

Rutgers newark connections

A newsletter for the Rutgers-Newark community and neighbors

FALL/WINTER 2002

A Rousing R-N Welcome for Rutgers' New President

By Helen S. Paxton



Photo: N.J. Romanenko

A splendid fall day was the backdrop of a special visit to Newark by Rutgers' new president, Richard McCormick. McCormick was introduced to the campus by Provost Steven Diner, the Rutgers-Newark deans, and members of the presidential search committee.

After a breakfast at the Paul Robeson Campus Center and a walking tour of the campus, McCormick arrived at the Center for Law and Justice where a large crowd of Rutgers-Newark faculty, staff and students had a chance to learn more about him and his vision for Rutgers' future. Joining the festivities was Acting Rutgers President Norman Samuels, former provost of the Newark campus.

Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor Clement Price, a member of the presidential search committee, had eloquent words of welcome for McCormick. "I well remember our time spent with him," said Price, recalling a first meeting of the committee with McCormick. "He entered the room...with a graceful gait, a brimming sense of confidence not only in himself, but also in us. And of course, when he spoke to us, there was

R-N Provost Steven J. Diner (l) welcomed Rutgers new president Richard McCormick, and led him on a tour of the campus.

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A Landmark Study of Normal Brain Development

By Helen Paxton

Only in recent years have scientists been able to decode the complex workings of the human brain, with the assistance of technological advancements such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and sophisticated computer analysis. In the last decade researchers at the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience (CMBN) have made major contributions to this growing body of knowledge.

There is still much to be learned about early brain development, notes April Benasich, assistant professor of neuroscience, CMBN. Benasich is

engaged in a landmark study of normal brain development in infancy and early childhood. The \$15 million study "Increasing Human Potential" came into being this past year, and is sponsored and funded by the Santa Fe Institute (a private, independent multidisciplinary research and education center). A thorough investigation of normal brain development in infants and adolescents is being undertaken over a five-year period.

Benasich is working with colleagues at UCLA, UCSD, University of Washington at Seattle, and the Montreal Neurological Institute on different aspects of the study. At Rutgers-Newark 80 normally developing children are being examined. "This project will lead to the development of tools and techniques to ensure that all children, and the adults they will become, reach their maximum potential," Benasich said.

April Benasich with six-month-old Margery Leit, one of the children involved in a study of human brain development.



Photo Courtesy of April Benasich

A Rousing R-N Welcome...from page 1

at the center of everything he said a fealty to Rutgers, which he shows and articulates perhaps better than anyone else....President McCormick is among a select group of American intellectuals and academic leaders."

A former professor and dean at Rutgers-New Brunswick, and the son of a revered Rutgers professor, McCormick told his Rutgers-Newark audience "it's wonderful to be home." "I promise I will spend a lot of time in Newark," he said.

After a lively question and answer period, McCormick and Provost Diner departed for further meetings with Newark leaders. The morning celebrations concluded with a renewed spirit of campus community, and an expectation of great things to come.

To read more about President McCormick, go to www.rutgers.edu/presidential-search/.

CALENDAR EVENTS





Photo: Brett Koenig

Provost Steven J. Diner greets incoming Rutgers University President Richard L. McCormick, during McCormick's recent visit to the Newark campus.

Diner noted that he is looking forward to working closely with McCormick, who assumes the Rutgers presidency Dec. 1.

"I am deeply honored that President McCormick has

given me the opportunity to serve as the Provost of Rutgers-Newark," said Diner. "This is an incredibly exciting time for the Newark campus and for all of Rutgers University. The Newark campus is thriving in a revitalized city, with enrollment at an all-time high. I look forward to building upon our deep traditions of academic excellence, commitment to opportunity for students born without privilege, and engagement with our city in the next phase of Rutgers-Newark's development."

Six Calculus Olympics Champions Admitted at Rutgers-Newark

Six members of this year's Calculus Olympics winning team from Newark's East Side High School are among Rutgers-Newark's Class of 2006. The students were coached by Angelo Gatto, an instructor in Rutgers-Newark's Department of Mathematics and

Computer Science. Gatto, who has been coaching East Side High School's team for the past three years, said this is the team's second consecutive championship. The Newark Association of Math Educators established the Calculus Olympics to generate students' interest in calculus at the high school level.

New Graduate Programs in Education

Two new graduate programs focusing on education will begin in Fall 2003. Both will be offered in conjunction with the FAS-N Department of Education and Academic Foundations.

A new Masters in Public Administration specialization in Educational Administration and School Leadership is designed for public school personnel and other public administrators who seek to become school principals and school supervisors. "The program will prepare urban educational leaders to recognize their direct connection as administrators to state government, and to break out of the current structure of urban educational bureaucratic inertia to find innovative and productive solutions to the long-standing problems of urban education," said Alan

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For more information about events at Rutgers-Newark, use the R-N Shortcut (R-N) Events on the web at www.newark.rutgers.edu.

