

RIDER

a magazine for alumni and friends

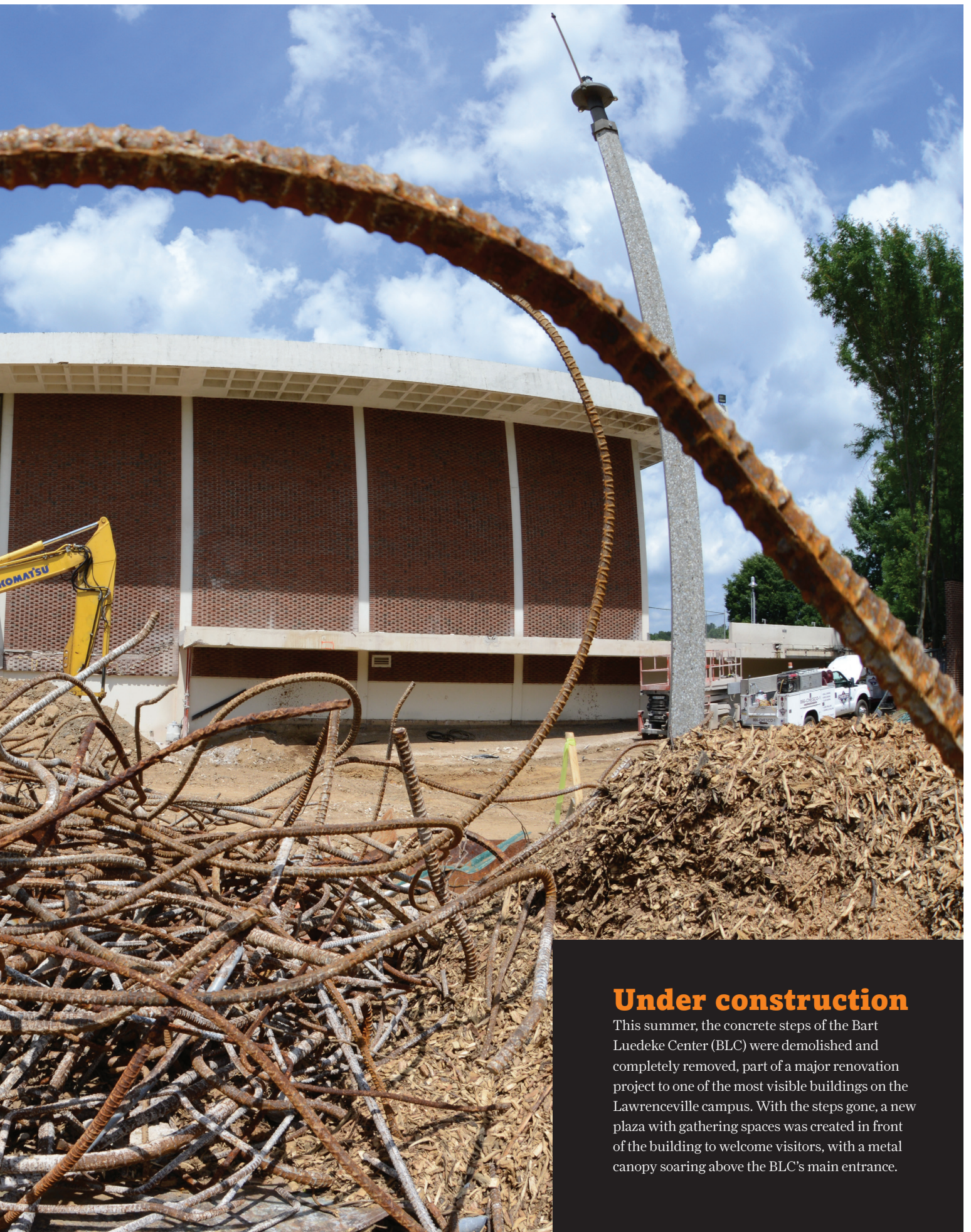
Fall 2018

Their future's so bright...

What it takes to be
a first-generation
college student



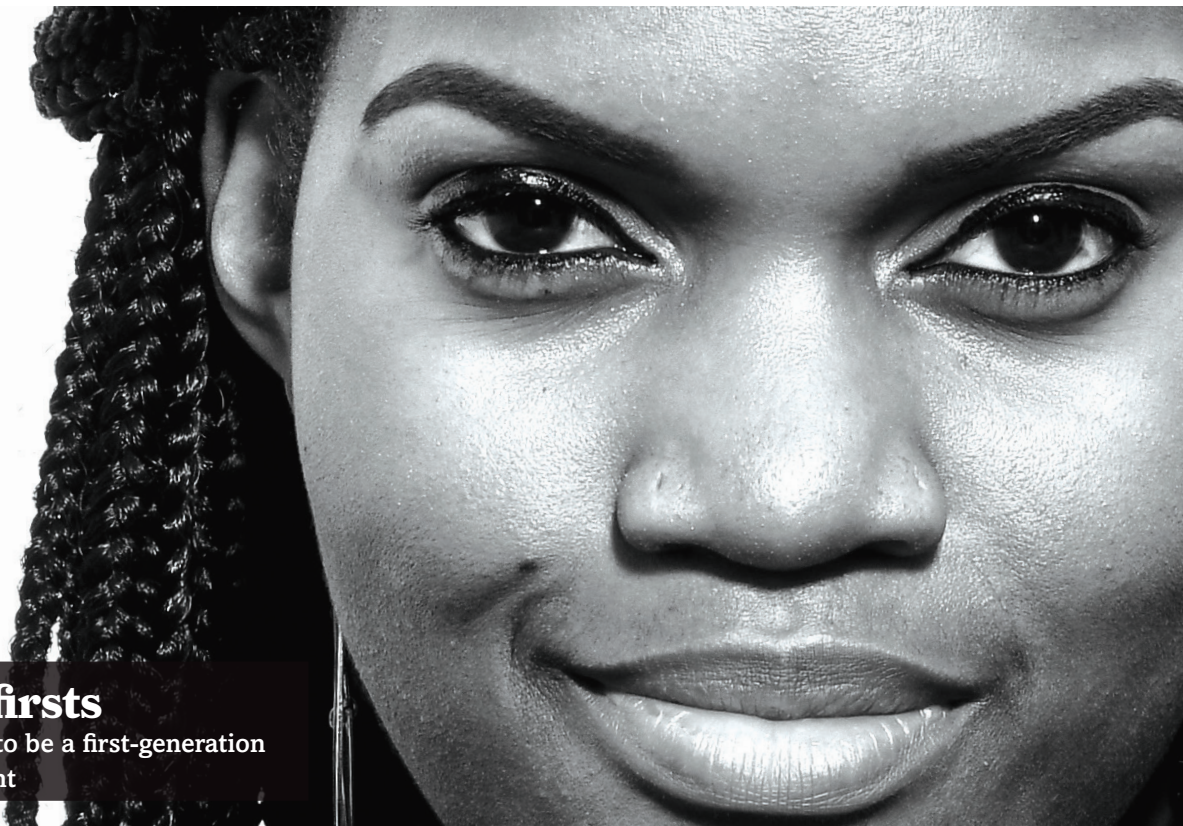




Under construction

This summer, the concrete steps of the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) were demolished and completely removed, part of a major renovation project to one of the most visible buildings on the Lawrenceville campus. With the steps gone, a new plaza with gathering spaces was created in front of the building to welcome visitors, with a metal canopy soaring above the BLC's main entrance.

Fall 2018



20

Family firsts

What it takes to be a first-generation college student



14

The skinny on Big Data

A guide to the business field that is transforming the world



18

Making waves

Musical theatre alumni embrace life as cruise ship performers

DEPARTMENTS

- 4** Rider Roundup
- 8** Faculty Profile

- 10** Go Broncs!
- 28** Class Notes
- 36** 5 Tips
- 40** Student Essay

RIDER

Volume 20 / Issue 1

Editor

Adam Grybowski

Creative Director

Buddy Losavio

Associate Editor

Rachel Stengel '14

Photographer

Peter G. Borg

Contributing Writers

A.J. Moore

Gregory Ott

Cassandra Sammarco '20

Anne Sears

Contributing Illustrators

Michelle Kondrich

Murphy Lippincott

Mickey Paraskevas

James Yang

President

Gregory G. Dell'Omo, Ph.D.

Vice President for

University Advancement

Karin Klim

Assistant Vice President for University Marketing and Communications

Kristine A. Brown

Alumni Association President

Marci Gandt '00, '03

Westminster Alumni

Council President

James Busby '88, '92

To reach us, write to:

2083 Lawrenceville Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-3099
609-896-5000
magazine@rider.edu
www.rider.edu/ridermagazine

Rider (USPS 892-560) is published for the Rider University community, including alumni, parents, faculty and staff, by Rider University.



RiderUniversityAlumni



@RiderAlumni



@RiderUAlumni

Correction:

An article in the spring issue misstated the name of an alumna. She is Caryl Yeager, not Yaeger. We regret the error.



Dear alumni and friends,

AS YOU SIT DOWN TO READ THIS ISSUE OF *RIDER* MAGAZINE, THOUSANDS OF RIDER STUDENTS ARE ALREADY SETTLED IN ON CAMPUS FOR THE FALL SEMESTER.

They're attending classes, joining clubs, landing internships, volunteering in our community and planning to study abroad. They're competing on the athletic field, demonstrating their artistic talents on the stage, developing leadership skills, making new friends and just enjoying life at college.

For hundreds of Rider students, they are also the first members of their families to experience any of these rights of passage. As you will read in this issue's cover story, first-generation students face additional challenges as they acclimate to life away from home to pursue their dream of a college education.

I am particularly proud of the Student Support Services Program offered by Rider to assist first-generation students. The program, which is part of the national TRIO programs that help students overcome barriers to higher education, is celebrating its 25th anniversary at Rider and 50th anniversary nationally. Another important program, the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), which helps low-income residents attend college and has provided meaningful opportunities to countless Rider students, is also celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

EOP has empowered students since its inception to become well-rounded leaders and responsible citizens. Rider's EOP students have made a profound impact on our University and our greater community.

We are excited to celebrate the 50th anniversary of EOP this year and hope you will join us at our Homecoming celebration on Oct. 27, when we will commemorate this special program and honor its commitment to helping the thousands of students who have benefitted from this initiative over the years.

I encourage all of you to come back to Rider for Homecoming. There is much to see transforming on campus, and countless friendly faces waiting to welcome you back to your alma mater, not to mention lots of fun to be had. I hope to see you and your families on Oct. 27.

Sincerely,

Gregory G. Dell'Omo, Ph.D.
President, Rider University

UNIVERSITY *News*

QUOTABLE

“Is prevention better than a cure? It doesn’t matter. They are both important. It’s a false dichotomy put there to solve a resource problem.”



-Dr. Joia Mukherjee, an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and the chief medical officer of Partners in Health, as quoted in *The Rider News* from her March 28 lecture at Rider, “Health Delivery: A Paradigm Shift for the Poor,” sponsored by Rider’s Health Studies Institute.

FAREWELL Class of 2018

- 900 undergraduate students
- 73 graduate and College of Continuing Studies students
- 25 U.S. states represented
- 8 percent born abroad
- 60 percent female

Cause & Effect

Over the past two years, Rider has launched

8

new undergraduate and graduate programs, resulting in a total of

346 enrollments

New faces



Drew Aromando '94, '01
Vice President for Enrollment Management



Karin Klim
Vice President for University Advancement



Micah Rasmussen '92
Director of The Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics

Green energy

Rider currently uses more green power than any other school in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. As a result, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognized Rider in the spring as a Conference Champion in the 2017-18 College and University Green Power Challenge. The University is on track to meet its goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.



Reunited

Tyshaye Smith '18 reunited with her sister Shamera in a surprise visit during the Undergraduate Commencement ceremony. A specialist in the U.S. Army, Shamera had been deployed in Iraq for the previous 10 months.



Record breaker

Rider raised a record amount of funds in the fiscal year that ended in June. Donors committed more than \$13 million in gifts toward the University, signaling a strong level of support for the vision of the University's future. Funds raised are used toward providing student scholarships, improving campus facilities, supporting athletic programs and increasing academic opportunities.

Fine dining

Last spring, Gourmet Dining was selected as Rider's new food service and dining partner. In addition to using locally sourced ingredients and serving homemade food, Gourmet Dining has been making several changes to the dining experience, with plans that include a teaching kitchen, upgraded faculty dining room and food trucks. New national brand franchises are also in the works.

98%

Within six months of graduation, 98 percent of Rider's undergraduate Class of 2017 was employed, pursuing graduate study or volunteering, according to an alumni survey conducted by Career Development and Success at Rider University.

