Eagleton Launches New Program on the Governor

The nation’s only academic resource focusing on the roles of governors of the 50 states – the Rutgers Program on the Governor – is now underway. Looking at the roles of governors nationally and with a special focus on New Jersey, the program builds on the Eagleton Institute’s long-standing work in state politics and government. As Institute Director Ruth B. Mandel notes:

Of the last five presidents, four have served as governors prior to their election to the presidency. The powers, responsibilities and management of the office of the state governor in the nation and in New Jersey deserve focused attention by scholars and students. This program will encourage research and discussion about the historical and contemporary significance of the governor in policy and politics.

Former New Jersey Governors Brendan T. Byrne and Thomas H. Kean are serving as co-chairs of the program in its initial stage and will:

• lead colloquia focusing on their respective careers and administrations;
• oversee development of websites publishing archival source materials and overviews of policy issues and decision-making during their tenure in office;
• host conferences, lectures and visits by prominent speakers – including sitting and former governors, scholars, and media representatives – discussing the history, powers and contemporary political and policy roles of governors in the United States.

On June 15th, the Eagleton Institute hosted a reception marking the publication by Rutgers University Press of a biography of Governor Kean, Governor Tom Kean: From the New Jersey Statehouse to the 9/11 Commission, authored by Alvin S. Felzenberg. (See article on page 11.)

On September 26th, Eagleton will host a colloquium on Governor Byrne’s career. Key associates, scholars, and others will discuss the continuing impact of policy decisions made.

Newark Student Voices Sponsors City’s Only Candidate Forum

On Tuesday, May 2 during a heated campaign that drew national attention, Eagleton’s Newark Student Voices Project, in collaboration with the Campaign for Civic Discourse, convened the only community forum that featured all four mayoral candidates - former Councilman Cory Booker, State Senator Ron Rice, Sprint manager David Blount, and labor activist Nancy Rosenstock. For Newark voters, it was an opportunity to compare the candidates, but for the high school students involved with Newark Student Voices, it was also a chance to apply the political education they were gaining through their social studies classes focused on this year’s municipal election.

Contrasting the debate with events during the bitter 2002 mayoral race, Clement Price, a professor of history at Rutgers-Newark, commented that the Newark Student Voices program “raised the standard of candidate comportment and that of the audience, no small feat. Moreover, the well crafted and persuasively presented questions from the young citizens were a lesson to young and old alike about preparation and seriousness of purpose.”

Now mayor of Newark Cory Booker met students from the Newark Student Voices program as a candidate at the Newark Mayoral Candidates Town Hall debate. The event was co-sponsored by Newark Student Voices and the Campaign for Civic Discourse.
EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Eagleton's 50th anniversary celebration includes many elements – special speakers, plans for new programs, and our November 10th gala, to name a few. But there's no denying that a central feature of this occasion is the opportunity to ask for help from friends and supporters to ensure that the Institute will continue to grow and thrive over the next 50 years. People with vision and generosity – starting with Florence Peshine Eagleton, and continuing to this day – make it possible for us to imagine and then implement exciting programs, pursue intriguing research, and offer students a rich mix of classroom study and hands-on experience.

As you think about how you might contribute to Eagleton's future, consider a few examples of good friends who have helped to establish or sustain Eagleton programs with generous gifts.

**Harold and Reba Martin** have been good friends of the Institute and longtime supporters of the Eagleton Fellowship Program. Harold Martin was an elected official himself, serving in the New Jersey legislature, and the Martins take pleasure each year in learning how the Harold and Reba Martin Government Fellowships help a new group of young people prepare for careers in public leadership.

**Julie Fishelson** understood that for many students, unpaid or low-paying summer internships – so vital to young people building careers – are out of reach; they need paid positions to cover their tuition and school expenses. With a gift to the Center for American Women and Politics, she endowed internships that allow young women to learn, earn and serve during the summer.

**Edith Neimark**, a retired Rutgers professor, shares Florence Peshine Eagleton's view that “the cultivation of civic responsibility and leadership among the American people in the field of practical political affairs is of vital and increasing importance to our state and nation.” She lent her support to the early stages of Eagleton's Youth Political Participation Program, jump-starting the Institute's vital work to understand and encourage young people’s civic engagement.

**Eagleton Alumni** regard their experience at the Institute as a highlight of their graduate education. A typical comment from one: “There is no doubt that the steps I take in my career after graduation will have everything to do with Eagleton.” Together, they have provided the funding for the Eagleton Alumni Fellowship each year, making it possible for others to follow in their footsteps.

With friends like these...well, with friends like these, we can accomplish much more in the years to come. Everyone at the Institute is pitching in on our anniversary campaign, and we very much hope you will join in too. I would, of course, be happy to talk with you about how you can support your favorite aspect of Eagleton’s work, or you can contact our development officer, Rachel Napier at 732/932-9384, ext. 230 or rnapier@rci.rutgers.edu.

