


Documents and Photos Related to Livingston College's 50th Anniversary and Beyond

- *Additional information on the documentation of Livingston College's history*
- *Livi at 50 and other celebrations of Livingston College's history*

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Livingston College, the Livingston Alumni Association, Rutgers University Libraries, and other Rutgers partners have started several projects to document the history of the college and of the anniversary celebrations.

These projects and documents include:

Livi at 50: A Celebration of Livingston College's 50th Anniversary

This curated selection of archival materials and event documentation capture moments from the special event "Livi at 50." Held at the James Dickson Carr Library on Livingston Campus on October 25, 2019, it was hosted by Rutgers University–New Brunswick Libraries and the Livingston Alumni Association. Reproductions of the historical materials were used in an exhibition on display at the event. Also includes many photos from the event. 

New Digital Collection: Livi at 50: A Celebration of Livingston College's 50th Anniversary: Rutgers University Libraries article on the digital collection.


Livi@50: A celebration of Livingston College's 50th anniversary: Commemorative program from the Oct. 25, 2019, event (8 pages, PDF).

Libraries, Alumni Celebrate Livingston College's 50th Anniversary: Rutgers Universities Libraries article (Nov. 13, 2019) on the Oct. 25, 2019, event.

Twitter: Livi at 50: Photos and tweets celebrating the college's 50th anniversary and commemorating the Oct. 25, 2019, event, based on the hashtag #livi50.

Pfaff, L. G. (2019, December 18). Keeping the Rutgers' Livingston story alive 50 years after the trailblazing college opened. *Rutgers Focus*.

An article on the history of Livingston College, with a focus on history preservation projects by the Livingston Alumni Association, Rutgers University Libraries, and the Rutgers Oral History Archives.

 Siederer, M. (2020, Spring/Summer). Livingston at 50: Celebrating the college built on 'Strength Through Diversity'. *1766 [alumni magazine]*, 37(1), 14-19. [Full text online]

When Livingston College welcomed its first students in September 1969, many of the campus' buildings, sidewalks, and landscaping were still under construction, with piles of mud throughout, giving rise to the original name of the student newspaper: The Mud Pile. Between 1969 and 2010, when Livingston had its final commencement, the Piscataway-based college was a hub of innovation for Rutgers University. Livingston adopted the slogan "Strength Through Diversity," which is now a foundation of the overall Rutgers University experience.

[Great Expectations: Writings on Livingston College History](#)

Livingston College's innovations in academics, student life and governance, especially in its early years, have been the topic of multiple published articles, both popular and scholarly. Here is a selected bibliography:

Clemens, P. G. E., & Yanni, C. (2016). The early years of Livingston College, 1964–1973: Revisiting the "college of good intentions." *The Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries*, 68(2), 71-114. [Full text online]

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Abstract: Livingston College was planned in the late 1960s and opened in fall 1969 as part of Rutgers University-New Brunswick/Piscataway. Ernest Lynton, its first dean and chief architect, envisioned a college that emphasized interdisciplinary studies, that had a faculty and student body who would carry

what was learned in the classroom into the community, that would empower students to shape the college and their own education, and that would recruit significant numbers of new students from historically disadvantaged minority groups. This “college of good intentions” fell short of Lynton’s hopes. This article examines why this happened, but also seeks to illustrate the many ways the hopes for educational reform embodied in the college’s design foreshadowed what many universities, including Rutgers, would accomplish in the future.



Hann, C. (2012, Spring). Great expectations. *Rutgers Magazine*, 92(2), 50-55. [Full text online]

“More than 40 years ago, at the height of the Vietnam War, a bold experiment in higher education got under way at Rutgers. It was called Livingston College. During its formative years, the college’s ideals—from its progressive curriculum to its goal of serving underrepresented students—attracted distinguished faculty from top universities and ushered in the diversity that today is a hallmark of Rutgers.”

This article details and celebrates the history of Livingston College, which was one of Rutgers-New Brunswick’s undergraduate units from 1969 to 2007. A sidebar article details the transformation of the Livingston campus “into a state-of-the-art center for business and professional education.”

