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

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...

Rutgers Business School Professors Receive Appointment, Kudos for Work

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.
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.

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 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.
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.”

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.
$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 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

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.

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...continued on page 6
**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](http://www.rutgers.newark.edu/commencement).