

00:00:00

OK we're going to get started. Welcome.

00:00:07

It's wonderful to see so many friends, colleagues and those interested in Rutgers history that join us on this kind of rainy evening. I'm Tom Frusciano. I'm the Rutgers University archivist and we are coming together this evening to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Rutgers. It's one of many signature events that will take place in the year long celebration. And tonight marks the opening of a special historical exhibit entitled rectors through the centuries. Two hundred and fifty years from 50 years of treasures from the archives. This exhibition tells a story through selected documents photographs publications and artifacts selected from the collections of the rector's archives. And it tells the story of a rather unique institution of higher education. One that was founded as a colonial college became a land grant institution in the late 19th century and transformed into a major public university.

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The State University of New Jersey in the 20th century and today is truly a comprehensive public research university. Our program this evening includes several speakers who will provide welcoming remarks as well as a keynote address by our past president. What is truly remarkable about studying and working at a major university is that there are always there's always events taking place. Morning noon and night several during the same evening. And

tonight is no exception. In fact our first two guests and one who has not arrived yet. And what was the program along until he gets here. They both have other commitments this evening.

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So we're going to get the program started okay.

00:01:49

Congressman Frank Pallone is to join us as soon as he gets here and we'll get him on as soon as he arrives so we'll move to Dick Edwards. Richard Edwards the chancellor of Rutgers New Brunswick joined the Rutgers community in August 2005 when he assumed the position of dean of the School of Social Work. Since then he has served as interim president of the university from from July to August in 2012 and as interim chancellor in New Brunswick from 2012 to 2014 as a well-known scholar educator administrator. He was appointed a chance the chancellor of Rutgers New Brunswick in 2014. A lot of positions. He also served as executive vice president for academic affairs from September 2012 to June 2015. We are pleased to have him for by welcoming remarks on behalf of the university.

00:02:42

Please welcome Dick Edwards. Thank you. Thank you very much. I'm really pleased to be here. My only regret is that I won't be able to stay through the entire program but I bring greetings from President Barclay who is at this moment hosting a number of members of our state legislature and I need to join him there shortly. I want to say thank you to everybody who has joined us this evening and to a few people in particular I want to name them. I was gonna say

thank you to Congressman Frank Pallone but he's not here yet but if he were I would be thanking him right now. I want to thank our president emeritus Richard McCormick my old friend and colleague we worked together many years ago at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and then I had the pleasure of coming to work for him here at Rutgers in 2005. Also our vice president for information services and university librarian Kris Allen Maloney whom you'll hear from in a few moments I believe. So there are lots of people who have worked really hard to put together these two hundred and fifty 250 anniversary celebrations and exhibits some of which you'll see tonight and throughout the year. Specifically I want to recognize the the work of Maryann Gaunt our former librarian and our former interim librarian Jean Boyle. They were major supporters of the 250 records 250 research project and I should also mention my colleague her Haitian meant who is the vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion or something like that. Yes. And a hallway is the chair of the 250 Celebration Committee so thank you all of them. The library is such an important place at any university or in any community libraries the keeper of our history and we need to be really thankful for the contributions that this library and other libraries make want to also mention our archivist who introduced me as such a lovely and long introduction and OUR ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST Eric Gordon. They've led to all of the wonderful wonderful artifacts and documents that are being featured in the books and films that are being released as part of our celebrations.

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And you'll see over the course of the year many instances of their efforts. And so we're going to hear much more. Well you are because I won't be able to stay unfortunately. But you'll hear much more about Rutgers history but I want to just say a couple of things. You know one of the pivotal moments in recorded history in our 250 year history was in 1825 the donation by Henry Rutgers which put the college fledgling little college at that point on a kind of solid

financial footing. His donation a bond of 5000 dollars and a bell was really vital to our fledgling College and the college was renamed Rutgers College in honor of that benefactor. That 5000 you know sent secured the future of Rutgers which was kind of shaky at that time I think. And for us it was a really great deal.

00:06:07

It would be an even bigger deal if somehow our folks back then had put that into an endowment and let it accrue over the years.

00:06:19

We might have something matching some of the other Ivy Leagues but I think at the time we probably needed to be spent on important things. But this point in our history where we stand today brings me to a question that I was asked by a reporter with our student newspaper the target. She asked me if Henry Rutgers could see us now. What do you think he would say when I told that reporter that I thought that Colonel Rutgers would have to be pleased by the fact that the bell and the five thousand bond he donated nearly two hundred years ago have led in large part to this incredible institution that we have today. Then I told you one of the many reasons why I think this is an incredible institution Rutgers University New Brunswick is a core member of some of the most prestigious and selective academic and athletics associations in the country entry and membership into the American Association of Universities known as the ACLU and the Committee on Institutional cooperation CIC. It's not easy to come by membership in the EU is limited to the 62 largest research universities in North America includes two from Canada. The list of members is as notable for the universities that it excludes as it is for who it includes seven of the eight Ivies are included but not all of them. And I'm not going to name

names but suffice it to say that many of our well-known peers have not gain entry entry into that particular prestigious group. The CIC more recent thing that Rutgers has joined is the academic consortium of the Big Ten Athletic Conference plus the University of Chicago the CIC is collaborative efforts spanned the academic enterprise an enterprise of those 15 members including Rutgers and those kinds of things include cooperative purchasing course sharing professional development programs sharing of library resources. Those are just a few of the benefits that Rutgers New Brunswick gets as a member of the CIC. And of course our participation in the EU Big Ten in the CIC are just a few examples of what. Two hundred and fifty years of achievement and advancement has brought to this university. So this little cheerleading that I'm doing brings me back to the question the reporter asked me what would Henry record say today. I thought about that pledge that Henry Rutgers made with Queens College in 1825 that many years ago and said to myself for nearly 200 years the man's name has been synonymous with one of the most respected and influential institutions of higher education in the world and all it cost him was five thousand dollars and a bell. So what would Henry Rucker say if he could see us today. I think he'd say I got a pretty good deal. So I want to thank you I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the many events that will go on during the course of this year.

00:09:18

And I know that you'll really look forward to hearing from my colleague in a few moments but turn it back.

