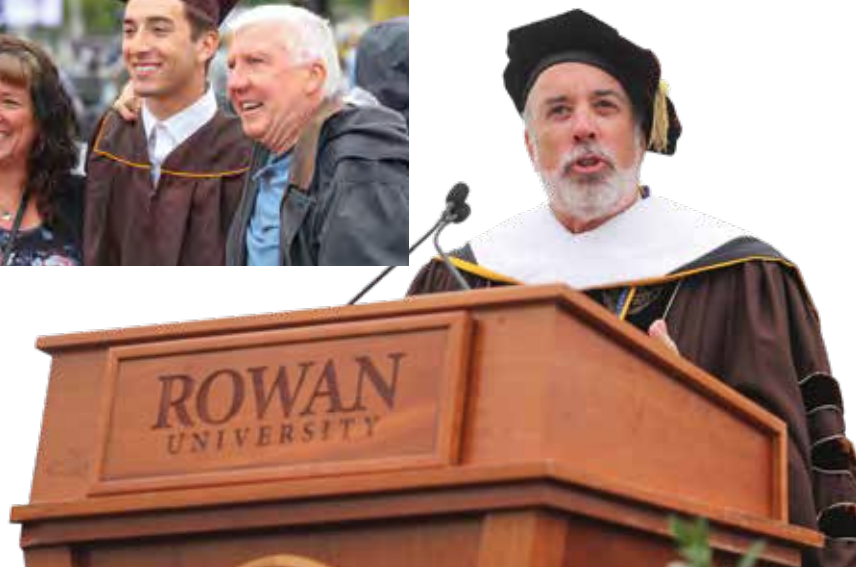
From the first solemn ceremony in 1924 until this year's grand week of celebration, Commencement has welcomed graduates and their loved ones to mark their educational accomplishments.

The tradition continued in May with 14 ceremonies full of joy and promise, starting with the University ceremony and its keynote address by Ric Edelman '80 (opposite, far right), Janet Hamill '67 accepting Distinguished Alumna honors (top, left) and Joe Cosgrove '00 receiving the honorary doctorate (mid-page, wearing white regalia hood).

The Class of 2024 included 4,225 undergraduates, 1,109 master's degree candidates, 208 new physicians from Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine and 110 from Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

More than 80 Ph.D., Ed.D. and Ed.S. graduates took part in the institution's first Hooding Ceremony. The exclusive honor offered more evidence of the prolific research and scholarship advancing Rowan toward Carnegie R1 status. Congratulations, all!





How do I get there from here?

New University College has the road map and resources for student success

By definition, college is about change and new experiences, but when students arrive on campus ready to start the next exciting chapter of their lives, many, if not most, also arrive with questions.

Lots of questions.

They wonder about choosing the right major, the ideal profession and getting a little extra support if they need it.

Enter University College, created this year to ease the adjustment process for first-year and transfer

students, while providing academic and career support for all students. It also offers courses like Rowan 101 to bolster new students' success with college-level work, engagement with the Rowan community and planning for their major and occupation, plus classes on financial literacy

and professional development. Established to support students through what should be a rewarding and engaging time, the college was designed as a hub to promote academic success, strengthened by collaboration with Rowan's other colleges and schools and with such divisions as Student Life and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

Vice President for Student Affairs Rory McElwee said the college also will serve as the new academic base for some of Rowan's most popular academic starting points, exploratory studies and pre-business.

"Through University College, many of our students now have a dedicated academic home centered on their needs and the process of transition," McElwee said. "During Welcome Week, several hundred new students will be able to say, 'This is my college.'"

In addition to its academic offerings, the new college provides an umbrella for various offices and services, including:

- Tutoring
- Success Coaching
- Academic Advising
- Career & Professional Development (for students and alumni)
- Experiential Education
- Transfer Student Services
- Pre-Health Programs
- Accessibility Services & PATH
- Military Services
- Returning to Rowan
- Rowan Choice, a partner program with Rowan College of South Jersey

In fact, McElwee said, the new organization will positively impact so many facets of the undergraduate experience that virtually every student will benefit by it.

And, she said, though its mission is broad, the college really has just one goal: to help students thrive.

"It's a vital addition to our student engagement and support system," McElwee said. "Through University College, Rowan is raising student success and equity goals among the institution's highest priorities." ■

"During Welcome Week, several hundred new students will be able to say, 'This is my college.'"

—Rory McElwee
vice president
for Student Affairs

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PHOTO ESSAY

**History and hoopla.
Traditions and tributes.
Music, science, nostalgia,
insights, inspiration and
more. Our Centennial
Celebration had it all.**

Photos by Jen Green, Tim Hawk, Jonathan Kolbe, Kevin Monko,
Mitch Muhlbaier, Avi Steinhardt and Craig Terry

It could happen only once—a yearlong 100th birthday party and a grand institutional milestone.

It was a fantastic celebration that belonged to everyone—from those who have invested a few years to others who have given decades to our institution—all of us united by education and our love for the Brown & Gold.

Capturing creativity, collaboration and 100 years of proud progress, photos from our big year tell another chapter of our story—and open the book on our next century.

More than 700 students, employees, alumni and friends posed for posterity to kick off the year's events.



OUR



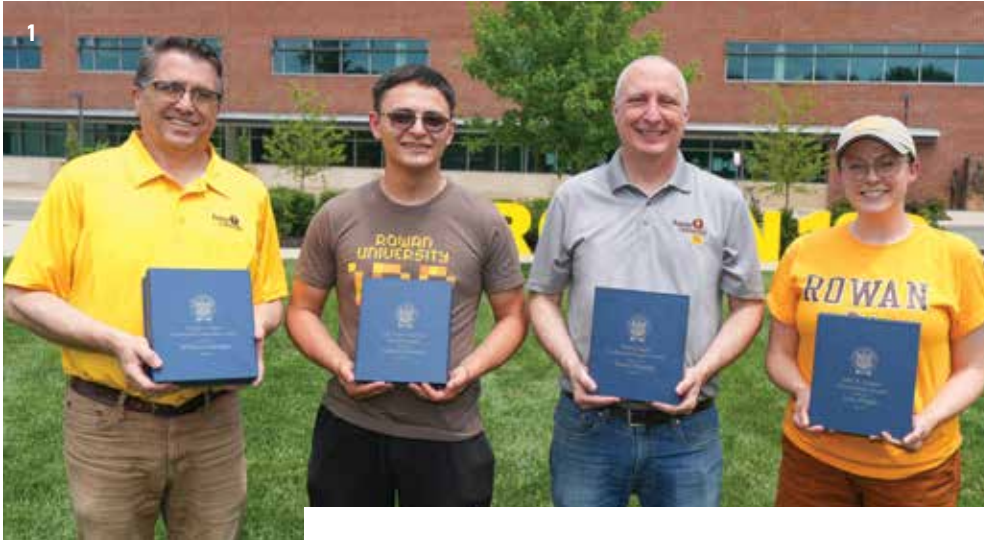
WONDERFUL ONCE-IN-100



1. Centennial times two: the university celebrated its first century and what would have been Henry Rowan's 100th birthday.
2. Flags and fanfare set the tone for Accepted Students Day in April.
3. Teacher education graduates Ann Williams Henry '45 (seated), Jean Eldridge Henderson '52 (left) and Florida Causey Dixon '55 returned to recall their days on campus and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the College of Education.
4. Computer science students coded a Rowan history-themed word game dubbed Rowdle, digitally stocked with 100 word puzzles.
5. Hundreds of music alumni, students, past and present professors performed a Centennial extravaganza in March, showcasing each Rowan band, chorus and orchestra for a packed Pfleeger audience.
6. Gregory Esposito M'10, Ed.S.'12, Rosie Braude Esposito '08, M'09 and their children helped jumpstart the new century with Leap Year photo fun.
7. In Bunce Hall's century-old vestibule, Professor Emily Blanck conducted part of her class, "The History of Now."
8. April's eclipse made for a science spectacle, only the tenth total eclipse visible in the U.S. in Rowan's 100 years.
9. Banners throughout campus included reminders that the College of Education got its start in 1923, the foundation of all Rowan's programs and still one of its largest.
10. 2023 Welcome Week festivities kicked off the school year with Centennial style.
11. Distinguished Alumnus David Tarr '65, former lead economist for the World Bank, spoke on "How to Save the Planet" as part of the Centennial Lecture Series.







1. Bill Carrigan, history; senior music student Anthony Jimenez; University Publications art director Daniel Murphy M'97; and biology professor Sara Wright received awards for their commitment, dedication, institutional knowledge, leadership and creativity in support of the University's yearlong Centennial celebration.

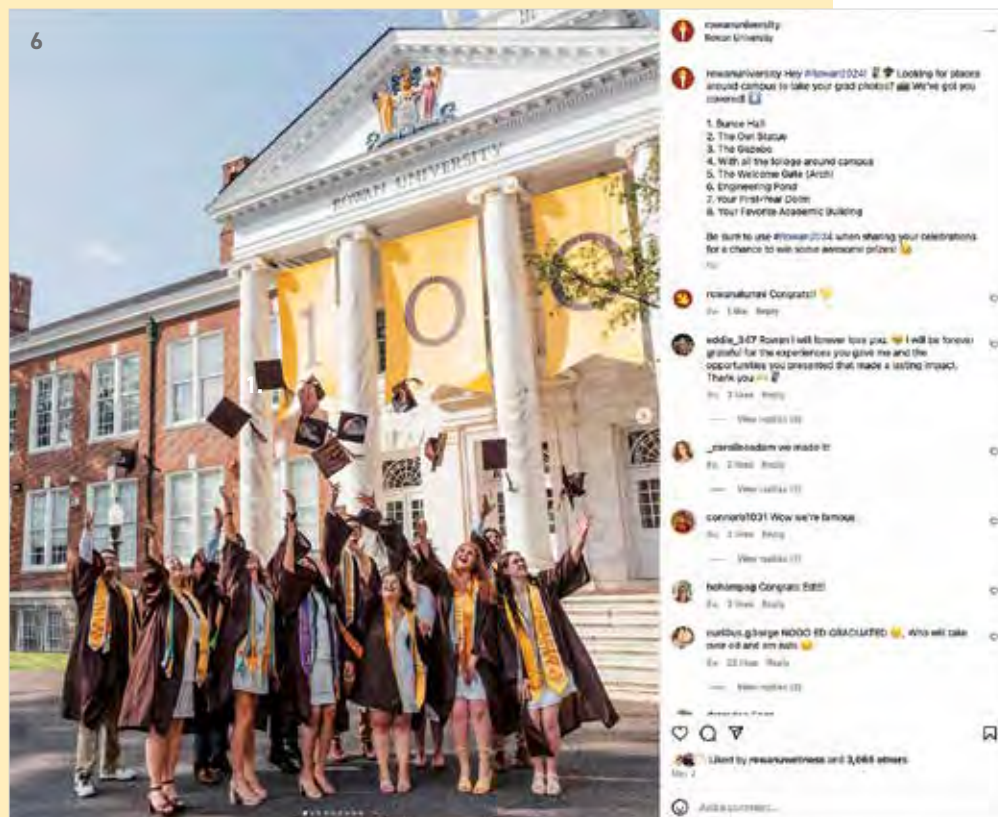
The once-in-a-century awards honored those whose legacies are indelible at Rowan, including beloved and legendary professors John Sangree, Harold Wilson and Don Bagin. Each honoree's career shines for upholding those legacies, especially, during the Centennial.

