

# 1766

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

# 70 YEARS ON THE AIR

ALUMNI SHARE THEIR  
WRSU MEMORIES



The magazine published  
by and for the  
Rutgers Alumni Association

SPRING 2019

ALSO INSIDE: 150 YEARS OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL • LOYAL SONS AND DAUGHTERS • WHAT'S NEW ON CAMPUS



**Rutgers Alumni Association**  
188 YEARS OF SERVICE  
TO RUTGERS ALUMNI

Founded in 1831, the Rutgers Alumni Association (RAA), a 501(c)(3) service organization, is the alumni association of the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences, and includes alumni of the School of Engineering, Mason Gross School of the Arts, the School of Graduate Studies, and the School of Management and Labor Relations. Membership in the Rutgers Alumni Association provides many benefits for its alumni, such as receiving special Rutgers publications, access to RAA events, merchandise, and much more!

As the fourth-oldest organized alumni association in America, the 188-year old RAA is proudly supported by a volunteer army fueled by more than 500,000 alumni constituents. We welcome your participation. To find out more about the RAA, visit [www.rutgersalumni.org](http://www.rutgersalumni.org) or call 732-932-7474.

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1766

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**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Greetings fellow Rutgers alumni, I hope you enjoy the reboot of 1766 Magazine!

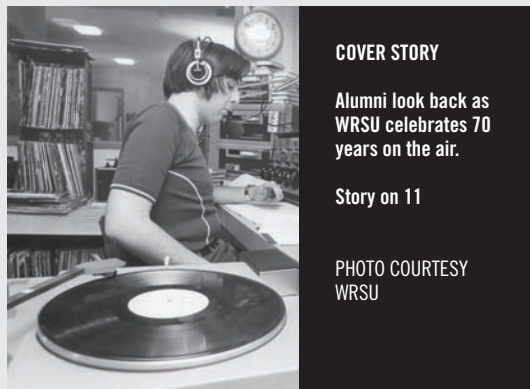


After a recent hiatus, the publication is back and the team is looking forward to providing you with a glimpse of Rutgers Alumni Association events, updates on the great work that Rutgers alumni are doing, and the latest happenings on campus.

I am a "Targum Dinosaur," having served on *The Daily Targum's* editorial board during my time at Rutgers, and am now senior manager for external communications at IEEE, the world's largest technical professional organization for engineers and technologists, helping to tell stories about the groundbreaking work our members do.

We look forward to hearing your feedback and comments! If you have a story idea or would like to write for 1766, contact us at [1766editor@rutgersalumni.org](mailto:1766editor@rutgersalumni.org).

Francine Tardo RC'96



**COVER STORY**

Alumni look back as WRSU celebrates 70 years on the air.

Story on 11

PHOTO COURTESY WRSU

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**ANWAR HUSSAIN RC'89**

Dear Fellow Rutgers Alumni,

It is my honor to serve as the president of The Rutgers Alumni Association (RAA), the fourth oldest alumni association in the country. I was invited to participate in the RAA over 15 years ago by a fellow alumnus as a way to stay connected with my alma mater, and to give back to Rutgers. The RAA is a great organization where there are many opportunities to volunteer and to stay connected with your alma mater and fellow alumni. We continue to live the RAA's mission of "Engaging Alumni, Helping Students, and Celebrating Rutgers."



The RAA is now the alumni association of the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences alumni. This is a great opportunity to work with Dean Peter March and his team to engage with graduates of SAS. I am very excited about communicating with and engaging with SAS alumni to participate in the RAA. We continue to engage with alumni at events and activities such as Scarlet Brunch at Homecoming, Marine and Coastal Sciences tour, Christmas concert, Alumni Wind Symphony concert, game watch parties, and family events at the Rutgers Gardens Fall fest. We help students through our initiatives such as the Vincent R. Kramer scholarship and speed networking. We give back through community service

initiatives to provide food, toys, and coats. This year we were able to raise additional food pantry donations through our sold-out *Phantom of the Opera* event at Kirkpatrick Chapel.

All of these activities and initiatives could not happen without the dedication and efforts of all the alumni leaders on the RAA committees, the RAA board, past RAA presidents, and all the alumni volunteers and dedicated individuals. I am very thankful and appreciative to them for all their guidance, their great ideas, and their hard work. They plan and execute all the activities and events as part of fulfilling the mission of the RAA.

We are always looking for alumni to bring diverse and new perspectives, participate in one of our many fun activities, as well as to volunteer in the RAA. As a fellow alumnus invited me 15 years ago, I invite you to reach out to the RAA, sign up for our newsletter, come to an event, and stay connected with Rutgers University and your fellow alumni. I am looking forward to meeting you!

In Rutgers Spirit,

**Anwar Hussain RC'89**

President, Rutgers Alumni Association, [anwar.hussain@rutgersalumni.org](mailto:anwar.hussain@rutgersalumni.org)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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**YEARS IN EXISTENCE**

The Rutgers Alumni Association is the fourth oldest continuously running organization in the United States. Building on Rutgers Revolutionary History, the RAA draws from a deep experience to plan for the future.

8

**CONSTITUENT SCHOOLS**

Rutgers is constantly evolving, and its strategic partnerships help serve alumni from legacy schools and current colleges throughout the Rutgers family.

760

**LOYAL SONS AND DAUGHTERS**

Each year RAA honors a select few individuals that display a significant devotion of service to our alma mater. The Loyal Sons and Daughters distinction has a rich history as the highest recognition of service awarded by the RAA.

Stay informed and engage with us at our new website and social media channels



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# Connecting Rutgers students and alumni around the globe

By Francine Tardo RC'96

Since originally chartered as Queen's College in 1766 (hence the namesake of this magazine), Rutgers University has continued to evolve during its 250-plus year history. In 2006, to align with changes in undergraduate education, Rutgers underwent a major transformation, creating the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) from the union of the four undergraduate colleges—Rutgers, Douglass, Livingston, and University. The mission of SAS is to provide a high quality, comprehensive education in the liberal arts and sciences.

In July 2014, Peter March became SAS Executive Dean and has had the opportunity to interact with many Rutgers alumni, referring to them as “the lifeblood of the university.” Dean March shared some thoughts about this “extremely powerful” network and how he looks forward to assimilating efforts of the legacy alumni who make up the Rutgers Alumni Association with the future graduates of SAS.

**Q: Now that the Rutgers Alumni Association is adding graduates from the School of Arts and Sciences to its population, what can we expect from this partnership?**

I see many opportunities, and over the past couple of years we have started to discuss ways to work together. I've already extended a standing invitation to the president of the RAA to our Dean's Advisory Council meeting to share reports and updates with the team. And of course, members of RAA now officially welcome SAS graduates as alumni at our Convocation and present pins to every student as they exit the stage.