00:09:34

Thank you. I really appreciate that. Just a little historical note David Fowler in the audience. I think Dave is here. David is our resident Henry Drucker scholar and forthcoming double issue of the Journal of Rutgers University libraries will feature his work as biographical research. But one thing is interesting is that 18 15. When Henry rockers was serving on the board of trustees of Queens College the financial situation was so precarious that the trustees sat down to vote on whether to close the college and they decided to close the college and one of those folks who who voted in favor of closing the college was Henry Rutgers.

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Just a little. And he also gave the money after his name his college Crystal in Maloney our vice president of information services and university librarian is a relatively newcomer to the rocker's family. Joining us this past July as a noted researcher librarian and educator Chris comes to Rutgers from the University of Texas at San Antonio where she served as a dean at the library since 2009. The faculty and staff in the Rutgers libraries are pleased to have her lead us as we embark upon the many challenges of the new information age.

00:10:42

Ladies and gentlemen please Welcome Kris Allen along thank you Tom.

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I am very happy to be here this evening to welcome you on behalf of wreckers university libraries. This has been a very exciting year to arrive with this whole 250 celebration. It's just a marvelous way to highlight our special collections and often hidden special collections. So since

there is a whole roomful of people sitting here I'm going to tell you a little bit about our special collections. Now some of this I had to get some help because I am brand new but seeing all of the wonderful material that has come out I think that many people don't know just how exceptional are our collections are here. So the special collections in university archives at records is home for all of records the university's official records and memorabilia and that's dating back 250 years. So the archive alone contains thousands of feet of materials including the records of the boards of trustees and governors which is we're very fortunate to have both the Office of the president and other administrative offices and commissions. We also have the records of academic divisions departments and institutes the records of athletics student organizations and student lives. So when you think about this going back 250 years you really see that this is you can get a real feel for all of these exciting things that we've heard about. The archives also contains faculty and alumni papers and memorabilia consisting of films photos blueprints museum objects and programs and just many many formats. We also have numerous publications including reports directories student newspapers and periodicals all documenting every aspect of the university and its communities some examples that are really interesting include the records of the New Jersey agricultural experiment station the Paul Robeson collection the World War 2 oral history archives and also archives of records Newark in the 1960s and 70s. We have this Selman Waxman papers. We have the flo Kim and pipe those so thin that I do that literary societies and this is great. These date back to the 1920s and they're really unique to records. We we also have those special collections more broadly has the most comprehensive collection documenting every aspect of New Jersey's history which is now three hundred and fifty one years. It's one of the largest regional history collections in the nation. It includes rare books manuscripts maps broadsides pamphlets documents and memorabilia from New Jersey from their early proprietary days and you can so you can come in and look at those. They're available here. Every aspect of the state's history and culture is thoroughly documented. Now some interesting items include a hessian diary and new numerous manuscript collections relating to the Revolutionary War in and how it related to

New Jersey. Hundreds of diaries dating back to the early 18th century to the present records of the consumer research of consumers research. The first product testing and consumer advocacy association in the US which really highlights a lot of New Jersey's history with this strong consumer focus and Labor focus. The records of the Roebling company and the family documenting the use of wire rope versus suspension bridges elevators aqueducts all responsible for the development of the urban infrastructure of the nation to the records of two international labor unions the International Union of Electrical Workers and the National Maritime Union. So you can see how these are really the foundation for for popular research and also for strong academic research. The papers of politicians including those of Senator Harrison Williams and documenting the Great Society period records is also home to very interesting collection. It's the renowned William Elliot Griffiths collection a unique scholarly resource documenting the experiences of Westerners in Japan and the roots of the Japanese American relationships and the special friendship between Japan and records during the Meiji period from 1868 to 1912. And there's there's all kinds of artifacts and memorabilia and interesting photographs and just extremely rich collection. It's really amazing what we have here. And so for those of you who haven't had a chance to stop by the special collections or located in this building. And we're also located online. And it's it's really important for us for records and for New Jersey that the that we retain these. And before I give it back to give back to my friend I do want to thank Ron Becker who helped me out with some of these notes. I'm so new and I've gone on all the tours and I can't remember everybody's names and all these collections but it's just such a wonderful opportunity for you to hear about how great our collections are so I can pass it by. So let me turn it with that welcome and let me turn it back to Tom.

00:16:44

She picked a great year to come. He's going to learn a lot and hear a lot about Rutgers. We are honored to have with us this evening Congressman Frank Pallone who has just walked in the door as an alumnus in our home. Congressman Representative Malone is a leading advocate for Rutgers our students and our research in Congress. And we thank him for so frequently visiting our campuses. He has along he has long been known as a leading voice for our environment and the New Jersey Shore. But we also know him to be a strong supporter for the Arts and Humanities. We thank him for his unwavering support for the university. Appreciate him taking time from his busy schedule to join us this evening. We're pleased to have him say a few words as we open up this once in 250 year exhibit.

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Please give a warm welcome to Congressman following.

00:17:45

Well thank you for inviting me and I don't have a lot to say I just I just want to say very briefly that on behalf of the state on behalf of our congressional delegation we're so proud of Rutgers and to me an important part of Rutgers is the history of the university and the 250 years it has been here.

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But I am a history buff. I I majored in history in college. I I collect all kinds of things when I when I came in and I saw the card about you know old queens and the.

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And I don't know when this is from actually maybe is from almost 250 years ago. I got all excited I said I don't have that one because I go around to all the antique stores and I'm on eBay all the time trying to find wherever I can for Rutgers paraphernalia. And some of you know that I have an office in not only in Washington but also in Kilmer square on Church Street. There's not a lot that I have at that location but there are definitely pictures of old queens pictures of New Brunswick and various locations at Rutgers and I have more of them in Washington because I just love to study the history of the university. And one of my colleagues Rodney Freeland high of his night here tonight is another buff. If you if you go to his office in Washington and I haven't been to his office in in probably in Morristown wherever it is he's got all kinds of paraphernalia that relate to Rogers and his ancestors. I notice that one of the things that you have on here. Oh maybe I didn't see it here I saw it somewhere was about one of Rodney's ancestors who ran for vice president with Henry Clay by the name of freedom housing who. And if you walk into his office he's got the poster the campaign poster from Henry Clay and freezing housing for vice president which I think was the Whig Party. So we just love all this. And I speak for myself and and for my colleagues and we think that what the archives represents and what you're doing now and exhibiting different items from the archives is so important. Rutgers history is is magnificent. You know from starting out as a college you know during the colonial era to becoming a state university. Everything about the football games and the first intercollegiate football games I think that a lot of students and and faculty know about it all but no more needs to be known. And hopefully the 250 year anniversary is the occasion to do that. And the archives obviously can play a major role. So thank you again for what you do and let's have a good year celebrating the 250 years. Thanks again.