2. The Pride of the Profs Marching Band did Homecoming's halftime proud.
3. At the Centennial Sendoff, guests signed a copy of "100 Years Forward" that will be archived as a record of the Rowan community at 100.
4. Renewing the Torch Run tradition begun more than 50 years ago, a team of alumni and employees started at Camden campus at dawn, running the Torch of Knowledge through CMSRU, Stratford and Sewell campuses to the Centennial Homecoming celebration in Glassboro. Front: Juan Sanchez '08, Amy Hoch, Jeanine Dowd '00, M'03, Peter Rattigan, Jon Ratcliffe '18, Daniel Cardona '17, M'20, Quinn Cardona '27. Back: Ernie Holtzheimer '11, M'12, Sandra Wilson MD'27, Tobi Bruhn '98, M'99, Ed.D'16, Collin Cardona '20.
5. Art grads Jason Snyder '07 and Briana Feola '08 illustrated their alma mater's first 10 decades of history highlights in a whimsical, fact-filled mural.
6. Social media made Centennial connections all year, sharing photo ops and pride points.
7. Custom designs for the Centennial Shop stoked belonging and pride.
8. At historic Bunce Hall, members of Rowan's 2024 community gathered for the 100 photo.





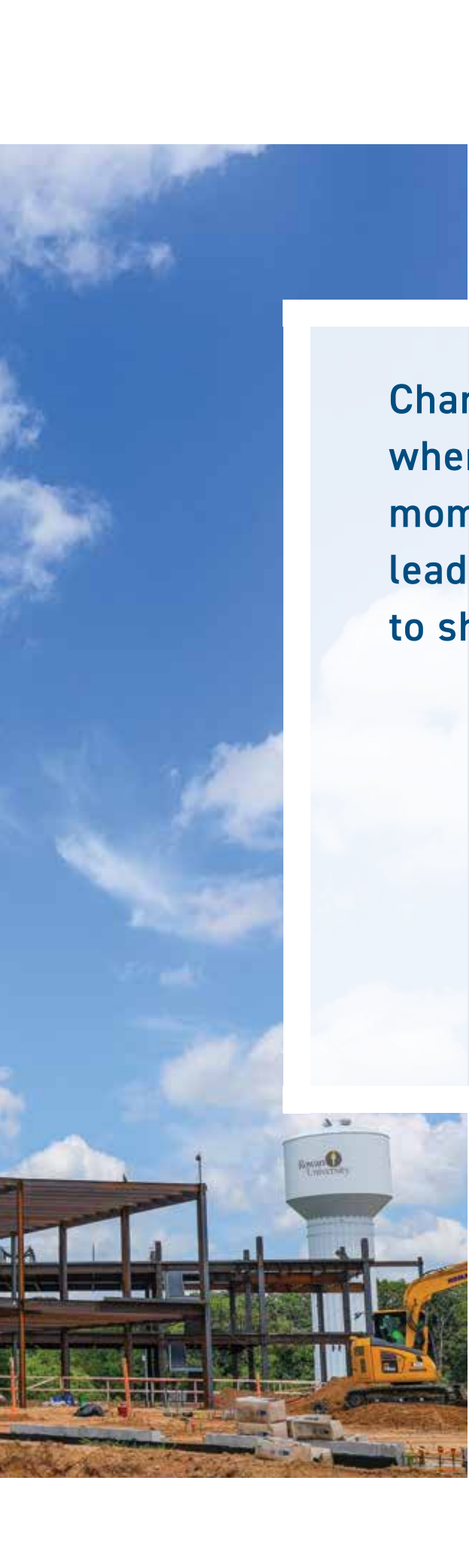
More photos, videos and stories to enjoy:
view.rowan.edu and rowan.edu/centennial



EVER FORWARD

THE NEXT BIG DECADE






by Kim Mulford '94, with Barbara Baals,
Steve Levine '87, M'07 and Jon Hartley

Change comes quickly when mission and momentum drive leaders and partners to shape the future.

Even as it celebrated its Centennial, Rowan University spent the past year looking ahead to the next 100, starting with the decade in sight. With nearly \$2.9 billion in annual economic impact, bold plans and a growing roster of supporters and industry partners, the University is again positioned to expand its presence, influence and enrollment.

“We know that serving more students and providing more access and educational opportunities benefits all of New Jersey,” said President Ali A. Houshmand. “Rowan is the proven leader and the catalyst for continued progress in our state, region and beyond.”



In early July, the home of Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine and adjoining Virtua Health College Research Center began to rise on the West Campus, part of \$1.5 billion in planned construction for the next decade. The state jumpstarted the \$175 million project with a \$75 million appropriation in 2022.

The president's perspective isn't just positive thinking. In its last accreditation review, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education described Rowan as a "model for institutional transformation," citing it as "exceptionally innovative, entrepreneurial and nimble."

From that 2019 assessment to now, the University's trajectory has stayed its course, with new facilities, programs and partnerships accomplishing visible, tangible advances.

Enrollment growth, economic influence

Numbers speak for themselves. Houshmand's "University of the Future" plan for the next

decade includes \$1.5 billion in expansion projects—and explosive enrollment growth.

The fall's incoming first-year and transfer class is Rowan's largest ever, defying dives in enrollment trends nationally. And by 2033, growth goals include a student body of 38,500, with the majority coming from online programs at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels.

Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine

One medicine. One health.

That's the approach the University is taking as it builds New Jersey's first veterinary school on the West Campus.

"The interrelatedness of animals, humans and the environment is at the heart of our work in the Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine," said Founding Dean Matthew Edson, noting that caring for livestock and addressing zoonotic diseases—infections that spread between people and animals—affect human health.

"Veterinary medicine isn't just about pets. Through the 'one health concept,' we expect graduates to consider societal concerns in the broadest sense by addressing the health of animals that can impact humans and the environment."

The Shreiber School, which will offer the state's first Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree and related degree programs designed to shape the future of veterinary medicine and health care in the state, plans to welcome its first class of 70 students in fall 2025. Applications for the first class are expected to open this fall.

The "one health concept" will be embedded early in the school's curriculum through extensive clinical experiences via rotations, clinical observation and practice. The curriculum includes a clerkship in shelter medicine that introduces concepts like animal welfare, population medicine and epidemiology.

Clinical facilities at New Jersey's first veterinary school will include a teaching hospital and clinical services open to the public. Already, Shreiber School veterinary faculty are meeting needs by providing large animal care throughout South Jersey using mobile units.



COURTESY OF ERDY MCHENRY ARCHITECTURE



Situated along the Rt. 55 corridor minutes from Philadelphia, the facility will be a visible sign of Rowan's expanding presence and accessibility to industry and research partners in the mid-Atlantic region.

Virtua Health College of Medicine & Life Sciences

Through its strategic partnerships with Virtua Health and other health care leaders, Rowan is perfectly positioned to meet critical needs in health care education, practice and research in the next decade and far beyond. With West Campus research space adjacent to the Shreiber School's facilities, Virtua Health College gains dedicated laboratories for a range of disciplines and collaborations.

Under the VHC umbrella, opportunities for interdisciplinary work abound with Rowan-Virtua School of Translational Biomedical Engineering & Sciences. Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine and Rowan-Virtua Rita & Larry Salva School of Nursing & Health Professions.

Meeting the immediate needs of the region's health care landscape, the Salva School offers an RN-to-BSN degree for working nurses to enhance their credentials and master's programs that include tracks for nurse educator, nurse practitioner and nurse executive. A new building planned for the West Campus will become the home of the nursing school.

Rowan also offers the first—and only—baccalaureate respiratory therapy program in New Jersey. Respiratory therapists are in high demand in the region's hospitals and SNHP is meeting that need with a bachelor's option and degree advancement for those who have completed an associate degree in respiratory care.

Plans include adding a physician assistant program at SOM's Sewell campus.

The next decade promises an expansion of the college's interdisciplinary vitality and the opportunities made possible in the Rowan-Virtua strategic partnership.



Inside the museum, guests will experience exhibits that include discoveries made by Rowan research teams at the fossil park.

The projected 70 percent increase in enrollment, a 75 percent increase in the operating budget and spending increases mean Rowan's growth could lead to nearly \$5 billion in economic impact on New Jersey, according to a recent independent economic study (details on p. 6).

While that economic impact can be seen throughout the region and in each community that hosts Rowan activities and facilities, the effects are especially visible around the main Glassboro campus. Rowan Boulevard's expansion toward Academy and High streets will continue to transform the borough

Edelman Fossil Park & Museum

Among Smithsonian Magazine's most anticipated new museums in the world, Edelman Fossil Park & Museum of Rowan University will invite visitors to explore South Jersey's prehistoric environs later this fall.

The Mantua Township fossil park preserves the Cretaceous-Paleogene Boundary, which marks the moment when most dinosaurs went extinct. Visitors can experience the museum's life-sized collection of creatures that once lived in the area, including a replica of a 55-foot mosasaur fossil found in the quarry just outside the museum's walls.

The museum's features include a VR-powered experience, live animals and an opportunity to comb for fossils in the park's fossil quarry. With its sustainable design and materials, the building itself demonstrates the highest environmental leadership from Rowan's facilities master plan.

West Campus expansion and opportunity

Strategically located along the spine of South Jersey's Rt. 55 north-south corridor a mile west of the Glassboro main campus, Rowan-owned property offers expansive room to grow.

In October 2024, the University will break ground on a new education facility for Rowan-Virtua Rita & Larry Salva School of Nursing & Health Professions. The University is working with county, state and federal officials to secure approximately \$37.6 million for infrastructure funding to support West Campus projects. A planned mix of sustainable development will continue to bolster Rowan's commitment to serve and build the region.

In the decade ahead, the University, commercial and industrial partners will construct an advanced manufacturing facility, a bioenergy production facility, a wellness village and academic buildings on the West Campus, creating construction and permanent jobs.



Existing and planned facilities

1. Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine and Virtua Health College of Medicine & Life Sciences Research Center
2. Rita & Larry Salva School of Nursing & Health Professions Facility
3. Samuel H. Jones Innovation Center
4. New Jersey Bioenergy Center at Rowan University
5. Center for Research & Education in Advanced Transportation Engineering Systems (CREATES)
6. Advanced Manufacturing Global Solutions Hub
7. Regional Sports & Entertainment Fieldhouse
8. Modern Food Production Facility & Farm
9. Inspira Medical Center
10. Research and Business Development
11. Wellness Village Development

■ EXISTING
 ■ UNDERWAY / IN DEVELOPMENT
 ■ PLANNED



Dreamscape Immersive Learning Center

Imagine college courses that incorporate virtual reality (VR) to expose students to long-gone cities, data visualizations, 3D models or disaster scenarios, using technology demonstrated to improve testing scores.

Through a collaboration with Dreamscape Learn and Arizona State University, Rowan will offer specially designed courses supplemented with immersive learning sessions at Campbell Library, starting in spring 2025. The library will house two 30-person classrooms featuring VR headsets, sensors and motion-capture cameras to convert each user into an interactive avatar.

The immersive courses will offer access to places and concepts that are otherwise out of reach.

