

RIDER

a magazine for alumni and friends

Spring 2015

News

New bachelor's degree combines business and health care **page 9**

Feature

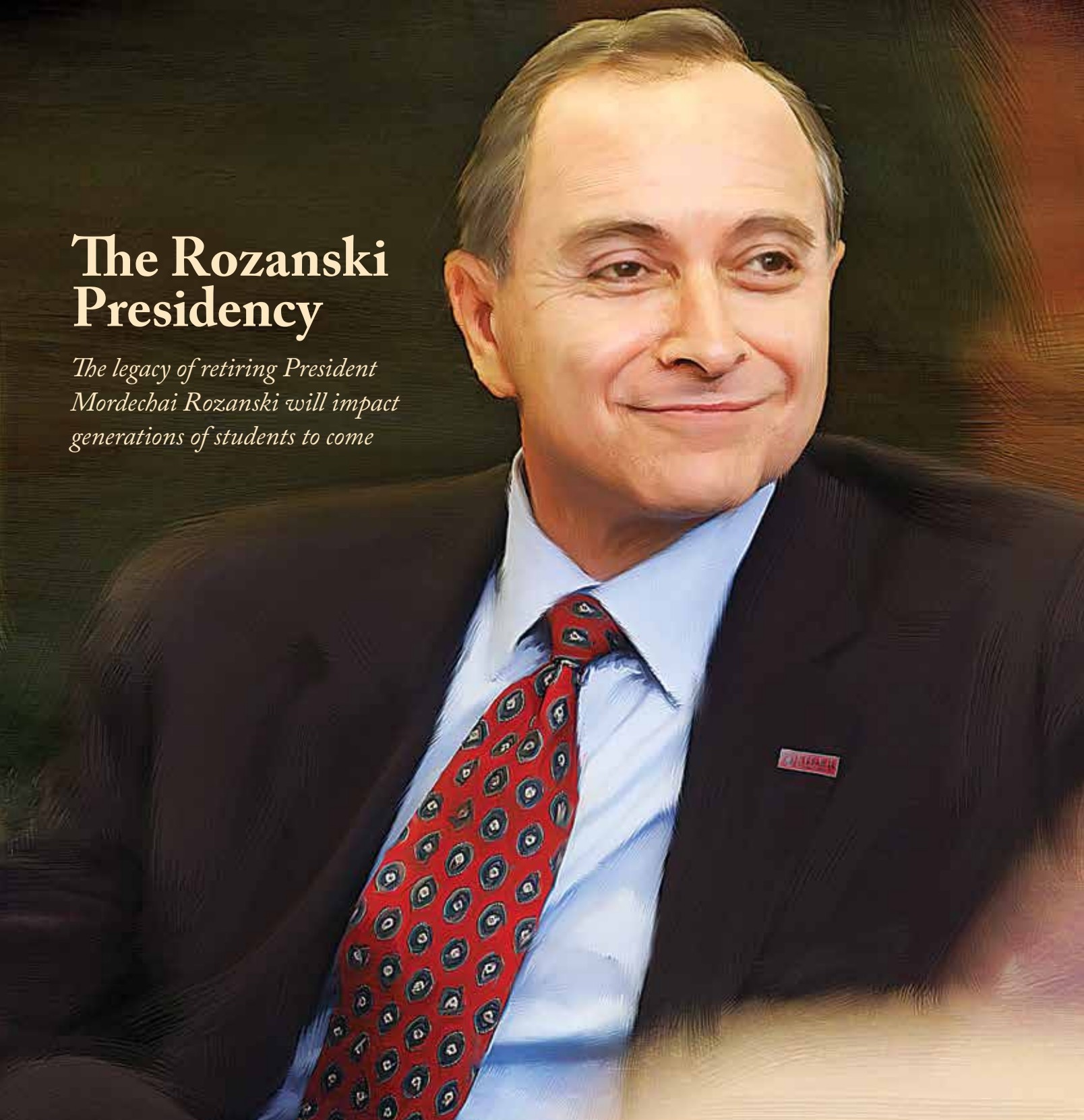
President Rozanski's colleagues speak about his twelve years of leadership at Rider **page 12**

Athletics

Hall of Fame inductees announced **page 23**

The Rozanski Presidency

The legacy of retiring President Mordechai Rozanski will impact generations of students to come



Rider breaks Guinness World Record with giant string of cranberries

On Saturday, Nov. 8, hundreds of students, staff, alumni and friends painstakingly strung together more than 10,000 cranberries on the campus mall, earning Rider University a Guinness World Record for the world's Longest Line of Fruits.

The world record attempt, a highlight of Rider's 150th anniversary celebration, was a way to honor the university's founder and namesake, Andrew J. Rider, a cranberry farmer who introduced the cranberry to the queen of England.

To break the record, Rider had to string at least 6,011 cranberries with — according to world record rules — every piece of fruit touching the next one in the line.

Philip Robertson, an official adjudicator from Guinness World Records, oversaw the University's stringing process and counted every cranberry before declaring the record broken.

In front of a packed crowd in Alumni Gym, Robertson announced that Rider University had officially strung 10,036 cranberries, far more than needed to break the world record.



View a gallery of photos from the day at riderphotos.smugmug.com.





Message from the President



I confess that it is extremely difficult for me to write this final letter to you. As I think about my retirement this July, I have been reflecting on my academic journey — from my undergraduate years at McGill, through the many teaching and administrative roles at a variety of universities across the country, to my decade at the helm of the University of Guelph, and culminating in my appointment in 2003 as the sixth president of Rider University. As I contemplate the past 12 years at Rider, it's impossible for me not to reflect on the relationships I have enjoyed making with alumni, faculty, staff and, of course, our students. Truly, my time at Rider represents the high point of my professional career.

I am delighted to say that, notwithstanding the challenges that face higher education today, Rider is thriving. With distinctive programs and world class educational opportunities for our students, our University continues to shine. Two campuses, 65 undergraduate programs and 26 graduate programs and five innovative schools and colleges, Rider and Westminster alumni should be as proud of their alma mater as I am.

But even with the pride I feel for our collective accomplishments, I owe much to those who came before me. My immediate predecessors, Frank Elliott and Bart Luedeke (both of whom I have enjoyed getting to know) built a platform of strength upon which we were able to grow. And I have every confidence that the University will continue to prosper under the strong leadership of my successor, Dr. Gregory Dell'Omo. Even as I prepare to pass the baton to Greg, I intend to continue cheering the Broncos to victory, wearing the school colors, attending special events and taking great "Rider Pride," as the University climbs to even greater prominence in the years to come.

It is not possible in this limited space to acknowledge all of the people I have worked with during my time here — the students, parents, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni. But I can say thank you. Thank you for allowing me to lead you and to be led by you. Many of our best ideas, as well as the means to achieve them, have come from members of our University. I want to especially thank members of my senior team as well as all of the volunteers who have given their time, their talent and their treasures to help advance the University. The volunteer group I have worked most closely with over the years is our dedicated Board of Trustees. You've probably heard me say "There can be no great university without great alumni." That certainly holds true for great trustees. And I have been extraordinarily fortunate to work with some of the best— men and women, the vast majority of whom are graduates of Rider and Westminster—who have only the finest long-term interests of the University in mind.

While I prepare to close this wonderfully satisfying chapter in my life and in the history of the University, I echo the sentiment of our namesake, Andrew J. Rider; that we have celebrated during our sesquicentennial year: with your encouragement, engagement, and support, we are truly "fulfilling the promise." And there is more to come.

Sincerely,

Mordechai Rozanski
President

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This issue is dedicated to the memory of Cathy Carter-Romero, director of creative services in the Office of University Communications and Marketing.

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 Rider University

RIDER

a magazine for alumni and friends

Contents

SPRING '15



On the Mall

4

Dr. Gregory Dell'Omo named seventh Rider president; 150th anniversary medalists selected; Rider appoints two deans

Rider Roundup

6



Powerful electronic microscope available for student research; Cullen Center opens; School of Education student named Andrew J. Rider Scholar for third year in a row; successful veterans' career fair held in March;



student-led project catalogs campus art; new business and healthcare degree

For Your Bookshelf

9

Ol' Dirty Bastard: The Dirty Version by **Mickey Hess** and Buddha Monk; *A Critique of Creativity and Complexity* *Deconstructing Clichés* by **Don Ambrose** and **Kathleen M. Pierce**



President Mordechai Rozanski walking in the procession after his inauguration on April 2, 2004.

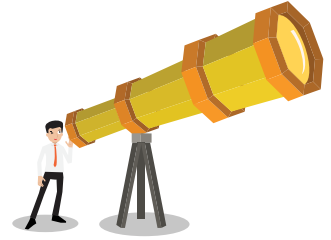
SPECIAL FEATURE

12 A Vision Shared, A Vision Realized

During his 12 years as president, Mordechai Rozanski has led Rider through the early morning of the 21st century. As the University prepares for his July departure, Rider is revitalized, reinvigorated and well-positioned for the next chapter in its history.

Spotlight

10

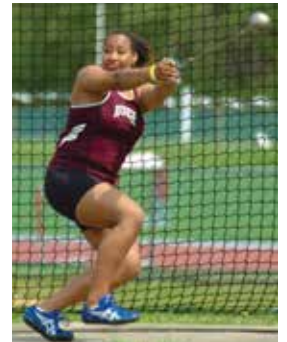


Assistant professor of physics **John Bochanski** leads discovery of the most distant stars seen to date in the Milky Way

Go Broncs!

22

Women's soccer team wins first-ever MAAC title;



Athletics Hall of Fame inductees announced

Alumni Events

24

Class Notes

25

Student Essay

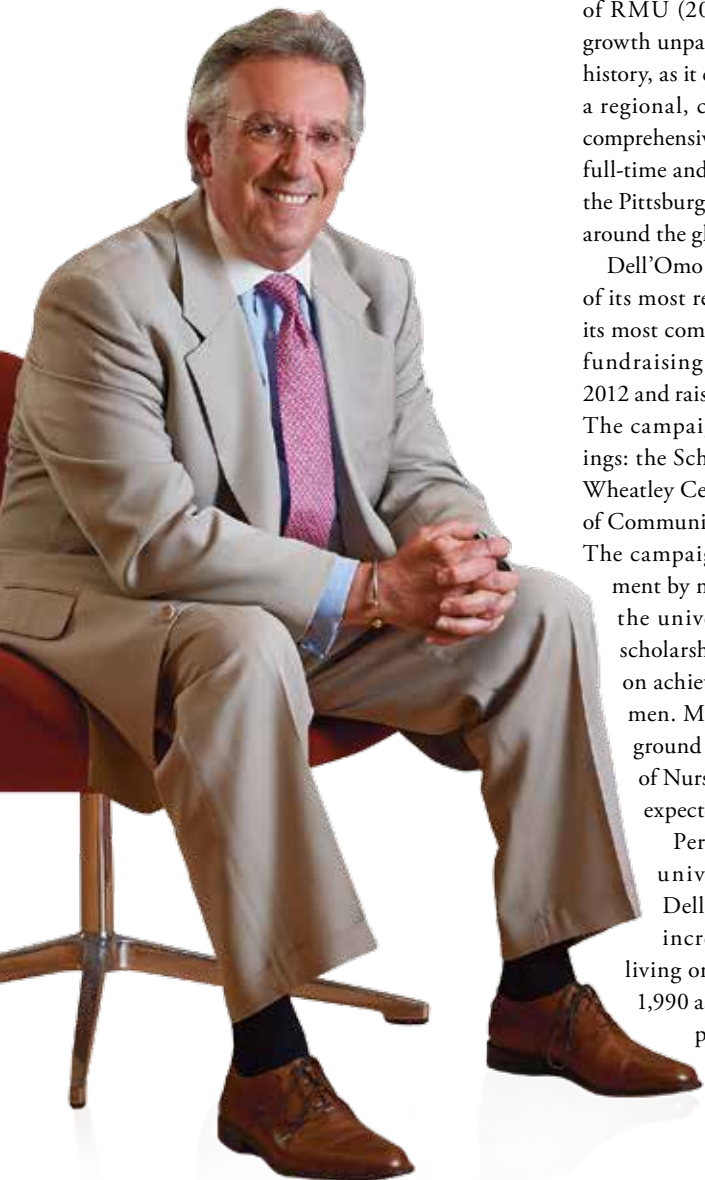
32



Dr. Gregory G. Dell’Omo named seventh president

On Dec. 4, 2014, the Rider University Board of Trustees announced the appointment of **Gregory G. Dell’Omo, Ph.D.**, as Rider’s seventh president. Dell’Omo will succeed **Mordechai Rozanski** who is retiring on July 31, 2015. Dell’Omo will assume the presidency on Aug. 1, 2015.

Dell’Omo will step down from his position at Robert Morris University (RMU) in Pittsburgh, Pa., at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year.



Rozanski will remain at Rider through the end of July 2015.

Michael B. Kennedy ’72, chairman of the Rider University Board of Trustees and chair of the Presidential Search Committee, said the board selected Dell’Omo from an extensive pool of candidates. Rider was supported in that process by its consultant, Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates.

Dell’Omo’s years as the seventh president of RMU (2005-2015) have been marked by growth unparalleled in the university’s 93-year history, as it continued its transformation from a regional, commuter-based institution to a comprehensive residential university that draws full-time and part-time students from not only the Pittsburgh area, but across the country and around the globe.

