

### Disabilities Awareness Conference *Imagine . . . Aspire . . . Succeed!*

Rutgers University President, Richard P. McCormick, and the Committee to Advance Our Common Purposes are inviting colleagues in secondary and postsecondary education, disability professionals, returning veterans, parents, students, and others interested to join the one-day conference addressing disabilities on campus and in the workplace.

Dr. Wise Young will be the conference keynote speaker. Dr. Young is a world renowned leader in the field of spinal cord injury research, the founding director of the W.M. Keck Center for Collaborative Neuroscience, and the first person to hold the Richard H. Shindell Chair in Neuroscience at Rutgers University.

This promises to be an exciting conference, one that will inspire and engage all participants in an important and worthwhile dialogue. The goal is to advance our collective understanding of disabilities and expand the academic and employment success for people with disabilities. The program will also offer student panel discussions and sessions:

- ♦ Welcome Home: Understanding the Needs of our Disabled Student Patriots" - Kathy Loder-Murphy, Rutgers Disability Services
- ♦ Faculty Accommodating Students - Dr. Stanley Vitelo & Ms. Asha Nambiar, Rutgers, GSE
- ♦ Career Hunt for Individuals with Psychological Concerns - Melissa Roberts, UMDNJ
- ♦ Financial Aid for Veterans - Elizabeth Rollins & Sherri Wolfinger, Rutgers Financial Aid
- ♦ Providing Academic Support - Mary Ann Puccio, Rutgers Learning Centers
- ♦ Psychological Concerns & Services - Dr. Najmi Shaikh, Rutgers Psychiatric Services

[Registration](#) is required and free. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. The event will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2010, 9 am to 3 pm at the Busch Campus Center. For more information visit: [http://lrc.rutgers.edu/dwc\\_home.shtml](http://lrc.rutgers.edu/dwc_home.shtml)

### Student Emergency Contact

Have you reviewed your mailing address and phone number recently? Students are encouraged to complete the online [emergency contact information](#) form to ensure family members are reached in case of an emergency. Visit the convenient [on-line address update](#) as well.

### What's in a Name?

Are you a student who applied to Rutgers and did not use your full official name? Student records are maintained in the name given by the student on the application at the time of admission. Consistency in your name and diploma will be important in your future. Official name changes and corrections must be made prior to graduation at the Registrars Office. [See policy for details.](#)

### Veterans' Appreciation Reception

The 6th Annual Veterans' Appreciation Forum and Reception will be held on Friday, April 9, 2010 from 6:00-8:00PM at the Rutgers College Avenue Student Center. All veteran and dependents of veteran students will receive an invitations in the mail. Please [RSVP](#) no later than Monday, April 5, 2010. You are encouraged to remind your mentors to RSVP as well. This is a great opportunity for mentors and mentees to meet.

### Veteran Mentoring Success

UCC is pleased to announce that recruitment for volunteer veteran mentors has reached over 230 participants. Veteran and dependents of veteran students continue to be assigned a mentor to assist students through the "administrative" red tape, and to provide added support and guidance. Read about a [budding match](#) that flourished at Rutgers because of the program.

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**New Brunswick Veteran Student Organization Being Proposed**

Two Veteran Students are proposing to create a Veteran Student Organization open to current and veteran service members, family members/friends of service members, or anyone who wants to support our veterans and troops on the New Brunswick campus.

The mission is to provide fellowship, resources, support and advocacy for student veterans and their families. This will be a student-run organization, made for Veterans by Veterans! Some of the benefits of joining are to meet other Veterans at Rutgers-New Brunswick who share similar experiences; increase your involvement on campus; take part in fundraisers that benefit current and former service members; obtain resources and information to help maximize potential VA benefits for US military families and much more.

Contact: **Tana Loy** at [tanaloy@eden.rutgers.edu](mailto:tanaloy@eden.rutgers.edu) or **Drew Daddio** at [drewdad@eden.rutgers.edu](mailto:drewdad@eden.rutgers.edu) for more information on the group.

**Academic Planning**

**Pre-Registration for the Fall 2010 Term**

Registering in advance is an important part of academic planning for all students, especially UCC affiliates. As continuing students, you are expected to register in advance to ensure that you get the courses you need at the times and locations suitable to you.

Pre-registration is offered in order to give you an opportunity to qualify for scholarships and schedule courses prior to new student registrations. By registering early you allow departments to gauge the demand for courses, which could impact the addition of more sections and allow UCC to promote the opening of more courses.

