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Fall 2015

Rowan Advances

Rowan Advances is a publication of Rowan University's Advancement Division

Give Something Back Foundation awards \$1 million for scholarships

Thanks to a \$1 million commitment from the Give Something Back Foundation (GSBF), some 50 high school students will be able to attend Rowan University at no cost for tuition or room and board.

With the mission of helping more talented youth of modest means attend college, Princeton-based businessman and philanthropist Robert Carr established the foundation in 2003 to give back to his community. This year, GSBF expanded the program to New Jersey, and Rowan is the state's first college to join as a partner.

Carr, the founder and CEO of Heartland Payment Systems, one of the nation's largest processors of debit and

credit card transactions, presented a \$1-million check from GSBF to Rowan's president, Dr. Ali Houshmand during a ceremony in Rowan's Keith & Shirley Campbell Library in June.

"The foundation's goal isn't to change the world. Our goal is to change the lives of as many kids as we can," he said.

The partnership with Rowan is a first in New Jersey, and it has roots in GSBF collaborations in Illinois. Since its establishment, GSBF has helped more than 250 talented youth of modest means attend college.

Recipients receive more than just money however.



Founder and CEO of Heartland Payment Systems, Robert Carr (left), presented a symbolic check for \$1 million for scholarships to Rowan's president, Dr. Ali Houshmand during a campus event in June.

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First-ever #RowanGIVESDay raises \$63K+ for University programs and scholarships



Above: Students wrote thank you notes to donors at the Alumni table.

Below: Members of the Rowan community came together to insure the success of #RowanGIVES Day. (From left) Gary Baker '04, Sandy Maxwell '69, M'84, Stephanie Ackerman '12, M'15, Brittany Petrella '11, Tony Galvin '89, Dylan Colon '16, Christian Ehinger '16, Alyssa Lompadó '15, Chris D'Angelo '07, M'10 and Ravi Patel '18.

450 donors.

\$63,629 in donations.
200 percent progress.
And a whole lot of Prof pride.

That's the best way to tell the story of #RowanGIVESDay, the University's first-ever 24-hour giving challenge.

Presented on February 25 by the Office of Alumni Engagement, the Student Alumni Association, the Office of Orientation & Student Leadership Programs and the Office of Volunteerism, Community Engagement and Commuter Services, with support from University Web Services, #RowanGIVESDay emphasized the importance of giving back to the University while highlighting various service opportunities for current students.

While students on campus converged on the Chamberlain Student Center to learn about service opportunities available at Rowan—and to write notes

of thanks to alumni who have supported the University—alumni, faculty and staff, friends and parents of the University mobilized in a day of giving.

Driven entirely online via the web and through social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, #RowanGIVESDay brought together 450 donors—225 more than the original goal of 225.

Initially, 1989 business administration alumnus Tony Galvin, former secretary of the Rowan University Foundation Board pledged \$10,000 to #RowanGIVESDay if 225 donors contributed. But when supporters stepped up in droves—to the tune of 200 percent progress on the campaign—Galvin upped his gift to \$15,000.

Christopher D'Angelo, associate director of Alumni Engagement, was thrilled—but not surprised—by the \$63,629 in donations from the University's supporters. Through their generosity, #RowanGIVESDay donors set Rowan's single-day giving record.

"The Rowan community is always willing to come together for a cause they believe in," says D'Angelo. "Once you're a Prof, you're invested in this campus. Rowan becomes a part of you and you understand that you're part of something much bigger than yourself. Everyone really embraced that."

"Many alumni began learning about giving back to their community while at Rowan. And when they think about supporting a community important to them, they do think about Rowan."

Donors could give to the Rowan Future Fund or could designate their gifts to specific programs or scholarships. The top five programs to receive the most targeted funding through #RowanGIVESDay equally split Galvin's generous gift.

"It was wonderful that the Rowan Future Fund received a lot of support, but it was also great to see so many gifts go to programs and scholarship support," said R.J. Tallarida, Rowan's vice president for University Advancement and deputy executive director of the Rowan University Foundation. "That shows those programs made an impact on our donors and that they want to make sure those programs continue to thrive for today's students."

One goal of #RowanGIVESDay was to educate students about the importance of philanthropy. Support from Rowan alumni for the Day demonstrates the place Rowan has in the hearts of its 80,000 graduates.

"We hope students will always have a sense of giving back and, after graduation, will find a way to be engaged with their communities and the University," D'Angelo said.

While #RowanGIVESDay is over, the need for support is ongoing. Said D'Angelo, "#RowanGIVESDay demonstrated what we can do in a single day. Great things are happening on campus every day. There are many programs and initiatives that would benefit from ongoing support from donors."

For information on giving to Rowan, visit: www.rowan.edu/home/foundation



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"This scholarship program will enable more economically disadvantaged, academically talented students to pursue a college degree. We are honored to partner with GSBF, which is investing in New Jersey students."