In residence

Rider recently completed significant renovations to three residence halls, with plans to start work on another three this winter — part of a \$15 million bond investment for residence hall improvements that include heating and air conditioning additions and upgrades, electrical upgrades, and new ceilings, flooring, lighting and furniture to improve aesthetics.

QUOTABLE

“Securing the homeland is not about a Motorola radio, taser, glock or a wall. It is much more significant than that. I think you have to understand the interdependency or interconnectivity between outside and inside the U.S.”

-Greg Brown, chairman and CEO of Motorola Solutions, as quoted in *The Rider News* from his April 12 lecture at Rider.



UNIVERSITY *News*

On tour

Rider senior Javon King has been cast in the role of Angel Dumott Schunard in the 2018-19 international tour of the Tony Award-winning rock musical *Rent*. To complete the tour, he's taking a year off from school with the support of his professors. He'll return to Rider to finish his degree in spring 2019.



Hello, governor

Former
Pennsylvania

Governor Mark Schweiker was appointed executive in residence to Rider's Department of Political Science. Schweiker will share his considerable emergency management, crisis response and counter-terrorism experience to support the University's homeland security program.

Gifted educator

Dr. Donald Ambrose, a professor of graduate education, received the New Jersey Association for Gifted Children's Hall of Fame Award during a ceremony on March 22.



First class

The College of Business Administration Hall of Fame inducted its first members on May 3. From left to right, the inductees were Vincent J. Milano '85, chief executive officer of Idera; Patricia A. Hartpence '78, '86, corporate giving officer at NJM Insurance Group; James P. Bush '80, president of Global Network and International Consumer Services at American Express; and Howard Cohen '71, executive advisor to Wells Fargo's New Jersey Middle Market Banking Group, previous chairman of EisnerAmper LLP and managing partner and CEO of Amper, Politziner & Mattia, LLP.

Top spot

Rider's accounting program was included in The Best Accounting Degree Programs 2018 list compiled by Best Value Schools, which researches thousands of colleges and universities to compile lists of the best schools that meet the most important needs of students.

Classic honor

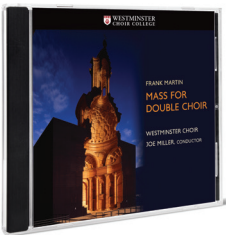
Westminster Choir College was inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame (ACMHF). Founded in 1996, ACMHF seeks to build and sustain enthusiasm for classical music in America by celebrating diverse facets of classical music excellence. It currently includes more than 100 inductees.





Stars align

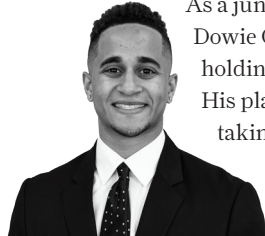
The College of Education and Human Services has partnered with the U.S. Satellite Laboratory (USSL) to further develop science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) teachers. Students in the Master of Arts and certificate programs in teacher leadership will be able to specialize in STEM by taking courses directly through USSL beginning this fall. USSL delivers live, online graduate courses for classroom teachers that support the integration of real-world data available from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



Album drop

Westminster Choir's new recording, *Frank Martin: Mass for Double Choir*, was released on Sept. 21 on the Westminster Choir College label and distributed by Naxos. In addition to Frank Martin's Mass for Double Choir, it includes the first SATB recording of Little Lamb, by Professor Joel Phillips. The recording is available through Amazon, iTunes, Spotify and other major audio recording sites.

Student startup



As a junior, Ethan Dowie started a nonprofit, Dowie Corp., to raise money for cancer patients by holding competitive sporting events year round. His plans to make his nonprofit a reality started taking shape in his Intro to Entrepreneurship class this past fall and became a reality with assistance from Rider's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies.



The number of high school students who traveled to Lawrenceville this summer to participate in the High School Musical Theatre Institute, led by faculty member Trent Blanton, and the High School Contemporary Vocal Institute, led by faculty member Tim Brent. The students hailed from 13 states, as well as Hong Kong, Mexico and Brazil.



QUOTABLE

“Barbara Bush was straightforward, pragmatic, caring, gracious and fun-loving, and she gave her best to her family, her friends and her country. We will miss her.”

-Professor of Communication Dr. Myra Gutin, an authority on the topic of American first ladies, was widely quoted in national media, including an appearance on NPR, on the occasion of Barbara Bush's death in April. Gutin is the author of a biography on Bush, *Barbara Bush: First Lady of Literacy*.

Summer stampede

Broncs bounced their way down the Campus Mall to win \$1,750 in scholarships toward a summer class and other fun prizes at the annual Summer Stampede in April.

First-place finish

The University's student newspaper, *The Rider News*, earned 11 awards for the 2017-18 academic year, including first place in General Excellence from the New Jersey Collegiate Press Association (NJCPA), making it the best student newspaper for a four-year college or university in New Jersey. Five individual NJCPA awards were bestowed in the feature writing, biography/personal profile, editorial and web project categories.



Dr. Paul Jivoff

PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

Since 2002, when he joined the faculty of Rider University, Dr. Paul Jivoff has spent many weeks each summer at Barnegat Bay collecting sea life with student interns. Over the years, he has exposed dozens of students to the joys and challenges of conducting scientific research in an unpredictable real-world environment where he and his cohort have to contend with the heat and sun, rollicking waves, and pinching crabs.

Jivoff is an expert on the blue crab, specifically the animal's reproductive biology, which he has dedicated nearly three decades of his life to studying. His research contributes to policy decisions about how blue crabs are managed in New Jersey and elsewhere. Furthermore, his findings have challenged fundamental beliefs about the animal that have furthered the scientific understanding of how they behave and why. Jivoff's chapter on their reproductive biology is featured in the gold standard reference work on blue crabs, *The Blue Crab: Callinectes Sapidus* (Maryland Sea Grant College University of Maryland).

Jivoff has been drawn to nature since he was a boy growing up in Syracuse, N.Y., where he enjoyed spending time outside, especially fishing with his older brothers and sisters and exploring the woods that surrounded his home. He conducted field research for the first time as an undergraduate at Hartwick College while assisting a professor surveying salamanders. Apprehending the vast and ever-growing body of scientific literature as a student had an equally powerful effect on him. More than anything else, discovering that scope of knowledge motivated him to apply to graduate school.

Each of these experiences provided a foundation for his work and career, which began after earning a doctorate in zoology from the University of Maryland.

In what ways does field research benefit students?

In the classroom, you can get a perfectly good description of some marine environment with beautiful pictures or go online and find videos that show those environments, but they still don't necessarily cover what it's like to go there. Any one of my students will tell you that one of the big things I try to impress on them is the variation in the environment and that their job as a scientist is to explain that variation. You don't get a sense of the variation until you're there.

After 28 years of studying blue crabs, what keeps you interested in them?

First, they're ecologically and economically important. They're also really interesting organisms. From a reproductive perspective, in some ways they behave like insects and in other ways like other marine organisms. It provides opportunities for comparative work to help me find out more about their reproductive biology to help properly manage them. The aspect of their biology that I'm interested in is very complex. You have to gather a lot of information. You wouldn't

be able to detect patterns without a lot of data. They're complicated organisms, and the questions I've been asking have changed over time. I like that my research on blue crabs is two-pronged: It's theoretically relevant and also has the practical application of being incorporated into management plans of places like the Chesapeake Bay. It's very satisfying.

Do you ever feel limited by focusing so narrowly on one aspect of blue crabs in your research?

What happens in science is that you can get tunneled down into a specific question that you can address instead of taking the perspective of wanting to know everything about a particular animal. I know a lot about one aspect of blue crabs' biology, but there are other aspects of their biology that I don't know lots about. For me as a teacher, it's really fun to have that specific knowledge and it helps me teach, but it can drive students nuts. Even when blue crabs are not the subject, I have a model organism that I can bring into my classroom as a case study and use that information to teach. It's not just good at parties.

“I TEACH because I enjoy interacting with students and talking with them about science.”

By Adam Grybowski
Photos by Peter G. Borg

Not all of your students will end up in a marine-science career. Does that affect how you teach?

In the lab and in the field, I have the opportunity to teach students the skills and techniques to help them answer the questions marine scientists are trying to address. I know they are going to use what they learn if they stay in marine science. But part of the job is not knowing if students will end up in research. I could have a student who works with me for four years in my laboratory and after they graduate, they go onto physical therapy. Is that disappointing? No. I know they're taking those experiences they've had with them.

What's something that might surprise people about blue crabs?

Here are two related things: Female blue crabs have a single opportunity to mate during their lifetime, immediately after they molt (which allows them to grow) for the last time. So, right after they molt for the last time, they mate and will not mate or grow for the rest of their lives. That combination is one of the things that makes blue crab reproductive biology so interesting.

What's in your office, professor?



Sample of pressed algae

In 2015, Dr. Mary Leck, emeritus professor of biology, gave me a collection of pressed algae samples. Many were beautiful, showing intricate details of the algae and they were from 1965...50 years old!



'Pair lasagna'

Former students made this to show how we handle mating pairs of crabs in the field. We keep them separate by making "pair lasagna" in a bucket: The "noodles" are a burlap bag and the "filling" is a pair of crabs.



Student memento

This gift is from a former student who worked with me for three summers. She made it from a piece of fishing net and photos from her field experiences. The anchor in the middle has some of the phrases that I frequently say out in the field.



Austin Devereux of men's golf finished sixth at the MAAC Championships to earn All-MAAC honors.



Joe Simone of the baseball team earned All-MAAC First Team honors, leading Rider with 58 hits and 34 runs scored.



Christin Patrick of the men's track & field team won gold in the 110-meter hurdles and silver in the high jump at MAAC Championships.



Sara Gardner of the women's track & field team became the first female hurdler in program history to qualify for the NCAA East Preliminary Championships after winning gold at the MAAC Championships with a Rider- and MAAC-record time of 13.41 seconds.



Joshonda Johnson of the women's track & field team was named MAAC Co-Rookie Women's Track Performer of the Meet at the MAAC Championships after taking bronze in the 100-meter hurdles and gold as part of the Broncos' 4x400 meter relay team.



Toni Niño of the softball team was named to the All-MAAC First Team after setting a new program single-season record with 47 runs scored.



With the help of North Eastern Floors, Rider University Athletics recently completed a redesign of the Alumni Gymnasium court. The new look is the Broncos' first since 2007, when Rider redesigned its Athletics logos.

A Whole New Ballgame

A.J. MOORE ON SPORTS AND MEDIA

A league of its own

WHEN THE LITTLE-KNOWN ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL DEBUTS IN 2019, IT MAY CREATE A NEW SPORTS NORM

By A.J. Moore

It was one of those minor sports stories you probably came across last year and thought little of at the time. Starting in February 2019, another professional football league, the Alliance of American Football (AAF), will make its debut.

A new member entering an already oversaturated marketplace does not seem overly interesting. Even crazed sports fans are likely to take a pass on it. But what the little-known AAF does in early 2019 to attract an audience could be an indicator of where sports media will soon be going.

Any media operation launching in the era of Netflix and Fire Sticks must be ready to deal with a treacherous environment where consumer eyeballs have so many options just a finger stroke away.

That's why the AAF could be effective with a counterintuitive approach of intending from the onset to be a niche product.

That mindset gives the league a chance to survive since the other four major North American sports leagues have failed to recognize they are also in a sim-

The AAF is wisely looking to establish a trend other sports leagues should follow.



Associate Professor of Journalism A.J. Moore is the director of Rider's program in sports media.

ilar profile. Yes, the NFL, MLB, NHL and NBA have tremendous brand equity and are still very popular. However, they just have a bigger niche because none of them still command appointment television status.

In today's marketplace, it is almost impossible to attract a wide array of demographics; instead, success is achieved by maintaining a slice of a certain demographic.

The AAF is wisely looking to establish a trend other sports leagues should follow. The league's primary sales pitch to audiences and advertisers is that games will clock in under three hours. Not that long ago, a league measured its success by the amount of prime time coverage it got on broadcast and cable television. Now the AAF wants to score a touchdown by reducing its screen time. This goal should be reached by the AAF hierarchy eliminating television timeouts and using a shorter play clock. Branding and advertisers' logos will be built into the telecast thus eliminating commercial-driven timeouts.

In today's sports, less is more. Fans no longer park themselves on the couch with a seven-layer bean dip and invest an entire day to watch sports. All the stoppage of play in major sporting contests are giving fans a reason to divert their attention to Twitter and then disregard the game itself.

Extended timeouts, timeouts after timeouts and officials laboriously reviewing challenged calls are becoming the norm in sports, and fans — especially digital natives — are “bored.”

Any league, new or old, that can solve the riddle and reduce the amount of game time will be a trendsetter. Such is the case when fans can easily drift away to all the other content at their disposal. Because the AAF has made shorter games a priority, it has a chance of gaining some traction in the sports media. Call it bottom-up marketing.

