Message from the Executive Dean

Dear Friends, Colleagues, Alumni,

As the Executive Dean of the Rutgers University–New Brunswick School of Arts and Sciences, I am pleased to present Excellence, Opportunity, Leadership, our strategic plan and essential vision for the School over the next four years.

Arts and Sciences is the largest school at Rutgers, and accordingly, our plan seeks to reach a large audience: faculty, staff, and students, our alumni, who number in the hundreds of thousands, and the larger Rutgers and New Jersey communities. Whether you are an alumnus, student, professor, parent, employer, or simply a proud New Jersey citizen, we recognize you as a stakeholder in our mission to become the best public liberal arts institution in the nation.

Before going further, I want to express my gratitude to the many faculty members who served on the Executive Committee and the strategic plan task forces. I am deeply indebted to them for the introspective spirit, analytical rigor, and bracing honesty that they brought to the planning process. I want to also acknowledge both the Rutgers University Strategic Plan and the Rutgers University–New Brunswick Strategic Plan, both of which presented a bold vision for Rutgers in the 21st century and provided guidance to our own planning process.

It was not very long ago that Rutgers embarked on the Transformation of Undergraduate Education, a historic undertaking that created the School of Arts and Sciences by fusing together the talent, traditions, energy, and resources of four outstanding undergraduate colleges. But that transformation was really just a beginning. Many questions remain for the School of Arts and Sciences and its faculty and student population: Where do we go from here? What is our common purpose? Where do we fit in a growing and changing Rutgers? What is the role of a liberal arts education in our fast-paced, technologically-driven society?

This plan seeks to answer those big questions, chart a course for our future, and imbue our daily work with the conviction that a strong arts and sciences program is essential for the University and for the social, economic, and intellectual well-being of our world.

In the pages that follow, we tell our story, expound on our core values, and express our mission in the broadest terms possible. You’ll learn where we came from and where we want to go. And you’ll learn, too, about the amazing things that happen here every day.

Sincerely,

Peter March
Executive Dean

Message from the Executive Dean

Our Story

The School of Arts and Sciences is the liberal arts school of Rutgers University–New Brunswick, the largest and most comprehensive academic unit, and the center of the undergraduate education experience at Rutgers.

With roots that date back to the beginning of classical higher education in America, the School reflects a tradition of liberal arts learning that began in 1766 with the founding of Queen’s College, the institution that would become Rutgers University. Four outstanding undergraduate institutions carried that tradition into the 21st century: Rutgers, Douglass, Livingston, and University colleges.

Established in 2006 with the union of the four colleges, the School of Arts and Sciences is a globally engaged teaching and research institution, committed to preparing students for life in a rapidly changing world. In Arts and Sciences, geneticists and neuroscientists work to unlock the mysteries of Alzheimer’s disease and autism; sociologists shine a light on unequal access to healthcare; geologists track the impact of climate change on sea level at the Jersey Shore; and philosophers focus their inquiries right down to the challenges of day-to-day decision-making.

We are home to poets, novelists, and critics, astronomers, anthropologists, and economists, scholars of the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America; and experts in more than two dozen world languages. We are also home to highly ranked programs in biology, chemistry, computer science, English, history, mathematics, philosophy, physics, psychology, and sociology.

Milestones in the Arts and Sciences Tradition of Rutgers

Arts and sciences education is constant throughout the history of Rutgers, from the aspiring Protestant ministers who studied Latin, Greek, and arithmetic at Queen’s College in the 18th century to the diverse and driven students of the 21st century who choose from dozens of majors to build successful lives and careers.

1766: Charter establishes Queen’s College
1825: Queen’s College reopened as Rutgers College
1869: Livingston College opens
1918: New Jersey College for Women opens
1924: Rutgers College renamed Rutgers University
1934: University College opens
1955: New Jersey College for Women renamed Douglass College
1956: State University Organization Act affirms Rutgers as the State University of New Jersey and creates the Rutgers Board of Governors
1969: Livingston College opens
1981: Faculty at Rutgers, Douglass, Livingston, and University Colleges are combined
2006: Rutgers approves the Transformation of Undergraduate Education, creating the School of Arts and Sciences from the union of the four undergraduate colleges
2011: The School of Arts and Sciences graduates its first class of seniors
2015: The School of Arts and Sciences holds its first separate convocation for more than 3,000 graduating seniors

Source: Rutgers: A 250th Anniversary Portrait

Our Vision

The 2014 Rutgers University Strategic Plan identified five foundational elements necessary for the future success of the University. The first element on the list was the “strong core of sciences and humanities.”