"One strength of this VR is that you can bring students to places where they normally wouldn't be," said Pamela Watson, Ph.D., a lecturer in the Department of Biological & Biomedical Sciences who is designing Rowan's first immersive course, an introduction to biology for non-science majors. "There's so much data out there that we can use to build new experiences."

Students use immersive technology in a Dreamscape Learn biology demonstration.





The Library of the Future

The Keith & Shirley Campbell Library has begun a transformative renovation to meet the present and future needs of the Rowan community.

"The Library of the Future ... needs to be the academic crossroads of campus; that kind of interdisciplinary energy really is what drives new ideas," said Robert Hilliker, associate provost of Rowan University Libraries.

Post-renovation, the library will include a quiet reading room with views over Meditation Walk, sensory isolation rooms for technology-free resetting, a space for the new, student-driven #RowanReads collection, a lactation room, more gender-neutral restrooms and more group collaboration rooms.

There will also be dedicated space for the Rowan Writing Center, Rowan Thrive (well-being programming), IRT's Technology Assistance Center and the Dreamscape Learn classrooms. This confluence of services cements Campbell's place at the heart of the Glassboro campus.

Campbell Library's renovation will transform the building with new technology and reconfigured space.



with public and private partners to provide new housing for residents and students, plus business opportunities and more.

Rowan's road to R1

Commencement Week 2024 included Rowan's first Hooding Ceremony, marking a major milestone in Rowan's rapid ascension in research activity and classification.

During the ceremony to bestow academic hoods on 84 recipients, Houshmand announced the institution is on track to achieve Carnegie R1 status within three years, placing it among the most prestigious in the nation.

A top 100 public institution and the nation's fourth fastest-growing public research university, Rowan is committed to ambitious, applied research that also enhances its

commitment to high-quality undergraduate education, including STEM disciplines, liberal arts and interdisciplinary programs. Among the many advantages Rowan offers students will be its continued access to research opportunities usually reserved for graduate studies at other institutions.

Already and ahead

Ten years from now, Rowan's current transformation will rival historic periods of growth during the '50s and '60s, the early aughts and the last decade.

With each day of progress, the University—an academic, research, health care and economic development powerhouse—proves it is already the University of the Future.

And still, Rowan's transformation continues ever forward. ■

class notes

40s

Gloria Scaffidi '45 celebrated her 100th birthday last summer. She keeps busy reading and helping her family at home.

50s

Margaret "Sally" Sooy Bridwell '53 celebrated a 70-year reunion with her first kindergarten class at Glenview Avenue Elementary School in Haddon Heights. The event was held in Egg Harbor Township. Photo, above, right.

70s

Jane Eyre '71 is the reigning world champion in women's individual saber for athletes over age 70. A member of USA Fencing's Hall of Fame, she has won the FIE (Fédération Internationale d'Escrime) Veteran World Championships eight times. She owns Infinity Fencing Alliance in Woolwich Township, where she is also a coach.

Kathleen Wickham '71 received the Ronald T. and Gayla F. Farrar Award in Media and Civil Rights History from the University of South Carolina's College of Information and Mass Media for her work in

civil rights research. She is an author and retired journalism professor at the University of Mississippi. She also received a 2023 grant from Kappa Tau Alpha to continue her research on digitized Black newspapers of the civil rights era.

Deborah Steward Emley '73 and her husband, Bill, participated in a weeklong archaeological dig in Wedowee, Alabama. They belong to the Peach State Archaeological Society in Georgia and assisted in overseeing the dig.

Terrence "Terry" Crowley '75 served as interim superintendent of the Ocean City School District until June and assisted in the selection of a new superintendent.



MATTHEW STRABUK, THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

Kindergarten, plus a few years

Sally Sooy Bridwell '53, surrounded by some of her first kindergarten students; note this page.

FRONT: Alice Crowe Smith, Sally Sooy Bridwell '53, Linda Keppel Snyder.

BACK: Rick Wonderlin '70, Jan Thorne Jakubik, Lynne Miller Brothers, Jean Brown Ramalho, Jim Augusti.

Previously, he was executive county superintendent of schools for Cape May County and, most recently, state monitor with the New Jersey Department of Education,

overseeing the Woodbine School District.

Theodore Stephens II '76 of East Orange was sworn in February to serve a five-year term as prosecutor in Essex County. He had been appointed acting prosecutor by Gov. Phil Murphy in September 2018. He oversees 400 employees in the state's busiest prosecutor's office. In 2023, the office handled more than 12,000 cases and processed more than 1,600 juvenile prosecutions.

William "Bill" Wilson '76 is pastor of Historic St. George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia. The Mullica Hill resident has been a pastor for 47 years.

Eric Newman '77 retired after working as a book editor for 45 years, the last 15 as managing editor of Fordham University Press.



College of Education reception for researchers

After the annual American Educational Research Association meeting in April, the College of Education welcomed alumni and faculty to connect at Pennsylvania Convention Center.

FRONT: Zalphia Wilson Hill M'90, Ed. D. '10, Carmelo Callueng, Alicia Drelick, Marjorie Blicharz, Michelle Damiani, Zeynep Isik-Ercan, Kate Kedley, Jocelyn Klein.

MIDDLE: Ya Vanca Brooks '92, Erica Watson Brown, Marjorie Madden M'75, Erica Figueroa M'18, Kara Ieva, Valarie Lee, Dean Gaëtane Jean-Marie, Adrienne Robertson, Xiufang Chen, Molly Fisher, Kate Seltzer, Rebecca Linares.

BACK: ??William Rozycki M'16, Brent Elder, Nicole Edwards, Stacey Leftwich '91, Madeline Boehning, Jamar Brownlee, Kerry Cormier Ph.D. '22, Susan Browne, Sarah Ferguson, Shehreen Iqtadar, Monica Reid Kerrigan, Cathy Brant, Hajime Mitani, ?? Cecile Sam, Andrea Hawkman, Uriah McClain, Rob Wieman.



All golden for 50+

Every spring, the Golden Profs Reunion welcomes graduates marking their 50th milestone to join fellow 50+ celebration classes for festivities. Joined by more than 100 fellow alumni, the Class of 1974 enjoyed this year's special honor.

Alumni and guests connected with friends and made new memories throughout the event during receptions and mixers, lectures, planetarium shows, art gallery exhibits, campus tours and more. The annual gathering demonstrates the enduring bond that connects golden alumni to their alma mater and invites their return to campus—for some, decades since they've last visited.

1. Members of the Class of 1974 gathered at Chamberlain Student Center, also celebrating its 50th anniversary.

FRONT: Pat Fowler, Kathleen McHale Vandegrift, Maria Luisa Ortiz, Gloria Cruz, Sweeney McKennan, Diane Spanicciati Brown, Olive Reid, Mary-Ellen Cameron Sullivan.

MIDDLE: Candi Sihler Gilar, Debra Kozden Kubek, Carol Bagnell, Virginia Fisher Webb, Emelina Torres, Mary Heinz, Dale Orlowski-Camwell, Penny Holtermann Bulli, Leslie Hellwig Thatcher, Deborah Burrell, Mary Amodeo Matthews, Marietta Gadaleta, BACK: Judith Bielen, Helen Grassie Pengler, Diane Illian Miller, Beverly Youker Siti, David Halleck, John McDonough, Kenneth Figgs.

2. Debra Kozden Kubek, Olive Reid, Candi Sihler Gilar, Carol Bagnell, all '74.

3. Edith Augustsson Diffenderfer '52.

4. Maria Luisa Ortiz, Emelina Torres, Gloria Cruz, all '74.

5. Abbie Battaglia '71 and Donna Wescott Jordan '71.

6. Kenneth Figgs '74, Keith Figgs.

7. Mary-Ellen Cameron Sullivan '74 and William Sullivan.

SAVE THE DATE

Golden Profs Reunion

Saturday,
May 31, 2025

Graduates from 1975 and prior are invited to a special celebration at Rowan University's Glassboro campus.

This reunion includes a special series of events, including a welcome reception, campus shuttle tours, faculty lectures, a luncheon honoring the 2025 Lifetime Service Award recipient, a mixer paying special tribute to the Class of 1975 and more!



For event info,
scan here or
visit [alumni.rowan.edu/
GPRinterest](https://alumni.rowan.edu/GPRinterest)

80s

Pam Pickett '80 was inducted into the Buena Regional Athletic Hall of Fame in November 2023. During her career, she has coached girls' basketball, field hockey and softball at Buena Regional High School. At the time of her induction, the Courier-Post reported she was the winningest coach in South Jersey with 705 victories.

Brian W. Jones '81, president and CEO of The First National Bank of Elmer, was named a 2023 ICON by NJBIZ. The awards celebrate New Jersey leaders over age 60 for their achievements

and leadership, both within their respective fields and in the larger business community.

Bruce Krajewski '81 received the 2023 Silvers Grant for Work in Progress from the Robert B. Silvers Foundation. He is translator and editor of Salomo Friedlaender's "Kant for Children" (De Gruyter, 2024).

Jim McCarten '81 launched EyeHouseWatch in 2020, a property watch service for residential and commercial owners, mostly from Long Beach Island and Beach Haven West to Barnegat. As his new venture grows, he continues his career in global business development for the fashion industry with



A warm send-off and much appreciation

Professor emeritus Stewart Slater made history as the founding chair of Chemical Engineering and helped set the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering on its extraordinary course. To celebrate his retirement, alumni and colleagues gathered and said thanks in May—reminding everyone of his remarkable career and their accomplishments together.

FROM LEFT: Chris Dromgoole '00, M'03, Scott Barnes '07, Rob McClernan '18, M'21, Laura Kuczynski '07, Sarah Wilson '09, Stewart Slater, John Chea '18, Ph.D.'22, Sean Curtis '24, Dominique Rousseau '19, Michael Fracchiolla '24, David Theuma '24.

his other company, RK Sales LLC.

David B. Barger '82 earned President's Club honors at Canon Solutions America, Inc., for outstanding achievement in 2023.

The honor recognizes top revenue production in the United States selling Canon's hardware and software technology-based solutions. This is his fifth President's

Club achievement since working in the industry as a major account executive.

Gloria Scaffidi-Wilhelm '82 and her husband, Andrew Wilhelm, announced that their son, Joseph, began medical school in August 2023 at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Gloria's father, the late Dr. Joseph Scaffidi, was a graduate of the medical school's Class of 1958.



Honoring King with fellowship, inspiration and service

New York Times best-selling author, op-ed columnist and MSNBC commentator Charles Blow shared his perspective on Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy, the importance of voting and more at the 38th annual tribute to King in January. Emcee Rick Williams chatted with Blow before hundreds of Rowan friends gathered to help raise scholarship funds for students and participate in service projects in honor of King and his example. Rowan's Division of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Rowan University Foundation sponsored the event, scheduled for next year on Jan. 20, 2025.

1. Cheryl Riggins '85, Anthony Phillips '83, Lisa Wright '86.
2. Charles Blow and Rick Williams.
3. Morgan Douglas, Dr. Antoinette W. Wilson '87, M'98, Jasmine Broadway.
4. Daria Walls, Dr. Keisha Stephenson Taylor '98, M'00, Gabrielle Alexis Langevine '24.



Daniel J. Waters D.O. '82 released a seventh novel, "Boardwalk Babylon," the latest in the Mickey Cleary/Jersey Shore series, available on Amazon and at select retailers. He also writes regularly for The DO Magazine, the national publication of the American Osteopathic Association, and has been published in several other literary journals and platforms.