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So much has gone on in the preparation for the 250 percent version. And there's one product that's been recently viewed debuted Oxy on Tuesday as we kicked off the celebration and I thought it would be a nice opportunity to show that film some of you may have seen this.

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It's a special production that has been done by Jason Jones Productions and Jason Jones is a tremendous filmmaker. So I hope you enjoy our revolutionary spirit. Rutgers people. They're actors and activists scholars and scientists. Trailblazers. Leaders.

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And they've been changing the world since before the United States was a nation. It's hard to imagine now. But the first Rutgers students were the revolutionaries who fought for America's independence. Rutgers was founded in 1766 as Queens College. And ten years later. Just days before the signing of the Declaration. Classes were suspended when the British fleet arrived at Sandy Hook. The students left. They went off to war. One of those early Rutgers students was a 19 year old named Simeon DeWitt. De Wet was a brilliant surveyor. By the time he was 24. He was George Washington's geographer. He made General Washington's map to Yorktown the last major battle of the war. But Simeon De Wit did something else truly remarkable and it is recognized by people around the world.

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De Wit and two colleagues designed the street grid for Manhattan. It was a visionary act of urban planning and it shaped the city's identity ever since I'm an urban planner.

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And my work is all about taking patches of the New York City Grid and turning them into public plazas. There's something uniquely democratic about the grid and its ability for newcomers to get the city's geography quickly and easily. I graduated from Rutgers the same university as Simeon DeWitt and now have a chance to shape his work for the 21st century. Just feels really special.

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You cannot overstate the impact sermon Waxman had on human health. This is the man who coined the term antibiotics.

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Waxman received two degrees from Rutgers. He returned as a member of the faculty Foxman research was conducted. Tuberculosis was regarded as one of the worst pathogens in human history. The discovery of streptomycin by Waxman in his graduate student about shots led to the first effective cure for tuberculosis.

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I met certain marksmen once when I was a student attending a conference in Germany with Nobel laureates. I would have never imagined I would become director of the Rutgers Institute that he founded. My work in molecular genetics had laid the foundation for the biotechnology revolution that's essential to our understanding of the genetic blueprint of animals plants and

microbes. In that way I see my work and that of the Institute as carrying on Waxman's legacy of saving lives and serving humanity.

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When you look at Paul Robeson's legacy. It just leaves you and all. Here is the son of a former slave. Who came to Rutgers excelled as a scholar athlete. And graduated Phi Beta Kappa. Then he went on to earn a law degree while playing professional football. The Robson really found his voice in the theatre. He was an international sensation someone who took real risks in his career.

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Paul Robeson was a trailblazer on the stage and in films and he used his fame to fight injustice.

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We have seen that people will fight for their freedom. But it is not bad when he stands out.

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As an example of that revolutionary spirit that makes our university and our country so great. As a Latina and as a journalist I aspire to be that same kind of groundbreaker to help overcome stereotypes. You know there aren't a lot of us on the air and I know that along with the success.

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Comes the tremendous responsibility to be that role model to help push boundaries and to inspire others to do the same.

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When we talk about free markets and individual responsibility. We're often talking about the groundbreaking work of one man. Economist Milton Friedman. Friedman was a Rutgers student in the 1930s. He won the Nobel Prize in 1976 and now he's acknowledged to be one of the great economic thinkers of all time. Like Milton Friedman I feel fortunate to have studied economics at Rutgers University. I know the power of free markets. I see it every day. I believe in a meritocracy in empowering people and getting out of their way and giving them the opportunity to succeed. Milton Friedman's ideas remain relevant. And powerful.

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Their influence has been experienced by just about everyone. Pretty much everyone has seen George Siegel's sculpture. His work isn't just in museums. It's on Christopher Street in New York. It's the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial in Washington. It's in London in Seoul South Korea. SIEGEL revolutionized the art of sculpture. He took on social issues and made them central to his art. You don't just look at a single installation you're invited to walk within it and experience it on a personal level. George Segal earned his MFA degree from Rutgers in 1963 and you broke all the rules of fine art at the time. As an artist there's so much inspiration I take from. I'm trying to move beyond the typical idea of a painting. I want my paintings to be viewed in the gallery. But I'm also animating and projecting them. So people are interacting with my

work rather than simply looking at it like Siegel I'm inviting people to engage with my art to be a part of it and to use it as an opportunity to reflect on the human condition.

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The ability to inspire does not just happen not in the army not in the law not in life.

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I became a soldier when one of my professors at Rutgers suggested I join the army. I had never thought about a career in the military. But I took that leap. Now I am the Judge Advocate General of the army. I have the honor to be part of a team that accomplishes extraordinary things. We work every day to make a difference in the world on behalf of the American people. And I got that start. An opportunity. At Rutgers. Rutgers helped set me on the path. In leadership. In the law.

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And in life. She's an inspiration a true leader someone who has taken her military experience and Rucker's education to new heights like Lieutenant General dropping out.

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I served in the army. I was wounded in Iraq.

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And awarded the Purple Heart. Coming to college was pretty challenging for me. It was hard to relate to people. Who had had the same experiences. Then I realized I wasn't alone. I worked with other veterans I rockers to give us a greater voice on campus. Now.

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Rookies is known as a leader in easing the transition of veterans to college life. Leadership doesn't just happen. You need people who care people who are committed and a place like rockers to make it happen.

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I had the great good fortune to serve on the Rutgers faculty from 1963 to 1972. In 1969 several students asked if the school could offer a seminar on women and the law. I headed to the library. There was precious little about women's place in the world.

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We're all doers and actors. A man records students sparked my interest and aiding in charting the course.

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I'd been pursuing. Less than three years after starting this seminar.

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I was arguing gender discrimination cases before the Supreme Court. Through the years recruiters remained steadfast. Advancing opportunities for people with long left out to aspire. And achieve.

