Hello and Happy New Year!

My name is Dona Schneider, Dean of University College in New Brunswick (UCNB). I am also Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, and wear several other hats. Using my UC hat, I want to offer a heartfelt Rutgers welcome to our new adult and nontraditional students. I also want to welcome back our continuing on and off-campus students.

UC is aware that adult 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 satisfaction and social development. Our ongoing goal at UC is to support adult and nontraditional students because we know that they face significant non-academic responsibilities that make their college years very different from the traditional college experience. The life experiences of adult and nontraditional students also enrich our classrooms, bringing depth to the learning experience for all.

UC strives to make sure that adult and nontraditional students are informed of important developments, events, resources, services, dates, and major and minor programs that are available evenings, weekends, and online. We also help guide nontraditional students to vital web information to enhance their time at Rutgers University in a more effective and efficient manner. In addition, UC advocates for nontraditional students inside the larger Rutgers University community by recommending policies and programs to meet their specific needs. We sit on university-wide and campus task forces, as well as on campus-wide committees dealing with student life and transfer issues.

In the last few months, we have participated in adult recruitment, orientations, transition programs, and Veteran outreach initiatives, to name a few. We are especially proud of our administrative contributions to the formation of the degree completion programs designed specifically for adult, nontraditional students. These include the School of Management and Labor Relations’ Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Labor & Employment Relations, and the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy’s Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Health Administration, Public Health, Urban Policy and Planning and Public Policy and Public Policy and Urban Planning and Design; Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Planning and Public Policy. We are currently discussing adding additional programs and hope to be able to announce those by the end of this year.

Through our continued research, collaborations, and advocacy, we remain committed to developing and marketing adult-friendly programs to attract adult and nontraditional students. Our overarching goal is to create a sense of community for those students who do not live on campus and who have significant responsibilities outside of academia. We hope you will help us in this regard by referring other adult and nontraditional students to UC so we can help them achieve their goals, as well.

Sincerely,

Dona Schneider

University College
Federation Hall, 4 Jones Avenue, 1st Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

"Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn and you will." ~Vernon Howard

Since 1934, a unit dedicated to serving adult & nontraditional students

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Rutgers Students with Children

Founded in Fall 2015, it is the first student parent organization in the history of Rutgers University.

We are dedicated to promoting support, services, and visibility for students who are also juggling the responsibilities of parenthood--We have held meetings with Deans, Administrators, faculty and staff, and are working towards a child-friendly campus!

Our goal is to improve graduation and retention rates of student parents at Rutgers normalize the idea that students and scholars can be parents, too.

We support one another even babysit each other’s kids during exams! :)

#ThisIsWhatARutgersStudentLooksLike #studentparents
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: 848-932-1559
Email: ucc@rutgers.edu
Web site: ucc.rutgers.edu

SAS ACADEMIC ADVISING
The SAS Offices of Academic Services provide academic advising by faculty members and deans. SAS Students are encouraged to meet with an advisor at least once a semester to review graduation progress and discuss academic interests. Please note that while students may visit any campus, Deans for SAS nontraditional students are located on the Douglass Campus.

Douglass Campus
College Hall
Room 104
848-445-8888
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm (M-F)

UNDERGRAD ACADEMIC ADVISING
DON’T ASSUME . . . GET ADVICE
Can’t make daytime advising appointments because of work or kids? Contact the academic dean in your school of enrollment and request a phone discussion or special appointment. For information about advising, contact your school:

SAS: http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/academics/advising/general.html
SEBS: http://sebs.rutgers.edu/advising/
MG: http://www.masongross.rutgers.edu/content/undergraduate-academic-advisors
ENGR: http://soe.rutgers.edu/oaa/officemhr
PHARM: https://pharmacy.rutgers.edu/information-for/current-students/student-advising/
SMLR: http://ucc.rutgers.edu/ask-your-advisor
EJB: http://bloustein.rutgers.edu/undergraduate/

QUICK LINKS
Degree Navigator: nbdn.rutgers.edu
Registrar’s Office: 848-445-2104
http://registrar.rutgers.edu/

Transcripts: https://transcripts.rutgers.edu
Instant Verifications: https://transcripts.rutgers.edu/transcripts/getVerificationForm.tcr
Financial Aid: 848-932-7057
https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/
Student Accounting: 848-932-2254
http://studentabc.rutgers.edu/

NTS RESOURCES CONT.