The plan noted that many of the University’s science and humanities programs are recognized as being among the best in the nation, and called on Rutgers to “sustain these disciplinary strengths and renew its commitment to a strong core of research, scholarship, and undergraduate and graduate teaching in other disciplines in the arts and sciences.”

We strongly endorse that statement, and seek through our own planning process to maintain and strengthen the School of Arts and Sciences and all of the academic disciplines it comprises as we renew our commitment to providing educational excellence in our fast-paced, technologically-driven society.

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Message from the Executive Dean
Ireh Michelle Quinn (standing) SAS ‘14 majored in anthropology and focused on issues of educational equity for children. In the above photo, Quinn leads a First-year Interest Group seminar, which provides a practical guide to Rutgers and exposure to different fields and disciplines.

Our Mission

In an institution as diverse and driven as the School of Arts and Sciences, multiple charges are carried out continuously: teach the masterpieces of world literature, build and maintain state-of-the-art facilities for laboratory sciences, introduce new research techniques and tools, and discuss the critical issues facing our communities.

The School fosters a culture in which outstanding teaching, boundary-breaking research, and engagement with the broader world are all interconnected. This plan details our mission and places our work in the broadest possible context, as a public trust that prepares students for fulfilling lives and careers, expands access to higher education, and contributes to the greater good of society.

The Pillars of Arts and Sciences

An education in Arts and Sciences covers many realms of knowledge, from the human experience, to the individual in society, to the inner workings of the natural world, to the nature and laws of the cosmos.

Humanities disciplines seek to understand individual human experience, lasting artistic achievement, and inspiring philosophical and spiritual values through history and across cultures.

Social and behavioral sciences examine human actions and social relationships, providing insight into the complexity of the cultures and societies we inhabit.

Life sciences explore the nature of living things, from microscopic organisms to human beings, examining their structure, processes, and relationships to each other and their environment.

Mathematical and physical sciences provide the theoretical framework for understanding the fundamental laws of the universe, from the structure of atoms to the evolution of galaxies.

We believe our mission can be expressed as:

Achieving Excellence

Creating Opportunity

Building Leadership

Graduates of the liberal arts and sciences at Rutgers boldly make their mark in the world. They range from actor, singer, and civil rights activist Paul Robeson to Ella Wason-Stryker, one of the Ebola fighters named Person of the Year by Time magazine, and from Nobel-laureate economist Milton Friedman to Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Junot Díaz to Ford Motor Company CEO Mark Fields.

As the Rutgers University Strategic Plan observed, this is a time of momentous change—a period of tremendous opportunity and difficult challenges—both at Rutgers, and in higher education generally.

The rising cost of a college education, student debt, and the concerns over employment and career opportunities have prompted scrutiny of the value of an undergraduate degree, particularly a liberal arts degree. More and more, a college education is viewed by the public for its “return on investment”—its ability to provide a job and economic security at a time when the employment market is evolving, and where technological advances are remaking many workplaces.

We believe there has never been a better time to reassert the value of a liberal arts education and the role it plays in generating new knowledge, sharpening analytical skills, and nurturing creative and original thinkers. A complex world with a rapidly shifting economy requires broadly educated citizens who can express themselves clearly, interpret data with sophistication; and analyze social and global issues with great nuance, acuity, and cultural literacy. The School of Arts and Sciences engages students in this broad and dynamic tradition, preparing them for successful lives and careers in the changing world of the 21st century.

A Space for Innovation

The Department of Computer Science ranks among the 50 most innovative computer science departments in the nation. Students have their own space inside the department’s home on Busch Campus, where they can meet up, collaborate, and discuss the ideas that will become tomorrow’s innovations. The CAVE (Collaborative Academic Versatile Environment) is stocked with Linux computers, movable whiteboards, and bungee tables perfect for collective brainstorming.

“Having the space and environment where we can get inspired,” says Jenny Shi (l.) SAS ‘14, “is very important. It gives you a chance to learn from each other and to have fun while learning.”