*Continued next column*

**Pre-Registration** for the Fall 2010 semester begins on **Sunday, April 4th at 10:00 pm and continues through Saturday, April 17th**. Undergraduate students will be able to pre-register in the order of highest to lowest degree credits earned to date, which does not include credits for the current Spring 2010 semester.

**Academic Integrity Violations on the Rise**

There was a thirty-five percent increase in student academic integrity violations from academic year '06-'07 to academic year '07-'08. Take the time to visit <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>, which provides numerous resources to help students avoid academic dishonesty, understand the Policy on Academic Integrity, and strengthen skills on research and citation.

**Policy Awareness**

Taking a leave of absence requires much thought in how it may impact your return, your finances, and your goal of attaining a degree. Speak to your advisor to ensure that you are aware of financial aid requirements and limitations before you postpone your academic plans.

**School of Arts & Sciences Major Fair**

Got Major questions? Get Major answers. Students are invited to attend the Spring SAS - MAJOR FAIR. It's not just for majors anymore! Get information on new degree programs, majors, minors, certificates, and career possibilities. Over 50 departments will attend. Take advantage of the opportunity to meet department representatives. UCC endorses the following majors, which can be completed through evening classes: Economics, English, History, History/Political Science, Labor Studies, Mathematics, Psychology and Sociology. Refreshments and Prizes will be available.

Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Time: 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Location: Busch Campus Center, Multi-Purpose Room, Busch Campus

If you are unable to attend, search the following offerings for more details: <http://nbweb.rutgers.edu/departments/index.shtml>

**Spring 2010 IMPORTANT SEMESTER DATES**

Last day to Drop a course with a "W" grade	Mon March 22
Pre-Registration for Fall 2010	Sun Apr 4 - Fri Apr 16
Last day to withdraw from the University	Mon Apr 12
Regular Classes End	Mon May 3
Reading Days	Tue May 4 & Wed May 5
Spring Exams Begin	Thurs May 6
Spring Exams End	Wed May 12
President's Univ.-Wide Degree Conferral	Sun May 16
University College-SAS Commencement	Mon May 17
Rutgers students last day to register online for 1st Summer Session	Tue May 11
Rutgers students last day to register online for 2nd Summer Session	Mon June 7
Rutgers students last day to register online for 3rd Summer Session	Mon June 21
Summer Session Begins	Tue June 1
End of Last Summer Session	Wed Aug 18

### UC-SAS Commencement

The 2010 University College-SAS Commencement will be:

**Date:** Monday, May 17, 2010

**Lineup Time:** 5:30 PM SHARP

**Commencement Start:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Louis Brown Athletic Center (RAC), Livingston Campus, Piscataway

Students must ensure [diploma applications](#) have been completed. The commencement information website is active and will continue to be updated with new information.

<http://commencement.rutgers.edu/>

### Senior Days News

The schedule of events for Senior Days is Thursday, May 13, 2010-Saturday, May 15, 2010. Senior Days are for adults and nontraditional students too. UCC encourages all seniors to get involved in planning Senior Day Events appropriate for all students. Email:

[SeniorDays@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:SeniorDays@echo.rutgers.edu) to be part of a planning committee or [Kerri Wilson](#) to get involved with Class Councils.

### Douglass Bunting Program Spring 2010 Forum

*Note: All events are from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Douglass Campus Center. Registrations will begin promptly at 6:30 pm. Refreshment will be served.*

#### Thursday, March 11 - Mary I. Bunting: Her Contributions to Adult Women's Education Location: NJC Lounge

Elaine Yaffe is the author of a biography entitled *Mary I. Bunting: Her Two Lives*. Ms. Yaffe will talk about the fascinating life of Mary I. Bunting, who was the Dean of Douglass College from 1955-1959. Dean Bunting began a program for adult women returning to college, which was subsequently named the Mary I. Bunting Program in honor of its founder. Anyone who is interested in the history of women and higher education or in the history of women in the fifties will enjoy and learn from this event. **Please RSVP by Friday, March 5th to Lauren Zielinski [atzielins@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:atzielins@echo.rutgers.edu)**

#### Thursday, April 1 - Becoming a Douglass Student at Rutgers

**Location: Douglass Lounge** Come to this event and find out about the Mary I. Bunting Program, which has provided academic and social support for non-traditional students for more than fifty years. This event will feature a panel of current students and alumnae who will speak about their experiences in the Bunting Program. **Please RSVP by Monday, March 26th to Lauren Zielinski at [lzielins@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:lzielins@echo.rutgers.edu).**

#### Tuesday, April 13 - A film introduced by Dr. Mary Gatta

##### Location: Traves Hall B

*The Women of Summer* is a documentary about a unique experiment in adult education. It describes a summer program for blue collar women workers that took place from 1921 to 1938 at Bryn Mawr College. The film presents historical background on this program, and also features the participants who were interviewed at a fifty year reunion. Mary Gatta, a professor in the Labor Studies Department at Rutgers and the Director of Gender and Workforce Policy at the Center for Women and Work, will introduce the film.