STUDENT VETERAN SERVICES
Director Ann Treadaway
Veterans House
14 Lafayette Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Phone: 848-932-VETS (8387)
Fax: 732-932-1535
Email: veterans@rutgers.edu
Hours/Schedule:
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30am - 5:00 pm

DOUGLASS BUNTING FOR WOMEN AT RUTGERS
The Mary I. Bunting Program was established in 1958 by Mary I. Bunting, to provide individualized advising and support services for mature women enrolled full-time or part-time at Rutgers-New Brunswick. Students are eligible to affiliate with UCC and the Douglass Residential College Bunting Program. For more information, contact:
Rebecca Reynolds, Assistant Dean, reynoldm@echo.rutgers.edu
848-932-3026

STUDY TIPS FOR NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS
Developing study skills is a concern for working adults returning for a new semester. Experts say that people learn more by reflecting on what they are learning rather than by simply memorizing it. Try keeping an ongoing “reading journal” to record thoughts on the material and note questions it raises. When you go back to review your notes, you’ll find new connections to current material and possibly new ways of looking at your subject. Click for Rutgers sources.

RECREATION CLASSES
Balancing life and academics can be difficult, but not impossible. Make time for some healthy fitness choices by visiting one of the many Rutgers Recreation Centers. See individual course descriptions for start dates. This term’s classes are listed on the Rutgers Recreation website, but new classes continue to be added. Making time for your health leads to better academic performance.

OTHER RESOURCES
RU EXPRESS/CARD SERVICES
RUConnection Card is the official photo identification card that serves as the primary form of identity verification throughout the university.
See 4 “Student Card Only” locations to get your ID Today!

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION
The Department of Transportation Services provides all members of Rutgers-NB, with the best solution for getting around campus safely and easily. Students can obtain their parking permits and pay violation tickets in person or online: http://parkran.rutgers.edu/

Location: 55 Commercial Ave
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm (M-F)
Phone: 848-932-7744

RUTGERS HEALTH SERVICES
Rutgers Health Services provides educational and preventative services to help maintain the health of students, staff, and faculty who may be injured, ill, or feel stressed.

Hurtado Health Center, CAC
Location: 11 Bishop Place
Days: Monday-Friday
Regular Hrs: 8:30am-5:00pm
Emergency Hrs: 5:00pm-8:00pm
Phone: 848-932-7402

RUTGERS LEARNING CENTERS
Rutgers Learning Centers work with students through a variety of free academic support programs to promote student achievement. Meet your academic challenges head on. Contact a Learning Center to get started.

Busch Campus: ARC Blq, Rm 332
CAC: Kreeger Learning Center
C/D Campus: Loeve Blq, Rm 124
Livingston Campus: Tillett Hall, Rm 111

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Learn about various scholarship opportunities available:
School of Arts & Science
Douglass Residential College
Sch. of Environmental & Biological Science
School of Engineering
School of Management & Labor Relations
For Women: https://greaterwaynearea-nj.aauw.net/scholarship/
Student veterans outnumbered their civilian classmates after World War II utilizing the first GI Bill, and now, after the long sustained warfare in American history, the number of Rutgers students who have served in the United States Armed Forces has more than doubled since the passage of the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The Office of Veteran and Military Programs at Rutgers University recognizes and appreciates these students and their families, throughout their college careers. OVMPS offers in-house resources for their students that include peer advisors, RU DogTags, and Green Zone Training to name a few. Mark your spring calendar with career counseling events and the annual Veteran Appreciation Dinner. To learn more, call 848-932-8387 (VETS) or check out our website https://veterans.rutgers.edu

