



LAA Responds to Task Force Recommendations

The following letter was sent to Rutgers University President Richard L. McCormick by Yash Dalal, President of the Livingston Alumni Association.

Dear President McCormick:

On behalf of the Livingston Alumni Association (LAA), thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns regarding the recommendation of the Task Force on Transforming Undergraduate Education at Rutgers University. The LAA agrees that the Task Force has recognized certain critical problems at Livingston College and Rutgers University, which undoubtedly, need solutions. However, we remain adamantly opposed to the drastic recommendation that Livingston College is eliminated and all the undergraduate colleges at Rutgers be combined into one College of Arts & Sciences. We strongly feel that Livingston College can become a much more successful, appealing and more dynamic learning institution by taking less severe steps than elimination, while still retaining autonomy at a campus level.

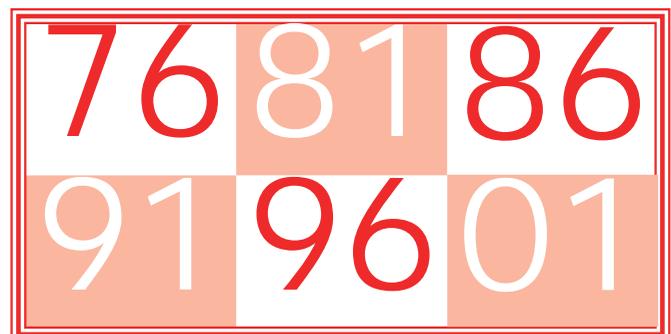
Livingston College can become a true college of choice at Rutgers. Unfortunately, Rutgers and Livingston College have not done a sufficient job at promoting the brand of Livingston College as a smaller, unique learning environment within a large research university, having the benefits of

both worlds. It is a true gem within an exceptional university. By giving Livingston College the opportunity to brand itself better, it will become more appealing to prospective students.

Although we appreciate your time and efforts to hear our issues with the report, we feel that too many questions remained unanswered. The Task Force extols the merits of having one centralized undergraduate College of arts & Sciences sciences of 20,000 students; however, we see many drawbacks to this structure. For example, leadership opportunities for students and alumni will greatly diminish. As Livingston alumni, we greatly benefited from the close, meaningful interaction and involvement we had with other students, faculty and advisors during our undergraduate years. This camaraderie and fellowship simply cannot exist in a combined university with almost twenty thousand undergraduates, particularly when students may not live on the same campus each year. Education does not end in the classroom, and these diminished leadership opportunities are a detriment for future students.

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Reunion Years



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PREVENT THE END - SAVE
LIVINGSTON COLLEGE



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Livingston College also provided specialized career services for its students. Students were able to receive sincere guidance close at hand. With 18,000 students sharing a centralized career services, how much time will each student legitimately have with a counselor? The LAA is deeply concerned that students will receive something akin to "fast-food" guidance and counseling, which is not meaningful and may discourage students from seeking guidance at all.

We also oppose the recommendation for a centralized system for student activities and the collection of student fees. The increased bureaucracy may prevent students from actually receiving the money to which they are entitled in order to fund activities and groups. If the student centers at the campus level controlled the fees and resources, it would ensure that the funds are properly and equally distributed.

Overall, we feel that a centralized system is not automatically a better system. The LAA fears that creating a monolith will diminish the creative and inspirational features which already exist at Livingston College.

The LAA is also concerned about the University's limited resources and the dim prospects for vast amounts of new capital. If the University decides to implement all the recommendations in their entirety, without adequate funding, some of the main features of the overhaul may not even come to fruition, such as creating new buildings, adding faculty and improving services. Without the adequate resources to fund the lofty goals of the Task Force, the entire university community may even suffer.

The LAA and the Task Force have similar goals. We both seek to improve the university community and ultimately provide a better experience for students. However, the Task Force report leaves too many holes and unanswered questions. The implementation stage is too late to have our concerns resolved. Livingston students and alumni need to fully understand what will become of the many services and benefits Livingston College has offered for 37 years. And, time is of the essence, because our concerns should be addressed before a plan is put into action. Otherwise, our issues become moot.