SOURCE: Computer Science Degree Hub

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SOURCE: Computer Science Degree Hub
Achieving Excellence
Teaching and Mentoring
Discovery and Innovation

Creating Opportunity
Promoting Diversity and Inclusion
Strengthening Community
Engaging the Public

Building Leadership
Leadership at Rutgers
Leadership in the Community and World

We will fulfill our mission through our focus on these priorities:

Chemistry and Chemical Biology: Science with an Impact

Faculty in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology work on the frontiers of scientific discovery, from examining the molecular basis of Parkinson's disease, hepatitis, and AIDS to developing alternative energy sources, including solar energy and renewable fuels. Accordingly, chemistry research at Rutgers has been in the top 10 for federal funding for a decade, and was recently No.1.

Rutgers English majors distinguish themselves in a range of fields, and include New York Times reporter John Koblin and Google international education manager Tara Kousha.

Hillary Chute, who earned her Ph.D. from Rutgers, is a nationally-known expert on comics and graphic narratives and a professor at the University of Chicago.

Even those who go into seemingly unrelated fields carry the influence of Rutgers English. Khoa Tran, a medical student at the New Jersey Medical School, says his background as an English major shapes his approach to medicine.

"Narrative medicine is about listening to and understanding the stories patients tell," says Tran, pictured below.

Distinguished Professor of English Cheryl Wall is an eminent scholar of African-American literary studies in Arts and Sciences and a devoted Rutgers citizen dedicated to improving the University. She received the 2014 Daniel Gorenstein Memorial Award, given each year to a faculty member for outstanding scholarly achievement and exceptional service.

Reading the Strategic Plan

In these pages, we present the essential elements of our mission as an outstanding liberal arts school within a major public research university. To meet our goals of Achieving Excellence, Creating Opportunity, and Building Leadership, we have identified the priorities we most value. We reaffirm our commitment to excellent teaching and research; we recognize the diversity of our state and how it reflects our students’ diverse backgrounds and their need for an inclusive educational environment. We affirm public service as an essential part of our mission, and we recognize our status as a public trust responsible to all New Jersey citizens in our stewardship of public resources.

For our many readers, who include students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni, we have included background and supporting material to complement the three major sections. Stories, photos, and statistics that appear in the side margins illustrate the excellence that is achieved on a day-to-day basis, the opportunities that the School seeks to provide students, and the leadership capabilities that we build for our communities.

Please read on!
Achieving Excellence

Teaching and Mentoring

Students today can easily find information. The challenge for them is to make sense of the whole and find connections as they deal with the world’s ever increasing complexity. The commitment to outstanding teaching by Arts and Sciences faculty members and the excellence of our departments and programs—from the natural and mathematical sciences to social sciences and the humanities—provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to reach their highest potential in a globalized world with its shifting economies and competing political interests.

- The School reaffirms its critical teaching mission: providing a high-quality, nationally recognized undergraduate education to a highly diverse student population.
- The School will empower students to actively shape their future, providing advising services and connections to alumni that illuminate the many pathways connecting undergraduate majors to careers.
- The School affirms the critical importance of graduate education as a driver of research and scholarship and will prepare graduate students to meet the challenge of emerging employment opportunities, both in and outside of academia.
- The School will continue to prioritize the recruitment of faculty of distinction, outstanding promise, and broad diversity.

Discovery and Innovation

Rutgers University’s nearly $677 million in annual research and development expenditures places it among the nation’s top 30 universities. With renowned scholars across the academic spectrum, the School of Arts and Sciences plays a preeminent role in the research-rich culture of Rutgers and is well-positioned to drive discovery. The School recently added critical laboratory facilities, instituted a new undergraduate biology program that places greater emphasis on research skills, and recruited faculty in emerging fields such as digital humanities, computational genetics, and programs focused on analyzing and harnessing the potential of big data.

- The School reaffirms its commitment to research excellence and will excel at providing and supporting undergraduate and graduate student research opportunities.
- The School will continue to value and support its departments and programs, recognizing their critical role in creating new knowledge, making critical advances in the disciplines, and producing the discoveries and breakthroughs that improve human health, solve intractable social and economic problems, and enrich our understanding of the human experience.
- The School will value and support interdisciplinary teaching and research, across departments as well as in the School’s centers, bureaus, and institutes, recognizing that innovation and invention often occur across the boundary lines of established fields and disciplines.
- The School will reinvigorate its infrastructure, adhering to 21st century standards for classrooms, research spaces, and offices, with a focus on maximizing collaboration and productivity.

Reinventing the Biology Lab

The School of Arts and Sciences recently transformed its standard biology course, making the lab class a more hands-on, research-driven experience, with the ultimate aim of better preparing students for the science professions and advancing the level of scientific literacy among the public.