The next step is a formal plan. There are lots of ways that we can go, but we should do it thoughtfully.

There are about 5,000 new alumni coming out of SAS every year so there will be a steady stream of new members. I'm very pleased by the hard work RAA has been doing to consider what it would mean to have a formal affiliation with SAS, and the possibilities for working together.



Peter March, who became Dean of the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences in July 2014, says alumni are “the lifeblood of the university.” PHOTO COURTESY RUTGERS SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Another area of potential collaboration is communications, where I see an opportunity for the *SAS ACCESS* publication and RAA publications like *1766* to work together.

**Q: How would you like to see Rutgers alumni stay engaged with the current student population, and upcoming graduates?**

One great example is how the director of our Career Explorations Initiative has partnered with RAA for the Speed Networking event and the Connect event. Both these activities are important for students seeking to develop their careers, and they provide wonderful opportunities for alumni to share their career stories and advice.

Overall, our alumni are the single greatest asset of our institution. My real hope is to find more meaningful ways to support alumni not just five or 10 years after graduation, but 50 years after graduation. I



RAA President Anwar Hussain RC'89, Dean March, and RAA Vice President Raylene Ravarra RC'95 gather at a speed networking event. COURTESY OF RAA

am committed to creating a seamless network that connects the community, students, and alumni in a way that keeps Rutgers relevant in their lives. In every workplace across the globe, there are Rutgers alumni in various stages of their careers, including those at the very highest levels of leadership. We are looking for ways to connect the leadership and experience of our alumni with our students. We want students to understand the importance of remaining involved with Rutgers for the rest of their lives.

**Q: You have been traveling across the globe to meet a variety of Rutgers alumni. Have you encountered anything surprising?**

What we have done is identified cities with at least 500 alumni in them. It has taken me all over the U.S. and Asia, and we are going to replicate it in Europe and Canada. One commonality is that people will have an emotional tie to a particular course, taught by an iconic professor. In most cases, that course was not in their major. Some will say, “I majored in physics, but what I remember most was my art history professor.”

I always encourage alumni to come to campus and slip into the back of a lecture hall. They're in for a marvelous time, witnessing the excellence of our teaching and research. They'll be reminded of their own Rutgers experience, and they'll leave feeling very excited and inspired by their connection to the university.

**Q: Where do you see your efforts in five years? What are your long-range goals?**

The hope is to create tight networks of city-based alumni clubs that are connected with one another. What this could mean

## CURRENT SAS ALUMNI BY SCHOOL

Rutgers has 500,000 alumni, 200,000 from the School of Arts and Sciences.

<b>39,444</b>	<b>35,614</b>	<b>26,256</b>	<b>16,839</b>	<b>84,252</b>
School of Arts and Sciences	Douglass College	Livingston College	University College	Rutgers College

**“OVERALL, OUR ALUMNI ARE THE SINGLE GREATEST**

**ASSET OF OUR INSTITUTION. MY REAL HOPE IS TO**

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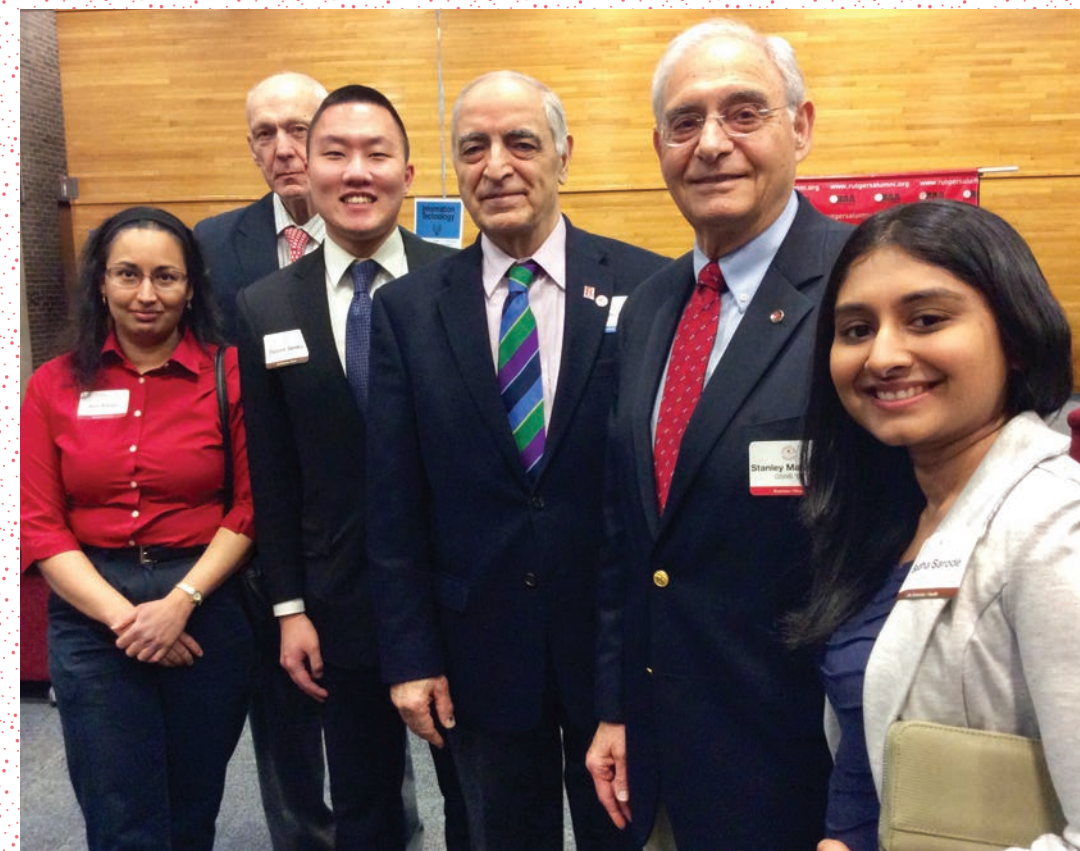
is that a student graduating in May who grew up in New Jersey, but is moving to Houston for his or her first job, can contact the Houston Rutgers group and say “I'm moving here, and would like to meet you – do you have any ideas for apartments, neighborhood locations, etc.” I'm hoping to elaborate the networking structures – the Rutgers alumni network is everywhere. It can help you in your career, but you can also contribute to it to help others. That is my hope.



# ▶▶ FAST TRACK

On March 4, the Rutgers Alumni Association held its 14th annual Speed Networking Event on the College Avenue Campus. This year, the event featured 72 registered alumni and 68 registered students. The event was open to all Rutgers students and alumni.