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Justice Ginsburg. Well she's done in her life. It's just amazing. She was at Rutgers during amazing times in 1969 a group of students took over Coughlin Hall. They got to the roof and hung a banner liberation Hall. Back then there were hardly any black students here. They wanted to change that at a time when a lot of other campus protests ended violently. This one ended peacefully. And it changed Rutgers forever. Now Rutgers is a different place. It's vibrant it's diverse and it's engaged with its communities. I come from a multicultural family. You get us together and no two people look alike. I love that. And that's where Rutgers is like. This university is diverse. It's real. It's exciting and colorful and alive and it really prepares you for life. I took a leadership course and it changed my life. It made me realize you really can do anything. It's up to you. So I started a nonprofit and now we host open mike nights to raise money and pack up lunches for the homeless. And have. That opportunity. That spirit that is run.

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Rutgers was founded in 1766 by revolutionary thinkers in revolutionary times. Two hundred fifty years later Rutgers people are still making a difference. They're still coming up with revolutionary ideas and changing the world. And it all starts here.

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Rutgers really is the best thing that ever happened to me. To all of us brokers Rutgers Rutgers rockers the Rutgers revolutionary revolutionary evolution movement revolutionary revolutionary for 250 years.

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That should get you in the mood for our next part of our program. When we were organizing the opening program the seeds for this evening. We did not think long and hard on who our choice was for the keynote speaker Richard McCormack has a special relationship with Rutgers.

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Growing up across the river in Piscataway and learning from a young age all about Rutgers from his mother Katherine and his father Richard P. McCormick historian New Jersey historian Dean and University historian as is an historian himself and scholar of American political history. Dr. McCormick began his academic career on the history faculty at Rutgers and soon became department chair and then dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in New Brunswick. Following his tenure as provost with humor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and President University of Washington he returned home to become the 19th president of Rutgers serving university with distinction for the first decade of the 21st century. The overseas accomplishments during his presidency are numerous. At least let me name a few. The transformation of undergraduate education in New Brunswick the introduction of the Byrne family first year seminar program the establishment of the arrestee Research Center for undergraduates the office of promotion of women in science and engineering the integration of nearly all the units of the armed BMJ into Rutgers including the Robert Wood Johnson Medical

School the school of public health and the Cancer Institute of New Jersey. Other initiatives during his tenure include the first ever Rutgers day Rutgers against hunger and an expanded commitment to veterans including establishing coordinators of Veterans Services on each campus and introducing a veterans mentor for Mentors Program. Among the initiatives to strengthen diversity at Rutgers Dr. McCormick launched the Rutgers features Scholar program a pilot project to encourage minority and low income teenagers from the university's host municipalities in Camden Newark New Brunswick and Saturday to pursue higher education by offering mentorships. And college preparation support and the promise of free tuition for those admitted to Rutgers. For those who wish to learn more details to these and other developments as well as Halley president of the State University of New Jersey confronts the world the wild world of New Jersey politics. I highly recommend Dr. McCormick's recent memoir. Raised at Rutgers a president's story. Please welcome Dr. Richard McCormick.

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Copies of which may be purchased downstairs. Thank you Tom and congratulations to you and everyone at the Alexander library for the exhibition you unveiled today at Rutgers through the centuries it features a glorious array of artifacts and documents illuminating the 250 year history of Rutgers with your help Tom. I'll be illustrating my talk with a number of items from the exhibition. But but first I have a story and very late December 2004 and early January 2005. The always successful women's basketball team Rutgers women's basketball team had an exceptional run of victories in a span of eight days. They beat three top 10 teams. Legendary Pat Summitt's Tennessee that number eight. Texas is number three and finally number one LSU. A few days later I saw and congratulated coach Vivian Stringer and then taking a bit of liberty with the length of a week said that she and her team had just completed the most successful week of any athletic team in the history of Rutgers. Really she replied How do you know. Well I

said I'm a historian and I'm the president and that's that. I am still a historian. Very very pleased to be in that role today and grateful to everyone. And a lot of everyone's thank you for your presence this evening long and illustrious as is its history. Rutgers has never been more academically distinguished than it is today nor has he did it you have ever enjoyed more exhilarating opportunities for future excellence than it possesses at the present moment. The integration of the health science disciplines both here and in Newark. The explosive growth of Rutgers research across the disciplines are significant recent progress in strengthening undergraduate education. The construction of beautiful new facilities for teaching and research and yes are still new membership in the Big Ten aligning us with many of the very best public universities in America not just athletically but academically too.

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All these developments and more affirm that this is an auspicious moment for Rutgers. A time to rejoice in our institutions 250 years and to reflect on how Rutgers got to where it is today. It got here I will suggest by a singular pathway some of whose milestones are relatively ancient while others are quite recent. Look around this institution. In almost every respect Rutgers looks like a large and very good state university. Similar to others in the top ranks of such institutions it has over sixty five thousand students three main campuses well distributed around the state almost a thousand buildings a full array of highly regarded professional schools distinguished faculty who bring in 700 million dollars annually to support their research. Membership in the prestigious Association of American universities and a big football stadium. The governor of New Jersey appoints a majority of the members of the university's principal governing board and the state provides about 20 percent of the institution's annual budget. Now nearly four billion dollars and informed An attentive observer would readily compare Rutgers to the best of its counterparts around the country. And that comparison would be

accurate. But Rutgers is also different from its peers alone among them it was founded before the American Revolution as a private institution called Queens College and Adam an alone among them. It was almost 180 years before old before finally being designated as the State University an obligation. It is still learning fully to fulfill that history helps explain why large swaths of what is now Rutgers including its recently acquired health science schools originated as something else outside the bounds of the university and had to be cobbled together within it usually through difficulties of one kind or another. The job of cobbling has confronted virtually every Rutgers president including me and my successor Bob Archie and is still a work in progress. By and large the results have been extremely positive. Indeed Rutgers would not look nearly as much like a highly ranked state university without these painfully won creations but they have made for a tumultuous history. Compare Rutgers in your mind's eye to practically any other top tier public university that university whichever one you are imagining surely has many components. But almost every one of them was originally established within the institution itself that university and all its constituent parts grew up together. Rutgers is not like that many big and important pieces of what is now Rutgers originated as something else entirely including the Newark and Camden campuses and all the health science schools. Even within the New Brunswick campus into less than a decade ago there were four separate liberal arts colleges none with its own faculty but each with its own admission standards graduation requirements honors programs and all the rest each of these colleges represented proud prized themes in the university's long history. Rutgers College symbolized our institutions founding before the revolution and its commitment to undergraduate education of the highest quality Douglas College represented the university's enduring obligation to provide equal educational opportunities for women. Livingston college stood for the cultural and economic diversity and for educating men and women regardless of their heritage or economic status. University College epitomized our long standing promise to non-traditional students whose work and family responsibilities precluded them from full time college attendance but who deserved and cherished a chance to earn a Rutgers degree. No one was proposing that Rutgers would walk

