

Rutgers newark connections

A newsletter for the Rutgers-Newark community and neighbors

SPRING 2004

New \$51 Million Residence Hall Complex Heralds Growth in Campus Community

By Mike Sutton

When people talk about Rutgers-Newark's campus in the future, odds are that the word "commuter" will increasingly be replaced by the word "community."

More and more students are deciding that the campus – in its urban setting and surrounded by the cultural opportunities of a major metropolitan area – would be an exciting place to live. University officials have been quick to take note – and to act. Responding to a 10 percent spike in enrollment over the past three years – combined with steadily rising student requests for on-campus housing – Rutgers-Newark has announced that it will break ground this summer on a new \$51 million, 13-story student housing complex to be called University Square. The building will be located at the corner of University and Central avenues and is expected to open in 2006. It will include living space for 600 students, recreational areas and 7,000 square feet of commercial space.

"University Square is a significant step forward for Rutgers-Newark," said Provost Steven Diner. "We ...continued on page 6

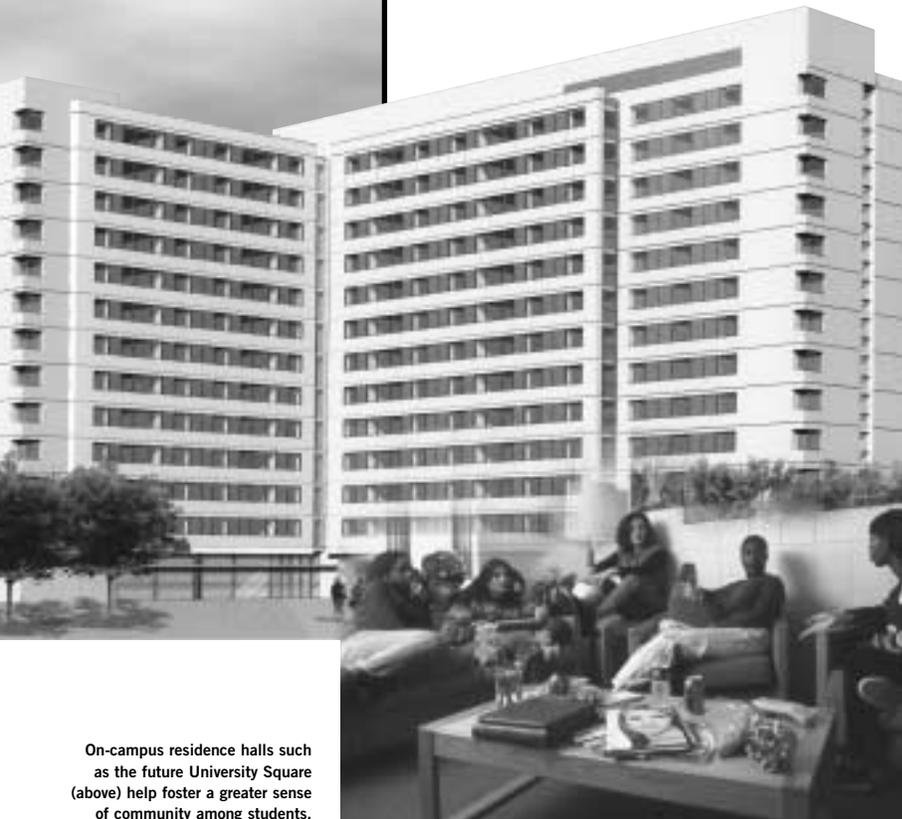


Photo: Steve Jordan/illustration: Davis Brody Bond

On-campus residence halls such as the future University Square (above) help foster a greater sense of community among students.

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Provost's Research Day Topics Bring Fresh Insights to Current Issues

By Mike Sutton

Members of the Rutgers-Newark faculty – joined by guest presenters from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), and the Public Health Research Institute (PHRI) – shared their investigations at this year's Provost's Annual Research Day April 20 at the University Club in the Paul Robeson Campus Center. These examples of some of the diverse presentations indicate how Rutgers-Newark researchers and their colleagues in Newark are providing a better comprehension of the forces shaping the world and our day-to-day lives.

