



## University College Community



*A unit dedicated to serving adult and nontraditional students*

UCC Newsletter January 2009

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### Dean's Spring 2009 Welcome

Hello and Happy New Year! I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new nontraditional students to Rutgers and to welcome back our continuing students.

UCC is aware that adults and nontraditional students must meet various responsibilities at home and at work while making extra efforts to reach their academic goals. We also know the value of successfully completing a college degree, not just in financial terms, but also in terms of personal development and social change.

Our ongoing goal is to reach adults and nontraditional students because we know that you face significant non-academic responsibilities that make your college years very different from the traditional college experience. Our first task is to reach you to make sure that you're informed of important developments, events, resources, services, dates, majors and minors programs that are available to students during the evening, weekends and online. UCC will also help to guide you to vital web information to enhance your experience at Rutgers University in a more effective and efficient manner. In addition, we advocate for you inside the larger Rutgers University community by recommending policies and programs to meet your specific needs.

This past Fall, we held a Dean's Forum to hear adults and nontraditional students voice their concerns. We participated in adult recruitment, orientations, transition programs, Veteran outreach initiatives and administered the Saturday Math Tutorials, to name a few. Through our continued research, collaborations, and focus groups, we remain committed to developing programs to attract a growing number of nontraditional students to Rutgers. In fact through our enhanced outreach via alerts on [myRutgers](#) and direct mail, we are confident that we will identify more nontraditional students. You can help us. If you know someone who should qualify to obtain nontraditional student status, please ask him or her to contact us at <http://ucc.rutgers.edu/affiliate#ucc>

This semester we at UCC are finalizing plans to host a website designed especially for our students so that they can work in a Virtual Learning Community, a place to communicate with others who share concerns, the same academic and career interests, as well as provide support to fellow classmates on how to navigate through the Rutgers' systems. We have also started a volunteer mentoring program so that Rutgers faculty and staff who are veterans can act as resources for an anticipated influx of returning veterans in the years to come. These are just a few of our many accomplishments and actions.

Our goal is to create a sense of community for those students who do not live on campus and whose lives are also dedicated to responsibilities outside of academia.

Sincerely,



[Susan J. Schurman, PhD](#)

### UCC Volunteer Veteran Mentoring Program

Rutgers, New Brunswick, University College Community, in conjunction with the Camden and Newark campuses, is implementing a tri-campus [Volunteer Veteran-Mentoring program](#). Rutgers offers our students a wealth of resources on each campus and we would like to further extend a sense of community by offering Veterans a mentor.

We are recruiting Rutgers faculty, staff, alumni and friends who are veterans or military family members as volunteers in order to share, encourage, and provide support to Rutgers Veteran and dependents of Veteran students.

The primary purpose of the program is to provide these students with much needed support, advice and guidance by a mentor in order to help our Veteran students successfully meet their academic goals; improve their interpersonal relationships on campus; increase their retention; and provide access to student-service support.

Spread the word!

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## NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES

### UCC Advising and Support

For advising and assistance with issues that may affect your academic career at Rutgers-NB, we invite you to contact us:

**Phone:** 732-932-6965, ext. 2150

**Email:** [ucc@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:ucc@rci.rutgers.edu)

**Fax:** 732-932-7906

**Website:** [ucc.rutgers.edu](http://ucc.rutgers.edu)

### Academic Advising

Please note that while you may visit any campus advising center, Deans for nontraditional students of SAS are located on the Livingston Campus.

### Livingston Campus

Lucy Stone Hall, A Wing, 2nd floor, Room 216 Tel: 848-445-8888  
M-F: 8:30am-5:00pm, plus evening hours Tuesday, 5:00pm-8:00pm

**SAS:** <http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/academics/advising/general.html>

**SEBS:** <http://sebs.rutgers.edu/academics/firstyearadvisers.asp>

**Mason Gross:** <http://www.masongross.rutgers.edu/content/undergraduate-academic-advisors>

**Engineering:** <http://soe.rutgers.edu/oa/officehrs>

**Pharmacy:** [https://pharm.rutgers.edu/content/student\\_advising](https://pharm.rutgers.edu/content/student_advising)

**Degree Navigator:** [nbdn.rutgers.edu](http://nbdn.rutgers.edu)

**Registrar's Office:** 848-445-2104  
<http://registrar.rutgers.edu/>

**Transcripts:** <https://transcripts.rutgers.edu>

**Financial Aid:** 848-932-7057  
<http://studentaid.rutgers.edu/>

**Student Accounting:** 848-932-2254  
<http://studentabc.rutgers.edu/>

### Saturday PLUS Math Tutorial

The Math Tutorial, which takes place every Saturday on Douglass campus, reviews concepts students are learning in their math classes. Tutorials range from Algebra to Calculus. On-site childcare is available. For Spring 2009 participation and information, email:

[mathplus@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:mathplus@rci.rutgers.edu)

## RU An Employed Student?

The economic situation in the U.S. is impacting the unemployment rate by the thousands, and some Americans don't expect to be recalled to work anytime soon. Rutgers' [Student Employment Office](#) in New Brunswick, under the umbrella of the Financial Aid Office, is ensuring that they continue to administer employment programs during these trying times by collaborating with UCC and other departments to convey the numerous opportunities available to adult and nontraditional students while they attend college.

Employment programs that serve our students are the **Job Location and Development Program (JLDP)** which consists of unskilled to technical, non-work study jobs offered on a part-time and seasonal basis for all university students and employers, and the **Federal Work-Study Program (FWSP)**, which is funded by the federal government and the university offered to students who are eligible financial aid recipients. Employment exists in various departments and labs within the University and local non-profit agencies. Either opportunity can help you to create contacts to shape your future careers. Both programs offer flexible, part-time employment opportunities on and off campus.

In an effort to increase the JLD database, we ask you to refer your current employer to contact the JLDP Employment Counselor at 848-932-2648.

## myRutgers Portal

[myRutgers](#) is your personal information portal at Rutgers. You can customize your site using any of your favorite web-based links. The program works beyond the typical bookmarking of most visited sites by allowing you to login one time using your netid and password for multiple authentication programs.

The program is available to all Rutgers students, faculty and staff. We **highly** recommend that you make use of this portal and check your account on a consistent basis.

Beginning January 2009, the UCC newsletters will be listed on the [myRutgers](#) alert portal in an effort to keep adults and nontraditional students up-to-date on important information for academic success, and to enhance our recruitment of nontraditional students to [affiliate](#) with UCC.

The alert system on myRutgers allows users to receive notifications for events and important information, announcements, class cancellations, etc., from various campus-wide departments.

## Douglass Bunting Women at Rutgers

The [Mary I. Bunting Program](#) was established in 1958 by Mary I. Bunting, the Dean of Douglass College at that time. This program, which is now a part of Douglass Residential College, provides individualized advising and support services for mature women students. Women enrolled full-time or part-time in any of the undergraduate schools at Rutgers-New Brunswick are eligible to join Douglass Residential College; these schools include the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, the School of Engineering, Mason Gross School of the Arts, the School of Pharmacy, and the College of Nursing. Any woman who has been out of high school for five years or more automatically becomes a Bunting student when she joins Douglass Residential College. For more information, contact [Dr. Katherine Birckmayer](#) at [kbirck@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:kbirck@echo.rutgers.edu).

### UCC STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Jose A. Ramirez, 25, was born in Secaucus, New Jersey. His father was from Cuba and his mother from Puerto Rico. Both parents arrived in the United States in the summer of 1981 to start a family and pursue a life of opportunity. Jose attended Camden County Technical High School in Pennsauken, NJ and decided to join the U.S. Marine Corps upon graduation in 2001. Nearing the end of his enlistment he decided it was time for the next step, and that was to go to college. Jose traveled throughout Asia and Australia. While stationed at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, he could have easily applied to schools in Hawaii, but he wanted to attend Rutgers University in New Jersey. He admits that submitting all required documents for the application was stressful because of the distance, but after attending Rutgers University for a few years, he said, "I knew I made the right choice."



Sgt. Jose A. Ramirez

Jose's transition from Marine to student was not an easy one. He recounted, "I had no prior knowledge of the ways a college operated. Did not know which classes to register for or how to develop a class schedule let alone get to resources I needed." He explained that hitting the books again, after being away from school for a few years, was a huge challenge. The military lifestyle was structured with early morning physical activities and duties throughout the day. Jose described that life as a student includes staying up late studying for exams, writing papers and sitting in classrooms where most students are younger and have not shared his experiences. In the beginning at Rutgers he



Jose speaks at the 2nd Annual UC-NB Veteran's Appreciation Reception in 2007.

reached out to his family, especially his father, Jose Sr., when having difficulties grasping the poetry of Edgar Allen Poe or needed prodding when things seemed impossible. Jose admitted that early on he was doing poorly in academics, but sticking to his motto, "adapt and overcome" along with searching for fellow Veteran students helped him through the various student life experiences. Currently Jose attends Rutgers full-time and works part-time as a community service officer for the [Division of Administration and Public Safety](#). He maintains a solid B average and plans to graduate in May 2010 as a communications major. "My goal is to help adults and Veteran students by continuing to campaign for diverse transition programs that help students adjust."

