

# Livingston College Yearbooks

[Also see Alumni Memories; Deans' Reflections; Documentation of Livingston College History.]

Livingston College opened its doors in 1969. No yearbooks were produced for the graduating classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972, which included transfer students from other colleges.

*Livingston in the Retrospect, 1969-1973*, was published as a memento for the first full four-year graduating class in 1973. It included photos of students and organizations, plus letters from officials, though not photos of the graduating seniors.

The first traditional Livingston College yearbook was published in 1974.

In 2006, Livingston College admitted its final four-year cohort, the Class of 2010. The final Livingston College yearbook was published in 2007.

Several Livingston College yearbooks, as well as older yearbooks from other Rutgers colleges and schools [\* see note near bottom of page], are online and fully searchable through the Rutgers University Libraries (RUL) site.

Five Livingston College yearbooks are available through RUL:

- 1974, *We the People*
- 1977, *The Rock*, Volume II (includes photos of 1976 graduates)
- 1978, *The Rock*, Volume III
- 1980, *The Rock*, Volume IV (includes photos of 1979 graduates)
- 1981, *The Last*

















All of those yearbooks, plus many additional yearbooks, are available online through the Internet Archive as listed below. This project is made possible through financial support received from the Rutgers University Alumni Association.















There are no extra yearbooks available for purchase through Livingston Alumni Association or Rutgers University.

The following Livingston College yearbooks are available as listed below. The volume numbers are as listed in each publication, even though the volume numbers are inconsistent (with some numbers skipped, repeated, or going backward). Note that the yearbook title was not always printed on the cover. This page will be updated as information is received.

Quick table of available yearbooks (more detail below images):

| Year (link to info) | 1973 | 1974 | 1977 | 1978 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|

|  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Image (link to full text via Internet Archive) |    |    |    |    |
| Year (link to info)                            | 1980  | 1981  | 1982  | 1983  |
| Image (link to full text via Internet Archive) |    |    |    |    |
| Year (link to info)                            | 1984  | 1985  | 1986  | 1987  |
| Image (link to full text via Internet Archive) |  |  |  |  |
| Year (link to info)                            | 1988  | 1991  | 1992  | 1993  |
| Image (link to full text via Internet Archive) |  |  |  |  |
| Year (link to info)                            | 1994  | 1995  | 1996  | 1997  |

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Image (link to full text<br>via Internet Archive) |    |      |    |    |
| Year (link to info)                               | 1998  | 1999  | 2000  | 2001  |
| Image (link to full text<br>via Internet Archive) |    |      |    |    |
| Year (link to info)                               | 2002  | 2003  | 2004  | 2005  |
| Image (link to full text<br>via Internet Archive) |  |    |  |  |
| Year (link to info)                               |   | 2006  |   | 2007  |
| Image (link to full text<br>via Internet Archive) |   |  |  |   |

