

Message from the Dean

As the university's enrollment grows, so does that of the College of Science & Mathematics and School of Health Professions (CSM/ SHP). The college and the school have



nearly doubled in enrollment over the past two years: From 2,557 students in Fall 2014 to 4,779 students in Fall 2016.

Among the incoming Fall 2016 students are the inaugural class of nine entering into the new Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology. This is the first Ph.D. program for the College of Science & Mathematics – a notable accomplishment for the Department of Psychology. Students within the program will be prepared to become licensed psychologists with training in integrated primary care and health psychology.

Our growth also is reflected by the increase in the number of talented faculty we have recruited. Within a five-year period, CSM and SHP have welcomed over 50 new tenure-track faculty. This year we welcomed 12 new faculty from some of the best institutions across the country.

I am very proud of the hard work and dedication of our faculty and student achievements highlighted in the mid-year newsletter. As we welcome new research programs, new industrial partnerships, and new faculty, the students of CSM and SHP will be more prepared than ever for their future.

Karen Magee-Sauer, Dean
College of Science & Mathematics
School of Health Professions

CSM Welcomes the First Class of Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Students

The Department of Psychology welcomed nine incoming graduate students into the inaugural class of the Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology program – the first doctoral program offered in the College of Science & Mathematics. A distinguishing feature of the program is the training in both integrated primary care and health psychology. While the nation has about 400 clinical psychology doctoral degree programs, less than 150 deal with health psychology. There are only 50 programs that focus on primary care and Rowan is one of only two institutions that has two medical schools for collaboration.



First Class of Ph.D. Students From L to R: Pierre Leon, Staci Johnson, Nicole Cantor, Krista Herbert, Jannette Garriga, Sheina Emrani, Emily Connovich, Andrew Abdallah and Alex Jaffe

Doctoral students will have numerous opportunities during their graduate studies to work in healthcare settings. Students in their second year will complete clinical rotations in the University Wellness Center, as part of both the mental and physical health programs. Training in both of these areas prepares students for research and practice in both academia and health care settings, including integrating behavioral health into primary care. Furthermore, our students can conduct research with the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center site, New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging, and others.

The program's first class began last fall and are projected to graduate from the five-year program in 2021. "We have a great program taught by great faculty with great leadership," commented Dr. Georita Frierson, who is the Director of Clinical Training for the Ph.D. program.

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Departments

- Biological Sciences
- Biomedical & Translational Sciences
- Chemistry & Biochemistry
- Computer Science
- Mathematics
- Physics & Astronomy
- Psychology
- School of Health Professions
- Health & Exercise Science
- Nursing

CSM Welcomes the First Class of Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Students

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“We’re so happy to be part of CSM and a research university with two medical schools. In just a few years, Rowan’s name will be even stronger than it is now, and I hope our graduates can be one of the reasons for success.”

Students undergo a rigorous five-year program that includes research, clinical experience and completing a full-time, competitive internship in a placement other than Rowan. While classes and clinical experiences alternate during the week, Dr. Frierson also ensures that students enjoy their time at Rowan in and out of the classroom.

“Our students work incredibly hard. Every hour, every minute, every second they work to have a better portfolio or resume to guarantee a top internship.”

The Psychology Department is excited to welcome these students because they will inevitably enhance the academic environment for our undergraduate and master’s students.

Nursing Undergraduates Travel to UN for Health Conference

It was not a typical field trip for Rowan Nursing students who visited the United Nations recently. Sure they experienced the usual traffic-burdened ride into New York City. And, yes, they toured the world-renowned institution. But Dr. Marian Nowak (Assistant Professor, Nursing, School of Health Professions) and 12 RN-BSN Nursing students trekked north to participate in a very unusual experience: they presented at the United Nations.

Dr. Nowak is a New York Non-Governmental Organizations United Nations delegate to the UN Economic and Social Council. She is also on the executive board of the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS). Dr. Nowak is one of just seven nurses from around the globe who have consulting status with the UN. She joins her colleagues in representing about 45 countries meeting four times a year to assess and make recommendations about global health issues.