Dr. Ali Houshmand



This fall, GSBF will identify school districts this fall with which it will establish an extensive program that includes mentoring, networking, training, events and educational panels. High-achieving, economically disadvantaged high school freshmen in those districts may apply for the program. During high school, they must also meet additional GSBF criteria, such as maintaining good grades, taking honors and AP courses and demonstrating admirable character. Upon high school graduation, students must also meet Rowan's standard admissions requirements and be admitted to the University.

"GSBF is excited to expand its scholarship program to New Jersey and to work with Rowan University, which shares our vision of making a college education available to

qualified students of modest means," Carr said. "We want to help ensure students realize their full potential. And we want to encourage them to give back in the future."

For Carr, the program is dear to his heart. Growing up in rural Illinois, he was from a family that often was strapped for money. A \$250 scholarship he received as a high school senior helped him attend the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. That scholarship, as well as a promise to use his financial success to benefit young people from similar backgrounds, stayed in his mind for decades.

The foundation's mission aligns with Rowan's commitment to make higher education more affordable and accessible for students in New Jersey.

"This scholarship program will enable more economically disadvantaged, academically talented students to pursue a college degree," said President Houshmand. "We are honored to partner with GSBF, which is investing in New Jersey students and entrusting us with them as they work to achieve their goals."

Added R.J. Tallarida Jr., Rowan's vice president for University Advancement and deputy executive director of the Rowan University Foundation, "Bob Carr is a visionary leader who understands the value of higher education. He and his foundation

will transform the lives of students seeking access to a high-quality education."

The first class to receive GSBF scholarships will begin college in the fall 2019.

About Robert Carr and Heartland Payment Systems

Carr built Heartland Payment Systems from a modest start-up with 25 employees in 1997 into a Fortune 1000 company that today employs more than 4,100. It is the fifth largest payment processor in the United States. Heartland's clients range from major retail chains to restaurants to mom-and-pop stores and web sites to colleges and school districts in some of America's largest cities.

In an age of increasing cyber assaults, Carr has led Heartland to become a gold standard in security strategy. After a remarkable recovery from the 2008 international hacking conspiracy, Heartland emerged as a champion in the fight against cybercrime.

Carr is the author of *Through the Fires: An American Business Story of Turbulence, Triumph and Giving Back* (Amazon, 2014), and he currently is working on his second book about helping young working-class people attend college affordably.

For more information, visit <http://www.givesomethingbackfoundation.org/>.

Zabinski appointed SVP for Advancement



As Rowan's chief advancement officer, John J. Zabinski will lead the institution's fundraising and engagement efforts as well as the planning and execution of a university-wide comprehensive campaign.

John J. Zabinski, a leader in higher education fundraising, has been named senior vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the Rowan University Foundation. As Rowan continues on its path to transform into a nationally recognized comprehensive research University and a vital regional economic catalyst, Zabinski will help deploy a range of creative fundraising initiatives to provide the financial resources the University needs to be a leader for the region and beyond.

"John has a tremendous wealth of knowledge and

experience and comes to Rowan just as we need more resources to expand our academic offerings and research capabilities, and to add support for our growing student population," said Rowan president Dr. Ali Houshmand.

Zabinski most recently served as vice president for Institutional Advancement at Drexel University where he helped manage principal and major gift activities for 20 colleges, schools and affinity units. At Drexel, he was a key part of the senior management team that achieved and exceeded fundraising goals of \$60 million in FY2013 and FY2014 and that designed, conducted and closed a comprehensive campaign that set

a goal of \$400 million and surpassed it, seven months early, by \$55 million.

He has also overseen fundraising at Saint Joseph's University and Valley Forge Military Academy and College, and led and was involved with fundraising efforts at The Episcopal Academy, Sacred Heart Hospital and Villanova University.

"I joined Rowan University because of the opportunity to build on the momentum and success already in place," said Zabinski. "Rowan has tremendous potential and I am excited to lead an already successful fundraising team as we work to fulfill President Houshmand's goal to keep higher education accessible and affordable."

Zabinski earned a bachelor's in business administration from Villanova University and an M.B.A. from Saint Joseph's University.

The Division of University Advancement has achieved record-breaking fundraising success for the past four years, raising more than \$42 million in that time. As the institution continues to evolve and progress, the future importance of philanthropy is evident.

"I am thrilled that the University was able to recruit a person of John's caliber and am confident that he will be a tremendous asset to Rowan and to the Division," said R.J. Tallarida Jr., vice president for University Advancement and deputy executive director of the Rowan University Foundation. "I look forward to working with him as we take the Advancement program to the next level."

Zabinski is eager to engage as many of Rowan's constituents as possible as the University continues to seek ways to develop new revenue sources.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES Provide for your future— and touch someone's life

When you make a planned gift to Rowan University Foundation, your gift provides you with a fixed income for the rest of your life while funding educational opportunities for years to come.

Why select an annuity?

- Provides you income for life
- Earn tax-free income
- Save with tax deductions
- Capital gains tax savings

CURRENT FOUNDATION ANNUITY RATES:

Age	*Single-life annuity rates	Wait five years annuity rates
65	4.7%	6.0%
70	5.1%	6.8%
75	5.8%	7.9%
80	6.8%	9.1%
85	7.8%	10.5%

*Joint-life annuity rates also available



For more information, please contact:

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STEAM Academy gives high schoolers a head start on college and career planning



STEAM Academy participants got a head start in thinking about college and planning for their future. Students were able to explore careers in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics and gained valuable insight and tools to help them prepare for their educational goals.