| Year | Title  | Available at Carr (Kilmer) Library<br>[** see note below] | Online links / Notes<br>(All listed yearbooks have been scanned by the Internet Archive. Several early yearbooks have also been scanned by Rutgers University Libraries.)  |
|------|--|---|--|
| 1970 | <i>Yearbook not published</i>                      | N/A   | N/A  |
| 1971 |  |   |  |
| 1972 |  |   |  |
| 1973 | <i>Livingston in the Retrospect, 1969-1973</i>     | no  | Internet Archive:  |
| 1974 | <i>We the People</i>                               | yes   | Rutgers University Libraries: :<br>Internet Archive:   |
| 1975 | <i>Yearbook not published</i>                      | no  | N/A  |
| 1976 | <i>Yearbook not published.</i>                     | no  | Photos of the Class of 1976 are included in the 1977 yearbook. See note below.   |
| 1977 | <i>The Rock, Volume II</i>                         | yes   | Rutgers University Libraries: :<br>Internet Archive:<br>Note: 1976 graduates are pictured on pages 22-31, and 1977 graduates are pictured on pages 204-244. (These page numbers correspond with the printed editions. The paging in the digital editions listed above is slightly different since the scanned files count every page, such as the cover, blank pages and index pages.) |
| 1978 | <i>The Rock, Volume III</i>                        | yes   | Rutgers University Libraries: :<br>Internet Archive:   |
| 1979 | <i>Yearbook not published.</i>                     | no  | Photos of the Class of 1979 are included in the 1980 yearbook. See note below.   |
| 1980 | <i>The Rock, Volume IV [lists "1979" on spine]</i> | yes   | Rutgers University Libraries: :<br>Internet Archive:<br>Note: 1979 graduates are pictured on pages 42-85, and 1980 graduates are pictured on pages 88-119. (These page numbers correspond with the printed editions. The paging in the digital editions listed above is slightly different since the scanned files count every page, such as the cover, blank pages and index pages.)  |
| 1981 | <i>The Last</i>                                    | yes   | Rutgers University Libraries: :<br>Internet Archive:   |
| 1982 | <i>The Rock: A Plateau for a New Beginning</i>     | yes   | Internet Archive:  |
| 1983 | <i>Strength Through Diversity</i>                  | yes   | Internet Archive:  |
| 1984 | <i>Strength Through Diversity</i>                  | yes   | Internet Archive:  |
| 1985 | <i>Senior Record</i>                               | no  | Internet Archive:  |
| 1986 | <i>The Experience</i>                              | yes   | Internet Archive:  |
| 1987 | <i>In Quest of Excellence</i>                      | yes   | Internet Archive:  |

|      |  |     |                   |
|------|--|-----|-------------------|
| 1988 | 1988 [Livingston College yearbook]                             | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1989 | <i>Yearbook not published</i>                                  | no  | N/A               |
| 1990 |  |     |                   |
| 1991 | <i>Diversity: Not Just a Generic College, Volume 1</i>         | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1992 | <i>Diversity: A Style of Our Own, Volume Two</i>               | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1993 | <i>Diversity: A Higher Form of Education, Volume Three</i>     | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1994 | <i>Diversity: So Much More to See, Volume IV</i>               | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1995 | <i>Diversity: Out to Change the World – 25th Anniversary</i>   | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1996 | <i>Diversity: All But a Memory</i>                             | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1997 | <i>Diversity: With the Passage of Time, Volume VII</i>         | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1998 | <i>Diversity: Memorable Reflections, Volume VIII</i>           | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 1999 | <i>Diversity: Livingston College Common Ground, Volume IX</i>  | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2000 | <i>Diversity: Livingston in the Millennium</i>                 | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2001 | <i>Diversity: Making Connections, Volume XI</i>                | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2002 | <i>Diversity: A College Tale, Volume XI</i>                    | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2003 | <i>Diversity: Roots of Knowledge, Volume XIII</i>              | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2004 | <i>Diversity: Eyes of the World, Volume 12</i>                 | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2005 | <i>Reflections: Reflect</i>                                    | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2006 | <i>Reflections: Changing Faces, Changing Places, Volume 14</i> | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2007 | <i>Reflections: Here Today</i>                                 | yes | Internet Archive: |
| 2008 | <i>Yearbook not published</i>                                  | N/A | N/A               |
| 2009 |  |     |                   |
| 2010 |  |     |                   |

\* RUL has also scanned yearbooks from other current and former colleges and schools of the university, specifically (listed from oldest to newest):

- Rutgers College (1871-1872, 1874-1875, 1877, 1888-1913)
- New Jersey State College of Agriculture (1913-1916, 1921)
- Douglass College (1922-1926)
- College of Pharmacy (1926, 1928-1929)
- Newark College of Arts and Sciences (1937-1940)
- Rutgers-Camden (1952-1956)


(Livingston Alumni Association is not involved in the archiving or scanning of the yearbooks from other colleges and schools. Please contact Erika Gorder with any questions or suggestions about any non-Livingston College yearbooks.)