### Nontraditional Student Resources

#### Is Summer Session for You?

Attending summer session can add credits toward your degree, improve your grade point average, reduce your fall term academic load, or simply allow you to learn about a subject of interest in the intensive summer term.

#### This summer:

**"Hybrid" courses**, conducted in the classroom and online, offer the convenience of asynchronous web-based learning without sacrificing the benefits of face-to-face interaction with professors and classmates.

**Rutgers summer scholarships**, funded by the Division of Continuous Education and Outreach, will be awarded to Rutgers students to help defray summer tuition costs. Up to one hundred \$500 scholarships will be awarded on the basis of need and merit. [Click here](#) for more information.

**High school student scholarships**, funded by the Division of Continuous Education and Outreach, will be awarded to advanced high school students taking summer courses at Rutgers New Brunswick. High-achieving students who will enter their junior or senior year in Fall 2010 are eligible to apply. Visit [summer.rutgers.edu/highschool](http://summer.rutgers.edu/highschool) for more information.

**New payment plan options** are available for the first time for summer term. Choose from two, three, four, or five monthly payment plans for a \$50 service fee. For information, visit the web at [studentabc.rutgers.edu](http://studentabc.rutgers.edu).

**Visit:** <http://summersession.rutgers.edu/>

**More opportunities for study abroad** are available. Great for adults who cannot participate during Fall and Spring terms.

See: [Summer Special Programs](#)

### Gates Foundation Researches Adults and College

A survey sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation found that most adult students who do not finish their college degree do so because of their need to work and take care of their families. The study included a nation-wide representative sample of 614, twenty-two to thirty year olds and concluded that juggling work, school, and family responsibilities are responsible for the lack of degree completion. Thirty-six percent of those surveyed said that even if their tuition and books were paid for, it would be difficult to go back. For example, students twenty-six and older are not covered under their parent's health insurance programs even if they are dependents, and so they must work full-time for coverage. Fifty-six percent of those surveyed who left school claimed they needed to work full-time, fifty-three percent of the same group claimed family responsibilities precluded school.

Learn more about the four top myths and realities about why so many students fail to finish college. Read accounts that pose a moral challenge to higher education and the country. Understand the long-standing, ill-suited policies that impact adults. The study is a call for innovative, better-organized and more cost-effective programs for adults and young Americans to continue their education.

The full study can be found at: <http://www.publicagenda.org/files/pdf/theirwholivesaheadofthem.pdf>

### Tax Season is Upon Us- Claim What's Yours

The University of Colorado paper, The Advocate, published an article recently claiming that as long as a student earns below \$49,000 per year and owes no taxes, they are entitled to substantial Earned Income Tax Credit funds. Each year, millions of dollars in such funds remain unclaimed. The article cites Executive Director John Russell of the IRS as saying, "If you had two children and you made \$20,000 a year, you could be getting \$5,000." Non-traditional students within their first four years of college can also benefit from the Obama-instituted American Opportunity Tax Credit, which modifies the Hope Scholarship to provide a maximum credit of \$2,500 for those with household incomes of \$80,000 (or \$160,000 for married couples). Parents claiming students as a dependent will receive the credit. Students under 25 years of age can take advantage of four different tax refunds as well. Learn more about your options by reading the full article available at: <http://www.ucdadvocate.com/news/huge-tax-stimulus-for-students-1.1163219>

### Tax Benefits for Education

Are you aware of and know the difference between a tax credit, deduction and saving plan. The deadline to complete your tax return is April 15, 2010. Educate yourself and remind your tax preparer by visiting the following IRS page at: <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=213044,00.html>

### Credits Cards and College Students

The [Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009](#) provides protection from lenders, but encourages colleges and universities to adopt policies that restrict credit card marketing on their campuses, including requiring advance notice of when marketers will be on campus and limiting the locations of marketing activities. It also encourages colleges to require credit and debt management sessions as a routine part of new student orientation programs.

### University College Community

**Dr. Susan Schurman**, Dean

**Betsy Feliciano-Berrios**, Asst. Dean for Recruitment & Student Services

**Dr. Kay Lynch**, Senior Coordinator of Special Programs

**Fidelia Pokuah**, Secretarial Assistant

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