Dean’s Message

As Douglass Residential College approaches 100 years of exceptional women’s education, we are proud to continue the College’s legacy of promoting the advancement and success of women. Mabel Smith Douglass and the New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs’ vision to create a college dedicated to the advancement of women inspires our vision of a Douglass education today. Today, Douglass Residential College enrolls over 2,500 women undergraduates and is still the only women’s college within a major research university. Distinguished by our history and our success, today, we prepare our students to lead, tackle current challenges, and influence their communities and workplaces in the service of a better world. While the programs and offerings at Douglass have changed over the decades, the originating mission of the New Jersey College for Women endures. I am proud to announce the College’s new Strategic Plan, A Transformative Future: Building on 100 Years of Success.

Jacquelyn Litt, Ph.D.

Lead Well. Work Well. Live Well.
Douglass Residential College Introduces the BOLD Center to Prepare Students for Success

The BOLD Center is leading the charge to infuse students’ experience with career and leadership programs designed explicitly for them.

Douglass Residential College has introduced the BOLD Center (Building Opportunities for Leadership and Development) at Douglass to prepare students for career and leadership success. The BOLD Center’s staff connects students with exemplary role models and mentors. These mentors, many of them Douglass alumnae, work one-on-one with students to help them refine their academic and career goals, gain confidence, and develop a professional identity. BOLD has a keen interest in supporting women who aspire to careers where they are underrepresented. In many cases those careers also have the highest earning power.

Continued on p. 6
Douglass Residential College Leads National Efforts to Expand Women’s Participation in STEM

When Douglass Residential College was founded nearly a century ago, it defied societal expectations by giving women opportunities to study math and science. Today, its world class science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) offerings have helped thousands of women explore and excel in those disciplines. Launched in 1986, the award-winning Douglas Project for Rutgers Women in Math, Science & Engineering (the Douglass Project) formalized the College’s commitment to increase the number of women who select STEM fields for their education and careers.

In 2017, fifty percent of all Douglass students intend to pursue a STEM major. “This is remarkable, but it did not happen by chance,” says Geraldine Cochran, Ph.D., Douglass Project Assistant Dean. “It succeeded because we combined a challenging academic environment, with a strong mentorship support system. We are committed to setting the bar high for our students — and for Douglass — by keeping pace with developments in this dynamic field.”

Despite programs like the Douglass Project, women are still significantly underrepresented in certain STEM disciplines. According to the National Science Foundation, women earned 57.3% of bachelor’s degrees in all fields in 2013, but received far fewer degrees in STEM majors such as engineering (19.3%) and computer science (17.9%). Douglass is at the forefront of national efforts to address these imbalances.

Among the most successful programs pioneered at Douglass are the living learning communities (LLCs). LLCs bolster undergraduate achievement, especially during the first year, by providing an integrated learning experience that connects their living environment with a particular curriculum. When it opened 35 years ago, Bunting-Cobb Residence Hall for Women in STEM was the first residence hall in the country specifically for STEM women. Additional LLCs soon followed, like the Reilly Douglass Engineering Living-Learning Community, and Douglass SEBS Environmental Living Learning Community. Students receive support through peer academic leaders, professional development workshops, and access to graduate student mentors, all which increase their retention in STEM. The latest in these groundbreaking communities is the Douglass-SAS-DIMACS Computer Science Living-Learning Community, funded through a National Science Foundation grant, that opened this fall.

In addition to rigorous coursework, the Douglass Project enables students to apply what they learn to solve real life problems. Jenny Coulter ’17 is a physics major and Douglass student who was named a Goldwater Scholar, which is the premier undergraduate award of its kind in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences and engineering. Jenny credits the Douglass Project for facilitating her start through sponsored research during her first two years at Rutgers.
In the 21st century, borders and boundaries are continually dissolving in the workplace and beyond. It’s essential that college students are educated to think and act with a global perspective. Last fall, with the opening of the Kathleen W. Ludwig Global Village Living Learning Center, Douglass Residential College gained a significant asset in providing invaluable experiences for students wanting a global focus.

The Ludwig Global Learning Center is a 19,000-square-foot, modern residential facility that is the hub for global education at Douglass. Home to the College’s Global Village, it holds the status of being one of the only centers in the country specifically dedicated to women and global education. Equipped with dorm rooms, classrooms, assembly and lounge spaces, the building incorporates cutting-edge technology that fosters international communication.