If the University ultimately decides to eliminate the unique, distinctive colleges at Rutgers to create a colossal

undergraduate college over the objection of many in the Rutgers community, we offer a recommendation. The Task Force suggests that students should affiliate with a campus during their third year. We feel this defeats the purpose of having affiliations. The first year of college is a critical time for students. Livingston College, as an autonomous institution, offered students a myriad of opportunities to get involved from Day One. Rutgers should maintain this procedure and have students affiliate with a campus before they begin their first year. This allows for continuity of networking and leadership opportunities.

In addition, the existing problems facing Livingston will not be fixed merely by expanding the student center and building College Town. Livingston needs a new academic building and new dormitories. In addition, we also suggest that the reputation of Livingston College would vastly improve if a major academic department was stationed at Livingston. For example, if the Economics department was located at Livingston, it could be a logical link to the Business School, already located on the Livingston campus.

Whichever path the University chooses, we implore you to include the voices of Livingston College alumni and students during the finalization of the recommendations and in the implementation process. The proposed restructuring should not diminish the voices of over 22,000 Livingston current and future alumni who are very proud of their college.

Respectfully submitted,

Yash V. Dalal
President, Livingston Alumni Association

January 12, 2006



www.SaveLivingstonCollege.org

LAA on the Merger

LAA SHARES TASK FORCE VIEWS WITH UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

The Livingston Alumni Association members and officers participated in a number of key meetings with Rutgers University leadership in the Fall 2005 to express the opinions of alumni regarding the recommendations of the Task Force Report on Transforming Undergraduate Education. These meetings took place on:

- October 11, in conjunction with the Ad-Hoc Committee of Rutgers University trustees studying the Task Force Report
- November 15, where a Forum was held on the Livingston College campus
- December 1, in conjunction with a meeting with Rutgers University President Richard McCormick and Professor Barry V. Qualls, Chair of the Task Force

A key recommendation of the Task Force is to let students choose a Rutgers campus as their residence each year. During the October 11 presentation to the Ad-Hoc Committee to the Rutgers trustees body, LAA President Yash Dalal and Vice President Jason Goldstein, along with Livingston College President Dean Arnold Hyndmann, each agreed that the current physical plant at Livingston needed extensive upgrading in order to attract students to make Livingston their choice as a residential area.

At the November 15 Task Force Forum, held in the Lucy Stone Auditorium on the Livingston Campus, President McCormick and members of the Task Force panel heard testimony from a number



Members of the Livingston Community respond to concerns during the November 15 Task Force Forum



of students, alumni and faculty regarding the effects that the recommendations to fold Livingston College, along with Cook College and Douglass College into one Rutgers College of Arts & Sciences. Hundreds of students, faculty and alumni packed the forum room to hear remarks from Dean Hyndmann and a panel of their peers. Audience members also had the opportunity to add their voice to the panel's testimony. One audience participant was Rob Bertrand, a member of the LAA Board and advisor to The Core, Livingston's student radio station, who said that Livingston's small college within a larger University setting offers students increased opportunities to gain leadership skills and life education that would not otherwise be available at a merged University setting. Lynn Astorga, also an LAA board member, stressed the need to allocate major resources to upgrade Livingston's campus and keep the college's programs in place, particularly since many of the college's activities are being emulated by other Rutgers campuses, as well as other universities throughout the country.

Jason Goldstein, a vice president of the LAA board, spoke about the entrepreneurial opportunities that were available at Livingston College for him, including the opportunity to start a theater company on the Livingston campus that is being touted as a cornerstone of the proposed College Town complex. "Without the diversity of Livingston's life and teaching experiences, I would not have developed the business and life skills needed to take me on this career path," said Goldstein.

In an effort by the LAA to present more information about the effects of the Task Force's recommendations on the future of Livingston College, an invitation was extended to Rutgers University President Richard McCormick and Barry Qualls, chair of the Task Force, to attend a December 1 meeting of the LAA board. President McCormick and Professor Qualls participated in a lively discussion with board members about the feedback they have received from the Task Force forums and the need expressed by LAA board members to continue to maintain Livingston's programs and unique opportunities for student learning and life skills intact. President McCormick told the board he would be submitting his response to the Task Force's recommendations in February 2006.