Dec. 2–March 14

Post-Independence Contemporary Indian Art: Selections from the Sumanda and Umesh Gaur Collection.

LOCATION: Robeson Art Gallery, Robeson Campus Center, 350 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. OPENING RECEPTION: Dec. 5, 3–5 p.m. For gallery hours, call 973/353-5119, ext. 32.

Left (opposite page):

Staircase (detail) by Madhvi Parekh, is one of the works that will be featured in the exhibit, "Post-Independence Contemporary Indian Art" in Robeson Art Gallery, Dec. 2 through March 14.

Jan. 24 and 25

Men's Volleyball 25th Annual Golden Dome Classic.

LOCATION: Golden Dome Athletic Center, Warren St. INFO: <http://scarletraiders.rutgers.edu>.

Feb. 15

The 23rd annual Marion Thompson Wright Lecture.



David Levering Lewis

TOPIC: W.E.B. DuBois in Africa. SPEAKER: David Levering Lewis. LOCATION: Robeson Campus Center, 350 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

March 1

The 4th Annual Applied and Urban Ethics Conference.

TOPIC: "Our Homes, Our Environment: Environmental Justice Where We Live and Work." SPEAKERS: Louis Gibbs, who headed the protest movement over Love Canal, will give the John A. Williams keynote lecture. Two panel discussions will focus on "Poverty and Environmental Justice," and "Sustainability and the Metropolis."

LOCATION: UMDNJ. INFO: 973/353-5526.

On The Plaza...from page 3

Sadovnik, chair of the Department of Education and Academic Foundations, who has participated in the development of these new programs.

The Ph.D. in Urban Systems program (a joint program of Rutgers-Newark, NJIT and UMDNJ) now offers a specialization in Urban Educational Policy that will prepare students to develop research-based knowledge of urban educational systems and policies. The program is designed to help students connect the study of urban education to the history,

sociology, politics and economics of urban life. Graduates will be prepared to take positions as university faculty, educational researchers, and policy makers at the national, state, local and foundation levels, or to work as policy analysts in school systems.

Campus Safety and Prudential Coordinate Safety Program

The Office of Campus Safety and Prudential Financial coordinated a safety program for Rutgers-Newark students, faculty and staff this fall. Rutgers-Newark was one of 28 colleges

in the state selected to receive safety kits. George Repic of Prudential spent a day on campus, distributing the kits and additional safety literature to more than 500 individuals.

Matin Rodini, director of campus safety and university police, explains the contents of the safety kit to a student.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Sharkirah Foote-Hayes (r) and Susan Lyons (l) at the law school library, welcomed Joseph J. Maraziti, Jr. and his daughter Jackie Maraziti during the delivery of documents from the late Joseph J. Maraziti, former U.S. Congressman.

Information Systems. She also finds the time to be president of the UC-N Student Governing Association, and is involved in numerous campus activities. But recently, Foote-Hayes found another way to give back to the community when she became an advocate for the library at the Rutgers School of Law-Newark.

At Independence Community Bank, Foote-Hayes reports to Charles A. Maraziti, senior vice president, who is the son of the late Joseph J. Maraziti, former U.S. Congressman. Charles and his brother, Joseph, were recently in the process of helping their mother, Eileen, move into an assisted living facility. In packing items from their home the family discovered 10 boxes of documents relating the Watergate scandal and the resignation of President Richard Nixon.

"Charles' father was a member of the House Judiciary Committee, and these were documents relating to the possible impeachment of President Nixon as well as the nominations of Gerald Ford and Nelson Rockefeller," Foote-Hayes explained. "When he asked me if I thought Rutgers Law School would be interested in these documents, I couldn't get to the phone fast enough. As it turns out, Joseph Maraziti was also a 1937 graduate of New Jersey Law School, the predecessor of Rutgers Law School."

With the help of Foote-Hayes, the Maraziti family was put in touch with Susan Lyons of the library, and the documents were delivered in late August. Carol Roehrenbeck, director of the library, noted that the collection includes "some very rare original documents offering an insider's glimpse into this very important period in our nation's history."

