Joining Rutgers University, Newark this fall are several new leaders who are bringing new perspectives and new insights to assist with the campus’s ongoing development—a new dean for the Rutgers School of Law-Newark, a new dean for the Rutgers College of Nursing, and an acting dean for the School of Criminal Justice.

A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BRINGS NEW LEADERSHIP

By Carla Capizzi


William L. Holzemer began his term as College of Nursing dean Sept. 1. Holzemer has won international acclaim for his research, focused on issues of HIV/AIDS, and his scholarship has been featured in numerous major health care and nursing journals. He recently completed a multi-million dollar National Institutes of Health grant, as principal investigator, exploring the impact of HIV stigma on quality of care for people living with HIV in five African nations.

He has been a Project Hope Fellow and a Fulbright Scholar, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. He is a member of the....

continued on page 2...

continued on page 4...

Academic Units and Centers Gain New Space as Rutgers Business School Moves Uptown

By Kathleen Brunet Eagan

PhotoBlog

Images of Rutgers-Newark, by you and for everyone...

CONTINUE ON PAGE 2...

THIS ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

pg. 2. Paul Robeson Galleries Celebrate 30 Years
pg. 3. Shaping Future Generations of Academic Leadership
pg. 4. A Regional Force for Educational Improvements

Rutgers University Newark
249 University Ave.
Newark, NJ 07102

Office of Communications

www.newark.rutgers.edu
On April 9, 1979, a small gallery opened in Paul Robeson Campus Center, part of an effort to establish Rutgers University, Newark as an arts center.

Beginning in November, Rutgers will commemorate 30 years of what is now the Paul Robeson Galleries with a series of special events – highlighted by a Nov. 18 fundraising event – centered around the theme, “Climbing Jacob’s Ladder: Here We Stand.” The celebration keys in on the legacy of Paul Robeson, for whom the campus center is named, as an activist, artist, scholar and humanitarian.

The exhibits will feature a major 30th anniversary exhibition at the Nov. 18 celebration, with a public opening on Nov. 19. “Exquisite Corpse” will feature 30 works by 92 regional artists who have participated in a “collaborative drawing game” that was made famous by the surrealists of the early twentieth century. The exhibit will run through April 8.

An accompanying 60-page publication will “speak to the life of the galleries and how Robeson’s ideals are embodied through our activities,” which include visual literacy programs for seniors and students in the Newark community, according to Director and Curator Anonda Bell. She explains, “In addition to increasing artistic literacy for our students, the galleries offer exhibitions, openings and lectures that bring together community and college, establishing a common social/aesthetic experience.”

The anniversary celebration also will include several onsite and offsite public and educational programs, including a Nov. 19 concert, “The Art in Music,” featuring musical works inspired by art or created by composers who were also artists.

For more information on the special events and exhibitions, please visit http://artgallery/index.html

Gala fundraising event. $50 per person
Nov. 18, 6–9 pm
“Exquisite Corpse” 30th anniversary exhibition.
Free admission
Nov. 19, 5–7 pm
Opening of “Exquisite Corpse” 30th anniversary exhibition.
Free admission

Premiering A Gershwin Mosaic

By Kathleen Brunet Eagan

In a musical interpretation of an artist whose talents crossed media and styles, Henry Martin, professor of music, will have his new composition, A Gershwin Mosaic, premiered at “The Art in Music” concert honoring the 30th anniversary of the Paul Robeson Galleries.

Along with being an accomplished pianist and composer of everything from musicals, to the first American popular opera (Porgy and Bess), to piano concertos, George Gershwin was a highly regarded painter. Martin has written numerous musical compositions inspired by famous literature, but this, he says, is the first time he has written a composition inspired by a painting — “This is my portrait of Gershwin’s self-portrait.” It also is the first time Martin will have one of his compositions premiered at Rutgers.

“I’ve always been interested in mixtures of art,” says Martin. “I picked Gershwin because he was really quite an accomplished visual artist, and this seemed like an opportunity to bring out the fact of Gershwin as a painter. Secondly, he’s a composer whose music I’ve always been attracted to since I was a kid.”

In July, Bonita Veysey began as interim dean of the School of Criminal Justice (SCJ), as former Dean Adam Graycar returned to the faculty. Veysey is a nationally recognized criminal justice scholar, with expertise in mental health and criminal justice system interactions, female offenders, adult consequences of childhood abuse and violence against women. An associate professor, she has been an SCJ faculty member since 1998. Along with her teaching and research, she has served as director of the Center for Justice and Mental Health Research at SCJ, and as associate dean of academic programs. Veysey received her Ph.D. in sociology from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany. She also completed her bachelor of arts and master of science in rehabilitation counseling at SUNY Albany.