Students enjoyed hands-on STEAM-focused field trips including an archeological "dig" at the Mantua Township Fossil Park.



For more information

To learn about opportunities to support the STEAM Academy, visit rowan.edu/steam or contact Deanne Farrell, Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations, at 856-256-5418 or farrelld@rowan.edu.

Star Jackson, a 15-year-old sophomore at Salem High School, and 39 other area high school students got a jump on planning their future career options thanks to Rowan's inaugural STEAM Academy this summer.

"Being able to attend the Academy I feel like I have a head start on what I want to do with my life and how I need to do it," said Jackson.

Nationally, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) programs are helping prepare students for careers in the fastest growing segments of the economy. Developed by President Ali Houshmand, Rowan's STEAM Academy blended rigorous academics and educational summer fun that supported classroom learning for the rising high school sophomores primarily from underserved areas in South Jersey.

The three-week program included a college-level physics course for which the students received three college credits. They also earned a Rowan Leadership certificate, received a career assessment, produced a professional resume and built a personal action plan for the remainder of their high school years that will help them reach their career and personal goals.

Studies were reinforced through visits to area museums, an archeological "dig" and a tour of the Salem PSEG nuclear plant. Students also had the opportunity to live on campus and get a taste of college life—meeting new people, adjusting to life away from home and managing their time independently.

"We decided to call it the STEAM Academy because our focus is on the whole student," explained Dr. Houshmand. "Our goal is to expose students to different disciplines that

they may have never experienced. While you are teaching engineering, you want to expose students to arts, culture and humanities so they are not solely focused on engineering. A broad knowledge base is essential."

Expectations were high for participants who got a lot out of the program.

"It made me figure out what I want to do with my life," said 14-year-old Tenysa Turner, a sophomore at Salem High School. "It helped me set my priorities right. I want to be a psychologist and the program helped me finalize my career choices. It opened a lot of doors and opportunities. I was overwhelmed at first but it was really a good experience."

Gloucester County Freeholder Heather Simmons M'96, was part of the STEAM team of Rowan faculty, administrators and professionals who helped develop and run the program. Although the program was brief, she saw growth in the students.

"When they first came in there was a lot of trepidation," said Simmons. "They didn't know what to expect. What was interesting was toward the end, especially when they were challenged to do research related to their class, many students were excited by the possibilities. Suddenly, these young people who never thought about college or research as something that they could handle, were saying, 'You know what, I know I can do this.'"

"To watch that transformation lit a fire in all of us and proved this is the right thing to do for students who are wondering what's after high school."

Jackson talked about the many ways the STEAM Academy impacted him.

"Getting the college credits ... I'm pretty happy about that. It was one of the biggest things that attracted me to STEAM. The resume was really important too and I loved the research for the personal action plan. It will make it easier for me to pick a college and figure out where I want to go and what it will take to reach my career goals."

Dr. Kara Ieva, an associate professor in the College of Education and a member of the STEAM team, says the program helped students focus on the importance of their high school years and start thinking about how it will impact them beyond high school.

"The greatest impact academically is that they understand how serious high school is moving forward. On the other end, I think from a personal perspective, it's a self realization that they can do this," Dr. Ieva explained. "Successfully completing the Academy indicates an empowerment that they are able to do this. They realize, 'It's a goal and I can do this again and I now have an action plan to get from point A to point B.'"

The STEAM Academy would not have been possible without nearly \$180,000 in contributions from Rowan's public and private partners. The support enabled the entire inaugural class of 40 students to attend the Academy at no cost. Partners included AT&T, Glassboro Municipal Alliance, Glassboro Public Schools, N.J. Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Nexus Properties, Parke Bank, Paulsboro Refinery, Rotary International, Salem City Schools and TD Charitable Foundation.

"The support from these partners for these students provides steam for the (region's) economic engine and is an investment in the future workforce, because, one day, they will graduate from college and become the workforce for the industry sponsors who contributed to their experience," said Richard Jones, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students at Rowan.

"What we do as educators is plant a seed that may not germinate until later on," Jones added. "Students may not realize the overall importance of the program today, but it's a step-by-step process. Now they realize, 'I can do this,' but later they will realize the program helped to put them on the right track for the journey they are on."

Generous planned gift honors family's musical heritage



Helen Stanger Storer's love of music and her skill as an organist inspired her son's gift to endow the organ program within Rowan's College of Performing Arts.

Dr. John Storer always felt that if you concentrate on a small area and become a specialist in that field, you can build it into something big.

Now, the 93-year-old Glassboro native is putting that philosophy to work and making quite an impact on his hometown's University and is doing so in honor of his mother.