Did you know nontraditional students in the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) have a dedicated team of advisors sensitive to the concerns and schedules of nontraditional students? Hello, my name is Milagros Arroyo, assistant dean and director of the SAS Office of Nontraditional Students and Special Populations located at College Hall, Rm 104. We offer individualized academic planning and answers to your questions about academic life at Rutgers. If you have just a quick question or two, we invite you to stop by in-person at our advising desk, email us at nontraditional@sas.rutgers.edu or telephone 848-932-8888 and ask for the Nontraditional Office. For a more extended discussion in person, call 848-932-8888 and ask for an individual appointment with the nontraditional advisors. Or request a telephone appointment by emailing nontraditional@sas.rutgers.edu and please include your telephone number, RUID, and two different days/times that you are available Monday – Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. Our Team: Deans Milagros Arroyo, Shafteen Fatima, Diane DeLauro, and Catrina Gallo

University College, Rutgers N.B. Alumni Association (UCRNBA) is a chartered organization in affiliation with the Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA). UCRNBA's purpose is to develop and foster close relationships between fellowship RU Alumni, Rutgers University and the University College Rutgers-New Brunswick Community through social events, educational programs and philanthropy. The Association serves Rutgers Alumni who identify as nontraditional graduates of Rutgers-New Brunswick. We engage with both current students and Alumni, providing opportunities for interaction and networking. UCRNBA continues to contribute to an endowed scholarship which is awarded annually to eligible nontraditional students as determined by University Administration. The Board of UCRNBA meets five (5) times a year, September, November, February, April and June (Annual Meeting). The Executive Officers for the coming FY2017/2018 year are Helen F. Pirrello - President; Kim Sciallo - Chair; Eduardo Heidelberg - 1st V.P.; Mary Anne Guenther - 2nd V.P.; Eric De Vincenzo - Treasurer.

UC Alumni Service Project is ongoing program of community service, the University College Rutgers New Brunswick Alumni Association (UCRNBA) recently held a Bingo Party for residents of the Community Living Center (CLC) at the New Jersey Veterans Hospital in Lyons. The residents were treated to an afternoon of games with prizes and refreshments, and were presented with gift certificates for the Hospital’s PX. They were also given the iconic Rutgers "R" and four of the residents, who are Rutgers graduates, received alumni pins. The organization is also a strong supporter of our Veterans through Rutgers’ Office of Veteran and Military Programs and Services. Check the calendar on RAlumni.com for events and activities of all the chartered organizations affiliated with the RUAA. To receive notifications of meetings, events and other news for UCRNBA via email, please register at RAlumni.com.
RU LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT?

The Student Employment Office (SEO) in the Office of Financial Aid (OFA) administers two federally-funded, part-time employment programs to currently-enrolled Rutgers students: The Federal Work Study Program (FWSP), and the Job Location and Development Program (JLDP). The FWSP, which is awarded by the OFA to students who demonstrate financial need, offers part-time, on-campus jobs in University offices, departments, and schools, and offers off-campus jobs for area non-profit organizations and agencies, and government offices. The JLDP, which has no eligibility requirements, is dis open to all currently-enrolled Rutgers students, offers part-time and seasonal on-campus jobs in fields such as advertising, business, education, graphic design, healthcare, information technology, law, and many more. For information, please visit studentwork.rutgers.edu or visit the SEO at 620 George Street, Records Hall, Room 140, College Avenue Campus.

Be in the KNOW Early! New Policies and Procedures in Effect

The Student Experience Improvement Initiative (SEII) Steering Committee is a working group that has been evaluating policies and processes related to confirmation of attendance, deregistration, and financial holds. The group’s goal is to improve the student experience while maintaining fiscal responsibility of the university’s receivables, and as such, is implementing several changes for the Fall 2017 semester.

♦ Elimination of deregistration policy and process:
  ◊ Deregistration is the process by which a student’s course registration is cancelled three weeks into the semester due to non-payment of the term bill.
  ◊ Effective Fall 2017, students will no longer be deregistered due to non-payment. They will continue to have access to their courses and course management systems through the academic term.

♦ Strict enforcement of financial holds:
  ◊ Students who owe the University at the time of registration for the next term will be blocked from registering for classes.
  ◊ Pre-registration for Fall 2018 begins on April 15, 2018; students must have either paid in full or made payment arrangements (i.e., enrolled in a tuition payment plan) by April 15 to be permitted to register for Fall 2018 classes at that time.