Hidalgo, H. (1973). No one model American: A collegiate case in point. *The Journal of Teacher Education*, 24(4), 294-301. [Excerpts from the article]

Abstract: An examination of Livingston College at Rutgers as an example of some of the difficulties and successes in the implementation of the “No One Model American” statement.

Horowitz, I. L., and Feigenbaum, J. (1980, July). Experiment perilous: The first year of Livingston College of Rutgers University. *Urban Education*, 15(2), 131-168.

Abstract: Livingston College was established to provide a terminal social science program, particularly for lower-income minority students, though the majority of its students are Jewish and middle class. Despite efforts to make Livingston a model college, however, external social, racial, and economic variables cannot be controlled.


Siederer, M. (2020, Spring/Summer). Livingston at 50: Celebrating the college built on 'Strength Through Diversity'. *1766 [alumni magazine]*, 37(1), 14-19. [Full text online]

When Livingston College welcomed its first students in September 1969, many of the campus' buildings, sidewalks, and landscaping were still under construction, with piles of mud throughout, giving rise to the original name of the student newspaper: The Mud Pile. Between 1969 and 2010, when Livingston had its final commencement, the Piscataway-based college was a hub of innovation for Rutgers University. Livingston adopted the slogan "Strength Through Diversity," which is now a foundation of the overall Rutgers University experience.


Photos courtesy of Rutgers Magazine.

[Documentation of Livingston College History](#)

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- A short history of Livingston College, from its planning in 1965 to its final commencement in 2010, is available on another page on this site. 
- Several authors have written about Livingston College's history in both popular and scholarly works. See a selected bibliography.
- For a list of student yearbooks produced during Livingston College's history, including links to cover-to-cover online versions of the yearbooks, please see this page.

In addition to the yearbooks, handbooks, newspapers and other publications and documents from Livingston College, scanned by the Internet Archive, are available.

 Many of the materials are from the collection of Louis T. Economopoulos (pictured at left), a 1973 graduate of Livingston College.

- Kenneth Lew has included a few Livingston College documents within his

collection of publications and other documents on New Brunswick and Rutgers history. The Livingston College items are:

- * Livingston College – Admission to the University in New Brunswick, New Jersey (1971). (The 1969 and 1970 editions of the same document are available in LAA's collection hosted by the Internet Archive.)

- * To Members of the Class of 1983 (March 1, 1979)

- * Dear Freshman (May 12, 1979)

– Rutgers' Special Collections and University Archives (held within Alexander Library on the College Avenue campus in New Brunswick) holds numerous documents on Livingston College's history. Note that the documents themselves are available for review in person only at the library. Among the relevant Livingston College documents are:



- Records of the Office of the Dean of Livingston College, Ernest A. Lynton, 1965-1973
- Guide to the Walton R. Johnson Papers, 1949-2001
- Guide to the Rutgers Grass Roots – Progressive Activists Files, 1921-1993 (1979-1993, bulk)

– The Penn State University (PSU) Libraries website DOES offer online access to some documents related to Livingston College's history, via the Horowitz Transaction Publishers Archive.

In August 2006 the Historical Collections and Labor Archives (HCLA) division of the Special Collections Library of the PSU acquired the corporate archives of Transaction Publishers, a gift of Dr. Irving Louis Horowitz, chairman of the board of Transaction Publishers and the Hannah Arendt Distinguished University Professor (Emeritus), Department of Sociology, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

Top photo: A model showing the three Quads dorms and Tillett Hall. Frank Grad and Sons, Architects, 1965–70, photo dated April 20, 1966. The quads were reinterpretations of the quadrangular colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, broken up into smaller volumes along each side. The shape creates an intimate outdoor courtyard. Source: R-Photo, Buildings and Grounds, Box 33, Livingston College, Architectural Model folder, as published in the article, The early years of Livingston College, 1964–1973: Revisiting the “college of good intentions.” Courtesy of Rutgers University Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.

Center photo: Louis T. Economopoulos (LC'73), covering Rutgers lacrosse as a reporter for The Home News in 1973.

Bottom photo: Student playing pool at the Livingston student union, 1978. The current Livingston Student Center opened in 1986 and was expanded in 2010.

Tillett Hall was the previous home of student activities, including the dining hall and pub.