\*\* Most yearbooks are available in the second-floor reference area of the Carr (Kilmer) Library, on Rutgers' Livingston campus in Piscataway, for in-person use only, under call number REFERENCE .

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## Jerome Aumente Remembered; Was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Founder of Livingston College's Department of Journalism and Urban Communications



With sadness, we join the Rutgers School of Communication & Information in announcing the passing of Jerome Aumente on February 13, 2023, after a long illness. 

Aumente was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Rutgers' School of Communication and Information (SC&I).

He was born on September 23, 1937, in Jersey City, New Jersey. He earned his undergraduate degree at Rutgers-Newark in 1959 and graduate degrees at the Columbia University School of Journalism and at Harvard University as a Nieman Fellow.

Aumente spent time in Europe and then worked for a decade at newspapers, including *The Detroit News*. He returned to Rutgers in 1969 to become a faculty member at Livingston College. At Livingston College, he founded and directed the Department of Journalism and Urban Communications, as well as the Urban Communications Teaching and Research Center.

He was the founding Director of the Journalism Resources Institute (JRI) and

was the founder and former Chairperson of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies. Both units are in the School of Communication and Information, one of the first interdisciplinary schools founded in the United States, which he helped design at the request of the university provost.

He was Special Counselor to the Dean of SC&I from 2000 to 2015. The Journalism Resources Institute conducted nearly \$5 million in projects, and trained over 14,000 print and broadcast journalists under his direction, with over \$2 million in media training and journalism projects in Central and Eastern Europe. The JRI under Aumente's leadership had special projects in international affairs, journalism, and mass communications, new media technologies, health, medical, and environmental coverage, media and law, evaluation of professional training of journalists, business, and financial journalism.

Aumente had extensive experience in the international training of journalists; joint curriculum development with universities internationally and in the United States; as a trainer in health communication, the internet and newer media technologies; investigative and enterprise reporting; and in business, economic, and financial reporting.

In 2011, the Livingston Alumni Association (LAA) honored Aumente with its Livingston Legacy Award. The award recognizes faculty and staff who played a key role in the establishment and growth of Livingston College and its mission, and who have contributed to the overall Rutgers and global communities.

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## Scarlet and Black Marker Confronts Legacy of William Livingston and His Family

A plaque installed in 2021 on the Livingston campus confronts the legacy of William Livingston, namesake of the campus and the former Livingston College, and his family, as people who enslaved other human beings.



Photos courtesy of Stephen Yanick

The two-sided marker has been placed on a prominent walkway on campus, between the Lynton North and South Towers residence halls and the Livingston Student Center.

The plaque reads:


*"Livingston Campus (site of former Livingston College) was named after William Livingston, the first governor of the state of New Jersey, whose family made a fortune trafficking human beings in the transatlantic slave trade. The campus opened in 1969 as an experimental, social-justice oriented campus at the site of Camp Kilmer, a World War II-era military camp. The Livingston family collectively enslaved hundreds of people and Williams' brothers, Philip and Robert, two of Rutgers' founding trustees, bought and sold hundreds more. When William Livingston moved to New Jersey, he enslaved at least two people, a woman named Bell and her son Lambert. Though he later advocated for gradual abolition, he continued to represent the legal interests of his slave-trading family's wealth throughout his career. This marker honors Bell, Lambert, and the other women, men, and children enslaved and sold by the Livingston family."*

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## About William Livingston

***Livingston: A Governor, a College, and the Long Echoes of Slavery at Rutgers online program held Jan. 18, 2022: More info or view the video.***

(Information on this page is condensed from text from Rutgers' Scarlet & Black Digital Archive.)

Livingston Campus was named after **William Livingston**, the first governor of the state of New Jersey after the American Revolution. 

The Livingston family was connected with Rutgers from the college's earliest days. William Livingston's brothers Philip and Robert Livingston were two of the original founding trustees of the school.