Today, as the Secretary of the University College Council, his advocacy for returning Veterans to Rutgers continues to be supported by members of the UC Council and UC Community. "I am very proud to have served my country, and now I am determined to serve those who are serving me, the future student Veterans of Rutgers University."

### IMPORTANT 2009 SPRING SEMESTER DATES

Spring Semester Begins	Tues Jan 20
Late Registration	Tues Jan 20
Spring Recess Begins	Sat Mar 14
Spring Recess Ends	Sun Mar 22
Regular Classes End	Mon May 4
Reading Days	Tues May 5 & Wed May 6
Spring Exams Begins	Thurs May 7
Spring Exams End	Wed May 13
UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT	Wed May 20
Summer Session Begins	Tues May 26
Summer Session Ends	Wed Aug 12

**LAST DAY to [Drop is 1/26/2009.](#)**  
(without a "W" grade)

**LAST DAY to [ADD is 01/27/09.](#)**  
Complete Withdrawal Tuition Refunds Only Dates (**Not to be confused with a course drop**):  
1/20 thru 2/2: 80% Refund  
2/3 thru 2/16: 60% Refund  
2/17 thru 3/2: 40% Refund  
Thereafter: 0% Refund

**LAST DAY to Withdraw from a course with a "W" Grade: Monday, [March 23rd.](#)** For more [calendar information](#) and deadlines visit: <http://nblogistrar.rutgers.edu/>

**LAST DAY to Withdraw from the University Monday, April 13, 2009**  
Speak to an adviser before withdrawing. Financial Aid packages may be affected.

#### 2009 Graduation News

Students who expect to graduate in MAY 2009 must complete an [online diploma application](#) between now and March 15, 2009.

#### University College Commencement Ceremony

Continuing UC-NB students completing their degrees in October 2008, January 2009 and May 2009 will be invited to attend the UC-SAS commencement ceremony, which will be held Friday evening on May 22, 2009.

If classified as Class of 2009, examine your [senior review](#) carefully, compare it with your transcripts, and inform the office of academic services of any discrepancies. Seek advising to discuss your academic progress.

## SPRING 2009 UPCOMING EVENTS

### Career Days

[The Big East Career Consortium](#) will be held on Friday, March 13, 2009 at Madison Square Garden in NY, which is less than an hour if you take the express train from New Brunswick. Career Centers from the Big East Conference schools have joined together to offer unparalleled recruiting events. Only students and alumni with a major or degree from any of the 16 Big East Conference schools are eligible to participate in this event. Don't miss it.

[New Jersey Diversity Career Day](#) will be on Friday, February 20, 2009 at the [Rutgers Student Center](#) on the College Avenue Campus. This career day is open to all students, alumni, and the public. A wide range of employers will be available to speak with candidates about full-time jobs, internships and co-ops in various fields and industries.

### Veterans Reception and Forum

This year's event celebrates the service and education opportunities of Veterans and dependents of Veterans enrolled at Rutgers University on the New Brunswick, Newark, and Camden campuses. Veteran students will receive information about the various services and resources offered by local Veteran Affairs representatives; there will also be opportunities to network with fellow students, staff and alumni.

**Date:** Friday, April 3, 2009

**Time:** 6:00-8:00pm

**Place:** [Cook Campus Center](#)  
Multipurpose Room ABC  
Cook Campus

**\*\*\*Refreshments will be served\*\*\***

### University College Community

**Dr. Susan Schurman**, 732-932-6965  
*Dean*

**Betsy Feliciano-Berrios**, 732-932-6965  
*Assistant Dean for Recruitment and Student Services*

**Dr. Kay Lynch**, 732-932-6965 x2156  
*Senior Coordinator of Special Programs*

**John Muth**, 732-932-6965 x2157  
*Senior Coordinator of Special Populations*

**Bonnie Katz**, 732-932-6965 x2164  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Fidelia Pokuah**, 732-932-6965 x2150  
*Secretarial Assistant*

Location: University Inn & Conference Ctr.  
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New Brunswick, NJ 08901

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# RUTGERS

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