Ruth B. Mandel
Director and Professor

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A FAVORITE EAGLETON MOMENT...

My WOW moment as an Eagleton Undergraduate Associate came in 1983. Here I was at class; a small group of students was assembled in the living room, sitting in soft comfy chairs with notebooks in our laps. While this had the appearance of just another class at RU, our lecturer was the former President of the United States of America. How phenomenal it was to raise my hand and ask a question that started with "Mr. President"!

Driving home from school that day, I listened to the all news radio station. I heard my own voice and President Gerald Ford responding that he really didn’t take it personally that every time he tripped or fell he landed on the front page of The New York Times. To be the leader of the free world, he had to have thick skin. It was more important to keep focused on the real tasks at hand. It was good advice for a twenty year old.

Janet Kalapos
Undergraduate Associate 1983
TOUGH CHOICES: THE POLITICS OF IMMIGRATION REFORM

Immigration – one of the hottest topics on the political front this year – was highlighted at a roundtable discussion among three Rutgers faculty members on June 7. Panelists included Daniel J. Tichenor, associate professor at the Eagleton Institute and the Department of Political Science; Christine Thurlow Brenner, assistant professor in the Department of Public Policy and Administration at Rutgers-Camden, and Cas Mudde, a professor in the Department of Political Science at University of Antwerp and Fulbright visiting professor.

Tichenor provided an overview of U.S. immigration policies and identified common threads present in debates since the country’s earliest days. He offered a model for understanding different points of view based on two dimensions – whether immigrant admissions should be expanded or restricted, and whether the rights of aliens should be expansive or narrow.

Brenner then presented illustrations of how cities across the U.S. have responded to an influx of Latino immigrants, describing examples of local programs and the assumptions about immigrants from which they proceed. For example, communities where Latinos are viewed as economic revitalization assets have offered sweat equity home improvement programs and assistance for small business development. In contrast, communities where Latinos are viewed as victims might provide family safety and domestic violence prevention programs, crisis response information in Spanish, or specialized police with bilingual skills.

Finally, Mudde offered the cross-national perspective, discussing how and why the European response to immigration differs from that of Americans.

CAWP SCHOLAR S NEW BOOK HIGHLIGHTS THE ROLE OF GENDER IN ELECTIONS

What can we learn from the 2004 elections about women in American politics – whether as candidates or voters? Find a variety of answers in Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics, edited by CAWP senior scholar Susan J. Carroll and Richard L. Fox, associate professor of political science at Union College. The book, published by Cambridge University Press, sets the information in historical context and looks ahead to upcoming elections.

As a bonus, if you order this book (or anything else!) by visiting the CAWP website at www.cawp.rutgers.edu and clicking on the link to Amazon.com, a portion of the purchase price will go to support the Center’s work.
during the Byrne administration on such issues as taxes and school finance, the Pinelands preservation, Atlantic City casino gambling, and others. A similar colloquium at a later date will feature Governor Kean’s career. Additional programs are now being planned assessing, among other topics, the varying constitutional powers of governors in the 50 states and the roles of state governors in crisis management during incidents of terrorism and natural disasters.

To date, Eagleton also has conducted more than 20 videotaped interviews with Governor Byrne, as well as his key associates and veterans of his administration, including:

• Richard Leone (state treasurer during the Byrne administration);
• John Degman (attorney general and executive secretary to the governor);
• Alan Sagner (commissioner of the Department of Transportation and chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey);
• William Hamilton (Assembly speaker);
• Albert Burstein (Assembly majority leader);
• Daniel O’Hern and Alan Handler (New Jersey Supreme Court Justices and counsels to the Governor).

(See interview excerpts above.)

Materials from the documentary collections, the video interviews, and other sources will be available shortly through the Eagleton website. After profiling Governor Byrne’s career, Eagleton hopes to obtain additional support for similar efforts high-lighting the careers of Governor Kean and other New Jersey governors.

Major support for the program was gained through fundraising efforts by Governor Byrne and his wife, Ruthi Zinn Byrne, in conjunction with the Governor’s gift last year to the Rutgers Libraries of personal papers, photos and other memorabilia. Eagleton has initiated a broader effort to supplement this collection though research in the State Government Archives in Trenton and other materials in the collection of the Seton Hall University Libraries.

Key program leadership at Eagleton is being provided by Don Linky, senior policy fellow, with support from Associate Professor Daniel Tichenor. Funds are being sought for this new program as part of Eagleton’s 50th anniversary. For further information, contact Don Linky.
envisioned myself as a viable candidate... So I spent that week of vacation time from the bench going around making soundings.