The Livingston family's wealth in the 18th century came largely from their roles as merchants and slave traders operating out of New York City. Founding trustee **Philip Livingston** traded slaves from Jamaica and Antigua and owned plantations in Jamaica. He also held black people in bondage in New York.

**William Livingston**, on the other hand, was torn between his family's slave trading and his belief that slavery was incompatible with the young American nation's ideals of freedom.

William Livingston called slavery "an indelible blot" upon humanity. As



governor of New Jersey, he opposed the slave trade and hoped to pass a gradual abolition program after the Revolution. He won a ban on the Atlantic slave trade in New Jersey in 1786 (22 years before the Atlantic slave trade became illegal nationwide). But he was not able to achieve abolition during his tenure as governor, because slaveholders who opposed Livingston's views held too much power in the New Jersey legislature.

William Livingston at one time enslaved at least two people, a woman named Bell and her son, Lambert, as noted on a plaque installed on the Livingston campus in 2021.

The plaque reads:

*"Livingston Campus (site of former Livingston College) was named after William Livingston, the first governor of the state of New Jersey, whose family made a fortune trafficking human beings in the transatlantic slave trade. The campus opened in 1969 as an experimental, social-justice oriented campus at the site of Camp Kilmer, a World War II-era military camp. The Livingston family collectively enslaved hundreds of people and Williams' brothers, Philip and Robert, two of Rutgers' founding trustees, bought and sold hundreds more. When William Livingston moved to New Jersey, he enslaved at least two people, a woman named Bell and her son Lambert. Though he later advocated for gradual abolition, he continued to represent the legal interests of his slave-trading family's wealth throughout his career. This marker honors Bell, Lambert, and the other women, men, and children enslaved and sold by the Livingston family."*

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Additional information and resources:

*Scarlet & Black Digital Archive: Livingston*

*Rutgers Confronts Ties to Slavery With New Historical Markers*

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## [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.

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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.

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 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.

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## [Programs Celebrating Livingston College's 50th Anniversary and Beyond](#)

*Information and links to documents and photos related to the 50-year anniversary of Livingston College.*

*Livingston Legacy Lectures (2009-2010)*

*Alumni Talks (Since 2021)*

The Livingston Alumni Association (LAA), in association with our partners within Rutgers University, has held multiple events and embarked on projects to celebrate and commemorate the 50+ years since Livingston College opened in 1969. These include events specifically related to the college's history.

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***Livi at 50: A Celebration of Livingston College's 50th Anniversary*** kicked off with a keystone event at the James Dickson Carr Library on Livingston campus on October 25, 2019. The event was co-presented by Rutgers University–New Brunswick Libraries and the LAA.

It featured a panel discussion of prominent Livingston alumni, a presentation of the Riki Jacobs Livingston Pride Award, and an exhibition from the University Archives of materials including yearbooks, photographs, and other artifacts that captured Livingston's evolution from its beginnings as the military base Camp Kilmer in the 1950s through the present day.

A panel discussion reflected this diversity, with alumni Noah Hart Jr. LC'73, GSED'88, Staci Berger LC'94, EJB/GSNB'04, and Robert W. Snyder, LC'77 all speaking about their formative years at Livingston and the impact the college had on them. In addition to the panel discussion and audience Q&A, student Eshan Kaul, SEBS'19, RWJMS'22, was named recipient of the 2019 Riki Jacobs Livingston Pride Award.

*Pictured: Hart, Snyder, and Berger.*

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## ***Livi at 50: A Remembrance of Livingston College: Latino Studies and the Livingston Panthers Sports Teams***

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Livingston College Panthers cheerleaders, circa 1970. Courtesy of Rutgers University Libraries.