To read the Task Force Report on Transforming Undergraduate Education, visit <http://livingston.rutgers.edu/>. To share your feedback to the Report, email LAAemail@alumni.rutgers.edu



Homecoming 2005



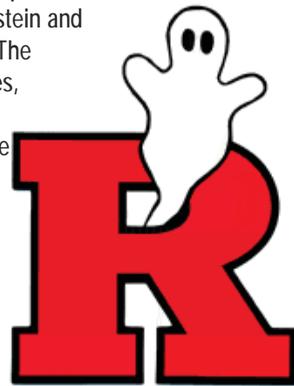
The Livingston Alumni Association participated in the annual Homecoming pre-game celebration at the Festival Fields adjacent to Rutgers Stadium on October 19, 2005 prior to the kickoff. The Scarlet Knights became bowl eligible with its sixth win of the season, a 31-21 victory against Navy before a sell-out crowd of 41,716, the second-largest crowd in Rutgers Stadium.

The 2005 Homecoming theme was Keeping The Spirit Alive. At and around the Festival Fields, there was live entertainment, great food, giveaways, alumni reception tents, and the Rutgers Kids Zone. William Bauer, Jason Goldstein and Michele Ostrowski organized the LAA reception tent. The LAA tent offered free catered food such as sandwiches, chicken, pasta, and vegetables. The Association also offered its traditional LAA Homecoming full sheet cake with the LAA logo on one side and the Homecoming logo on the other side to our hungry alumni.

Our tent was decorated in the spirit of Rutgers with a Halloween flair.

Many alumni and friends came out for this event and enjoyed the food and activities at the Livingston Alumni Association tent. We partnered again with student organizations to improve the celebration. This year our co-sponsor was the Livingston Recreation Center and Dean George Jones.

The Homecoming 2006 Festival will begin three hours prior to kickoff. If you are interested in helping plan this year's celebration, send an email to Bill Bauer, LAA Chair of Programming and Events and RUAF Homecoming Committee Member at wsbauer@comcast.net with Homecoming 2006 in the subject line.



'76
'81
'86
'91
'96
'01

Reunion

2006

Join The Fun

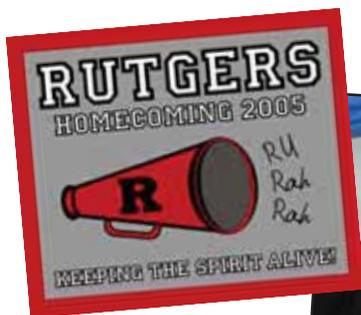
Don't Miss Out!!!





MAY 12-14, 2006

See page 5 for details!



Reunion 2006

It's almost that time of year again! Reunion 2006 is coming up on the weekend of May 12th. This year's reunion commemorates the graduating classes of all years ending in 1 and 6. The reunion committees have been working hard to ensure this year's reunion is Livingston College's best yet. It promises to be a fun-filled weekend, and a wonderful opportunity to catch up on the good old days. Not a graduate of the '1s or the '6s but want to catch up with some friends who were? Looking for ideas for your next reunion? You're invited too! So save the date and start making plans to attend now. With the campus tours, the '60s and '70s decade parties, the class dinners and more, you'll have a wealth of events to choose from. Want to show your Livingston pride? March in the all-alumni parade with the rest of the Livingston alumni. There's even a golf tournament! This year, the reunion will also feature a Livingston alumni luncheon, hosted at the Rutgers Club. This will be an opportunity to meet other alumni outside your graduating year, and to find out what's new at Livingston College.

Keep a lookout for the reunion bulletin and registration form, which will be mailed to your home. Be sure to register early, and tell a friend. Reunion details will also be posted on the alumni website: <http://livingston.rutgers.edu/alumni/>. If you have any questions, you can contact the Reunion Committee at LAAreunions@alumni.rutgers.edu.

Help Plan Reunion 2007!