On his position in 1973 gubernatorial campaign that he did not see the need for an income tax “in the foreseeable future:

In the course of the campaign, we had discussed an income tax. When I was running in the primary, Cahill had been in favor of an income tax and had a bill. I criticized his bill. The position I took in the primary when carefully asked was that I would not go for the Cahill income tax, because it didn’t do certain things. I had four things I thought an income tax would have to satisfy in order for me to support it. But by and large, all that was lost. Now when [Congressman Charles] Sandman wins the primary, the income tax becomes more of an issue. If Cahill had won, we would have both been for an income tax in some form. Cahill loses, the income tax becomes Sandman’s issue. I was probably more cautious than I had to be, but I also think the press overplayed my “foreseeable future” statement.

On alternatives to the income tax as ways to comply with New Jersey Supreme Court’s order to reform existing dependence on local property taxes:

We needed some way to solve the school funding issue. That was never really intelligently discussed in that 1973 campaign. How are you going to fund schools? …neither of us really discussed that the way it should have been discussed. So now I am governor and in 1974 I have to face the issue. And we did decide at that point that probably the way to do it would be through an income tax, although there were other alternatives that were doable. …After I proposed the income tax, I kept getting hit with these cockamamie schemes of a penny here, a penny there, that would not have been a long range solution to anything.

Richard Leone, 1973 Byrne campaign manager and later New Jersey state treasurer (current chairman, The Century Foundation)

...As a prosecutor [Byrne] had served during a period when the FBI was taping the Mafia. And they had on tape a number of references to this guy Byrne, who nobody could get to. What is the matter with this guy Byrne, doesn’t he like money? What is the matter with this guy Byrne, nobody can get to him? He was the man the mob couldn’t buy. And people in New Jersey politics developed the notion that getting Byrne to run would be tantamount to winning the election. So they persuaded Brendan to run.

Daniel J. O’Hern, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, counsel to Governor Byrne and associate justice, New Jersey Supreme Court:

Byrne was extremely calm... And I said to his secretary once, "How does he stay so calm?" and she told me the story that he’d been a bombardier in World War II, and a bullet came through the plane, missed him by an inch and he figured, I can’t do anything about it. If it's going to happen, it's going to happen.

O’Hern, on why Governor Byrne was so committed to his program to preserve the Pinelands:

My own perception is that it was an expression of a desire to show people that government can make a difference... He was socially friendly with John McPhee, the writer, and McPhee wrote a very famous book about the Pinelands and...he said something to this effect: "It's all going to be lost." And Governor Byrne said to him, "You really believe that, John. You don’t think anybody could stop it." And McPhee said "No." And to Byrne I suspect that was a challenge.
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INITIATIVE EXPLORES ETHICS AND CHARACTER ISSUES IN POLITICS, BUSINESS, AND EDUCATION

Corruption in public life. Ethical concerns in medical research. The prevalence of cheating in higher education, business, and government.

These hot-button topics are among many addressed in the first phase of the Rutgers Ethics Initiative, begun in January 2005 as a partnership between the Eagleton Institute of Politics and the Prudential Business Ethics Center at the Rutgers Business School on the Newark campus. The initiative, which focuses on ethical issues in the interaction of business and politics, received initial support from the Rutgers Academic Excellence Fund.

Activities to date have included:
• a public opinion poll on citizen attitudes about corruption in New Jersey public life, conducted by Eagleton’s Center for Public Interest Polling;
• a focus group exploring these topics with a sampling of New Jersey citizens;
• a lecture series on such topics as corporate governance reform, ethical concerns in medical research, the history of political and business corruption in New Jersey, and the prevalence of cheating in higher education, business and government;
• a roundtable of key public and private decision makers, including Governor Jon Corzine’s transition director Richard Leone and retired New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Daniel O’Hern, discussing current proposals for ethics reform;
• a conference (co-sponsored with the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce) with participants including directors of state government ethics agencies from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Most recently, the Initiative sponsored a talk on the status of state government ethics reform measures at the headquarters of Prudential Financial in Newark by Professor Paula Franzese of the Seton Hall Law School, who earlier this year was named by Governor Corzine as chair of the State Ethics Commission.

The Initiative also has sought to explore ways to give character and civic education greater emphasis in the Rutgers curriculum. Last year, Eagleton hosted a colloquium for Rutgers faculty on potential revisions to Rutgers curricula. The program included presentations by key faculty or staff from ethics programs at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School, Dartmouth College and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

In the coming months, Eagleton and the Prudential Business Ethics Center hope to explore new opportunities for research and additional activities. As part of the Institute’s 50th anniversary, we seek new partners who would like to help us continue to develop this important initiative.

For further information about this initiative, contact Don Linky at dlinky@rci.rutgers.edu or 732/932-9384 ext 236.