During Dr. Nowak’s most recent visit, students from her Community & Global Health class presented to other nurses and universities on sustainable goals for the world as part of the UN’s work to create solutions for world health problems.

Rowan students presented on topics they had researched, including poverty, human rights, health and well-being, and justice. Their presentation, given under the auspices of the UN Department of Public Information, meshed with the class’ objectives on serving people by addressing health problems on a community basis. Faculty and students from New York University, Rutgers University, and Drexel University attended the Rowan students’ presentations.

Though they were the teachers for the day, the Rowan students also learned an overriding lesson. “It’s possible as a nurse to influence global health issues and to be an advocate for nurses worldwide,” said Nowak. Nowak added, “The United Nations decides on issues for the world, and they provide funds to implement global health programs.”

Anne Domico, Ann Grasso, Maureen Mason, and Diana Hart, all students in the RN-BSN program, presented on the UN Sustainable Development Goal 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All, focusing on Africa. Of the opportunity, the Westville resident who is about halfway through the RN-BSN program said, “It gave me a bigger picture of the world and world health and world sustainable goals. And going with my professor who is a delegate, that was really exciting. I felt like it gave us special privileges. We got to visit the General Assembly room. It was a very good experience.”

RN-BSN students Karla Perez and Kim Pearson presented on Goal 3: Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-Being for All at All Ages. Focusing on Ecuador, the team explored the issue of the lack of education about vaccinations and medications for communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries. Perez, nursing director at Epic Health Services, North Brunswick stated, “It was an absolutely amazing experience. That was probably one of the most memorable experiences I am going to have in my nursing career. Dr.

Nowak always affords us very good opportunities, exposing us to many different avenues for professional and personal growth. Nevertheless, this was an unforgettable moment I never imagined I would have the privilege to be a part of.”



Rowan University students with Dr. Nowak in the United Nations Conference Room

CSM and Computer Science Host CyberCrime Seminar

The College of Science & Mathematics hosted a cyber security seminar, “CyberCrime: Facts, Threats, and Countermeasures,” on Dec. 13. The program was designed especially for the legal, medical and financial industries and included live hacking demonstrations to provide insight into the many ways hackers prey on victims.

Attendees learned the latest cyber-attack trends and targets, how to identify malicious email and websites and the steps needed to implement immediately to counter such attacks to keep data safe. The event was open to all Rowan students and faculty and offered continuing education credits to professionals in the field.

Speakers included representatives from the NJ Cybersecurity & Communications Integration Cell for the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, the FBI, the NJ State Police Cyber Crimes Unit and Avasek (IT consulting firm).

“The seminar was a terrific event that gave attendees, many of whom were students, an opportunity to learn about practical aspects of cyber security as well as cyber crimes that the NJ State Police and the FBI deal with on a day-to-day basis,” comments Vasil Hnatyshin, chair of the Department of Computer Science

David Humphreys, adjunct professor in computer science, was instrumental in organizing the seminar. His expertise as president of Avasek guided discussions and networking throughout the five-hour event.

“After working with Lockheed Martin and various government agencies during my time in the Army, I realized a lot of small- to medium-sized businesses in the private sector didn’t have anyone to advise them on security issues. To fill this niche, I started Avasek,” Humphreys explained.

“I’m very appreciative to Rowan University for hosting this event. I really enjoy promoting awareness and education about cybersecurity, and to be able to fuse my students with my professional contacts is really a treat.”



Professor David Humphreys Speaks At Cybercrime Seminar

Physics Students Participate in Cu²MiP Conference in Maryland

On Oct. 7, five students traveled to the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) Conference for Undergraduate Underrepresented Minorities in Physics (CU²MiP). The three-day conference aimed to address the under representation of minorities in the physics community. It provided attendees information about future education and careers in physics while fostering an inclusive environment that helped minority students better understand their roles as part of a larger physics community.