Our April 22, 2021, “Livi at 50” online event celebrated the formation of the Latino Studies program and the history of the Livingston Panthers sports teams. Iris Martinez Campbell LC’75, SSW’81, moderated a discussion about the Latino Studies program with Margie Rivera LC’72 and Grizel Ubarry LC’74. LAA President Jeff Armus led a discussion about the Livingston Panthers with Lucille Lo Sapio LC’76, BernaDette Session LC’75, Dwight Williams, defensive coordinator of the Panthers, and Rick Williams LC’74, a member of the team. Watch a replay (58 minutes).

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## ***Livingston: A Governor, a College, and the Long Echoes of Slavery at Rutgers***

A historical marker on the Livingston campus, placed in 2021, explains its namesake William Livingston’s deep involvement in slavery and his halting efforts to abolish slavery as New Jersey’s first governor.

Video from ***Livingston: A Governor, a College, and the Long Echoes of Slavery at Rutgers*** (58 minutes)

In a virtual presentation held Jan. 18, 2022, Robert Snyder LC’77, a professor emeritus of journalism and American studies at Rutgers–Newark, talked with Jesse Bayker SGS’19, digital archivist for the Scarlet and Black Project at Rutgers–New Brunswick, who discussed Livingston’s life.

Brooke A. Thomas, an African American history doctoral candidate at Rutgers–New Brunswick, shared the importance of Livingston College to Rutgers, why it was created, and how activism was one of its important contributions to Rutgers. Thomas is also a co-author of the chapter “We the People: Student Activism at Rutgers and Livingston College, 1960–1985” in *Scarlet and Black, Volume 3*.

Livingston College graduates Snyder and Debra O’Neal LC’87 shared their experiences of educational innovation and campus activism from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s. The discussion ended with a question-and-answer forum.

This event was sponsored by the RUAA, the LAA, the School of Arts and Sciences, and the Rutgers Alumni Association.

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# Timeline of Livingston College and Livingston Campus

## Livingston College history (overview)

- 1964 Rutgers acquires 540 acres of the former Camp Kilmer base from the federal government. The base was named for Joyce Kilmer, a New Brunswick poet who was killed in action while serving in the New York National Guard during World War I.
- 1965 The Rutgers Board of Governors (BOG) names the first of three colleges planned on the Kilmer property, for William Livingston, who served as New Jersey's first governor from 1766 to 1790.
- 1965-1973 Ernest A. Lynton is the first Dean of Livingston College. Lynton led a number of curriculum innovations, including the establishment of majors in computer science, African-American studies, urban studies and comparative literature. He also started programs in city and regional planning, and anthropology at Livingston.
- 1969 Livingston College opens in September, with about 700 students. Nearly one in three students was a minority, and students were included as voting members of the college assembly. Students in the new Organization for Black Unity (OBU), with the college's permission, designated House 25 in the Quad II dormitory as the "Malcolm X house." Quads I and III were built but not yet open.
- 1970-1971 The college establishes intercollegiate men's baseball and football teams, as well as a cheerleading squad and a co-ed intramural baseball program.
- 1970 Tillett Hall opens in the spring as the college's main academic building, including a campus center and a dining hall. A student newspaper, The Medium, debuts in October. Previous campus newspapers were titled Mudslide, Fango, and General Motors.
- 1971 Livingston College students begin AM radio station. Kilmer Area Library opens.
- 1972 North and South Towers dorms open. New Academic Building (later named Lucy Stone Hall) opens.
- 1973 Livingston College graduates its first full four-year class of 500 students. The graduates are approximately 80% white, 15% black, 3% Puerto Rican, and 2% Asian.
- 1973-1974 George Warren Carey serves as Acting Dean of Livingston College. On Nov. 5, 1973, a group of black students takes over Carey's office. The students demanded the resignation of the dean of student affairs and a reconstitution of student services on campus. Four days later, 350 black, white and Puerto Rican Rutgers University students pack

