

Affordability Task Force 2019 Preview

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Membership & Help



TAP recipients present projects.



Attendees at the 2018 Financial Resource Fair.

CONTACT US

- UniversityResources@Rowan.edu
- go.rowan.edu/ProfCents



Students participate in a brainstorming session on college affordability.

Engaging the community...

WELCOME FROM DR. RORY MCELWEE

Rowan's commitment to affordability can be seen throughout the University. In addition to President Houshmand's pledge to keep tuition costs down, students need access to quality resources to help them to afford college and stay enrolled through graduation. The work of the Affordability Task Force has contributed innovative, data-informed solutions to address food insecurity, the high cost of textbooks, and financial literacy not just for students but also for faculty and staff. In the coming year, we plan to launch a credit-bearing Financial Wellness course, expand the TAP program, and continue to address the critical services many students need. We are grateful for the support from the entire Rowan community for this work.

ABOUT THE TASK FORCE

The Rowan University Affordability Task Force (established in 2016) consists of staff, faculty, and student representatives from a variety of departments throughout Rowan University.

The mission of the Affordability Task Force is to better understand the financial-related needs of our students. We are dedicated to implementing strategies to ensure our students are aware of existing campus resources and strive to develop ideas for additional services deemed necessary for an affordable education here at Rowan University.



Students participate in a brainstorming session to generate creative ideas to save money on campus.

...with resources & programs

ROWAN UNIVERSITY'S AFFORDABILITY TASK FORCE



TAP receipts present their creations at a 2018 task force meeting

2018 WINNERS

2018 recipients include: Dr. Joel Capellan of Law and Justice Studies, Ganesh Chandrasekaran of the Department of Computer Science, Dr. James Grinias of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Dr. Bruce Plourde of the English Department, and Dr. Olga Vilceanu of the Department of Public Relations and Advertising.

Textbook Alternative Program (TAP)

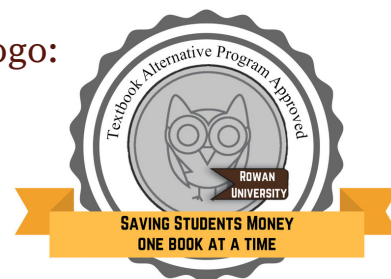
The high cost of course materials is an obstacle for many Rowan students, especially since these costs are typically paid out-of-pocket. Students are often faced with the dilemma of choosing to pay for course materials or for other needs like housing and food. In a spring 2016 survey of undergraduate students at Rowan, 37% of respondents indicated that they had not purchased all of their course materials, with cost as the most common reason given (85%).

In 2018, Rowan University's Affordability Task Force issued five \$2,000 grants to faculty members seeking to redesign their teaching materials with the use of library, free, and open resources that would lower the cost of course materials for Rowan students.

This project is estimated to save Rowan students a total of \$116,181 in the first year alone.

Look for the logo:

Classes that use TAP textbooks display this logo on the syllabus.



The initiative continues in 2019, with applications due in March. To apply, visit: <https://sites.rowan.edu/student-success/tap/index.html>

ROWAN UNIVERSITY'S AFFORDABILITY TASK FORCE



COVERAGE

6 abc covered The SHOP as part of its Thanksgiving holiday feature on food insecurity in the greater Philadelphia area. SGA President Rbrey Singleton was one of several students featured for their work with the SHOP.

The SHOP

The SHOP (Students Helping Other Profs) is Rowan University's first ever on campus food pantry and resource center available to students in need. With a particular focus on addressing issues of food insecurity, The SHOP offers a range of free and confidential support services that can connect students with appropriate campus and community resources.

Established in 2017, the SHOP has helped over 500 students find resources that will help them succeed at the University.

The SHOP also partnered with Fresh For All, a Philabundance initiative that brings free, fresh produce to campus on Fridays.

2018 Impact

- 1,621 visits
- 449 students served
- \$2,250.00 raised on Giving Tuesday
- 290 items collected during "Stuff the Bus" event
- Top reasons students visit the SHOP: not enough money for food, incomplete meal plan, need food over breaks (while cafeteria is closed), & need school supplies

April: National Financial Literacy Month

2018 Festivities

The Affordability Task Force hosted its first National Financial Literacy Month event in 2016, becoming the first institution in New Jersey to become part of the annual initiative from the Department of Education.

In 2018, 89 students attended the April financial resource fair. In addition, the task force hosted a commuter lunch, a couponing workshop, and pop-up financial help sessions for students.