NEW CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE APPOINTMENTS

Rutgers alumna Irene M. O’Brien recently rejoined Rutgers to become vice chancellor of development. O’Brien earned both her bachelor of arts and master of public administration degrees at Rutgers University, Newark and served the university in various positions in communications and development before moving to Fordham University for several years. As the chief development officer for Rutgers-Newark, she is responsible for major gifts and for coordinating the fundraising work of the campus’s seven colleges and professional schools.

Suzanne Pietrowski, associate professor in the School of Public Affairs and Administration, recently joined the leadership team in the Office of the Chancellor as faculty fellow. The faculty fellow is responsible for undertaking special academic programs and initiatives. Pietrowski is the author of Governmental Transparency in the Path of Administration Reform, a member of the Board of the Directors of the New Jersey Foundation for Open Government, and serves on the Sunshine Advisory Board for the Citizen Access Project at the Brechner Center for Freedom of Information, University of Florida. She earned her Ph.D. from the School of Public Affairs at American University and her master’s degree from the University of Delaware.
The next generation of higher education leaders will need to integrate diversity and community leadership into their strategies and programs, and the American Council on Education (ACE), the organization that plays a critical role in developing those leaders, believes Rutgers University, Newark is just the right institution to show them how.

"Diversity and community engagement are changing the face of universities, and institutions must learn to integrate diversity into their strategies, actions and cultures," notes Sharon McDade, ACE program director. "Rutgers University, Newark, America’s most diverse national university, has done that to such a superb level that the ACE Fellows Program is using the campus as a learning lab."

Thus, 39 ACE Fellows from the U.S. and South Africa came to campus Aug. 31, meeting with deans, administrators, faculty and student leaders as they began their analysis of how Rutgers-Newark incorporates diversity into its strategy, actions and culture, and how it makes civic engagement part of that diversity. Their assignment: develop suggestions for the individual schools and colleges to further capitalize on diversity and leverage community engagement.

Over the next four months, the fellows will continue to gather and assess data, studying everything from academic programs to student services and admissions policies. In January, they will present the results of their findings to ACE and Rutgers leaders.

"The future of higher education depends on leaders who can meet cutting-edge institutional challenges, including the challenges of diversity and community," says Chancellor Steven J. Diner. "We are delighted to share what we’ve already successfully put into practice here at Rutgers."

ACE is the major coordinating body for all of the nation’s higher education institutions, representing 1,600 institutions of higher education nationwide. More than 1,500 higher education leaders have participated in the ACE Fellows Program since its inception, including Diner, a fellow 25 years ago.

College of Nursing Receives $3 Million Grant to Address Nursing Faculty Shortage

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has awarded the College of Nursing a four-year, $3 million grant to educate and train future nurse faculty members. The grant is part of RWJF’s $22 million, five-year "New Jersey Nursing Initiative" to increase the number of nurse faculty available to educate the next generation of nurses in the state.

"New Jersey nursing education programs face many problems which make it difficult to prepare enough nurses for the future needs of this state," noted Chancellor Steven J. Diner. "One serious obstacle is the lack of faculty candidates who are qualified to teach."

The shortage of nursing faculty developed as graduate nursing education increasingly became oriented to direct care and less focused on the need for teachers and managers.

Under the grant program, RWJF Scholars will each receive a $50,000 annual stipend, enabling them to study full time to earn their Ph.D. degrees. In exchange, they will commit to teach in the state for three years after graduation. The grant will also pay for the scholars’ tuition, fees, laptops, books and other direct costs.

The RWJF grant is the largest grant ever made to the College of Nursing. In addition to training future nurse faculty members, the project will promote a collaborative partnership with the only other Ph.D. nursing program in the state, Seton Hall University College of Nursing.

For more information about the New Jersey Nursing Initiative, visit www.njni.org

The Brain Reading Research of Stephen José Hanson

It is widely known that the brain perceives information before it reaches a person’s awareness. But until now, there was little way to read a person’s brain prior to the point of awareness to determine what mental tasks were being undertaken.

As published in the Oct. 2009 issue of Psychological Science, Stephen José Hanson, psychology professor, and Russell A. Poldrack, professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Yaroslav Halchenko, now a post-doctoral student at Dartmouth College, were able to identify which of eight tasks participants were involved in by analyzing their functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) data. The researchers also were able to identify what class of objects (faces, houses, animals, etc.) each participant was viewing before he or she could report that information back as awareness.

"It’s the same principle experienced during a car accident. The car accident actually happens tens of a milliseconds before you are aware you have actually been hit,” explains Hanson. "By looking at the back of the brain, we can ‘read out,’ for example, that a person is looking at dogs and cats before they actually know they are looking at a dog or a cat."

Over the last several years, much of neuroimaging has focused on pinpointing specific areas of the brain that are uniquely responsible for different mental functions, such as learning, memory and fear. In their analysis of brain activity, Hanson and his team have uncovered that the brain is more complex than that and each processing task has its own distinct pattern of neural connections stretching across the brain.