Dr. Storer, a retired cardiac surgeon who practiced in Cleveland, Ohio for 40 years, has willed a gift of \$2 million to establish the Helen Stanger Storer Organ Program Endowment Fund. Mrs. Storer's love of music and her high level of skill as a world-class organist led Dr. Storer to make the gift in her memory to the organ and keyboard studies program in Rowan's College of Performing Arts.

"It's a small program right now but this gift will allow us to build it into something much larger," said College of Performing Arts Dean John Pastin. "Our keyboard

studies program is already excellent. We're an All-Steinway School and we have a wonderful inventory of Steinway instruments. We know that this organ program will be an additional benefit to the students who are studying."

Although the organ in Pfleeger Auditorium in Wilson Hall is "as old as the building," according to Dr. Pastin, it is an outstanding instrument that needs some repair. "With this gift, we're hoping to have it totally restored so we can really maintain it."

"This gift is going to go a long way toward keeping our organ up and running," he said. "We'll be able to attract organ students and build a program that is second to none. Our keyboard instrumentalists, including our pianists, will benefit from this gift along with faculty. There are endless possibilities of building our programs beyond what we have already—it will dramatically change the way we do things in keyboard studies."

Now living in Lake Wales, Fla., Dr. Storer was raised in Glassboro. His great uncle, a civil war veteran, was one of the first doctors in town and among the founders of Glassboro Normal School. His great-grandparents were founding members of the Glassboro Methodist Church and owned the property where the church currently stands at the intersection of New and Academy Streets.

Dr. Storer said that during his career, he encouraged his colleagues to specialize in very narrow concentrations and do big things. One went on to become a prominent vein surgeon and another was a key player in the invention of the pacemaker.

By making this gift to the University in the town where his roots run deep, Dr. Storer is staying true to that philosophy. "I feel that this is an area where Rowan might concentrate an effort on developing an organ program and become known as the 'Organ Center of the East,'" he said.

President's Forum Reception honors loyal friends and donors



ROWAN UNIVERSITY *President's Forum*

More than 280 of Rowan University's friends gathered at The Mansion on Main Street in Voorhees on May 7th for the annual President's Forum reception. The event celebrated the vision and contributions of this loyal group and their commitment to the University. The significance of private contributions to the Rowan University Foundation continues to grow. As the institution transforms higher education, the investment of generous alumni and friends is vital for continued success.

1. Farah Houshmand, President Ali A. Houshmand and Rowan Board of Trustees Chairman Linda Rohrer
2. Margaret and Robert Danzeisen
3. Angelique Hilton and Alumni Association Board Member Paul Hilton '83
4. Sandra '84, M'07 and Samuel Gubbine
5. President Houshmand, Charlotte Andalaro, Roseann Andalaro, Kimberly Andalaro and Farah Houshmand

6. President Houshmand, Farah Houshmand and Reginald Middleton
7. Joan West, Leonard West and Lauren Flounders
8. Adrienne Kirby and Joseph Devine
9. Farah Houshmand, President Houshmand and Daniel Clements III
10. Charles Iannuzzelli and RowanSOM Alumni Association Board Member Andrea Iannuzzelli D.O. '95
11. President Houshmand, Steven Riggs, Claire Riggs M'97 and Farah Houshmand

Clayton Kiwanis establish scholarship endowment



Joel Schwartz

A scholarship endowment at Rowan will continue the generous legacy of the Kiwanis Club of Clayton's Scholarship Foundation. Members of the group attended the recent President's Forum event, including (FRONT): Gordon Myers, Sally Myers, Bonnie Streitz and Allen Streitz. (BACK): Judy Baillere, Risti Talbott, Bob Schauer, Milton Smith and John McKenna.

After 46 years of awarding scholarships to Clayton High School students, the Kiwanis Club of Clayton's Scholarship Foundation has decided it's time for a change. But thanks to the foundation's foresight, residents of Clayton will still be the beneficiaries of the group's generosity.

When the Clayton Kiwanis Scholarship Foundation decided to cease operations, they used their considerable funds to create an endowed scholarship at Rowan University for either a graduate of Clayton High School, a resident of Clayton who attends another high school or a Clayton resident who is transferring to the University from Rowan College at Gloucester County.

The Clayton Kiwanis Club, in operation since 1925, began its scholarship foundation in 1969.

"We decided to transfer all of the money we had left in our investment account (about \$75,000) to the Rowan University Foundation to manage and administer the scholarship for us," said Jim Gaglianone, chairman of the Clayton Kiwanis Scholarship Foundation for the past 25 years. "With most of the Kiwanis members now up in age, we decided that would be the best course. We set up the endowment in the name of the Kiwanis Club of Clayton so that it can be perpetuated into the future."

"With this scholarship we sought to do two things—support students from Clayton and support Rowan, our hometown university," Clayton Kiwanis Club President Greg Gaglianone, son of Jim, noted. "A lot of kids from Clayton already go to Rowan and that was a big driver. But we really wanted to support Rowan as well. The University has grown so much and it's right in our backyard, so it was an easy choice."

The scholarship began as a \$200 award in 1969 and has grown into an \$8,000 scholarship (\$1,000 per semester for four years) thanks to savvy investing. The foundation started as a grassroots effort and is an enduring source of pride for the

Clayton Kiwanis. In the early days the group sold hot dogs and hosted other standard fundraisers, but then the Kiwanis got creative.