Dell’Omo led RMU through the completion of its most recent five-year strategic plan and its most comprehensive capital campaign. The fundraising campaign ended in September 2012 and raised \$41 million, exceeding its goal. The campaign funded two academic buildings: the School of Business building and the Wheatley Center, which is home to the School of Communications and Information Systems. The campaign helped boost RMU’s endowment by more than 60 percent and allowed the university to fund 30 new endowed scholarships and a research center focused on achievement among African American men. Most recently, the university broke ground on its new building for the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, which is expected to open in the fall of 2015.

Perhaps the greatest symbol of the university’s transformation under Dell’Omo’s leadership is the dramatic increase in the number of students living on campus, from 1,140 in 2005 to 1,990 as of the fall of 2014. Fewer than 40 percent of full-time undergraduates lived on campus in 2005, versus nearly 60 percent today.

At the same time, full-time undergraduate enrollment has grown 35 percent, from 2,928 10 years ago to 3,968 in the fall of 2014. Total enrollment for the fall of 2014 was 5,359.

Dell’Omo built on RMU’s long tradition of educating nontraditional students and working adults, bringing the university into a new age with the launch of its online degree programs. In just three years, online enrollment has climbed to 709 students. Robert Morris University has also supported veterans of the U.S. armed services, becoming one of the first private institutions to participate in the federal Yellow Ribbon Program. Under that program, RMU agrees to cover the difference between the cost of tuition and benefits that eligible veterans receive under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill.

Dell’Omo also sought to bolster RMU’s academic reputation. During his tenure, the university has strengthened its honors program and placed an increasing emphasis on international education. RMU is also one of only 25 institutions worldwide to be named a Center of Actuarial Excellence for its actuarial science program.

Dell’Omo earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from Montclair State University, a master’s degree in industrial relations from Rutgers University, and a doctorate in industrial relations/human resource management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He earned certifications at Harvard University from the Institute for Education Management and the Seminar for New Presidents. He held previous academic positions at Canisius College and Saint Joseph’s University, where he was dean of the Haub School of Business and vice president for external affairs.

Rozanski praised the selection of Dell’Omo as his successor. “He is the ideal candidate for Rider. His superb and proven leadership skills will successfully advance the University to its next level of excellence. I am delighted that Greg will be Rider’s next president.”

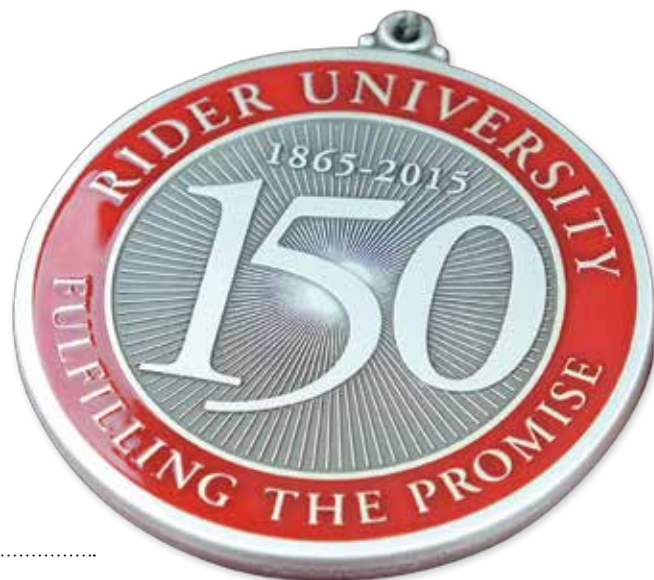
Sesquicentennial medals recognize service, leadership and excellence

On the occasion of its 150th anniversary, Rider University established the Sesquicentennial Medal of Excellence. The medals recognize the achievements of alumni, board members, faculty, staff, friends and organizations that have gone above and beyond in assisting the University to better serve its students.

Throughout its sesquicentennial year, Rider presented medals at an array of events, and all recipients will again be recognized at the April 18, 2015, Sesquicentennial Gala. Recipient bios and gala information may be found at www.rider150celebration.org.



To view a list of all the medal recipients, visit www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.



Rider appoints two new deans

This summer, two new deans will be joining Rider to head its Westminster College of the Arts (WCA) and College of Business Administration (CBA). Both deans will begin their terms on July 1.

Matthew Shaftel, Ph.D., was named dean for the Westminster College of the Arts. He comes to Rider from Florida State University where he has served in a number of progressively responsible roles, including his most recent assignments as associate vice president for Academic Affairs, director of General Education, and associate dean of Undergraduate Studies. While at Florida State, Dr. Shaftel was responsible for an aggressive agenda of transforming the undergraduate experience, reengaging faculty, supporting the entrepreneurial university and student career/graduate school success, revitalizing distance education and ensuring effectiveness and efficiency.

Dr. Shaftel has been recognized numerous times for excellence in music and teaching. He was Florida State's nominee for the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's U.S. Professors of the Year program and a Distinguished Faculty Initiate at the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and he received the 2013 Florida State University's Distinguished University Teacher award, the highest teaching honor offered to faculty at Florida State.

Dr. Shaftel earned his bachelor's degree in music with educator certification, a master's and doctor degree, both in music theory at Yale University. His voice training included study at Yale University, the Aspen Opera Theatre Center and the Tanglewood Music Center.

With a career that includes numerous published books, articles, invited articles and book chapters, Dr. Shaftel has continued his research productivity while maintaining his administrative and teaching roles. He has also served for almost 20 years as a church music director, first in Connecticut and more recently, at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Tallahassee.

In the last year alone, Dr. Shaftel published his most recent textbook, a new critical edition of select Webern piano works, and two peer-reviewed articles, and he gave two national conference papers. In addition, he ran an

international workshop at the Royal Conservatory of Music and signed a contract with the University of Illinois Press for an edited collection of essays on Cole Porter. Off campus, Dr. Shaftel served as director of the Asolo Song Festival and Institute for Song Interpretation in Italy and president of the Tallahassee Youth Orchestras' Board of Directors.

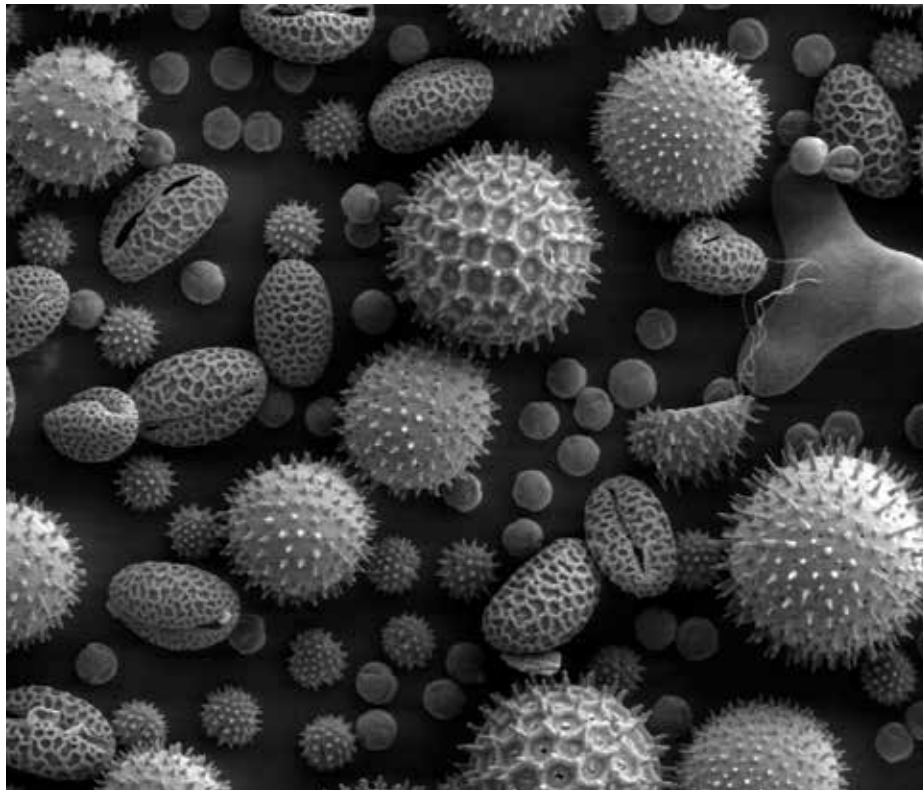
The new dean for the College of Business Administration is **Elad Granot, Ph.D.** He joins Rider from Cleveland State University where he has served most recently as assistant dean for MBA programs, as well as special assistant to the Provost for eLearning Development, special assistant to the President for Global Initiatives and director of Graduate and Undergraduate Student Services and Academic Recruiting, Advising and Support.

Dr. Granot was instrumental in building Cleveland State University's MBA program to become the largest in Ohio, and building new, online course offerings and strategies.

He has been recognized for excellence in teaching by Cleveland State multiple times, being awarded the Merit Award for Teaching Excellence and the CSU Nance College of Business Administration Legacy Award for Excellence in Teaching. Professional affiliations include AACSB, Executive MBA Council, American Marketing Association, Academy of Marketing Science, Society of Marketing Advances, Association of Consumer Research, American Academy of Advertising, Eastern Academy of Management and Alpha Kappa Epsilon – International Business Honor Society.

He earned his bachelor's degree in English from Tel Aviv University, his master's in management and marketing from Boston University, and his doctorate in marketing from the University of Massachusetts.

"I am confident that Dr. Shaftel and Dr. Granot will build upon the many strengths of the both colleges," says Provost DonnaJean Fredeen. "I look forward to working with them, and know they will bring imaginative, forward-looking and motivating leadership for the benefit of our students, faculty and staff."



College of Liberal Arts, Education, and Sciences

Powerful electron microscope brought to campus for student use

Developed in 1963, the scanning electron microscope (SEM) can magnify objects up to 300,000 times. And, unlike a standard optical microscope, the SEM's high magnification produces an almost 3-D image, as well as detailed information about an object's composition. And now, students at Rider will have access to an on-campus SEM, an instrument worth nearly half a million dollars, along with an expert operator who can train faculty and students on how to put it to use.

The SEM arrived this fall, and how it came to be at Rider can be characterized as a combination of serendipity and the quick reactions of the College of Liberal Arts, Education and Sciences faculty.

This past summer, **Dean Patricia Mosto** received an email about the availability of the SEM from Bruker Inc., a well-known international manufacturer of scientific equipment. Bruker was closing its Ewing, N.J., office, although it still wanted to have the SEM available to Ted Juswak, the instrument's operator, who will remain in the area. Therefore, in exchange for housing the instrument, the company was offering a local college full access to the SEM, as well as the expertise of Juswak.

"We acted quickly; otherwise the SEM would have gone to another university," says **Dr. Jonathan Husch**, professor and department chair of Geological, Environmental, and Marine Sciences (GEMS). As a geologist for over 40 years, Husch immediately understood the value of having access

to an SEM for both educational and research purposes.

Husch, who has been at Rider since 1980, remembers the early '90s when Rider had a mini-SEM, a low-end instrument that wasn't nearly as powerful. "This new SEM is many things. It has the ability to magnify an object far beyond most other microscopes. It can tell you about the internal structure of the object, how the atoms are arranged and what elements are in the material. It also can map the elemental concentrations over an area. So, for example, if there is a contaminant like arsenic, the SEM can tell you not only that it's there, but where exactly it's located and how much of it exists."

Dr. Alexander Grushow, professor and department chair of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Physics, was also a key player in getting the SEM to Rider. He sees it as an invaluable opportunity for all students and, in particular, for students of material sciences. "The microelectronics industry, for example, requires knowledge of materials, and having the SEM gives us an additional, more powerful tool for characterizing materials down to the atomic level."

For all involved, it's a win-win situation. Bruker gets the space to continue its work, and Rider receives "access to a state-of-the-art instrument and a 30-year expert in the field who can show us how to use it," explains Husch. "It will give our students better hands-on training and opportunities for cutting-edge research along with excellent preparation for graduate school."

—*Aimee LaBrie*

Westminster Choir College

Marion Buckelew Cullen Center opens

The formal ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the Marion Buckelew Cullen Center on Oct. 22, heralding the opening of the brand-new building that contains a performance and rehearsal hall, classrooms and more. Named in honor of the philanthropist who made a \$5 million bequest to Westminster Choir College, the Cullen Center is the first new building to be constructed on Westminster's campus in 39 years.

The center contains the Hillman Performance Hall, a 3,000-square-foot performance and rehearsal hall, named in recognition of the Henry L. Hillman Foundation, which provided a \$3 million grant to support the project. It also includes a large lobby, a green room and three flexibly configured classrooms that will accommodate a wide range of academic and choral uses.

The renovation of the Playhouse, which has nearly reached its fundraising goals, will begin soon and, once completed, be renamed the Robert L. Annis Playhouse after Westminster Choir College's dean and director, who retired in December.

Veterans' career fair brings alumni veterans back to campus

Just one year after graduation, **Peter Reid '13** returned to campus on March 19 to participate in the University's Annual Veterans' Career Fair and Military Expo. While this year he attended as an employer, the previous year he went in a different capacity: as a student veteran seeking employment. "The career fair gave me an opportunity to create professional connections in a veterans-friendly setting and to receive a job offer before I graduated from Rider," says Reid.