PETER GOLDEN, Professor of history

Topic: "The Shaping of Ethnicity in the Steppes of Medieval Eurasia."

Golden's historical studies of political and cultural interactions between nomads living in the Turkic region and their more-rooted neighboring states offer insights into what can happen when an external culture attempts to ethnically define another group. "What my research shows is the plasticity of 'ethnicity' in this tribal [Turkic] world," he observed. Golden noted how one's "ethnicity" may be largely a political construct, imposed by outsiders and almost always presented through the "cultural filters" and from the perspective of people from outside the group being defined.

KEN HARRIS, Assistant professor, Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience

Topic: "Information Processing by Assemblies of Neurons in the Brain."

Harris has been using mathematics to more accurately measure the ways that cells in the brain form fleeting groups – called "cell assemblies" – which "speak" to one another. The internal "dialogues" of the cell assemblies help human beings interpret everything they see, hear, smell, taste and feel. A better

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Photo: Arthur Paxton



Rutgers Business School Professors Receive Appointment, Kudos for Work

by Mike Sutton and Dave Muha

Two professors at Rutgers Business School-Newark and New Brunswick have been honored for their leadership and scholarship – one with an appointment to a national organization recently formed to study and foster high ethical business standards, and the other with a prestigious award from Rutgers University.

Professor Edwin Hartman, director of the Prudential Business Ethics Center at Rutgers, has been selected to serve as an academic advisor to The Business

Roundtable Institute for Corporate Ethics. Hartman joins 14 leading academics from business schools such as Harvard, Wharton, Darden and Michigan. He and his colleagues will help develop and teach executive-level ethics curricula, as well as conduct research on the most effective practices to promote ethical behavior in the business world.

The institute was formed by The Business Roundtable, an association of 150 CEOs of leading corporations, in

response to the scandals that have tarnished the image of corporate America in recent years.

Another member of the Rutgers business faculty, Glenn Shafer, professor of accounting and information systems, has been named the recipient of this year's Daniel Gorenstein Memorial Award. The award is given to a Rutgers University faculty member to acknowledge both outstanding scholarly achievement and exceptional service to the university.

Shafer is an internationally known statistician who has made seminal contributions to the fields of probability and statistics, artificial intelligence and philosophy.



1st Place, City of Newark Category: *Brick Citizen*, Brian Honsberger

Worth 1,000 Words

The 2004 R-N Photo Contest, sponsored by the Office of Campus Communications, drew entries that elegantly capture both the vibrancy and poignancy of life in the city and at the university – whether in the evident pride of the



1st Place, R-N Campus Category: *Awaiting*, Stephanie Lazzaro

students in the Malcom X. Shabazz High School band as they parade through the streets, or in the rows of chairs on Norman Samuels Plaza awaiting a commemorative ceremony on Sept 11, 2002. For a look at all the winners, go to www.newark.rutgers.edu/photocontest.



Courtesy U.S. News & World Report

R-N Public Administration Programs Highly Ranked

U.S. News & World Report's newly released annual rankings of graduate programs rate Rutgers-Newark's graduate public administration program as the 26th best in the nation in the public affairs category – a marked rise from when it was ranked 41st in 2001, the last time the program was assessed. The university's graduate public administration program also ranked highly in three specialty areas. The public management administration specialty was identified as the 11th best in the country. R-N's city management and urban policy program made its debut in the top rankings, tying with Rutgers-New Brunswick's

Bloustein School for 16th. The public budgeting and finance program was ranked 28th.

Urban Ethics Conference Tackles Drugs

The fifth annual Applied and Urban Ethics Conference addressed the moral and political issues related to both legal and illicit drugs April 3 in the Center for Law and Justice. Titled "(Il)legal Drugs: Profit, Health and the Public Good," the daylong program featured speakers and panels on topics that included access to legal drugs – and their affordability – vs. pharmaceutical companies' drive for profitability and claims of intellectual property rights; the role that pharmaceutical firms and advertisers play in physicians' decisions to prescribe drugs; and the implications of the so-called "War on Drugs" on communities at home and abroad.