The AAF could also create a new sports norm when it livestreams all its games and makes fantasy play an integral part of its telecasts. At the moment, the major leagues are doing both, just on the fringes. From day one, the AAF emphasizing livestreaming and fantasy play could speed up the process for the big boys to do likewise.

Looking forward a couple of months, I don't know if you and I will be watching the AAF, but I do know in a few years we will be watching all sports the AAF way.

Game changer

NEW ESPN PRODUCTION TRAILER PROVIDES ENHANCED EXPERIENCE FOR FANS AND STUDENTS

By Rachel Stengel '14

Senior digital media major Melissa Chircop is glad she won't have to worry about rain this year.

Since her first day of freshman year, Chircop has been working with a team of 15 other students to produce video content for BroncVision, Athletics' online portal for live and on-demand video. When raindrops started to fall or the wind picked up during outdoor games, camera operators ran for shelter under tents or into cars while pausing their live feed as they waited for the storm to pass. Now, with a new state-of-the-art video production trailer, upgraded equipment and accessibility to new networks, more eyes will be on Rider Athletics with fewer interruptions.

Rider joined a Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference initiative to broadcast live events on the ESPN family of networks. Students are not only self-producing content such as video packages and pregame shows for BroncVision, but also for ESPN3 and ESPN+, using the latest industry-standard broadcast equipment. Content will also be

accessible on most mobile devices through the ESPN app.

"It's been two and a half years in the making from the time this idea was conceived to having a fully functional production space," says Karin Torchia, senior associate director of Athletics for external operations and development. "We could not be more proud that our students are the ones creating the live content for ESPN3 and ESPN+."

This season, millions will have more access to the Broncos. Every home men's and women's basketball game and wrestling match as well as select men's and women's soccer, field hockey, volleyball, baseball, and softball home games will be streamed on either ESPN3 or ESPN+.

To ensure the broadcasts would be of the highest professional quality, Athletics consulted with a former ESPN producer to hand select all the equipment. The trailer boasts a 24-input video switcher, 32-input digital

"Being able to say I've produced live content for ESPN3 and ESPN+ means a lot. It will make me stand out from other applicants because ESPN is definitely known worldwide."

audio mixer and four 1080i HD-quality broadcast cameras and lenses.

"It was amazing to see all the new equipment fit into the trailer," says Brook Wilson, a senior computer information systems major and member of the track and field team who's worked for BroncVision since his sophomore year. "It's really taking our production to a new level."

The ability to create professional content for a major sports network is a significant opportunity for students who hope to enter the world of sports media. The initiative is also supportive of the University's Engaged Learning Program, which requires students to complete at least two high-impact experiences through internships, leadership, service, the arts, research or study abroad.

Overseen by Chris Foster '13, assistant athletic director for digital and new media, students are operating cameras, creating onscreen graphics, hosting pre- and postgame shows, mixing sound, editing video packages and more.

"Students are getting real-world experience right here on campus," Foster says. "They are building all the skills needed to do professional, game-day video production and be confident when entering an internship or job in sports video production. Students with no experience can sign up. They can also come from any major, but it's certainly an attractive option for students majoring in sports media."

Chircop says the enhanced production experience will not only benefit her now but when she graduates in May.

"Being able to say I've produced live content for ESPN3 and ESPN+ means a lot," she says. "It will make me stand out from other applicants because ESPN is definitely known worldwide."

Photo by Peter G. Borg



THE SKINNY ON

BIG DATA

A guide to the latest trends, threats and opportunities of the
business field that is transforming the world

By Adam Grybowski



SWEIGART HALL OPENED

this fall after a complete, months-long renovation. Among the upgraded classrooms and expanded lobby, the building's new Business Data and Analytics Lab stood out as a visible symbol of the University's commitment to training students to harness the power of Big Data, one of the hottest fields in business.

Last year, Rider's College of Business Administration launched a new undergraduate program in business analytics, and in the spring, it hosted the 2018 American Statistical Association DataFest competition, a 48-hour event in which teams of up to five students work to reveal insights from a large and rich data set.

For this issue of *Rider* magazine, the business faculty leading these efforts, along with alumni working in the field, contributed their insights into helping you understand why Big Data is so important right now, and where it might be heading in the future.



will decide in the coming years. An effective decision will establish sensible boundaries that strike a balance between promoting growth and innovation and preventing abuse. Achieving that balance will be a huge challenge.

Dr. William Amadio
Associate professor of information systems and the director of Rider's Center for Business Analytics



Ethics and privacy

For more than two decades, people around the globe have enjoyed, at little or no cost, an array of internet-based applications. That business model has paid off handsomely for companies because it generates data that is often more valuable than subscription fees. While it is certainly not unfair for providers to profit from their investments and innovations, such a model comes with significant costs to the user. We pay in terms of time and responsibility. We must know and understand how providers use the data we generate, and we must maintain preferences to protect our privacy and security. Many people are unwilling or unable to carry out these responsibilities. Is there a role for government to regulate providers of online services in the same ways, say, that media companies are regulated? This is a question we, as a society,



Cybersecurity

Organizations across the world are falling victim to data breaches engineered by hackers, costing them millions in compliance and regulatory penalties and considerable damage to their reputations. No matter the cost, at the end of the day security breaches are going to happen. What separates how businesses fare is how well-prepared they are in identifying and responding to attacks. Some organizations use software like the one developed by my company, Curricula, to send out simulated phishing attacks (those bogus emails that trick victims into opening emails and clicking links that expose their personal information) against their employees to demonstrate what a real-world attack would look like. This exercise allows organizations to receive eye-opening feedback on how their employees would perform against such an attack. They can use this information to improve processes and procedures to guide them to act appro-

priately. Incident response exercises are a powerful way to understand the risks of an attack. No organization should ever want its first taste of a data breach to be experienced during the real thing.

Nick Santora '08, '11
CEO of Curricula, a cybersecurity training and phishing simulation company headquartered in Atlanta, Ga.

Big Data can reveal opportunities to create something so new and novel that it can cause major disruptions.



Health care

The health care industry generates massive amounts of data, and the ability to analyze this data is vital to health care organizations. Hospitals and health systems are focused on achieving the “quadruple aim” — reducing per capita costs, improving both the patient and provider experience, and creating healthier patients by focusing on population health. At the

foundation of successful population health management strategies is health data analytics, a broad term that has many variations but at its core refers to the analysis of data to explore and identify trends and patterns in patient-related data. Health data analysts use their knowledge to manage, analyze, interpret and “transform” data into actionable information. Understanding the patterns and correlations discovered in health care data is used to make better-informed health care decisions, and these types of analyses create benefits that reverberate across the entire health care ecosystem — patients, providers, employers, insurance companies, the pharmaceutical industry and health care policy.

Dr. Kristin McCarthy
Visiting assistant professor of health care management



Artificial intelligence

The next technology that will have a major impact on Big Data is artificial intelligence. Over the past 10 years or so, we have seen the proliferation of data warehouses that allow organizations to store massive troves of organizational knowledge, which is used to help make critical business decisions. Artificial intelligence platforms that





provide cognitive computing capabilities like natural language processing and machine learning will bring businesses to the next level of decision making and customer service. One of the most popular use cases for cognitive computing is to emulate a human expert that can answer questions on a particular domain of knowledge. This is possible because these technologies are designed to mimic the functions of the human brain. IBM Watson, Microsoft Cognitive Services, Google AI Cloud and others are all in competition to be the first AI platform to radically change the way businesses leverage Big Data in their everyday operations. It will be exciting to see which one emerges as the leader in this space.

Sean R. Piotrowski '04, '07
Adjunct lecturer and manager,
Cloud Services at iCIM



Innovation and disruption

For years we have seen evidence of Big Data driving innovation in the form of manufacturing improvements, supply chain efficiencies, and customized products and services. Big Data can also reveal opportunities to create something so new and novel that it can cause major disruptions in the way things are traditionally done. Think about how you listen to music today. You may be old enough to

remember buying vinyl or CDs, or maybe you used to buy and download music onto a device like an iPod. Now, Big Data aids in the creation of personalized music streams through data mining and analytics software that uncovers patterns, trends and relationships in data in minutes or even seconds. Such previously unavailable insights can also yield insight into large-scale problems and opportunities in just about every industry. As the variety of integrated data sources — social media, videos, emails, text messages, images and sensor data from a growing number of internet-connected devices (also known as the Internet of Things) — grows, and the types and the speed of processing power expand, we will continue to see innovation in the form of original ideas transformed into new products and services.

Dr. Lauren Eder
Professor of information systems



Storage

The average high definition movie takes up about four gigabytes of data. Working as a storage engineer, I've helped companies like Comcast and Facebook manage roughly 120 petabytes of information, which

is equal to 120 million gigabytes — or 300,000 high definition movies! If large companies needed to buy enterprise storage servers to house all the data they manage onsite, they'd go bankrupt from the cost. Instead, many buy open source servers that are much cheaper. But open source servers have another advantage as well; they level the playing field for small companies by putting them in control of their own data and destiny, giving them the ability to grow their storage and computing footprint as needed.

No organization should ever want its first taste of a data breach to be experienced during the real thing.

This allows a two-person startup to compete with bigger rivals. However, relying on such a method to store data creates a lot of risk because it concentrates data in only a few places, making the servers a very enticing target for hackers.

Chris Holcombe '05
Lead storage engineer, Comcast

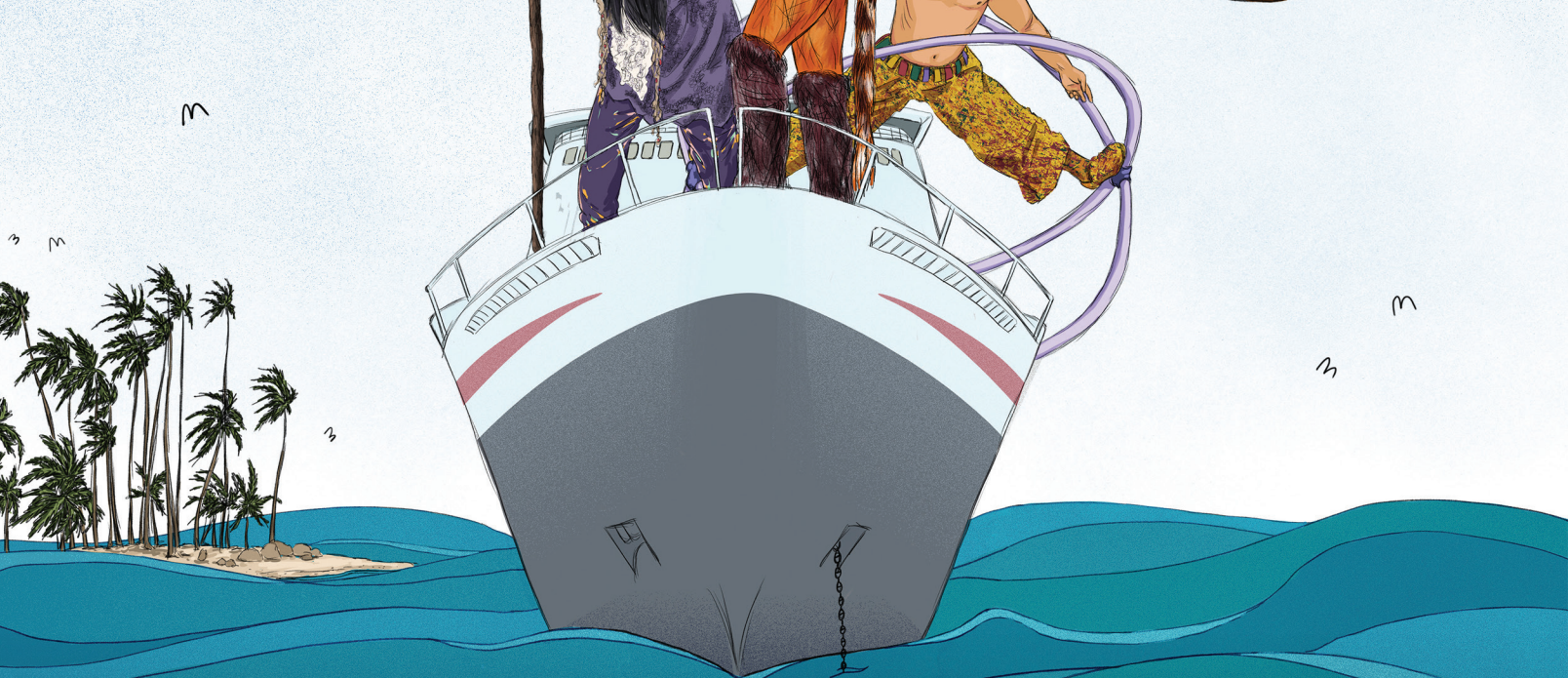


Creating a competitive business advantage

While the term “Big Data” seems to be very popular nowadays among scientists and practitioners alike, research shows that the capabilities to extract actionable business insights from Big Data are not so common among today's organizations. Those who possess such capabilities are both more productive and more profitable than their unequipped counterparts. Some of my current research focuses on how technology, particularly data visualization and analytics tools, can aid business analysts in making sense of otherwise incomprehensibly large and complicated datasets. The ability to use these tools effectively is currently in very high demand from employers seeking data analysts who can help generate competitive advantage from Big Data, which is one reason I'm very excited about the launch of Rider's new business analytics program and the privilege I have of teaching our students about cutting-edge analytics tools and techniques in our state-of-the-art facilities.

