New dean of Business search continues

By Stephanie Mostaccio

The quest for Rider University to find a new dean of the Business School continues. It has been in progress since July 1 and is expected to continue through the summer. The hunt for a new dean of Business went into effect this past summer when the previous dean, Dan Mannsmano D. Chaudhry, resigned.

The reason the search is expected to last about one year is that it’s a complex process, according to Dr. Phyllis Frakt, vice president of academic affairs as well as the Provost. This quest consists of the University conducting a nationwide search by a specialized search committee, also led by Frakt. The committee will interview many candidates and choose the best one qualified to become Rider’s new dean of Business.

Frakt hopes that this process will be completed by March.

“The dean is a very important position because he helps guide the future of the College and of the University,” said Frakt.

Dr. Larry Newman, the Interim Dean of Business ensures that the university is dedicated to the pursuit.

“There’s really a commitment to get this type of person,” Newman said.

Newman will be the acting dean until a replacement is found. He is also the Chairman of the Marketing Department as well as a Rider faculty member. Throughout his years as an educator, he has worked with many colleges and is currently serving on the Board of Trustees at Bucks County Community College.

“I’m no stranger to academic leadership,” he jokingly said.

It is so important that a new dean is found because he or she will perform duties that are significant to the School of Business. The dean not only oversees the operation of the school but also makes sure the students are properly advised. He or she also plans new programs and deals with external relations with community businesses, according to Frakt. The dean of Business also ensures that the current students’ goals and needs are fulfilled.

“The present and the future are their responsibilities,” said Frakt.

During the search process, the committee will interview candidates who are recommend by the search firm, Witt-Kieffer, as well as other faculty members. However, candidates are also found through the distribution of a 10-page book containing advertisements for the new dean of Business, which Frakt is currently working on. These ads will be placed in various locations and those interested will submit an application. The search committee will then review the applications, narrow down the number of candidates and conduct several interviews to find the one best suit to fit the job.

Newman believes that the replacement dean will not have any problems adjusting to the position and to a new college. In fact, he feels that whoever takes the position will be highly qualified and will add to the Business School’s history of brilliance.

“We have an excellent College of Business and [the new dean] will be able to move the College and continue that excellence,” he said.

Website gets makeover

By Vincent Civitillo

With mounds of dirt where the residence quad used to be and a giant mud-pit in place of the street in front of the Bart Luedeke Center, one would assume nothing about Rider could possibly be more embarrassing than Rider.edu, the University’s website.

A boring grey backdrop highlighted a navigational system Magellan himself couldn’t tackle, which resulted in an almost complete inability to find anything at all. But not anymore.

Launching today is the University’s new website, which according to Vice-President of Enrollment Management James O’Hara is the most visible change to the Rider community.

Navigating to the new design reveals a new Macromedia Flash-based look, prominently featuring President Rozanski’s current campaign slogan “Think Rider.” A virtual tour is also available for both campuses featuring images from the pre-construction era.

“We believe the website’s new open, contemporary look and feel will provide a dynamic portal into the Rider University community, as well as serve as a valuable tool for learning about and gaining access to the resources and opportunities Rider has to offer,” the press release that precedes the new design states. “It will be accessible and appealing to all users.”

However, O’Hara stresses that the site is new and thus in an evolutionary stage.

“Our community should be aware that Luna may have some glitches,” he said. “Because it’s a website, there are some things we will have to change.”

Students find fun swilling non-alcoholic drinks

LASO Students participated in Mocktails in the Rider Pub from 6-8 p.m. during Alcohol Awareness Week, which ran from Monday, Sept. 27 through Friday, October 1. The Alcohol Awareness Week ended tonight, with the Bronc Buffet from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

By Michael Scuilli

This year’s Rider’s Unity Day celebration will be held on Oct. 5 and 6 in the Bart Luedeke Center (BLC) and will feature the keynote speaker George Curry.

Curry, the Editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service and BlackPressUSA.com, will discuss the BVC Board of Education trial during his speech on Tuesday, Oct. 5. Curry’s columns have reached more than 15 million people worldwide.

The rest of the activities involved in the Unity celebration all take place on Wednesday, Oct. 6. Such events include an International Luncheon with a Steel drum band as entertainment, a colloquium entitled “The Women of 2004: Campaigning and Speaking the Word for Bush and Kerry,” and a panel discussion about Brown v. Board of Education.

The night will conclude with a multicultural food fest in the Cavalia room, and a play, “Platano’s and Goldend Green” by David Lamb, being performed in the BLC theater.

“We try to make the students involved with this as much as possible,” said Don Brown, one of the main event coordinators of this program, and director of community affairs at Rider.

Some of the other faculty involved in the event are Dr. Marvin Goldstein, former chair-man of the psychology department, Dr. Harry Kornberg, Dr. Marc Wallace and Larry Johnson, assistant dean of students, among others.

Unity day came to happen because of a dispute on campus between non-greeks and greeks. The communications department decided that Rider “ought to have a day aside to celebrate the subgroups of the campus,” according to Brown. Thus, Unity day was born, and has been celebrated since 1998.

“I think that the more the campus deals with these issues, the closer the campus becomes,” said Brown. “We usually get a really good turn out, but we are not to Cranberry Fest status. That is what I want; to be as big as Cranberry Fest.”

Some former speakers at Unity Day include Morris Dee, Michael Moore and, most recently, WNBA star Cynthia Cooper. Unity Day used to be a one day celebration, but it was extended to a two day format, with the keynote speaker on the first day, three years ago.

Security Briefs

Drunken madness

On Tuesday, at 3:15 a.m., security witnessed an underage male resident student of Kroner who was hanging on random doors in the residence hall. The student was intoxicated and became disordersly, shouting profanities. Security checked to see if anyone in the hall had known the suspect and then escorted him back to his room. He was charged with an alcohol violation and disorderly conduct, but did not need medical attention.

Heh, heh. Fire, cool

An unknown suspect ignited a fire at 3:19 a.m. on Sunday in Poyda residence hall. A male resident said he smelled smoke and searched the building until he found an ignited piece of paper in the hallway stairwell. He quickly put it out because he was worried about the safety of the other people in the building, and then reported it to security.

When security arrived, smoke was evident, but the fire was completely extinguished. The investigation is continuing and anyone with information is asked to call Campus Security at x. 5029.

Locks usually work

A male resident student from Olson reported to security on Friday that his custom-made laptop had been stolen out of his room by an unknown suspect sometime between Sept. 12 and Sept. 22. The student said he didn’t know who had taken the laptop, but did share the information he had with security. The investigation is continuing and anyone with information is asked to call x 5029.

Drunken madness

Bad reflection

Security became aware of vandalism to the side view mirror of a parked vehicle in the Academic Annex lot on Sunday at 2:35 p.m. Early that day, security said a male resident student and two other suspects run from the area of the parked car, which belonged to a male staff member. The student was identified but investigation is continuing to try to find the other two suspects.

Security Reminder

Smoke detectors, emergency exit signs, construction signs and fences are all life safety devices and must not be tampered with.