Much like Reid, **William (Bill) Stahl '07** regularly comes back to campus to participate in veterans' events and recruit accounting majors for WithumSmith+Brown, PC, a prominent New Jersey public accounting firm. "I am excited to return to Rider and talk with the veterans to help get them hired. Veterans bring skills to the table that our typical candidate does not," he says. Stahl, a supervisor with the firm and also a veteran, completed his degree through the College of Continuing Studies while working full time.

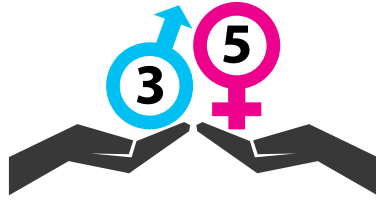
Supporting veterans is a large part of the University's history. When Rider first opened its doors, most of the members of the inaugural class were Civil War veterans. The present-day Lawrenceville campus was acquired to meet the enrollment demands of World War II veterans. And today, as a proud Yellow Ribbon University, Rider is committed to serving the educational needs of active duty service members and veterans and their beneficiaries.

The Veterans' Career Fair and Military Expo is a part of that commitment. Over 100 employers and veterans Service Organizations gathered to offer career opportunities, information and support to both student and nonstudent attendees. Optional breakout sessions were also provided on related subjects such as career paths, transitioning from the military to civilian life, resume writing and interview skills.

For more information on upcoming events, call 609-896-5033 or email ccsdean@rider.edu.

—*Marci Risch '12*

The School of Fine and Performing Arts presented Rider's first Hip Hop Conference on Nov. 20, 2014, hosted by faculty members **Justin Burton** (popular music culture), **Brea Heidelberg** (arts administration), and **Mickey Hess** (English).



The gender and sexuality studies program celebrated its 35th year at Rider. **Tiffani Lennon '97** spoke at the University in honor of the anniversary. The event was co-sponsored by the Rider Women's Leadership Council.



School of Education

Student named Andrew J. Rider Scholar for third consecutive year

During Rider University's annual Founder's Day awards ceremony in November 2014, **President Mordechai Rozanski** recognized the latest Andrew J. Rider Scholar recipients. The scholars represent the top one percent of seniors, juniors and sophomores in each of Rider's six academic schools and colleges.

Jennifer Dowling, a School of Education elementary education-psychology major and special education and early childhood minor, has received the certificate three times over the past three years, in part by maintaining a 3.99 grade point average. She was chosen from among the 2014 recipients to speak about her experiences at the ceremony.

"I am positive that the recognition will assist me during my future endeavors," she says. "I hope to stand out as a three-time Andrew J. Rider recipient. It shows that my determination did not end after one year, but continued throughout my academic career."

Dowling, who struggled with reading throughout elementary and high school, feels that becoming an Andrew J. Rider Scholar has boosted her confidence. She attributes her academic success to two influences throughout her education: Carl Romero, her English teacher at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School, and Associate Professor of Education Sharon S. McKool. Both were invited to and attended the ceremony as Dowling's guests.

Although Dowling has only taken one literacy methods class with McKool, inviting her professor was an easy decision to make. "She is willing to take that extra leap in making sure that her students will grow," Dowling says. "She enabled me to find that 'ah-ha' moment when I realized that even if things do not go as planned, I could brush myself off and try again."

"Jennifer is the type of student who validates me as professor," says McKool. "She always wanted feedback on her work, she always asked smart questions and she was always willing to move beyond her comfort zone."

For more on Andrew J. Rider Scholars, visit www.rider.edu/about/historic/awards-and-honors/andrew-j-scholars.

—*Janeen Rodgers '14*



Westminster College of the Arts

Student project captures artwork across the campus

Inspired by a project taken on by senior student **Hannah Morris**, an effort is underway on campus to photograph all existing artwork across both campuses. Morris, an arts administration major in the School of the Fine and Performing Arts, asked **Professor Harry Naar** if she might take on the much-needed but time-intensive task of archiving all paintings, sculptures and other works of art acquired by Rider over the years. The result is an ongoing effort to photographically

capture what amounts to works from sculptors and painters ranging from New Jersey-based artist Mel Leipzig to Louis Finkelstein, a painter whose work has been compared to that of Cezanne. Once finished, the plan is to house these photos digitally for the public to enjoy on Rider's SmugMug gallery.

Morris is very grateful for the opportunity the University has given her to take on this project. "Rider has a really good culture of

enabling students to do things that they may not otherwise think of doing. This has taught me that every piece of art on the campus has a story," Morris says. "It also shows the rich history of the donations that have been given to Rider University." —*Aimee LaBrie*



To view the entire art collection, visit www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.



Bernarda Bryson Shahn
Figure in Stony Landscape
Oil on wooden board



College of Business Administration

New bachelor's degree combines business and health care

For students interested in pursuing a degree that combines business and health care, the College of Business Administration now offers just the right solution. The new Bachelor of Science degree in health care management promises to provide a core education in business combined with critical topics in health care management.

According to the *Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Handbook*, the health care field is expected to grow rapidly as baby boomers age and people remain active later in life. Employment of medical and health services managers is projected to grow by 23 percent through 2022 — faster than the average for all occupations.

“There has never been a greater need for decisive health care leaders who can understand and adapt to today’s complex and evolving health care system,” says interim dean **Anne Carroll**. “It’s a dynamic industry that’s driving the demand for health care professionals who have the skills and knowledge needed to plan, organize and supervise the delivery of innovative and quality care.”

Rider’s BSBA in health care management was developed with input from health care executives in hospitals, biotech, medical device

and pharmaceutical companies, and health insurance firms. The curriculum is designed to provide students with an understanding of both the business and healthcare fields, including a deeper grasp of the legal, ethical, economic, social and managerial issues related to health care. The faculty includes professors with expertise in economics, finance, information systems, law and marketing.

Coursework in the new major includes 21 credit hours, 18 of which are required while three are elective credits. Sample courses include Health Care Finance, Health Care Information Systems, Population and Health Care Management, Health Care Marketing, and Health Care Law and Policy.

Carroll says the program is also designed to provide real-world experiences and offers students the opportunity to participate in a semester-long internship, large data-group project for a client and a health care marketing course in which students design a marketing plan.

For more information on the BSBA in health care management and the College of Business Administration, visit www.rider.edu/cba.

—Kristine Brown



Ol' Dirty Bastard: The Dirty Version

Authors: Mickey Hess, (Associate Professor of English), and Buddha Monk

Dey Street Books, 2014

Ol' Dirty Bastard: The Dirty Version is the first biography of hip-hop superstar and Wu-Tang Clan founding member Ol' Dirty Bastard to be written by someone from his inner circle: his right-hand man and best friend, Buddha Monk. Monk and co-author Mickey Hess reveal the truth about this complex and talented performer who died of an overdose in 2004.



A Critique of Creativity and Complexity Deconstructing Clichés

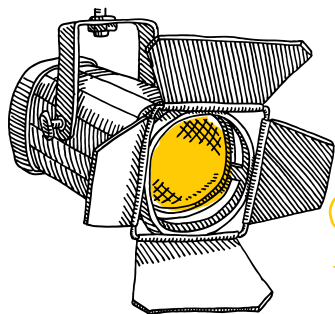
Editors: Don Ambrose (Professor of Graduate Education), Kathleen M. Pierce (Associate Professor of Graduate Education, Leadership, and Counseling) and Bharath Sriraman (Professor of Mathematics at the University of Montana)

Sense Publishers, 2014

This book represents a broad, interdisciplinary application of complexity theory to a wide variety of phenomena, including general education, organizational leadership and urban planning. The contributors provide nuanced analyses of the structures and dynamics of complex adaptive systems in these academic and professional fields.



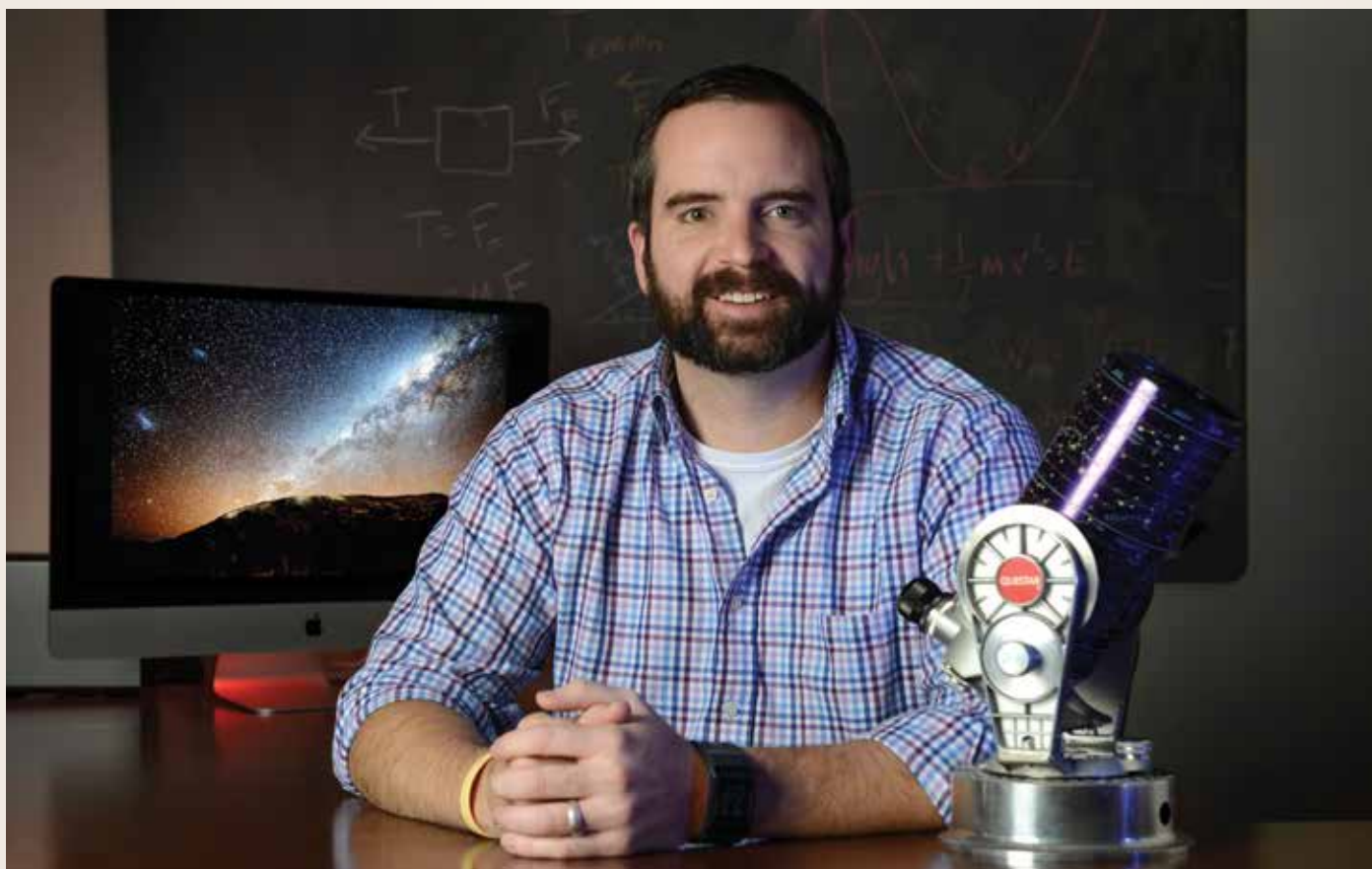
For more faculty publications, visit www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.



FACULTY
SPOTLIGHT

Dr. John Bochanski

Assistant professor of physics led the team that discovered the most distant stars in the Milky Way



Peering into the farthest reaches of the Milky Way, assistant professor of physics **John Bochanski** has seen objects in space that have astronomers questioning their conception of our home galaxy.

In July, Bochanski announced that a team he led found the most distant stars ever observed in the Milky Way. Before the discovery, only seven

stars had been identified beyond 400,000 light years away. The stars Bochanski helped locate are much farther away, existing at respective distances of 775,000 and 900,000 light years in the sparsely populated outer halo of the galaxy. In fact, they are so far from the sun that they lie about a third of the distance to the Andromeda Galaxy, the nearest spiral galaxy to the Milky Way.

“The discovery lends a unique perspective to humans on Earth and our place in the universe,” says Bochanski, who joined Rider in the fall of 2014.

The practical application is that finding these stars could spur a rethinking of the model that predicts how the Milky Way was formed and evolved. The model scientists currently use

does not predict a large quantity of stars at the distances of those recently uncovered.

The project that yielded these findings took about two years and only three trips to the MMT Observatory on Mt. Hopkins in Arizona. “We were certainly lucky,” Bochanski says, especially because scientists at smaller schools often have to jockey for time to work with such powerful telescopes.

Bochanski, who lives in Bucks County with his wife, Aileen, grew up in Washington Township in South Jersey, outside of Philadelphia. One of his earliest memories of watching the night sky involves his grandfather pointing out constellations. Soon enough, he got hooked on the subject, especially black holes, which led him to the public library to check out shelves of astronomy books. He scraped together enough money from a paper route to buy a telescope and can recall announcing as a

13-year-old to friends and family his intention to become an astrophysicist.

He traveled that trajectory like a rocket. Bochanski received his bachelor’s at Villanova University and then completed his doctorate in astronomy at the University of Washington. An East Coast guy at heart, he moved back across the country for post-doc work that included a total of six years at MIT, Penn State and Haverford College.