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM ON POLITICAL APATHY OF TODAY’S YOUTH CHALLENGED

A New Engagement?: Political Participation, Civic Life, and the Changing American Citizen, by Professor Cliff Zukin, along with Scott Keeter, Molly Andolina, Krista Jenkins, and Michael X. Delli Carpini, challenges the conventional wisdom that today’s youth is plagued by a severe case of political apathy. Published by Oxford University Press, the book discusses the changing nature of citizen engagement in American society.

Instead of participating less, young people may be participating differently. Using the results from an original set of surveys on civic engagement and many other surveys tracking participation over the past 50 years, the authors conclude that young people do not lag behind their elders in volunteering, community activism, and using the economic muscle of consumerism.
THE MORNING AFTER, JUNE 2006 EDITION, SHEDS LIGHT ON NJ ELECTIONS

John Weingart, associate director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, explains it this way: Since New Jersey’s political junkies are going to spend the morning after an election reviewing the results and their implications anyway, why shouldn’t they do it together at Wood Lawn? That reasoning has led to a series of roundtables that now fill the Eagleton drawing room every June and November as partisans and pundits mull over election outcomes and ponder the future.

The latest edition featured Weingart as moderator, along with panelists Amanda Bennett, editor and executive vice president of The Philadelphia Inquirer; Doug Forrester, Republican nominee for U.S. Senate in 2002 and for New Jersey governor in 2005; Steve Kornacki, staff writer for Roll Call and former reporter for PoliticsNJ.com; and Loretta Weinberg, Democratic state senator from New Jersey’s 37th district. The panelists concurred that New Jersey’s race for the U.S. Senate would be closely fought and closely watched nationally, since a victory by Republican State Senator Thomas Kean Jr. over the Democratic candidate, Senator Robert Menendez, would likely ensure continued Republican control of the Senate. They also discussed some of the lively races at the local level and commented on the complications of statewide races in New Jersey, where network television coverage comes from stations based in New York and Philadelphia.

The panelists all agreed with Amanda Bennett’s observation that the importance of grassroots politics has grown dramatically just in the last year or two, calling into question the previous conventional wisdom that television advertising is the only major factor determining the outcome of most races.

EAGLETON A PARTNER IN STUDY ON A COMPETITIVE NEW JERSEY

Working with a team headed by New Jersey Future, Eagleton’s New Jersey Project participated in a study of ways the Garden State could retain its competitive edge in attracting jobs and investment. The Brookings Institution of Washington D.C. conducted the study examining the state’s economic future, which recommended that New Jersey offer more housing choices, encourage better land use and reduce racial, class, and space disparities.

The report, “Prosperity at Risk: Toward A Competitive New Jersey,” was presented to Governor Corzine’s policy staff at a public meeting in the State House and discussed at an informal seminar at Eagleton. Eagleton reviewed surveys conducted by its Center for Public Interest Polling to assess public opinion on the issues in the report and outlined how the executive and legislative branches are organized to address economic policy.

The report is posted at www.njfuture.org. For more information, contact Ingrid Reed at ireed@rci.rutgers.edu. Funding for the study was provided by the William Penn Foundation and the Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation.

A FAVORITE EAGLETON MOMENT...

As great as the professors were, we learned even more from the friendships we made after class. After our Pomper and Rosenthal seminars, a few us of proud College Democrats would get lunch with some of Rutgers’ most conservative College Republicans. Over nachos or strombolis, we learned that the differences we had over how to best move America forward paled in comparison to our shared passion to be part of that change.

Instead of yelling at each other outside of Brover Commons (which still happened around Election Day), we talked with each other about the morals and values that shaped our views.

The Eagleton Undergraduate Associates program was critical to building that bridge.

Brian Selander
Eagleton Undergraduate Associate 1998
What does New Jersey (population 8.5 million) have in common with North Platte, Nebraska (population 25,000)? Each has just one commercial broadcast television station located within its borders.

If potential voters rely on television news to learn about elections, New Jersey is uniquely dependent on network affiliates outside its own boundaries, with the northern and central parts of the state relying on New York stations and those in the south looking to Philadelphia stations. While New Jersey voters can access their own public television and cable stations for news about their own state, it is the network stations that draw the biggest audiences.

How well – or how poorly – television stations covered the most recent New Jersey gubernatorial race is the subject of a new report, *Television Coverage of the 2005 New Jersey Election: An Analysis of the Nightly News Programs on Local New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia Stations*. Commissioned by Eagleton’s New Jersey Project, the study was conducted by Dr. Matthew Hale of Seton Hall University with funding from the Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation.

New Jersey’s lively “off-year” elections, featuring a combative gubernatorial race and several competitive Assembly contests, had little political competition for media attention beyond the New York mayoral race, whose result was never in doubt. Thus, the Garden State race might have been expected to command substantial coverage.

