



## The Rohrer College of Business

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ABET, Inc.—the accreditor of the Rohrer College of Business' MIS program—has accepted the interim report submitted by the College and has summarized that “There are no shortcomings.” The official confirmation will be accorded in the Commission's summer meeting in July. After earning accreditation from ABET, Inc. in October 2006, the Rohrer College of Business became one of just five business colleges in the United States to hold Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International accreditation for business and specialized ABET accreditation for the Management Information Systems program simultaneously.

The Rohrer College of Business and its incubators have been spotlighted in BizEd—the flagship magazine of the AACSB International.—in its November/December 2009 issue. Over 10,000 business schools in 70 countries compete to earn the honor to be featured in the spotlight page—and it is a great honor that the College's convincing story made the cut.

The Rohrer College of Business Incubator (RCBI) received

a grant of \$100,000 from the New Jersey Commission of Science and Technology for 2010. The incubator opened its door in October 2008 in the Rowan University Technology Park and is supporting businesses in south Jersey and Greater Philadelphia area since its opening. Under the auspices of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Rohrer College of Business, the incubator holds networking and enriching events for entrepreneurs to build networks and share their experiences. As a testament to the success of the entrepreneurs located there, RCBI has graduated one highly successful tenant in September 2009.

The College of Business at Rowan University together with its coalition members were awarded a 2010 VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Grant for \$27,000. The grant will support our student's participation in helping people that need support with their income tax preparation but cannot afford professionals to help them. This program will support our business students to apply the theory they learned in their accounting coursework to help low-income individuals and households.

## The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

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As of July 1, 2009, Rowan University welcomed Dr. Parviz Ansari as the new Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS). At the beginning of the Fall 2009 semester, the Dean began a strategic planning initiative that is a collective effort of CLAS faculty and administration. Each of the fourteen departments is engaged in developing 1-year and 5-year strategic plans, examining current issues and exploring new opportunities.

This fall, CLAS has new program opportunities at the undergraduate level within Geography, including a specialization in Anthropology/Human Geography as well as concentrations in Geographical Information Systems, Geoscience, and Planning. The Liberal Studies: Humanities/Social Science program has added sequences in Asian Studies, Philosophy & Religion Studies, Art History and Writing Arts (the latter two of which

are collaborations with the College of Fine & Performing Arts and College of Communication respectively). At the graduate level, a new Masters of Science in Computer Science has been approved. With the formation of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, CLAS is anticipating additional opportunities that will arise for our students. To that end, the college is actively exploring viable 3+4 programs as well as meeting with representatives in the College of Engineering to discuss interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs.

CLAS faculty continues to be active with publications and research. Notably, Sam Lofland (Physics) received a \$90,000 Materials World Network grant through NSF. In order to support the scholarship of CLAS faculty, a junior research fellowship is being developed and is currently in the planning stages.

## Camden Campus

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The Camden Campus of Rowan University is currently celebrating its 40th Year. The university opened an Urban Center in the fall of 1969 with courses for teacher preparation and English language learning.

As we begin our 40th year, the Campus is growing. In February of 2009, Rowan purchased the First Camden National Bank & Trust building located at the corner of Cooper Street and Broadway. The new building will allow the campus to triple enrollment to 1,500 students; expand academic programming and draw more traditional-aged undergraduate and graduate students to the city.

Dr. Beth Wassell, an Associate Professor of Education in the College of Education for 8 years, joined the leadership team

of the Camden Campus as the Interim Director of Academic Services. In this role, Dr. Wassell coordinates new and existing academic programs and services for faculty and students.

This fall, in conjunction with the College of Education and College of Professional and Continuing Education, the Camden Campus welcomed 27 students who are part of the first doctoral class of Rowan educational leadership students. The students, who attend weekly classes solely in the city, are the first Rowan class to focus exclusively on urban education. Classes, which began this fall, are geared toward their specific needs as urban educators.