Students can master the lab techniques in a newly renovated, state-of-the-art facility that once served as a research annex for the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Arts and Sciences leaders worked with the medical school to transform the annex into undergraduate labs, which serve thousands of students, from future physicians and researchers to those fulfilling their science requirement. The new facility complements an undergraduate biology major at Rutgers-New Brunswick that ranks #3 in the nation.

SOURCE: USA Today College Factual

Education Across the Arts and Sciences

Anthony Bonini SAS ’16 pursued an eclectic and intensive education in the liberal arts. Majoring in mathematics and anthropology and minoring in classics, Bonini ventured overseas twice for Study Abroad, including six weeks in Africa to study advanced methods of paleo-archaeology, focusing on fossils millions of years old. Following his interest in the geological context for evolution, he became a research assistant to Department of Anthropology Chair Craig Feibel. All his Rutgers experiences—academic, social, and community service—helped Bonini discover his life’s mission: teaching mathematics to disadvantaged kids.

“I was always the kid people asked for help on their homework,” he says. “I realized at Rutgers that I was naturally drawn to teaching, to getting people excited about learning, and understanding why we should learn.”

No. 1 in Nation for Women’s History

Rutgers has been on the cutting edge of women’s history since 1973 when the venerable Berkshire Conference of Women Historians met at Douglass College and shook up the academic world.

Today, the Department of History ranks No. 1 for women’s and gender history with more than 25 scholars working in the specialization including: (from left) Chie Ikeya, Judith Surkis, Rachel Devlin, Johanna Schoen, and Leah DeVun.

The history department enjoys wide acclaim for many programs. Ranked No. 20 overall for graduate studies, it ranks No. 8 for African-American history and No. 14 for modern U.S. history.

Our students rank second in preparation for health professions

SAS.RUTGERS.EDU
Diversity, Race and Social Justice

Our diversity also contributes to the greater good of New Jersey. For example, in RU Bilingual, an initiative of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, students give workshops in local schools fostering bilingualism and heritage languages.

Recognizing the current critical moment in race relations occurring throughout the United States, including on college campuses, we believe there is a continuing need to study issues of race and inequality, and to constantly evaluate our own efforts to create and maintain an inclusive, welcoming environment for all.

- The School recognizes that the diversity of its student population reflects the diversity of New Jersey and that the School has a duty to create an inclusive environment that goes beyond being welcoming to provide substantive learning and life experiences that build understanding among students and address inequality at the university and in society.
- The School will build and maintain lines of communication among students, staff, and faculty to ensure that the School is taking all necessary steps to provide an inclusive and informed environment.
- The School will foster a more diverse faculty and graduate student population.

A Long Winning Streak for Physics and Astronomy

The Department of Physics and Astronomy can claim many honors, with faculty and graduate students routinely recognized for research in areas ranging from the Higgs Boson particle to string theory to the discovery and exploration of supermassive and dark matter in the universe. Undergraduates have also established stellar reputations of their own, winning prestigious Goldwater Scholarships 13 times, including seven years in a row.

Recent awardee Aditya Parikh SAS ’16 is shown at the Large Hadron Collider, built by CERN in Switzerland.

The department has long attracted and nurtured talented students with its emphasis on research and its multiple academic options geared to aspiring research scientists, teachers, technical professionals, and general students. “At the American Association of Physics Teachers, this was referred to as the Rutgers Model,” says veteran professor Mohan Kalekar.
Engaging the Public

Rutgers University has long been committed to public engagement as an essential part of its mission as a public research university. With its deep pool of scholarship, expertise, and talent, the School of Arts and Sciences is well positioned to develop creative and visionary public engagement programs that can benefit citizens of New Jersey, the United States, and the world while serving to build the School’s reputation and stature.

- The School affirms that faculty teaching and research lead naturally to public service and engagement projects, providing valuable learning experiences for students and tangible benefits to communities.
- The School will encourage, support, and reward faculty members interested in developing public engagement projects tied to their teaching and research.
- The School will develop strategies to recognize public engagement projects, in the university and broader community.

Preparing Students for the Rapidly Growing Field of Genetic Counseling

Genetic counselors are health care professionals who provide information and support to individuals and families who may have a genetic disorder or be at risk. The Department of Genetics started the first undergraduate genetic counseling certificate program in the world and draws students from across the country seeking hands-on clinical experience and coursework to help them get into highly competitive graduate programs. That success has led the department to establish a master’s program in genetic counseling.

