

## Poetic injustice: Poet's pen is laid to rest

Dr. Patricia Kellogg-Dennis, associate professor of English at Rider University, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 8, at Capital Health System at Fuld in Trenton.

Kellogg-Dennis was raised in Long Island, N.Y. and moved to Princeton in 1970 and to Trenton in 1980. She earned a BA in English from Marymount Manhattan College and a MA from C.W. Post University. She then received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from New York University in 1975.

She had been a member of the English faculty for more than 30 years, after having started as an instructor in the Evening School in 1971. She became a full-time faculty member of the department in

1972.

The courses she taught included Literature and Mythology, Creative Writing: Poetry, Introduction to Shakespeare and composition courses.

Her play, "The Relative," became a student production and was presented in the Yvonne Studio Theater in Fine Arts. She also appeared in other local theater and Rider productions. Her poems and scholarly essays have been widely published and she presented her papers at major conferences throughout the world.

Dr. Robbie Sethi, a professor in the English department, described Kellogg-Dennis as an insightful person who would get right to the heart of the

matter, going right to the truth as she saw it.

"A conference or seminar with her could really be stimulating because she wouldn't let anybody get away with anything that did not sound true," said Sethi. "She was argumentative, feisty and free-thinking. At the same time she was a deeply spiritual person and very warm. It's not a bad combination for a poet."

Sethi added that Kellogg-Dennis spent a lot of time working with students on their writing, having high expectations and encouraging them to do their best. However, she pointed out that most important was the fact that she was outspoken, outrageous and always good for a laugh.



Photo courtesy of Riderana

"She encouraged people to express their opinions," said Sethi. "She was a light."

Some information provided by The Lawrence Ledger.

## 'SANDA'

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is a pipeline of students who are looking forward to being a part of cohort two and cohort three.

"The current pool of cohorts were betting on an untested program," said Kelly. "They'll go back with a degree from Rider to be right in the middle of this Shanghai economic development where they'll be able to write their own ticket because of the number of renowned corporations looking for talent."

President Mordechai Rozanski feels that it's a tremendous partnership that benefits both the students from Sanda and "our students and our commitment to foster a global, multicultural perspective among our students."

"We want to see more international students at our university because we're living in an interdependent world that is increasingly shrinking because of technology and trade," said Rozanski. "In that kind of interdependent world, there is a responsibility for all of us to have a better sense of different perspectives and different cultures."

Although there have been some cultural differences for the students to get used to, they say they have met some very nice people. According to

Danni Ding, one of three group leaders, "the resident advisers and mentors have been very helpful and friendly."

"Before I came to America, all I had was my imagination of American culture and American life," said Ding. "With my one year at Rider, I can use this experience to build my own opinions about the American economy and American culture, and that will have a good impact on my future."

Kelly and Rozanski both credit Cindy Threatt and Stephanie Pollack of Residence Life for "moving mountains" in preparing for the cohort's arrival. According to Threatt, not only did they have to accommodate the 23 students, but also the three instructors who came with them.

"We set them up with an apartment at White Pine Apartments," said Threatt. "Then we had to furnish it to make it as comfortable as possible so they really felt at home when they arrived."

One of the most difficult parts of the process was to obtain the student visas, a task that has grown increasingly complicated in the post 9/11 era. The Chinese government has been concerned that Chinese students who come to study in the U.S. end up staying here. Associate Provost Jim Castagnera said the U.S. State Department is aware of the problem and has been tough about giving visas to students

from China.

"What we did was absolutely everything we could think of to make the process a success," said Castagnera. "President Rozanski retained an immigration lawyer who advised us, we repeatedly visited with the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai to solicit their advice on the most important things to do, and, just to put the icing on the cake, Dr. Linguo Gong and I went to China in September 2004 and prepped all of the cohorts on the entire application process and answered all questions."