♦ Familiarization with Financial Responsibility Statement:
  ◊ A Financial Responsibility Statement (FRS) exists within the student term bill portal.
  ◊ A link to this language will also be added within the Web Reg system. The purpose is to familiarize students with the financial responsibility of registering for courses. At this time, the Web Reg link will be informational only; students will continue to accept the FRS through the term bill portal.

Policies and Procedures Remaining the Same

The following policies and processes are not changing, and should continue to be followed as they exist today.

♦ Confirmation of attendance
  ◊ All registered undergraduate and graduate students must confirm their attendance. Follow these easy steps to complete the process.

♦ Add/drop policies and procedures
  ◊ Students have the ability to rearrange course schedules during the first 9 days of classes using webreg.rutgers.edu. Students having difficulty during this process should contact their respective school’s advising offices.

♦ Process for students to drop all their classes prior to the start of term
  ◊ Due to the aforementioned new policies and procedures in effect, students who are knowingly registered for courses prior to classes beginning, yet have no intention of attending, will be required to withdraw completely by January 12, 2018 from all classes using webreg in order to receive a 100% refund.

♦ Process for students to withdraw after the start of term
  ◊ A student who voluntarily withdraws from all courses during the first six weeks of a term following their respective school’s “Withdrawal from School” process will receive a partial reduction of tuition and fees (campus, school, and computer) according to the week of the withdrawal.

♦ Late fee structure and charges
  ◊ The Rutgers Board of Governors approved the university's tuition and fee rates for the 2017–2018 academic year on July 19, 2017. Tuition and fees vary based on school affiliation, campus, and program. Late fees appear on your student account once your deadline has passed.

To realize the objectives of the Strategic Plan, SEII will formulate data-based recommendations for enrollment management and student accounts operational models that will improve the Rutgers student experience and design and implement smoother, efficient, standardized, and compliant processes for enrollment management and student accounts at Rutgers. Stay informed about future consideration.

“Our current students and our alumni tell us that, while they attach great value to their Rutgers education, their experience at Rutgers is or was often not as positive as it could be. Student experience today is largely defined by the University’s immense size and unwieldy bureaucracy, creating needless challenges for students navigating University systems and processes or trying to access educational and financial resources...Rutgers needs to reduce or eliminate ineffective or unresponsive elements within our student support system.” – University Strategic Plan
RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK’S GOT A LOT TO OFFER...GET ORIENTED

When you're new to New Brunswick or returning, you can always use tips for getting around campus, finding academic support, learning about housing options, and otherwise ensuring university life is everything you want it to be.

CHANGES COMING TO RUTGERS’ NEW BRUNSWICK CAMPUS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW, STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Rutgers and the city of New Brunswick are taking the next steps in a transformative redevelopment plan by beginning work on dedicated bike and bus lanes along College Avenue that will improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian safety and create more attractive campus environment for students. Read more.

WHERE DO YOU GET NEWS ABOUT RUTGERS?

Your source for university news is all around you. Learn more about Rutgers’ top stories, features, athletics, fun facts and just what’s happening. Share your Big Ten pride of Rutgers by visiting: Rutgers Today, Research News, Media Relations, Other Rutgers Media and Social Media Directory.

RUTGERS PUBLIC SAFETY TAKEN SERIOUSLY

University Public Safety is committed to ensuring a safe environment for everyone at Rutgers. Public Safety is responsible for responding to all emergencies, suspicious activities, crimes, security and safety concerns. The goal is to work in partnership with students, faculty and staff to provide a safe, enjoyable, and fulfilling university experience. The internationally accredited Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide the university community with a full range of police and security services. Learn what you can do for yourself and others when reporting via call/text or being informed about emergency, nonemergency, prevention and response. Remember, "Call when you can...Text when you can’t."