In fact, an analysis of 664 half-hour news programs found that:

- There were 259 television stories focused on New Jersey politics during the campaign, of which almost half (48 percent) aired on two New Jersey based stations (public television’s New Jersey Network and cable outlet News 12), which draw significantly smaller audiences than the New York and Philadelphia stations.
- Residents of northern New Jersey received twice as much New Jersey election coverage as residents of southern New Jersey did. In fact, New York’s market leader for New Jersey election coverage (WNBC) aired almost as many New Jersey focused election stories (33) as all four Philadelphia stations combined (38).
- About half of the New Jersey election stories captured from New York and Philadelphia stations aired during the final week of the campaign.
- Overall, almost seven out of ten (68 percent) of the New Jersey election stories focused on campaign strategy or “horse race,” while just over two out of ten (22 percent) focused on substantive campaign issues.
- The New Jersey gubernatorial race was widely recognized as a particularly nasty and vicious campaign, reflected in the fact that not a single New Jersey focused story was characterized as having an overall positive tone. In fact, almost one in three stories (32 percent) was coded as having an overall negative tone.
- The vast majority of attention focused on the gubernatorial race, with down-ballot elections covered very little, almost entirely on NJN and News 12.
- WWOR, the only broadcast station licensed in New Jersey, had 13 election stories, 10 of them focused on New Jersey.

The report, highlighting these and other findings, was released in June. It is available on www.eagleton.rutgers.edu under the New Jersey Project. For more information on the study, contact New Jersey Project director Ingrid Reed at ireed@rci.rutgers.edu.

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**A FAVORITE EAGLETON MOMENT...**

The best part about Eagleton was that I had a chance to learn practical politics – the realities, good and bad, of the political process at all levels: local, state and federal. I've worked with each level of government in non-profit management, consulting and private business. Not too many weeks went by when I didn't recall something that I learned in the great mansion that helped me do my job. I started another career, as a writer, and I touch on state and local politics in my work. Eagleton was one of the first places I visited, to gather ideas and re-learn the politics I forgot.

Stuart Nachbar
Undergraduate Associate 1982
Since 1972, women state legislators from across the country have gathered at more than a dozen Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) meetings for a mix of practical information about processes and policies, informal opportunities to build connections with colleagues from other states, and inspiration delivered by veteran women lawmakers and prominent national women leaders. But in a climate of competing priorities, partisan divisions, and tightly restricted travel funding, attracting lawmakers to large national meetings has become more difficult.

As a result, CAWP has begun planning for regional forums to bring a local focus on the issues, starting with the New England Forum for Women State Legislators, which took place in Portland, ME in November 2005.

The Forum was enthusiastically received by the 60 lawmakers from six states who attended along with policy experts, staff and activists; most sessions were rated either good or excellent.

One legislator summed up her experience: “The quality of the panel presentations was superb! I feel that I’ve had a graduate-level course on being a smart legislator. The depth of knowledge impressed and inspired me.”

Said another, “With almost no exceptions the content was excellent, the data-driven research was well-presented and information about organizations and web sites was highly valuable. I plan to construct a list of sources and share that with my colleagues.”

Buoyed by the camaraderie of the New England Forum and inspired by an especially informative Forum session, a group of legislators built on the momentum begun in Portland to plan a New England Symposium on Retirement Security for June at Dartmouth College.

There, New England legislators conferred with experts in the field of retirement security to learn how state policymakers can help secure the economic well-being of America’s retirees through innovative public policies and programs.

Governor Jon Corzine spoke from the stairway at Wood Lawn to the crowd at a February “Toast to Women in Government,” co-sponsored by the Eagleton Institute of Politics, the Center for American Women and Politics, the Bipartisan Coalition for Women’s Appointments, and the Women’s Political Caucus of New Jersey.
After reading excerpts from his new book, *The Rise of American Democracy: Jefferson to Lincoln*, to a large, appreciative audience at Eagleton in April, author and historian Sean Wilentz signed copies and chatted with attendees. In his book, Wilentz describes how the shape and structure of American government was really formed and settled in large part between 1800 and the end of the Civil War. At Eagleton, he revealed how and why Lincoln became the secret hero of the book.

Ann Lewis, Lewitt Lecturer, Looks Toward Upcoming Elections

Ann Lewis, director of communications for HILLPAC and Friends of Hillary, was this year’s Lewitt Lecturer. She spoke at Eagleton in February about where the Democratic party stands today relative to the positions of out-of-power parties looking toward presidential elections in earlier years. Lewis described party-building strategies the Republicans have employed in recent years and challenged her own party to work equally hard and intelligently to win back the White House.