Scot Merkle '83 linked up with Glassboro State College alumni at



Class of '71 grads reunite

Glassboro State College alumnae met in Brigantine for a joyous reunion last September.

FROM LEFT: J. Shockey-Ambrosli, Judy Rossi-McKeown, Susan Smith Camp, Pat Campbell Staley, Charleen Kulesa Orzechowski.

the 2023 Army-Navy Football Game at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts. **Paul Dodge '83** and Brian Koebel brought 100 fresh Cape Cod oysters to the tailgate and shucked them for all the Army Ranger veterans in attendance. Merkle also hit the slopes for Ski Spring Break 2024 at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and attended the New York Rangers

vs. Washington Capitals playoff game on April 26.

Mike Suk '83 was inducted into the New Jersey Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He coached at Somerville and Randolph high schools with a combined record of 471-282-1, ranking him ninth in the state for most high school victories.

Ira P. Monka D.O.'84 was the keynote speaker



Lifelong friends mark five decades

Class of '74 alumnae celebrated their 50th reunion in April at The Smithville Inn in Galloway and honored the memory of classmates Joy Loehner and Janice Case Corbetis. Later that weekend, Linder and Karyl Carter '74 attended "Rent" at Tohill Theatre on Alumni Night.

FROM LEFT: Donna Gurdack Suder, Patricia Moloney Shelley, Mary Sue Burke McGovern, Mary Anne D'Ambrosio Linder, Cindy Banyacski Torak, Karen Martensen.



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It's the best time in a long time to consider the gift that pays you: **a charitable gift annuity.** Payout rates are higher than they have been in 16 years. Seize the moment by considering this amazing gift that provides you with stable, regular income—regardless of the economy. Support the next 100 years of education at Rowan University while preserving your legacy.

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class notes

during the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine's 47th annual Commencement Ceremony in May. He is president of the American Osteopathic Association.

Wayne Carlsen D.O.'86 retired from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2022 as emeritus associate dean of clinical education and associate professor of geriatric medicine. He travels and enjoys time with his wife, Holly, their children and three grandchildren. He continues to work with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, as COMLEX Level 2-CE examination chair and chair of the Blueprint Subcommittee.



Helen Jenkins Castro '86 graduated with her

second master's degree from Rutgers University. She earned a Master of Labor and Employment Relations with a specialization in diversity and inclusion in the workplace and a certificate in women's, gender and sexuality studies. Her first master's degree in communication and media studies was completed at Rutgers in 2019. Her daughter, Sarah, earned a Master of Science in criminology from the University of Pennsylvania in May.

John Giovannitti '87 and **Vince Giovannitti '88** are brothers who are mayors of sister



Weddings & engagements

1. Madison Silenzio '26, Jamee Fertig Still '01, Laura Silenzio '27; note, p. 42.
2. Ashley Shepp '16, M'18, M'20 and Matthew Welding '15; note, p. 47.

towns: Paulsboro and Gibbstown, respectively.

Lisa Morina '87 has been promoted to senior vice president and chief philanthropy officer of the Cooper Foundation. Before joining Cooper in 2023, she was on the executive team at Jefferson Health and

previously served as director of economic and business development for Gloucester County. She is a board member of Acenda Integrated Health, the First Harvest Credit Union, KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy and the Southern New Jersey Development Council.

Lynne Ritter '87 received the national Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Spirit of Advising Award. The award recognizes FCCLA advisers who work to ensure the success of their students. She is a teacher and coordinator of family and consumer science at Seneca High School in Tabernacle.

Michael Facenda '88 has been named president of Sky River Casino in Elk Grove, California. He joined Sky River with more than 35 years of experience in the gaming industry and an extensive background in operations and marketing.

Jim Johnson '89 is co-owner of Cookman Creamery in Asbury Park. The shop offers housemade, small-batch traditional and vegan ice creams, cakes and treats.

William Rudolph '89 credits his experience at Rowan for enabling him to travel the world, meet amazing people and have his own business in London, England.



CMSRU grads reconnect where they started

The second annual All-Alumni Cocktail Party welcomed Cooper Medical School of Rowan University classmates and colleagues back to Camden in October 2023. It was a great opportunity for alumni to reconnect with each other and former professors and mentors. The event was a big success and is becoming a cherished tradition for the CMSRU community.

1. Dr. Nirandra "Eddie" Mahamitra, Jinghong (Wesley) Yuan M.D.'22, Dr. Sundip Patel.
2. Ankit Rana M.D.'24, Jennifer Davidson M.D.'24, Justin Ungerleider, Shanika Habib, Jennifer Hopkins '18, M.D.'24.
3. Susana Collazo M.D.'18, Dr. Jocelyn Mitchell-Williams, Samantha Collazo M.D.'18.
4. Kenyetta Givans M.D.'17, Calvin Foo M.D.'17, Joshua Weinstock M.D.'17, Hannah Rogers-McQuade M.D.'17, Ernest Egu M.D.'17.
5. John Zimmatore, Emma White M.D.'17, Olivia Schriber M.D.'24, Shanaya Shah M.D.'24, Kiana Malta M.D.'24, Gabriela Contino M.D.'18.

90s

Victor Almeida D.O. '90 was named chief medical officer of Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus in Lakewood. He joined the medical center as a full-time emergency department physician in 2006 and was promoted to regional chairman of the department in 2014.

Anthony Amato '90 was appointed chief executive officer of BioSig Technologies, Inc., a medical technology company in Westport, Connecticut.



Rick Alcantara '92 is in the second year of his two-year term as president of the Philadelphia Chapter of the International

Association of Business Communicators.



Anthony Del Vecchio '94 was named senior vice president/group account director at Zimmerman Advertising, based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He is part of Omnicom Group and handles retail advertising duties for McDonald's, Planet Fitness, FiveBelow and Yuengling. He and his wife, Tatiana, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in 2023. They live in South Florida with their two children.

Mary Beth Hennessy-Shotter '95 was confirmed by the New Jersey Senate as chair of the Public Employment Relations Commission in December 2023.

James Scythes '95 published his second book, "Letters to Lizzie: The Story of 16 Men in the Civil War and One Woman Who Connected Them All." He is assistant professor of history at West Chester University and president of the Gloucester County Historical Society.

Samantha Dulude '97, M'14 was named principal of Eugene A. Tighe Middle School in Margate. She formerly worked in Washington Township schools for two decades.

Chris Cardillo '98 is a successful entrepreneur who recently acquired the rights to the iconic Hills Department Store's official Hills trademark. He envisions transforming the brand into an upscale lifestyle experience with a nostalgic touch.

David Corsaro '98 has been a professional magician since 1991. He is a featured performer in four off-Broadway shows in New York City and is the executive producer of "Magic in a Bottle" at City Winery. In 2022, he competed on the magic competition television series, "Penn & Teller: Fool Us," and he won. Photo, p. 45.

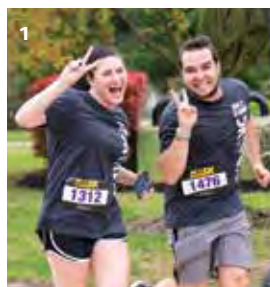
Keisha Stephenson Taylor '98, M'00 is a trustee for Durand, Inc., a Woodbury-based service agency for individuals with pervasive developmental disorders and their family members. She is senior director of alumni and postsecondary engagement at NAF (formerly National Academy Foundation), a national education nonprofit. She also



Emmys earned
Jonathon Lavengetto '14 claimed top awards in pro sports communication. Note, p. 46.

serves as president of the Mount Laurel Public Education Fund, chair of the ambassador committee for the Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey and as a board member for the Perkins Center for the Arts and Learning Forward New Jersey. She earned her doctoral degree in educational leadership and innovation from Wilmington University. She was honored at the College of Education Centennial Soiree. Photo and award presentation, p. 44.

Anthony Fitzpatrick '99, M'05 is the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for Delsea Regional and Elk Township school districts. He has been named to the board of trustees of the New Jersey affiliate of the Association of Educational Leaders and is the associate director of the New Jersey Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Southern Region.



A great reason to run

A remarkable turnout of 464 runners took part on campus and virtually in the ninth Annual Run for Rowan 5K, hailing from 15 states, including Illinois, Colorado and North Carolina. Together, they advanced the First-Generation Task Force's Flying First initiative, raising more than \$19,300 to help offset costs for first-generation students' textbooks, programming and more. Nearly a quarter of Rowan students are their family's first to attend college.

1. Autumn Brown '18, Brett Sheplock.
2. Top finishers in each age category.
3. Kenneth Pasley, Christina Newlands, Carol Primas-Young M'23, Jennifer Green '17.
4. Future Profs Leo Kanady, Connor Belko, Phillip Belko, Noah Kanady.



00s

Daniel Howey '00 was named Athletic Director of the Year in 2022 by the South Jersey Coaches Association, which selected him to represent New Jersey at the National High School Athletic Coaches Association annual banquet in Nebraska. He was also named Athletic Director of the Year by the Colonial Conference in 2023. Under his leadership, Woodbury High School won New Jersey's first public state championship in football and won state championships in basketball and track last year. He is assistant principal of student personnel services for Audubon Junior/Senior High School. Photo, p. 46.

Catherine Ni '00 has been named vice president of close combat systems at Lockheed Martin. She joined the company in 2000 as part of its Operations Leadership Development Program.



Engineering alumni, happy together

More than 80 alumni and faculty met for the second annual Engineering Alumni Happy Hour at P.J. Whelihan's in Cherry Hill in May. Hosted by the Henry M. College of Engineering, the evening drew alumni to visit with friends and former professors and expand their network.

Elizabeth Vogelsong-Parvin '00 is acting prosecutor in Gloucester County. She previously served as lead attorney for the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice's Human Trafficking Unit.

Erin Small '00, head softball coach at Audubon Junior/Senior High School, notched her 400th career victory in April. She's been coaching for 24 years.

Shaun Thompson Blokker '01 is a fitness trainer, coach and entrepreneur.

Better known as Shaun T, he was profiled by Muscle & Fitness magazine, which reported his Facebook group, "Dig Deeper Nation," is one of the largest fitness groups on the social media platform.

Jamee Fertig Still '01 married Derek Edward Still on Nov. 21, 2021. Jamee earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Stockton University in 2019 and works full time as a registered nurse on the labor and delivery

unit at Virtua Health in Voorhees. Her daughter Laura Silenzio will major in political science at Rowan University, starting this fall. Her daughter Madison Silenzio was accepted into the 3+1 program at Rowan College in Burlington County and plans to graduate from Rowan University in 2026. Photo, p. 40.

Bobby Acosta '02 is the new head football coach at Saint John Vianney High School in Holmdel.

A former player for the Profs, he served as an assistant coach for many collegiate programs, including Rowan, The College of New Jersey, the University of Delaware, Syracuse, Cornell and Bucknell. He formerly was the head coach at Widener.



Elora Crump Berkley '03, M'05 authored her debut novelette, "Beyond the Cracked Door." The collection of



Two decades of SUP, with more ahead

Student University Programmers and friends celebrated 20 years of creating activities to enrich students' lives and build opportunities for success.

1. Lauren Kuski '11, M'13, Rio Napoli Clements '11, Noah Weinstein '12, Mark Greenfeld '09, Tina Pinocci, Brian Bordieri '05, Amanda Callahan '06, Ian Callahan '07, M'09, Joe Lizza M'07, Ed.D. '17.