The findings open up the possibility of categorizing a multitude of mental tasks with their unique pattern of neural circuitry and also represent a potential early step in developing a way to identify higher-level mental functions, such as lying.
Rutgers University, Newark has a long tradition of providing a first-rate education to students of modest means, to first-generation students, and to students of diverse racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds. Building on that tradition, it also has become a major force for improving educational opportunities for young people in the region. Today, the campus is home to a wide range of programs focused on providing the area’s youngest residents with pathways to reach their potential, starting as early as kindergarten and continuing through the college years. Here we focus on a few of those programs

GS-LSAMP Lights the Way for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Studies

Rutgers University in Newark is leading a $5 million, multiple-school program to substantially increase the number of underrepresented minority students pursuing majors in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, also known as STEM fields. The National Science Foundation is funding the five-year Garden State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (GS-LSAMP), with Alexander Gates, chair, Earth and Environmental Sciences, as GS-LSAMP’s co-principal investigator and project director. The other GS-LSAMP schools are Bloomfield College, Essex County College, Fairleigh Dickinson University/Teaneck, Kean University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University, Rutgers University, New Brunswick and William Paterson University.

GS-LSAMP aims to double the number of minority students completing undergraduate degrees in STEM disciplines in five years. It will offer academic support programs, including tutoring and peer-led team learning sessions in which upperclassmen help younger students through difficult STEM classes that have traditionally been a barrier to success and retention.

Newark Schools Research Collaborative

The Newark Public Schools District and Rutgers University, Newark, have embarked upon a joint initiative called the Newark Schools Research Collaborative (NSRC), NSRC provides independent, objective research about what works in the Newark schools; creates data essential to improving academic achievement for students; and fosters a collaborative research culture among universities, the district and community stakeholders. Given the fluidity of Newark’s student population, NSRC helps create a permanent, shared data repository for the results of all studies conducted over time, regardless of whether students transfer among the district’s 75 schools.

NSRC is co-directed by Paul L. Trachtenberg, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of Law, and Alan R. Sadovnik, professor of Education, Sociology and Public Affairs. Trachtenberg and Sadovnik also co-direct the Rutgers Institute on Education Law and Policy.

Future Scholars Aim High

The second year of the Rutgers Future Scholars program has brought a new group of Newark public school students to campus. The Rutgers Future Scholars is a groundbreaking, university-wide program focused on helping promising students to become the first in their families to earn a four-year degree.

Future Scholars from last year’s inaugural program show they are the “stars” when it comes to wanting to be the first in their families to obtain a four-year degree.

After participating in a joint kickoff on the New Brunswick campus, Newark participants began a year of workshops, mentoring, and team-building and leadership exercises on the Rutgers-Newark campus. Traymaneshia Moore, Newark program director, says the highly interactive sessions focus on math, reading, writing and science, along with public speaking, creative arts and practical business skills. This year, 51 eighth-graders joined 46 students from last year’s inaugural Newark class, now high school freshmen. Future Scholars who successfully complete the program through the senior year of high school and meet Rutgers admission standards are guaranteed a tuition-free college education at the university.

Abbott Leadership Institute

Since 2002, the Abbott Leadership Institute (ALI) has had one straightforward but powerful mission: empowering parents and community members to be advocates for public school education in New Jersey. More than 1,300 individuals have taken advantage of ALI’s free Saturday classes at Rutgers or workshops at Newark public schools, churches and community organizations, according to Director Junius Williams.

"We arm people with the power of information," he explains, information about processes that directly have an effect on schools and how good a job the schools are doing, such as parent organization, student testing, funding issues, and assessment of schools and teachers. ALI works both with parents in Abbott Districts – including Newark, East Orange, Irvington and Camden – and other concerned parents from across New Jersey. "Some of our attendees are teachers, high school and college students, and board of education members," says Williams. ALI trains parents to take active roles in their children’s schools by attending meetings, asking questions and holding school officials accountable for results.

To learn more about educational opportunity and community service programs at Rutgers University, Newark, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/community/index.php.

A REGIONAL FORCE FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT, FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH COLLEGE

By Carla Capizzi and Ferlanda Fox Nixon

Academic Units Gain New Space… from page 1
The addition of the new building for the business school has also made new and improved locations and expanded space available for a number of academic units and centers on campus.

Over the summer, the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) moved into the Management Education Center previously occupied by RBS. SPAA now occupies the second and third floors of that building, renamed the Center for Urban and Public Service. Moving to the first floor are the Institute on Education Law and Policy, and the Newark Schools Research Collaborative. Come next spring, the Institute of Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience also will be getting a new home at the historic townhouse at 49 Bleeker Street.