Taylor Douglas, sophomore physics major, states that the conference remains one of her best experiences at Rowan. “The CU²MiP conference made me appreciate physics more by introducing me to the amazing opportunities the profession has to offer,” said Douglas.

CU²MiP incorporated a range of activities into the program to diversify the experience. Students networked with each other and professionals, learned from keynote speakers, worked through problems in workshops and breakout sessions, and toured laboratories. Rowan University’s Associate Professor, Dr. Tabbetha Dobbins traveled with the students to NIST and was also part of the conference program. Dr. Dobbins gave a presentation on the last day of the conference.

“I enjoyed sharing my experiences as a woman of color faculty member with the attendees. I also loved sharing my perspective as one of the few Black women professors in Physics departments within the U.S.”

All attendees agreed the conference was not only educational, but inspiring. Dobbins walked away with advice she’ll remember forever from Freeman Hrabowski, the president of University of Maryland-Baltimore County: “The way you think about yourself shapes who you will be and who society will be in the future. Your dreams and your values determine your future.”



From Left to Right: Taylor Douglas, Jared Clark, Dondre Reed, Kevin Parrott and Tabbetha Dobbins, Ph.D.

Improving Drug Development and Rethinking Scientific Data

Highlight The Fall Dean's Distinguished Speakers Series



Dr. Ulo Palm Presents About Challenges of Modern Medical Research

In the fall semester, the College of Science & Mathematics hosted Dr. Ulo Palm and Dr. Dana Vanderwall as speakers in the Dean's Distinguished Speakers Series.

On Sept. 30, Dr. Palm, Senior Vice President and Global Head of Drug Development Operations with Allergan Pharmaceuticals, participated in a faculty roundtable, visited with students, and presented a seminar titled, "Challenges of modern medical research in a changing world and the importance of personal and performance excellence."

Dr. Palm emphasized that the world is changing so rapidly that we often do not notice how quickly it is changing. Some experts believe that we will see more changes in the next five years than we have seen in the last twenty. Medical research is not immune to these developments and is becoming increasingly complex. There is exponential complexity in medicine, so how does society deal with the rapid

growth and complexity? According to Dr. Palm, the solution includes technology, teamwork, and excellence.

Dr. Palm's strategies to cut drug development time and costs through rigorous quality control and technology stem from his more than 26 years in the pharmaceutical industry. Dr. Palm has an M.D. with specialties in Internal Medicine, Neurology, and Surgery, as well as an MBA and a major in Information Technology/Computer Science.

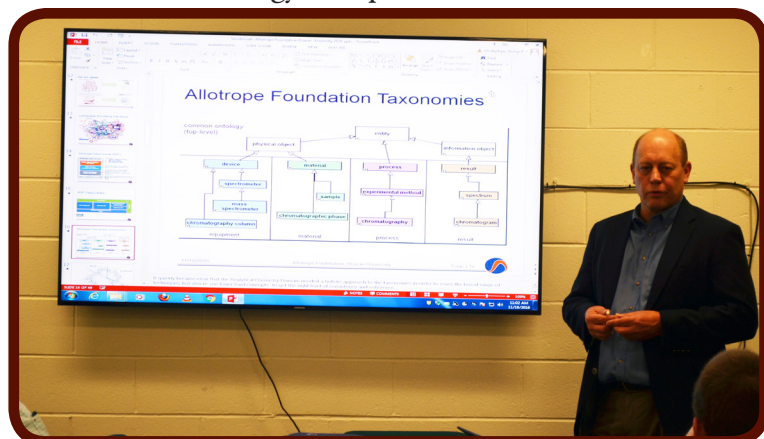
"You cannot have organizational excellence without personal excellence," said Dr. Palm. He encouraged students to enhance work experience by developing other career-advancing skills. Candidates with knowledge in finance are able to better understand the financial health of projects, while those with experience in data analytics and statistics are currently some of the most sought-after job candidates.

On Nov. 18, Dr. Vanderwall, Director of Biology and Preclinical Information Technology with Bristol-Myers Squibb presented a seminar titled, "Rethinking Scientific Data." Dr. Vanderwall has twenty years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry as an IT professional and scientist with expertise in Computational Chemistry, Cheminformatics, Computational and Structural Biology, Biochemistry, and Molecular Biology.