2. FRONT: Melissa Ulmer, Katie Cesario '14, Sydney Ramos '22. MIDDLE: Alex Gonzalez '23, Shaan Desai '22, Carrie Cunningham '20, M'22, Macy Shoemaker '22, Noah Weinstein '12, Serafina Genise M'21, Maddie Elliott '19, M'23, Devon Dyer '19, Carly Marsella '16, M'18. BACK: Patrick Egar '22, Lauren Kuski '11, M'13, Rio Napoli Clements '11, Cassandra Colfer '19, M'21, Seth Edgar '16, Courtney Hopper '18, M'20, Joe Frascella '21, M'23, Matt Ortiz '21, James Orapello '21, Lexi Jubin '22, Dylan Regan '21, Alyssa Cowling '15, Camryn Hadley '21, Joe Keefe '23, Tom Marsella '16, M'18, Joe Lizza M'07, Ed.D. '17.



One of final four, Nappi teaches to be the change

It was a whirlwind six months serving as New Jersey's Teacher of the Year. But this fall, Joe Nappi '05 is returning home—blissfully—to his social studies classroom at Monmouth Regional High School.

"Teaching has been the greatest joy of my life," says Nappi. "I used to think about all the things I had to teach students. I didn't realize how much students had to teach me.

"Now, when I walk into my classes at the beginning of the year and I see 120 kids, I think, 'Wow, there are 120 different perspectives on the world that I've never had that I'm going to get to see,'" he continues. "And at least a couple of them are going to have ideas and thoughts that are going to challenge the way I look at the world.

"That, to me, is the constant growth that comes from teaching. I love the challenge of it."

Now in his 19th year at Monmouth, Nappi teaches courses in U.S. history and



Joe Nappi returned to Glassboro to talk with students, encouraging them about the joy and challenge he finds in teaching.

the Holocaust, Genocide and Modern Humanity. He has taken more than 650 students to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., where he has served as a museum teacher fellow since 2019.

In 2022, he collaborated with a national group of educators assembled to develop lessons for "The U.S. and the Holocaust," a PBS documentary series by filmmaker Ken Burns.

Close to home, after he learned of a student experiencing food insecurity, he founded Monmouth Helping Its Own, a faculty-run charitable organization that helps students facing financial hardships. The group has given more than \$75,000 in direct aid and scholarships to students.

Nappi's students also pay it forward, completing multiple "Be the Change"

projects that address local and even global issues important to them.

"I want to make sure my students are seeing the world through other people's eyes...that they're able to empathize with people both inside and not represented in our classroom in a way that really shows our shared humanity," says Nappi, who was encouraged to become a teacher by his wife, Cristina '04, an English and mindfulness teacher at Monmouth. He earned history and secondary education degrees from Rowan.

One of only four teachers chosen as finalists for National Teacher of the Year—that honor ultimately went to a Tennessee teacher—Nappi visited 30 schools in 16 counties across the state while working with the Department of Education to explore issues affecting teachers and students.

The Rowan-Virtua SOM Alumni Association
invites you to attend the

ALUMNI REUNION 2024

This reunion celebration will recognize graduates from the classes of

**'83, '84, '88, '89, '93, '94, '98, '99,
'03, '04, '08, '09, '13, '14, '18 and '19**

SATURDAY
11 | 9 | 24
6:30 PM – 11:00 PM

Welcome Reception at 6:30 PM
Dinner & Dancing at 7:00 PM
\$80 per person - Complimentary Bar

The Westin Mount Laurel
555 Fellowship Road, Mount Laurel, NJ
marriott.com/phlmw



ROWAN-VIRTUA
School of
Osteopathic Medicine

Look for your invitation in September!

class notes

three short stories is available on Amazon.

Karen Greenberg D.O.'03 has been appointed as assistant dean of clinical education at Drexel University College of Medicine.

Timothy Sorrentino '03 is a lieutenant colonel and commander of 1st Battalion, 114th Infantry Regiment, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard, and a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan with the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and other units, as well as several other deployments at home and abroad. Photo, p. 45.

Ryan Bailey '04 is a lieutenant colonel in the 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard, and is a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan with the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and other units, as well as several other deployments at home



RowanPROUD alumni and employees

With more than 800 of our 4,000 employees coming to their professional roles with Glassboro or Rowan degrees, the Alumni Association welcomed them to connect at its spring Alumni Employee event in Shpeen Hall's Lillian Lodge Kopenhav Center for Alumni Engagement.

and abroad. Photo, p. 45.

Erin Lake '04 was promoted to corrections librarian at a state correctional institution for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections on May 28. She has been employed by the department since 2017.

Ryan Harty '05 is a lieutenant colonel and commander of 1st Squadron, 102nd Cavalry Regiment, 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey Army National Guard, and a

veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in Iraq. He has also served in several deployments at home and abroad. Photo, p. 45.



Holly Marrone '05 is vice president of human resources for Remington & Vernick Engineers. The new role was created to

assist the company in managing its strategic growth plan as it continues expanding its service area. Previously, she was executive director and chief people officer for the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing. She is also an adjunct instructor at Rowan University in the Rohrer College of Business.

Gregory Peck D.O.'06 is an associate professor of surgery at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and associate professor of health, behavior, society and policy at Rutgers School of Public Health. A critical care surgeon, he researches primary care and prevention with support from the National Institutes of Health.

Education's Centennial Soiree

Founded on teacher training, the institution celebrated the Centennial that also belonged to the College of Education. For its 100th, the College hosted a gala and honored recipients of leadership recognition, including: Alvin Herron '08, M'17, Community Service Award; Keisha Stephenson-Taylor '98, M'00, Outstanding Achievement Award; and Thomas Gallia '66, M'67, M'70, University Engagement Award.

1. Alvin Herron '08, M'17, Keisha Stephenson-Taylor '98, M'00, and Tom Gallia '66, M'67, M'70.
2. Vicky Zazzali '73, Bob Zazzali '72, M'74.
3. J.T. Mills '92, M'94, Ed.D.'02, Jessica Prach '10, Ed.D.'20.
4. Karen Rosa, Heather Cappuccio, Dean Gaëtane Jean-Marie, Ruth Jean-Marie, Aline Jean-Marie, Catherine Venescar.
5. John Bunting '78, M'97, Darlene Bunting, Penny McPherson-Myers '92, M'05, Ed.D.'15, James Myers '92.
6. Mike Walters, Megan McHugh M'15, Sarah Olsen M'14.





Grads serve in Middle East

Kyle Marr '12, Ryan Harty '05, Ryan Bailey '04 and Timothy Sorrentino '03, all deployed with New Jersey National Guard. Notes, p. 44 and 46.



Joseph Lizza M'07, Ed.D.'17 received the Dr. Zenobia

Lawrence Hikes Memorial Campus Safety Excellence Award, given by NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. He is director of the Chamberlain Student Center & Campus Activities at Rowan and chair of NASPA's Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Knowledge Community.

Caitlin Latko '08 was named vice president/partner with Thomas/Boyd Communications of Moorestown. Formerly an assistant vice president at the firm, she

joined Thomas/Boyd 16 years ago as an intern.

Gakuo Ndonga '09 was named Emerging Leader of the Year during the EPIC 2023 Awards, presented by Empowering Pumps & Equipment. He is an application engineering expert with SKF USA Inc.

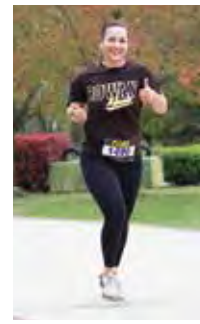
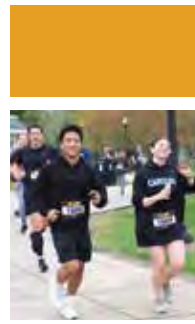
10s

Josiah Murphy '10 was appointed chief of police in Palmyra, his hometown. He began his career in law enforcement in 2000 as an officer in North Wildwood and joined Palmyra's police department in 2001.



Fooling Penn & Teller

David Corsaro '98, took the challenge to trick the magic legends in their TV competition—and won. Note, p. 41.



RUN FOR ROWAN 5K

SAVE THE DATE • APRIL 26, 2025

The Rowan University Alumni Association and Rowan Campus Recreation Center invite the community to run for Rowan students during our 10th Annual Run for Rowan 5K! Virtual and in-person options for runners and sponsors will be available.

Proceeds will benefit Rowan University's First-Generation Task Force program initiative, Flying First, supporting academic success for first generation students.

Look out for more information in the Prof Post Alumni e-newsletter and at alumni.rowan.edu.



Howey honored
Daniel Howey '00, earned Athletic Director of the Year awards. Note, p. 42.

Steve DeStefano '11 is the author of "Santa, My Neighbor," a children's book (Palmetto Publishing, 2023). Available online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Books-A-Million, it's his first book.

Jeff Gorman Ed.D.'11 is interim superintendent of the Robbinsville Public School District.

Most recently, he held leadership positions in the Tenaflly and Mount Vernon City (New York) school districts.

Sylvie Tanflotien M'11 is founder of Ameri-STEAM, an educational program for girls worldwide aimed at closing the gender gap in science, technology, engineering, arts and math.

Tara Gillins-Hubbard '12 was appointed principal of James Bickley Elementary School in Clovis, New Mexico. She previously worked as an elementary school teacher for the Trenton Board of Education, where she earned the 2022-2023 Educator of the Year Award.

Kyle Marr '12 is a captain and brigade public affairs officer in the 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, New Jersey National Guard,

and a veteran of several deployments. Formerly captain of Rowan's 2012 championship hockey team, he is also a two-time Emmy award-winning sports television producer. Photo, p. 45.

Blake Rice '12 wrote and directed the short film, "Tea," which was selected for the short film competition at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival. Blake's film was the only U.S. film selected for the category.

Khyati Sonpal M'12 and **Prashant Shirodkar M'10** are among a team of four inventors at Rowan University's Center for Research & Education in Advanced Transportation Engineering Systems, who were recognized with the 2023 Edison Patent Award for Sustainability from the Research & Development Council of New Jersey. The team also received the prestigious American Association of State



Engineering fun with the Phillies

Grads, students, employees and friends helped fill Citizens Bank Park stands in April to celebrate Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering night at the ballpark. Proceeds from the event benefited the Rowan Engineering Excellence Fund.

FRONT: Aaron Nolan M'06, Margot Nolan, Kim Johnston '21. BACK: Ron Michael Torculas '23, Amani Lizaa-McHarris '23, Genna Brunetta '23, Sarah Morgan '23, Gillian Volpe '23.

Highway Transportation Officials' High Research Value Award.

Jaclyn Navara '13 is head of engineering at Kerry Ingredients & Flavors in Clark, where she has collaborated on several sustainability-focused

projects, including one that reduced the facility's carbon footprint by 25 percent. Also a volunteer firefighter in Metuchen, she was honored by the Alumni Association. Photo and award presentation, p. 48.

Diane Williams M'13 was named vice president, senior relationship manager, at Lakeland Bank's asset-based lending team.

Makayla Holt '14 received the Rosenblatt Young Naval Engineer Award during the 2024 American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE) Advanced Machinery Technology Symposium. The award is given to a professional under age 35 who has demonstrated remarkable early professional achievement in naval engineering. She is a systems engineering manager for the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Philadelphia Division.