- the BOG meeting to support the demands of Livingston's black students.
- 1974-1977 Emmanuel George Mesthene serves as Dean of Livingston College.
  - 1975-1976 Livingston College Association of Graduates (LCAG) is formed. Renamed as Livingston Alumni Association (LAA) in 1988.
  - 1977 Rutgers Athletic Center (RAC) opens with a men's basketball victory over rival Seton Hall. Today it is home to the Rutgers men's and women's basketball, wrestling, and gymnastics programs, as well as hosting other events. Renamed as Louis Brown Athletic Center in 1986, renamed back to RAC in 2019, and renamed Jersey Mike's Arena in 2021.
  - 1977-1990 W. Robert Jenkins serves as Dean of Livingston College.
  - 1980 The BOG merges the faculties of the liberal arts schools in New Brunswick into two main groups – the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Professional Studies. The reorganization largely mutes Livingston's academic autonomy.
  - 1986 Livingston Student Center (LSC) opens.
  - 1990-1993 Walton R. Johnson serves as Dean of Livingston College.
  - 1990 BOG renames Towers dorms for Lynton. The LAA honors its first Livingston Pride Award winner. The award continues to honor graduating seniors from Rutgers-New Brunswick colleges each year.
  - 1991 BOG votes to rename campus from "Kilmer" to "Livingston," ending a yearlong struggle by Livingston College students to strengthen their school's identity.
  - 1993-2007 Arnold G. Hyndman serves as the final Dean of Livingston College.
  - 1999 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, the first production of the Livingston Theatre Company, opens.
  - 2000 Livingston's radio station, RLC-WVPH (The Core), in partnership with Piscataway High School, begins broadcasting at 90.3 FM. The LAA honors its first four Livingston College Distinguished Alumni.
  - 2007 Rutgers merges Livingston, Rutgers, Douglass, and University colleges in New Brunswick into the School of Arts and Sciences, and Livingston College officially ends. Currently enrolled students are permitted to complete their degrees as Livingston graduates until 2010.
  - 2009 The LAA gives its first Livingston Legacy Awards to three faculty members.
  - 2010 A renovated and expanded LSC has a grand reopening. Livingston College holds its final commencement.
  - 2011 Livingston Dining Commons opens.
  - 2012 The Livingston Apartments open.
  - 2013 The Plaza, a retail center that includes a movie theater and several eateries, opens. The Rutgers Business School-New Brunswick building opens.
  - 2017 Kilmer Area Library renamed for James Dickson Carr, the first African-American graduate of Rutgers College.
  - 2019 RWJBarnabas Health Athletic Performance Center opens.

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## Felice C. Ronca, Assistant Dean for Curriculum at Livingston College, Remembered

Felice C. Ronca, who was assistant dean for curriculum at Rutgers University's Livingston College, died March 23, 1996, after a long illness. Ronca lived in Highland Park, New Jersey, at the time of her death. She had previously served as coordinator of the Livingston College Honors Program and the Paul Robeson Scholars Project. She also taught comparative literature at Douglass and Livingston colleges. A memorial service for Ronca was held at Rutgers' Kirkpatrick Chapel.

The following text appeared in the 1996 Livingston College Commencement program:

*This Twenty-Seventh Commencement Convocation is dedicated to the memory of  
Dean Felice C. Ronca*


*Dr. Felice C. Ronca served as Assistant Dean for Curriculum at Livingston College from 1994 to 1996, and from 1987 to 1994 she was the Coordinator of the Livingston College Honors Program and the Paul Robeson Scholars Project. During her tenure at Rutgers University, she also taught in the English and Comparative Literature departments, and was well known as a dynamic teacher who instilled in her students a passion for learning and intellectual exploration. She guided countless students through the College Honors Program, and assisted many more with her compassionate nature, keen wit, and brilliant ability to advocate for them. Dr. Ronca earned her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Rutgers University, and was the author of numerous articles on literary subjects, including the works of Virginia Woolf, Baudelaire, Ezra Pound, and Jacob Tonson. She is also the co-editor of a forthcoming book, entitled The Scholar's Art: A Festschrift for John O. McCormick. A memorial scholarship has been established in Dr. Ronca's name.*

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*Originally posted January 6, 2019  
Revised January 6, 2019*

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# Seth Dvorin, LC'02, Was Killed in Battle in Iraq; Distinguished Young Alumni Award Named for Him

U.S. Army Lt. **Seth Jeremy Dvorin**, a 2002 graduate of Livingston College at Rutgers University, was killed in battle near Iskandariyah, Iraq, on Feb. 3, 2004. 