***Fall 2018 PRE-REGISTRATION CALENDAR SET***

Mark your calendar! Fall 2018 pre-registration begins April 15, 2018 and time slots are available for students based on degree credits already earned toward graduation and do not include current course load. Don’t lose your opportunity to pick the courses you need to graduate on time.

From Teen Mom to Advocate for Student Parents

Anjanette Vaidya definitely had a nontraditional path to Rutgers. She dropped out of High School in 9th grade, and moved out of her mother's apartment by the age of 16. The turning point in her life was when she became pregnant with her daughter at 17, and decided to pursue an education to not only be a good example, but to be able to provide for her daughter. Anjanette obtained her GED through adult night classes while working and then went on to community college immediately after. She said, "Once at community college, after only one semester my Psychology and English professors both cornered me and told me that they wanted to see me attend graduate school. They had this infectious belief in me that I had not seen from my teachers since I was very young, and they were adamant that I apply to a university right away. I worried about how I would be able to afford it, but my professors did not give up and one of them, Dr. Applebaum, invited me to her house, fed my daughter cookies and she helped me fill out the application and explained the FAFSA. I was absolutely thrilled to be accepted and am a proud to be a first-generation college student."

Once at Rutgers, Anjanette added, "My abusive relationship with my daughter's father intensified, and the lack of affordable and reliable childcare together with court dates and a general feeling that I didn't belong at Rutgers overwhelmed me. I dropped out and disappointing one of my professors, whom I so respected, affected me. I never explained why I missed writing my final paper. I was ashamed of my circumstances and was scared to tell him the truth. Fast forward a few years, I had finally left my daughter's father and my circumstances improved drastically. I later met my husband, we had financial stability, married and I had two children, but my dream of education never died. In fall of 2015, I returned to pursue my degree, and I have managed to maintain a very strong GPA and continue to receive A's. With any luck, I will graduate this August 2018 with highest honors, walking in May."

When asked about her overall experiences at Rutgers she admits she had two drastically different experiences. Her first time was very lonely, very isolated. She felt as if she was the only student juggling work, raising a child, and doing classwork. She did not open up to many people, and did not feel included in any way because her life experiences were so far from the norm of her fellow students. "My more recent experience has been completely different. I came back for my B.A. and for justice for other young mothers. I sought retroactive withdrawals to clean up my past record, and that act caused me to critically examine my experiences. I realized that the 'personal is political', and it caused me to seek out other student parents and to found 'Rutgers Students with Children.' We are now an official student organization that promotes the visibility and support of student parents on campus." She dedicates much of her time advocating for student parents, meeting with administrators and faculty members, community organization, to create networks of support that can keep student parents afloat. Anjanette had the privilege of speaking nationally on the need for student parent programming, and has hosted workshops, conducted research, and even mentored teen parents in local high schools. This past fall she started a non-profit organization that holistically addresses the needs of parenting and pregnant people, particularly young single mothers, in their pursuit of greater access to resources, including higher education.

Her advice to other adults is, "Try to enjoy your time at Rutgers, don’t separate yourself mentally from the student body even though you are older. Find genuine friends, stop thinking of them as kids, and get to know them as people. I admit I still get annoyed when I feel like people are disrespectful in class and I might be the mom figure who is shushing folks, but I am also the friend who can share stories about life or a laugh, commiserate about a paper, or study for an exam. Openly communicate with your professors. Many of them are sensitive to the challenges of work-life balance, and are happy to assist in your success. Whether getting a special permission number, recommending a resource, being a listening ear, or even cheering you on when things feel impossible. I know I have needed all of the above at different times. This university is huge, but you can still make it your community."
RU READY TO GRADUATE?

You are almost there and with such a revolutionary moment in your life fast approaching, don’t get surprised with the unexpected. Check out the Senior Review Checklist and your school’s sites to ensure you are on track now and you can relax later.

After years of sacrifice and hard work, you are going to earn your degree—an important milestone. It’s time to celebrate this very significant accomplishment. Be sure to join the graduation festivities, in recognition of your achievement, as proud family, friends, faculty, and staff cheer you on.

Please keep checking back as additional ceremony details will be added as we get closer to the event.

http://commencement.rutgers.edu/