The section of Ackerson Hall previously occupied by RBS is being prepared for the College of Nursing so it can expand its faculty, staff and classrooms can be centralized in one location. "It’ll give them some breathing room and their own building," noted Christopher Pye, senior facilities planner, who has been overseeing the space allocations.

KEEP CONNECTED
Connect is a quarterly newsletter published by the Office of Communications. Your comments are welcome.
Helen Paxton, Senior Editor
paxton@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Kathleen Brunet Eagan, Managing Editor
ci@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Carla Capizzi, Editor
capizzi@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Ferlanda Fox Nixon, Contributor
ferlanda@andromeda.rutgers.edu
249 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102
Phone 973/353-5262 Fax 973/353-1050
For current and back issues, and article search, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/oc/pubs/connections

www.newark.rutgers.edu

By Carla Capizzi and Ferlanda Fox Nixon

Academic Units Gain New Space… from page 1
The addition of the new building for the business school has also made new and improved locations and expanded space available for a number of academic units and centers on campus.

Over the summer, the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) moved into the Management Education Center previously occupied by RBS. SPAA now occupies the second and third floors of that building, renamed the Center for Urban and Public Service. Moving to the first floor are the Institute on Education Law and Policy, and the Newark Schools Research Collaborative. Come next spring, the Institute of Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience also will be getting a new home at the historic townhouse at 49 Bleeker Street.

The section of Ackerson Hall previously occupied by RBS is being prepared for the College of Nursing so it can expand its faculty, staff and classrooms can be centralized in one location. "It’ll give them some breathing room and their own building," noted Christopher Pye, senior facilities planner, who has been overseeing the space allocations.

KEEP CONNECTED
Connect is a quarterly newsletter published by the Office of Communications. Your comments are welcome.
Helen Paxton, Senior Editor
paxton@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Kathleen Brunet Eagan, Managing Editor
ci@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Carla Capizzi, Editor
capizzi@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Ferlanda Fox Nixon, Contributor
ferlanda@andromeda.rutgers.edu
249 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102
Phone 973/353-5262 Fax 973/353-1050
For current and back issues, and article search, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/oc/pubs/connections

www.newark.rutgers.edu

By Carla Capizzi and Ferlanda Fox Nixon

Academic Units Gain New Space… from page 1
The addition of the new building for the business school has also made new and improved locations and expanded space available for a number of academic units and centers on campus.

Over the summer, the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) moved into the Management Education Center previously occupied by RBS. SPAA now occupies the second and third floors of that building, renamed the Center for Urban and Public Service. Moving to the first floor are the Institute on Education Law and Policy, and the Newark Schools Research Collaborative. Come next spring, the Institute of Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience also will be getting a new home at the historic townhouse at 49 Bleeker Street.

The section of Ackerson Hall previously occupied by RBS is being prepared for the College of Nursing so its faculty, staff and classrooms can be centralized in one location. "It’ll give them some breathing room and their own building," noted Christopher Pye, senior facilities planner, who has been overseeing the space allocations.

KEEP CONNECTED
Connect is a quarterly newsletter published by the Office of Communications. Your comments are welcome.
Helen Paxton, Senior Editor
paxton@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Kathleen Brunet Eagan, Managing Editor
ci@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Carla Capizzi, Editor
capizzi@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Ferlanda Fox Nixon, Contributor
ferlanda@andromeda.rutgers.edu
249 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102
Phone 973/353-5262 Fax 973/353-1050
For current and back issues, and article search, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/oc/pubs/connections

www.newark.rutgers.edu

By Carla Capizzi and Ferlanda Fox Nixon

Academic Units Gain New Space… from page 1
The addition of the new building for the business school has also made new and improved locations and expanded space available for a number of academic units and centers on campus.

Over the summer, the School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) moved into the Management Education Center previously occupied by RBS. SPAA now occupies the second and third floors of that building, renamed the Center for Urban and Public Service. Moving to the first floor are the Institute on Education Law and Policy, and the Newark Schools Research Collaborative. Come next spring, the Institute of Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience also will be getting a new home at the historic townhouse at 49 Bleeker Street.

The section of Ackerson Hall previously occupied by RBS is being prepared for the College of Nursing so its faculty, staff and classrooms can be centralized in one location. "It’ll give them some breathing room and their own building," noted Christopher Pye, senior facilities planner, who has been overseeing the space allocations.

KEEP CONNECTED
Connect is a quarterly newsletter published by the Office of Communications. Your comments are welcome.
Helen Paxton, Senior Editor
paxton@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Kathleen Brunet Eagan, Managing Editor
ci@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Carla Capizzi, Editor
capizzi@andromeda.rutgers.edu
Ferlanda Fox Nixon, Contributor
ferlanda@andromeda.rutgers.edu
249 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102
Phone 973/353-5262 Fax 973/353-1050
For current and back issues, and article search, visit www.newark.rutgers.edu/oc/pubs/connections

www.newark.rutgers.edu