This fall, along with his normal teaching duties, which included launching rockets outside of Science Hall with his Physics 200 class, he led a “choose your own star” event in September that was connected with the University’s Shared Read program, which encouraged students, faculty and staff to read *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. He also presented a well-received lecture on campus about conducting astronomy in the era of large digital surveys, a technique that is

driving research, collaboration and innovation.

Having discovered the farthest stars in the galaxy, Bochanski knew he had a story that the public could easily understand and the media could translate into a flashy headline. Sure enough, it sparked an immediate reaction, thrusting him into the spotlight on a stage filled with several recent high-profile astronomical events.

Bochanski has been an active part of the conversation about what scientists are exploring in space, and why. “It’s something I feel comfortable doing,” he says, tracing that comfort to his desire to share professional news with his large extended family. “I feel pretty strongly about explaining the importance of these discoveries to folks without technical backgrounds. If my work inspires others or gets them thinking about how big space is or how we got here, that’s a very rewarding aspect of the job.” —*Adam Grybowski*

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Michelle Amazeen and **Dr. Susan O’Sullivan Gavin**, assistant professors in marketing, advertising and legal studies, won the best paper award at the 2014 Academy of Business Research meeting in Atlantic City for their paper “The Advertising Industry in the Social Media Age: The Ethical and Legal Implications of Unsanctioned Rogue or ‘Scam’ Ads.”

Dr. Don Ambrose, editor of *Roeper Review* and professor of graduate education, won an international award from the American Creativity Association for his outstanding book chapter “Invigorating Innovation and Combating Dogmatism Through Creative, Metaphorical Business Leadership,” published in *Creativity in Business*.

Dr. James Castagnera, associate provost and associate counsel for Academic Affairs, co-authored the article “‘Leaderless Resistance’: From 19th Century Anarchists to 21st Century Jihadists: A Persistent but Evolving Terror Tactic,” which appeared in the fall 2014 issue of *The Homeland Security Review*. His co-author is Rachel Safer, a Rider American studies and political science double major.

Colleen Dillon, administrative specialist in the departments of psychology and chemistry; **Dr. Kelly Bidle**, Department of Biology professor; and **Christine Zelenak**, director of the President’s Office and President Rozanski’s executive assistant, each received a **Frank N. Elliot Award for Distinguished Service**. (Dillon’s award was given posthumously.) The award is named in honor of Rider’s fourth president and is presented each year to a staff person, faculty member and administrator who has demonstrated distinguished service to the University.

Dr. Patricia Mosto, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Education, and Sciences, received the 2014 Women of Achievement Award from the Gloucester County Commission for Women and the American Association of University Women in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the profession.

Harry Naar, fine arts professor, had his artwork exhibited at the New Jersey State Museum; the Karl and Helen Burger Gallery at Kean University; the Trenton City Museum; the Arts Council of Princeton and the Romano Gallery at Blair Academy.

Dr. Mark Percy, assistant professor of teacher education, earned renewal of his National Board Certification, a master teacher’s certification that includes a written assessment of content knowledge, reflection on student work samples, a video and an analysis of teaching practice, and documented impact and accomplishments as a teaching professional.

Deborah Rosenthal, fine arts professor, published a book, *Double Rhythm, Writing About Painting*, in which she collected the artwork and wrote the introduction.

Dr. Stefan Young, professor of theory and composition at Westminster Choir College, created a composition for piano, “Avalon, the Jersey Shore,” which the Bay Atlantic Symphony premiered as part of the 350th anniversary of the naming of New Jersey.



For more faculty and staff achievements, visit www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.

A Vision Shared



A Vision REALIZED

During his 12 years as president, Mordechai Rozanski has led Rider through the early morning of the 21st century.

As the University prepares for his July departure, Rider is revitalized, reinvigorated and well-positioned for the next chapter in its history.

Walter Brower, '48 — who worked with four of Rider's six presidents during his 45 years on the University's faculty (including 21 years as dean of the School of Education) — remembers feeling "electrified" when he heard **Mordechai Rozanski's** inaugural convocation addresses.

"When Mort shared his vision of where he wanted to take the University, the proud history we would build upon and the new infrastructure we would create, he was speaking to our dreams, too," says Brower, the author of two definitive histories of Rider. "He urged us to look to the opportunities of the future. He also told us, 'I can be a leader, but I cannot do it alone. I need your help and support.'"

That collegial, accessible approach would underpin the signature promise of Rozanski's 12-year tenure as president: in coming together, Rider University would do great things. "Mort has often said that universities are founded once, but continuously renewed," says Brower. "That's exactly what he's accomplished at Rider."



“My overall goal is to have more people see what I see in Rider’s future — a leading university fostering a culture of the intellect and excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship; a vibrant university of first-class people, programs, services and facilities; a learner-centered university attracting bright and motivated students well-prepared for creative lives and productive careers; a celebrated university renowned for its quality, caring and distinctiveness.”

- Mordechai Rozanski, Inaugural Address, April 2, 2004

Beginning With a Blueprint: The Strategic Plan

Apple’s late CEO Steve Jobs once said, “If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don’t have to be pushed. The vision pulls you.”

Shortly after his inauguration, President Rozanski — aided by co-chairs Associate Vice President for Planning, **Debbie Stasolla**, and Chair of the English Department, **Roberta Clipper** — invited more than 100 faculty, administrators, staff, students, alumni and trustees to share in the creation of the most comprehensive and participatory Strategic Plan ever undertaken at Rider.

The five-year plan, developed in just 11 months, was presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees in June 2005. Trustee **Joan C. Mazzotti** ’72, former Board chair under **President Bart Luedeke**, recalls, “Mort had many great ideas, but his genius was in knowing how to implement each one. He was able to articulate his vision for the University and generate the enthusiasm, support and hard work necessary to realize that vision.”

Often, such initiatives are destined to sit on a shelf after they are completed, but Rider’s ambitious Strategic Plan served as an active blueprint, guiding every aspect of the University’s annual decision-making and resource allocation from 2005 to 2010. It articulated a new

vision and mission, five strategic directions, supporting goals and action plans and key performance indicators. The plan provided a framework for a very deliberative process of institutional renewal by strengthening Rider’s focus on academic excellence and student-centered learning while enhancing the University’s academic stature and strengthening its financial base.

“We began with Mort’s vision; he informed the process with his experience and expertise,” says Stasolla, “But Mort would be the first to say it was truly the members of the Rider community who moved the plan forward. By establishing the framework for a shared vision, it was embraced across both campuses — from the colleges and administrative departments to student clubs and organizations — as people looked for ways to integrate the plan into their operations.”

Remarkably, by 2010, more than 93 percent of the Strategic Plan’s objectives were achieved.

To jumpstart the Strategic Plan’s implementation, Rozanski created Rider’s Strategic Initiatives Fund to underwrite promising early initiatives. Among the first to receive support was the Center for the Development of Leadership Skills (CDLS) in 2004.

Current Student Government President **Allie Koury**, ’15, recently completed a series of admission interviews at New

York University as part of her graduate application there, and spoke to the CDLS’s enduring influence: “My participation in the CDLS was a real standout on my résumé,” she says. “It’s a point of pride at Rider that we’re recognized as having a nationally ranked leadership program.

“Dr. Rozanski’s primary focus always has been the students,” she adds. “You only have to look around campus to see the changes that have happened here. He’s the reason Rider is such an incredible place to learn and live today.”

Keeping Students at the Heart of the Rider Experience

As the treasurer of the Student Government Association (SGA), **Mike Zilly**, ’11, now an audit senior with Deloitte, recalls “getting suited up” in his Sunday best for monthly SGA meetings with President Rozanski.

“We took those meetings very seriously. Dr. Rozanski would let us know his goals, but he never used our time with him to drive what he wanted. He wanted to hear what was on the students’ minds,” says Zilly. “As a result of those meetings, he established a platform that gave us power, responsibility and accountability. Looking back, I understand that was all by design: he knew how important hands-on experience is to real learning.”

Student-centeredness has always been at the root of a Rider education. During President Rozanski's tenure, the University took that tenet to the next level, emphasizing increasingly more challenging academics and an even more supportive learning environment targeted at actively engaging students in their own learning.

Facility enhancements became a key part of creating a competitive and quality university environment. Each new construction project or renovation was planned around enhancing Rider's living/learning experience for students — be it an academic building, residence hall or playing field.

Rozanski also recognized the need to further strengthen student/faculty interaction beyond the classroom through growth in leadership development and honors opportunities across all majors, the creation of residence hall learning communities and the introduction of faculty-in-residence in the freshmen residence halls.

Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students **Anthony Campbell** describes Rozanski as a "very present president" for students. He points to his regular meetings with student leaders, his attendance at University athletic events to cheer on students in every sport, and his personal mentoring of students. "When Mort arrived on campus, he even spent several nights in the freshman residence

halls," recalls Campbell. "In everything he did, he affirmed that students are the heart of Rider."

Elevating Rider's Academic Stature and Growing Enrollments

When Rozanski arrived on campus, *U.S. News and World Report's Best American Colleges* placed Rider in the second tier among its peers, with no individual ranking. Today, Rider is a first-tier university, ranking among the top 25 regional colleges and universities in the U.S. northeast.

Core to this achievement has been the support and entrepreneurial direction of Rider faculty and college leadership. The Strategic Plan invited them to think "outside the box" and apply their expertise across departments and colleges to create programs that respond to emerging market opportunities.

In all, 14 new undergraduate and seven graduate degrees were introduced during Rozanski's presidency — including bachelor's degrees in criminal justice, global supply chain management, graphic design, and integrated science and mathematics. New master's programs included a M.A. in business communication and a M.A. in teaching.

Thanks to targeted recruitment efforts,

there has been a 9-percent increase in full-time undergraduate enrollment since 2003. The demographics of Rider's student body are also changing: more than 28 percent of students come from out of state, and there has been a 15-percent growth in underrepresented enrollment. International enrollment has risen 141 percent. More entering freshmen are staying to complete their degrees at Rider, and they are graduating sooner, with improved retention and graduation rates that are substantially above the national averages for comparable four-year universities.

A major commitment to online learning at Rider also had its genesis under Rozanski. Beginning in 2005 with an initial offering of seven courses, Rider created its Center for Distance Learning and Teaching. More than 150 faculty grants have been made to foster online instruction across disciplines and the University moved to a best-of-breed learning management system to support online studies. Today, Rider offers more than 170 online courses, enrolling nearly 2,400 students annually, with three all-online degree options: a Master of Accountancy (M.Acc.), R.N. to B.S. in Nursing, and a B.S. in Business Administration.

And, through expanded continuing education programs and participation as a Yellow Ribbon university, Rider has built upon its historic roots as a school founded to provide educational opportunities to



returning veterans and adults.

The Strategic Plan's goals of excellence in teaching and scholarship — currently led by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs **DonnaJean Fredeen** — were further advanced by the growth and renewal of faculty. More than 30 percent of Rider's current faculty members were recruited during Rozanski's tenure.

"As a member of Rider's faculty for more than 30 years, I did what I loved doing most every day," says **Anne Law**, former chair of the Psychology Department and current special assistant to the Provost. "But Mort would often ask me, 'What's the next step for you? How can you have a greater impact on our students?'"

His gentle prodding led her to apply for a highly competitive and prestigious American Council of Education (ACE) fellowship, which required a personal nomination by Rozanski and a year's release time. Last year, Law spent a semester observing operations at Boston's Suffolk University and visiting nearly 50 campuses nationwide. "The experience changed my

to "fix" the world-renowned Westminster. "I understood that the University did not have the annual revenues or endowment to keep Westminster Choir College going," she says.

Rozanski quickly enlisted the help of the College's then-Dean and Director, **Robert Annis**, then-Provost **Don Steven** and a Board of Trustees committee headed by **Tom Mulhare '70**, to explore options.

"There were several scenarios. One was to move all the Princeton programs to Lawrenceville. Another was to invest in enlarging both the facilities and enrollment on the Princeton campus. The third was to close the school," recalls Gast. "Through the vision and creativity that sprang from Mort's leadership, another solution was found that preserved and built upon the Westminster Choir College legacy. That was the creation of the Westminster College of the Arts (WCA) in 2007."

Paul Lang '68, chairman of the Board when Rozanski accepted the presidency, believes that "Mort's biggest legacy is what he orchestrated with Westminster. Faced

simultaneously established the arts as an academic focus across the two campuses. The plan's success can be seen in a 66 percent increase in WCA enrollments, as well as the nationally recognized musical theatre program, which attracts 70 percent of its majors from out of state.

Once a plan was in place to secure the future of the choir college, fundraising for facilities upgrades on the Princeton campus kicked into high gear. They culminated last October when Rozanski presided over a ribbon cutting for the Marion Buckelew Cullen Center — the first new academic building to be constructed on Westminster's campus in 39 years. The Center's Hillman Performance Hall was named in recognition of **Elsie Hilliard Hillman '48**, who along with husband **Henry Hillman** is a long-time benefactor of Westminster and the major donor for the building.

The renovation of Westminster's historic Playhouse, which will be renamed the **Robert L. Annis** Playhouse, is also underway. Annis retired in December of 2014 as the dean and director of the Westminster College of the Arts. Dean Annis was a tireless fundraiser for the arts at Rider and, in partnership with President Rozanski, strengthened support for the Westminster College of the Arts within the Princeton community and beyond it.