The Albert W. Lewitt endowed lecture was established by Mrs. Benjamin Leon in memory of her brother, who worked on Capitol Hill in the 1940s. The annual lecture, before an audience of Eagleton Institute of Politics faculty, staff, students and friends, has been delivered by current or former members of Congress, congressional staffs, journalists, and others with inside knowledge of Washington.

A Favorite Eagleton Moment...

One of my most memorable professors, ever, is Susan Carroll. It was with her as my professor that I learned about feminism, the politics of feminism and the struggle by women that has brought us to where we are today (or at least where we were in the mid-’80’s). And it was through Professor Carroll’s teachings and the books we read (*In a Different Voice* was one of those books), that I learned, after 22 years, that just because I didn’t fit the standard profile of female college student, I was still feminine — I was my version of feminine — (into studies, into sports, into career and not into fashion or makeup).

I cannot adequately convey how freeing that realization was to me. Suddenly, I was feminine, in my bicycle helmet, ripped jeans, natural complexion, head in my books, and after being labeled a tomboy most all of my life — I was feminine and now definitely a feminist. Professor Carroll had a profound, lasting impact on my life, my perspective and my confidence in who I am. Although I have changed over the years — I now wear both skirts and makeup — my great appreciation for one of my most very memorable professors has not changed. Thank you, Professor Carroll.

Lisa Levine
Undergraduate Associate 1985

Historian Sean Wilentz Speaks at Eagleton

After reading excerpts from his new book, *The Rise of American Democracy: Jefferson to Lincoln*, to a large, appreciative audience at Eagleton in April, author and historian Sean Wilentz signed copies and chatted with attendees. In his book, Wilentz describes how the shape and structure of American government was really formed and settled in large part between 1800 and the end of the Civil War. At Eagleton, he revealed how and why Lincoln became the secret hero of the book.
NEW BIOGRAPHY OF FORMER NJ GOVERNOR, 9-11 COMMISSION CHAIR KEAN SHOWCASED AT EAGLETON EVENT

Author Alvin S. Felzenberg and former New Jersey Governor Tom Kean, the subject of Felzenberg’s new book, drew an overflow crowd for their June conversation at the Eagleton Institute of Politics marking the publication by Rutgers University Press of Governor Tom Kean: From the New Jersey Statehouse to the 9-11 Commission.

Responding to questions posed by Felzenberg, Kean reminisced about his time in the state legislature, his service as chief executive, and his role as chair of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. Felzenberg, an Eagleton Fellow in the class of 1972, served in the Kean administration and was principal spokesman for the 9-11 Commission and for its non-profit successor organization, the 9-11 Public Discourse Project.

CONGRESSWOMAN CITES REVOLUTION LED BY WOMEN

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) inspired the crowd at the Livingston Student Center with a lecture on April 3rd highlighting American women’s growing participation in the workforce and their quest for legal rights, including the right to vote and access to reproductive freedoms. Norton noted that “...people do not ordinarily think of American women as revolutionaries...but they have done nothing less...than make a successful revolution unique in human history, in little more than a generation’s time.” She stressed the role that women play in shaping national policies and underscored the importance of electing more women to office.

Norton was this year’s holder of the Senator Wynona Lipman Chair in Women’s Political Leadership. The Chair honors the first African American woman in the New Jersey Senate, who was best known as an advocate for women, children, the poor and disenfranchised, and small business owners. The New Jersey State Legislature established the chair at the Center for American Women and Politics to honor Senator Lipman’s memory, remind people of her achievements, and encourage others to follow in the footsteps of this path-breaking leader.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY LECTURE SERIES

COMING FALL 06 - SPRING 07

Visit www.eagleton.rutgers.edu for future announcements or send email to randic@rci.rutgers.edu to join our email events list.

A FAVORITE EAGLETON MOMENT...

Eagleton has been my saving grace to help me navigate through this crazy world of graduate school as well as life after. I’ve gained real-life working experience through the Raimondo Fellowship Program and learned how to apply my degree (which is neither public policy or law) to the practice of politics.

Christine McGovern
Raimondo Fellow 2006
The Class of 2006 Eagleton Undergraduate Associates celebrated their graduation with professors Rosenthal, Weingart, and Pomper as well as Sarah Kozak, Eagleton’s new senior administrative assistant, at a picnic held in their honor on May 6, 2006. After an evening of great food, frisbees, good-byes and good lucks, the undergraduates parted with wonderful memories and dear friends, already planning their next reunion.

Newark Student Voices was initiated by the Eagleton Institute in 2002 as part of a national effort initially organized and funded by the Annenberg and Pew Foundations. More recently, support for the program has come from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation, and the Newark Public Schools. The locally run, curriculum-based project operating in all Newark high schools brings to life the study of urban government, policy issues, and political campaigns. Students increase their understanding of political processes and institutions and develop their citizenship skills.