On Rutgers Day, the Arts and Sciences Tent of Big Ideas brings together a broad array of faculty from across the liberal arts. Scholars from Classics and Computer Science to Molecular Biology and Biochemistry to Statistics and Biostatistics, including English Professor Andrew Goldstone, give concise, compelling presentations of their work. Their topics range from DNA and cancer to themes in Bruce Springsteen’s music to migration across America, showing the School’s commitment to research, teaching, and public engagement.

The tent on the College Avenue Campus draws thousands of people: visitors, prospective students and their families, and our alums. Since the first Rutgers Day in 2009, the Arts and Sciences presence has included the displays and activities created by more than 30 programs and departments from Art History’s “Be Your Own Masterpiece” booth to Earth and Planetary Sciences’ volcano simulation to Linguistics’ language acquisition demonstration to the French department’s cheese-tasting contest.

Rutgers Day and Alumni Reunion Weekend coincide, giving us the ability to meet and interact with graduates of our former undergraduate colleges and show them how the School of Arts and Sciences continues the tradition of excellence they remember from their student days.
Building Leadership

Leadership at Rutgers

The School of Arts and Sciences provides intellectual leadership for all of Rutgers—New Brunswick. In the classroom, the School builds the academic foundation for all undergraduates, including students in the professional schools who major in engineering, nursing, business, pharmacy, and other subjects. In laboratories, clinics, and libraries, our faculty develop the research that breaks new ground, benefits society, and enhances the University’s reputation. In its administrative operations, the School sets a model of ethics, efficiency, and effectiveness.

- The School affirms its service as a public trust and its obligation to act as a responsible steward of public resources.
- The School will continue upholding the highest standards and best practices across the academic and administrative services it provides.
- The School will develop partnerships with other Rutgers units, providing intellectual and human capital to spark innovations in teaching and research.
- The School will develop and create career paths for administrative and technical staff, whose work is critical to achieving our mission.

Leadership in the Community and World

Alumni of the School of Arts and Sciences have a long and proud tradition of providing transformational leadership, whether in the workplace or the global community. Our graduates enter a world challenged by issues of health, the environment, and human rights; issues that require innovation, vision, and courage to confront. The School of Arts and Sciences has a special responsibility to educate deeply engaged, intellectually curious citizens who can meet the leadership challenges of their generation.

- The School affirms its commitment to instill in students the habit of critical inquiry that they need to succeed in their fields and successfully address the complex challenges of the 21st century.
- The School will maintain and develop partnerships with organizations in the public and private sector that leverage the School’s expertise and lay the groundwork for innovative research, education, or service projects that provide students ample opportunity for leadership training.
- The School reaffirms its commitment to providing a comprehensive, rigorous, and forward-looking education aimed at inspiring and challenging students to reach their utmost potential, expand the boundaries of knowledge in their chosen field, and contribute to the greater good in their communities and in the world.

When Rutgers Economists Talk, World Leaders Listen

Professors in the Department of Economics provide expert advice to government policymakers in institutions around the world, from the U.S. Congress to the Federal Reserve Board to the central banks of Peru, France, England, Spain, Italy, and Canada. But it doesn’t stop there. Rutgers economists also advise global institutions such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and European Central Bank. They have also been asked to provide testimony to Congress and served on a bipartisan presidential panel to reform the tax code.

Building for 21st Century Academics

With dynamic spaces for the humanities, the new academic building (pictured below) provides a much-needed home on the College Avenue Campus for core disciplines while nourishing interdisciplinary research, teaching, and scholarship.

The Departments of African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures; Classics; French, Germanic, Russian and East European Languages and Literatures; Italian; and Spanish and Portuguese will receive office space and share classrooms and meeting spaces. Supportive technologies in state-of-the-art classrooms augment the teaching and learning of these languages and Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, and Swahili.

This humanities hub houses the Programs in Cinema Studies and Comparative Literature; the Rutgers Oral History Archive; and the Centers for Historical Analysis, Cultural Analysis, and British Studies.