"Our biggest money maker came about because we had a lot of tradespeople in the club," recalled Jim Gaglianone. "We bought a piece of ground from the borough for a dollar and built a house on the property, and members of the community donated all of the labor. We ended up with a very nice two-story, colonial house which we then sold for a considerable profit and invested the money. That really put us on the map. Then we made some prudent investments and had good financial advisors. For a while, every award we gave came from the income from the fund. It was quite a success story."

Now future generations of Clayton residents who attend Rowan University can continue to be the benefactors of the ingenuity and generosity of the Clayton Kiwanis.

Jim Gaglianone is proud of the Scholarship Foundation's legacy of service. "It was rewarding because kids would come back after they graduated from college or while they were still in college. Their thank you notes showed how much they appreciated [the scholarships]. It was really rewarding and kept us doing the right thing and selecting the right people."

Alumnus leads by example as she supports EOF/MAP student success

Why does she do it?

Diane Wilson Welburn's answer to that question is simple...and simply extraordinary.

"Why wouldn't you?" asks Welburn, '74, who has offered mentoring and career opportunities to close to 30 young Rowan University alumni through her Virginia-based company, Welburn Management.

"Once we become successful, we have to try to make others successful as well. So many young people graduate from college but haven't had the opportunity to really engage with the business world. They need to find their way. We want to continue to give back and nurture them."

In 1983, Welburn and her husband, Craig, established Welburn Management when they opened their first McDonald's restaurant in Philadelphia. Since then, the couple has grown the company to include 1,500 employees in 40 family restaurants across six states.

About 20 years ago, Welburn decided she wanted to get involved with Rowan's EOF/MAP program, which provides first-generation college students with the supports they need to be academically

successful. She established a scholarship program that helps provide tuition, as well as funding for other costs incurred by students, such as book costs, graduation fees and even graduate school application fees.

Welburn, herself, benefitted from the program, which was known in the 1970s as the Martin Luther King Scholars Program.

Through the program, Welburn was introduced to professors—Wilhelmina Perry and John Clemmons, among others—who put her on a path to success.

"They were among the first African-American success stories I'd seen," says Welburn, who grew up in Monroeville and attended Woodstown High School. "They were wonderful role models."

At Welburn Management, the couple built a company—and a company culture—that focuses on quality service and on giving others opportunities to succeed. From the four Welburn children—who are owner-operators in the business—on down to every chef and cashier, the company is very much a family affair.

Kevin English '12 knows that firsthand. English, who grew up in Camden and completed Rowan's EOF/MAP program, earned his bachelor's degree in accounting. After a rocky first interview with Welburn in which he didn't land a position with the company, she offered him professional advice and mentorship.

"He really didn't have the experience I needed," Welburn says. "But I kept in touch

with him. He was a young man who kept on trying. I couldn't leave that alone."

"I knew he just needed some polish. I knew he might stumble if he didn't have that."

Less than a year after his first interview, Welburn brought English to Virginia for another interview, which was a success. He worked in Welburn's accounting department for eight months before landing an accounting position back in New Jersey, where he'll soon be married.

"My first interview didn't go so well," English says. "Mrs. Welburn gave me constructive criticism and told me ways I could be successful, including getting an internship doing taxes. She kept in touch and she kept encouraging me."

At Welburn Management, English was privileged to work alongside nurturing accounting co-workers, who shared their talents and helped him succeed. Welburn took a personal interest in his success, providing tips on everything from business etiquette to the best books to read.

"Everyone in the company was so respectful and caring," English says. "My co-workers took time out of their days to help me. They were interested in me becoming a better, more well-rounded person."

"When I think about it, Mrs. Welburn really changed my life. She took a chance on me and



Longtime Rowan supporter Diane Welburn '74, shown with President Ali Houshmand and Kevin English '12, continues to ensure the success of students in Rowan's EOF/MAP program.

put me in a good position to succeed."

Today, he is following Welburn's lead, volunteering with Rowan's Harley E. Flack Student Mentoring Program, which provides mentors to undergraduate students.

His involvement pleases Welburn, who maintains that more business leaders should become involved in helping young graduates be successful.

"I hope our work will encourage other businesses to really look at developing strong internship programs," she says. "It's really worth it to give someone a chance."

Nearly 600 students are enrolled in Rowan's EOF/MAP program. To provide support, visit giving.rufoundation.org. Click "Donate" and type "EOF/MAP Program" under "Designation Instructions."

The heart of the matter: Generous grant is lifeline for SOM fellowship program



Funding from the St. Jude Foundation is enhancing the impact of RowanSOM's Cardiovascular Fellowship Training Program.

According to Dr. John Hamaty, Director of the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine's General Cardiovascular Fellowship Training, a \$35,750 grant from the St. Jude Medical Inc. Professional Education Corporate Giving Program is the lifeblood of the program.

"The grant is everything," said Dr. Hamaty. "Without a doubt, the St. Jude Foundation has been the biggest benefactor for this fellowship. What's vital is that it's purely for the education of the fellows which is hard to find today."

