



**Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association (RSONAA)  
Annual Meeting Brunch, Saturday, June 10, 2017  
Spring Brook Country Club, 9 Spring Brook Road,  
Morristown, NJ 07960**

**Key Activities of RSONAA July 2016 – June 2017**

**Second year term for Elected Officers- Assumed 2 year positions: July 1, 2015- June 30, 2017**

- President- Judy Caruso, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, NEA-BC
- Vice-president- Ray Scarpa, DNP, RN, APN
- Secretary- Nancy Delloiacono, DNP, RN, APN (July 2015-March 2016)
- Secretary- Lois Greene, DHA, MBA, RN (March 2016- June 2017)
- Treasurer- Gale S. Gage, PhD, RN, CNE
- RSON Student Senate Representative- Rebecca Lintag- RSON Student Senate
- Chairperson Events Committee- Ulanda Marcus –Aiyeku, DNP, RN, NE-BC
- Chairperson Student and New Alumni Engagement- Eleni Pellazgu, DNP, RN, APN
- Chairperson Communications and Website- Donna Fountain, PhD, RN (effective May 2016)

**October 2016- Rutgers University Annual Alumni Leadership Conference and Awards in New Brunswick**

- President Judy Caruso represented the RSONAA at this all day event and evening awards program

**October 27, 2016- Annual RSONAA Awards and Scholarship Celebration Black Tie Dinner Held at the Metropolitan Room of the Newark Club, Newark, NJ**

- Chairpersons: Ulanda Marcus Aiyeku, DNP, RN, NE\_BC & Gale S. Gage PhD, RN, CNE with a very active committee of over a dozen alumni
- **Over \$7,000 raised for future scholarships!**
- A record 180 attendees!!
- 2016 Outstanding Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Award: Cheryl A. Krause-Parello, PhD '07, Associate Professor , University of Colorado; Founding Director of Canines Providing Assistance to Wounded Warriors (C-P.A.W.W.)
- 2016 Rutgers School of Nursing Rising Star Award: Adriana I. Castano, MS '12, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Atlantic NeuroSurgical Specialist
- 2016 Inaugural President's Award Dr. Susan Hassmiller, Senior Nursing Advisor RWJ Foundation
- 2016 Scholarships Awarded:
  - Two Elizabeth Fenlason Awards- \$4,000 each to graduate students Joyce Hertzog and Shaakira Abdul Razzaq
  - Two RSONAA Scholarship Awards- \$1,000 each to Terry Bustos and Molly Naft
  - Scarpa Memorial Scholarship Award- \$1,000 to Kaitlin Schadt
  - Three Caruso Family Scholarship Awards- \$1,000 each to Shine Kannampilly, Nikhila Manchikanti, and Kelly Van Wyck

**January 2017- Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA) Grant Application Received- \$1,500**

- Focus grant on “Engaging New Graduates and Graduate Students”
  - Grant application was written and submitted by President Judy Caruso for \$1,500 to support our 2017 October RSONAA Awards Celebration to fund some 2017 graduates and establish an Alumni Mentoring program

**January 21, 2017- RSONAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Strategic Planning Session**

- January 21, 2017- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Strategic Planning Meeting held with a mix of alumni and RSON Administrators, including Dean Holzemer
  - Brainstorming session to understand current state and desired new state
  - Priorities on issues were set with formulation of committees for action plans

- Goal to establish stronger committee infrastructure to formulate work plans with more engaged alumni

**February 25, 2017 Saturday morning- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rutgers School of Nursing Senate and Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association Event**

- Chairpersons: Eleni Pellazgu and Rebecca Lintag
- Joint event planned: “Post Graduate Forum: Preparing for the Next Step.”
- Board members and other alumni participated on a morning panel with senior students
  - This is an annual event each February

**April 2017: RSON Dean’s Advisory Meeting**

- President Judy Caruso attended Dean Holzemer’s RSON Advisory Meeting

**April 12, 2017- RSONAA Alumni Board Selects Outstanding School of Nursing Senior**

- Applications were reviewed by the RSONAA Board and the outstanding BS senior selected was Anneccia Quinlan.

**April 26, 2017 –RSONAA Participated in RSON Graduation Salute –10am-7pm Ackerson Hall, 3rd floor Atrium**

- Several alumni participated in the day’s activities
  - Congratulated and welcomed graduating BS seniors and graduate students into RSONAA and handled out well wishes along with RU Alumni pins, convocation related items, etc.

**May 12, 2017- RSONAA submitted an application to the RUAA for recognition of the RSONAA’s successful October 2016 Awards and Scholarship Gala for attendance and fundraising for scholarship**

- RSONAA President Judy Caruso submitted the application for consideration of the RSONAA to be recognized at the RUAA Awards and Leadership Conference in the Fall of 2017 for its attendance of over 180 people and successful raising of \$7,000 in scholarships
  - We stressed our growth of merging the two legacy schools and alumni associations for more engagement and fund raising, i.e. legacy Rutgers College of Nursing and legacy UMDNJ School of Nursing

**May 18, 2017- RSON Graduation Pinning at Convocation at NJPAC –**

- RSONAA President Judy Caruso was a dais guest and led the graduates in the International Pledge for Nurses at RSON Convocation at NJPAC
- Board officers assisted in pinning graduates at the convocation at NJPAC, Vice President Ray Scarpa and Treasurer Gale Gage

**May 31, 2017- Deadline for applications of the Elizabeth Fenlason Scholarships, RSONAA Scholarship, Scarpa Memorial Scholarship and Caruso Family Scholarship**

- Scholarship applications were posted on the RSON website under alumni awards and scholarships as well as notification sent via RSON undergraduate and graduate programs.
  - Awards will be given at the RSONAA October 2017 Annual Awards Event- date and place to be announced

**May, 2017- Applications for RSONAA Outstanding Alumni Award and RSONAA Rising Star Awards posted on the website**

- Deadline for return will be announced with application posted on the website.
  - Awards will be given at the RSONAA October 2016 Annual Awards Event- date and place to be announced

**June 10, 2017- RSONAA Annual Meeting Brunch at Spring Brook Country Club in Morristown, NJ from 10:30am-1pm**

- RSONAA Annual Meeting held at Spring Brook Country Club in Morristown, NJ to discuss highlights of 2016-2017 events, updates by Dean William Holzemer, elect new slate of officers (2017-2019).
- 2016 Recipient of the President’s Award Dr. Susan Hassmiller received her award in person and was the key note speaker on “Leaders and Mentors.”
  - As part of the kick off of the RSONAA Mentoring program, new mentors were recognized as guests at the brunch. This was funded by the RUAA grant.