Confronting Issues Challenging Students Preparing Leaders

Where can students encounter the likes of Alexis de Tocqueville and Walt Whitman, discuss Arab Spring and the French Revolution, travel to Washington and the United Nations for meetings with policy makers, all the while being part of a small, close-knit community of learners? The Lloyd C. Gardner Fellowship Program in Leadership and Social Policy focuses on crucial issues of global significance and prepares students for lives of service and leadership—as scholars, as policy analysts, and as engaged citizens. The fellowship, overseen by the Department of Political Science, was inspired by and named for Rutgers history professor Lloyd Gardner.
Moving Forward
The School of Arts and Sciences is both the oldest and newest school at Rutgers University–New Brunswick. As the oldest, we uphold a tradition of excellence that goes back to the Colonial era. As the newest, we must preserve our core values and embrace change in all our endeavors as part of a comprehensive research university.

We will work together with the rest of the University, our alumni, and the public to navigate the changes that lie ahead and to advance our sense of identity, unity, and common purpose. This plan ensures that the School will continue to serve as the intellectual heart of Rutgers, the focal point of undergraduate education, and a model for public higher education in the 21st century.

The School of Arts and Sciences is united in achieving the goals laid out in this document and asserts its ongoing dedication and commitment to the mission of Achieving Excellence, Creating Opportunity, and Building Leadership.

Health Professions Here We Come!
Rutgers University–New Brunswick recently ranked No. 2 on the list of the 10 best colleges for studying health professions. That comes as no surprise to anyone at the School of Arts and Sciences. Just consider:

The Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience ranks among the nation’s highest in the percentage of its graduating majors entering medical school and the general health professions fields.

The Rutgers Health Professions Office, a dedicated group of advisers, prepares thousands of Rutgers students for competition in the battleground of medical school admissions.

The Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences (ODASIS) increases the recruitment and academic success of underrepresented and disadvantaged students interested in pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics professions. Pictured above are ODASIS students celebrating their acceptance to medical school.

Alumni
199,877
Current Alumni
Alumni of the School live and work in 118 countries on six continents and in all 50 states.

Top 20 Countries
United States
Canada
United Kingdom
Taiwan
India
China
South Korea
Germany
Israel
Greece
Japan
Singapore
Turkey
France
Italy
Nigeria
Brazil
Australia
Hong Kong
Thailand

Top 20 States
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Florida
California
Virginia
Maryland
Massachusetts
North Carolina
Connecticut
Texas
Georgia
Colorado
Illinois
Arizona
Ohio
South Carolina
Washington
Delaware
Michigan

Dedicated Doctor and Rutgers Alumnus
With a passion that extends far beyond his medical practice, Didier Demesmin, M.D., RC’94 (below) has given back to those less fortunate through mentoring and scholarships. As a student, he benefited from the support of the Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences (ODASIS). Now he has created scholarships in his name, providing financial support for summer science courses geared to incoming Rutgers students. Demesmin has also invited students to his office to learn about the field of pain management.

In 2016, Demesmin joined the Dean’s Advisory Council, a committed group of alumni and friends of Rutgers who advise the Executive Dean, supporting and guiding the vision and mission of the School.

Our Rutgers, Our Future
Rutgers University successfully completed the largest and most comprehensive fundraising campaign in the University’s 250-year history, surpassing the campaign’s $1 billion goal by almost four percent. The School of Arts and Sciences raised $148,708,924.

Signature Courses Confront 21st Century Challenges
An essential part of the School’s mission is instilling the habit of critical inquiry students need to face the complex social and environmental challenges of the 21st century. Arts and Sciences Signature Courses examine engaging topics of grand intellectual sweep and enduring importance. Designed and taught by renowned scholars recognized for their specialized research and eloquent, demanding, award-winning teaching, the Signature Courses’ expansive themes, contemporary issues, and global engagement are evident in their titles:

Religions Now: 21st Century Controversies
Religion
Sea Change: The Rise and Fall of Sea Level at the Jersey Shore
Earth and Planetary Sciences
Eating Right: The Ethics of Food Choices and Food Policy
Philosophy
Global East Asia
Asian Languages and Cultures
The American Dream
American Studies
Past Today: Why Conflicts Endure
Comparative Literature
Normality and Abnormality
Sociology
Conservation
Geography

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A Passion for Public Policy

Building a strong foundation for a career in public service, Antoinette Gingerelli, a junior majoring in political science, Middle Eastern studies, and women’s and gender studies with a minor in international and global studies, has received two fellowships to prestigious programs that prepare students to do graduate work in public policy and international affairs.

Attending the Public Policy and Leadership Conference, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, and the Public Policy and International Affairs Junior Summer Institute, Ford School, University of Michigan, supports Gingerelli’s plans to work for reform in the areas of health, education, and housing. “I want to create support networks for vulnerable citizens,” she says.