away from any of these values and commitments. Indeed all of them were now embedded throughout the university not just in the colleges that had pioneered them but the unique histories of the four colleges explain why they had never really been integrated into a single university and why bringing them together and creating the School of Arts and Sciences just a few short years ago was so momentous and controversial. Rutgers is unique in other ways too. While its elite neighbors like Princeton and Columbia attracted choice students from around the nation and the world. And while America's most renowned public universities increasingly became destinations for affluent and well-prepared men and women from within their respective states Rutgers took a third pathway in composing its student body beginning early on Rutgers offered an avenue of upward mobility for economically disadvantaged students. For those whose parents never attended college. For the children of immigrants. And for those who could study only part time because they were already supporting their families. These are somewhat unusual characteristics for the student body of a flagship state university. But Rutgers retains them today on all three of its campuses in Newark Camden and New Brunswick. Eighty percent of the university's undergraduates depend upon some form of financial aid. More than a third qualify for federal Pell Grants which means they come from families that are truly disadvantaged economically. Thirty percent are first in their families to attend college and more than half identify themselves as racial or ethnic minorities a subject to which I will return.

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For decades after its founding by the Dutch Reformed Church in 1766 Queens College struggled even to survive it shut down for 12 years beginning in 1795 and again for nine years commencing in 1860.

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Finally as you have already heard this evening in the mid twenties the college attained some stability and a new name thanks to a gift from Colonel Henry Rutgers a Revolutionary War hero and a philanthropist who bestowed upon the college 5000 dollars and a bronze bell hoping to receive much more from their benefactor the college's trustees renamed the institution for Henry Rutgers. But alas they were disappointed. Nothing more was forthcoming. By now almost two centuries later we have blown through the 5000 dollars.

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But we still have the bell.

00:44:16

And it's wrong on ceremonial occasions from its perch in the Tower of beautiful old queens. Rutgers caught a big break in the eighteen 60s when the New Jersey legislature designated us as the state's land grant university land grant institutions were and still are expected to advance the economies of their states especially through agricultural education and research. And what were then called the mechanical arts. Now engineering truth told truth be told however the insta legislature's designation of Rutgers as the land grant university was less of a lucky break than it was the product of hardball politics 19th century style led by George H. Cooke a faculty member in chemistry and also the New Jersey State Geologist. Rutgers lobbied hard for the land grant designation and with it the money that would come from the sale of the land that the federal government had given to New Jersey. Princeton also competed for the honor in the dollars but evidently not hard enough. Don't let our folks think that talking and writing will accomplish much wrote one advocate for Rutgers. Of course they are necessary he continued. But the main thing is to secure the votes of members of the legislature and this can only be

done by personal and indefatigable efforts. Justice what just what those efforts entailed has not come down through history but that when the fight was over a haughty Prince stony and reflected on his institutions lost to Rutgers Princeton he sniffed could not condescend from her high moral position to the questionable practices by which Rutgers had prevailed. Whatever exactly our guys did. I wish I had tried the same thing when I was lobbying the legislature New Jersey drove a hard bargain for the land grant designation it had bestowed upon Rutgers in return for approximately sixty nine hundred dollars a year not a princely sum. Even then Rutgers was expected to maintain such courses of instruction as were called for by the federal government's moral act and to furnish the additional buildings required by these new educational obligations and to purchase land for and establish an experimental farm and to provide free scholarships for 40 students a year and to submit to the oversight of a 10 member Board of Visitors appointed by the governor of New Jersey. Sound familiar. Even as the state's Land Grant University Rutgers remained but little connected to New Jersey compared say to the great public universities in the Midwest or the South. Rutgers and its home state did not really grow up together. Each committed to the well-being of the other. The university was still governed by a private self-perpetuating board of trustees no longer composed of Dutch Reform ministers but still quite independent from the state. New Jersey recognized no responsibility for supporting the institution until early in the 20th century and even then that support was grudging and minimal.

00:47:17

In 1945 at the end of World War Two as Professor Paul Clements observes in his fine new book Rutgers consisted of two small elite liberal arts colleges in New Brunswick Rutgers College and the New Jersey College for Women soon to be called Douglass. Both still clinging to their status as private schools plus some half developed professional schools including one in agriculture

and another in engineering both of which owe their origins to those 19th century land grant lobbying shenanigans. Within a little more than a decade thereafter three important developments changed Rutgers and gave it the appearance at least of greater similarity to other American universities than it had ever had before. First in a two step process Rutgers became at last New Jersey State University. It gained official recognition as the state you in 1945 and then 11 years later in an elaborate bargain with the state legislature the historic board of trustees relinquished most of its authority to a newly created board of governors. A bare majority of whose 11 members now 15 would be appointed by the governor of New Jersey. In return Rutgers obtained promises of adequate financial support from the state. One hundred and ninety years after its founding as a private colonial college Rutgers acquired a system of governance that was appropriate to its newfound public status. Second among the postwar developments record at Rutgers acquired campuses in Newark in 1946 and Camden in 1950. Composed of previously existing institutions including a law school in each city and a business school in Newark. Professional fields that were formerly unrepresented within Rutgers. These campuses enabled the university to extend not only its geographic reach but also its educational breadth third. Rucker shared in the national trends affecting higher education following World War Two. Beginning with the G.I. bill the federal government began to provide financial aid for students and over the decades that aid grew into the robust programs of assistance we know today. At around the same time the federal government increased significantly its support of university based scientific research. There was support that now reaches tens of billions of dollars each year. The rector benefited to a degree from both of those developments. Yet even after becoming the State University. Even after absorbing campuses in Newark and Camden and even after experiencing the initial impacts of postwar federal policies Rutgers remained relatively unchanged still on a singular pathway in the 1960s Rutgers was not terribly different from what it had been 10 decades earlier and looked hardly at all like it does today. On the New Brunswick campus there were fewer than 10000 undergraduates all of them segregated by gender. The man at Rutgers College and the women