Dr. Vanderwall presented his experiences with the Allotrope Foundation, an international association of pharmaceutical and biotech companies which are dedicated to building a "framework" in laboratories to "improve efficiency in data acquisition, archiving, and management."

Dr. Vanderwall discussed the current status of scientific data and how researchers can improve on the comprehensiveness of the data we collect. He emphasized that science needs, "a consistent way to record what we observe so we can share our findings with others so they can review, leverage and repeat our work."

Dr. Vanderwall also talked about how automated "smart" labs can provide the research enterprise with more precise, integrated data that is highly sharable and scalable. He emphasized the importance of semantics in data analytics to facilitate better data management and integration as well as more precise reporting.



Dr. Dana Vanderwall Speaks With Students About The Allotrope Framework

Weather Doesn't Dampen Homecoming Festivities

The College of Science & Mathematics' tent on College Corner for Homecoming 2016 was a hit, despite the overcast skies! From reptiles to science experiments, computer demonstrations and more, current students and alumni visited the tent to celebrate "Proflympics" with CSM.

Attendees were able to pet reptiles that were either native to New Jersey, such as the Eastern Hognose, or introduced as invasive species, like the Italian Wall Lizard. Members of the Biology Club were there to handle the reptiles and educate the crowd about each of the critters.



Chemistry students demonstrate an experiment on College Corner

Students from Rowan's chapter of the American Chemical Society also entertained

the crowd by making "elephant toothpaste," which is a foamy mixture caused by the quick breakdown of hydrogen peroxide. The ingredients were mixed together by students, causing a foamy reaction that looked similar to toothpaste coming out of a large tube.

The Physics Club showcased equilibrium and momentum, inviting participants to participate in an angular momentum demonstration. Guests chose to use either weights to propel or slow their speed on a spinning stool or a bicycle wheel that would change the direction in which they were spinning.

In addition, representatives from the Computer Science Department displayed several video games and projects that were developed by current students, while the Psychology Department invited visitors to participate in a "rubber hand illusion" that led guests to perceive that a fake hand was really a functional, feeling limb. Some guests at the tent even walked away with their very own creations, having made origami with faculty members from the Department of Mathematics.



President Houshmand takes a moment to pet a reptile with a Rowan student

New Faculty

As Rowan University continues to grow, so does Rowan CSM! We welcomed 12 new faculty to the college.

Mary Alpaugh - Biomedical & Translational Sciences/
Biological Sciences

Anthony Breitzman - Computer Science

Benjamin Carone - Biological Sciences

Dustin Fife - Psychology

Daniel Freidenreich - Health & Exercise Science

James Grineas - Chemistry & Biochemistry

Shen-Shyang Ho - Computer Science

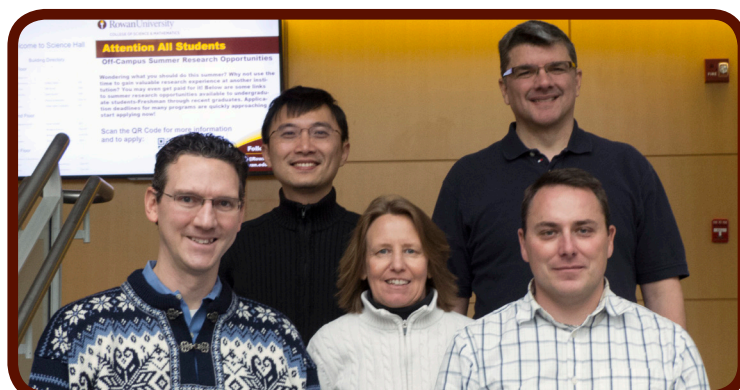
Jeffrey Greeson - Psychology

Nicole Vaughn - Health & Exercise Science

Min Wang - Mathematics

Robert Weaver - Health & Exercise Science

Robert White - Nursing



Front L to R: Jeffrey Greeson, Mary Alpaugh and Benjamin Carone
Back Row L to R: Shen-Shyang Ho and Anthony Breitzman