The conference was presented by Rutgers-Newark's philosophy department and the New Jersey Medical School-UMDNJ, in association with R-N's Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies and the Prudential Business Ethics Center at Rutgers.

R-N to Host Geology Conference

Rutgers-Newark will be host to more than 200 geologists during the annual conference of the National Association of Geology Teachers-Eastern Section (NAGT-ES) June 3-6. Alexander Gates, professor of earth and environmental sciences at R-N and vice president of NAGT-ES, will help spearhead the convention, which will include workshops and field trips to regional geological sites of interest. Gates is slated to become president of NAGT-ES for the 2004-2005 academic year.

The gathering of scientists is co-sponsored by the Newark Museum – home to the 5,000-square-foot "Dynamic Earth" exhibit that Gates helped develop – and the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

Gates noted that this was the participants' chance to explore the "great geological diversity" of New Jersey, adding that the state included everything from coastal plains to rugged highlands, and features formed over an especially long period in the Earth's geological history. "New Jersey has it all," he observed.

understanding of why these assemblies sometimes go awry could lead to new insights about epilepsy.

RACHEL JONES, Assistant professor of nursing

Topic: "Sexual Pressure, Trust and HIV Risk Behavior in Young Urban Women."

Attempting to understand why young urban women often engage in unprotected sex despite understanding the risks, Jones developed a "Sexual Pressure Scale" (SPS) that she used to

survey participants in her studies. She reported that her results indicated that "over one-third of the women engaged in HIV risk behavior," citing the need for further studies to develop strategies to help women change these risky behaviors.

TWILA PERRY, Assistant professor of law
Topic: "The Transracial Adoption Controversy and the Racial Divide."

Perry's research explores the ways that the public and legal debate about

transracial adoption reflect what she sees as the fundamentally different perspectives held by blacks and whites on broader issues concerning the significance of race in America. She noted that support of pro-transracial adoption, however well-intentioned, can reinforce a sense of racial subordination when minority children move from less affluent circumstances to more privileged ones among whites.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

Payne Awarded Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professorship

by Mike Sutton

John Payne, professor of law and Justice Frederick W. Hall Scholar at Rutgers School of Law-Newark, was named a Rutgers Board of Governors (BOG) Distinguished Service Professor at the BOG's Feb. 13 meeting in Newark. The Distinguished Service Professorship recognizes "sustained and exceptional service by a faculty member to the academic profession and to the state or nation."

Payne's two decades of pioneering work on the group of lawsuits collectively known as the *Mt. Laurel* cases helped establish the requirement – both in New Jersey and on a national level – that growing suburban communities must include provisions for low- and moderate-income housing in their zoning regulations.

Payne also was recognized for his work in historic preservation in New Jersey, as well as for protecting the work and legacy of American architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Stuart Deutsch, dean of the law school, commented that Payne's work has "enriched Rutgers, the state and the nation."

Rutgers President Richard McCormick (l.) and BOG Chair Gene O'Hara (r.) congratulate Professor Payne.