Jonathon Lavengetto '14 is senior content



Celebrating support for SOM scholarships

The annual Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine scholarship luncheon honored donors' generosity and students' achievements, gathering 147 to meet for thanks and encouragement.

1. Alumni Board President Ashgan Elshinawy D.O. '99, her husband Peter McCormick and recipient Salma Saifuddin '26, center.
2. Todd Schachter D.O. '84 and Rita Schachter with recipient Jessica-Sophie Horoschak D.O. '24, right.
3. Kahyun Yoon-Flannery D.O. '11 and Peter Flannery with recipient Grace Gallagher D.O. '24, left.



manager for the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans. In 2023, he received two Suncoast Regional Emmy Awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences: one as sports editor and the other as part of a production team in the Sports Program - Edited (Series) category. Photo, p. 41.

Kyle Fant '15 has been named managing director and co-market leader of SRS Real Estate Partners' Capital Markets practice in New York.



Christine Harper Gambardello '15 earned her master's

degree from Ashford University, now University of Arizona Global Campus. She is a practicing therapist at South Jersey Behavioral Health Resources, where she serves Camden City and Camden County.

Matthew Welding '15 and **Ashley Shepp '16, M'18, M'20** are engaged to be married in August. Photo p. 40.

Laura Del Viscio '16 was named human resources director for Eagle Management Group in Wenonah.

Zach Matuzsan D.O. '16 is the new medical director of the Cetronia Ambulance Corps in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He is a faculty member in the emergency medicine residency program at Lehigh Valley Health Network.

Sara Van Ness Mazzone Ed.D. '16 has been named Red Bank Regional High School's 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year. She is an English teacher and joined the school's faculty in 2010.

Francesca Mundrick '16 is co-founder of West to East Global Sustainability Stories (WEGSS), a



Baseball and citizenship

Rowan Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship alumni and friends took in a Trenton Thunder game for an annual June evening of baseball and networking with some of the state's top political and policy operatives. New grads, above, joined previous RIPPAC alumni classes for the outing.

BACK: Andrew Rodriguez '24, Will Kaminer '24, Jobe Weaver '24, Liz Dircks '13.

FRONT: Miranda Toner '24, Emily Soobryan '24.



Your support is TRANSFORMATIVE

Rowan University is celebrating 100 years of education, transformation and dedication, thanks to our donors and friends.

At the beginning of the academic year, we introduced you to Riley Fisher '24— a first-generation marketing major with aspirations of finding a job that combines her love for art and passion for marketing.

Support from generous alumni and friends allowed Riley to sharpen her skills outside of her coursework. An on-campus job as a marketing and event-planning intern at the Rohrer Center for Professional Development, funded by donors, helped her gain valuable hands-on experience— setting her up for post-graduation success.

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Proudly honoring exceptional alumni

Representing a span of seven decades of alumni accomplishment, the annual Alumni Awards honorees exhibit the best of what the Rowan community can inspire and achieve in service to others and their professions.

4 UNDER 40 AWARDS



Tara Marie Beck D.O. '19

After earning a degree in neuroscience from the University of Delaware, Tara Marie Beck returned home to

South Jersey for medical school. At Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, Beck was active in the campus community, winning the President's Award at SOM for her academic excellence and community service. Beck is one of only three individuals internationally completing dual training in neonatology and pediatric nephrology, immersing herself in this emerging field through the Neonatal Kidney Collaboration and clinical research.



Julia Giacoboni '09 As an undergraduate communication major, Julia Giacoboni was very involved with WGLS-FM, serving as an

award-winning public affairs director and as a DJ. Her Rowan Radio experience laid the foundation for a career in marketing, first as digital marketing director at Stream Companies and now as director of product marketing at fullthrottle.ai, where she's worked on cutting-edge products and experienced career highs, including speaking at the National Automotive Dealers Association Conference.



Taylor Henry '18, M'21

In five years since graduating from the writing arts program, Taylor Henry is an established author, radio

host, historical society president and Rowan adjunct professor. Leveraging her student experience as features editor for *The Whit* and freelancer for other publications, Henry puts her writing skills and love of history to good use. Her book, *"Wildwoods Houses Through Time"* (2018) charted at No. 1 in House & Hotel Photography and was a best-seller on

Amazon. As Wildwood Historical Society president, she led a campaign to relocate and preserve a vintage A-frame—now considered folk art—previously destined for demolition.



Christina Requa '12

As a middle school English language arts teacher and reading interventionist, educational technology

specialist and now in administration, Christina Requa has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to public education. In 2021, she became assistant principal in Holmdel, where she continues to champion innovative teaching methodologies, particularly in educational technology and personalized learning. Requa has published two research papers and is an active member of the New Jersey Association of Middle-Level Education, where she has served on the executive leadership team since 2017.

COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD



Jaclyn Navara '13

In just 10 years, Jaclyn Navara has become an accomplished head of engineering at Kerry

Ingredients & Flavors in Clark, a lieutenant fire officer, a CrossFit trainer, expert witness and forensic engineering consultant. Her impact is clear in her professional and personal communities, where she takes pride in leading people and projects. Whether supporting the Community Food Bank of New Jersey or a community event performing fire safety demonstrations for scouting groups, her volunteer efforts emphasize a sense of community and belonging. Navara is the first female fire officer in the 142-year history of the Metuchen Volunteer Fire Department, where she's been an active volunteer firefighter for eight years.

GLOBAL IMPACT AWARD



Caitlin Terry '05

Globally, over 750 million people lack access to safe water, while over 2 billion do not have adequate

sanitation facilities. As manager of Hydromissions International, a faith-based nonprofit, Caitlin Terry oversees water, sanitation and hygiene services for communities worldwide. Since 2008, Terry has used low-tech water well drilling tools to help communities across five continents provide for themselves and overcome obstacles ranging from dengue fever to navigating demands from local rebel army forces for supplies. She attributes much of her early success to the leadership opportunities and experiences in Rowan's civil and environmental engineering program.

LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD



Betty Bowe Castor '63

Betty Castor has had a long and distinguished career as a public servant and educator, most notably as the president

of the University of South Florida, president of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and Florida's commissioner of education—a role that made her the first woman elected to the Florida Cabinet. Her career began in Hillsborough County, where she was the first woman elected to the Hillsborough County Commission. She later served three terms in the Florida Senate. Then, during her tenure as Commissioner of Education, she helped spearhead the nationally recognized Florida KidCare Program. Castor was appointed president of USF in 1993 and served the institution during a transitional period in which it gained the prestigious Research 1 designation. She is also a founding member of the USF Women in Leadership and Philanthropy and remains an active ambassador and champion of Rowan University.

Nominate someone for 2025 recognition:
go.rowan.edu/alumniawards

2024 Distinguished Alumna Janet Hamill '67 received the award from Alumni Association President Jon Vogel at Commencement; photo, p. 18.

community-led content platform for positive stories about personal connections to the environment and sustainability. A doctoral candidate of sustainability education at Prescott College, she teaches in the Department of Geography at Rowan's School of Earth & Environment.

Chris Boyle '17 was named head swimming coach at Seton Hall Prep in West Orange, after serving as assistant coach. He teaches science at the school.

Tyriese J. "TJ" Holloway '17 received the 2024 Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, a top prize given to the

Philadelphia School District's best 60 teachers. He teaches English at Overbrook High School.



Alfred Dansbury Sr. M'18 published his first

novel, "The Strength of Courage," in 2022. The author was later featured on the podcasts, "This Week in America" with Ric Bratton and "The Authors Show" with Don McCauley. The book can be purchased through Amazon or alfreddansburysbooks.com.

Ashley Rodriguez Raab '18 was named the School Counselor of the Year in the Wake County Public School System in North Carolina. She works in



Proud of GSC-Rowan family ties

RowanPROUD with grads from a three-decade span, the 2023 Legacy Family showed off their deep brown-and-gold family tree roots, visiting campus to accept the award presented at the annual spring event.

Katina Lampropoulos '11, Angela Doulis '19, Kristina Rowe '12, Steven Calakos '08, Angela Calakos '88, Cynthia Doulis '84, Mary Kaskabas '03.

the Mills Park Middle School in Cary, North Carolina.



Brianna Donahue '19 was recently appointed

director of policy and

government affairs at Inspira Health. A resident of Mullica Hill, she also serves on the board of directors for the South Jersey Young Democrats. She is co-founder and vice chair for the Paul

Michael Donahue Memorial Foundation.

Ryan Mathern M.D.'19, an interventional spine specialist, joined OrthoSC in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He completed his residency at Atrium Health Carolinas Rehabilitation in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Samantha Miletta '19 joined South Jersey Eye Associates as an optometric physician. She graduated from Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University in May.

Jacklyn Romano '19 was named the 2023 Health and Wellness Influencer of the Year by Philadelphia Magazine. A fitness instructor who owns a fitness studio and a bikini company, she launched her business, Jacklyn.fit, on Instagram during her first year at Rowan as a business management major. The Sea Isle City resident is also a cast member on Peacock's 2024 reality series, "Love Undercover."



Awards honor alums for service, achievement and legacy

The Alumni Association hosted its annual awards reception to recognize alumni for contributions to their professions, society and alma mater. Current and former Alumni Board members shared in the festivities, honoring fellow alumni and accepting thanks for years of dedicated service. Anthony Ray Phillips '83 and Gina Lemanowicz Pusloski '03 received special thanks for completing their terms on the board.

1. Taylor Henry '18, 4 Under 40 Award; Julia Giacoboni '09; 4 Under 40 Award; Caitlin Terry '05, Global Impact Award; Jaclyn Navara '13, Community Impact Award.

2. Former Alumni Board members: Suzanne Smalley Beers '02, Marguerite Stubbs '63, Lou Joyce '72, M'77, David Burgin '82, M'02 Albert Mortka '78, Dorothy Stubblebine '80, Joe Akinskas '70, M'73.

3. Current Board members, FRONT: Michelle Andre '99, M'02, Debi Quinn '88, Gina Lemanowicz Pusloski '03, Diane Mazzei '69, M'80, Hilary Chebra '13, Anthony Phillips '83. BACK: Thomas Maliszewski '79, Dan Errera '12, Jay Dugan '74, M'91, Amira Anderson '14, M'15, Sharon Szmaziasz '77, Lisa Westfield '98, Joeigh Perella '12, Greg Payton '14.

class notes

Catherine Viau '19

joined the customer service team at Eason Horticultural Resources, a horticultural distributor based in Fort Wright, Kentucky. She formerly was a program specialist with Delaware State Parks.



Mark Ziegler-Thayer '19

was accepted into the U.S. Presidential Management Fellows Program and secured a position in the U.S. Department of Education as a Class of 2023 Presidential Management Fellow. They earned master's degrees in elementary education and education policy from the University of Pennsylvania.

'20s

Ara Karakashian Ed.D.'20

is the dean of the School of Business, Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management at Hudson County Community College. He also oversees the accounting, baking and pastry arts, supply chain management and cannabis studies disciplines. He received NJ Cannabis Insider's 2023 Excellence in Education Award and has testified for cannabis license applicants within Jersey City.