The fellowship isn't new, as it existed prior to Rowan University's integration of the School of Osteopathic Medicine. The St. Jude Foundation's involvement isn't new either, having provided sizeable grants since 2013. But in that short window, the foundation has made a huge impact on a large number of people.

Despite the fact that only nine fellows are enrolled each year, the fellowship program's reach is far and wide.

"The program has easily impacted hundreds of people," noted Dr. Hamaty, who has been the director for 15 years. "When we bring in the level of

expertise with the guest speakers who present, we have fellows from other programs in our area who will come to the symposiums because the speakers are so world renowned."

"When we bring in a speaker who is a world-renowned expert in congestive heart failure for example, that affects our nurses who care for these people and our echo techs who do the procedure and our nuclear techs who do the stress testing."

"Without a doubt, there's easily 30–60 people minimum who come to any of these conferences, and in some cases as many as 200, all because of the funding that's been provided. It's not just my nine fellows who rotate year after year. It's the students at Rowan, the medical residents at Rowan and other physician extenders."

The valuable training provided to those in the fellowship includes hands-on workshops and sessions with nationally known physicians on techniques and guidelines in the areas of treatment of congestive heart failure and cardiac transplant, a DVD educational series, attendance at cardiology-specific educational conferences, an extensive 10-week nuclear physics class and more.

"The Foundation wants these fellows to be as well-trained as possible," Dr. Hamaty said. "Without the funding from St. Jude we would have no money for travel to conferences, including the American Heart Association Conferences, the American College of Cardiology Conferences and echo/nuclear conferences."

In addition, the funding provides vital education assistance and the ability to keep abreast of the newest techniques.

"This [grant] is so critical, it's literally the lifeline of the program," Dr. Hamaty explained. "[Cardiology] evolves so rapidly and so diffusely, one practitioner can't keep up. The expertise—catheter procedures, stents, open-heart surgery, electrical procedures with pacemakers... Everyone is becoming more and more specialized, and as the person responsible for teaching all of that, I can't do it alone. I reach out to the experts in these individual fields."

The most important aspect of the grant, and what affords the biggest impact for the fellows, is the opportunity to meet renowned researchers and doctors who are specialists across the various branches of cardiology who are conducting cutting-edge research.

"A lot of programs can't provide this kind of support to bring in the masters in our field to provide that exposure. The fellows in our program engage, literally, with world leaders in vascular heart disease, blocked arteries and more. Once the fellows are out of the program, they realize the importance of the exposure they had and that it was all due to these grants. That's when it hits them. When they get out and compare themselves to their peers, that's when they truly understand the value of what St. Jude has been able to provide for them."

Scholarship honors sister's legacy



Through teaching and a deep commitment to charitable work, Rosemary Geri '77 dedicated her life to serving others.

Her devoted siblings—George, Elaine and Louis—are making sure their late sister's legacy continues at Rowan University. In the spring, the Geri family gave a total of \$152,000 to establish a scholarship for students studying in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

The Rosemary Geri '77 Foreign Languages Scholarship will be awarded for the first time this fall to a Rowan junior or senior majoring in foreign languages at Rowan.

The scholarship is a fitting way to pay tribute to Geri's kind, selfless, generous spirit, according to Elaine Geri. Rosemary, who passed away last Sept. 27 at age 60, taught Spanish and ESL classes for 23 years at Northfield Community School. In 2010, she was named Teacher of the Year.

"We wanted to keep her memory alive," says Elaine Geri. "She enjoyed teaching and she always supported charities...food banks, cancer research, the American Heart Association, and the Wounded Warrior Project. We decided a scholarship to help students was a great way to honor her."

The Geri sisters traveled extensively together, visiting points in the United States, the Far East, Europe, and Australia, among others. Rosemary spoke both Italian and Spanish, but had a real passion for Spanish culture, according to her sister.

The scholarship will fund a student's tuition, fees, and course-related books and software. Additionally, it could be used for living expenses and academically-related travel.

By providing financial assistance to promising students in need, scholarships at Rowan provide the resources to recruit and support the best and brightest students and ensure that their education remains affordable.

To learn about opportunities to support scholarships at Rowan, please call 856-256-4095 or visit giving.rufoundation.org

"Rowan is my family."



For Antonette (Toni) Libro, a class of 1960 graduate and the founding Dean of the College of Communication (now the College of Communication & Creative Arts), Rowan University holds a special place in her heart.

A South Jersey native and a Professor of Journalism and Creative Writing at Rowan for over 30 years, Libro has had a lasting impact on the University and its students. When she retired from teaching in 2002, she

knew she wanted to continue to support Rowan and its students.

For 27 years in a row, she has donated to support scholarships and student programming at the University. As one of the most loyal Rowan donors, with the most consecutive years of giving, she is proud to be a member of the 1923 Society and to encourage continued consistent annual giving.

"I want to see students grow and become who they are going to be, and this scholarship enables me to continue to support excellence in the writing arts," she explains.