An improvised explosive device (IED) killed Dvorin, age 24, while he was conducting counter-IED operations.


In 2004, Rutgers' Livingston Alumni Association created the Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award in his honor.

Dvorin had been assigned to Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, based at Fort Drum, New York.

 Dvorin's sister, Rebekah, told The Associated Press that the Army informed her that "Seth's unit had been ordered to clear the area of the homemade mines and bombs that have killed dozens of troops. ... They were in a convoy and saw something in the road. My brother, the hero, told his driver to stop. That's when the bomb detonated, when they were trying to dismantle it."

Dvorin earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration of Justice from Livingston College in 2002. Born in Freehold, New Jersey, he grew up in East Brunswick and South Brunswick, New Jersey. He graduated from South Brunswick High School, where he played football and baseball.

Dvorin traveled extensively, including to Europe and Israel. He loved animals and cars, especially Mustangs, and was an excellent cook. He had lived in Evans Mills, New York, at the time of his death.

Dvorin was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star for valor. He was buried in Marlboro Memorial Cemetery, Monmouth County, New Jersey. 

Surviving Dvorin were his wife, Kelly Harris Dvorin, whom he married on August 26, 2003, five days before leaving for Iraq; his mother, Sue Niederer, and her husband Greg; his father, Richard Dvorin, and his companion Ellen Sutton; his sister, Rebekah Dvorin, and her then-fiance, Walter Gruszka; his stepbrother, Joshua Dvorin; his paternal grandmother, Ruth Dvorin; his maternal grandfather, Jacob Sapir; and his uncles Gary Sapir and Howard Dvorin.

Dvorin's mother, Sue Niederer, has protested the Bush Administration for the US involvement in Iraq, and criticized Donald J. Trump for his insensitivity to Gold Star families who have lost family members in battle.



As of 2018 she continues to speak on behalf of the GI Go Fund, a national nonprofit organization that helps veterans find employment and secure education and health care benefits, and provides assistance to low-income and homeless veterans, according to a May 26, 2018, article from *My Central Jersey*. Friends of Dvorin founded the GI Go Fund in 2006.

Seth Dvorin's father, Richard Dvorin, a U.S. Air Force veteran, worked through his grief by volunteering for a phone hotline for veterans and their families.

Richard Dvorin also served as Past Commander for the Lt. Seth Dvorin Jewish War Veterans Post #972 in Marlboro, New Jersey, renamed for his son in 2004. Richard Dvorin died in 2013.

*Photos: Seth Dvorin; Dvorin with his mother, Sue Niederer; Dvorin with his wife, Kelly Dvorin.*

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## [Recording Livingston College's Oral History](#)

The Livingston Alumni Association (LAA) has partnered with the Rutgers Oral History Archives (ROHA) to record the narratives of alumni and others associated with the history of Livingston College. ROHA staff have recorded and transcribed interviews with the people listed below, chronicling their lives including their Livingston College experiences.

Note that interviews may have been conducted over multiple sessions, in which case there will be a transcript for each session.

The interviewees' contributions to the Alumni Memories section of the LAA website are also listed below.