at Douglass and virtually all of them white except for a few outposts of academic distinction and a handful of nationally recognized scholars. Research was not a central activity at Rutgers when the American Council on Education prepared a mid 1960s survey of academic quality and graduate education. Rutgers barely figured only microbiology Selman Waxman's stomping ground even got a mention as late as 1972. The university's annual expenditures for research totaling only 21 million dollars of which less than 10 million came from the federal government. Professional Education was undistinguished and except for a pharmacy program at Newark and a fledgling medical school in Piscataway the health sciences were virtually non-existent.

00:50:57

Then over the course of the next half century approximately from its two hundredth year in 1966 until its 258 which is now upon us ruckus grew and changed far more than it ever had before. There are many elements to the story but three developments seem to me more important than the rest. First was the late 1960s protest movement of black students that compelled Rutgers to acknowledge deeply ingrained institutional racism and to begin a hard won journey to becoming one of the most diverse universities in the world. Second was the drive for distinction in research that Rutgers finest president Edward Blaustein launched in the 1980s and that continues today. Third was the university's acquisition of the health science schools that were part of UMD N.J. a quest that took a decade followed by the integration of these disciplines into Rutgers. A massive academic project that is still underway. Many of you who are here this evening know enough about rockers to have your own list of developments that mattered most. This is my list Paul Robeson enrolled at Rutgers at exactly a century ago. And became as everyone knows an extraordinary student athlete actor and citizen of the world. It is commonplace to say that Robeson as rock is Rucker's greatest graduate of all time and I'll

hazard a guess that when rocker celebrates his 300 fiftieth anniversary Paul Robeson will still be so regarded but for many years hurriedly any black students followed Robeson to Rutgers. The institution's first black graduate was James Dickson Carr in 1892. Robeson became its third in 1919 and by the 1940s only about 20 African-Americans altogether had attained Rutgers degrees. Even thereafter while the numbers increased to perhaps a couple of hundred who had graduated by the late 60s African-Americans remained a small minority. At Rutgers College in 1968 black students made up well under 2 percent of the student body across town at Douglass. Their numbers were only slightly higher. No other minorities were represented. No Asians no Puerto Rican snow Muslims. Last weekend Rutgers 250 sponsored an extraordinary conference called Black on the banks centering on African-Americans who had been students at Rutgers New Brunswick in the 1960s. The first panel. Was composed of women and men who had enrolled early in that decade each of whom poignantly described the smothering loneliness and isolation they experienced at Rutgers. Largely ignored by their faculty and by fellow students they were as Ralph Ellison wrote invisible. Needless to say there were no black faculty much less courses and programs that cover the black experience. Then change came thanks to brave black students and all three Rutgers campuses who demanded that the university admit and educate more black men and women appoint Black faculty and often provide educational offerings related to black history and black lives. The fateful moment was April 4th 1968 when Martin Luther King Junior was assassinated. An event whose shocking impact speaker after speaker described last weekend and the critical year was 1969 when black students engaged in discipline direct action throwing their trace on the floors of the dining halls marching through campuses occupying buildings issuing demands. And through it all compelling Rutgers to acknowledge its heritage of racism and to live up to its promises of equality and opportunity. No one would claim to this day that those promises have been entirely fulfilled. But the changes were dramatic especially in the composition of the student body and the contents of the curriculum. The faculty too became more diverse but vastly more progress is still needed in that area not just the students of 1969 but subsequent generations of Rutgers men and women

have made diversity in all its racial ethnic religious lifestyle and economic dimensions. One of the university's signature values each year what our graduating students are surveyed and asked to say what they most liked and disliked about Rutgers. They single out the university's diversity as among its most important and valuable characteristics. Essential to their education and to their growth to adulthood national and international statistics indicate that by dint of hard work over half a century but beginning unmistakably with the black students of the 1960s Rutgers now stands as among the most diverse universities in the world. Compared to institutions that are now its peers. Rutgers came late to a research mission when the federal government began supporting scientific and social scientific research in the 1940s Rutgers was not a major recipient of the largesse. Slowly however a few Rutgers programs led in every case by truly talented faculty began to carry on significant research to develop graduate programs and to win competitively awarded federal grants microbiology and physics were perhaps the first to bust through the barriers. And then there were others too including ceramics and mathematics beyond the sciences. English history and later philosophy also became outstanding.

00:56:20

Over the years other Rutgers disciplines followed the big breakthrough came during the 1980s led by President Ed Blaustein and executive vice president Alec pond and by key deans and faculty leaders.

00:56:33

Rutgers made a series of strategic decisions to enhance the university's research profile. External reviews guided the allocation of resources to targeted disciplines centers bureaus and

institutes were established in fields deemed most promising faculty tenure and promotion came to depend on research productivity. These efforts were contested and contentious as culture changing practices inevitably are but they prevailed. Faculty stars arrive from other institutions younger faculty members were hired with keen eyes upon their potential for outstanding research and handsome new facilities were constructed to support their work. In all of this perhaps for the first time in its long history Rutgers had the unstinting support of the state of New Jersey now led by a remarkable Governor Tom Kaine whose partnership with a blouse stained laid the foundation for Rutgers as we know it today.

00:57:30

In 1981 through an immense and controversial campus reorganization the previously separate college based faculty in the arts and science disciplines were unified in New Brunswick wide departments.