Thanks to her generosity, generations of students will continue to receive an exceptional education at an affordable cost.



For more information on the 1923 Society, please visit rufoundation.org or contact:

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Gift supports aspiring educators from Camden

A steadfast Camden advocate, Riletta Cream '48 (shown with Dean Monika Shealey) has created a scholarship to benefit students from the City who are enrolled in Rowan's College of Education.



For most of her life, Riletta L. Cream has made a promise to support Camden and the education of the city's youth, dedicating her life to serving others.

Now, thanks to her generous support, Camden students studying in Rowan University's College of Education will receive essential financial support as they work to attain their degree.

Cream, a former Camden County Freeholder and Camden native, established The Riletta L. Cream Promise Scholarship with a commitment of \$40,000. The endowment will fund annual scholarships for deserving students from the City of Camden majoring in teacher education at Rowan.

"We are grateful for the generosity of Mrs. Cream," says Monika Shealey, dean of Rowan's College of Education. "This scholarship will ensure that individuals from Camden with a commitment to teaching have

support and resources critical to their success."

The awards honor Cream's desire to prepare students to serve Camden and other urban settings. The gift is important, notes Dr. Shealey, as grooming City students to return to Camden's classrooms "could build a model that could be replicated and be a solution."

Born and raised in Camden, Cream has a strong history of supporting the City. She has a storied career as an educator. Starting in 1949, she taught in four different elementary schools, and became principal at Summer School in the mid-1960s. In 1968, she took the job of principal at Cooper's Poynt School where she remained until being named principal of Camden High School in 1972, a role she held for 15 years.

Cream also served as a Camden County Freeholder for five consecutive three-year terms before retiring in 2011. The Riletta T. Cream Elementary School is named in her honor for her many years of service to the City of Camden. Under her leadership, Cream led the effort to construct the Ferry Ave. Branch library, the first new library in Camden in over 100 years. The library was renamed in her honor in 2011.

She was a founding member of the Glassboro State College Development Fund, currently the Rowan University Foundation, through which she has decided to establish her personal legacy. Cream received a B.S. degree in General Education from the University in 1948.

Cream is proud of the students she is investing in and stresses the importance of cultivating gratitude, noting, "I want them to grow up to be young people who understand the value of thanking people."

Fellowship provides hands-on opportunities



Kim Poolos, a 2014 graduate currently enrolled in Rowan's Higher Education Administration program, earned valuable hands-on Advancement experience this spring as the University's first Advancement Fellow.

Established in Winter 2014 thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Advancement Fellowship Program in the Division of University Advancement is giving one student each semester the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience in the field of professional fundraising and alumni relations.

With charitable giving on the increase, careers in fundraising and the nonprofit sector are in greater demand than ever. From 2001-2011, the number of non-profits in the United States grew by 25 percent, and by 2010 they accounted for nearly 10 percent of the domestic work force. As non-profits and higher education continue to grow, it is essential that students are prepared to enter these expanding fields.

Unlike many professions, fundraising and nonprofit careers do not have direct pathways for students to go from the classroom to the office. With few available academic programs focusing on Advancement and fundraising, this Fellowship was designed to provide an avenue for students to learn firsthand about the role of Advancement in a University and the careers

available within this field. Moreover, it aims to equip students with the skills needed to pursue careers in philanthropic organizations and higher education institutions.

Kim Poolos, a 2014 Rowan graduate and the first Advancement Fellow, worked in the Division of University Advancement during the Spring 2015 semester. Assisting with projects relating to prospect research, alumni event planning and coordination, donor mailings, special projects and stewardship, she also received mentoring from colleagues in the Division.

"Working with the Rowan University Foundation was a completely unique experience because I was granted the opportunity to work on numerous projects from a variety of areas," she says. "Every day that I attended my Fellowship, I always found myself on an adventure, learning new and exciting things."

Currently a graduate student in Rowan's Higher Education Administration program, Poolos knew she wanted to work in higher education prior to her internship, however she wasn't sure in what capacity. With experience in career management and writing, she came out of the Fellowship program with a newfound appreciation for fundraising and its role in supporting the University.

"Before beginning my Fellowship, I was not well versed in Advancement and did not fully understand just how critical the Foundation is to the success of Rowan University," she explains. "Moving forward, I have so much more to give due to the skills I gained during my time as the Fellow. My passion lies in higher education and this experience has expanded my passion into advancement."

Noteworthy

Grovers Support Biomedical Research

During RowanSOM's annual Research Day on May 7, Dr. Gary and Janis Grover presented a \$50,000 grant for the Janis and Gary Grover Research Endowment to support three biomedical researchers from SOM—Renée Demarest, Ph.D., Michael J. Law, Ph.D. and Dmitriy Markov, Ph.D. The Grovers are passionate about supporting scientists and their research in physiology and biophysics. Janis Grover is President of Janis H. Grover, LLC and has been a successful international brand manager for over 25 years. Dr. Gary Grover has spent most of his professional career as a research scientist in the pharmaceutical industry having served as Executive Director of Pharmacology at Eurofins and on the Board of Directors at Snowdon, Inc. An adjunct professor in Cell Biology at RowanSOM, he has over 200 publications and 20 patents.