Organized around theme-based houses such as Public Health, Africana Studies, Spanish, and Women & Medicine, the Global Village allows students to live and learn in a community with others who are interested in global awareness and cross-cultural exchange. Global Village residents develop language skills, intercultural appreciation, global competence, and peer learning among their fellow Douglass students.

“Our students live in a globalized world, and there’s an unprecedented opportunity for women to be leaders on global issues,” says Jacquelyn Litt, Ph.D., Dean of Douglass Residential College. “Through the Global Village program, Douglass students have created positive change both in the United States and abroad. The new Ludwig Global Learning Center will allow a greater number of Douglass women to learn the skills and perspectives necessary for their participation and success in this globalized world.”

The Ludwig Global Learning Center will play a major role in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Douglass Residential College, particularly in the growth of the Global Village and a new program that integrates the College’s strengths in global learning and STEM. The building is named for alumna Kathleen W. Ludwig, a lifelong advocate for human rights and benefactor of the building along with her husband, Edward Ludwig.

**Giving to Douglass**

Fundraising for Douglass has changed. The AADC no longer raises funds for Douglass student programs or scholarships. Only Douglass, through Rutgers University Foundation, raises funds in support of college students, programs and scholarships.

Donations to Douglass are now processed through the Rutgers University Foundation (RUF). Your gifts designated for Douglass are transmitted immediately to the College by RUF.

By giving to Douglass, you can be assured that it will go directly to support our Douglass students.

You can make a real difference for Douglass students this year by designating your gift to any of the programs listed below by June 30, 2017. Douglass women are exceptional. They are diverse, academically superior, innovative thinkers, and are record numbers of Phi Beta Kappa inductees.

Douglass programs thrive with the financial support provided by alumnae – which gives students the opportunity to stand on the shoulders of the extraordinary women who have graced Douglass for almost 100 years.

Please choose the program your gift will support on the attached envelope.

– The BOLD Center (Building Opportunities for Leadership and Development)
– The Douglass Project, Women in STEM
– Global Village and Global Education
– The Douglass Excellence Fund
– Scholarships

OR

Give today by going to douglass.rutgers.edu/giving-douglass.

If you have any questions about the programs or giving to Douglass to support our students and programs, please contact Maureen Mollahan, Assistant Dean of Douglass Advancement at Maureen.mollahan@rutgers.edu or call 848-932-3181.
Global Village Travel

International service learning opportunities are part of what makes the Global Village living-learning community a unique experience for Douglass students. Research has shown that living-learning communities help students become more engaged in activities both on campus and off. With the additional opportunity to travel abroad, Global Village students are able to step in and get first-hand experience learning about some of the most challenging issues facing women around the world.

Peru: Access to Education
Students learned about the colorful Peruvian woven handicrafts while staying in a mountain community where women are working to preserve traditional weaving practices within the culture.

Mexico: The Power of Exchange
Students traveled to Mérida, Mexico and had many opportunities for cross-cultural exchange with students their age studying at the Autonomous University of the Yucatan.

Dominican Republic: Human Rights in the Bateyes
While in the Dominican Republic, students explored issues of social justice in relation to race and gender through a service-learning placement at community-based organizations in the bateyes, communities located in sugar cane fields to the east of the capital, Santo Domingo.
Alumnae Spotlight: Barbara Guggenheim ‘68

Barbara Guggenheim graduated Douglass College in 1968 with a major in Art History and received a Ph.D. from Columbia University, also in Art History. Today, she’s a well-known art advisor with offices in New York and Los Angeles. Her firm, Guggenheim Asher Associates, helps major corporations, such as Sony and Coca-Cola, and individuals, such as Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg, build art collections. Early in Guggenheim’s career, she taught art history at Douglass College. She also worked at Sotheby’s and Christie’s and lectured for many years at the Whitney Museum. Barbara is the author of five books. Her most recent, Art World: The New Rules of the Game, came out this fall. She has also written numerous articles on collecting and the art market, and in her spare time is a humorist, with articles appearing in Elle, W, Harper’s Bazaar and many others.

1 What are some of the highlights of your very successful fine art career that you would like to share with Douglass alums and current students?

I consider myself a practicing art historian. I’m lucky in that I get to use all my academic education everyday. I see a painting that’s new to me and I have to throw every bit of my knowledge at it.

2 You have just published Art World: The New Rules of the Game. What’s the book about, and what inspired you to write it?