“He really cares. He puts the institution first. Throughout our working relationship, I’ve viewed him as a role model of servant leadership.”

- Howard Stoeckel '67, former Board chairman

life. Thanks to Mort, I'm bringing back to Rider the extraordinary insights I've gained," says Law. "The experience also helped me better understand Rider's elevated status in the larger academic community — a reflection of the esteem in which Mort is held."

Reimagining Westminster

Mickey Lazenby Gast '68, is a proud graduate of Westminster Choir College and vice chair of the University's Board of Trustees. She also served on the search committee that brought Rozanski to Rider as its sixth president. Gast knew that high among his first tasks would be

with the tough decisions he potentially had to make, he came up with a different approach and the result is the vibrant, expanded College of the Arts you see today."

The essence of the plan was to grow the enrollment of WCA primarily on the Lawrenceville campus by moving the musical theatre program there to integrate with University's popular and well-established theatre program. It also called for the development of related new majors in such areas as arts administration and popular music. In doing so, the plan preserved the choir college's unique mission and learning environment, provided the critical additional revenue it needed and

The Globalization of Rider

The son of Holocaust survivors, President Rozanski is a lifelong student of the world. After World War II, his parents fled Poland (where Rozanski was born), and traveled to Israel and France before eventually moving to Montreal.

The first in his family to complete elementary school, Rozanski earned his undergraduate degree at Canada's McGill University. He then came to the United States to earn his doctorate in Chinese history and American-East Asian relations from the University of Pennsylvania. During his tenure at Rider, he became a dual citizen of the United States and Canada.

Given such wide-reaching personal experiences, it's not surprising that one of Rozanski's aspirations was to expand the



Rozanski has shaken the hands of nearly 13,000 Rider graduates, a point of pride for the outgoing president.

University's worldview. "Under Mort's leadership, Rider has seen a globalization of its curriculum and a much more diverse campus, all of which has improved the student experience," says **Jan Friedman-Krupnick**, assistant vice president for Student Affairs. "Rider isn't the same place it was when he arrived."

He began by expanding upon the University's relationship with Sanda University in Shanghai. Forged a year before his arrival, it offers Chinese students the opportunity to complete their undergraduate business studies and

pursue their MBA at Rider. More than 600 students have participated in the Sanda program, with 250 students earning joint degrees from both universities.

Global recruiting efforts also were expanded; the University now attracts students from nearly 80 countries worldwide.

And since Rozanski's arrival, study abroad opportunities have grown significantly through an emphasis on affordability, increased global partnerships and expanded destinations. In addition to traditional semester-long options, Rider

has created a wide array of short-term, faculty-led programs that further promote student-faculty relationships and explore cross-disciplinary perspectives.

Engaging Rider's Alumni and Friends

Core to Rider's ability to fund its many capital initiatives and increased student scholarship support (see Chronicle on next page) has been Rozanski's indefatigable fundraising efforts and alumni outreach.

A CHRONICLE OF RIDER'S

Transformation

DURING PRESIDENT ROZANSKI'S 12-YEAR TENURE, RIDER HAS

- Built its undergraduate enrollments
- Developed innovative new academic offerings
- Strengthened its fundraising and other revenue generating initiatives
- Made significant investments in technology and facilities
- Elevated its regional and national reputation

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Improved retention to **82%** and graduation rates to **65%**
- Developed **21** new undergraduate and graduate degrees
- Expanded online course offerings including several online degrees
- Created the Westminster College of the Arts



ELEVATED REPUTATION

#23 – Top-tier university ranking in the northeast by *U.S. News and World Report*

ENROLLMENT SUCCESSES

- **117%** increase in applications
- **9%** increase in full-time undergraduate enrollment
- **15%** growth in underrepresented students
- **141%** rise in international enrollment

INCREASED SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

- **87** new donor-supported scholarship funds added in last five years alone
- Scholarship support for students has grown from \$27 million to **\$61 million** per year

\$27M
(2003)

\$61M
(2015)

FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES

- Increased donor and alumni visibility
- **237%** increase in contributions, including endowments
- Raised almost **\$100 million** in gifts and other commitments including some of the largest cash gifts in Rider's history
- **27%** growth in annual fund



CAPITAL PROJECTS

In all, more than **\$130 million** was invested — with a substantial share coming directly from donor gifts — to improve classrooms and residence halls and support facilities on both campuses.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

- West Village Residential Complex
- Hank and Bonnie Moore Residence Hall
- Student Recreation Center and Atrium
- Ben Cohen Turf Field (soccer/field hockey)
- Sonny Pittaro Field (baseball)
- Herb and Joan Young Field (softball)
- North Hall Academic Building
- The Marion Buckelew Cullen Center
- Bart Luedeke Center Theatre addition



CAMPUS RENOVATIONS

- **125** classrooms, laboratories and other academic spaces
- **3** new residences; **14** renovated
- **312** beds added
- Dining facilities on both campuses
- General Services Building
- West House
- Yvonne and “The Spitz” Blackbox Theatres
- Alumni Gym
- Van Cleve Alumni House

IN DEVELOPMENT

- Playhouse renovation
- Basketball practice facility

“Alumni and major donors are seeing Rider in a different way and are making an investment in Rider’s future, thanks to Mort,” says current Board Chair **Michael B. Kennedy** ’72, ’75. Rozanski helped raise almost \$100 million in gifts and other commitments from private and public sources during his presidency, including some of the largest cash gifts in the University’s history.

Rozanski also was instrumental in encouraging alumni from coast to coast to engage with their alma mater in ways big and small, including serving on advisory boards in the colleges, the Rider Women’s Leadership Council and on the University’s Board of Trustees. “Part of his leadership skill lies in helping our Board grow and change so that the Board itself is ready to face the challenges of the future,” adds Kennedy.

One of Rozanski’s greatest satisfactions is the steadily increased involvement of Rider’s alumni. “Alumni are the bedrock of a university. All colleges and universities seek to achieve academic excellence, but it’s only those with a solid and committed alumni base — not just financially, but emotionally — that truly end up doing so,” he says. “The greatest affirmation of a university is when its graduates send their own children and grandchildren to the school, and that’s something we’ve seen often at Rider.” Today, more than 10 percent are alumni legacies.

Beyond Rider: Serving the Greater Community

Rozanski’s impact extends far beyond the confines of Rider’s campus. He has been an active leader in the community, serving on the boards of The Hun School of Princeton, Princeton HealthCare System, MIDJersey Chamber of Commerce and the Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks. He also has been a key player in New Jersey’s leading private higher education organizations.

“Mort’s service on the New Jersey Presidents’ Council was defined by his chairmanship of the Academic Issues Committee, one of the central duties of the Council that was entrusted to his leadership. He also was a leader among the presidents as a member of the Presidents’ Council Executive Board,” says **John Wilson**, president and CEO of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in New Jersey (AICUNJ), where Rozanski currently serves as board chair. “In all he accomplishes, the success of students is paramount in his mind.”



Balancing Resources, Increasing Student Access

Mort Rozanski's journey to becoming a university president started early in his career. "Administration was something that I challenged myself to take on as a young faculty member trying to develop a new academic program in Asian studies," he recalls. "I learned the essentials — how to write grants, generate resources, win and mobilize support, and form teams — from the ground up."

Fast-forward 30 years later to Rozanski's appointment as Rider's president in 2003. *The Philadelphia News* noted that his selection, in part, was based on the financial talent he demonstrated at the University of Guelph.

"While my academic training was not in a business discipline, I fully understood the importance of managing university finances as an instrument to achieve academic goals and institutional vitality," says Rozanski. "In that effort, I have been assisted by terrific people who have a profound understanding of the economic impact of what we do — from finance and enrollment management to fundraising. I've also had the benefit of great board chairs who understood the interdependence of the business and academic sides of the university."

Propelled by the Strategic Plan, Rider's

growth was on a steady upward trajectory. Enrollment grew, new programs were launched, existing buildings were renovated and new ones constructed. But shortly before the start of Rozanski's second term, the American economy went into a tailspin. The recession prompted massive cuts in state aid to private universities at the same time family budgets were most vulnerable to tuition increases.

Rider swiftly responded with the creation of its Innovation Agenda, which recognized the continued relevance of the five directions of the Strategic Plan, but also acknowledged the need to address the challenges of the new economic climate. The agenda focused on achieving greater fiscal sustainability through the creation of revenue-generating academic initiatives, such as the M.A. in Applied Psychology and B.S. in Global Supply Chain Management. The expansion of entrepreneurial auxiliary services programming throughout the academic year, including Study Tours programs that brought middle and high school students from Europe and Asia to study English at Rider, also generated new resources to support the University's core mission.

Rozanski also seized the opportunity to become an outspoken champion of affordable access to a quality education statewide, offering testimony at legislative

hearings and appearing at meetings with the legislature and governor's staff to advocate for state financial aid and other higher education needs.

Rozanski redoubled efforts to increase scholarship support and introduce innovative programs designed to financially reward students for academic performance and participation in University and community-based activities.

During the course of his presidency, Rider increased its scholarship awards from \$27 million to \$61 million annually — translating to an average scholarship grant of about \$15,000 each year per student.

Of Rider's nearly 300 endowed and current-use scholarship funds, 87 have been added in the past five years alone. And as a tribute to Rozanski's commitment to scholarships, the President Rozanski Sesquicentennial Scholarship has been established to continue his mission of investing in educational access for students.

"Mort provided strong leadership during a period of significant challenge for all of private higher education. He had to make many difficult financial decisions, but he understood that money is not an end in itself, but a means of achieving our mission of high quality academics and supportive student services," says **Julie Karns**, vice president for finance and treasurer at

Rider. “As a result of his strategic financial choices, Rider today is much better positioned than many similar institutions.”

Early this year, **Arthur Stainman ’65**, his wife **Lois**, and their family made a transformational scholarship gift to Rider, creating a \$2.5 million endowment fund to support future students. Art noted that he and Lois had reached a point in their lives where they had reflected on what they had done, what factors contributed to their successes, and how they wanted to make a difference in the long term.

Both Art and his son **Evan (’01)** are Rider graduates, and, for Art, the decision to support Rider now was easy. “In addition to celebrating my 50th reunion year and Rider’s 150th anniversary, our gift was a way of acknowledging Mort’s leadership and his departure from the University,” he says. “There are many things I admire about Mort, including that he is pragmatic in his thinking. The Luedeke Center Theater addition, North Hall, and now the Playhouse renovation and planned athletics practice facility are among many examples of Mort’s ability to both scale projects and inspire donors to maintain Rider’s momentum.”

Passing the Torch

When Rozanski leaves Rider in July, his legacy will be shaped by a 47-year career in higher education including 22 years of presidential experience at two major universities in two countries, as well as academic leadership roles at Adelphi University, Fairleigh Dickinson University and Wagner College.

In an interview given just before his inauguration, Rozanski said, “What attracted me was that at Rider I found an outstanding faculty and staff, a wonderful program mix and a willingness to build on success. The willingness of this institution to renew itself convinced me that the fit was there. I could help to frame a vision and a mission to take Rider to the prominence it deserves.”

Today, as he prepares to leave the University, he reflects on the strong foundation that was in place when he began his presidency. “I’ve always had tremendous respect for my predecessors, both at Rider and at Guelph. I was able

to build on the great traditions they established, the opportunities they seized and the momentum they provided. I am particularly grateful to **Bart Luedeke** and **Frank Elliott**, former presidents at Rider, for their wise counsel and support.”

It’s his belief that a president has the responsibility to take an institution to the next level — and then recognize when it’s time to allow for succession and the infusion of new talent. “I’m a strong believer in term limits, because the need for continuous renewal is essential. I like to think of it in terms of passing on the torch to the next generation of University leadership.

“When thinking about institutional succession, you can’t overlook the importance of the wisdom, passion and perspective that someone new can bring to a university,” he says. “I’m very excited about Rider’s incoming president, **Greg Dell’Omo**. He has an enviable record of success and all the attributes needed to take Rider to the next level.”

This fall, Rozanski is looking forward to a much-deserved vacation with his wife Bonnie, a successful playwright and award-winning novelist who also holds master’s degrees in business and artificial intelligence. The couple has moved to Fishtown in Philadelphia, where they met at a college mixer as students at Penn. Their son Daniel and three grandchildren live in Guelph, where Mort and Bonnie plan to visit often. “I can say with some certainty that this fall, as university life is at its height of energy, and there is great excitement about the start of a new semester, Bonnie and I will be relaxing on a beach. It might be hard to resist checking my email for messages,” he says with a smile, “but I’m going to do my best to avoid that temptation.”

“Mort provided strong leadership during a period of significant challenge for all of private higher education.”

- Julie Karns, vice president for finance and treasurer

A WINNING LEADERSHIP STYLE

Perception, it’s often said, is everything. From the moment he arrived on campus, it was clear to nearly everyone that President Rozanski would be a high-energy, 24/7 administrator who loved his job. He never missed an opportunity to introduce someone new to Rider, float an idea or share a student success. Faculty and staff say pre-dawn and late night emails from him are still common.

“He really cares. He puts the institution first,” says former Board chairman **Howard Stoeckel ’67**. “Throughout our working relationship, I’ve viewed him as a role model of servant leadership.”