Julia Koenemund '20 is a police officer in Fair Lawn. A graduate of the Bergen County Police

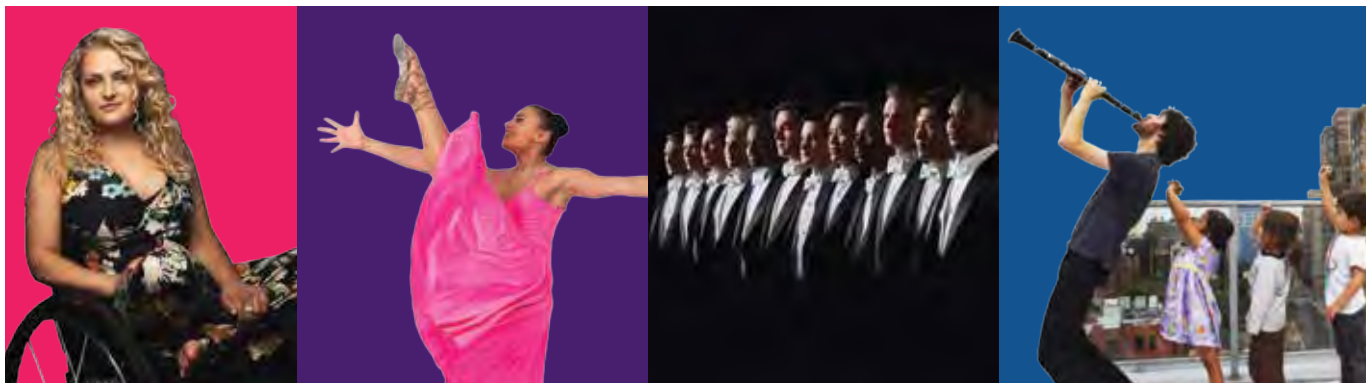


Building community and connections

Rowan undergrads mingled with alumni at Prof Pride Full Circle, an event designed to provide advice on best networking practices and career insights for underrepresented individuals. The Alumni Association and Rowan University Black Alumni Network, in partnership with the Division of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, co-hosted the event with the offices of Career Services; Parent & Family Connections; Social Justice, Inclusion & Conflict Resolution; and Student Government Association.

David Corum M'16, Lisa Westfield '95, Melanie Burney '84, Angie Pollard '96, Janelle Alexander '01, Ph.D. '20, Antoinette Wilson '87, M'98, Anthony Phillips '83, Troy Allen '01, M'22, Ryan Nichols '19.

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class notes

Academy, she also is a member of the Paramus Fire Department and was a 911 telecommunicator with the Paramus Police Department.



Antoinette McKie '20 wrote her first book, "A Look Within," and held a book signing in Pennsauken on June 8.

Tracy Norman Ed.D.'20 has been appointed superintendent of schools in Alabama's Monroe-Woodbury School District, starting Sept. 1. A colonel in the New Jersey National Guard, he began his 20-year career in education as a sixth-grade teacher in Alabama. He has held leadership positions at school districts in New York.

Cameron Shapiro '20 has been appointed to a second term as an Americorps New Jersey Watershed Ambassador, where she is responsible for the Maurice, Cohansey and Salem River watersheds. The AmeriCorps

program promotes watershed stewardship through education and community involvement. She also monitors stream health through visual and biological assessments.

Ramon Wright '20 was sworn in December 2023 as a police officer in Evesham Township.

John Zadroga D.O.'20 matched into the medical genetics fellowship program at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He continues to publish through his laboratory at Columbia University and looks forward to applying for academic physician roles.



Larry Birch '21 passed the North American Securities Administrators Association's Uniform Combined State Law Examination, also called the Series 66 exam, enabling him to continue his transition into a financial adviser.

John "Jack" Bowker M'21 took his applied behavior



Alumni leaders host 100

In honor of the Centennial, the Alumni Board of Directors invited 100 students to join them for the annual "Be Our Guest" event. The informal evening with dinner, games and gifts helped forge friendships across class years and experiences.

Alumni Board members: Gina Lemanowicz Pusloski '03, Adam Woodhull '03, M'07, David Fry M'14, M'17, Brandon Thomas '14, Lisa Westfield '95, Dianne Mazzei '69, M'80, Courtney Hopper '18, M'20, Debra Quinn '88, Dan Errera '12, Sharon Szmaciasz '77, Angelique Hilton '15, Greg Payton '14.

analysis degree to another level by forming RUFF University, LLC, a professional dog training and behavior consulting business in New Jersey. He retired as a detective after 22 years of service and remains an active member of the New Jersey Army National Guard, where he holds the rank of command sergeant major.

Chloe Desir '21 is an environmental justice organizer with the

nonprofit Ironbound Community Corporation in Newark. She was featured in the April 2024 issue of New Jersey Monthly magazine.



Jason Lee '21 received the Rising Star Award from the Public Relations Society of America Richmond Chapter. He is marketing manager for the Greater Richmond Partnership, an economic development

group. He also serves as chair of diversity, equity and inclusion for PRSA Richmond.

Anthony Gallo D.O.'22 married Tara Egenton of Voorhees on May 20, 2023. He was recently named chief resident in the Cleveland Clinic Internal Medicine Residency Program and will oversee the Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Center for Outpatient Education track.

Aliyah Brown '23 was one of 10 individuals honored at the Black Excellence Gala in Atlantic City. The event was presented by JM Branding and Marketing. She is a licensed cosmetologist and business owner.



Keith Evans '23 joined Hanson Professional Services Inc.'s Orlando regional office as a construction observer, where he documents aviation projects' construction activities for compliance, among other responsibilities.



MIS alumni make it back to Business Hall

The Management Information Systems Club hosted alumni and students in April to connect with faculty and members of the MIS Advisory Board. Networking opportunities and MIS updates added to the event's activities.

1. Alex Lam (current student), Jared Lichter '23, Osvaldo Rosi Mejia '24, Manoj Kuntamukkula '23, Nick Fuhrmeister '23.
2. Stephen Shockley '17, Frank Ieradi '14, Greg Scillitani '17, Arianne Bascara '18, Dr. Yide Shen, Hayley Owens '17, Ryan Alwine '19.





BRETT LONGWORTH

Deep dive for the ecosystem

Diving at Naushon Island, **Kriish Hate '24** is part of a Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution research team. Note, below.



Chimere Haskins '23 was crowned International

Mrs. USA 2023 in Orlando, Florida. She founded the nonprofit #GirlYes to help women build their businesses and brands.

Margaret "Maggie" Lapolla '23 is a police officer in Brentwood, Tennessee. She attended the Tennessee Police Academy.

Asia Todd '23 was named a 2024 Career Accelerator Fellow by the New Jersey Theatre Alliance and is one of three fellows working with professional theaters and the alliance to learn theater management. The Linden resident is working with Art House Productions in Jersey City, New Jersey Theatre Alliance and Vanguard Theater Company in Montclair.

Chelsea Valcourt '23 was elected president of Monroe Township Council. At 23, she is the youngest council member and president in township history. She first won election to

the governing body in 2020—and was the first Republican candidate to do so in 30 years.

Joe Destra '24 was selected by NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists as a member of the 2024 CONNECT: Student Journalism Training Project cohort. He is one of 10 individuals selected to cover the NLGJA's national convention in Los Angeles in September.

Kriish Hate '24 is conducting seagrass surveys and working to develop novel technologies for long-term ecosystem management at Dr. Matthew Long's MACHINE (Marine Chemistry, Instrumentation, and Engineering) lab, part of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts. This fall, he will begin a graduate program in mechanical engineering at Northeastern University.

BEYOND THE BROWN & GOLD

Beyond the Brown & Gold podcast delivers a dose of nostalgia and alma mater pride by highlighting the lives and memories of Glassboro State College and Rowan University alumni. Join hosts Rob Lightfoot '00, M'01 and Jessica Kanady '08, M'15 as they sit down with graduates spanning the decades and learn more about their unique college experiences, career paths, life lessons and more!

Produced by Rowan University's own award-winning radio station, Rowan Radio 89.7 WGLS-FM, the podcast recently won a 2024 Platinum Hermes Creative Award and a 2024 Communicator Award of Excellence.

Recent guests include:

Tony Racioppi '04

Quarterback coach for high school, college and NFL athletes

Jeannine Frisby LaRue '74

Political activist

Dan Baker '68

Philadelphia Phillies public address announcer

Betty Bowe Castor '63

Educator and former politician

Listen on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, iHeart and Podbean or by visiting go.rowan.edu/listen.

Interested in being a guest on the show? Visit go.rowan.edu/BTBGguest to apply.



Remembrances

Fond eulogies of campus friends offered by AFT colleagues and Rowan friends

Melvin "Mel" Moyer

*Psychology Department, AFT Retirees
Chapter Officer-at-Large*

Melvin "Mel" Moyer, 89, of Port Charlotte, Florida, and Dennisville, passed away Nov. 29, 2022. Moyer joined the faculty in 1967 and retired as associate professor in 2000.

He held a B.A. from Glassboro State College, an M.Ed. from Temple University, and Ed.D. from Rutgers University. He was an AFT member and later joined the AFT Retirees Chapter and served for many years on the Executive Committee as officer-at-large.

He joined the Air Force during the Korean War and served four years as an intercept radio operator with the Elite Air Force Security Service/Intelligence. His tour of duty included time in Japan, the Pacific Islands and the Philippines.

Moyer was married to Elizabeth "Beth" Moyer for 60 years. He had three children, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Services were held in Fort Charlotte, Florida. Those who wish may donate in his memory to the American Stroke Association.

Robert "Bob" Haynes

Art Department, Artist

Robert E. Haynes, 93, of Arcata, California, passed away Nov. 12, 2023. He was a graduate of Colorado College and earned his M.A. and Ed.D. from Columbia University. He also studied block printing in London at the prestigious Courtauld Institute of Art and explored the world to bring artistic treasures back for his home.

He joined the Army Signal Corps in the 1950s and served during the Korean War. He studied pre-Columbian and Colonial art in Mexico.

Haynes joined the faculty in 1960 and retired in 1991 as professor. He also taught art at Gloucester County College, while serving on several state and regional arts committees and commissions.

In retirement Haynes moved to California. He continued work as an exhibiting artist and served as a board member with the Humboldt Arts Council and the Redwood Arts Association & Gallery, among others.

His love for the redwoods resulted in a series of redwood sculpture exhibits.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Martha Atkinson Haynes; seven children and stepchildren; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. An outdoor memorial ceremony was held in Arcata, where guests were encouraged to bring something sweet to honor his sweet tooth.

Richard "Dick" Zahn

Foundations of Education

Richard D. (Dick) Zahn, 94, of Pitman, died January 11. Richard was a faculty member from 1960 until 1987, when he retired as professor. He held a B.S. from West Chester State College and an M.Ed. and Ed.D. from Temple University.

Zahn taught numerous courses and his research included the defining of better teaching skills for Glassboro State College professors and their students. He was instrumental in establishing the required and legendary "Week in the Woods" for students at Stokes State Forest in Sussex County.

Friends and fellow faculty remember his outgoing personality and genuine commitment to his students and profession. In 1969 he gave the commencement address with a speech called "Last Class." He was asked again, in 1975, to be speaker, and spoke on "The End of the Beginning." His speeches can be found at the University archives.

He served in the Navy during the waning days of World War II, remained in the Navy Reserves and was recalled, serving two years overseas during the Korean War. He continued with the Naval Reserves until retiring as commander in 1996.

