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Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Dear Rutgers University–New Brunswick Community:

As the 2016-2017 academic year begins to wind down, the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs would like to take this moment to recognize and congratulate students, faculty, and staff on another successful year.

We would like to first acknowledge the Rutgers–New Brunswick undergraduate and graduate students for their dedication and hard work within their respective areas of study. Rutgers University continues to grow more competitive among institutions of higher education, both nationally and globally. This is in large part due to our diligent, committed, and exceptional student population that continues to strive for excellence and demonstrate an outstanding level of achievement. As classes come to an end and Reading Days begin, the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs would like to wish you the best of luck on your final exams and assignments.

Likewise, we would like to express our appreciation to the Rutgers University–New Brunswick faculty who never cease to amaze me with their demonstrated excellence in teaching and overall instruction. And, our Rutgers staff who provide support to our students and faculty in so many ways. We are sincerely grateful for your devotion to this university.

Together, students, faculty and staff play a significant role to create a Rutgers that we all can be proud of. I hope each and every one of you can reflect back on this year and see the attainment of your academic and personal goals. I am personally proud of the achievements of the Office of Undergraduate Affairs which include:

- Creation of the Transfer Student Council, which coordinates services to address transfer student needs as this student population in New Brunswick is now over 32%;
- Collaboration with Rutgers University Student Assembly to form the Clicker Committee, chaired by Professor Neil Sheflin, to examine the use of clicker technology in the classroom;
- Formation of the Task Force on Recording Devices in the Classroom to provide guidance and best practices on ethical use of recording devices by students and faculty;
- The extraordinary work of the RU-1st Initiative (<https://ru1.rutgers.edu/>), which coordinates programming across New Brunswick schools aimed to provide academic advising and support for first-generation students;
- The twelfth consecutive year that a Rutgers student has been named a Goldwater Scholar as well as the eighth consecutive year that Rutgers was one of the top producers of Fulbright Student Grants among research institutions; and
- The renowned guests who joined us for our signature speaker series, which included public intellectuals addressing global issues such as civic engagement, immigration and academic activism. This year's speakers were Beverly Daniel Tatum, Donna Brazil, Jose Antonio Vargas, and Marc Lamont Hill.

The future is bright for you, for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and Rutgers University. I look forward to exceeding expectations yet again next year. Please enjoy a happy and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Ben. Sifuentes-Jáuregui

Vice Chancellor and

Professor, American Studies and Comparative Literature

Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Rutgers University–New Brunswick