### **ALUMNI:**

- Rosemary Agrista, LC'76
- Nddidi Amutah-Onukagha, LC'03 / (Livingston College Distinguished Alumna)
- Joseph Birish, LC'75 / *Music, Risk, Three-Eyed Frogs and Other Experiments: Life in Livingston College's House 15, Circa 1972-1975*
- Saskia Leo Cipriani, LC '04
- Nicholas Ferroni, LC '02 / (Livingston College Distinguished Alumnus)
- Patricia Graham, LC'72 (two sessions) / *Joyful Memories of Livingston College from a 1972 Alumna*
- Harry R. Knabe, LC'93
- Sue Kozel, LC '81, GSNB '85

- Eric Schwarz, LC'92, SCILS'07 (two sessions) / *Livingston College's Challenges at Age 21*
- Marty Siederer, LC'77
- James Simon, LC'74
- Robert W. Snyder, LC'77 (three sessions) / *Long Live Livingston* / (Livingston College Distinguished Alumnus)
- Mercedes Valle, LC '73
- Steven Walker, LC'86 / *Towering Memories: Livingston College Students Move In to Dorms on North Side of Campus*
- Steven Zurier, LC'76


#### **FACULTY MEMBERS:**

- Jerome Aumente, inaugural Director of Livingston College's Department of Journalism and Urban Communications / (2011 Livingston Legacy recipient)
- Michael R. Greenberg (two sessions)
- Allen M. Howard, a professor of African history at Livingston College (two sessions)
- Arnold Hyndman, Dean of Livingston College (two sessions)
- Peter Klein, Livingston College philosophy professor (four sessions)
- George Levine, inaugural Chairman of the English Department at Livingston College (three sessions)
- Peter Lindenfeld, Physics Faculty
- Gerald Pomper, inaugural Chairman of the Political Science Department at Livingston College (two sessions) / (2011 Livingston Legacy recipient)

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## **Jayceryll de Chavez, LC'99, Was Driven to Leave His Mark; Remembered with Dedication at Rutgers Business School Building**

On October 20, 2017, Rutgers Business School dedicated the South Tower of its building on the Livingston Campus to Jayceryll Malabuyoc de Chavez, an alumnus who died during the 9/11 terrorist attack at the World Trade Center. 

More than 100 guests assembled in the tower's foyer in front of a new plaque inscribed with details of de Chavez's life, a photo taken at his graduation,

and a portion of a steel beam from the ruins of the World Trade Center.

As a Livingston College student, de Chavez studied finance and economics. He was working as a portfolio analyst at Franklin Templeton's offices on the 95th floor of the World Trade Center's South Tower on September 11, 2001.

 He had graduated in 1999 from Rutgers' Livingston College and the Rutgers School of Business-New Brunswick.

De Chavez was a distinguished scholar who started two fraternities, Delta Chi and Alpha Kappa Psi, while he was at Rutgers.


Friends said that de Chavez, an immigrant from the Philippines, appreciated everything and was driven to succeed and to leave his mark.

A conference room and four reading rooms at the Carr Library, also on Livingston Campus, are named after de Chavez, and his family has created a \$1 million endowed scholarship and endowed excellence fund in his memory.

The professional business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi also awards a scholarship in his name.

Read more about de Chavez in a Rutgers Business School article on the 2017 South Tower dedication, by Susan Todd.

*Top photo by Lauren Guiliano, courtesy of Rutgers Business School.*

*Photo collage (clockwise from bottom left): Sign outside the conference room at Carr Library's ground (basement) level; de Chavez's portrait,  plaque (see below), and furnishings inside the conference room; one of the four study rooms in his honor on the library's second floor.*

*Top plaque: Every man believes in certain ideologies and life philosophies, it should be marked that Jayceryll M. de Chavez stood believing: "Experience is never limited, and it is never complete; it is an immense sensibility, a kind of huge spider-web of the finest silken-threads suspended in the chamber of consciousness, and catching every air-borne particle in its tissue." (Sir Henry James).*

*Bottom plaque: Alpha Kappa Psi Study Room 4 Donated in Loving Memory of Jacy M. De Chavez and Victims of 9/11.*