Dr. Emre Yetgin
Assistant professor of
information systems

MAKING WAVES



TODAY'S CRUISE SHIP ENTERTAINMENT RIVALS BROADWAY MAINSTAYS. MUSICAL THEATRE ALUMNI ARE EMBRACING THE OPPORTUNITY.

By Rachel Stengel '14

Braden Sweeney '17 is in the middle of the ocean, hanging by his feet from a spinning hoop about 20 feet above the ground. He glides through acrobatic movements as dancers leap across the stage below him, with lights and pulsating music enveloping the theater.

For Sweeney, a singer and dancer in his third contract with Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings, it was just a part of the job for him last summer. Among his three contracts, he's appeared in six different shows ranging from concerts featuring some of Broadway's favorite tunes and dance review shows to full production Cirque du Soleil-style acrobatic performances.

Sweeney and other recent alumni of the musical theatre program represent the changing tides of entertainment at sea.

Entertainment has been signature to cruise lines since their earliest inception. Before cruising transformed into the multi-bil-

lion-dollar industry it is today, entertainment was modest aboard ocean liners making some of the first trans-Atlantic voyages. Guests typically enjoyed live music during dinner, card games and perhaps the appearance of a magician performing slight-of-hand tricks.

Today, the stage is much different for performers. In the past decade, elevating entertainment on cruise ships to Broadway-caliber performances has been the trend. Some of the major cruise lines are even adding current or former Broadway hits such as *Rock of Ages*, *Chicago* and *Jersey Boys* to their performance lineup. Others are recruiting Broadway producers, composers and dancers to create original works specifically for cruise ship audiences. Theaters on ships can rival some of the mainstays on the Great White Way with luxurious design and state-of-the-art LED screens, which act as the backdrop for many shows.

"You truly can't tell the difference between this and Broadway," Milika Griffiths '17 says while docked in Port Canaveral, Fla., during her minimal downtime. With two shows per day and other duties such as escorting Mickey Mouse to his meet and greet and mingling with passengers, there's no true day off for Griffiths.

"The most challenging thing is that you're always on and always working," she says. "On land, you have a chance to go home and have breaks from the audience. On a cruise ship, I'm always performing even after all the shows are done."

Griffiths signed with Disney Cruises last September for the role of the operatic Madame de la Grande Bouche — better known as the wardrobe — in *Beauty and the Beast*. She also hosts a review-style show featuring some of Disney's favorite characters and stars as the *Lion King*'s Rafiki in a performance called "Disney's Believe."

Beauty and the Beast is one of Disney's newest additions to its performance roster, joining *Aladdin*, *Frozen* and *Tangled*. It is a shortened, hour-long version of the recent live-action film to accommodate guests of all ages. Broadway artists have designed the elaborate costumes used to transform actors into their inanimate counterparts. Grand set pieces and full-length LED screens create the magical world, while a live orchestra accompanies classic showstoppers like "Be Our Guest" and "Tale as Old as Time."

Royal Caribbean has established itself as the leader in Broadway entertainment aboard cruise ships. It is the only cruise line performing full-length Broadway shows, first staging the '60s-extravaganza *Hairspray* in 2009. Today, *Mamma Mia*, *We Will Rock You*, *Grease*, *Saturday Night Fever* and Broadway's second longest-running musical, *CATS*, are performed on its fleet of more than 20 ships.

Cruise lines are continually adding and upgrading entertainment options for travelers because they matter to passengers — more than they initially realize. Entertainment is the most utilized feature onboard with 70 percent of guests attending at least one performance, according to cruise industry leaders.

"There are some guests who come on our ship specifically to see *CATS* because they know they can't make it to Broadway," says Abbey Sierakowski '15 who currently plays the flirtatious Bombalurina in *CATS* on Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas.

Authenticity is key for *CATS*. The entire production from the cast, score, dancing and sets had to be approved by Lloyd Webber's production company. Sierakowski's live audition was filmed and sent to the company along with her other cast mates' for approval from the group.

"They want to make sure this is a true version of the Broadway show," she says. "We're singing the original score in its entirety, doing the original choreography and the set is a replica of the 1981 version."

"It's done such a great job of shaping me as a performer for other contracts. After this, eight shows a week on Broadway — no problem."

Illustration by
Michelle Kondrich

While the performances are full out, there are some difficult cuts behind the scenes for the actors. Performers need to wear more hats than their costumes call for most of the time. Backstage is tight and there is virtually no crew. Actors need to keep track of all their props and any set pieces used in the show. There are typically no understudies except other members of the cast. There are no makeup, hair or costume attendants. The actors in *CATS* underwent three hours of makeup training so they can transform into their feline for each show. Performers even become crew members should an emergency happen on board.

"We went through hours of safety training," Sierakowski says. "If there was ever an emergency call during the show, we'd have to stop immediately and go help passengers board lifeboats in full makeup, wigs and unitards."

The unpredictable environment of a moving ship can also complicate performances. Seasickness is common, with Dramamine, despite its tiring effects, being the remedy of choice. Holding one's center to complete a double pirouette or preparing for a landing from a jump during a routine becomes difficult for even the most seasoned dancers.

"Your priorities shift a little bit from doing the best technical turns or jumps to just not falling sometimes," Sweeney says.

Isolation from friends, family and the hub of New York City's ever-evolving theater district can sink spirits at times. Staying up to date on casting updates is crucial and capitalizing on free Wi-Fi while docked in the U.S. is a must, Sierakowski says.

"Buy the phone call," Sweeney agrees. "It's worth the \$10 and will immediately ground you from whatever sense of loneliness you're feeling."

Working as a performer on cruise ships tends to be an attractive option for actors and dancers early in their careers, says Robin Lewis, associate professor II in the Department of Theatre and Dance and a former Broadway and cruise ship dancer.

"It's a great way to save up money so they can go to New York," he says. "Most of the time all of their lodging and meals are paid for in addition to their salary, which can range from \$800-1,500 per week depending on the ship. They may be learning new skills too, which can help in the industry. Plus, they get to see the world and travel when they're still young."

Traveling the world, while doing what they love, is an experience none of the three would trade. Sweeney, Griffiths and Sierakowski all agree that living and working on a cruise ship has taught them discipline for both now and in the future as a performer.

"The goal point blank period is to work," Griffiths says. "I've been so vocally challenged with this contract and it's done such a great job of shaping me as a performer for other contracts. After this, eight shows a week on Broadway — no problem." ■

Family firsts

What it takes to be a
first-generation college
student at Rider

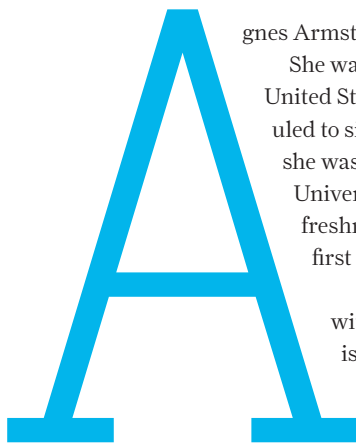
Written by Adam Grybowski

Photos by Peter G. Borg





◀ Steven Santos '17
Master's in counseling services student



Agnes Armstrong had to make a choice. She was applying to become a citizen of the United States and, on the day she was scheduled to sit for an interview in Philadelphia, she was also due to be in class at Rider University, where she was an 18-year-old freshman living away from home for the first time.

Armstrong grew up in New Jersey with her mother and siblings, but she is originally from Ghana in West Africa. The family moved to the U.S. when she was 6 after winning a visa lottery. Her father,

who continues to live and work in Ghana to support his family, visits on major holidays and summers.

Navigating the application process last year to become a citizen came on top of the other, more routine social, academic and emotional pressures first-year students face. “It is such a grilling, tedious process,” says Armstrong, now a sophomore, of applying to become a citizen. “It was starting to affect my school work, as well as take a financial toll.”

Armstrong is one of more than 1,000 first-generation students currently pursuing a degree at Rider. About a quarter of all current Rider students come from families where neither parent attained a college degree. Like her, many face challenges unique to their personal situations. Last year, Armstrong wound up missing class not once but twice as she strove to meet the requirements for her application.

According to data collected by Rider from first-generation students, they in general have fewer financial resources than the majority of students. Some arrive on campus from foster care or in a state of homelessness. Others face greater-than-average hurdles in understanding college culture — its policies, protocols and terminology — often as a result of parents with limited personal exposure to college life. Without strong parental influence, first-generation students can be left to their own devices to find their way to a degree without a knowledgeable advocate.

“Going to college can be like going to a foreign country,” says Dana Lopes ’97, ’00, assistant director of Rider’s Student Support Services Program, which provides academic support designed to increase the performance, retention and graduation rates of primarily first-generation college students. “Students may make mistakes or not do something they need to do because they lack the knowledge. For many, there’s no conversation in their household about what college is like.”

When it came time to apply to college, Armstrong says she felt “disadvantaged” compared to many of her peers. Listening to them make grand plans for an education and a career, she knew she would need additional help and guidance beyond her parents. “I didn’t have as much parental support as my peers simply because they were unfamiliar with the system,” she says. “I relied heavily upon the counselors, but it was a frustrating process. Because I only retain permanent residency and am not a citizen, there’s a lot more paperwork. Many scholarships are only available to citizens.”

The Student Support Services Program, commonly known as SSS, has been operating at Rider since 1993. It provides orientation activities, workshops and resources to help students transition to Rider and integrate into the University community. “The program

“These students are bright kids who become our senators and our scientists.”

is about helping students and helping their parents,” says Queen Jones, the program’s director who is a first-generation student herself. “We spend time educating them about the culture and what’s expected of them.”

Nationally, the program is celebrating its 50th anniversary. It began in 1968 through the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, which President Lyndon Johnson originally signed into law in 1965 as part of his Great Society agenda. The Act laid out the federal government’s major student aid programs that directly support student pursuit of postsecondary education. In his remarks upon signing the original bill, Johnson said, “Tell (your children and grandchildren) that we have opened the road and we have pulled the gates down and the way is open, and we expect them to travel it.”

SSS is one of eight federal cluster of programs known as TRIO. Collectively, they are designed to help the disadvantaged prepare

Agnes Armstrong ▶

Class of 2021, biochemistry major





MOISTEN NEEDLE
INFLATE 7-9 LBS.
MADE IN CHINA
AND 3

SPALDING
28.5 WOMEN'S SIZE
MG 4500 PC-NF
MAY BE USE ONLY

BAL

“They paid attention to who I was, and they helped me probably more than I recognize.”

for and complete a college education. (The name TRIO refers to the original three programs included in the legislation.) Overall, the programs are primarily designed to assist low-income, first-generation students, but they also serve the homeless, veterans, individuals with disabilities and those who are underrepresented in graduate education. In addition to SSS, Rider participates in one other TRIO program, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement program.

Thousands of students have benefited from Rider’s partnerships with the programs. Manuel Mayorga, a senior majoring in human resources and management and leadership, is the son of Guatemalan immigrants and a first-generation college student. He commutes to Lawrenceville from his home in Trenton, N.J., where he attended a charter school before enrolling at Rider. “Coming in, I didn’t know anything,” Mayorga says. “It would have been challenging and so much harder to find answers to my questions without SSS.”

Steven Santos ’17, on the other hand, knew exactly what he wanted out of college. Even as a freshman in high school, he was already keeping a list of colleges across the country he wanted to visit. Because of medical issues within his family, including a rare genetic disease suffered by his younger brother, Santos decided to stay close to home in Jackson, N.J., and attend Rider — the first in his family to pursue a four-year bachelor’s degree.

He enrolled as a neuroscience major, envisioning a career in cancer research. When he decided to switch to psychology, he was required as part of SSS to meet with Lopes to discuss his reasoning and motivation. Today, Santos is pursuing his master’s in counseling services at Rider and working as a graduate assistant with Auxiliary Services, looking forward to a career helping young people.

“It was personal,” Santos says of SSS. “They paid attention to who I was, and they helped me probably more than I recognize. Now that I’ve graduated, I still feel like they would help me if I reached out.”

Each student interviewed for this article expressed feeling a level of support from the SSS staff that was deeper, more meaningful and even comforting than traditional advising or most student-faculty interaction. Their descriptions sound like they are talking about family more than administrators. Referring to Lopes, Mayorga says, “She doesn’t just help with school situations — she can help in any situation.” Armstrong describes Lopes as a combination of life adviser and school mom.