Speed Networking, which was more closely coordinated with the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences than in previous years, was split into two different sessions. The first was a one-hour, structured networking event, where students rotated to meet about 20 alumni seated around the room. Students are able to practice introductions, learn about each alumni's professional history, and make connections. The second was an open-networking session where students and alumni are guided by career areas, but welcome to mingle and meet others.



Attendees of the RAA Speed Networking event gave students and alumni the opportunity to make new connections during one-on-one meetings and a general reception. PHOTOS COURTESY OF RAA

Rutgers is revolutionary...

# EVEN IN FOOTBALL

November 6 marks the anniversary of the first college football game; played vs. Princeton on College Avenue

By Jim Kelly RC'79 RBS'81

Many people, especially Rutgers alumni, know about the university's roots in the year 1766, before the Revolutionary War that established the United States. Some people also know about revolutionary discoveries at Rutgers, like the discovery of streptomycin in the 1940s by scientist Selman Waksman and his team of Rutgers scientists. While many also know that Rutgers had a big hand in the beginning of one of our nation's most popular sports, college football, few know the details. Yes, that's right, Rutgers was a part of the very first collegiate football game in 1869 against Princeton, which was called The College of New Jersey at that time. And, it was played right on College Avenue in New Brunswick. November 6, 2019, marks the 150th anniversary of this game that would earn Rutgers the nickname of "the birthplace of college football."

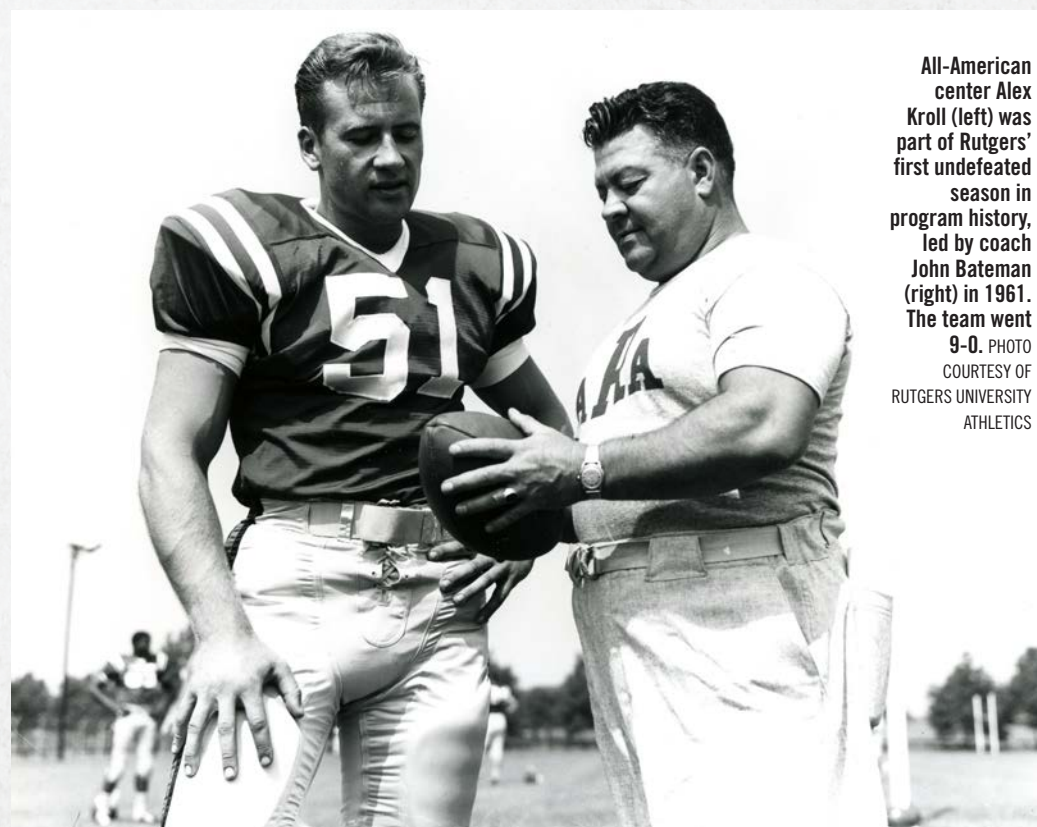
## The First Match

On the morning of November 6, the team from Princeton boarded a train to New Brunswick for the one-hour trip. And, they brought a lot of student spectators with them. The game was described as a casual, friendly affair. Among the 50 players in the game were future state politicians, a future Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, and both Confederate and Union soldiers of the Civil War. But once the game started, it quickly became a fierce battle of rivals.

Princeton was bigger, but Rutgers was more agile. *The Daily Targum* of November 1869, quotes: "To describe the varying fortunes of the match, game by game, would be a waste of labor, for every game was like the one before. There was the same headlong running, wild shouting, and frantic kicking. In every game, the cool goaltenders saved the Rutgers goal half a dozen times; in every game the heavy charger of the Princeton side overthrew everything he came in contact with."

The game rules were more like rugby, or soccer, rather than football as we know it today. The ball was round, like a soccer ball. Teams were made up of 25 players, and the goal was to kick the ball into the opponent's goal, which were two posts without a cross bar at opposite ends of the field of play. Players were also allowed to bat the ball with their hands, feet, sides, or head to other players, or directly into the goal. Carrying or throwing the ball were not permitted. And, there were 10 "games" played within the entire match. Each time a single point was scored, it would signify the end of that game, and the team

CONTINUED ON 10



All-American center Alex Kroll (left) was part of Rutgers' first undefeated season in program history, led by coach John Bateman (right) in 1961. The team went 9-0. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

"In every game, the cool goaltenders saved the Rutgers goal half a dozen times; in every game the heavy charger of the Princeton side overthrew everything he came in contact with."

FROM *THE DAILY TARGUM*  
OF NOVEMBER 1869

Above: Rutgers Athletics unveiled a special logo to commemorate the 150th anniversary of college football last November 6, indicating a year-long celebration will be kicked off in 2019.

## FOOTBALL ALUMNI REFLECT ON BEING A PART OF HISTORY

Doug Kavulich CC'93, a California native and the starting center on the team that beat Penn State in 1988, indicated that he was made aware in the recruiting process of that distinction. "It carried weight for me, it gave the program some gravitas."

Steve Tomkins RC'89, a Jersey guy who first played for Rice University, then transferred back home to finish his career at Rutgers, was a defensive end on that same 1988 team, that also beat Michigan State. "I don't think we thought much about it at the time, but it has become a source of pride knowing how many played before us and paved the way for college football."