CS Introduces Three Certificates of Undergraduate Study

This fall, the College of Science & Mathematics has introduced three new Computer Science Certificate of Undergraduate Studies (CUGS), which consist of four courses in designated areas of computer science. According to professors Jack Myers, Vasil Hnatyshin, and Chia Chien, the CUGS are a great way to officially receive a certification in an area of focus without the rigors of a full major or minor in Computer Science. All certificate programs consist of four courses in a designated area of Computer Science and are available to both matriculated and non-matriculated students.

The first CUGS is Fundamental Computing. This CUGS is targeted towards students with majors outside of the computer science department and no previous knowledge with computing technologies is required. The purpose of this CUGS is to allow students to be more marketable by teaching key computing skills that can apply to many industries. The Fundamental Computing CUGS will give students a general understanding to programming, mobile applications, web system, networks, and security.

The second CUGS is Computer Programming. This CUGS is geared towards students with majors outside of the computer science department with an interest in programming. They must have strong analytical and logical skills. The purpose of this CUGS is to enhance students' technical skills and programming abilities by allowing students to analyze problems, understand requirements, develop algorithms, and implement solutions using computer programming.

The final CUGS is Mobile App Development. This CUGS is targeted towards students in any major who want to learn about the technology of mobile applications. They must have strong analytical and logical skills. The purpose of this CUGS is to give students experience with mobile application development, including user interface design, permissions and security, graphics, and video resources.

According to Myers, Hnatyshin, and Chien, "Computers have influenced and transformed literally every aspect of our lives and in order to become successful one must understand how technology works. Students within any field will benefit tremendously by completing one or more of the CS Edge CUGS."

For more information, please contact cs@rowan.edu

CSM Offers Accelerated Degrees

The College of Science & Mathematics offers Accelerated Programs for motivated, high-achieving students. These programs give students the opportunity to complete both a master's and bachelor's degree in five years instead of the traditional six. Seven-year medical degree programs that allow students to earn a medical and bachelor's degree in seven years rather than the traditional eight also are available.

"These programs are great for high achieving students who want both a bachelor's and master's degree or a bachelor's and professional degree," said Dr. Suzanne Bausch, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Affairs in CSM. "They really address the affordability pillar of a Rowan education by shaving up to a year of time and tuition off of earning the final master's or professional degree."

The current five-year accelerated programs offered through CSM include: a Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Science with either a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry or Biochemistry; a Master of Science and a Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics; a Master of Science and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science; a Master of Arts in Mathematics with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics; and a Master of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, Bioinformatics, Biological Sciences, Biophysics, or Translational Biomedical Sciences. CSM partners with the Rowan Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) for the Master of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology

The current seven-year medical programs offered through CSM include: a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, or Biophysics. A seven-year program leading to a Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering is offered through the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering. CSM and the College of Engineering partner with the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) for the Doctor of Medicine degree and the Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOM) for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree.

Rowan also partners with other institutions for seven-year medical degree programs in Podiatric Medicine, Dental Medicine, and Optometry.

For more information about the accelerated programs through CSM, please visit rowan.edu/colleges/csm/departments.

Student Spotlight: Justin Seay, '16 (Chemistry)

Justin Seay, a senior Chemistry major from Bridgeton, NJ, will be taking to the seas in a submarine upon his graduation in May as a participant in the Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate (NUPOC) Program with the United States Navy. Seay applied to the NUPOC program after receiving an e-mail from a recruiter during his junior year and a rigorous application process including two rounds of interviews, obtaining security clearance, and traveling to San Diego to see the submarine where he will potentially be stationed.