Prior to coming to Rider, Rozanski was the longest-serving president at the University of Guelph, with 10 years in office. Three times, he led U of G to national prominence as Canada’s top-rated comprehensive university. When he accepted the Rider presidency, he became a member of a notable group: only one in five private college presidents has held more than one presidency, according to the Council of Independent Colleges.

Ben Dworkin, director of Rider’s Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics, offers this observation about Rozanski’s leadership style: “At most schools, the president’s office is ensconced within an administration building, hidden from view, and largely inaccessible. Mort’s office is the exact opposite: on the ground floor of Moore Library, in a fishbowl. He’s not hiding from anyone. Indeed, he’s been accessible to everyone and that has made all the difference.”

Rozanski credits much of his success to the support and efforts of his senior management team, whose weekly “M-4s” (Monday Morning Meetings with Mort) became part of the campus vernacular. The name still sticks, though in recent years, the meeting was moved to Tuesdays.

Students, faculty and staff comment often about the depth of Rozanski’s expertise and engagement. Former Board chair and current trustee **Gary Shapiro ’72**, says, “Very little gets by Mort. He’s a very strong manager who doesn’t delegate and walk away. He’s well informed by his team and other colleagues and communicative with his Board.”



Women's soccer team wins first-ever MAAC title

After finishing the 2013 season 9-8-1 and losing in the MAAC championship semifinal, the women's soccer team hoped to make its presence known in the conference in 2014. The Broncs did just that when they secured the first MAAC title in the program's history on Nov. 9, 2014, in a back-and-forth battle against Fairfield that was decided in penalty kicks.

The championship game took place in West Long Branch, N.J., and went down to the wire. Rider opened the scoring in the 63rd minute with a goal from freshman **Ellie Smith**, and it seemed like it would be all the Broncs would need because of the strong goalkeeping play of sophomore **Bethany-May Howard**.

With only eight minutes left in regulation, Fairfield found the back of the Broncs' net, tying

the score at 1-1. After two unsuccessful overtime periods, the teams battled it out in penalty kicks, where the Broncs prevailed 5-4.

Junior **Tara Ballay** credits the success to the strong relationships between the teammates and coaches. "It felt amazing to be part of this team and able to win the first MAAC title in the program," Ballay says. "We have a very tight-knit group who plays with high energy, and we all worked together well, including the coaches. Success is never a sure thing, but we have a chance to continue to win because we are a very young team who plays with a lot of heart."

While Ballay is mostly concerned about the team's accomplishments, she has also achieved some impressive feats of her own. After missing the five games of the season with a broken leg,

she led the conference in scoring, earning her the MAAC Player of the Year award.

But Ballay is not one to put athletics before academics. The junior wrapped up the semester with a 3.88 cumulative GPA as a psychology major, earning her a spot on the CoSIDA Second Team Capital One Academic All-America Women's Soccer team.

"Even though it is stressful, it's definitely important to maintain the balance between athletics and academics," Ballay says. "I prioritize academics first, because I want to be eligible to play, and I want to be prepared for my future career. Sometimes, it requires me to get work done ahead of time, or to study on a long bus ride, but I always manage to get it done."

—*Christopher J. Brooks '15*

BRONC BITS

GENERAL

For the first time ever, the men's soccer, women's soccer, volleyball and field hockey teams all had a record of .500 or better.

CROSS COUNTRY

The men's and women's cross country teams both placed fifth in the 11-team MAAC Championships. Senior **Anthony Dentino** of Sewell, N.J., senior **Emily Ritter** of Millsboro, N.J., and junior **Nicolette Mateescu** of Kendall Park, N.J., earned All-MAAC honors. Dentino finished 12th of 100 runners in the men's race and earned All-MAAC honors for the fourth time.

FIELD HOCKEY

The field hockey team (11-9) qualified for the four-team conference playoffs for the 15th straight year, and advanced to the MAAC Championship game, making this the 12th time in the past 15 years the Broncs have played in a conference title game. Junior **Joelle Prettyman** of Newark, Del., was named the MAAC goalkeeper of the year. Sophomore **Carlota Alsina** of Spain and senior **Dezarae Fillmyer** of Roebing, N.J., were named First Team All-MAAC.

SOCCER

The men's soccer team (9-7-2) enjoyed its best season in 16 years. The Broncs were picked to finish eighth in the 11-team MAAC and finished third. Rider led the entire nation in goals scored during the regular season, with 40.

The women's soccer team won the MAAC Championship tournament for the first time.

Tara Ballay '16 earned Academic All-America honors as well as MAAC Player of the Year for the soccer team.

SWIMMING

For the fourth year in a row, the men's swimming and diving team earned the MAAC team title, with Broncs head coach **Steve Fletcher** earning the MAAC Male Coach of the Year award for the second year in a row.

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team enjoyed its best season in 20 years.

Hall of Fame inductees announced

The ballots have been cast and a new set of legendary Broncs has been elected into the Rider University Hall of Fame Class of 2015. Five new plaques will hang in the hall, including one for Rider's first Olympian.

Jazmine Fenlator '07 of the track and field program, **Courtney Bertos '06** of the field hockey team, **Linda DiGiuseppantonio '87** of the basketball team, **Bill Lipkus '86** of the cross country and track and field program, and **Neil Boyle '65** of the baseball team, will become the newest members of the Hall of Fame in June.

Fenlator, who was a two-time Rider Female Athlete of the Year, was elected to the Hall of Fame on her first year of eligibility. The former track and field thrower competed for the Team USA bobsled team in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. Fenlator was Rider's first NCAA Track and Field

Regional automatic qualifier. She also earned All-East honors eight times in the shot put, weight throw and discus, setting Rider records in all three events and for the hammer.

During her tenure with the field hockey team, Bertos was a four-time First Team All-Conference selection while also being named to three championship All-Tournament teams. She led Rider to four conference title games, winning two. She also won two regular season titles and was a conference Rookie of the Year and a Regional All-American as a junior.

DiGiuseppantonio finished her Rider career fifth in career scoring and third on the career assist list, helping Rider to its first-ever Division I conference semifinal game. DiGiuseppantonio went on to become a successful coach on the high school and Amateur Athletic Union level.

As a member of the cross

country and track and field programs, Lipkus helped Rider to win its first indoor and outdoor conference track and field championships by defeating nationally ranked Bucknell. Earning the Championship MVP, Lipkus was also a two-time All-Conference cross country selection, setting the Rider track record in the 10,000 meters as well as the indoor records for the 3 mile and the 5,000 meters.

Throughout his Rider career, Boyle was an ace on the mound. The Broncs pitcher led the team to the NCAA tournament with a 13-3 record, boasting 198 strikeouts in only 169 innings pitched. Boyle ended his tenure with a 1.47 earned run average while also pitching a no-hitter. Boyle earned All-East honors and later signed a professional contract with the Chicago Cubs before being selected by the New York Yankees in the Rule 5 draft. —*Christopher J. Brooks '15*



Jazmine Fenlator '07
Track and Field



Courtney Bertos '06
Field Hockey



Linda DiGiuseppantonio '87
Women's Basketball



Bill Lipkus '86
Cross Country



Neil Boyle '65
Baseball



Mark Your Calendars

ALUMNI EVENTS

May 3

Women's Soccer Alumni Day

3 p.m., Alumni/current team game
Ben Cohen Field
BBQ immediately following the game

May 15 and 16

Westminster Choir College Reunions

On campus, Princeton, N.J.

June 13

Rider Reunions

On campus, Lawrenceville, N.J.

.....
To register or RSVP for alumni events, visit alumni.rider.edu/eventregistration unless otherwise noted.

For more information, or to join our mailing list, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@rider.edu or 609-896-5340.

Be sure to join MyRider at alumni.rider.edu to learn more about the rewards of being a member of the Rider alumni family

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Class Notes

From the Alumni Association

As President Rozanski's term comes to an end, we should all take a look back at his many contributions that changed the landscape for Rider. Whether it was the tremendous renovation improvements to the residence halls (including two green buildings and the newly renovated Alumni Gym), or the academic improvements made during the past 10 years, such as adding our new bachelor's degree in health care management, President Rozanski made every effort to improve the lives of our students, athletes, administration and faculty. He also set the stage for greater successes.

Please follow his lead by taking part in the numerous alumni events taking place throughout the remainder of the year. We have hosted events such as an evening with speaker and Pulitzer-Prize winning historian, Doris Kearns Goodwin; we set a Guinness World Record for the

longest cranberry string, and we awarded several Sesquicentennial Medal of Excellence medals to worthy recipients from our past and present.

Still to come are Westminster and Rider reunions. For Westminster graduates, the celebration will occur on Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16 in various locations on the Princeton campus. For Rider graduates, reunions will be held on Saturday, June 13. The theme this year "to affinity and beyond" brings together alumni from various affinity groups and classes to share memories and catch up with old friends. We'll toast our accomplished alumni at The Rider Alumni Awards, induct our fellow Broncs into the Athletics Hall of Fame, and unveil a time capsule in honor of our 150th anniversary. Be sure to join us at the Garden Party on the Plaza, get ready for dancing at the Pub and much, much more. Of course, all alumni are welcome

and encouraged to attend. For a full listing of events, visit alumni.rider.edu/upcomingevents.

Although President Rozanski will be leaving us in August, he has continued to build on Rider University's sound foundation, allowing future presidents to continue to do great things. Please join me and the entire Alumni Board in thanking him and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

I hope to see all of you at one of our spring and summer events!

Sincerely,

Jim Rademacher '88
President, Alumni Board of Directors
and Alumni Association

Alumni Profile

Susan Polis Schutz '66



As a Rider student in the 1960s, **Susan Polis Schutz '66** (pictured in the center) pursued her passions. She majored in biology and English, wrote for the *Rider News* and participated in Delta Phi Epsilon, *Scribes* and student government. She went on to graduate school in physiology while also teaching elementary-age students in Harlem and writing for magazines and newspapers.

"I have always been a writer, as far back as age 7, when I put together a neighborhood newspaper in Peekskill, New York," she says.

Schutz has remained devoted to pursuing her passions and supporting causes she believes in. With Steve Schutz, her husband of more than 44 years, she has created a thriving artistic life, starting with Blue Mountain Arts, a greeting card, poster and gift book publisher, and continuing with the documentary *Seeds of Resiliency*. She

also produced and directed *Anyone and Everyone*, a documentary film featuring the coming-out stories of gay sons and daughters and their parents. In all, she has directed five documentaries that have aired on PBS stations and is currently working on two more.

Schutz has penned numerous best-selling books of poetry, and her poems have been published in over 425 million greeting cards, magazines and textbooks. She has also written an autobiography of her working life, *Blue Mountain: Turning Dreams Into Reality*, and *Depression and Back: A Poetic Journey Through Depression and Recovery*, which describes her three-year journey through depression.

Rider, too, has remained one of her passions. She was honored with the distinguished alumna award in both 1990 and 2004, as well as an honorary doctorate of laws degree from Rider in 1996. This year, she received Rider's Sesquicentennial Medal of Honor.

Throughout her life, Schutz has served as a reminder to those around her that one should pursue the things he or she loves the most. And through her philanthropy, she has also made it possible for others to achieve their dreams. "This life is yours," one of her poems reads. "Take the power to choose what you want to do and do it well. Take the power to love what you want in life and love it honestly. Take the power to walk in the forest and be a part of nature. Take the power to control your own life." —*Aimee LaBrie*

63

After losing his right leg in the Boston Marathon bombing on April 15, 2013, **Bill White '63** began 18 months of rigorous therapy at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston. Recently, he returned to work, began driving again and is even coaching soccer. He sends his best wishes to his brothers in Delta Sigma Pi.

62

Daya Devi-Doolin '62 released her seventh book, *Yoga, Meditation and Spiritual Growth for the African American Community: If You Can Breathe, You Can Do Yoga and Find Inner and Outer Peace*. The focus is on Hatha yoga, which she has been studying, teaching and practicing since 1968. Devi-Doolin, the author of award-winning and best-selling books on motivational and spiritual growth, can be reached at amberbk@aol.com.

67

John Plahovinsak '67 retired (for the second time) to spend more time with his wife of 38 years, Sarah, and their two grandchildren. He worked for 14 years for the city of Cincinnati as a senior human resource analyst. He enlisted as a private in the United States Army in 1967, received a direct commission as a second lieutenant in 1971 and retired from active duty in 1999, after serving for 32 years in the military. The 2013 recipient of the Ford Oval of Honor Award for military achievement, he is vice president of Chapter 63 of the Disabled American Veterans and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2290.

69

George Horvath '69 retired in 2002, after working for the state of New Jersey for 32 years as a data processing programmer and systems programmer. Since then, he garnered media attention after he became the first person to catch two piranhas in North America when he caught two red-bellied pacus (piranhas) in the Delaware River. He has also tagged and released more than 7,600 fish in New Jersey, 238 of which he captured in 11 different states.

54

Carmen Anthony Fiore '54 published *Supplement to Shakespeare* (Royal Fireworks Press), a textbook that explores the theatrics of the Elizabethan era and Shakespeare's contributions to it. Fiore hopes the book will encourage students to appreciate and enjoy Shakespeare's plays and their meanings. To learn more, visit www.carmenanthonyfiore.com.

56

Doug Smith '56 played the lead role in *Sunshine Boys* at Desiderio's Dinner Theater in Lancaster, N.Y. Doug and his wife, Polly, live in Grand Island, N.Y., and closely follow Rider athletics, even though, they note, the colors have changed since the '50s.