Class of 2015

• 1445 with a 3.5 GPA or above
• 42 with a 4.0 GPA
• 377 elected to Phi Beta Kappa
• 137 in the Honors Program
• 778 with departmental honors
• 900 with double-majors

4,712 graduates

For the seventh consecutive year Rutgers University was among the most successful research institutions in the U.S. when the results of the competition for the 2015-16 Fulbright Student Grants were announced. Of the 120 Rutgers students receiving grants, 117 were Arts and Sciences. Our outstanding students have earned many prestigious fellowships since 2008:

117 Fulbright U.S. Student Grantees
22 Critical Language Scholars
16 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars
13 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows
6 Amgen Scholars
5 Gates Cambridge Scholars
5 Humanity in Action Fellows
4 Harry S. Truman Scholars
3 Claflinors Fund Scholars at Oxford
3 Henny Iuce Scholars
3 George J. Mitchell Scholars
3 Boren Scholars for International Studies
2 Winston Churchill Scholars
2 DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Scholars
2 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholars
2 Paul and Daisy Soros Fellows
1 Ertegun Graduate Scholar at Oxford
1 Freeman-ASIA Scholar
1 Fannie and John Hertz Scholar
1 Nets Foundation Appreciation Scholar
1 Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow
1 Charles B. Rangel Graduate Fellow

Arts and Sciences Student Body

Headings to Rutgers

Our students come from coast to coast and around the world. We welcome five percent of our student body from other states, seven percent from other countries, and 88 percent from every county in the Garden State!

Top 20 States

New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
California
Florida
Maryland
Connecticut
Massachusetts
Virginia
Georgia
Texas
Illinois
Delaware
North Carolina
Michigan
Ohio
Washington
Minnesota
South Carolina
Arizona

Fall 2015 Incoming Students

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-year students</td>
<td>3762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer students</td>
<td>1628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entering students</td>
<td>5390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arts and Sciences by the Numbers

54% Second language spoken at home
37% First generation to attend college
85% Receiving financial aid

Access in the Arts and Sciences

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Psychology Major Ranks Among Best in Nation

Rutgers University–New Brunswick was recently ranked No.10 among the best U.S. colleges for a major in psychology. The Department of Psychology in Arts and Sciences is noted for research in behavioral neuroscience, clinical, cognitive, health, and social psychology.

Arielle del Rosario (below)

SAS’12 was a junior with broad intellectual interests ranging from art history to education when she took Professor Maurice Elias’ class, Community Psychology and Mental Health.

Del Rosario said the class showed her the roles that schools, family, and other social forces play in the development of citizens. She also learned how community psychologists work on a grassroots level to improve the mental health of a community.

“Dr. Elias’ class really opened my eyes that psychology was more than individual clinical practice,” del Rosario says.

“The concepts and theories I was learning—why communities are important and how they work, and how that relates to diversity and social justice—really resonated with me.”

SOURCE: USA Today College Factual

4,712 graduates

Fellowships

For the seventh consecutive year Rutgers University was among the most successful research institutions in the U.S. when the results of the competition for the 2015-16 Fulbright Student Grants were announced. Of the 120 Rutgers students receiving grants, 117 were Arts and Sciences. Our outstanding students have earned many prestigious fellowships since 2008:

117 Fulbright U.S. Student Grantees
22 Critical Language Scholars
16 Barry M. Goldwater Scholars
13 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows
6 Amgen Scholars
5 Gates Cambridge Scholars
5 Humanity in Action Fellows
4 Harry S. Truman Scholars
3 Claflinors Fund Scholars at Oxford
3 Henny Iuce Scholars
3 George J. Mitchell Scholars
3 Boren Scholars for International Studies
2 Winston Churchill Scholars
2 DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Scholars
2 Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholars
2 Paul and Daisy Soros Fellows
1 Ertegun Graduate Scholar at Oxford
1 Freeman-ASIA Scholar
1 Fannie and John Hertz Scholar
1 Nets Foundation Appreciation Scholar
1 Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow
1 Charles B. Rangel Graduate Fellow

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SOURCE: USA Today College Factual
Our Faculty

The School of Arts and Sciences has more than 750 faculty across its 35 departments and eight academic programs. Our world-renowned faculty form the core of Arts and Sciences, conducting groundbreaking research, providing service to local communities and around the world, and teaching and mentoring our students in over 90 undergraduate majors and 39 graduate programs.

