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Happy Holidays to All!

Dear alumni and friends of SC&I,

The holiday season's festivities and the wonders of winter are quickly approaching as another very intense semester here at Rutgers is soon wrapping up. Sometimes it is hard to grasp how much is being accomplished in just over three months—thousands of students fill our classes; our new faculty have been welcomed and integrated into our community; six cases of tenure-track faculty up for promotions are being reviewed; and SC&I's Alumni Association celebrated [Gloria Vanderham](#) COM, JMS'00 at its annual award ceremony. Our career services held the annual "mingle"—over 100 students participated in a networking experience with alumni who shared their career journeys and offered encouragement and advice. And this is just the tip of the iceberg! See some of the highlights in the stories below.

The exciting news that I want to share is that we are engaged in an [active search for a new permanent dean](#) for SC&I. As you may know, I will be completing my third year as interim dean next summer in anticipation of retirement. This is bittersweet, as I love the school and am very proud of the opportunity I had to lead it. But it is time for new energy, new ideas, and new expertise (and time for me to spend more quality time with the family). We are greatly looking forward to having outstanding finalists visit campus early in the spring so a new dean can be in place for the next academic year. A new dean will need to address the challenges facing higher education overall as well as leverage the opportunities ahead of the school.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all of you and your loved ones a very healthy, peaceful, and meaningful season. I feel grateful and lucky to be among the outstanding SC&I community of dedicated scholars, instructors, staff, and students!

As always, I am most happy to hear from you and promise to respond personally. You can reach me at dafna.lemish@rutgers.edu.

Best wishes for the new year,
Dafna Lemish, Ph.D.
Interim Dean

Program News

- The Master of Information program announced the launch of a

new [Health Information concentration](#) for the spring 2025 semester. [Read more.](#)

- A [Rutgers Today](#) article on innovative Rutgers courses highlighted [Gina Marcello](#)'s course "Disinformation Detox" and [Roxane Gay](#)'s creative writing class open to undergraduate and graduate students.
- CPS's groundbreaking Digital Asset Management certificate program recently celebrated its fifth anniversary. [Read more.](#)

Faculty News

- [Todd Wolfson](#) was elected president of the American Association of University Professors for a four-year term ending in 2028. [Read more.](#)
- [Brent Ruben](#) has been named a Champion in Global Health 2024 by the Rutgers Global Health Institute. [Read more.](#)
- Professor Emeritus of Library and Information Science [Tefko Saracevic](#), a world-renowned expert on human information behavior, human-computer interaction from the human viewpoint, modeling interaction processes in information retrieval, and the notion of relevance in relation to information and information systems, died in early October. [Read more.](#)

Student Highlights

- Becca Fishman COM'25 takes on a leadership role as

president of ScarletPR. [Read more.](#)

- Chloe Berwick JMS'26 is making the most of her journalism and social media studies to build a career. [Read more.](#)
- Evan Leong MCM'25, ITI'23 is pursuing his passions in visual media. [Read more.](#)
- Michelle Simon MI'24, ITI'23, founder and former president of the [Rutgers Data Science Club](#), is finishing up her studies. [Read more.](#)

Alumni Highlights

- Alexa Ramos JMS'15, a DCIM minor, is manager of youth content at Major League Baseball. [Read more.](#)
- In late September, President Holloway spoke during one of his Byrne Seminar classes with SC&I alumnus Mike Emanuel COM'90, chief Washington correspondent for FOX News Channel and co-anchor of FOX News Live. [Watch a short clip of the video here.](#) [Read more.](#)
- Anish Gupta MPI'25, ITI'23 credits SC&I courses with supporting his career goals in data analytics and intelligence. [Read more.](#)

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