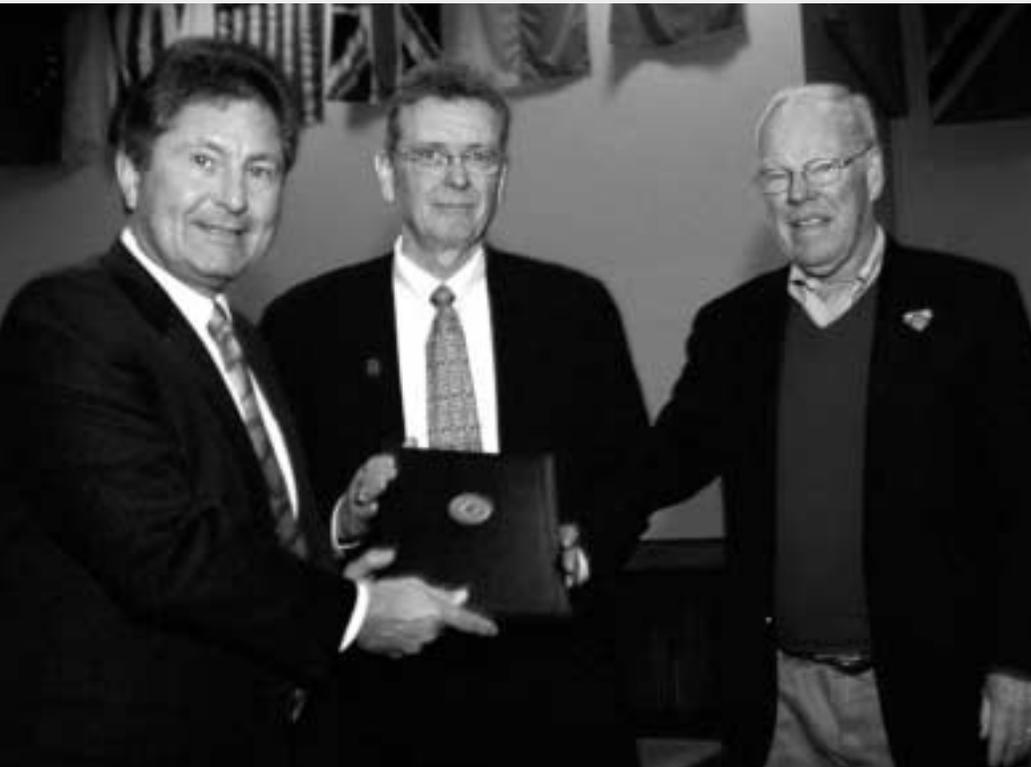


Photo: Nick Romanenko

\$2.6 Million Grant to Support Minority Research Support Program Renewed By Mike Sutton

Rutgers-Newark has received a \$2.6 million, four-year renewal of the Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) program grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The program, now in its 18th year at R-N, funds opportunities for 10 undergraduate and 11 graduate students to work in the research

laboratories of participating Rutgers-Newark professors, who serve as mentors to the aspiring scholars.

Undergraduates in the program receive paid positions in the labs as well as travel and research funding, while graduate students have their student fees paid and are awarded a stipend in addition to funding for travel and research.

"In science, the best education one can get includes hands-on experience in a research lab," said Ann Cali, professor of biology and principal investigator for the project. "This is really an ideal situation for the students." Cali said the 21 available slots cut across diverse

Ann Cali, principal investigator for the grant, at work with an electron microscope



Photo: Nick Romanenko

scientific pursuits, including biology, chemistry, psychology, physics, neuroscience and nursing.

The 21 students also accompany their mentors to academic conferences and gather at biweekly meetings. "They learn what people are doing in other labs, and how to present and communicate what they are doing," Cali noted.

She points to the program's impressive track record as evidence of its effectiveness. In the past two years alone, four MBRS Ph.D. students have gone on to post-docs at Harvard, Yale, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the NIH.

Edward Kirby, dean of Rutgers-Newark's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, observed, "The MBRS program epitomizes our long history of commitment to training minority undergraduates and doctoral students for careers in biomedical research and teaching."

Acclaimed Museum Leader, NJ Jurist Among Diverse Convocation Speakers

For more detailed information, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/commencement

commencement ceremony, but the gifts of a writer and storyteller as well. Her books, which have been reviewed by major newspapers ranging from *The New York Times* to the *Washington Post*, include *We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Women Trapped on Bataan by the Japanese* (Random House, 1999). The author of numerous articles, Norman is a recipient of the American Academy of Nursing Media Award, and will be welcomed this year into Rutgers' Hall of Distinguished Alumni.