00:57:42

Suddenly Rutgers had sizable critical masses of faculty and all the core academic fields and national recognition followed for individuals for their departments and for the university as a whole. In 1989 the last year that Bob Stein's life Rutgers gained precisely the honor that he had long sought an invitation to membership in the EU the Association of American universities the organization of the top 62 research universities in America judging by the amount of federal research dollars received annually from the federal government. The single number that conveys more than any other measure about a university's success in research Rutgers has continued to build on the achievements of the 1980s. For the decade from 2002 to through through 2012 the most recent year for which I have data Rutgers increased its federal research

support by 230 percent more than any other A.U. public university and more than all but one of the few privates and that was before the health science disciplines became part of Rutgers. Which brings me to the third and last of the great developments on my list ever since 1970 when the barely established Rutgers medical school was torn from the university by sheer political force. Rutgers had felt the absence of a full array of health sciences to be sure the school of pharmacy thrived in its new home on the Bush campus while the School of Nursing grew apace in Newark. But life science faculty and graduate students keenly regretted not having medical and most other health science collaborators within their own university. The state of New Jersey also suffered from having its three medical schools cordoned off in a bloated bureaucratic Health Sciences University called UMD N.J. so much they could have been accomplished in teaching research health care and economic growth. When undone for decades I will not belabor this story because it's quite recent and well-known to most of you. And because right now I alone am standing between you and the exhibition on Rutgers history and between you and a glass of wine. From the fall of 2002 when Governor Jim McGreevey unveiled a visionary but startlingly flawed report authored by Roy valueless the former CEO of Merck until June of 2012 when the state legislature enacted major legislation restructuring medical and health science education in New Jersey Rutgers and its allies fought hard to reclaim the discipline of medicine and and we did at the end the key players included faculty members at both Rutgers and UMD N.J. The historic but still lively Rutgers board of trustees and from the world of politics former Gov. Tom Kaine and Gov. Chris Christie along the way the struggle got nasty has things sometimes do in New Jersey but with the creation of what is formerly called Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences in 2013 it all became worthwhile. With the addition of the health science schools directors New Jersey gained opportunities in education research and economic development that it had never before enjoyed and with those additions Rutgers acquired the disciplines it needed to join at last the ranks of the nation's very best public research universities. That's where Rutgers is today. Having arrived there in unusual ways that we're in are truly our own.

01:01:11

Who can say what rector's next great development it will be the next big thing that is comparable in impact and longevity to the brilliant brave actions of black students in the 1960s to the transformational achievements of Rutgers research leaders in the 1980s and to the bold accomplishments of our health scientists today.

01:01:30

Probably none of us knows what that development will be but I feel confident in predicting that whatever mighty transformation next comes to Rutgers will have these characteristics. It will arrive in response to truly significant human challenges and opportunities and it will be controversial. It will be achieved on our campuses and of course on the Internet through the hard work of smart determined and far sighted Rutgers men and women. And it will succeed in taking Rutgers yet further along its singular pathway to excellence that much at least we know from history. Thank you. Really wants to get you down for some time.

01:02:48

And I don't blame you. I would do if I do need to say a few words I would be remiss if I hadn't. This event and the exhibition is a major undertaking and I have a lot of people I do want to acknowledge. So please bear with me the wine is not going anywhere and the food's not going anywhere in the exhibit certainly will be up for one more year. So for a year or so but first off I just want to thank someone who is very special My life is who sometimes feels that Rutgers kind of over overwhelms her and in some ways and that's my lovely wife. Many of you many of you have gotten to know Linda through the years especially our folks in special collection universe ya guys. But I was amazed the other night. We're at a reception launching the

publications for the 250 and we're in the reception and we're then we're downstairs with a presentation and it's all over. And so my lovely wife because I'm going to go talk to President Park. Well I had just met President Bartlet for the first time that day and how long he's been here. That's neither here nor there. And someone came up to me and said Where's your wife. And I looked over and I see her. And the president just laughing just having a wonderful conversation. So she does get around and gets to me a lot of people she'd been living with rectors in my world for 26 years. And we also are the proud how proud sons and daughter laws are all Rutgers graduates. So and she's also been dealing with an archives for close to 40 years. So anyway in the words of our keynote speaker thank you for all what you do for Rutgers and its university archivist.

01:04:34

The exhibition and opening program for Rutgers through the centuries to honor 50 years of treasures from the archives is truly a collective effort. The result of hard work and dedication of many talented and dedicated individuals. Now I'd like to acknowledge their contributions. First I would like to thank. This is a very sincere thanks to our university archives assistants Rebecca fest and Megan Wren both graduates of the MLS program at Rutgers School of Communication Information. They contributed in all ways great and small including reviewing materials for selection for the collection. Scanning specific documents and photographs assistance with design elements and installation. But most importantly they lent their aesthetic and critical eye or eyes as consultants and we're just a support network without which this exhibition would not happen.

01:05:36

A very special member of our department a special collection yours. Guys is Fernando Peron. She's our exhibition coordinator among many other duties in our department and she was instrumental in the exhibit planning and construction coordination of this particular exhibit and all exhibits that we have. Lending her exceptional abilities and being an anchor in a process that can sometimes be controlled chaos. So we thank for not that we're sitting here she's got to be.

01:06:06

Maybe are assuming duties outside or something. She's all over the place for the reception.

01:06:11

I also want to thank Flora Barros with Flora here. I think she's helping Fernanda. They have assignments on Fernandez here in the overflow exhibition assisting for leading with the blow ups.

01:06:21

And then you'll have an opportunity to see the blow ups. In addition to the exhibition in our galleries over you'll be seeing oversized pictures of record student life throughout the B level of the library.

01:06:34

Flora oversaw that development. And we also thank her for her expertise and advice along the way. In addition we're grateful for the dedication of one of our newest members of the special

collection University Archives staff Tara McCarty on who assisted beyond the call of duty with multiple elements of mounting the exhibit.

01:06:54

Harry here I think she's probably working to right. He's working.

01:07:02

Karen Radic applied her sharp editorial skills. Given that it's my resume and editorial skills to the exhibition catalogue and captions and Al King we appreciate located several very important maps that are that we have on display and we thank both of their contributions. I know parents here. I thought I saw our team. Our king.

01:07:24

Thank you. As always we are very grateful for the continued support of my longtime friend and colleague Ron Becker head of special collections university archives.

01:07:34

Ron is all for your hard work and dedication.

