**Wachovia banks on teaching science teachers**

By Mike Caputo

What President Mordechai Rozanski dubbed last year as “Rider’s Renewal” revolves on not only external improvements on the campuses, but also on changes inside the classroom.

On Thursday, Sept. 7, the Wachovia Foundation became the most recent benefactor to aid Rider’s cause as it awarded a three-year, $645,000 grant. The donation to the Science Education and Literacy Center’s (SELECT) Consortium: For New Explorations in Education and Literacy Center’s (CONNECT-ED) was announced during a press conference held in Rider’s Teaching/Learning Center.

“During this program, by this kind of significant investment, allows us to bring together talents of our various programs and to do outreach to the larger community,” said Rozanski.

Thegrant will support efforts to improve the preparation of science teachers.

Wachovia, the fourth-largest bank holding company in the United States and a traditionally strong supporter of education and teacher development, continued its generous trend as the big check was presented by Wachovia Regional President Susanne Svizney to the University, represented by Rozanski and CONNECT-ED Director Dr. Kathy Browne.

This grant is consistent with Wachovia Regional President Susanne Svizney’s idea that we need to build a new framework for future teachers, research in science and math teaching and learning, community outreach, and professional development for practicing teachers of math and science.

SELECT is a combination of Rider’s education and science departments.

Rozanski agrees that the positives of the grant are multifaceted and indeed a part of the rejuvenation process.

“I think it is part of our renewal effort because we are showing the larger community - both in terms of prospective students, prospective students through the programs and the business community that Rider is a key partner in serving the needs of our larger society and the education that occurs here makes a difference in people’s lives,” he said.

**Clark talk aims toward ‘ideological offensive’**

By Nick Ballasy

General Wesley K. Clark enlightened students, faculty and community about war, politics and the Patriot Act on Monday, Sept. 12, in the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) Theater.

Clark is a retired four-star general in the United States Army. He is the most decorated general since Dwight D. Eisenhower. While he was the Supreme Allied Commander of NATO from 1997 to 2000, Clark commanded Operation Allied Force in the Kosovo conflict. Prior to this, he had a prominent career in the Army and the Department of Defense.

He was also a Democratic candidate for the party nomination in the 2004 Presidential Election. During his speech at Rider, Clark laid out what he believes was the key to winning the war on terrorism. Clark explained that for one, the U.S. must talk before it attacks. He believes the war on terrorism is a “battle of ideas” and that the U.S. cannot win by “breaking down doors.” He said the U.S. didn’t fully use the United Nations option before going to war with Iraq and that the U.S. should have let the U.N. inspectors finish the job before they went to war.

Secondly, he said the country must build a new framework for security because right now there is “no national strategy.”

Clark also stated that America has to take the ideological offensive and educate the people of Iraq and the Middle East about its values and what it stands for because many of the people in the Middle East do not truly understand Americans.

Clark accent a fact that in order to win the war on terrorism and carry out his advice, the U.S. needs the right strategy, approach and leadership.

He informed the audience that he didn’t plan on delivering a “partisan speech.” He told the audience that he has had his views on foreign policy before he even joined a political party.

Sophomore Matt Fichetola said Clark gave a “strong, inspirational and compelling speech.”

“It was a pleasure seeing a four-star general give his opinions on ways to win the war on terror that the current administration should take into consideration,” he said.

Clark’s speech also included many real life examples to support his assertions. He highlighted one that involved the current Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He had met with her before Bush had picked his cabinet. They were talking at their meeting when Rice said she doesn’t believe in peacekeeping. Clark realized there was no home for him in the Bush administration.

When General Wesley Clark ran for President in the primaries, SGA President Senior Perry Whiteley didn’t really pay attention to the race. After Monday’s speech, however, he said he “would definitely consider voting for him.”

“When talking about how to win the war on terror, he brought up a very interesting point. He basically said that you don’t win by killing people, but by influencing them,” said Whiteley. “It was his idea that we need to go to people of high influence in the region and work on them to influence others. This is a perspective that obviously has not been taken into consideration.”