By Mike Caputo

Thomas Lynch, alumnus of Rider’s class of 1975 and current president of Tyco Engineered Products and Services, made a return to his alma mater on Friday, April 15, as an advocate of corporate ethics and leadership. Lynch’s speech, sponsored by the Center of Leadership Development, took place in a packed Swigart Auditorium composed of students mostly in the business department and in the leadership development program. President Monchechi Rozanski was excited to welcome Lynch back to the Rider community.

“What a terrific turn-around,” said Rozanski during his introduction of Lynch. “I am absolutely delighted about [Lynch’s] visit and that he is speaking to our students about this important issue.”

Rozanski also expressed his appreciation towards Lynch’s recent involvement with the University and revealed to the audience that Lynch will be joining Rider’s Board of Trustees this upcoming June.

Lynch began his speech with a discussion of what he dubbed a “little advertisement” for Tyco. He first cleared up any possible confusion by stating that the Tyco that he works for does not have association with the toy company. Lynch is responsible for the engineered products division of Tyco, which carries a few businesses, but he said that valves and pipes are the largest and most flexible of all them.

“[Valves and pipes] are everywhere, they are in every business and in every kind of structure and Tyco is a world leader in that,” said Lynch. Lynch revealed that he would talk about the “juicy things that have happened over the last few years in the world of corporate ethics.” He acknowledged that recent scandals such as Enron, Worldcom and, even his own company Tyco have increased interest in ethical standards in business in recent years.

“Clearly there has been more of a focus on corporate ethics over the last four or five years than there has been probably since the early 1930s, when scandals led to the establishment of the Securities and Exchange Commission,” said Lynch.

According to Lynch, for speech, said Nick DeVito, a Continuing Studies (CCS) student. “He’s an important man.”

The students and faculty in the audience also benefited from Hahn’s speech by learning how to view slavery and democracy in a different way.

“He brought out a lot of new ideas,” DeVito said.

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