Rutgers Football Hall of Famer and Edison native, Bert Kosup RC'78, who quarterbacked one of only two Rutgers teams to go undefeated in the 1975-1976 season, remembered the 100th anniversary in 1969 when he was still in junior high school. "It was the first year I played organized football. I can remember the centennial game against Princeton on TV, and the commemorative emblem of a football with the number 100 written across it. What an honor it is to have played at Rutgers and to be part of such an historic program. Could anyone in 1869 have imagined what that original contest would lead to?"

The only player in Rutgers football history to have his number retired, Eric LeGrand SAS'14, a former defensive tackle who played for Coach Greg Schiano, said, "I was aware of Rutgers being the birthplace of college football because of the sign in the stadium, and it feels great to have stayed home here in New Jersey and play for my state university. I take a lot of pride in that."



Frank Burns, the winningest coach in the history of Rutgers football, is carried off the field after defeating Colgate, capping off an 11-0 undefeated season in 1976. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

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who scored was awarded one point. The team with most games won out of 10 would win the football match.

Because Rutgers won six of the 10 games, the match score was 6-4, a close Rutgers win. The game was played in what is now the parking lot behind "The Barn," on College Avenue. It is not widely known that the second collegiate football game was played just a week later, on November 13, this time in Princeton, and Princeton won decisively, 8-0. Darkness prohibited the completion of the last two games.

### Beginnings of College Football to be Celebrated Nationwide

There will be a nationwide celebration of the 150th anniversary across all of college football this fall. Rutgers Athletics Director Patrick Hobbs is part of a 13-person committee involved in the commemoration. The celebration "will showcase the rich history and traditions of the sport and its contribution to American society and culture, while also promoting the opportunity it continues to provide to thousands of student-athletes across all levels of the sport." Football fans can stay up to date on social media (#CFB150) and at [www.cfb150.org](http://www.cfb150.org)

Beginning in September, ESPN will be airing an 11-episode

documentary series entitled *The American Game*, which will be a definitive look at college football from its birth, not just as a sport, but as a cultural phenomenon.

ESPN will also air a separate series beginning in September entitled *The Greatest*, which will chronicle college football through stories of the landmark games, bigger than life personalities, and monumental events.

As for Rutgers, the emphasis will be around the theme of being the birthplace of college football. After all, there is only one place where this game started, and that happens to be in New Brunswick, at Rutgers. All seven home football games will have a historical football theme, and there may be joint events with Princeton. Plans are still in the development stage, with more details available by late summer, according to the Rutgers Athletics Department. Ironically, the Rutgers football team has a bye week on November 9, when the anniversary will be celebrated at all divisions of intercollegiate football.

As an academic institution, Rutgers is very much a part of our nation's history. Rutgers has its roots before the American Revolution. Rutgers has created revolutionary new medicines. And, Rutgers started the revolution of college sports as the birthplace of college football.



## 70 YEARS OF ON-AIR SERVICE TO THE RUTGERS COMMUNITY



Take a trip down memory lane with Rutgers alumni who spent part of their college years on the airwaves.

BY MARTY SIEDERER LC'77



Above: Ann Sudia, a Douglass College student, spins a request at WRSU as two staff members look on. At top, from left: Assistant Music Director Blake Lew-Merwin and Music Director Mica Finehart get ready to interview an artist; Erica Herskowitz began with an internship in the late '90s, and now works as update anchor at WFAN in New York; Danny Breslauer and Max Scheiner broadcast a Rutgers football game in the mid-2000s.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WRSU

# “Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. **This is Rutgers Radio.**”

Those were the first words heard on WRSU, the Rutgers on-campus radio station, on April 27, 1948, spoken by program director William K. Anderson. Then-university President Robert C. Clothier was the sole guest on the first program that day, and marked WRSU’s premiere with the declaration that “increasingly, over the years, WRSU will serve greatly to enrich the lives of the students at Rutgers and to bring them not only entertainment but information in important fields, which will serve to supplement the more formal education of classroom, lecture hall, and laboratory.”

At that time, WRSU was found at 630 on the AM radio dial and its signal could only reach the College Avenue dorms, the buildings very close to the College Avenue campus, and the buildings that were part of the New Jersey College for Women (now Douglass Residential College). The first station studios were located at 12 College Avenue in a building that now houses the Bildner Center on Jewish Life. Programming consisted of music, news and sports. After the College Avenue Student Center was completed in 1969, WRSU moved its studio there and still calls the student center its home base today.

The “FM version” of WRSU went on the air on January 27, 1974 at 88.7, reaching a broader audience. The AM and FM stations were broadcast simultaneously with different programming until 1976, when the AM operations ceased. Today, WRSU-FM can be heard about 15 to 20 miles north, and over 20 miles south of New Brunswick. Today’s programming features a mix of music, news, and sports talk and Rutgers sports broadcasts.

## A Trip Through The Archives Brings Back Fun Memories

To celebrate its 70 years of on-air service to the Rutgers community in 2018, the station initiated a series of programs looking back at on-air highlights and a fundraising drive to update its production facilities. According to **Mike Pavlichko RC’00**, who serves as the faculty administrator for the station and teaches in the Rutgers undergraduate program in Journalism and Media Studies, going into station archives has brought back many memories for him and the original broadcasters that were invited back to discuss their time at WRSU.

“One of the most fun ‘From the Archives’ broadcasts has been the replays of key moments in Rutgers sports, including highlights from the men’s 1976-77 basketball season and the women’s 1982 basketball championship. We had to rely on listener tapes – some on reel-to-reel tape – to fill in some of the missing archives, and we welcome any tapes that our alumni may have.”

As part of “From the Archives,” Pavlichko, who was a sports broadcaster and host during his student years at Rutgers, invited the original broadcasters of the key games back to the studios to share their memories of broadcasting the games as students.



In 1968, the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) “liberated” the statue of Willie the Silent as part of a protest against the Vietnam War. The president of Rutgers, Mason Gross, went to the statue to speak to the students and defuse a potentially volatile situation. Ron Reisman was working with WRSU News as a reporter and was there to interview Gross as a photographer captured the moment. The photo was published on the front page of the *Star-Ledger* when Gross died in 1977. PHOTO COURTESY OF WRSU



WRSU students Dante Intindola, center, and Keith Haas broadcast live from the Middlesex County Fair. PHOTO COURTESY OF WRSU

“In the late 1990s, it cost money to make a long-distance call, and that’s how we had to patch broadcasts of away games back to the studio to go on the air. One of the students used a phone calling card that had some minutes left on it to save money on the call for the broadcast from Villanova’s gym. Imagine everyone’s surprise when during the broadcast, the time on the calling card ran out, and over the air, everyone heard the operator say, ‘Please press 1 to add more time to your calling card.’”