Project director Angela Garretson notes that, “It’s exciting to be part of this Eagleton program that seeks teachable moments when high school students can connect with the political issues and events that affect everyday lives.”

Newark Student Voices is one major component of Eagleton’s Youth Political Participation Program (YPPP). Through research, public service, and educational programs, YPPP explores civic education at the high school level and political participation among young adults. The purpose of the Youth Political Participation Program is to understand political attitudes among youths and to facilitate youth political participation through curricula, voter education, and voter registration programs.

YPPP’s most recent report, The College Student Voter in 2004: Obstacles, Outreach, and Electoral Engagement, found that students came away from the 2004 election with a positive impression of the electoral process and their significance in it. Looking at a variety of potential aids in the process, the study found that parents and other relatives were important sources of assistance in voter registration for college students. The research was funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

For more information about YPPP, contact Randi Chmielewski (randi@rci.rutgers.edu), Angela Garretson (argarret@rci.rutgers.edu) or Elizabeth Matto (ematto@rci.rutgers.edu).
RUTGERS-EAGLETON POLL FINDS MAJORITY BELIEVE IN LITERAL RESURRECTION ACCOUNT

A Rutgers-Eagleton Poll on religious beliefs garnered widespread media attention when the poll found that a majority of New Jersey adults said they believe the biblical account of the resurrection of Jesus to be a “word for word” re-telling of the event.

Fifty-six percent said the resurrection story was a literal accounting of the event, according to the poll conducted March 26-30. Thirty-eight percent of those polled said the same of the story of Moses parting the Red Sea so the Jews could escape from Egypt.

“The higher percentage of adults believing in a literal account of the resurrection of Jesus compared to the parting of the Red Sea may stem from the core role of the resurrection in Christianity,” said Murray Edelman, distinguished scholar at the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling.

Compared to national data, adults in New Jersey are less likely to believe that the Red Sea account is literally accurate. Sixty-four percent of adults told an ABC News Poll in 2004 that they believe the story to be literally correct, compared to 38 percent in New Jersey in March 2006. While comparable national data are not available for the question concerning the resurrection of Jesus, Edelman said the initial evidence from the Red Sea question suggests “that, for New Jerseyans, the Bible may be more of a lesson than a literal account of what actually happened compared to their national counterparts. We would need more comparable questions, especially around the resurrection, to be sure.”

The poll of 800 New Jersey adults had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percent. The release of the poll on April 12 coincided with Passover and Holy Week, which may have contributed once a week believe that the account of the resurrection of Jesus is a literal re-telling of the story.

Evangelical or born-again Christians were more likely than others to believe the accounts to be literarily true by a margin of 62 percent to 33 percent for the parting of the Red Sea, and 80 percent to 51 percent for the story of the resurrection of Jesus.

The poll also found that attendance at worship services in the Garden State occurs on a par with attendance nationally. Thirty percent of New Jersey adults said they attend at least once a week, compared to 32 percent nationally in a Gallup/CNN/USA Today poll conducted in February.

But New Jersey adults also are less likely to say religion is “extremely important” in their daily lives, 20 percent compared to 34 percent in a national survey conducted by RT Strategies/Cook Political Report in November 2005.

“Our poll says that New Jerseyans are as observant as the nation in attending worship services, but religion may have a different place in their lives compared to the rest of the nation,” Edelman said.

SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM FOR EAGLETON’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY!

A FAVORITE EAGLETON MOMENT...

What I learned during my fellowship year helped me to meld the academic with the practical and taught me volumes about New Jersey politics and policy. The experience was a tremendous complement to my law school studies. On top of that, the people that I met through Eagleton, namely other fellows, professors, speakers, and Eagleton staff, made my fellowship even more enriching and genuinely enjoyable.

Sara Merin
Governor’s Executive Fellow 2006
EAGLETON PEOPLE

Michele Brody provides marketing, media relations, research, and project support as well as managing office operations at ECPIP. She previously served as administrative assistant to the assistant vice president for student development at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ. Michele holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Rutgers and has completed graduate course work in marketing, economics, and technical communications at Stevens. She will begin study at Rutgers this fall toward a master’s degree in labor and employment.

Randi M. Chmielewski joined the Institute on a part-time basis this spring, working on the Youth Political Participation Program, and has recently become full-time, taking on the position of events coordinator/administrative assistant as well. She graduated from University College in May of this year with a B.A. in political science. Although new to the staff, Randi has been affiliated with Eagleton as an Undergraduate Associate since the spring of 2005.

Hannah G. Holden has joined ECPIP as research project coordinator. Her work experience includes advertising, marketing, and community service. Holden has a bachelor's degree in political science from Middlebury College, and an M.B.A. from Canisius College. Prior to joining ECPIP, Holden conducted research about women state legislators at the Center for American Women and Politics at Eagleton. She previously worked in marketing for Chevron Corporation. Holden's research interests center on the political behavior of women, and she is currently working on her Ph.D. in political science at Rutgers.