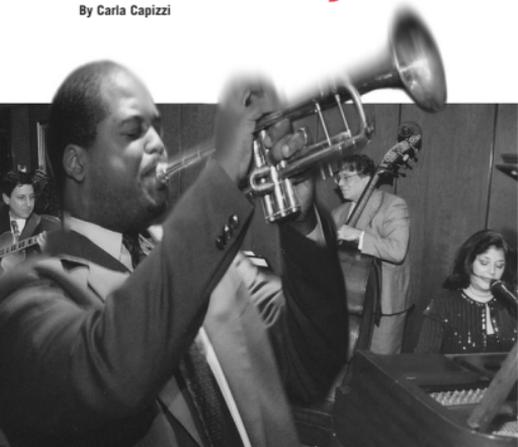
University College Student Facilitates Significant Donation to Law School Library

By Irene O'Brien

Like many University College-Newark (UC-N) students, Sharkirah Foote-Hayes is balancing many responsibilities. A mother of two boys, she has a full-time position at Independence Community Bank, and is pursuing a degree in

Institute of Jazz Studies Celebrates 50th Anniversary

By Carla Capizzi



A half-century ago, pioneering jazz scholar Marshall Stearns founded the Institute of Jazz Studies. In 1966, Rutgers-Newark became the permanent academic home to this collection, and in 1994, the collection moved into Dana Library. In October, Rutgers celebrated the 50th anniversary of IJS—considered the foremost jazz archive and research facility in the world—with a gala celebration. The festivities, which were held at the Newark Club, included a reception and dinner, slide presentation on the history of the IJS, live musical performances by Daryl Sherman and her trio, and a “jazz jam.”

The event was attended by a large group of supporters who believe passionately in the importance of preserving a historical record of this uniquely American art form.

Today's IJS has expanded enormously from its original collection, and now encompasses more than 100,000 sound recordings, music manuscripts, films, videos, memorabilia such as diaries and instruments, 30,000 photos, books, periodicals and oral histories, and dozens of archival collections, including those of Mary Lou Williams and Benny Carter. It's so comprehensive that television documentarian Ken Burns used both the IJS and its longtime director, noted writer and jazz scholar Dan Morgenstern, as resources for making his renowned television documentary, “Jazz.”

For more information on the institute, go to www.newark.rutgers.edu, and enter “jazz” under R-N shortcut.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Online Magazine Spotlights Student Writings About Newark

By Carla Capizzi

The first-ever edition of The Newark Metro is out—but don't rush to newsstands to buy it.

The Newark Metro is the Rutgers-Newark campus's first on-line magazine, residing at www.newarkmetro.rutgers.edu. It also is the first campus web site dedicated to showcasing essays, poems, short stories, and reports written by Rutgers-Newark

students. Moreover, The Newark Metro is the first on-line magazine to exclusively feature writing that spotlights life in and around the campus – or as the magazine describes it, “metropolitan life from Newark and North Jersey to New York City.”

“Newark Metro is a great way to put voices and faces on the Newark

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academic

CHALLENGE

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHALLENGE?

Rutgers-Newark will host nearly 40 high schools on Saturday, March 29, 2003 for the fifth annual Northern Regional Tournament of Rutgers Academic Challenge. Volunteers are needed to judge, host, and serve as proctors. If you are a Rutgers faculty or staff member, or a graduate or friend of the Newark campus, volunteer online at www.challenge.rutgers.edu.

A Woman Whose Actions Match Her Convictions

By Carla Capizzi

Barbara Bell Coleman was preaching what she herself practiced—and still practices—when she addressed the Newark College of Arts and Sciences/ University College Class a few years ago. Give back to your communities, and nurture youth development. As graduates of an urban university, you have a special obligation to America's cities.

Coleman's advice came as no surprise to those who knew her. A 1974 graduate of the Newark College of Arts and Sciences, Coleman resides in Newark, where she is volunteer member of the Chairman's Council the Boys and Girls Club of Newark, an organization that she previously served as president. One of

Coleman's clients, through her consulting business BBC Associates, LLC was PriceWaterhouseCoopers, where she helped establish a national minority retention program. She also served as chief of prevention for the state Department of Health's Division of Narcotic and Drug Abuse Control.

A community activist, Coleman remains actively involved in Newark's rebuilding efforts and among those activities has recently been named vice chair of New Jersey's School Construction Corporation, which will help oversee the building of schools in the State's Abbott districts. She also serves as president of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Women's Board.

Photo: Fred Stucker



Phylis Peterman (r), chair, Social Work, congratulates Barbara Bell Coleman (l), for receiving The Newark College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Alumnus Award.

She received the 2002 Newark College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Alumnus Award in October, in recognition of her personal and professional accomplishments.

Online Magazine Spotlights...from page 5

metropolitan region that wouldn't normally be seen or heard," says Rob Snyder, director of the journalism and media studies program and the driving force behind the site. He hopes the on-line magazine will "expose our students' works to a much larger audience, including an international audience."

All R-N students can submit writing, regardless of their major. Each submission includes a brief biography of its author, with links to related stories. Submissions are subject to editorial review. New materials will be posted twice a year, and eventually the on-line magazine will include audio clips and photo essays, and also feature works by Newark area residents who are not Rutgers students.

KEEP CONNECTED

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