## WRSU Alumni Share Their Stories

**Marla Diamond LC’92** leveraged her experiences at WRSU to news reporting jobs at WCTC-AM in New Brunswick and WCBS-AM in New York, where she has been working since 1997. “I knew I wanted to be a radio announcer, and WRSU was a great place to experience what it’s really like to be behind the mic. Rutgers and WRSU set me on the path to where I am today, in a

great job that I’ve enjoyed for 20 years.”

**Steve Boy RC’79** remembers first hearing WRSU as a student in his car in the parking lot outside Hardenbergh Hall. He joined the station in 1974 and eventually became the station’s operations manager, juggling his station responsibilities while working nights at a supermarket. “I would finish work on a Friday night at 9 p.m. and get over to the station to do a sportscast at 10 p.m.,” recalled Boy. He was also involved with broadcasts of the Rutgers 1975-76 men’s basketball team’s run to the NCAA Final Four and helped assemble “Run, Rutgers Run,” a record album with highlights of WRSU’s broadcasts of the team’s 26-0 regular season games.

**Danny Breslauer RC’10** knew during his high school years that he wanted to be part of the WRSU team, and got an early taste of the broadcast world while interning as a high schooler at WCTC in New Brunswick.

## ON THE AIR

In addition to WRSU, other Rutgers stations include:

**WRLC**, 90.3 FM The Core on the Livingston Campus

**WRNU** on the Newark Campus (103.9 FM and online at [wrnu.info](http://wrnu.info))

**WCCR** on the Camden Campus (online at <https://campuscenter.camden.rutgers.edu/wccr-student-radio-station>)

CONTINUED ON 14



Mike Pavlichko RC'00 and Mike Gadarian RC'02 call the Rutgers women's basketball team's game at Colorado State in the 1999 preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament in Ft. Collins, Colo. PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE PAVLICHKO

## STILL BROADCASTING

WRSU alumni who remained at the microphone after their time at Rutgers include:

**Danny Breslauer RC'10**, fill-in Rutgers basketball online play-by-play

**Gordon Deal RC'89**, business broadcaster and former Rutgers play-by-play broadcaster

**Rich DeMarco RC'98**, Army football play-by-play

**Marla Diamond LC'92**, WCBS 880 AM reporter

**Rich Edson RC'03**, Fox News Channel reporter

**Mike Emanuel RC'90**, Fox News Channel chief congressional and senior political correspondent

**Bernard Goldberg RC'67**, Fox News Channel commentator and correspondent for HBO's Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel

**Erica Herskowitz RC'98**, WFAN radio sports update anchor

**Zubin Mehenti RC'96**, ESPN SportsCenter anchor

**Mike Pavlichko RC'00**, former WCTC broadcaster

**Matt Pinfield**, Host on MTV, VH1 and Sirius XM radio

**Neil Solondz RC'92**, Tampa Bay Rays broadcaster

FROM PAGE 13

Breslauer was a member of the WRSU staff from September 2006 through graduation in May 2010, doing sports and news broadcasts, and serving as the sports director and general manager of the station. "I called Rutgers football games during a great era for the program, followed top-shelf women's basketball teams to the Virgin Islands and throughout the Big East conference. We had a stacked sports staff, with multiple members who went into professional sports journalism and/or broadcasting, so that made things even more fun."

**Erica Herskowitz RC'98** went to her first station meeting on a dare, and volunteered at RSU for all four years of her time at Rutgers. "I loved my time at WRSU. I made some lifelong friends like **Gary Winkler ('91)** and **Ryan Williams ('90)**... got to see so many cities and arenas... doing play-by-play for the men's and women's basketball teams." Herskowitz's first time doing play-by-play was the Rutgers women's basketball game at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia. She remembers then coach Theresa Greutz making a special stop on the team's ride home to pick up Philly cheesesteaks. "I've been hooked on them ever since!"

**Mike Emanuel RC'90** was attracted to check out WRSU as a volunteer activity via an ad in *The Daily Targum* during his first week on campus. A sports broadcaster for the station, Emanuel did play-by-play for the football, men's and women's basketball, and men's soccer teams, and also announced men's lacrosse and baseball games on campus. "The men's soccer team under Coach Bob Reasso was one of the top programs in the country, going to the Final Four in 1989 and 1990, and I would regularly go to his office and interview him. He was a total class act, and very kind to me as a student broadcaster."



Above: In the main studio with Les Wintz, left, and Matthew Zuck in 1948.

Top: WRSU alum Ed Wong mans the board on his long-running Saturday morning '90s alternative show "El Hombre Solo" (The Lonely Guy). Wong has been a WRSU mainstay on Saturdays for more than two decades. PHOTOS COURTESY OF WRSU

**Andrew Ghilino SAS'11** got interested in radio broadcasting in high school. "One of my high school elective courses was in radio broadcasting. I enjoyed creating content and it paired nicely with my interest in television production. When I entered Rutgers and got involved with RU-tv, I was looking for other broadcasting opportunities. I came across WRSU at a student involvement fair, and upon learning of the great history and opportunity that the station presented, I decided to become involved." Ghilino became the station's music director and hosted rock music shows.

**Stuart Naar RC'77** first thought about a career in radio when his high school teacher said, "You have a good voice." On May 12, 1973, Naar attended an orientation for incoming Rutgers freshmen and visited the WRSU studios. "It was the first time I was ever in a radio station. I was hooked from there." Naar was part of the team that got WRSU-FM on the air in January 1974, and was part of a broadcast team that did a remote from Times Square on New Year's Eve 1976 into New Year's Day 1977. An internship led to his career on the market research side of the business. Now retired, Naar was part of the series of shows RSU broadcast in 2018 to mark the station's 70 years on the air.

**Gregg Tabakin RC'77** also joined RSU in 1973. "It was an exciting time at the station," said Tabakin. "The station was just starting to go to FM, which meant there would be an audience outside of the dorms. It was a period of great sports success for the school, with the basketball team having an undefeated regular season during my junior year and the football team had its own undefeated season during my senior year."

The sports staff started Knightline, the post-game call-in show that still exists today. Tabakin became the sports director for the station and was one of the broadcasters for the men's basketball team's games in the NCAA Final Four.

### Support the Station

WRSU is embarking on a major fundraising drive to underwrite the cost of a renovation of its studios this summer with the very latest in digital equipment and audio playback systems.

Any donation is welcome, and all donations \$70 or more will receive WRSU gear such as sweatshirts, retro T-shirts, and tote bags and the chance to be a guest DJ or guest host on Knightline.

To make a donation towards the goal of raising \$70,000 in honor of the station's 70th anniversary, visit [www.wrsu.org/donate](http://www.wrsu.org/donate).