Sarah Kozak is Eagleton's new senior administrative assistant, assuming the roles of assistant to Eagleton's director and education program coordinator. She was previously the assistant to the dean of outreach and extension programs at Rutgers Cooperative Extension on the Cook Campus.

Sarah holds a B.A. degree in sociology with a minor in secondary education from Rowan University.

After 32 years at Eagleton, Chris Lenart has left the Institute for a post in Trenton as executive assistant in Governor Corzine's new Office of Economic Growth. The Institute sent her off with a party on March 24 at which many alumni and friends of Eagleton joined faculty, staff, and current students to pay tribute to Chris. The festivities included reading a resolution from the State Assembly "honoring and saluting Chris Lenart in recognition of her long and outstanding career at the Eagleton Institute." Chris is also celebrating another important transition this year. After taking courses since 1997 while working at Eagleton, Chris graduated with highest honors from Rutgers with a B.A. in political science.

Elizabeth Matto, research associate, is currently developing the next steps for Eagleton’s Youth Political Participation Program, working with Randi Chmielewski. She earned her Ph.D. in American politics from the George Washington University and has previously worked for Eagleton on a variety of projects including the Young Elected Leaders Project and “New Race Politics” with Associate Professor Jane Junn. Matto’s future publications include her study of how media coverage of the gender gap has been transformed from a discussion of women into a discussion of mothers.

Four Eagleton Undergraduate Associates were among the leaders of a rally that brought hundreds of New Jersey college students to Trenton to explain to lawmakers how drastic budget cuts would harm the state’s colleges and universities. Sharo M. Atmeh, David Cole, Jillian Curtis, and Lillian Forero were among six students singled out for praise in a university-wide email sent out by Philip Furmanski, executive vice president for academic affairs, who commented, “I am sure you share my pride in the leadership and activism of our students, and I thank all those who attended the rally or in some way have taken time to speak out for Rutgers.”
HOLD THIS DATE …
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2006
as the
EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS
CELEBRATES ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY
WITH A GALA EVENING
featuring

POLITICAL JEOPARDY!
at
The Rotunda at Neilson Dining Hall
Rutgers University, Douglass Campus, New Brunswick
Details to follow
For information: (732) 932-9384 ext. 350

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CHRIS CHRISTIE JOINS IN CONGRATULATING EAGLETON FELLOWS

The successful completion of the Eagleton Fellowship program was celebrated in a warm, exuberant, and moving event at the Institute on May 11th by this year’s 27 Fellows and their family and friends. Among the participants were then-Acting Education Commissioner Lucille Davy, Attorney General Zulima Farber, and many officials from the legislative and executive government offices in which the Fellows had been placed for the spring semester.

This year’s keynote speaker, Christopher J. Christie, U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, gave a riveting speech reflecting on the public hunger for political leaders who offer “inspirational rather than finely tuned” soundbites, and the satisfactions offered by a life that includes public service. The other speakers, selected by the Fellows, were Raimondo Fellow Christine McGovern from the School of Communication, Information and Library Science, and Governor’s Executive Fellow Elizabeth Wood and Harold and Reba Martin Fellow Eugene Lepore, both from the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy.

EAGLETON ALUMNI - STAY IN TOUCH!
Do you have a new address? A new job? Other important news to share?

Please keep us up-to-date by completing our simple online form; just visit www.eagleton.rutgers.edu and click on Eagleton alumni. We love to hear from you!

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The Eagleton Institute of Politics links the study of politics with its day-to-day practice. Exploring state and national politics through research, education, and outreach, the Institute focuses attention on how American politics and government work, how they change, and how they can be improved. Eagleton programs contribute to a better informed and actively engaged citizenry, broader representation, and more effective, ethical governance. Eagleton websites include:

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SEND US YOUR COMMENTS
We welcome your comments and responses to our newsletter, as well as your suggestions for future issues. Current and past issues are posted on Eagleton’s website.

The Eagleton Institute of Politics newsletter is edited by Katherine E. Kleeman and designed by Linda Phillips. Contributors to this edition include: Michele Brody, Kathleen Casey, Randi Chmielewski, Angela Garretson, Steve Goodman, Hannah Holden, Sarah Kozak, Ruth B. Mandel, Elizabeth C. Matto, Ingrid Reed, Jean Sinzdak, Tim Vercellotti, and John Weingart.

KEEP UP ON EVENTS AT EAGLETON
You can know about new events at Eagleton by joining our events email list.

Send a message to randic@rci.rutgers.edu with “Events list” in the subject line to be added to the list.

ABOUT THE EAGLETON INSTITUTE OF POLITICS
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