Rider students who receive assistance through SSS are not conditionally admitted to the University; they’re admitted like any other student and then, if they’re interested, voluntarily apply to the program. However, while they’re held to the same admissions standards, it’s not uncommon for first-generation students to experience a gap between their high school academic preparation and what’s expected of them in the college classroom, according to data collected by Rider.

SSS helps them close that gap through extra attention and support, decreasing the risk of students leaving Rider without completing their bachelor’s degree. “We can almost guarantee that if a student comes in and participates fully, he or she will do well,” Jones says. “It’s amazing to see the changes that take place between when they walk in as freshmen and then when they leave as seniors.”

In other cases, the academic difficulties that first-generation students face aren’t much different than the majority of students. As a high school student, for example, Rita Gillcrease ’15 excelled in ways that previewed her future accomplishments. She says that when she was growing up, going to college was a foregone conclusion, despite the fact that neither of her parents had attained a degree. “It wasn’t even up for debate,” she says. “That was always the next step.” She played three sports and was actively involved in student groups and organizations in high school, including student government and the marching band. She graduated as an honor student.

“You can be a good high school student, but in college, the effort that is required is increased,” Gillcrease says. At Rider, she appeared in 97 games and made 47 starts for the women’s basketball team. She graduated with a bachelor’s in international business and then played professional basketball overseas in Ireland while earning a master’s in international human rights from the National University of Ireland Galway. Today, she is the assistant coach of Rider’s women’s basketball team.

◀ Rita Gillcrease ’15

Assistant coach of Rider’s women’s basketball team

When Armstrong was younger, she contended with parents who were very strict when it came to her schooling. “My only job was to get good grades,” she says. “I was in every club. I didn’t get into trouble.” Such discipline had an effect on her. In fact, for a time she wanted to grow up to become president of the United States. “But then my mom told me I can’t because I’m an immigrant,” she says.

During her college search, Rider offered Armstrong a level of safety and comfort because it was close to her home in Willingboro, N.J., as well as a strong academic program in her major, biochemistry. It also granted her a generous scholarship.

The Office of Financial Aid often refers potential SSS applicants to Jones. Despite that, “Some students come to us and tell us they’re not aware of the program,” says Lopes, a first-generation student who worked two jobs through college. “If I had someone to give me that information, I would have been in a better place. I always think about that. Those who do join, love it. They see that this is going to be another tool to make them successful.”

Since 1965, the legislation that authorizes the financial support for the TRIO programs has been amended, extended and reauthorized many times. However, the gaps between reauthorization, which gives lawmakers the chance to review and change the bill, have grown longer over time. Through 1980, it typically took lawmakers four years to reauthorize the Act. Since then, it has been reauthorized only four times, or once every nine and a half years.

The legislation was reauthorized most recently in 2008 under the Higher Education Opportunity Act. In December 2017, a bill was introduced in the House called the PROSPER Act that proposes reforms to TRIO, such as a matching requirement for the institution receiving federal dollars and an eligibility limit for institutions that offer similar programs. “They are saying universities can only have one equal opportunity program,” Jones says. “That would mean fewer people would be here to help these students succeed.”

Every five years, Rider’s SSS staff participates in a rigorous competition to regain funding for Rider’s SSS and McNair programs. They write and submit comprehensive proposals in accordance with federal guidelines. Students, staff and alumni travel to Washington, D.C., to make their case to lawmakers and assist the Council for Opportunity in Education, a nonprofit, in its mission to help students who benefit from programs like TRIO have access to a college education.

“The impact these efforts have had help us keep our funding going and we’re very thankful,” Jones says. “When I started working with this population, it seemed this program would never last, but I’ve been in higher education now for 30 years.”

In her office in the Vona Annex, next to Daly Dining Hall on the Campus Mall, Jones keeps a sheet handy that lists famous first-generation students who benefited from TRIO programs, such as actress Viola Davis, astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz and athlete A. C. Green of the Los Angeles Lakers.

“I think this country needs all of its people to remain competitive,” Jones says. “If we don’t build this growing population, the U.S. is going to miss out. These students are bright kids who become our senators and our scientists. They have a lot going on in their heads and all they need is a little help.”

In life, accomplishment is usually, if not always, accompanied by

“I have little sisters who are watching me. I have to set a path they can follow.”

a certain level of pride. Students who have attained, or are pursuing, their family’s first college degree can be particularly conscious of their achievement and its consequences, as well as the example it sets for their loved ones.

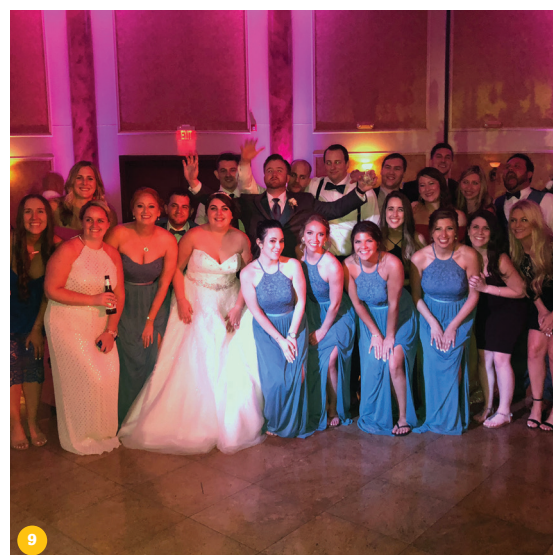
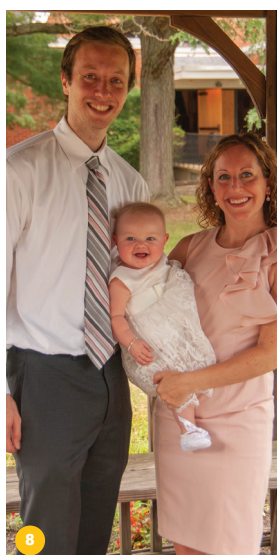
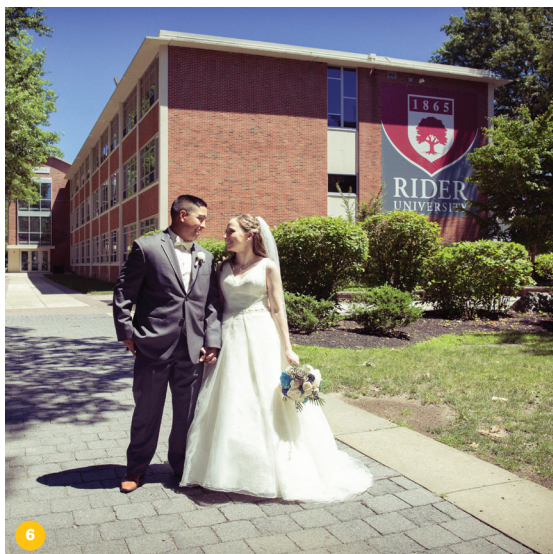
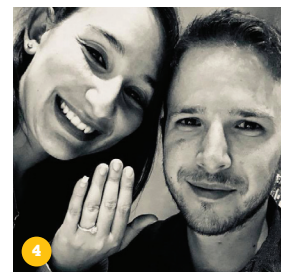
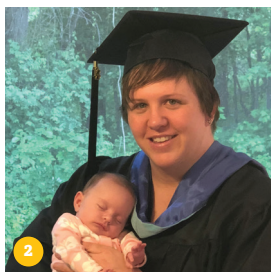
When Gillcrease returns home to visit her family, she is reminded of how much her education means to her mother and father. Four years after receiving her diploma at Commencement, the gown she wore on that day continues to hang on display in her family’s home, alongside her diploma.

Since Armstrong moved to the U.S., she has seen the lottery visa that her family was fortunate to receive canceled, snuffing opportunities for other African families to benefit from moving to the U.S. “Knowing there are other Ghanaian families out there who won’t have the chances I’ve had makes me want to take advantage of every opportunity in my life,” she says. That sense of obligation exists close to her heart, too. “I have little sisters who are watching me,” Armstrong says. “I have to set a path they can follow.”

Manuel Mayorga ▶

Class of 2019, human resources and management and leadership major





Weddings, births and gatherings

1 **Michelle Korman (née Damsky) '06** and husband Joseph welcomed a new daughter, Brielle Genevieve, on Dec. 8, 2017.

2 **Deidre Nowak '05**, who recently graduated from Lehman College's Educational Leadership, Master of Science in Education Program, welcomed her first child, Caitlin, on April 6.

3 **Steve Bandklayder '73** recently welcomed his fourth grandchild, Adaline.

4 **Marissa DiPilla '12, '13** and Robert Clendaniel are engaged and plan to get married in August 2020.

5 **Donna Kaiser '81**, left, **Alice Buckley De Lancey '81**, middle, and **Patty Barthel Clark '80** enjoyed catching up on careers, travel and family on June 16 at their annual Father's Day barbecue.

6 **David Clark '14** and **Margaret Kelly Maiello '14** were married on July 8 during a ceremony held on Rider's Lawrenceville campus.

7 Members of Delta Sigma Pi held a fraternity reunion in Florida in February. From left to right are **Fran Spisak '63**, **Ken Putt '63**, **Bill White '63**, **Bill Tieder '62** and **Ed Wallace '63**.

8 **Jessi Oliano '03, '06** and husband Justin Oliano had their daughter, Gabrielle, baptized in Gill Chapel on Rider's Lawrenceville campus this summer.

9 **Kevin Bordner '13** and **Jennifer Reynolds '13** were married during a ceremony on June 16, with many Rider alumni in attendance.



Dear alumni and friends,

It's hard to believe that another summer has come and gone and now, with the arrival of fall, the start of a new academic year and the accompanying re-energization of campus. Like returning students, alumni have opportunities to come back to campus, too, and share in these experiences.

Plans are underway for an exciting Homecoming on Oct. 27, which will include events that celebrate 50 years of the Equal Opportunity Program (EOP), the 10th anniversary of the School of Fine and Performing Arts, and various athletic events including a 5K Color Run in support of women athletes and Greek Life, to name a few. Please save the date and join us for this exciting opportunity to network with current students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff. I encourage you to visit rider.edu/homecoming for a full list of events being held.

Another exciting program I would like to mention is a legacy email program that has been implemented for our recent graduates. All 2018 graduates will retain their rider.edu addresses for life. This will allow Rider graduates to retain a permanent connection to the University and keep informed of important updates, events and other communications from their alma mater. In the next several months, all alumni will have the opportunity to request a rider.edu email so be sure to look in the spring magazine or through your current email on how to obtain an address.

My best to all of you for an incredible fall and I hope to meet as many of you as possible at upcoming functions!

Marci Gandt '00,'03
President, Alumni Board of Directors and Alumni Association

'40s

J. Howard Albrecht '48 recently completed a comedic play, *Be Careful What You Wish For*, with Bernard Kahn. Albrecht describes the play as taking place in a senior citizens living complex in St. Augustine, Fla. — similar to the one he and his wife, **Bernice Freedland Albrecht '47**, live in. The 90-year-old couple at the center of the plot discover, with the help of their dog, the Fountain of Youth. Once they drink from it and become young again, they are faced with the circumstances of potentially making the same mistakes they did the first time around.

'60s

Alexander Kress '63 announced the sale of his manufacturing company, Benchmark Games, Inc., a worldwide supplier of amusement machines to places such as Chuck E. Cheese, Dave & Busters, and hundreds of arcades and family entertainment centers throughout the world. The factory is located in Hypoluxo, Fla., and employed 126 employees. Kress still owns and operates National Kiddie Rides, LLC in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

William V. White '63 was honored as one of the Boston Marathon bombing survivors during a Boston-wide fifth-year ceremony for those individuals killed or injured during the bombing.

Ronald Matlack '64 is serving as the vice president on the board of directors and volunteering as a tour guide at Pennsbury Manor, the summer home of William Penn. He also serves in an appointed position on the Bucks County Housing Authority Board of Directors located in Doylestown, Pa. In 2001, he sold his family heater exchange business and got involved with local

politics, serving on his local school board for 10 years. Previously, he taught in the New Jersey prison system and was a high school coach and teacher.

'70s

Lawrence Morgenstein '72 was appointed chief financial officer of MamaMancini's Holdings, Inc., a marketer of specialty prepared, frozen and refrigerated all-natural food products, in April. Morgenstein earned a bachelor's in economics from Rider and a master's in business administration from Rutgers University.

John M. Paitakes '73 continues to serve on the the New Jersey State Parole Board and teach as an associate adjunct professor in Rider's Department of Sociology and Criminology. For many years previously, he was a professor at Seton Hall University. In addition to earning a master's from Rider, Paitakes holds a doctorate in human resource development in public administration.