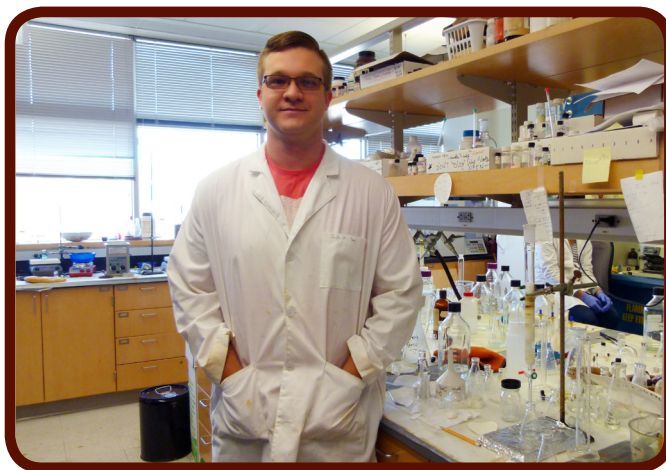
In high school, Seay applied for the Naval Academy and didn't get in, but a career with the Navy has always been in the back of his mind. While at Rowan, Seay has worked with Associate Professor Subash Jonnalagadda extensively, doing research, working on his resume, and publishing a paper.

Seay enjoys working with the passionate professors in his program at Rowan, which has prepared him for the road ahead. "They love the subject they're teaching and they want you to love it, too," said Seay. "It makes it easier when you're studying; you want to do well because they love it so much."

"Justin has been an amazing asset to my research lab for the past two years," said Jonnalagadda. He is a quick learner and was able to contribute to the research projects in a very meaningful way. He presented the research that he performed at Rowan in multiple American Chemical Society conferences and he is also a co-author on a scientific manuscript. I am very proud to have him in my research group."

In the NUPOC program, which students apply to while in college, those accepted are guaranteed a job after graduation. Participants in the program have to check in monthly and do physicals. While in school, their focus is on their technical undergraduate degree they are enrolled in – a requirement of the NUPOC program. Seay has spent his time focusing on his chemistry program while at Rowan.

After completion of the NUPOC program, Seay will attend Officer Candidate School (OCS). Once he has completed OCS, he will continue nuclear and engineering schooling on a submarine.



Nine Externally Funded Projects Were Awarded During the Fall 2016 Semester

Mary Alpaugh (Associate Professor, Biology/BTS), 'Preclinical analysis of MAD28 in inflammatory breast cancer,' (Sub-award from University of California – San Diego)

Anthony Breitzman (Assistant Professor, Computer Science) "Collaborative Research Projects" (ASRC Federal Missions Solutions Engineering)

Subash Jonnalagadda (Associate Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry) "Synthesis of Pharmaceutical Compounds" (Avante Pharmaceuticals)

Jennifer Kay (Professor, Computer Science) "Funding to Establish a Rowan University Women in CS Club" (National Center for Women Information Technology)

Karen Magee-Sauer (Dean & Professor, Physics & Astronomy) "PhysTEC Comprehensive Site at Rowan University" (PhysTEC Coalition)

Gustavo Moura-Letts (Assistant Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry) "Indole Alkaloids from Peruvian Medicinal Plants for the Treatment of Malaria" (Sysra Corporation)

Peter Rattigan (Associate Professor, Health & Exercise Science) "Parent/Teen Driving Orientation Program" (State Farm)

Uma Thayasivam (Associate Professor, Mathematics) "Software Development Project" (Bristol Myers Squibb)

Tricia Yurak (Associate Dean & Associate Professor Psychology) "Supporting Women Inspiring a New Generation of Scientists (WINGS)" (American Association of University Women)

2015-16 College of Science & Mathematics/School of Health Professions Honor Roll

We would like to thank all of the donors that contributed during the 2015-16 academic year (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016). Donations from alumni, parents, and friends are integral to providing exceptional opportunities to our CSM/SHP students.

Alumni, Parents, Retirees, Faculty, Staff, and Friends

Anonymous (2)

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Paul and Diana Vallandingham
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College of Science & Mathematics 40 Under 40

Six CSM alumni were featured in the University's 40 under 40, which included 40 alumni under the age of 40. These six individuals not only made an impact while they were on campus, but have continued to make an impact in their chosen field.