01:07:39

We also greatly appreciate the numerous contributions of Nancy Martin who you may have seen in the registration that's advancing as you might be out there out there anyway for providing essential administrative assistance. Other colleagues inspect your collections all make contributions and we thank them. Christy Lutz Michael Joseph David Cosmo and John Mills. Thank you for your support and support and assistance in the exhibition. We are extremely fortunate to have an excellent preservation team. Tim Corliss head of preservation and special Clarkson University archives in his exceptional team exceptional staff including Kim Adams Betsy Phillips Nunavut she and skill sky interns Caitlin Kyle office and Patricia good though I know if anyone out there Tim here and his crew.

01:08:27

Mr. James thank you thank you thank you.

01:08:32

The work the work that you'll see when you go to the exhibit it's just not just interesting or what we hope to have selected interesting and appealing documents but the work that goes into in actually displaying those getting those ready is in tremendous amount of work and dedicated work and Tim in the crew that helps Kim Adams in the group this did a wonderful job and really really appreciate your contributions.

01:08:55

Special thanks also go to our colleagues at the rockers geology museum for generous loans of scientific instruments that belong to George cook that are on display and also to resume really

art museum for providing reproductions of several portraits of rockers related individuals from their wonderful collections. We of course could not have done this exhibition and program without the support of our colleagues Rutgers University Libraries not the DSA can kill and Darrel ivories for communication and design and catalog production. Jim Boyle so should university for planning and organization research for just being a champion of our efforts of our unique collections in programming. And of course Chris Kris Allen Maloney vice president information and university library of new information services in new virtual ever and for just general support of rockers 250 for the opening reception and participating in this program. Thank you Chris. Also thanks to Jeff type men who was running around making sure everything was OK today and his staff are providing logistical support and for program and reception. We owe much gratitude to our friends and colleagues in university communications and marketing. This is a great group of people. Believe me it was a pleasure working closely with many individuals and creative services in the workers 250 office and we'd like to thank them for their assistance. Thank you to join the gastric Adam Curtis Michelle Cody Nick Roman Danko Jane Hart Jean Weber Cindy Paul and Jerry Garcia in creative services and thanks to Mary Beth schmutz trademark and licensing for her work on developing rockers 250 merchandise as to be available to you downstairs along with the books. So make sure you have your credit card or your checks. We ask and this is a special thanks we owe a very very special special debt of gratitude Matt Weiss mantle April collage and Julie Pak of the rockers 250 office not only for their generous support of the exhibition but also their dedication enthusiasm enthusiasm for the history of this institution and for coordinating this milestone event. This is only the beginning and Matt and I were just talking recently.

01:11:03

We've been at this for a number of years so it's sort of like everybody's now become alive and well oh it's records 250 Well we've decided that we're ready to go on a standard vacation and relax and then get through the rest of the year. Thank you to her Hey guys here's man who's the chair of the old record 250 for pulling. A lot of people together to make all these activities happen not just this one but they're all the ones associated with the anniversary I want to thank Al Hoffman whose unfortunate cannot be here due to illness and Pam Blake is Pam in the audience they were the ones who really worked with Jason Jones a filmmaker to produce this wonderful film we saw tonight making available to us for this evening's viewing commanding came here.

01:11:47

I thought I saw her scrunchie I went away for Kim she's our vice president communications marketing. Kim has a knowledgeable skillful and extremely dedicated staff and we thank her for allowing us access to these talented folks. We also thank Francine Newsome Fifer who was here shortly but had to leave with the congressman.

01:12:06

She is vice president for federal relations and we thank her for arranging to have Congressman alone for coming by and offering remarks and unfortunately Rodney Frelinghuysen was not able to make it for other commitments as well. I'm sure his. At this reception were congressman plan was. But Frank did allude to the major interests of radio failing housing the failing housing families so connected to Rutgers and its history going back to to the 17 forties and so we're hoping not the valuable business that is visited outside of separate time will give him the exclusive private tour of the exhibition. Oh and last. I'm almost done.

01:12:45

And last but certainly not least I think Erica Gardner curator of the exhibition curator of the exhibition associate university archivists and my partner in crime who turned the idea of an historic exhibit for rockers to fit into a reality. The result of creativity enthusiasm will be seen and can be seen downstairs as you explore records through the centuries. While many folks have just realized that rockers is too under 50 years old actually 249 got one more year to go. Eric and I have been planning for this anniversary for probably like five years if not more. But it is our responsibility as university archivist to. Boilerplate here to identify acquire preserve or make accessible the rich historical record of this institution of higher learning from its beginnings as a small colonial college in the age of the 18th century to the comprehensive public research university that it is today. While this historical overview up to 50 years of recorded history contains only a glimpse a small number of selected items the doctors archives in special collection university archives contains much more. And as Chris Kris Allen had alluded to extensive collections of written records generate by administrative offices faculty papers documenting the professional careers of individuals in a variety of disciplines and numerous variety disciplines and numerous publications photographs and multimedia material. As a research repository we were extremely pleased to lend our assistance to several authors who have recently published books on markers for those who view Rucker sued a century exhibit. We hope it stimulates interest to learn more on the history of the university and we recommend highly recommend consulting these recent publications rays that records. The present story by Richard L. McCormick.

01:14:42

Got one more forgiving of Rucker since 1945. A History of US State University of New Jersey by Paul Clements and Rutgers a 250 is the anniversary portrait.

01:14:55

By a host of thousands. Barry Quarles and others many of the authors are in the audience here that's their collaborative collective effort. It also is a tremendous fight by taking care of all three I think it covered all the history from 1945 to the present. I've read all of them. The last few more times than I care to. But it's down to my daughter tremendous books and really find out a lot of really information that key dad and I need to be told. Since the publication of Richard P. McCormick's records of bicentennial history in 1966 and. In addition in the exhibition catalog which I hope you'll pick up when you go downstairs to view the exhibit there is in the catalog selected a list of selected sources on records. This is an extensive bibliography for those who really are inspired to learn more about this institution. We are set to adjourn. We have a reception on the B level of the library at the scarlet letter. The exhibition is an art gallery 50 which is in the atrium area but actually begins in special collections and reserve archives gallery which is right down the hall from the scarlet letter. So I thank you very much for joining us. I hope you enjoyed the exhibit. And good luck with the rest of these. I hope you attend a lot of activities for the rest of the 250. Thank you Richard.

01:16:16

The format for your sake. Thank you for selling Amani Congressman's loan and gift ever. Thank you. Enjoy.