Miriam Steinitz-Kannan '73 co-authored a new book with Mark A. Nienaber, *A Guide to Cyanobacteria: Identification and Impact*, which was published by the University of Kentucky Press. Written for non-specialists, the guide is intended to help students, landowners and citizen-scientists identify different kinds of cyanobacteria and understand their impact on waterways. Steinitz-Kannan is Regents Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences at Northern Kentucky University. Active in environmental and water quality education, she offers algae workshops for the community and various Ohio River foundations. She graduated from Rider with a bachelor's in biological sciences.



For Rider alumni, being related has its perks.

Your status as a Rider graduate is **worth \$2,000 a year*** – whether you're a parent, grandparent, brother or sister – of a full-time undergraduate.

- LEGACY AWARDS** • For full-time new undergraduates who are the children, grandchildren or siblings of Rider graduates.
- SIBLING GRANTS** • Available to any new full-time undergraduate student enrolling at Rider University who has a sibling currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate at Rider.
- Awarded to each additional sibling as long as multiple siblings are enrolled.

For more about these and other opportunities

Contact the Office of Admission at 609-896-5042
(Email: admissions@rider.edu) or visit

rider.edu/scholarships



RIDER
UNIVERSITY

*\$1,000 a semester; annually renewable

Ed Jankowski '75 was appointed chief executive officer of XpresSpa Group, a health and wellness holding company whose core asset, XpresSpa, is the world's largest airport spa company, with 57 locations in 23 airports globally. Jankowski has been involved with the company since 2014, first as a board member and then as part of management. He received his bachelor's in management and commerce marketing from Rider.

Thomas J. Lynch '75 was appointed to the board of directors of ADP in April. He has served as chairman of TE Connectivity Ltd., a leading global technology and manufacturing company, since 2013 and previously served as CEO from January 2006 to March 2017. ADP is a comprehensive global provider of cloud-based human capital management solutions and a leader in business outsourcing services, analytics and compliance expertise.

Edwin R. Taylor '75, '79 was named music director of Hyde Park Presbyterian Church in Tampa, Fla. He will oversee all sacred music and choral operations. A composer/arranger and a lifelong church musician, Taylor most recently served as the music director of the First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, Conn.

Claudia Dukeshire '77, who earned a bachelor's in English from Rider, obtained a master's in liberal studies from Ramapo College in 2017.

'80s

Judy Persichilli '80 was appointed under an executive order signed by New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy to serve as a monitor and oversee University Hospital in Newark. The appointment

came in response to concerns raised about the hospital's quality of care and financial health. In addition to receiving a master's from Rider, Persichilli received a nursing diploma from the St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing and a bachelor's in nursing from Rutgers University.

Kathy Worth '82 was named chief financial officer of New England Newspapers Inc., in March. Based in Pittsfield, Mass., New England Newspapers publishes *The Berkshire Eagle*, *The Bennington Banner*, *The Brattleboro Reformer* and *The Manchester Journal*. Worth earned a bachelor's in commerce and accounting from Rider and is a certified public accountant in the state of New Jersey.

Audrey Ronning Topping '83, who was awarded an honorary Doctor of Arts from Rider in 1983, was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who, a publisher of biographical profiles.

Pete Nieto '84 was appointed vice president of business development of ProSciento, a leading specialty clinical research organization exclusively focused on NASH, diabetes, obesity and related metabolic diseases. Nieto, who received his bachelor's in business administration from Rider, came to ProSciento from PPD, where he served as executive director of early phase business development.

Mike Pulli '86 was named chief executive officer of Verifone, a world leader in payments and commerce solutions. In previous roles, he served as the CEO of Pace plc, a UK-based publicly traded company on the London Stock Exchange; as CEO of Digital Latin America; and held several posi-

Newsmaker



Unsung hero

Kevin Hoagland '85 inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame

By Rachel Stengel '14

When talking to Kevin Hoagland '85, you'll notice three things — his passion to give back, his love for his family and his pride in being a New Jerseyan. The seventh-generation New Brunswick native was recently inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame as 2017's Unsung Hero for founding the Central Jersey Spinal Cord Association.

Unaware he was even nominated for the award, Hoagland was stunned to learn just two weeks before the ceremony that he would join the ranks of 17 other notable New Jersey natives, including actress Meryl Streep, Cake Boss Buddy Valastro, The Four Seasons and Olympic soccer player Carli Lloyd.

Hoagland suffered a spinal cord injury at 18, leaving him wheelchair-bound for life. After spending five and a half months in rehab, he was able to come home to a house with wheelchair-accessible modifications and a lift-equipped van. He was astounded by the outpouring of support from his family, friends and the local community.

"I was very fortunate. My parents had the means to put an addition on our house and the community got together to help raise money for my parents," he says. "During my rehab, I was with all these people who also had spinal cord injuries. I found out a lot of them weren't going home because their families couldn't afford to renovate their homes to be accessible or long-term care."

After graduating with his Bachelor of Science in Commerce, he knew he wanted to create a nonprofit to help others with similar injuries. In 1987, he founded the Central Jersey Spinal Cord Association, which has raised more than \$2 million to support research and modifications for homes and vehicles to improve the quality of life for those with spinal cord injuries. Created prior to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the nonprofit has been an advocate for local, state and federal legislation that benefits all people with disabilities.

For the past 26 years, Hoagland has also served as the Middlesex County surrogate, a role that residents encounter on some of the best and worst days of their lives. His office assists residents with adoptions and handles probating wills. For Hoagland, serving his community is not only a way of giving back to his hometown but a way for him to follow in his father's footsteps.

"For me it's been a great honor to serve as surrogate," he says. "I saw my dad serve as councilman, freeholder and on city council. I realized as a very young kid that he was doing all that because he wanted what was best for his town and county."

After an evening of celebrities, red carpets and celebration at the Hall of Fame ceremony, one moment stands out as Hoagland's favorite — meeting The Boss himself, Bruce Springsteen.

"I've grown up with his music and it was pretty cool to have my picture taken with him and talk to him," he says. "My twin brother is a huge Springsteen fan and he said he'll never let me live it down."

EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

— RIDER.EDU/GIVE —

“WITHOUT DONOR SUPPORT, MANY RIDER STUDENTS, INCLUDING MYSELF, WOULD NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXPERIENCE THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT HAVE COME WITH MY TIME SPENT HERE.”

MEGAN BERES, CLASS OF 2019
THEATRE MAJOR



tions at General Instrument. Pulli earned a bachelor's in accounting from Rider and a master's in business administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

John (Jack) Alexander '88 published his second book, *Financial Planning & Analysis and Performance Management*. He is the founder of Jack Alexander & Associates, LLC, which provides advice to businesses across a wide range of financial and operating areas. Previously he served as senior vice president and CFO of EG&G Inc. (now PerkinElmer), a global \$2.5 billion technology and services company, as well as a senior lecturer at Babson College. A certified financial planner, Alexander received his Master of Business Administration from Rider and a Bachelor of Science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Eric Jacobs '89 was appointed executive vice president, chief financial officer of Wheels Up, a private aviation company that aims to reduce the upfront costs to fly privately. In his new position, Jacobs will oversee the finance and accounting, investor relations and strategic corporate development functions of Wheels Up. A former certified public accountant, Jacobs earned a bachelor's in business administration with a major in accounting from Rider and a J.D. with honors from Rutgers School of Law.

'90s

Mary Liz Ivins '90, the principal of Notre Dame High School in Lawrence, N.J., was appointed interim president for the 2018-19 school year. Ivins graduated from Notre Dame and has been with the school since 1979. She earned a master's in educational administration from Rider, in addition to a master's in Christian

education from Princeton Theological Seminary and a bachelor's in psychology from St. Joseph's University.

Beverly Lapp '93 was appointed Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's new vice president and academic dean. The appointment took place during the Board of Directors meeting in April. Lapp has a Doctor of Education from Columbia University Teachers College in New York City; a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College; and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Goshen College. She is also a graduate of Christopher Dock Mennonite High School (now Dock Academy) in Lansdale, Pa.

Toby Miller '93, who teaches second grade at Kellman Brown Academy in Voorhees, N.J., received two awards in June from the Jewish Community Foundation (JCF). During JCF's annual Scholarship & Emerging Leader Awards Dessert Reception on June 25 at the Weinberg Jewish Community Campus, she was given the Helen and Harry Pinsky Award for Outstanding Professional Leadership and the Schreiberstein Award for Emerging Community Leadership.

Andrea Ardite '95 joined St. Luke's University Health Network at St. Luke's Hamilton OB-GYN in Allentown, Pa., and St. Luke's Valley OB-GYN Associates in Quakertown, Pennsburg and Allentown, Pa. She received a bachelor's from Rider and her medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine Dominica, West Indies. She then went on to complete her residency at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., where she continued to work for 20 years.



ALUMNI EVENTS



Once a Bronc, always a Bronc!
RIDER.EDU/EVENTS

Five ways to be

BOLD

BRONCS OF THE LAST DECADE

Stay engaged and connected
Be a BOLD mentor
Be a BOLD volunteer
Give us your feedback and input
Pay it forward

RIDER.EDU/BOLD



FLY IT PROUD!

The first 100 alumni who email alumni@rider.edu and request a free Rider flag will receive instructions on how to pick it up at Homecoming Oct. 27.

Kevin Ruffe '98 was named CEO of Community Veterinary Partners (CVP). Headquartered in Philadelphia, CVP manages 45 veterinary hospitals in 10 states. Prior to joining CVP, Ruffe was the chief growth officer at MedExpress, where he was instrumental in building MedExpress into a national leader of urgent care services with nearly 250 locations caring for almost four million patients per year. Ruffe earned a bachelor's in economics from Rutgers University and a master's in business management from Rider.

Jorge Escobar '99 was named acting president of San Jose City College in June. In addition to a bachelor's from Rider, Escobar holds a bachelor's from Thomas Edison State College and a master's from Walden University. He has also earned a Six Sigma Black Belt Certification from the Six Sigma Academy in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Kevin Finefrock '99 is the new superintendent of Osnauburg Local Schools in Ohio. He previously served as associate dean for the Walsh University School for Professional Studies and was an administrator with Green Local Schools in Summit County, Ohio. Finefrock received a bachelor's from Rider and a master's from Rutgers University.

'00s

Ming Luke '00 is slated to act as guest conductor for San Francisco Ballet at Kennedy Center in late October. The company will present two programs of new works selected from their groundbreaking Unbound Festival. Luke, along with SFB Music Director Martin West, will lead the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra in live accompaniment for pieces choreographed by some

EXPERIENCE

GAME DAY

Tickets on sale NOW!
GoBroncsTIX.com

of the world's most renowned dance-makers. Luke received a Master of Fine Arts in Conducting from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Piano Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College.

Ben Bowman '01, who graduated from Rider with a bachelor's in communications, was named the new head coach of Cheltenham High School's varsity girls basketball team in Pennsylvania. He coached girls basketball for more than 10 years prior to his new appointment.

Jeanne Muzi '02 was named the new principal of the Slackwood Elementary School in Lawrence, N.J. She has taught in the Lawrence Township school district for 16 years and was named the 2008 New Jersey Teacher of the Year by the state Department of Education. Muzi holds a bachelor's in art from Eisenhower College of Rochester Institute of Technology and a teaching certificate from Rider.

John Fair '03 was appointed to the newly created position of chief business officer of Daré Bioscience, Inc., a clinical-stage, women's biopharmaceutical company. Fair, formerly the president and chief operating officer of Evofem Inc., has more than 20 years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry in business and corporate development roles. He earned a bachelor's from Rider and a master's from the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine.

John Whitehead '03 was promoted to vice president and small business relationship manager of Nevada State Bank. He has worked for the bank for five years and has more than 15 years of commercial and private lending experience. Whitehead received

Newsmaker



A monumental honor

Conductor Donald Nally '87 leads the ensemble The Crossing to a Grammy win

By Anne Sears

Receiving the 2018 Grammy Award for Best Choral Performance was just one more honor — although a monumental one — for Donald Nally '87 and The Crossing, whose reputation for choral excellence is widely recognized and growing.

“The Grammy nomination brings a lot of attention, which is welcome and serves our mission perfectly: creating new works that ask questions about our world and about singing, and recording those works with the composers in the room so that they reach many more ears internationally,” says Nally. “The win multiplies that exponentially.”

In addition to the Grammy this year, The Crossing's commission *Sound From The Bench* by Ted Hearne was named a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in music. Last year, the chamber choir and Nally were the American Composers Forum's Champion of New Music. The Crossing and Nally have been named in *The Philadelphia Inquirer's* Top Classical Events of the Season numerous times.