Unfortunately, many books and articles published on art and the art world these days are written in insufferable “Art Speak.” The words are English, but they read like a foreign language. Perhaps the writers are trying to keep the art world a closed shop or, they don’t know what to say about the art that’s being made today and are disguising their lack of ability with an undecipherable vocabulary. That’s one reason I wrote Art World: The New Rules of the Game – to explain how the art world works in simple prose everyone can understand and, I hope, enjoy.

Another reason is that, in the twenty-five plus years I’ve been an art advisor, I’ve never found a decent “playbook” to recommend to clients. ART WORLD not only explains what goes on behind the velvet rope, but it also provides tips on how to get the most enjoyment out of art and how to be a successful collector. I’ve included personal anecdotes and stories colleagues have shared. I admit, the Kirkus review is so good, it reads as if my mother wrote it.

3 What are the most important tools that you believe higher education institutions like Douglass Residential College should provide to young women today to foster leadership development?

Having inspiring professors is great. I had a teacher in studio art, Jackie Winsor, who became a famous artist, who was my biggest inspiration at Douglass. She probably had no idea (I’ve told her since). It wasn’t what she taught but rather it was the way she taught and problem-solved that was eye-opening and led me to think about professions in the field of art. It’s also important for young women to have access to the business and non-profit worlds and learn from them how they identified careers and reached for their goals. Those stories will empower young women to move in directions that they hadn’t thought about previously. Mentoring, of course, is an extremely important aspect of that.
The Douglass Difference: Advancing Women’s Excellence

“Our BOLD Center is a personalized, high touch resource that helps students confidently navigate their way through college, and that gives them the skills they need to succeed when they start their careers or graduate studies,” says Leslie Danehy, Ed.D., Assistant Dean and Executive Director of the BOLD Center. “We offer premier career and leadership development programs designed specifically for women and are a one-of-a-kind in the nation as the only university program exclusively targeted to women’s career success in a wide variety of fields.”

Charlotte Whitehead ’17, an officer of the Douglass Governing Council, is a perfect example of a student whose leadership capabilities have flourished through participation in BOLD Center programs. “Douglass has given me a community of women that I feel comfortable reaching out to,” says Whitehead. “Being involved at Douglass has given me a voice. I can make changes to the place where I live, and I have a platform to make a difference.”

One of the most popular programs the BOLD Center offers is the Douglass Externship Experience. This is an experiential learning opportunity through which students spend time in corporate, public sector, higher education and nonprofit organizations to learn about a particular industry. Students are placed in positions where they can take on a short project, attend meetings and participate in events, all while shadowing site mentors, many of whom are Douglass alumnae. These intensive experiences at organizations such as Google, AT&T, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Verizon, and numerous physician, government, and business offices, help students clarify decisions about their majors, graduate study and career options.

The BOLD Center is also leading the charge to infuse students’ experience with global awareness and activism. According to Margot Baruch, director of global engagement, the BOLD Center extends students’ learning outside the classroom and involves them in experiences that “connect the local to the global.” Antoinette Gingerelli ’17 personifies the BOLD Center mission. “Douglass has shaped my definition of leadership. I have learned that being a leader means helping a group of people achieve a common goal,” says Gingerelli. “A leader does not lead simply for the recognition, but to make an impact on the lives of others and improve society as a whole, even in the smallest way. Leaders help pull each other up with them towards a goal, not push others down.”

Introducing the BOLD Center Continued from p. 2

Six critical priorities now guide the College’s leading edge programs:

- **Advance Intellectual Excellence in the Core Curriculum**
- **Create the BOLD Center at Douglass for Career and Leadership Development**
- **Establish Douglass’ National Prominence as a Leader in STEM Education**
- **Further the Douglass Emphasis on Fostering Inclusiveness**
- **Promote Douglass as a Leader in Women’s Education**
- **Develop the Resources Needed to Support Growth and Innovation at Douglass**

Using evidence-based best practices for high impact, we emphasize the power of expertise, peer learning, and experiential education – programs that prepare Douglass students to follow the legacy of Douglass alumnae in becoming the next generation of leaders.

Thanks to the generous gifts from alumnae, we have been able to offer ground-breaking programs for our students. Your continued support will allow Douglass to reach our new strategic priorities that elevate Douglass as the national model for women’s education. But far more important, your philanthropic support provides the unique and innovative opportunities that transform students’ lives.

In our first print edition of Douglass Now, we spotlight a selection of innovative Douglass programs. Our future remains bright with the Douglass mission as our guiding light – to learn, lead, and live with conviction, creativity, and critical insight.