Memorial donations may be made to the Richard D. Zahn Memorial Scholarship in Education through the Rowan University Foundation.

Edward H. White Jr.

Educational Leadership

Edward "Ted" White Jr., 81, of Woodstown; Frostproof, Florida; and formerly Hydeville, Vermont, died Feb. 25. White taught from 1973 to 2000, when he retired as professor. He held a B.A. from Keene State College, an M.S. from Indiana State University, and a Ph.D. from the University

of Maryland. He was a member of the AFT Retirees Chapter for 23 years.

During his tenure he served as department chair and was one of the key architects of Rowan's first doctoral program, the Ed.D. In retirement, Ted continued to consult for New Jersey school districts on school leadership and evaluation.

He and his wife enjoyed traveling across the country and beyond and led RV caravans for Tracks to Adventure. His favorite vacation spot was the family home on Lake Bomoseen in Vermont.

Ted is survived by his wife of 59 years, Christina, four daughters and five grandchildren. Notes of condolence may be made at htlayton.com. Memorial donations may be made to the Ted White Scholarship through the Rowan University Foundation.

Carol Welsh

Accounting & Finance

Carol N. Welsh, 73, of Lewes, Delaware, passed away on February 24. Carol earned her B.S. and M.B.A. from Drexel University, and her Ed.D. at the University of Delaware.

First an accountant for a large Philadelphia CPA firm and at Sun Ship in Chester, she decided to pursue a career in higher education. She joined the faculty in 1983 and retired in 2018 as professor. She chaired the department and inspired and mentored her students.

She was predeceased by her husband Richard "Hal" Welsh. She is survived by her sons, Richard and Steve; brother, Mark Neisser; grandchildren, and extended family members.

A memorial service was held in March. Memorial contributions may be made to Sussex County Habitat of Humanity; Improving Lives Affected by Cancer/The HEADstrong Foundation; or a charity of one's choice.

Lucile Harkness Pfleeger

Devoted Social Justice Advocate

Lucile Harkness Pfleeger, 102, died May 6, in Charlotte, North Carolina. A long-time resident of Glassboro and then Sewell, Pfleeger was the AFT Retirees Chapter's oldest living member and played an active role as an associate member.

Long known as a social justice activist, she supported a variety of civil rights issues with her husband, W. Clarke Pfleeger. She served on the committee that developed the Educational Opportunity Fund at Glassboro State College, as well as other important groups serving the community, women's, social and civic causes.

Her weekly newspaper column, "A Citizen Concerned" was published in the Glassboro Enterprise. The University archive contains her papers.

Lucile was predeceased by her husband, son David J. Pfleeger, and daughter Karen Pfleeger-Smith. She is survived by her daughter-in law, Santina Pfleeger, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and extended family.

Memorial contributions for Lucile Pfleeger may be made to the W. Clarke Pfleeger Scholarship Endowment at Rowan University or the charity of donor's choice.

Louis "Lou" M. Molinari *College of Education*

Louis M. Molinari, 81, of Sarasota, Florida, and formerly of Glassboro, died May 16. Originally from Atlantic City, Lou received his B.A. from Wagner College, Staten Island, N.Y., his M.A. from Rowan University, and Ed.D. from Temple University.

Molinari joined the faculty in 1967, starting in early childhood/elementary education. He headed a master's program while serving the institution for 42 years.

He enjoyed the arts and was particularly talented in theatre, voice and piano, and often attended operas, plays, and orchestral productions. He loved his pet dogs and his new puppy, given to him on his 81st birthday.

He was predeceased by his sister, Judy M. Polistina. He is survived by his sisters, Kathryn M. Wilson (Martin) and Christine M. Dougherty (William); his partner, Mark Schaaf, and extended family.

Memorial donations in his name may be made by those who wish to the ASPCA or Sarasota Animal Shelter.

Jack Gillespie *Journalism*

Jack Gillespie, 95, a resident of Hammonton for 57 years, passed away May 22. He held a B.S. and M.A. from Glassboro State College.

He volunteered for and served in the Army from 1947–1961, achieving the rank of second lieutenant. He taught English and journalism at Bridgeton Senior High School, where he served as the English department chair and newspaper adviser. He also worked at three daily newspapers as a journalist and editor.

Gillespie joined the Glassboro State communication faculty in 1972. He retired in 1992 as associate professor, having also served in the College Senate for 15 years, with three years as president.

He was executive director of the Educational Press Association of America, an editor and partner in Communication Briefings, and a founding editor, executive producer and editor in business, communication and religion media.

Gillespie served as associate editor of Rowan Magazine from 2006 to 2023. He was a member of the Hammonton Lions Club and former vice president of the South Jersey Cancer Fund. He enjoyed traveling and putting on communication workshops, as well as traveling for pleasure with his family. His droll sense of humor was well-known and greatly appreciated by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife Mary Gillespie '63, M'83, daughter Elizabeth, son Dr. Jack Gillespie; grandchildren and extended family and friends. A memorial service was held in June. Memorial donations may be made to the Hammonton Cancer Foundation, PO Box 1066, Hammonton, N.J. 08037.

Our sympathies

Harriet Goess Lawson '43	Thomas Smith M'74
Shirley Garwood Swayne '49	John Burns M'75
Barbara Hutchinson Gusz '50	David Higham '75
June Mckissock Gibson '51	Ralph Ritter M'76
Margaret Woodburn Miale '51	Carolyn Flynn '77
Patricia Stites Konschak '52	Betty Rehl Rimm '77
Carol Casey Reichel '52	Barry Ballard M'78
Joan Colardeau Chamberlain '54	Teofilo Montanez '78
Lucy DeMarco '54	Lawrence Orcutt '78
Dorothy Tozour Potter '54, M'70	Carol Padgett '78
William Rauscher '54	Daniel Schreck '78
Johanna Fogletto Schultz '54	Dorothy Armstrong Tracy '78
Janet Johnson Durbin '58	Colleen Haddon '79
Helen Pedersen Norton '60	Daniel Goldberg '80
Alexandria Bosna '61	Wanda James '80
Thomas Russo '61	Dorothy Marton Johnson '86
Richard Weeks '61	John La Place '86
Dorothy Wilson Harris '62	Domenick DiCicco '87
Barbara Loveland '62	Gary Wolfrom '87
Kenneth Wooden '62	Sheila Donovan Callinan M'88
Kathleen Bowman Wursta '62	Jane Retter-Keener '88
Earle Bargerhuff '63	Oliver Hubbard '90
Edwin Ross Beitzel '63, M'68	Robin Brelsford M'95
Edward Collins '63, M'68	William Edelmayer '95
Jack Gillespie '63, M'69	Ronald Hayeck '95
Linda Gaehring Amme '64, M'67	James Solomon '95
Anna Mae Bensel '64, M'68	Shirley Nowlen '95
Margaret Loew Bitters '64, M'70	Norman Parrish '95
Carolyn Wren Blomgren '64	Elaine Paliatsas '97, M'17
Mary Girard Giglio '64	Kathleen McGovern '98
Raymond Pelaschier '64, M'68	Melanie Zweben Morton '99
Louise Novogrod Tellan '64	Charles Piro '99
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	Faculty and friends
	Robert Danzeisen
	Jack Gillespie
	Robert Haynes
	Louis Molinari
	Mel Moyer
	Lucile Harkness Pfleeger
	Carol Welsh
	Edward White
	Richard Zahn

Champions to thank—and to follow

If we're lucky, we have mentors we didn't expect to find and maybe didn't know we'd need. We may not even recognize them, at first, in a classroom or lab. But part of a lifetime later, we can only hope others see them in us.

Lisa Patten Schuler '85, M'89 founded Dandelion Communications after nearly 25 years as a corporate executive and management consultant. She has worked with Fortune 500 companies and small, nonprofit organizations on their internal and external communications initiatives, winning dozens of national and international honors for her clients.

As is true for so many journalism grads of a certain Glassboro State College and Rowan era, Jack Gillespie was not only instrumental in getting me my first “real” job, but also in shaping my 40-plus-year career.

I remember meeting with him the month before graduation and asking if he thought I'd ever make it to the New York Times. It was my dream/delusion to join my hero, deputy metro editor and columnist Anna Quindlen.

Being realistic about my writing skills, I pretty much knew Jack's beloved dog—often part of our professor's self-deprecating and gentle critiques—had a better chance of making it than I did.

But rather than uttering a hard “no” to that fantasy, as many would have, Jack took a thoughtful puff on his cherry tobacco-filled pipe and replied, “I try never to prophesy where students will end up. However, I just learned of a great PR job today and immediately thought of you.”

One phone call from Jack and two interviews later, I found myself hired as the public relations director of Camden County United Way. Only problem was, as a hard-core J-school student, I knew nothing about PR.

Once more, the great Jack Gillespie came to the rescue when he suggested I take a few grad school PR classes at night at GSC. Of course, I listened and zipped from

Camden to Glassboro most evenings for the better part of a year to learn about everything from setting up a special event to “handling” the press. (As if that is actually possible ...)

Toward the end of that year, enter Jack again. He casually mentioned that because I had taken so many graduate classes to learn my job, the only thing holding me back from a master's degree in PR was writing a thesis and taking the comprehensive exam. Again, another career milestone reached, thanks to Jack's subtle influence.

I could go on and on because Jack was extraordinary and I am a better person and professional because of him. What's more, I know my experience wasn't exclusive. At Jack's memorial service in June, we alumni all had similar stories to tell. Jack was a great man—the sort very few ever get to call mentor or friend. Always funny, but never cutting. Inquisitive, but not nosy. Clear with his direction, but also kind with any criticism.


I imagine many students enroll in a program to earn a degree—from accounting to theatre to chemistry, undergrad to Ph.D.—and achieve that, perfectly satisfied and prepared to move on. But for those of us who found someone like Jack in their academic career, the value of our education and the benefits to our experience multiplied exponentially. The luckiest of us will realize it long before a memorial service so we can say thanks through the years.

The start of Rowan's second century is a good time to listen to the stories like mine others can tell. Or not. It may be just enough to remember the Jack Gillespies in our lives and emulate them as well as we can, boosting those around us with kindness and guiding them through the gaps sure to come with change and challenge.

For those in the know, we realize our “Jacks” are not gone from us forever, simply a few steps ahead (as usual), saving us average bears a seat in a place much better when our time on earth is through.

Peace, Jack, until we meet again ... ■

Vintage '80s assignments from another of Jack Gillespie's students grateful for his guidance.



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Our favorite 175-year-old

Instead of buying just a trinket to remember his 1847 European vacation, Thomas Whitney came back to Glassboro and built his own Italian-style villa with South Jersey stone, timber and glass. It was a grand home in 1849 when the family moved in and held a destiny the most ambitious and world-wise Whitney never could have imagined.

Today, students visit the building on the south edge of campus to consider art, history, business, politics and more. Public tours marvel at the displays and stories, an unlikely sequence that includes shipwreck, recovery, romance, South Jersey sand, enterprise, education, hot sauce and the Cold War.

With its first-floor rooms restored and refurbished to the Whitneys'

Victorian days, the house is a trove of insight on architecture and design.

And the 1967 U.S.-Soviet Summit that put Hollybush in the international spotlight? The room where it happened, above, holds wall-to-wall photos and mementos to prove the improbable spectacle occurred at Thomas Whitney's dignified dream house.

For more: rowan.edu/hollybush