Photo: Arthur Paxton



NEWARK COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, May 20, 4:30 p.m., Norman Samuels Plaza

As director of the nationally acclaimed Newark Museum over the past decade, commencement speaker Mary Sue Sweeney Price has significantly enhanced the museum's reputation – through major capital improvements, highly praised special exhibitions and important acquisitions for the museum's internationally recognized collections, which include American, African, Asian and classical art. She also has made significant additions to the natural science exhibits, such as the 5,000-square-foot "Dynamic Earth" installation. As a result

of her relentless commitment to the museum's long-standing educational mission, it is now ranked as the third largest museum educator in the country, after the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Getty Museum. Price will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in recognition of her accomplishments.

Photo: Courtesy Elizabeth Norman



COLLEGE OF NURSING, May 20, 1:30 p.m., Golden Dome Athletic Center

Elizabeth Norman, director of the Ph.D. program in nursing at New York University and a 1973 graduate of the College, brings not only the perspective of an experienced teacher and healer to her address at the College of Nursing

Photo: Courtesy Matsushita Electric Corp. of America



RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL-NEWARK AND NEW BRUNSWICK, May 21, 10 a.m., Norman Samuels Plaza

Hideaki Iwatani, chairman and CEO of Secaucus, N.J.-based Matsushita Electric Corporation of America, will address Rutgers Business School graduates. Iwatani heads Panasonic's consumer, business-to-business and industrial sales, marketing, production, and research and development operations. He also serves on

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the board of Panasonic's parent company in Japan, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., and is responsible for overseeing the corporation's operations in North and South America.

Photo: Roy Groething



GRADUATE SCHOOL AND SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, May 21, 1:30 p.m., Golden Dome Athletic Center
Rutgers Board of Governors Professor of English Rachel

Hadas will bring a lyrical touch to her commencement address by reading a series of poems written by her and other acclaimed poets. A teacher at Rutgers-Newark for 22 years, her 14 books of poetry, literary criticism, essays and translations include her most recent collection of poems, *Indelible* (Wesleyan University Press, 2001). Hadas has served as a Guggenheim Fellow and as a Fellow of the New York Public Library's Center for Scholars and Writers. Her numerous awards included the O.B. Hardison Jr.

Poetry Prize, the Sharp Family Foundation Award and the Ingram Merrill Foundation Award in poetry.

Photo: Courtesy Alumni Relations



RUTGERS SCHOOL OF LAW-NEWARK, May 28, 10 a.m., New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Associate N.J. Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long, who has served on the state's highest court since 1999, will speak at the School of Law commencement. Prior to her confirmation to the post by the state senate, the Rutgers-Newark alumna (NLAW '66) was a presiding judge of the Appellate Division of the Superior Court. Her diverse previous positions include serving as an N.J. deputy attorney general, director of the N.J. Division of Consumer Affairs and commissioner of the former N.J. Department of Banking. After being named to the state Superior Court by Gov. Brendan Byrne in 1978, she was elevated to the Appellate Division in 1984, where she penned more than 2,000 opinions.

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see this as the beginning of a major growth spurt for the campus." Diner added that the university anticipated continued growth in both enrollment and in the number of students – both graduate and undergraduate – who want to be part of residential life at the school. Future projects under early discussion include housing on university-owned property along Washington and Orange streets, intended for graduate students.

When opened, University Square will double the on-campus housing available to students. Currently, Rutgers-Newark needs to employ temporary fixes such as turning existing residence hall rooms into triples and housing the student overflow at the New Jersey Institute of Technology's residence halls and the Robert Treat Hotel downtown.

"With the expansion in our housing capacity and related amenities, University Square will provide a lively 24/7 atmosphere for our campus," said Gene Vincenti, executive vice provost for administration. "The location of University Square couldn't be more advantageous for our students. It's situated just minutes away from the Newark Museum, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Riverfront Stadium and downtown businesses."

THE TALES BEHIND THE TASSELS AND TRIUMPHS

To read profiles of some of the Class of 2004's outstanding and diverse graduates, go to www.rutgers.newark.edu/commencement.

Photo: Arthur Paxton



KEEP CONNECTED

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