The State Department approved the students' visas based upon the ties students have in China that would indicate an intent to return to the country, their English language skills and their financial ability to pay for a year of Rider tuition. Each of the cohorts is an only child whose parents and relatives contributed to their tuition. Rozanski, who has a background in Chinese history and Chinese-American relations, said that this is only the beginning of what he hopes will be an expanded relationship with Sanda.

"When we wrote the first partnership agreement, it was left open-ended to expand into different majors in the future," said Kelly.

The idea of expanding the relationship with Sanda into the Communication Department is currently being negotiated. At the end of February, Sanda

President Yuan Ji and members of his senior staff will come and meet with Frakt and Rozanski to discuss a similar partnership in a Communication major.

In order to help the students adjust to life at Rider, several programs have been developed by Dr. Jacqueline Simon, the international student adviser. She meets with the cohorts in conversation sessions to find out their needs and challenges. Simon has found out that they feel they are not meeting enough American students.

"I told them, just imagine 10 Chinese kids walking together as a block entering Daly's," said Simon. "Nobody's going to come up and to talk to you. I said, 'you need to go by yourself or with one other person and speak in English.'"

Not every cohort has had a problem meeting people. Steven Chen says there have been a number of things that made him feel at home, such as Cindy Threatt planning a Chinese spring festival for the cohorts and President Rozanski speaking Chinese to them. He recognizes how important adaptability has been in his transition.

"I think Rider has done a great job for us," said Chen. "They have been very considerate and planned everything for us like parents. It has exceeded my expectations. I think I will improve myself while I'm here and achieve my goal."

to be sure that those walking to classes can do so safely."

After the snow has accumulated, the Office of Safety and Security checks local weather reports and gathers information from local authorities regarding the conditions of the roads surrounding both the Lawrenceville

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## SECURITY BRIEFS

### Lincoln Lawbreakers

A visitor was arrested for having two warrants in two different townships. The Lawrence Police Department (LPD) ran a license plate check on his car on Friday, Jan. 28, after issuing him a summons for illegally parking in the fire zone on Complex Drive and discovered the outstanding warrants. The LPD called Security, who then checked the visitor log for the car. The visitor was then located and arrested. The warrants had been issued for traffic violations. He was issued a Persona Non Grata (PNG) letter.

### Freshmen Bake Out

Two male students in Ziegler were arrested on Friday, Jan. 28 for a narcotics violation after a female staff member smelled marijuana coming from their room. Security arrived and one of the students who was returning from the restroom consented to let the officers check the room. Security also noticed the strong odor of burning marijuana and eventually the students turned over both a glass pipe and what is believed to be marijuana. LPD was called and the students were taken into custody.

### Poyda's Pyros

A fire was started in Poyda at 1 a.m. on Sunday when an unknown victim lit two pieces of paper on fire on a restroom door. Smoke detectors were activated as a result of the smoke caused by the burning paper. The fire extinguished itself.

### Holiday Un-giving

An undisclosed amount of cash was taken by an unknown suspect from a coach's office in Alumni Gym sometime between Dec. 7 and 12. The investigation is continuing and anyone with information is asked to call Security at x. 5029.

### A Lawsuit in a Puddle

A female faculty member slipped on a puddle of water in Fine Arts when she exited the elevator and turned the corner on Monday, Jan. 24. She landed on her knee and later called Security, who provided the initial medical attention. She was later treated at a nearby facility.

Information provided by the Director of Safety and Security, Vickie Weaver.

## Team decides when Rider shuts down for snow

By Cara Latham

For students, the decision of whether or not to have a snow day may seem like a breeze. In reality, a lot is considered by school officials before making the call.

The decision to either cancel or delay classes due to

significant snowfall depends mainly on the road conditions both off and on campus, local reports from authorities and whether or not the walkways and parking lots are safe.

"The first and most important consideration is safety," said Associate Vice-President of Student Affairs Anthony Campbell. "If we feel that we

will be putting our students and staff in jeopardy, we will cancel or delay classes. We also consider whether or not the campus can be ready to accept the cars of our faculty, staff and commuter students. We must make sure that the parking lots are clear and people can park. Another major consideration is the condition of the sidewalks