70

Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius '70, professor emeritus of choral music and former dean of Temple University's Boyer College, was presented with the Elaine Brown Award for lifetime commitment to excellence in choral music by the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Choral Directors Association at its statewide meeting in the fall of 2014.

John M. Bushby '70 has published his fifth novel, *The Last Voyage of the Paramaribo Queen*. It is the second of the Rick Kasten series of espionage novels.

72

Eric Borden '72, MA '75, director of business development for The Kichler Companies, was awarded the 2014 Pillar of the Industry Award by the American Lighting Association (ALA). Borden was honored in front of his peers during the ALA Annual Conference in Nashville, Tenn., this past fall. Borden has also been instrumental in the success of ALA's educational programs. He serves as chairman of the ALA Education Committee. During his service, he has developed various programs and ideas that have had a positive impact on the association and the lighting industry.

73

A few members of the class of 1973, **Bobbie Boardman '73, Iris Pearson '73, Arlene Levine '73, Susan Brown '73, Susan Lorber '73** and Jan Echochard, who met as freshman and lived in Gee Hall, got together for their annual brunch to discuss old times.

74

Dave Gergel '74 currently works as golf sales coordinator for Shula's Golf Club and co-hosts the number one Saturday radio sports show in South Florida, *The JM Lexus Challenge*.

Alumni Profile

Hugh T. Regan Jr. '82



Hugh Regan Jr. '82 found himself on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in May 2014, seconds away from ringing the bell to signal the closing of the day's trading. He remembers thinking, "I have had one of those blessed lives. How did I get here?"

Regan is the CFO, treasurer and secretary for inTEST Corporation, a tech company that makes equipment used to test and characterize semiconductors and counts Apple as one of its largest customers. He acknowledges that his professional success is not just good fortune but a direct result of hard work and a strong "stick to it" ethic instilled in him by his family.

As a freshman at Rider, Regan didn't wait to start making connections. He joined Theta Chi fraternity in his first fall semester, which opened several doors for him. Through a fraternity brother, he became involved with DAARSTOC (Developing Administrative Abilities and Resources through the Synergistic Training of Organizational Competencies), an

on-campus group that helps students develop professional management skills. Through another fraternity brother, he became involved with the Student Entertainment Council, and Regan was later elected president for both his junior and senior years at Rider.

Though he knew the path he wanted to take after graduation (accounting—following in the footsteps of his father, who received his MBA from Rider), Regan realized that he needed help looking for employment. With the guidance of Career Services, he secured his first accounting job with the New Jersey Casino Control Commission. From there, he moved on to a real estate investment trust, Value Property Trust, ultimately becoming its CFO at 34 (the then-youngest CFO ever of an NYSE-listed company).

Regan, who also dedicates his time to serving on the local board of the Girl Scouts as treasurer, has recently become involved on the national level. His mother, Kathleen, inspired his commitment to the organization by encouraging him to start giving back. "She said, 'You need to find a charity where you can make a difference,'" he remembers. Over the past 10 years, he has helped the Girl Scouts raise over \$6 million.

"I have been blessed with an unbelievable life, and, at the same time, Rider helped create the 'professional me,' which enabled me to have this great career," Regan says. —*Aimee LaBrie*

77

Michael Varga '77 recently published *Under Chad's Spell*, a fictional account of two young people who join the Peace Corps and are sent to Chad right before civil war breaks out. In real life, Varga joined the Peace Corps right after his graduation from Rider University. Three weeks after commencement, he traveled to Chad to begin his two-year term. Learn more at www.michaelvarga.com.

79

John Barr '79, vice president and assistant general manager, scouting and international operations for the San Francisco Giants, has helped put together the team who won its third World Series Championship in the past five seasons against the Kansas City Royals in October 2014. He can be reached at jbarr@sfgiants.com.

Alumni Profile

Dr. Barry Ashmen '69



In 1965, **Dr. Barry Ashmen '69** was a freshman at Rider College celebrating the centennial anniversary with fellow students by singing the school's alma mater. Fifty years later, the year of the sesquicentennial, Ashmen is still bleeding cranberry.

After graduating in 1969 and receiving his master's a year later, also from Rider, Ashmen was asked to return as an assistant professor in 1971 to teach marketing and management-related courses. Returning to Rider was an easy decision.

"I've always thought Rider was a very

friendly place," Ashmen says. "The students were always very cordial and nice, and I really enjoyed working with the students and faculty."

As a professor, Ashmen was paired with close friend Dr. Albert Sternberg, and the two used their marketing techniques to draw more students to attend Rider in an unusual way—using an antique fire truck built in 1953.

In 1979, Sternberg purchased the truck and fixed it up to represent the Broncs. Painted cranberry with "Rider College" displayed on the driver's side door, the two would drive the truck around the area to different high schools to increase both the visibility of the College and its enrollment.

"We used it for recruiting. It was a great tool, the kids loved it and it was a lot of fun," Ashmen says.

Though the truck was eventually sold, it remains one of many memories that Ashmen cherishes of his time at Rider. Now, the long-time professor looks forward to celebrating the 150th anniversary and to more years associated with Rider. He plans on attending the Sesquicentennial Gala on April 18, which recognizes the University's milestone.

"It's pretty amazing when you can work somewhere as many years as I have and still feel this way," he says. "They really take care of you here." —*Christopher J. Brooks '15*

80

Therése Halscheid '80 added to her publishing career with her latest book of poetry, *Frozen Latitudes* (Press 53). To learn more, visit www.theresehalscheid.com.

83

Mark Oberndorf '83 had a one-person show of his paintings, "A Closer Look at Our Community: The Fine Art of Mark Oberndorf," at Lambert Castle Museum in Paterson, N.J., which began in December 2014 and ended in March 2015.

84

Gary Frey '84 was one of 35 Phi Sigma Kappa/Epsilon brothers who attended the 2014 Paleologos Memorial Golf Outing, an event that has been continuous since the early 1990s.

85

Francis "Frank" Loughlin '85 has been inducted into the fifth annual Warren County Hall of Fame. His educational contributions span more than 30 years and include leadership skills in coaching championship soccer teams and teaching at all levels of education, including elementary, middle school and high school.

Vincent J. Milano '85 was appointed chief executive officer of Idera Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing nucleic acid therapeutics for cancers and rare diseases. Milano, who was also appointed to the company's Board of Directors, previously served as chairman, president and chief executive officer of ViroPharma Incorporated.

87

Michael Housel '87 had his first book, *Flask of Eyes*, published by Damnation Books. Housel has been employed by the New Jersey Department of Education as a credentials examiner for 18 years. Visit him online at bizarrecharts.blogspot.com. He currently resides in Trenton, N.J., with his wife, Donna, and their cat, Cody.

90

Henry Miller '90 has transitioned from senior vice president and global life sciences practice leader at Solomon Page Group into the new position of practice leader for the Global Life Science Practice at Diversified Search, a women-founded-and owned executive search firm. Miller has a significant track record across life sciences and health care organizations assisting in identifying key executives in general management, commercial, operational, financial and technical roles.

92

Shari Kesten '92, writing as Shari Nichols, has signed a contract with Ellora's Cave Publishing for her first novel, *Witch Hunter*, a paranormal romance. For more information on her novel, visit sharinichols.com.

93

Michael Leone '93 was recently named the top supplier rep of the year by *Advantages* magazine in its "Best Reps 2014" issue published last winter. Leone was nominated by Hit Promotional Products, where he has worked for the past five years as the metropolitan New York regional sales manager.

95

Jennifer Dale MBA '95 co-authored *Qual-Online The Essential Guide: What Every Researcher Needs to Know about Conducting and Moderating Interviews via the Web* with Susan Abbott. The information-packed guide for qualitative researchers provides numerous case studies that can assist marketers and journalists in understanding how online interviewing can solve a variety of challenges.

97

Christine (Grace) McFadyen '97 and Brian McFadyen, along with brothers Evan and Gavin, welcomed Evelyn GraceAnn on Feb. 25, 2014.

00

Ed Mayer '00 has been named vice president of corporate communications for AECOM, the world's number one engineering design firm by revenue, according to *Engineering News-Record* magazine. Mayer has been with AECOM for eight years.

Maureen Sicree Satz '00, MBA '05, and Brad Satz '99 welcomed their second child, Brooke Elizabeth, on July 23, 2014. Their daughter Ava, 3, loves being a big sister.

03

Nancy Capasso-Lee '03 was recently appointed the new senior program administrator for the School of Arts and Science Educational Opportunity Fund program at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

04

Jennifer (Nash) Mickendrow '04 and **Ryan Mickendrow '04** welcomed baby Ryan Charles Mickendrow on Sept. 11, 2014.

06

Michael Greenberg '06 and **Hope Greenberg '06** welcomed their first daughter, Brielle Madelyn Greenberg, on Aug. 15, 2014.

07

Kelly (Williams) Maresca '07 and Albert A. Maresca Jr. announce the birth of a baby boy. Aiden Williams Maresca was born June 28, 2014.

09

Marcia N. Leach '09 graduated from Widener University Law School in July 2014. She passed both Pennsylvania and New Jersey bar exams and has been sworn in as an attorney in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

10

Steven Waxler '10 has moved on from Deloitte & Touche, LLP, in Princeton to take on a more fulfilling opportunity at Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia as an ACA Auditor III.

Lisa Tremonte '10, magna cum laude graduate, and **Joseph Laciano '07** announced their engagement to be married—the wedding will take place on July 24, 2016. Tremonte currently holds the position of a special education teacher at Aphawa Elemenary School in West Milford, and Laciano works in IT at First Investors in Edison.

11

Victoria Resnick '11 is a full-time career counselor at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Career Development Center. She has also obtained professional licensure and certifications as a licensed associate counselor, national certified counselor and a substance awareness coordinator. While journeying through a Master of Arts program, Resnick was a school counselor intern at Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center, a graduate assistant for the Department of Psychology and Counseling, and an academic support specialist for the Educational Opportunity Fund, both at Fairleigh Dickinson University.



View photos and expanded class notes at www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.

MAY 15-16



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Alumni Profile
Jad Nasrini '14



Jad Nasrini '14 is helping to discover how to make astronauts more alert and aware in outer space. As a clinical research assistant at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, he works with a team developing a cognitive test battery called “Cognition” for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute. He also studies how sleep (or lack thereof) can affect people’s performance and overall health. He and his team collect information about sleep patterns and cognitive performance, and ultimately, they hope to better understand how the biological clock works.

Born and raised in Syria, Jad has traveled a long way to pursue these lofty goals, and it was a Rider faculty member who started him on this path. While he was in high school, he met a faculty member of Rider visiting Syria on a Fulbright scholarship. The faculty member encouraged him to apply to Rider, and in doing so, Nasrini received the Provost Merit Scholarship. “That made the difference between me being able to afford to come to America or not,” he says.

Though at first skeptical of staying in the

States so far away from his family, he soon discovered another home at Rider. “I had such a fantastic experience. I met professors who have shaped the person I am, and the experiences I had were so impactful, and so I stayed.”

However, two years into his studies, the war in Syria erupted. The situation seriously deteriorated, and it came to a point where his family could no longer afford to assist with his expenses. Nasrini realized that he might have to drop out of school and leave the country. He turned to Rider for help. “I met with the VP of enrollment. I told him how much I loved this school and valued my education, but that my family was in financial distress. He said, ‘We’ll see what we can do.’ They then helped me to get a community outreach grant.” In addition, Nasrini’s research advisor in neuroscience, **Dr. Todd Weber**, recommended that he apply for the Merck Award and guided him through the very competitive process of writing a grant proposal. With his help, Nasrini received the Merck Undergraduate Science Endeavors (MUSE) scholarship, donated by Merck and awarded by the Independent College Fund of New Jersey.

Assistance from Dr. Weber and other faculty allowed him to remain at Rider, and last May, Nasrini graduated summa cum laude from Rider with baccalaureate honors as a double major in behavioral neuroscience and psychology. He hopes to return to graduate school after a few years in the field to pursue his Ph.D. and continue his important research.

He remains truly grateful for his time at Rider. “Honestly, the only reason I work in a field that I love is because of Rider. My experience there, the professional connections I made and the research I participated in made everything that I have now possible.”