# CONSTRUCTING A LEGACY

By Francine Tardo RC'96

**R**ichard N. Weeks ENG'50 has made quite an impact on the maritime construction industry over the course of his career, and he continues to make an impact on the current and future students of Rutgers. In October, Weeks made a commitment of \$10 million to support undergraduate scholarships at the Rutgers School of Engineering. Through his generous contribution, he now holds the distinction of pledging the largest gift to Rutgers for scholarships, and the largest ever to the engineering school.

"Mr. Weeks is a great friend to the university and to the School of Engineering. The [Richard N.] Weeks Endowed Scholarship will elevate the school by helping it nurture future generations of leaders essential to America's economic, technological, and industrial success," Thomas Farris, dean of the School of Engineering, stated in the press release announcing the gift.

When Weeks graduated from Rutgers, he joined his family's business, originally named Weeks Stevedoring Company, which refers to the practice of loading or unloading a ship's cargo. In 1960, when Weeks assumed the presidency, he expanded and diversified its services. Weeks currently

**Richard N. Weeks gives largest scholarship ever to the university**



Richard Weeks' generous \$10 million donation will enable aspiring students to pursue a career in engineering.



Weeks, joined by Rutgers President Robert Barchi on his right, and Chancellor Christopher Malloy and Rutgers School of Engineering Dean Thomas Farris on his left, cut the ribbon at the dedication for The Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering. NICK ROMANENKO



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING STUDENT STATS

3,900 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

1,000 GRADUATE STUDENTS

25,000+ ALUMNI NETWORK

serves as chairman of Weeks Marine, Inc., now one of the leading marine construction, dredging, and tunneling firms in North America.

Current Rutgers School of Engineering students are benefitting from Weeks' continued generosity toward Rutgers by utilizing the Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering, which opened in September 2018. The 100,000 square-foot facility features cutting-edge labs in advanced manufacturing, sustainability, aerospace, and robotics, and includes smart classrooms and collaborative workspaces where students can discuss research and work on design projects. Weeks had pledged \$6 million toward the construction of the facility.

This was the first time that the School of Engineering has had a building named for an alumnus. At the building's dedication, Weeks' son provided a statement on his behalf. "The roots of the Weeks family are founded in the commitments made during the progressive era to provide excellent educational opportunities to all, regardless of economic circumstances. Our family wants Rutgers to be an effective crucible... of what so clearly benefitted our family, over and over again, beginning a century ago."

Weeks was inducted into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 2017 in recognition of his vital contributions to engineering and business, and was presented with the School of Engineering Medal of Excellence Award, the school's highest honor, in 2015.



**"The roots of the Weeks family are founded in the commitments made during the progressive era to provide excellent educational opportunities to all, regardless of economic circumstances. Our family wants Rutgers to be an effective crucible... of what so clearly benefitted our family, over and over again, beginning a century ago."** WEEKS' FAMILY STATEMENT

Top: Weeks is applauded when the scholarship announcement is first made, at the 2018 Rutgers School of Engineering Medal of Excellence alumni honoree dinner. ROY GROETHING

Above: The Richard Weeks Hall of Engineering on Busch Campus is described as "a gateway for the engineering community, industry partners and the public." PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

# Middle schoolers get a glimpse of college life

By Jeffrey Armus LC'77

The Community Service Committee of the Rutgers Alumni Association (RAA) coordinates various projects to extend the reach of the RAA to the local Greater New Brunswick and Middlesex County areas.

Past projects have included the annual Jersey Cares Coat Drive, sponsoring families at the holidays (Adopt-A-Family), and food collection for the Rutgers Student Food Bank. In addition, alumni committee members have volunteered at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey (Hillside) and Elijah's Promise (New Brunswick).

The group's signature event is the sponsorship of "Rutgers in Your Backyard," a program designed to introduce the concept of attending college to "at risk" middle school students, and letting parents know that it can be possible. Rutgers in Your Backyard focuses on targeted school districts, classified as "Abbott districts" by the State of New Jersey. Abbott districts are school districts that are provided state aid to ensure that their students receive public education in accordance with the state constitution. They are named after a landmark court case, Abbott vs. Burke, which guarantees high-level state funding to low-income districts.

The RAA has invited students and parents from the Samuel E. Shull Middle School in Perth Amboy to this event over the past several years. The day begins with an information session at the Busch Student Center (or the Visitor Center). After a welcoming introduction by the RAA President and the committee co-chairs, the guests received presentations by staff members from the admissions department, financial aid, and educational opportunity fund. The agenda was provided in both English and Spanish since English was a second language to some of the parents/guardians.

After the morning presentations, a "fun" activity was provided to guests. In 2018, guests boarded buses to get a tour of the Rutgers Geology Museum on the College Avenue Campus. They were escorted by Rutgers Student Ambassadors, a group of outstanding students who volunteer at the University. A volunteer at the museum explained some history about the exhibits, after which the guests could have some free time to tour the museum.

After a campus bus tour, a panel of Rutgers students with similar backgrounds discussed how they selected Rutgers and what campus life is like. They also described classes and the pros and cons of dorm living versus commuting. At the conclusion of



Middle school students spend time at the Rutgers Geology Museum as part of Rutgers in Your Backyard. JEFFREY ARMUS

the panel discussion, the students were given gift bags, including "R" magnets, RAA pens, and Rutgers 250 giveaway bags. The feedback from the school administration was positive and they inquired about future events.

## JOIN THE COMMITTEE

If you are interested in joining the RAA Community Service Committee, please contact the RAA office. The current committee chairpersons are Luis Largo GSE'07 and Bernie Parkhurst RC'87. They will be happy to welcome you to the committee.

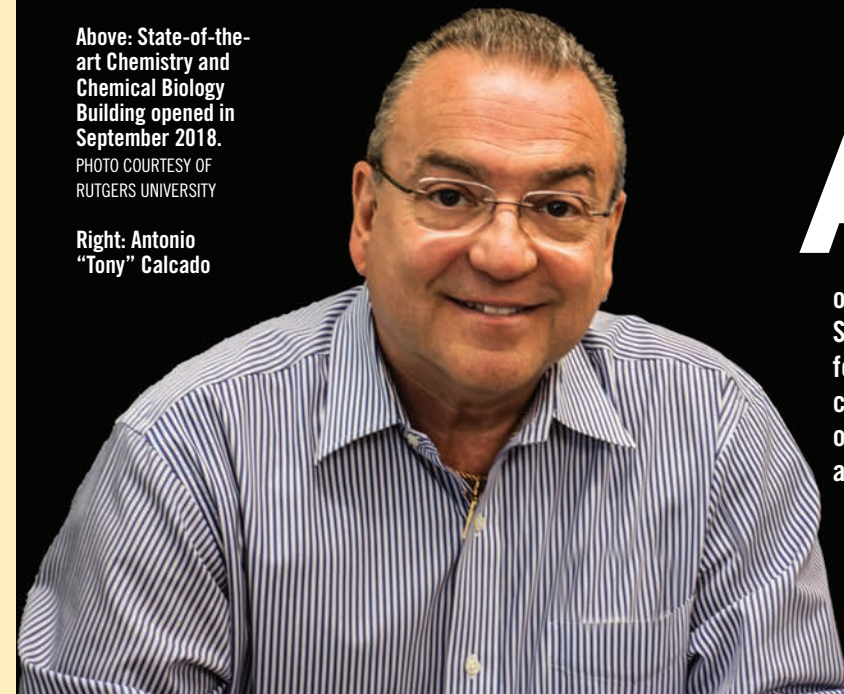
# VISION FOR RUTGERS

Tony Calcado talks about recent upgrades and future plans for the Rutgers campuses