Fellowships

Since 2005, faculty in Arts and Sciences have received over 180 competitive fellowships from prestigious foundations and university centers, including:

- 21 American Council of Learned Societies
- 14 National Endowment of Humanities
- 13 Fulbright Scholar Program
- 31 Institute for Advanced Study
- 9 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
- 9 The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
- 8 Simons Foundation Fellowships in Mathematics and Physical Sciences
- 8 Stanford Humanities Center
- 8 Woodrow Wilson Center for International Studies
- 8 Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars
- 7 National Humanities Center
- 5 Max Planck Institute for Art History
- 3 American Philosophical Society
- 3 National Gallery of Art
- 3 Ford Foundation

Grant Funding

In fiscal year 2015, the School of Arts and Sciences spent $54 million provided from grant sources to help run laboratories, fund research, and support graduate and undergraduate education.

Arts and Sciences by the Numbers

100 Majors or More

The most popular degree programs for the class of 2015 cross all the areas in Arts and Sciences:

- Psychology
- Economics
- Biology
- Political Science
- Exercise Science and Sport Studies
- Criminal Justice
- English
- Computer Science
- Cell Biology and Neuroscience
- History
- Sociology
- Mathematics

Eight Graduate Programs

Rank in the Top 15 in Nation

- #1 Women’s History
- #6 Gender and Literature
- #6 Sociology of Culture
- #8 African-American History
- #8 Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics
- #9 18th through 20th Century British Literature
- #14 Modern U.S. History
- #15 Condensed Matter Physics

SOURCE: U.S. News and World Report

Mathematicians Capture International Honors

The Rutgers Department of Mathematics has built a global reputation for excellence and innovative research. Henriksen Iwaniec, pictured, is a pioneering prime numbers scholar who shared the 2015 Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences. The $1 million prize recognizes scholars who have pioneered significant breakthroughs in their field. Joel Lebowitz, professor of mathematics and physics, with a specialty in statistical mechanics, received the 2014 Grande Médaille from the French Academy of Sciences.

Meanwhile, when gauging the overall excellence of the department, consider the following: The American Mathematical Society has 28,000 members worldwide, of whom only 4.5 percent are Fellows. In the Rutgers Mathematics Department, some 40 percent of tenured faculty are Fellows of the American Mathematical Society.

Graduate Student Body

- Ph.D. 1477
- M.A./M.S. 586
- Graduate students 2063
Assessing our Progress

The School of Arts and Sciences will monitor the categories below over the next five years in order to establish a baseline, set targets, and then measure our progress toward our goals. These metrics will be subcategorized wherever applicable to reflect academic level, race and ethnicity, gender, and first-generation college status, so as to evaluate the School’s progress toward the goal of creating a culture of inclusion.

Achieving Excellence
- Population profile
  - Undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral, other
  - Tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure-track, teaching, and research faculty
- Student/faculty ratios
- Graduation rates
  - Degrees and certificates awarded
  - Students completing majors and minors
  - Graduating students
  - Year-on-year retention rates
  - Undergraduate time to degree: 4- and 6-year graduation rates
- National and other honors and awards
- Research
  - Research portfolio composition
  - Proposal-to-award ratio
  - Expenditures

Creating Opportunity
- Financial aid
  - Federal, state, University, and other
  - First-generation student recipients
  - Pell grant recipients
- Undergraduate research, externship, and internship opportunities
- Public engagement partnerships, projects, and events
- Employment rates and other post-degree outcomes

Building Leadership
- Resources to support faculty, student, and staff
- Faculty-to-staff and student-to-staff ratios
- Staff career plans and promotions
- Alumni giving, investment levels, and types
- Alumni engaged in and interacting with School
- Institutional support from corporations and foundations
- Entrepreneurial support

Population Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>18,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Students: Ph.D. and M.A./M.S.</td>
<td>2,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty</td>
<td>758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching, Research, and Part-Time Faculty</td>
<td>973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Technology Staff</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Home at Rutgers

D’Mitri Tisdale-Stanley SAS’14 dedicated his summers to welcoming incoming students through the New Student Orientation program.

A transfer student from a county college, he felt immediately at home at Rutgers and helped other newcomers make Rutgers their home, too.

“I wanted my love for Rutgers to rub off on them,” Tisdale-Stanley says. “I wanted them to have as good an experience in the School of Arts and Sciences as I had.”

SAS.RUTGERS.EDU