

## WRI ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

### Farewell To Director Dr. Richard Harris

After 10 years, WRI's founding Director, Dr. Richard Harris, will be stepping down as Director of the Institute and returning to faculty full time. Prior to his return he will be taking a one year sabbatical and during part of that time he will be undertaking a fellowship at Oxford University.



Special presentation by Judge Charles Rand (right) to Dr. Richard Harris (left)

Having proposed the concept to Provost Roger Dennis in 1999, Rich's leadership and vision led to the creation of the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs which has become a vital asset to Rutgers University and the South Jersey Community. Over the last 10 years, the organization has brought millions of grant dollars to the region and provided support as well as educational experiences to more than 60 Rutgers students. Dr. Harris has directed the Institute as it provided applied research, technical assistance, neutral convening and facilitation for governments, nonprofits, and the citizens of the South Jersey region, with special emphasis on the campus' host community of Camden.

Dr. Harris' accomplishments and dedication to the advancement of the Institute and Camden community are greatly appreciated. Gwendolyn L. Harris, Ph.D. will step in as Executive Director to the Institute.

### 10th Annual Walter and Leah Rand Awards and Scholarship Event

On May 6, the 10th Walter and Leah Rand Awards and Scholarship Event celebrated three prominent South Jersey leaders, as well as the accomplishments of outgoing Director, Dr. Richard Harris. The event held at Rutgers Camden, brought together 160 people, including elected officials, academics, WRI Board members, donors, family and friends.

Award winners included Lee A. Solomon, Esquire, winner of the Public Sector Award, Jeffrey Brown winner of the Private Sector Award and Michael Moynihan winner of the Not-for Profit Sector Leah Rand Memorial Award.

Scholarship funding raised at the annual event is vital to providing students the opportunity to exercise lesson's learned from the classroom and implement them with applied research. This experience prepares them for the challenges that may arise in their future profession.



Award winner (left to right) Lee Solomon Esq. , award winner Michael Moynihan, Chancellor Wendell Pritchett and award winner Jeffrey Brown

### CONGRATULATIONS TO WRI GRADUATE CLASS OF 2011!!!!

Josue Duque- Graduate Assistant

Masters in Public Administration from Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Science, Camden

Dania Kazan- Project Assistant

Masters in Public Administration from Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Science, Camden

Shaina Miller- Project Assistant

Masters in Public Administration from Rutgers Graduate School of Arts and Science, Camden

Questions or comments, please contact us at [wrand@camden.rutgers.edu](mailto:wrand@camden.rutgers.edu) or call 856-225-6566.