From left: Dr. Michael J. Law, Dr. Renee Demarest, Dr. Gary Grover, Janis Grover and Dr. Dmitriy Markov

Tournament Raises Scholarship Funds

More than 100 golfers enjoyed a day on the greens at Laurel Creek Country Club during the 27th Annual Brown & Gold Classic Foundation Golf Tournament on July 20th. The event, sponsored by the Rowan University Foundation and the Rowan University Alumni Association, raised over \$30,000 to benefit scholarships including the Robert A. Harris and Robert Collard Memorial Scholarships.



From left: Ed Remster, Andy Kelly and Rowan Foundation Board members Scott Kintzing and Paul Tully

Grant to increase healthcare diversity

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) has received a \$1.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop and enhance programs aimed at increasing the diversity of the healthcare workforce by introducing disadvantaged students to careers in medicine and other health professions. Funded through the Health Careers Opportunity Program, the three-year award will provide support to CMSRU's Pathways to Success—a prototype pipeline program which will provide individuals from racially and economically



disadvantaged backgrounds an opportunity to develop the skills needed to successfully compete for, matriculate into, and graduate from medical school or other health professional career institutions.

Rowan Advances

Rowan Advances is published twice a year by the Division of University Advancement to highlight the involvement and generosity of Rowan's alumni, friends and corporate partners.

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J&J Snack Foods' CEO Shreiber supports aspiring entrepreneurs

Gerry Shreiber wants to make sure hard-working, talented Rowan University students have the best start possible to achieving business success.

That's why Shreiber, president and CEO of J&J Snack Foods Corp. of Pennsauken, has established a \$100,000 scholarship fund to benefit undergraduate entrepreneurship majors in the Rohrer College of Business (RCB).

"I believe in giving back to the community—and in supporting young people with talent and drive," says Shreiber, who, as a Mullica Hill resident, has witnessed Rowan's profound growth in recent years firsthand.

"In the last 20 or so years, the growth at Rowan has been transformational," he continues. "The scholarship fund is a chance for me to be part of a bigger and better initiative for these students. I'm excited to be able to provide an education for some of them."

The scholarship, which provides \$25,000 in funding each year for four years, is open to academically talented junior and senior RCB entrepreneurship majors. Ten, \$2,500 scholarships can be awarded each year. Thus, the fund has the potential to assist as many as 40 Rowan students in four years. The program will begin in fall 2015.

Shreiber, whose rise to business success is a true rags to riches story—"It's a business fairy tale come true," he says—credits his mentors with putting him on a

good path. Born in Bridgeton and raised in Atlantic City, he began his career as a machine shop trainee at Kulicke & Soffa, eventually moving into production and later, sales management. He later started his own firm manufacturing specialty machine parts, selling it in 1970.

In 1971, he bought a bankrupt soft pretzel company with eight employees and \$400,000 in annual sales and turned it into J&J Snack Foods. Today, the company boasts more than 3,000 employees and approximately \$1 billion in annual sales, and has been recognized as a seven-time winner on the Forbes list of 200 Best Small Companies.

Three leaders at Kulicke & Soffa—Al Soffa, Max Bycer and Fred Kulicke—took an interest in Shreiber as a young worker, helping him to quickly advance his career, he says. He hasn't forgotten their kindness.

"I was 18, a young father and I needed a job," says Shreiber. "That triumvirate quickly furthered my career. They were pivotal to my success."

Pivotal, too, says Shreiber, was former Atlantic City Mayor James Usry, who was Shreiber's seventh-grade teacher. "He took a group of seventh-grade boys from the wrong side of the street and, with a firm hand and a gentle nudge, provided us guidance," Shreiber recalls. "I've been really fortunate. Life has treated me well."

At J&J, Shreiber provides college tuition reimbursement for employees. "We make sure they're motivated and challenged in

the environment here," he says.

But the time is right, Shreiber adds, to support promising Rowan students as well. A two-time recipient of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Shreiber in 2012 was the first recipient of the William G. Rohrer Business Leader of the Year Award. That same year, he also served as a judge for RCB's sixth annual Business Plan Competition.

"I think Rowan is a great university. I'm impressed by the way it has grown. The right thing for me to do is to give back to the community. It's a privilege to do that."

The University is committed to expanding access to affordable higher education and gifts to support scholarships are particularly significant, notes R.J.

Tallarida Jr., vice president for University Advancement and deputy executive director of the Rowan University Foundation.

"This gift promises to create a bright future for deserving students as they pursue their dream of a business degree," Tallarida said. "We are indebted to generous friends like Gerry Shreiber who are deeply invested in making an impact in the lives of students in need."

An active philanthropist and animal lover, Shreiber has received many awards, including the Gold Heart Award from the Philadelphia Chapter of the Variety Club. He also was honored as South Jersey Humanitarian of the Year by the Animal Adoption Center.



"I think Rowan is a great university. I'm impressed by the way it has grown. The right thing for me to do is to give back to the community. It's a privilege to do that."

—Gerry Shreiber