Above: State-of-the-art Chemistry and Chemical Biology Building opened in September 2018. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

Right: Antonio "Tony" Calcado



By Ron Ghilino RC'80

Anyone who hasn't visited the Rutgers University campus over the past few years may be in for a big surprise – a number of changes and upgrades have made some areas almost unrecognizable. These improvements are a result of the vision and planning of Antonio "Tony" Calcado, Executive Vice President for Strategic Planning and Operations and Chief Operating Officer for Rutgers. His responsibilities include oversight of the \$3 billion capital construction program – which includes a \$450 million operating budget for facilities, transportation, capital planning and construction, safety, emergency services, and more.

CONTINUED ON 20

The responsibility for all of the university's physical assets across the State of New Jersey falls into Calcado's capable hands. Those assets total over 29 million square feet and \$10 billion in value. Calcado is responsible for 2,700 associates who represent six functional areas and four campuses. Calcado instills in his associates the need for them to work towards one goal – to be committed to working for the greater good of the university.

Calcado started his career at Rutgers in an entry-level facilities position, and now lends his expertise, leadership, and management skills to all levels of Rutgers administration, assisting The Division of Administration and Public Safety, the Department of Emergency Services, and the Department of Transportation Services, among others.

Recently Calcado found some time in his busy schedule to speak with *1766* about some of the work and planning he is involved with currently. When asked what his average day looks like, Calcado says it flows naturally based on the big picture of what it takes to improve the student experience, based on what is available. "The most important thing is to do what is needed to enhance the student experience and to support everyone's plans," he said.

Calcado noted that in recent years, prioritizing projects based on the strategic plan resulted in a vast improvement in operations. "There was now a greater understanding that the facility came second to the strategic plan because there was no rhythm to what was being done previously. It was important to see that facilities follow educational needs and that President Robert Barchi recognized the need to this way of thinking."

Asked to give an example of a project that was considered an urgent need, Calcado didn't hesitate to indicate a need to "improve the bus system."

Calcado said one of the largest tasks undertaken to truly enhance the student experience was marrying student registration, scheduling, transportation, and housing. At a university the size of Rutgers, it is critical to make this work for



The New Jersey Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health, a \$55 million, 78,000 square-foot building on the George H. Cook Campus, houses state-of-the-art laboratories, community clinics, a children's nutrition center and preschool as well as a dining facility offering healthy food options. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

## CALCADO'S TO-DO LIST

The future projects at all Rutgers campuses will change the physical face of Rutgers forever. Some highlights and include:

- A campus-connecting pedestrian bridge that would also serve as a community sky park suspended over the Raritan River
- Complete reworking of the College Avenue Quad to include eliminating buildings such as Brower Commons, Records Hall, and Clothier Hall. New facilities would include a new dining hall, banquet hall, student center, and parking underneath it all.
- Faculty and staff housing at Cook
- Cooper Street in Camden where Rutgers will move offices into the old Camden County Prosecutor's Office building
- Reworking of entire Paul Robeson Campus Center in Newark
- Turning an abandoned skyscraper at 15 Washington Street in Newark into a luxury dorm ("pet project" of Calcado's)

# A CAMPUS HOME AWAY FROM HOME

By Ron Ghilino RC'80

Rutgers wants alumni to come back to campus and feel comfortable while they are there. That's why Alumni Houses and an Alumni Welcome Center have been implemented at all three university campuses. Recently opened are the new **Alumni House at Van Nest Hall** at Rutgers University-New Brunswick and the new **Alumni Center at Rutgers University-Newark**. The **Alumni House at Rutgers University Camden** has been open since 2016.

Historic buildings have been renovated for each facility and include meeting rooms, WiFi, and comfortable space for alumni when they visit campus. The goal is to have alumni specific events and activities hosted in each location.

Rutgers Alumni House at Van Nest Hall is located at 19 College Avenue in New Brunswick. The Alumni House occupies the first floor of Van Nest, with the Rutgers University Alumni Association on the upper floors.

Alumni Center at Rutgers-Newark is located at 72 Washington Street. Built in the 19th century, this beautifully renovated building houses alumni relations and development offices.

Alumni House at Rutgers Camden is located at the former Red Cross building. This 19th century building has been redesigned and is now a place for alumni to enjoy when they come back for a visit.

In addition, **The Rutgers Club** recently moved into new quarters upstairs from the Livingston Dining Commons. Alumni are encouraged to stop by for a meal and enjoy the ambiance of the club. Reservations are recommended and you must be a member to purchase alcoholic beverages. The Rutgers Club has reciprocity with over 100 university clubs throughout the world. Why not join?

As Rutgers continues to grow and transform, it's good to know that alumni will always have a special place on every campus.



The Rutgers Club, upstairs from the Livingston Dining Commons, hosts special events throughout the year open to Rutgers alumni, in addition to serving regular meals. PHOTO COURTESY OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

students instead of against them. For example, an effort was made to align first year student housing to where courses are located for those students. It was found students were making, on average, four campus changes per day. When needed, the university would intervene on an individual basis to help a student navigate through Rutgers' campuses.

An example of a project that is ongoing but has made an impact at Rutgers is the transformation of Livingston Campus. As Calcado says, "We've created a little community there with great retail and

housing options as well as a world-class business school and an all-around great atmosphere."

Of course it's also important to keep an eye on Rutgers' historic past and preserve buildings like "The Barn," or the College Avenue Gym, which was the former home of Rutgers basketball games, and where Bruce Springsteen once played in 1976. Calcado assures it "will not be touched."

For somebody that deals daily in bricks, steel, and mortar, Calcado wanted us to know that, "Memories aren't buildings, but connections we made to buildings." Change

is inevitable and needed for Rutgers to continue to grow and prosper in the future. "Our goal is to strive to develop not just for today but for an evolving future."