Shaun T.

38 | B.A. Health & Exercise Science '01 Motivational fitness expert & host

It's INSANITY. How else do you describe how Shaun T (now Shaun Thompson Blokker) turned the freshman 15—actually, 50—into a phenomenal career as an international fitness expert, motivator and host? When he hit the Rowan Rec Center to drop some weight, Shaun T found his calling in helping others to get in shape through movement and motivation, dance and fun.

The founder of the successful Hip Hop Abs and INSANITY workouts, Shaun T has sold more than 10 million workout DVDs since 2007. His workouts now stream to a half-million viewers on demand. Whether he's leading live self-coined "ShaunTervention" events or providing motivation and inspiration via his "Trust and Believe With Shaun T" podcast, Shaun T focuses on changing people's lives.

In addition to his workout videos, he also has footwear, clothing and prepared food lines. Shaun T married Scott Blokker, president and chief operations officer of Shaun T, Inc., in 2012. "The outer body, what we look like, definitely has an impact on who we are," Shaun T told Rowan students during an impassioned speech on campus. "I want your inner core to thrive, too."

Chad Mire

39 | B.S. Biology '02

Assistant professor, Galveston National Laboratory, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Texas Medical Branch

When Dr. Chad Mire dresses for work, it's in a positive pressure suit—"our space suits," he says—with a HEPA filter hooked up to an air hose. Such precautions are critical to Mire: he's conducted research on Ebola since 2008.

A virology class with Dr. Joanne Scott at Rowan triggered the biology graduate's interest in viruses. After earning his Ph.D. in molecular sciences at University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, he's studied several other Biosafety Level 4 viruses—those for which there are no approved vaccines or therapeutics—in Boston and Texas. "We know we have things that work against Ebola," says Mire.

Indeed, a vaccine he helped assess the safety of proved 100-percent effective when administered within 10 days to West Africans exposed to others who had the virus. "That was such a thrilling moment when we learned that."

Brian Seaman

35 | B.S. Physics '03, B.S. Mathematics '03

Director of engineering for data science, Walmartlabs

The average Walmart shopper might not think there's a connection between ultracold atomic physics and the low prices they've come to expect. But there is one. His name is Brian Seaman.

Having graduated from Rowan, Seaman earned a Ph.D. in physics at the University of Colorado, Boulder. After writing a dissertation focused on the abstract field of ultracold atomic physics—artificially chilled, slow-moving particles—he considered a career in academia. Instead, Seaman turned to industry.

As director of engineering for data science at Walmartlabs, Walmart's San Bruno, Calif.-based technology division, Seaman leads a Silicon Valley team of product managers, engineers and data scientists to help shape the Walmart shopping experience online and in person across areas like inventory management, customer preferences, and of course, pricing. "These things are all very math, science and data driven," he says.

Seaman, who married alumna Rachel Specht (chemical engineering '13), has been with Walmart for about five years. A San Francisco resident, he also is a competitive ultradistance runner and trains up to 50 miles a weekend for a 100-mile race.

Working at Walmartlabs fits a career goal of trying to help people, Seaman says. "At Walmart, they really try to live by the motto 'save money, live better,'" he says. "Even with products like organic food. It's generally expensive, but when a company like Walmart gets behind the organic food trend, they can make a difference in making it affordable."

Jolene Hernandez
30 | B.A. Psychology '12
Global dance teacher

There's something there. Whether she's in Malaysia or New York, Jolene Hernandez can feel it. "Dance," she says, "transcends language."

Hernandez saw that firsthand when she established dance classes in her school in Kuala Rompin, Malaysia, as part of her 2013-14 Fulbright Program English teaching assistantship. She watched teens gain confidence—and a means of self-expression—as they grooved to Taylor Swift.

She formed Dance With Me, a program that offers dance workshops in Malaysia. In between working as an activities specialist at Harlem RBI, a nonprofit youth program where she also teaches dance, Hernandez does her own fundraising to travel to Malaysia each year.