Nally earned a master's in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College. He is responsible for imagining, programming, commissioning and conducting with The Crossing. His collaborations span the globe, from the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Lisson Gallery in London to the National Museum of Japan in Osaka and The Big Sky Conservatory in Montana, where The Crossing holds an annual residency.

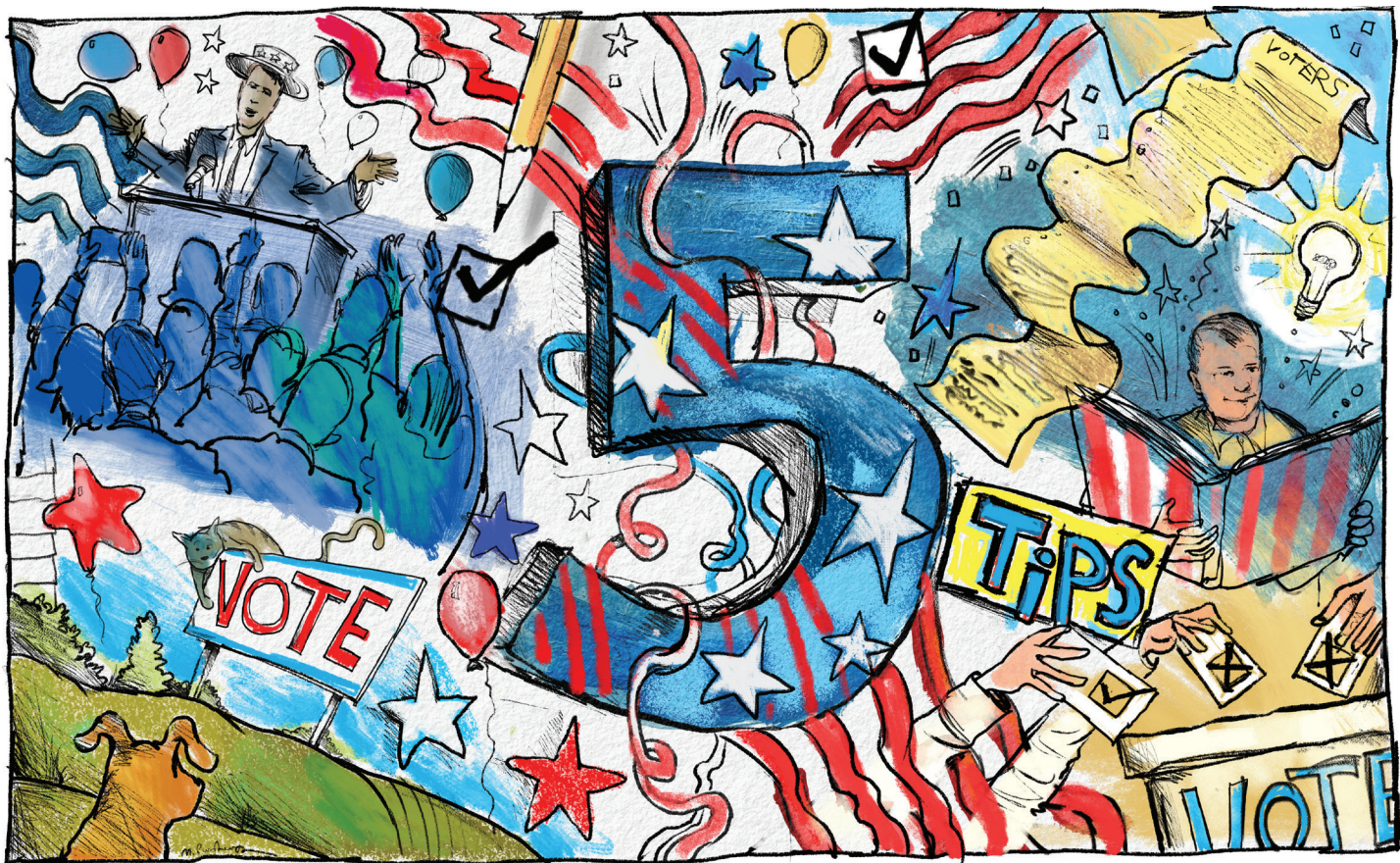
The Grammy Award recognized the ensemble's recording of Gavin Bryars' *The Fifth Century*, one of its 14 commercially released recordings. Overall, The Crossing has presented more than 70 commissioned works. For almost 15 years it has focused on making and recording new and substantial works for choir, with many addressing social issues.

The Fifth Century was premiered by The Crossing in 2014 alongside the saxophone quartet PRISM. The seven-part work is a setting of the words of 17th-century metaphysical poet Thomas Traherne. The recording also features *Two Love Songs*, a cappella settings of Petrarch.

“We had over 1,000 new visitors to our site on Grammy Award day alone,” says Nally, who is the director of choral organizations at Northwestern University where he holds the John W. Beattie Chair of Music. “So, in addition to being a lot of fun, it does serve a real purpose. If it inspires more people to go down the Gavin Bryars or The Crossing ‘rabbit hole of listening’ on the internet, and really get to know our work, then we're really grateful for the nod.”

Nally's 2018-19 season with The Crossing, includes *Aniara: fragments of time and space*, a choral-theater work over three years in the making in collaboration with Finland's Klockriketeatern and composer Robert Maggio, as well as performances with the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and concerts in Philadelphia and other cities in the U.S.

Advice for alumni, from alumni



on making a difference in the midterm elections

By Micah Rasmussen '92

Be an informed voter

Each state is divided into congressional districts based on population. First, check which district your town is in and then Google it to find out who's running. Look up the candidates' websites and recent news clips. Learn which candidate best reflects your interests.

Put a sign in your front yard

Putting out a sign for all to see tells your neighbors a candidate has earned your family's support. Get one from the nearest campaign headquarters — your favorite candidate will thank you for the public display of support.

Go the extra mile

Request a list of your town's registered voters from the county clerk's office and highlight everyone you know, then send them postcards or give them a call to ask for their support. You could also host a meet-and-greet with the candidate, volunteer to make calls from the campaign's phone bank or canvass a neighborhood they're targeting.

Attend a rally, debate or campaign event

Nothing says public support like a crowd. Plus, you'll have a front row view of democracy in action. Rather than reading about what candidates said after the fact,

you'll be able to really listen and focus on their entire presentation. You'll also meet other supporters.

Bring a friend, neighbor or elderly relative to the polls

Remember the coin flip that decided a tied race last year? Just a few thousand votes in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin could have changed the outcome of the 2016 presidential election. We can't vote twice, but we can double our impact by engaging and assisting others. You also can help them sign up to vote by mail — be sure to do this for all students and service members who are away from home, too.

Micah Rasmussen '92 is the director of the Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics. He has contributed to the public affairs of the state for more than two decades and has more than 15 years of experience as an adjunct professor of political science.

a bachelor's from Rider, where he double majored in finance and management.

Sara M. Bonstein '06 was appointed chief financial officer and chief operating officer of OncoSec Medical Inc., a California-based developer of immunotherapies. Previously, Bonstein worked for Advaxis as its chief financial officer, secretary, treasurer and executive vice president, in addition to holding leadership roles in Eli Lilly & Company, ImClone Systems and Johnson & Johnson. She received a bachelor's in finance from The College of New Jersey and a master's in business administration from Rider.

Candice Hoyes '07, a jazz and classical vocalist who graduated from Westminster Choir College, curated and performed at a new jazz series hosted by Princeton Abbey and Cemetery. The series opened on April 28 with a concert, "Introducing Candice Hoyes," during which Hoyes performed songs from her 2015 album, *On a Turquoise Cloud*.

Timothy Jones '07, a certified financial planner representing Jones Financial Group and a Waddell & Reed financial adviser in the company's Mechanicsburg, Pa., office, has been named to the President's Council, one of the highest honors for financial advisers at the firm. The President's Council comprises the top 12 Waddell & Reed financial advisers nationwide based on an analysis of investment, insurance and financial planning sales generated by each adviser. Jones has been a professional in the financial services industry for 11 years. He joined Waddell & Reed in 2007. He earned a bachelor's in finance from Rider.

Newsmaker



Flying high

Maj. Gen. Mary Saunders '78 is leading the new Institute for Women's Leadership

By Adam Grybowski

As Mary Saunders '78 rose to become a major general in the United States Air Force, she held positions that oversaw tens of thousands of military and civilian personnel and managed multi-billion dollar budgets. Her work environment was dominated by men, but during her 34-year military career, she became the first woman to serve in the Pentagon as the Air Force Director of Transportation and the first woman to serve as commander of the Defense Supply Center-Columbus.

Did her gender ever present particular challenges to serving as a military leader? "Not as much as you might think," Saunders says.

Her advancement was aided by a straightforward dedication to principles she discovered as a high school student in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) — orderliness, hard work and a no-excuses approach to execution. Those values have culminated in her most recent appointment as executive director of the new Institute for Women's Leadership at Texas Woman's University.

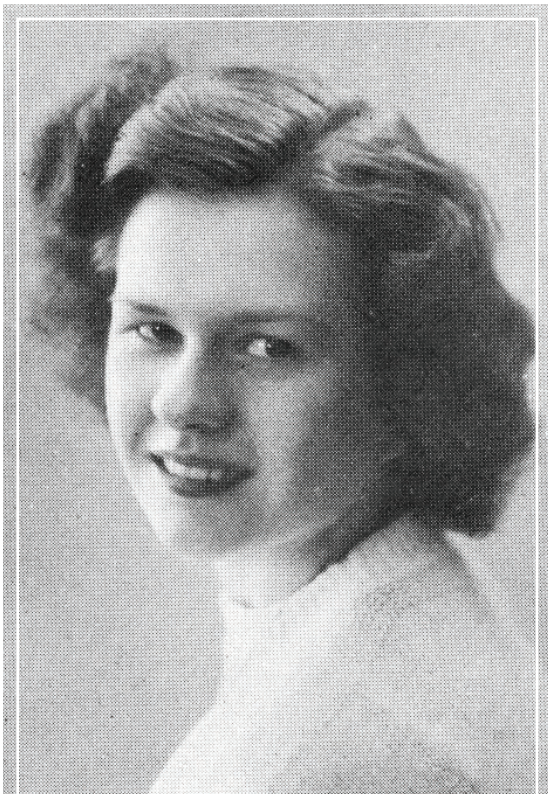
"I went to college in the '60s," Saunders says. "If you were African American, you were already disadvantaged. But being a woman, that was a double whammy. What I learned from my teachers and my parents was that you had to have skills to offer people and make yourself an invaluable asset."

She chose in part to join the Air Force after earning a bachelor's in social work from Texas Woman's University because she saw a greater chance for equal opportunity and advancement in the military than in the civilian world. When Saunders first joined the Air Force, she recalls long days and nights and a lot of hard work. "I didn't know you could be up for 32 hours without it being at a party," she says. "But my uniform was always squared away and looked top notch. You have to make an impression and demonstrate you have a level of confidence in yourself."

While stationed in Japan, she looked back to the U.S. for an opportunity to continue her education, which she found in Rider's graduate program in counseling. "The Air Force believes in advanced training," she says. "Being a lifelong learner has always been part of my process. I wanted to continue to grow and was looking for a degree that would help. I thought I would have an increasing amount of responsibility in the Air Force and I needed to sharpen my skills. Rider helped me do that."

Throughout her time in the military, Saunders says she witnessed what women are capable of, and following her retirement, she was attracted to the idea of cultivating female leaders. "I was given opportunities, but so many women are not, which makes it incredibly difficult to thrive," she says.

The goal of the Institute for Women's Leadership is to help enable more women to enter politics, become successful entrepreneurs and executives, and provide professional leadership skills and experience. It has received more than \$9 million in state and private start-up funds. Construction began this fall, with plans to move in set for summer 2019.



Lois Newkirk DeConca '44 completed Rider's program in secretarial science more than 70 years ago. Last year, her estate committed planned gifts of \$750,000 to the University.

Planned giving is a powerful way to change the lives of Rider students.

rider.myplannedgift.org



RIDER
UNIVERSITY

'10s

Shari B. Joslin '10 was appointed senior vice president of application technology of SweeGen, Inc., a provider of nature-based, non-GMO stevia sweeteners. Prior to joining Sweegen in 2018, she held various executive roles in the flavor industry and has been a successful senior leader in product and process development, global innovation and business development for 29 years. Joslin received her Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., and an Executive Master of Business Administration from Rider.

Mike Ward '10 was inducted into The News-Herald's High School Sports Hall of Fame in June. A two-time state champion, he earned a bachelor's from Rider and is now a project manager for Cornerstone Roofing in Texas.

Miguel Edwards '11 joined Kemper Corporation, a leading insurer, as its chief information officer for the Life and Health Division. In the role, he is responsible for strategic technology investments and applications to improve the division's ability to evolve digital platforms, improve the customer experience and support key growth initiatives. Edwards, who received a bachelor's from Metropolitan College of New York and a master's from Rider (both in business administration), was previously employed by Allstate Insurance.