Reunion 2007 will celebrate graduating classes ending in '2 and '7. Reunion Weekend will feature exciting events for each Reunion class including socials, family events and class dinners. Most importantly, you will have a great opportunity to reminisce with old friends and classmates. There are many opportunities to volunteer to get Reunion 2007 underway. We need your help to make these events well-attended and successful! By participating on the planning committee, you may organize a class dinner or contact classmates. If you are interested in volunteering for Reunion 2006, please contact LAAReunions@alumni.rutgers.edu or call 973.509.3255

Annual Meeting

Every June, all alumni are invited to the Annual Meeting of the Livingston Alumni Association. This year's meeting will be held on June 21, 2006. At this meeting, we elect the officer's of the LAA for the next fiscal year, as well as give a report on what has happened in the past year. Nominations and candidate statements will be accepted in April 2006. You must be a member in good standing of the LAA to run for any position. We will post more information the LAA web site in March. If you would like more information, please contact us at LAAEmail@alumni.rutgers.edu. We hope to see you there.

Livingston College



Theater Night Recap

Fall '05 Recap

The LAA got together on October 22, 2005 for "Little Shop of Horrors" at The Livingston Theatre Company. We had a strong turnout from



members who brought their friends and family to preshow reception which included varieties of wine, cheese, fresh fruit, finger sandwiches, vegetable platters and assorted chips. Attendees got to meet members of the cast and crew during the reception prior to being escorted to a special Alumni VIP section to watch the show,

Theater Night 2006

The Livingston Alumni Association will be holding another theater night at The Livingston Theatre Company's production of "Ragtime" on Saturday, April 22, 2006.

The fun starts at 6:30pm at the Livingston Student Center, with a special wine and cheese reception. Mingle with fellow alums prior to the show while members of the show's creative and production team drop in to share some insight on the musical. Then, we head over to the show for great seats in a special reserved VIP section.

The recent Broadway musical, "Ragtime" is a beautifully interwoven musical story of three families from different backgrounds at the turn of the century. The ultimate pursuits of the American dream are met with hope, despair, prejudice, perseverance and love in this captivating and compelling musical based on the best selling book by EL Doctorow.

Livingston Theatre Company, a student-run organization now in its eighth season, has grown tremendously since its inception in 1998, producing four large musical productions a year in The Livingston Student Center. We are happy to continually support this artistic effort on campus.



Tickets for the show and reception are \$5 for LAA Members and their guests; otherwise it is \$10 per person.

The LAA encourages bringing friends and family to the show. To order tickets, please e-mail a request to Jason Goldstein at Jason_Goldstein@alumni.rutgers.edu with the number of tickets you request. You can bring payment the night of the show. Tickets go quickly, so contact us soon.



YOUNG ALUMNI EVENTS

2005 Wrap-Up

As 2005 came to an end, the Young Alumni Committee had many events that were a great success. November 17, 2005, there was a happy hour in Hoboken, NJ at Mile Square Bar. It brought together many young alumni in a social atmosphere and a good time was had by all. On December 7, 2005 the Young Alumni Committee hosted a singles event at the Rutgers Club. The committee helped play matchmaker for a few young alumni.

Young Alumni Ski Trip

January 26-29, 2006 in Lake Placid, NY
Don't miss out on nearly three days of skiing, shopping, and touring the area. We have arranged for special Friday night luge rides, dinner, and open bar at the 1980 Olympic Luge track at the Verizon Sports Complex.

The bus leaves New Brunswick at 7 p.m. Thursday night for Lake Placid and returns late Sunday night.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI!!!! **Networking Night 2006**

Come Participate in a Session to Help the Class of 2006!

"How I Got My First Job After College"

We are looking for Alumni to discuss how you gained entry into different industries. We would like you to share your success with the current students at Livingston College in order to make networking connections.

In these difficult economic times, the value of networking can be immeasurable. This will be the perfect opportunity for alumni to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. And, the Class of 2006 will also greatly benefit from our collective experiences!

Students will be able to ask questions of the panelists and the numerous other alumni gathered at the event. Career Services representatives will again be present to offer advice and guidance for that all important first career move!

If you are interested in participating, please email the LAA at LAAalumni@alumni.rutgers.edu and a member of the executive council will contact you.

Save the Date:

Thursday, February 9, 2006 ♦ 8:30pm ♦ Livingston Student Center Room 113

Distinguished Alumni

Stay tuned for more information about the 2006 Livingston Alumni Distinguished Alumni Award dinner. This prestigious event will be held later in the year and it is one of the top events on the LAA schedule! You won't want to miss it. At the dinner, the Distinguished Alumni award and the Young Alumni Award will be presented.

