

Glassboro High School students get firsthand look at Rowan programs

Devon Marshall
Staff Writer

Representatives of Rowan and the Glassboro School District hosted an open house, providing a tour for high school students interested in science, technology, engineering, mathematics [STEM] and fine and performing arts [FPA] majors through the facilities at both Rowan and Wilson Hall.

Potential students and parents of the STEM and FPA academies were ushered into Boyd Recital Hall on Nov. 4 to sit in on a presentation that gave an overview of the direction of the programs and the benefits that it has to offer students.

Superintendent of the Glassboro School District, Dr. Mark Silverstein, was among those who addressed the audience.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of how far we have come with conjunction with our college neighbor," Silverstein said. "We wanted to see students in our high school, which I still think is the best kept secret in South Jersey, to be challenged academically and to avail themselves with all Glassboro had to offer."

STEM, coupled with FPA academy, are programs that enroll Glassboro High School students and out-of-district students alike in tuition-free, college-level courses at Rowan to lead them on the fast track in their anticipated fields of study.

"We are servicing 16 out-of-district students and 43 in-district students,

which makes up almost 10 percent of our high school population," Silverstein said.

With Glassboro High School combining with Rowan, students of STEM and FPA academies receive college credits at the university. University officials hope this partnership will have a high rate of return for these students to become Rowan students after graduation.

"Of course, we are hoping that we interest students in furthering their relationship with the university and continuing your studies here eventually, as a number of students have," said Associate Provost of Academic Affairs Dr. Roberta Harvey.

STEM students were taken on a tour of the classrooms of Rowan Hall, headed by Associate Dean of the College of Engineering Dr. Steve Chin and Assistant Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics Dr. Eddie Guerra. Concurrently, FPA students remained in Boyd Hall and enjoyed a dance performance.

Members of the Rowan Engineers on Wheels program met with hopeful STEM students in the Rowan Hall Atrium. Engineers on Wheels is a K-12 outreach program that has visited 300 localschools so far and conducts interactive engineering experiments for young students to encourage them into having an interest in engineering.

"We are trying to build a first-rate



Anthony Marino, a senior computer and electrical engineering major demonstrates his engineering team's quadcopter project for high school students touring Rowan Hall. -Staff photo/Robert Oszust

engineering program with the best students, and this particular program will now facilitate that," Chin said.

Both groups of STEM and FPA students reformed at the end of the night and attended a video presentation in the Edelman Planetarium in Science Hall.

At the beginning of the night, as the representatives of Rowan and Glassboro High school spoke on the Boyd Recital Hall stage, the principal of Glassboro High School, Santina Haldeman, concluded her

speech with a stern word to the students seated in front of her.

"This isn't for everyone," Haldeman said. "This is for that student who really has a plan, knows where they want to be, where they want to go and is willing to work for it."

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Rowan Card

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DeSantos said. She then decided to put her card on hold until she spoke with the Rowan Card office.

"I understand students' frustration and some are very aggravated," Noon said.

DeSantos felt as if the manner in which the Bursar's Office reacted to the mistake was not ideal.

"They should have told us before they took the money out because that's what was so confusing," DeSantos said. "I understand doing it as soon as possible but a warning would have been good."

DeSantos received an email explaining the system glitch 24 hours after she discovered she had no funds in her account.

Students were advised in an email to check their Rowan Card accounts because they may owe funds since they were using 'Boro Bucks and Dining Dollars they didn't pay for.

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RowanSOM granted \$681K to research Superstorm Sandy's affects on elderly

Kevin Kunzmann
News Editor

The full effect of Superstorm Sandy has lasted over a year and has spanned throughout various regions of the state. While some work to restore their communities and their own homes, Dr. Rachel Pruchno of the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine has begun research into what the storm has done to its most affected age group: the elderly.

Dr. Pruchno, the director of research at the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging at the RowanSOM, received a two-year, \$681,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to look into how the storm affected the lives of 3,200 older people who lived in the counties most damaged by the storm.

Dr. Pruchno said that the concept for the study's background was established in 2006 when she first collected data on the participating

group and their communities.

"We collected more data on them in 2011, too, so from there we can look at what effects the storm had on them and how community resilience, or the connection of people in neighborhoods, can affect their lives," Dr. Pruchno said.

Dr. Pruchno said that she expects to discover that older people living in more "connected neighborhoods" will have fared better so far, but that theory is inconclusive at the moment.

"We have a situation of people having different amounts of exposure to the storm in the state," Dr. Pruchno said.

Dr. Pruchno added that she believes that the storm has had similar effect as the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and Hurricane Katrina did on communities.

"Some areas were absolutely destroyed," Dr. Pruchno said. "I've studied stress before and how people

age from it, and a hurricane is a huge stressor that can affect a lot of people at one time."

As the study progresses, Dr. Pruchno is hoping for more involvement from the Rowan student body.

"Hopefully some of the students will get interested and want to do an internship or something on this project," Dr. Pruchno said.

Dr. Pruchno said she has another grant coming in the near future, and that the developing research can only help RowanSOM's growth as a research institution.

"It's really exciting for Rowan that we're going toward that," Dr. Pruchno said. "It will be good for region and for putting Rowan on the map."

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Wawa

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While making money is, of course, the point of a business, Gheysens states that he cares more about how the market will look in 2020. It is the first impression Wawa customers get that concerns him with the new openings, for now at least.

Regarding the presentation itself, Gheysens believes the message is in the "Wawa Way."

"People like to hear about stories like Wawa, founded on entrepreneurship," Ghey-

sens said. "It's good to show how a big company works but also how it comes from small roots, small beginnings and never loses focus on customer and culture."

Several students in attendance were able to speak with Gheysens one-on-one following the presentation.

Devan Curley, a junior business management major who was in attendance, was somewhat surprised by the nature of the CEO.

"He was more personable and more about the people," Curley said.

These events are organized through the combined efforts of Rowan's chapter of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization and the entrepreneurship teaching team, according to Kimble Byrd, a professor of management at Rowan.

"We look for impactful firms and impactful CEOs and [Gheysens] was on our list as someone who had an impact on the area by

virtue of what the company does," Byrd said.

The topic of intrapreneurship is especially important to entrepreneurship majors.

"You can go to work for a larger corporation and still use the skills that we impart in terms of entrepreneurial thinking," Byrd said.

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