—*Aimee LaBrie*

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about it!**

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1930s

Gladys Rode Danner '38
Mary Petruccione Hongen '35
Aldona Yasunas Hebbeler '37

1940s

Rachele Nicholas Drissel '41
Victor W. Rossi '41
Evelyn Britton Worthington '42
Ilene Zelif Case '43
Martha Bradway Fletcher '43, '44
Martha Weicht Stocklas '43
Celia Beck Winkler '43
Shirley Chace '44
Doris Sprague Hoyer '46
Jean Farley Opdycke '46
Barbara Boggs Robertson '46
George Ernst '47
Frances Booth Welden '47
Louise Wenzel Blanchard '48
Marion Adamy Horton '48
Mildred Clarke Sharp '48
Kenneth F. Block '49
Robert L. Edwards '49
William V. Herman '49
Bernard M. Howard '49
Donald W. McVay '49
Norton Millman '49
Marilyn Brown Morosoli '49
Thomas E. Romaine '49
Chester J. Wallace '49

1950s

James W. Hynson '50
Janet Potter Martin '50
Elizabeth Salmon Miller '50
Walter E. Reynolds '50
Warren E. Scheible '50
Richard T. Deise '51
Robert M. Minervini '51
Louise Noren Serfass '51
Albert J. Tobias '51
Ann Ranger Bergstrom '52
Clinton C. Crocker '52
Warren D. Ellis '52
Sheldon A. Gould '52
William R. Kosmides '52
Mary Freebern Laird '52
Fred Lauro '52
Joseph A. LiVoti Sr. '52
William Seniuk '52
Jacqueline Hamilton Hamm '53
Walter Nash '53
Douglas P. Riddagh '53
Pasquale DiLucchio '54
Phyllis Wald Arnoff '55
Paul V. Berry '55
Charles M. Cohen '55
George H. Ahlers '56
Patricia Pfaff Wolters '56
James E. Daggett III '57
Joseph A. Russo Sr. '57
Joseph S. Simon '58

1960s

Irvin Fliegelman '60
Steven R. Sigler '61
George W. Vannoy '61
John J. Werst '62

Irwin S. Meyer '63
Marilyn Matula Murphy '63
Charles A. Seibel '63
Thomas M. Andrew '64
Dorothy Dal Corso Kluender '64
Daniel Pyle '64
Anthony F. Bortnick '66
Kathleen Murray Dudeck '66
Joseph L. Kennedy Jr. '67
Michael S. Feit '68
Arthur L. Schwager Jr. '68
Ruth Ann Hippel Burke '69
Merrill D. Jones '69
James W. Naylor '69
Catherine D. Romeo '69
Robert Travinsky '69

1970s

Michael M. Tardiff '70
Harold J. Bell '71
Mary Lynn Fracaroli '71, '76
James H. Goodwin III '71
Richard D. Wallace '71
Margie Demarino Walsh '71
Eugene M. Armstrong '72
Francis J. Brogan '74
Elizabeth Davis Rossi '74
Mary Gamache Bullard '76
Beatrice Adisman Lewis '76
Sarah C. Tarr '76
Thomas F. Gehrman '77
Joseph G. Murray '77
Jeffrey W. Slack '77

1980s

Teresa M. Gray '80
Marie A. Kelson '80
Claire E. Kontje '80
John T. Magowan '80
Natalie Dearborn Cruickshank '81
Alice E. Filor '82
William H. Scheide '85
Diane M. Curry '86
Francis Rainsford '86
Frank J. Morello '88, '91

1990s

Heather Lesh Forsha '90, '93
Margaret Carl Trantham '92
John M. Dunn '99

2000s

Kathleen A. McCullion '01
Kathryn M. DeFillipo '04
Heather MacHenry '07
Matthew Welna '12

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Eileen Astalosh
Cathy A. Carter-Romero
Abraham E. Cohen
James W. Dailey
James J. Hayden
Arthur P. Morgan
Virginia A. Turek

Please go online to view the most up-to-date lists from the spring:
www.rider.edu/ridermagazine/spring-2015/notes/in-memoriam.



Cathy A. Carter-Romero

Cathy Carter-Romero, director of creative services in the Office of University Communications and Marketing, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 14, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was a member of the Rider family for more than 15 years, and her love and passion for Rider ran deep.

“Cathy had a profound impact on the lives of her friends, colleagues and students,” says **John Lenox**, assistant vice president for University Communications and Marketing. “She was dedicated to Rider, she was funny and warm, and she was loyal and giving to her family and friends.”

Carter-Romero was the field hockey team’s beloved mentor who developed close relationships with the players. In appreciation of all her support, the team dedicates a game every year to Carter-Romero during breast cancer awareness month.

Carter-Romero was born and raised in Canada, where she and her husband, Carl, were married and where their children, Samantha and Rob, were born. They moved to New Jersey in 1997 and she began working at Rider a year later.

Donations may be made to The Cathy Carter-Romero Memorial Scholarship fund c/o Stephanie Silvestri, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648.



William H. Scheide

Former Westminster Choir College Board of Trustees Chairman **William H. Scheide** died on Nov. 14, 2014. Dr. Scheide served on the Westminster Board for 27 years, nine of them as chairman. A frequent lecturer and engaging leader, he reinforced his belief in the mission of the choir college with his generous support.

The Westminster Symphonic Choir joined the Vienna Chamber Orchestra in January 2014 to perform a concert celebrating Dr. Scheide’s 100th birthday. A PBS broadcast and recording of that concert should be released later this year.



Former Chaplain Bruno Ugliano

Rider University chaplain **Father Bruno Ugliano** passed away on Nov. 17, 2014.

A beloved Catholic chaplain who served at Rider from 1997 to 2008, Ugliano was known to all as a kind and generous man. Dean of Students **Anthony Campbell** said Ugliano “would move heaven and earth to assist students and other members of their community in their time of need.”

Campbell also called Ugliano an “uncommon priest” with a knack for meeting students where they were and bringing the Gospels to life by making them relevant to today’s world.

In addition to his role at Rider, Ugliano, a member of the Benedictine religious order, was a former headmaster of Delbarton School in Morristown, N.J.

Telling the Rider Story

By Christopher Brooks '15

When prospective college students are searching for their future institution after high school, they generally think about these key points: location, size, campus environment, academics and admission requirements. While these are all important factors, one large chunk of the decision is usually absent from the student's mind — price.

I admit to being one of those students who overlooked the most important question regarding going to college: Could I afford it? The simple answer was no, but with a little help, I knew I could earn my degree at Rider and make my dreams of becoming a professional journalist a reality, even if I had some loans to pay off after graduation.

Getting accepted to Rider and beginning my education was the kick I needed to get my life in gear. Failing was never an option. I knew that I had to prove to myself and to my family that I wanted to do well.

During my first two years, I benefited greatly from both financial aid and Rider scholarships that were based on maintaining a certain GPA. During high school, I was content with sliding by with a C+ average, but I knew that mindset had to change.

Getting a college education is not just something I want to accomplish—it's something I *needed* to accomplish to become successful in the real world.

Now, looking back, I feel the most important thing

I did when I started out here was to get involved on campus. I wanted my time at Rider to be not only

about the education, but also the college experience every student dreams of. I wasn't concerned with finding the best parties, but with making close friends with people who had similar interests. As a journalism major, I found my spot with *The Rider News*, the student newspaper.

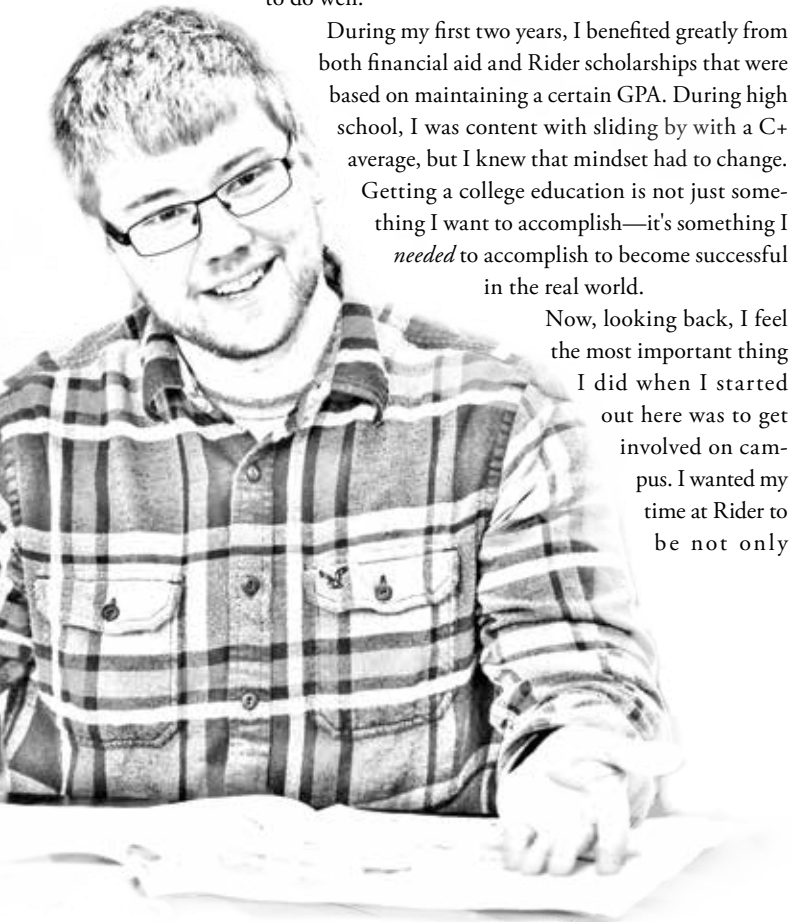
While I had minimal experience writing in the journalistic style, I knew I had enough of the basics down to try writing my first story. Entering *The Rider News* meeting for the first time was an intimidating experience; I was surrounded by people I had never spoken to before, people who were going to be reading and most likely ripping apart my first story. In my high school years, I might have just turned around and walked out because it was uncomfortable and I was nervous. Instead, I wrote my first article, a sports piece about the Rider wrestling team. While I can look back at that story and tell you a hundred things I could have improved on, those 500 words completely shaped my college experience.

After finishing that story, I was invited back to *The Rider News* and asked if I would be interested in taking over the sports editor position the next year. As an avid sports fan, I was ecstatic to have the opportunity to write about something I was passionate about. I accepted the position and spent the next year working alongside some of the most hardworking people I know. But they aren't just my co-workers, they are my friends. They helped shape my college experience for the better, and I wholly expect to stay connected with them long after my time at Rider ends.

After my first year at *The Rider News*, I received another fantastic opportunity. The newspaper's two faculty advisors noticed the hard work and long hours I put in every week and suggested I run for executive editor of the paper. Not only would the position give me great experience for my resume, but it would also provide a scholarship covering my tuition. At that point, I wasn't even sure I could afford to continue my education, but the job would give me the chance to finish my degree with a considerably lighter financial load.

The prospect of leading *The Rider News* scared me, but I remembered my first meeting at the newspaper when I thought about walking out. I didn't walk out and I got involved. Thanks to that, some hard work and a little luck, I shaped my college experience for the better.

As my time at Rider comes to a close, I want to say thank-you to a place that has turned my life in the right direction. I will never forget the education, experiences and opportunities I have been given here.



To read more student essays, visit www.rider.edu/ridermagazine.

RIDER
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150
1865-2015

IT'S ABOUT FRIENDSHIPS.
IT'S ABOUT REKINDLING AND RECONNECTING
WITH YOUR COLLEGE FAMILY.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

REUNIONS

To AFFINITY AND BEYOND

Gather your friends for the Rider Crawl – start with the 9th annual **5K Walk/Run for Women's Athletics** and stay for **A Taste of Philly lunch** before you catch a basketball game or the **Rider Awards**. Enjoy a beer tasting and refreshments at the **Garden Party**, where you'll see current and former faculty and staff. Then you're off to a class reunion, the **Athletics Hall of Fame Awards** or **dinner in Daly's** before **dancing in the Pub until midnight!**

Wear your Rider colors and watch for the Rider Prize Patrol!

Join the growing list of affinity groups:

Accounting Society
Alpha Kappa Alpha
Alpha Phi Alpha
Alpha Psi Omega
Art Society
Beta Psi
Catholic Campus
Ministries
Delta Phi Epsilon

Delta Sigma Theta
EOP
Hillel
History Club
Kappa Alpha Psi
Lambda Theta Alpha
Lambda Theta Phi
Men's Basketball

Olde Guardie
Omega Psi Phi
Orientation Staffers
Phi Beta Lambda
Phi Beta Sigma
Phi Kappa Psi
Phi Sigma Epsilon
Phi Sigma Tau

Rider Newman
Rider Theater
Rider University Network
Shadow Yearbook
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sigma Tau Delta
Student Education Association
Tennis

Women's Basketball
The Writer's Block
Zeta Phi Beta

Classes include:
1965 – 50th reunion
1975 – 40th reunion
2010 – 5th reunion

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS
AT 609-896-5340 OR ALUMNI.RIDER.EDU.

ALUMNI.RIDER.EDU/RIDERREUNIONS2015

Rider University has reached new heights under the leadership of Dr. Mordechai Rozanski. Since 2003, when Dr. Rozanski became president, Rider has created 21 new academic programs, invested \$130 million in new facilities and risen to the level of a first-tier university according to the rankings of *U.S. News & World Report*.

Of all the accomplishments during the Rozanski era, Rider's focus on supporting

student scholarships stands out. Today, 97 percent of Rider students receive some level of financial aid from the University, totaling more than **\$61 million** annually — an increase of 126 percent since 2003.

As Dr. Rozanski prepares for retirement, Rider will recognize his outstanding service to the University and commitment to its students by securing \$1.5 million in new current-use scholarships in his honor. As

Rider celebrates its 150th anniversary, scholarship support is more critical than ever. Your decision to make a gift to The President Rozanski Sesquicentennial Scholarship is an investment in the future of Rider students and a testament to a leader devoted to student success through excellence in teaching, learning and scholarship.

THE PRESIDENT ROZANSKI *Sesquicentennial* SCHOLARSHIP

TO MAKE YOUR INVESTMENT IN DR. ROZANSKI'S HONOR,
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO RIDER UNIVERSITY MAY BE MAILED TO:

Rider University, Office of Advancement Services
2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

TO MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE:
WWW.RIDER.EDU/150/SCHOLARSHIP