Also this fall, 33 high schoolers from Camden and Cherry Hill enrolled in Rowan courses in Camden alongside college stu-

## Camden Campus (cont'd)

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dents through the new Dual Credit Program for High School Students. Students in the program, which is designed for low-income and/or first-generation college students, are taking

three-credit, science, math or writing courses. The program, also offers books, tutoring, workshops on academic success, and other support services.

## The Graduate School

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The Graduate School is excited to welcome several new programs into active status: MS in Computer Science, COGS in Networks, COGS in Web Development, COGS in Software Engineering, COGS in Management Information Systems (MIS). We're also looking forward to the impending new MBA specialization in Management Information Systems (MIS).

Our participation in recent events at Rutgers Camden, Penn State, Stockton and the NJEA annual convention have all been fruitful. Each of these resulted in new applications to our graduate programs.

The Graduate School continues to offer the most reasonably priced GRE and GMAT prep courses in the area. We are pleased to continue to offer quality prep courses to the Rowan community. Registration for our Spring session ends on Dec 18th.

Our Info Sessions, off-campus recruitment events and lobby area now boast brochures with overviews of each academic college, graduate financial information, graduate student life and services, a "what's next" guide to the graduate application process, and even a pocket folder to hold it all.

If you've been taking the occasional glance at The Graduate School website, you'll see some changes. There are new site-wide features: selected YouTube videos from the University's YouTube page (many thanks to Web Services for providing such excellent content), individual program advisor contact info and curriculum codes listed per program, persistent navigation at the top of each page to help you get around, and icons to help our visitors share content, apply, or even register for an info session. There are new sections: Newly Admitted Students, About Us, Faculty Tools and more.

Lastly, there are new faces at The Graduate School. We bid farewell to retiree Brenda Marlin over the summer and welcomed Harold Thompson into the role of Coordinator of Graduate Advisement. Harold comes to us from the CAP center and has already made a positive impact in his area here at The Graduate School. Chris D'Angelo has also joined the team as a graduate intern in our Marketing division. We're also looking forward to welcoming at least two other ambitious scholars in the upcoming Spring and Summer semesters.

## The College of Professional and Continuing Education

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The start of academic year 2009/2010 has been extremely productive for the College of Professional & Continuing Education. We launched two new programs, the Master of Arts in Health Promotion Management and an online B.A. in Liberal Studies degree completion program. The inclusion of these two programs brings the total CPCE academic offerings to fifteen programs with additional programs under development. This fall the CPCE has also partnered with the College of Education to establish the South Jersey Teacher Outreach Program (SJTOP). The goal of the SJTOP is to make graduate programs from the College of Education more accessible to teachers affiliated with South Jersey school districts by allowing them to enroll in courses offered on location in their own or neighboring school districts. The CPCE has also partnered with the College of Education to offer the following three programs on Rowan's Camden campus: Elementary Education in Urban Set-

tings (B.A. degree), English as a Second Language certificate of graduate study, and the Ed. D. in Educational Leadership. During fall 2009 the CPCE offered 115 sections of 74 unique courses with a total of 1500 enrollments, doubling the enrollments of last fall. There are now close to 700 active students in CPCE programs and we have graduated fifteen students to date.

The Continuing Education unit continues to add value to the regional community with workshops designed to meet the professional development needs of educators and school administrators. Several workshops have been offered thus far including Sheltered English Instruction, the Rowan Literacy Consortium, and the 15th Annual Symposium for School Counselors and Psychologists. As we approach the spring semester, the CPCE anticipates increased enrollment in our current academic programs and continued development of new program offerings.

## Office of Financial Aid

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During the fall of 2009, the Office of Admissions staff engaged its most extensive recruitment effort ever. Rowan representatives visited over 320 individual high schools, and also attended more than 140 college fairs throughout New Jersey and the surrounding states. In addition, we saw our largest

turnout ever for the fall's three open house programs with an average of almost 2500 prospective students and parents attending each one. Fall 2010 applications are being received at a high rate. At November's end 700 more freshman applications had been processed than at the same point last year.