Calcado had this final word for Rutgers alumni, "The Rutgers community includes all of our alumni, so come back, see what is here for you and feel comfortable on campus." That's great advice and the RAA urges everyone to follow it. When you get back to your campus and see the changes that have happened you will know that it is in no small part to the vision and passion that Calcado has for Rutgers.



## A COMMITMENT TO **EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE**

By Christa DiMaio-Richie CCAS'99 GSC'05

**T**hey inspire us. They lead us. They transform us with their vision and engage us in their commitment to service. These are The Loyal Sons and Daughters of Rutgers, recognized by the Rutgers Alumni Association for extraordinary service to the university.

The men and women who receive The Loyal Sons and Daughters Award are exceptional individuals. This honor is conferred by alumni to alumni who have made a significant impact through service to university life and the community. Each award reflects the highest recognition of volunteer service, and celebrates the achievements of each one of the nominees. Those selected have changed the lives they touch; the work they do is a commitment to excellence.

Candidates are nominated by prior recipients of The Loyal Sons and Daughters Award with the final selection done by a committee and the Rutgers Alumni Association Board of Directors. These volunteers have enhanced the life of the university from volunteering on multiple boards and committees to giving time and counsel to specific academic, athletic, or outreach programs.

The 61st Loyal Sons and Daughters of Rutgers Awards Dinner was held Saturday, April 13, 2019, at The Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. Like those celebrated for their service, the team who organized the event, co-chairs Cara Bufanio MGSA'85 and Melissa Daniel DC'00, GMLR'01 are volunteers who motivate others to get involved through their spirit and enthusiasm.

### **Michael Azzara RC'69**

Michael W. Azzara is a graduate of Rutgers College Class of 1969, has been an active and dedicated alumnus for many years, and a leader of fundraising efforts and activities that have supported a wide array of programs and advancements at his alma mater. He currently serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Rutgers Board of Trustees as well as the Board of Governors Health Affairs Committee. He began serving on the School of Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Council in 2003.

### **James F. Dougherty RC'74 GSNB'75**

James F. Dougherty is a graduate of Rutgers College Class of 1974, and the Graduate School, New Brunswick, (Master of Science in Animal Science) Class of 1975. Dougherty currently serves as Vice Chair of the Rutgers University Board of Trustees and is a member of the Rutgers University Board of Overseers. He is a member of several boards and councils including the Advisory Board of the School of Public Health, the Tyler Clementi Center Advisory Board, the Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences Executive Dean's Advisory Council, and is Chair of the Development Sub-Committee.

### **John J. Healey GSNB'70**

A graduate of Manhattan College (Bachelor of Civil Engineering) and the University of Illinois (Master of Science), John J. Healey earned his doctorate from Rutgers Graduate School of New Brunswick in 1970 (PhD in Engineering). Healey has provided critical volunteer service to the School of Graduate Studies, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the School of Engineering. John served as Chair of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Board from 2008 to 2015, and was a member of the School of Engineering's Industry Advisory Board from 2012 to 2015.

### **James R. McRobbie ENG'79**

James R. McRobbie is a graduate of Rutgers School of Engineering Class of 1979. He began his volunteer service with the Rutgers Engineering Society, where he initiated the highly successful "Alternate Energy Symposium." Upon rising to the presidency of the Rutgers Engineering Society

the following year, he developed two more successful symposiums that offered exceptional education and networking opportunities for alumni. McRobbie served as co-chair of the Rutgers Alumni Association's Reunion Committee, and later, the expanded Reunion/Homecoming Committee. McRobbie currently serves on the RAA's Long Range Planning committee.

### **Steven A. Miller RC'79**

Steven A. Miller, a graduate of Rutgers College Class of 1979, is the Director of Undergraduate Studies in Journalism and Media Studies at Rutgers School of Communication and Information (SC&I). During his undergraduate years, he immersed himself in campus communications by working for *The Daily Targum* and WRSU radio. Miller went on to receive a Master's Degree in Education from Boston University, but would come back to Rutgers in 1987 to run the SC&I (then the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies) audio/visual lab. His role in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies began the following year, and over the next decade he taught courses in Media and Television Reporting and has led the department's internship program, where has placed students at some of the biggest media organizations.

### **Thomas Struble CC'81**

Thomas Struble graduated from Cook College in 1981. His commitment to the Rutgers community began during his student years, culminating in his presidency of the Rutgers University Glee Club. Struble is a member of the Cook Community Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Rutgers University Senate. He currently serves the Rutgers Alumni Association as co-chair of its Undergraduate Committee, liaison to the Rutgers Glee Club Alumni Association, and as a member of its Community Service committee. As an alumni volunteer for Rutgers' 250th Anniversary, he was instrumental in researching and creating content for the "Today in Rutgers' History" component of the Rutgers250 mobile app. In 2016, he was presented with a Rutgers University Alumni Association Excellence in Alumni Leadership award as their Volunteer of the Year.

**Read more about the honorees and the event**  
[rutgersalumni.org/loyal-sons-daughters-2019-honorees](http://rutgersalumni.org/loyal-sons-daughters-2019-honorees)



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## RAA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JUNE 8, 2019

Tour of Edison Labs

### JUNE 9, 2019

1 p.m. Rutgers Alumni Family Day's Scarlet at the Park at Johnson Park, Grove 3, in Piscataway

### JUNE 29, 2019

Annual RAA Trenton Thunder outing

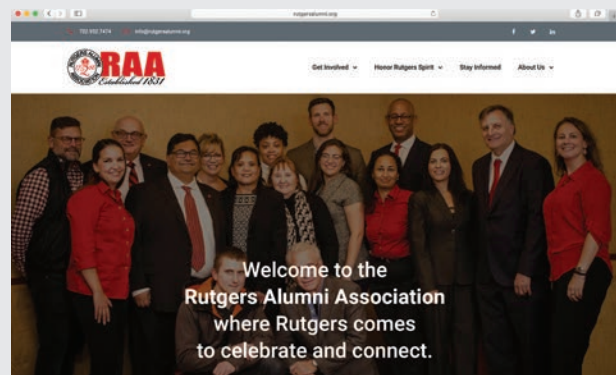
### SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

Visit to the Institute of Jazz Studies at Rutgers, Newark

### JULY 20, 2019

Rutgers Marine and Coastal Sciences program

To register, or for more information about these events, call the RAA at 732-932-7474 or visit our website at: [www.RutgersAlumni.org](http://www.RutgersAlumni.org)



### Visit the new RAA website

Our website has a new look. Visit our website to celebrate Rutgers, find out about upcoming events and connect. [www.RutgersAlumni.org](http://www.RutgersAlumni.org)



### Engage with us on social media networks



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