In September 2000, The Livingston Alumni Association established the Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor the LAA and Livingston College bestows upon an alumnus/a. The award is presented to those alumni who have distinguished themselves by achievements in their fields of endeavor, the leadership they have exhibited, and the overall benefits to society resulting from their activities. Past recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award have included:

Frank T. Carvill '75
Gina Collins Cummings '84
Edward E. Johnson, Jr. '79
Michael C. Laracy '74
Harry V. Swayne III '90
Susan Kille '74
Hon. Justice Thomas F. Daley '75
Steven F. Plofker '78
David Laskow, M.D. '77
Riki Jacobs, Esq., '80
Clifton R. Lacy, MD, FACC, FACP, '75
John S. Lipori, '75
Alfred E. Ramey, Jr., Esq. '74

In 2004, the LAA established the Young Alumni Award in honor of the late Lt. Seth Dvorin, LC'02, whose bravery and valor while serving our country in Iraq represented the ideals and spirit of Livingston College. This award is presented to an alumnus/a of Livingston College who graduated within the last ten years and who has demonstrated excellence in his or her field. The recipient of the first Seth Dvorin '02 Distinguished Young Alumni Award was Karen Rogers (LC '92).

Any inquiries or questions about the Livingston College Distinguished Alumni Award may also be made to the LAA Elections and Nominations Committee at LAAemail@alumni.rutgers.edu.

About This Newsletter

The LAA Newsletter is published twice a year by the Public Relations Committee chaired by the LAA's 2nd Vice President. This newsletter is mailed to LAA members, individuals who make financial contributions to the College, and members of reunion classes. To continue receiving this newsletter, join the LAA today!

Livingston College



Join the LAA

Haven't joined the LAA yet? Giving back to Livingston has many advantages. Besides the discounts to the Rutgers bookstore, Rutgers sporting events, membership to Rutgers Club, access to the entire Rutgers University online alumni directory, discounts to local entertainment attractions, merchants and restaurants, free subscriptions to Rutgers Magazine and this Newsletter, you are helping your alma mater. This most valuable benefit can't be calculated. LAA membership helps both Livingston College and Rutgers University to better serve our students, our alumni and the entire Rutgers community. If you're not a member yet, please join the hundreds who already are proud Livingston Alumni Association members.



Executive Council 2005-2006

Executive Council Officers

President - Yash V. Dalal
1st Vice President - Marty Siederer
2nd Vice President - Jason Goldstein
Treasurer - Jeff Isaacs
Secretary - Kate Perry

Federation Rep. 2003-06 - William Bauer
Alternate Fed. Rep. - Mike Beachem

Committees

Budget and Finance, Jeff Isaacs
Election and Nominations, Mike Beachem
Membership, Yash V. Dalal
Reunion and Class, Karen Kanu
Programming and Events, William Bauer
Public Relations, Jason Goldstein
Young Alumni, Kate Perry

Executive Council Members

Maria "Lynn" Astorga	Rob Bertrand	Michael Canavan
Harsh Dutia	Karen Kanu	Stephanie Ledgin-Toskos
Walter O'Brien	Tiffany Torpey	Lilliana Vendra
	Robert Uhrig	



Rutgers - The State University of NJ



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New Brunswick, NJ 08903

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URGENT!!! HELP STOP THE END OF LIVINGSTON!!!
www.SaveLivingstonCollege.org

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 9, 2006
Business Card Exchange

April 22, 2006
Springfest

April 22, 2006
LAA Theater Night at LTC's "Ragtime"

May 12-14, 2006
Reunion Weekend

See our website for more information on all of these events and more

Livingston College



The Electronic University

Alumni News • Alumni Travel • Awards • Keeping In Touch
Joining the Alumni Online Directory • Links to Career Services

Livingston Alumni Association Website
<http://livingston.rutgers.edu/alumni>

Rutgers University Online Directory
<https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/RTG>

Career Services
<http://careerservices.rutgers.edu/alumniinfo.html>

Livingston College Home Page
<http://livingston.rutgers.edu>

Rutgers Alumni Relations
<http://www.alumni.rutgers.edu/>

The website is a great resource. Bookmark and check monthly.