Joshua Wanger '13 performed in the cast of *Ellis Island: Gateway to America* at Premiere Stages at Kean University in July. The performance was presented by Pushcart Players. Wanger received a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Westminster Choir College. He

worked for two years at the Juilliard School library before he was seen in *A Little Night Music*, *Zuccotti Park* and a touring production of *Skippyjon Jones: Snow What?!*

Jacob Ezzo '14 was honored in March by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for winning the New Jersey Arts Ed Now Ambassadors competition. Ezzo, the South Orange Middle School choral director, scored first place in the State of New Jersey for the elementary/middle school category in the competition. He earned a bachelor's and master's from Westminster Choir College and has grown the school's choir program from 11 students to 370.

Stan Clark '16 was accepted to be a Princeton-In-Asia Fellow at Northeastern University in Shenyang, China.

Rory Cabrera Connolly '15 was cast as a newsie in the June production of Disney's Tony Award-winning musical *Newsies* at the Axelrod Performing Arts Center in Ocean Township, N.J.

Embrey Brannon '16 was hired as the new head varsity volleyball coach of Christ Presbyterian Academy, where she will also serve as an instructor in the school's arts department. Brannon played volleyball as an undergraduate at Rider. Following graduation, she worked as a graduate assistant coach at Washington College and at Belmont University, where she went on to become assistant volleyball coach.

Sophia Introna '17 played the role of Vanessa in the Playhouse on Park production of *In The Heights*, the Tony Award-winning Best Musical conceived by Lin-Manuel Miranda, in West Hartford, Conn.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Lucia Czarnecki Eltgroth '34
Sylvia Katz Massarsky '38
Elsie Engelberger Stemhagen '39
Ruth E. Hills '40
Ruth Applegate Buffett '41
Emma Kirkhuff Bush '41
Lorraine Smith Gardner '41
Helen Staples Osmun '41
Joan J. Ackman '42
Mary Triani Connor '42
Robert A. Imbt '42
Ruth Allingham Clarke '43
Donald N. Daviau '43
Irene Schreiber Berkey '44
JoAn Dwyer Paddock '44
Edith Lettau Taylor '44
James R. Bereaw '45
Gladys Brougham McKeehan '45
Ruth Trautmann Pischke '45
Helen M. Michna '46
William H. Borden '47
Clementina Bindi Cannada '47
Burton F. Kominick Sr. '47
John A. Arbitell '48
Charles M. Francisco '48
Jenny Reed Friedel '48
David C. Lustig Jr. '48
Francis J. Marano '48
James S. Rochonchou '48
Janice Schantz Stahlin '48
Anthony Corbo Jr. '49
Cecil L. Cowder '49
Erwin W. Lehr '49
Elizabeth Daszkiewicz Moore '49
C. William Van Tilburg '49
David E. Carle '50
Walter M. Hance '50
Joseph A. Meskill '50
Salvatore C. Musumeci Sr. '50
Howard R. Oulds '50
Arnold Goldin '51
Robert J. Tyrrell '51

David H. Eichman '52
Virginia Wott Gable '52
Donald D. Hermonat '52
Russell P. Mathis Jr. '52
Stephen M. Szwak '52
William H. Leach III '53
William R. Trego '53, '54
Pauline Bohus '54, '57
Barbara J. Dunn '54
Richard D. Lapo '54, '55
Edward J. McDade '56
Michael R. Pivovarnick '56, '64
Larry Lemmel '57
Barbara Gusz McKeever '57
James W. Conover Sr. '58, '75
Lane M. Smith '59
J. William Stephenson Jr. '59
Martin J. Walsh '59
Constance Achterberg Albert '60
Ann Ritchey Gray '60
Paul J. Waldron '60, '70
Duncan P. McCallum '62
Gerard S. Naples '62
Frank T. Vayda '62
Robert J. Williams '62
Russell F. Alber '63
Clifford S. Burd '63
Anthony J. Cocola '63
Edward J. McGrath III '63
Donovan E. Oakleaf '64
George R. Fleming '65
Frederick A. Hartmann '65
Adeline Volock Rushatz '65
Robert E. Keay '67
David N. Moore '67
Lewis F. Nicoletti '67
Richard J. Rubenstein '67
Arnold E. Sposato '67
Michael Stairs '67
Nancy Pastore Sharp '68
Lynne Webber Biegler '69
Victor A. Delcampe '70
Sharyn Bergman Gropper '70

Richard F. Svec '70
Pieter D. Dumpel '71
David C. Evans '71
F. Clifford Oblinger '71
Anthony J. DeBellis '72
Dennis E. Heintzelman '72
Steven A. Mukai '72
Joseph Santaniello '72, '85
Kenneth R. Gesser '73
Kathleen E. Mullen '73
James R. Vine Sr. '73
Valerie Pihlgren Berkowitz '74
Sarah Longfield Hantman '75
Howard Kasman '75
Ronald E. DiMaria '77
Valerie M. Dittrich '77
Frances Kelty Hamill '77
Gertrude Britton Kimble '77
Harvey F. Morrell Jr. '78
Gail N. Siegelman '78, '84
Paul E. Taylor Jr. '78
Thomas A. Alberti '79
Jack D. Friedman '79
Joan K. Mishler '79
William A. Bair '81
Robert A. Carmignani '81
Michael J. Murphy '81
Edward R. Fryzel '83
Gregory B. Holowach '83
Ann H. Poole '83
Matthew C. Reed '84
Mark E. Halverson '85
Paula M. Sade '88
Monica L. Weaver '89
Steven E. Slutzky '92
Lorie L. Mattison '99, '04
Michael C. Benedetti '12

Faculty/staff

Kathleen Burd '66
John C. Deupree
Steffie S. Hartpence
Tharyle J. Prather



Calm chaos

WITNESSING LIFE AND DEATH AS A HOSPITAL INTERN

By **Cassandra Sammarco '20** | Major: **Psychology**

The medical field has always captivated me, but nothing opened my eyes and showed me just how passionate I am about it like the Hospital Intern Program — a partnership between Rider and Capital Health that exposes students to real-life medical situations.

The program allowed me to witness every aspect of the medical field: life and death, surgery and recovery, preventative and reactive care.

One day, I saw the miracle of life not just once but three times. I was stationed in obstetrics and maternity beginning at 7 a.m. When I got there, a nurse came in and said, “There’s a woman about to give birth, you wanna come see?”

My answer was a resounding “yes,” so the first thing I saw bright and early to wake me up was a natural birth. This was the mom’s fourth child. She was an absolute pro. Through the whole birth, the nurses were incredible in their support of the mom and the doctor in a calm chaos. Seeing the baby come into the light and the mom holding him right away with relief flooding her face was such an emotional moment that I welled up with tears.

While there is life, death is also present in the medical field. I learned that the hard way during my round with the Mobile Intensive Care Unit. I shadowed two paramedics who were also registered nurses. They showed me the ropes and were unwaveringly supportive, especially when I caught my first glimpse of death.

We received a call about a deceased man. He was an old man found in his house by a friend of a friend, someone with no emotional attachment whatsoever to the deceased man. It appeared he had been getting undressed when he fell backward and died. We found him lying on his bedroom floor, half dressed and all alone. He had been dead for a day or two, and I was surprised that much time could pass with no one wondering where he was. It was heartbreaking, but paramedics see things like that every day.



From the death and dying to the saving of lives, it felt like I was in a dream — one I never wanted to wake up from.

Throughout the semester, students in the program heard from health care professionals and learned more about the ins and outs of how the medical field functions. It made me realize how many career options there are in this field and the possibilities and experiences that come with them.

The dilemma I have now is that I have more interests than I thought I would. I went in with a passion for psychiatry and came out with a passion for that and many other specialties. I loved almost all of my rotations and was constantly blown away by how amazing everything was and that I was actually there, witnessing it first hand. From the death and dying to the saving of lives, it felt like I was in a dream — one I never wanted to wake up from. The Hospital Intern Program has solidified the path I want to take for the rest of my life and I will be forever grateful.

This experience instilled in me a passion and a drive for medicine that I may never have discovered otherwise. It was the most amazing experience of my life. I can’t wait to participate in those things every single day and make a real difference in people’s lives.

Illustration by James Yang

RIDER UNIVERSITY

'18 Homecoming
GENERATION: RIDER

JOIN US
OCTOBER 27

5K Color Run

Wine/Beer Festival

Men's Soccer Game vs. Siena

EOP 50th Anniversary Dinner/Dance

School of Fine and Performing Arts 10th Anniversary Celebration

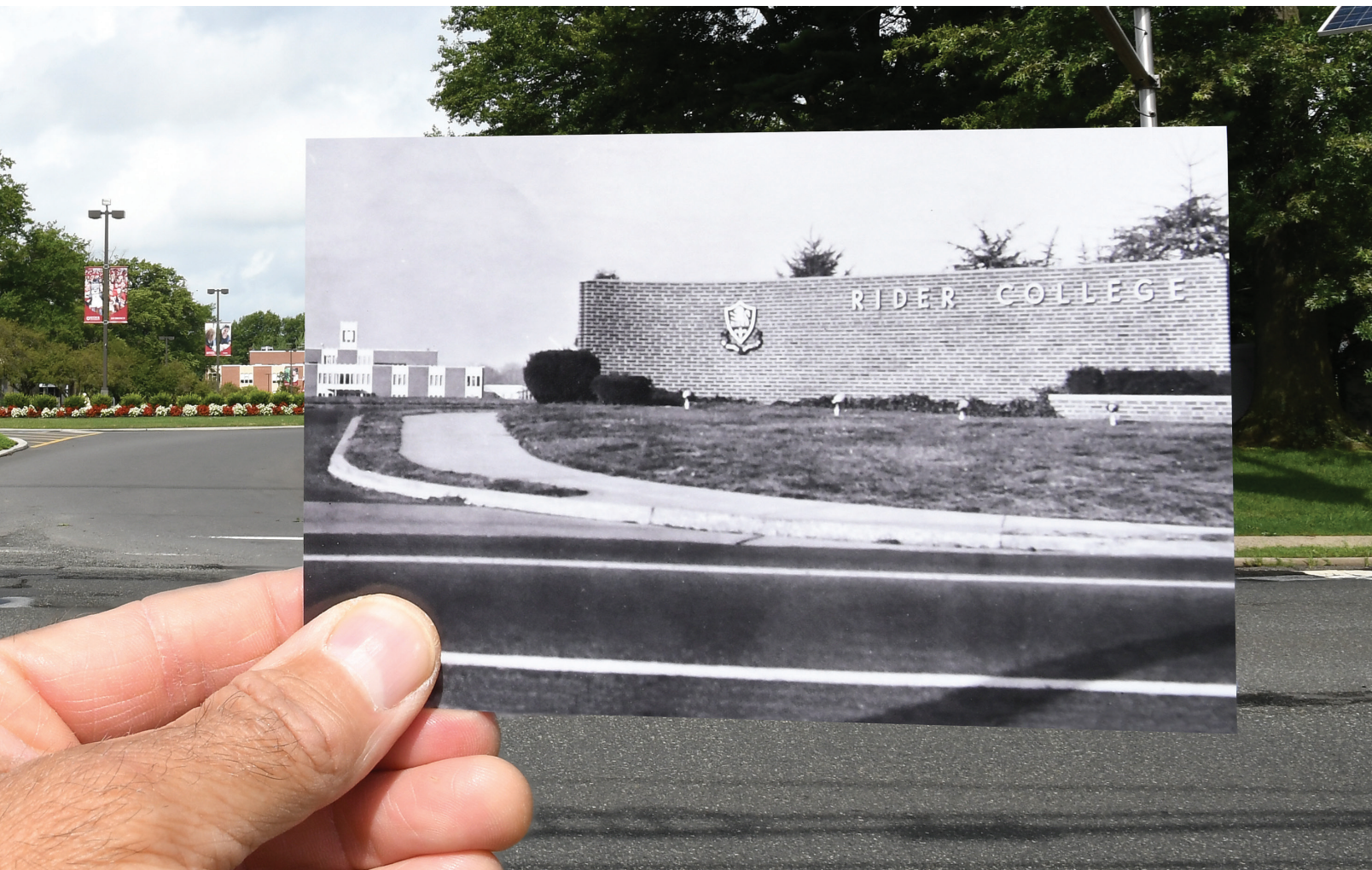
Olde Guard Reception

1865 Society Appreciation Breakfast

Engaged Learning Showcase

Faculty/Staff Retiree Celebration

RIDER.EDU/HOMECOMING



Then and now

Rider officially assumed university status on April 13, 1994, which, among other things, necessitated the need for a new sign welcoming visitors to campus. In this 1964 photo from Rider's archives, a former sign is on display that reflected the school's previous designation, Rider College.