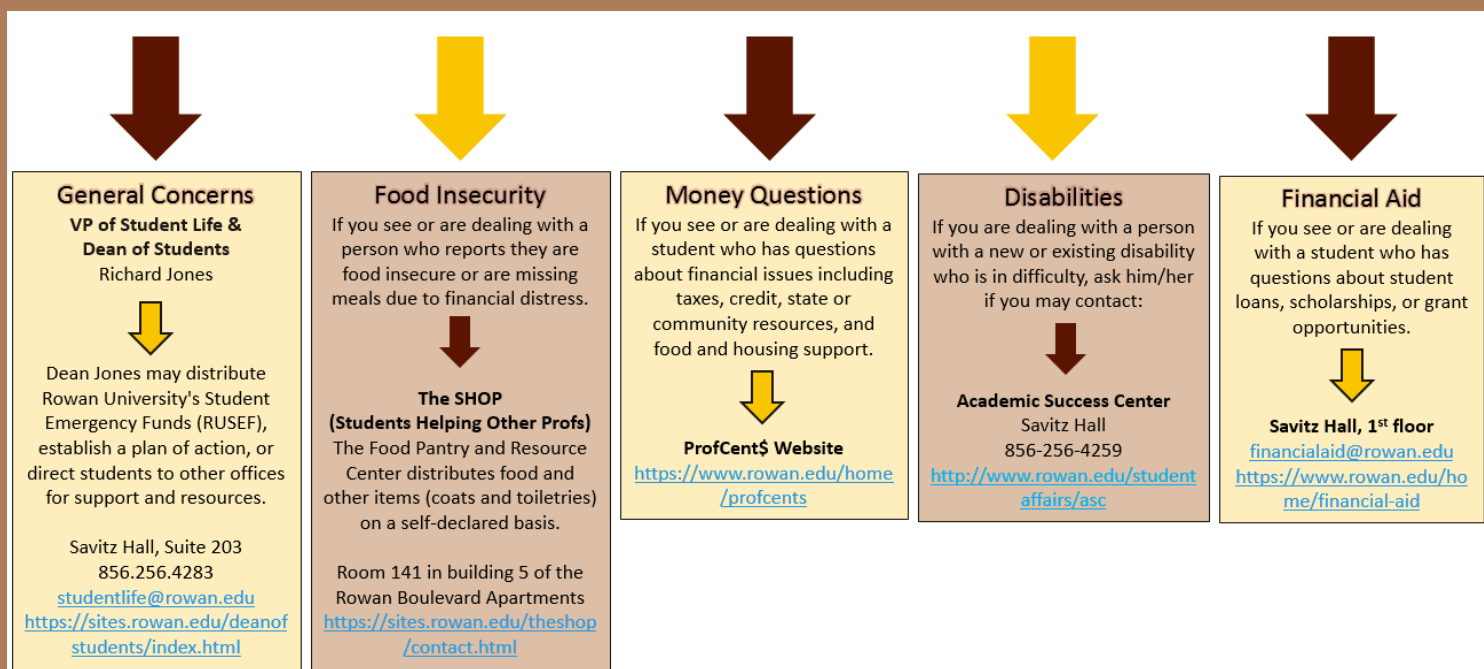
Coming April 2019

- Socratic Dialogue on College Affordability: Monday, April 8, 2019
1:30pm, Rowan University Art Gallery, 301 High Street
- Commuter Lunch: TBD, Student Center, Room 114
- Pop-up tables around campus all month
- Follow along on social media for tips, tricks, and advice : @RUTheSHOP & @RowanSSP



Students meet with vendors at the 2018 resource fair

Who do I contact when a student tells me they have financial difficulties?



Task Force Members

- Bonnie Angelone, Director, Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- Mayra Arroyo, Coordinator, University Transfer Services
- Laurie Baker, Director, Adult and Experiential Learning Center
- Brandi Blanton, Financial Literacy Specialist, Office of Financial Aid
- Nancy Buhner, Faculty, Health and Exercise Science
- Kathryn Croskey, Marketing & Outreach Coordinator, University Libraries
- Travis Douglas, Assistant Vice President for Residential Learning & Inclusion
- Deborah Gaspar, Director, Public Services, Campbell Library
- Lori Getler, Coordinator, University Retention Systems
- Sean Hendricks, Director, Office of Academic Transition and Support Programs
- Natalie Kautz, Assistant Director, Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- Connie Knox, Senior Student Loan Investigator, Office of the Bursar
- Christine Larsen-Britt, Academic Advisor, University Advising Services
- Valarie Lee, Faculty, Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Education
- Lorenzo Matthews, Academic Advisor, University Advising Services
- Rory McElwee, Chair; Vice President for Enrollment and Student Success
- Penny McPherson Myers, Associate Vice President for Diversity and Organizational Effectiveness
- Alison Novak, Faculty, Public Relations and Advertising
- Michele Pich, Faculty, Law and Justice Studies
- Beth Sosnoski, Veterans Affairs Coordinator
- Kelly Tallarida, Manager of Customer Service, Division of Student Affairs
- Michael Whiting, Counselor, ASCEND

A special thanks to

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