Last year, she offered 15 dance workshops in Malaysia. This fall, she'll return to expand the program and explore avenues to create "cross cultural dance exchanges" between students in New York and Malaysia. She's looking to establish a dance video pen pal exchange program. "They would learn about each other's cultures and see that dance really is their common language," says Hernandez.

Nafisa Soeltan
35 | B.A. Psychology '13, M.B.A. Management Information Systems '15
Senior consultant, HighPoint Solutions, Philadelphia

English is not her first language, and America is not her first country, but Nafisa Soeltan is flourishing in both. From Rotterdam, the Netherlands, but raised largely in Suriname, a former Dutch colony in South America, Soeltan arrived in the U.S. with a degree from Inholland University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands and, after completing studies at Rowan, set out to make her mark in America.

At HighPoint Solutions, a multinational consulting firm, Soeltan works with life science and health care clients to ensure that business processes are operating at peak efficiency through the support and implementation of complex communication systems.

She is a frequent traveler for business and pleasure, has family in the Netherlands, Suriname, and Aruba, and speaks six languages: Dutch, English, Spanish, French, German, and Surinamese. "Fate brought me to America and I'm so glad it did," she said. "In America, there's a feeling that everything is possible. There is always a creative way to figure out a solution."

Julia England
24 | B.A. Education '13, B.A. Math/Science Liberal Studies '13
Special education teacher

When the mood hits her, Julia England transforms her cane into a limbo stick in the hallways of Westampton Middle School. "Sometimes, I make my students limbo under it," chuckles England, who teaches special education students in fifth through eighth grades. "I'm pretty open with my students about my health problems."

Diagnosed with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome, an extraordinarily painful nerve condition, England in recent years has gone from being wheelchair bound to using a walker to now using a cane. Upbeat and ebullient, she has learned to walk three times.

"I figured out by going through some of the tough things in my life that teaching special education is what I need to do. It's my purpose," notes England, whose students include those with ADHD, dyslexia, autism, and schizophrenia.

She hopes her determination encourages her students to work through their own challenges. "It's easy to kind of give up. But it's more rewarding to get it done."



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Spring Events at Edelman Planetarium and The College of Science & Mathematics

Planetarium Observatory Open House
Thursday, February 2 - 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
(Back up date is 2/3)

Planetarium Program:
Cosmic Castaways
Sundays at 3 p.m. from
January 6 - April 9

Planetarium Family Show:
Secret of the Cardboard Rocket
Sunday, February 5 - 2 p.m.

Deans Distinguished Speaker Series,
Dr. Barbara Anderson
Friday, February 24 - 2 p.m.

Planetarium Family Show:
Zula Patrol: Under the Weather
Sunday, March 5 - 2 p.m.

Planetarium Observatory Open House
Saturday, March 6 - 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
(Back up date is 3/7)

Psychology Research Conference
Friday, April 7

Dean's Outstanding Seniors
Award Ceremony
Tuesday, April 18 - 5 p.m.

STEM Symposium
Friday, April 21

Philadelphia Science Festival:
Explorer Sunday
Sunday, April 23

Philadelphia Science Festival:
Citywide Star Party
Friday, April 28

College of Science & Mathematics
Commencement
Thursday, May 11 - 2 p.m.

School of Health Professons
Commencement
Friday, May 12 - 10 a.m.

The Scope

Fall 2016

Karen Magee-Sauer
Tricia Yurak
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Eve Sledjeski

Dean
Associate Dean
Associate Dean
Assistant Dean

Dan Drutz
Craig Terry
Katarina DeFelice
Catherine Baxter
Michele Gallagher
Patricia Quiqley

Editor & Designer
Photographer
Writer
Writer
Writer

Contact:
856-256-4850 | 856-256-4921 fax
www.rowan.edu/csm

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Send suggestions and comments to:
College of Science & Mathematics
c/o Editor - The Scope
Rowan University
201 Mullica Hill Road
Glassboro, NJ 08028-1701
or email csm@rowan.edu



@RowanCSM