1. COMMENCEMENT 2010
   ITS TIME TO CELEBRATE ALL YOUR HARD WORK WITH YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND FELLOW STUDENTS WHO ARE NOW YOUR PROFESSIONAL COLLEAGUES!!!

Plans for the Commencement Ceremony are underway. If you have defended, or plan to defend, in Academic Year 2009-2010, on or before May 1, 2010, you are invited to attend the commencement ceremonies.

The Commencement Ceremony will be held on the morning of Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at the Izod Arena at the Meadowlands Sports Complex; the Convocation Ceremony will be held the evening of May 25th at the State Theatre in New Brunswick. There is no limit to the number of guests that you can invite to Commencement, but the Convocation Ceremony is limited to two guests.

There will also be a Pre-Commencement dinner:
Sunday, May 23, 2010
Bridgewater Water Marriot
6:00pm

Please contact Fran at mittlefr@umdnj.edu if a) you are planning to attend the ceremonies; b) you are not sure; c) unable to attend.

2. Grad Fund, the Resource Center for Graduate Student External Support --Upcoming Events and Information Spring Semester 2010. Please see attached.

3. S.L.E. Lupus Foundation grants > FELLOWSHIPS, CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS IN SLE

Grant Application Deadline June 25, 2010

The S.L.E. Lupus Foundation invites applications for MD-Scientist Fellowships, PhD-Basic Science Fellowships, and Career Development Awards for projects relevant to Lupus Erythematosus. Financial support for these awards starts December 1, 2010.

Applications for the Career Development Award, which is tailored to new investigators, will be evaluated primarily on the researcher’s interest and commitment to lupus science and his/her potential for an independent investigative career. Applications for the two Fellowship Awards—the MD-Scientist Fellowship and the PhD-Basic Science Fellowship—will be judged on similar grounds, as well as on the quality of the proposed training program.
For all applications, additional factors considered are the institutional distribution of awards and the appropriateness of the proposed budget.

Applicants must hold advanced degrees and be affiliated with institutions of higher learning in the New York Metropolitan area and in Los Angeles County. Annual funding of the Career Development Award and the MD-Scientist Fellowship Award is $50,000 per year for a term of up to 3 years. Funding for the PhD-Basic Science Fellowship Award is 1 year at $40,000 and two subsequent years at $45,000 and $50,000, respectively.

For additional information and a copy of the grant application, visit www.lupusny.org, or send an email to lupus@lupusny.org. Deadline for receipt of completed applications for all awards is June 25, 2010. Applications received after this date will not be reviewed.

Very truly yours,
Margaret Graham Dowd
Executive Director

4. April/May Science Alliance events from The New York Academy of Sciences Please see attached.

5. The Invent Now Collegiate Inventors Competition is now accepting submissions! Please see attached.

6. A message from your Student Wellness Program *Thirty Important Minutes a Day
The dietary and physical activity habits you develop during your tenure in academia can contribute to health conditions later in life, but more importantly, those habits play a vital role in your ability to cope with present day stress. For example, you may experience an inability to concentrate because of skipping breakfast, or you may have weight gain from consuming excessive calories. Physical activity plays an equally important role in maintaining a healthy weight and relieving stress. There are 1,440 minutes in every day; so why not schedule 30 of these minutes for physical activity! Please see attached.

7. Grad Fund Summer 2010 Mentoring Programs An application packet and brochure with more details about the Summer Mentoring Programs are attached to this message.

The deadline for students to apply to participate in one of the Mentoring Programs is May 14, 2010. As a part of the application process, all applicants must complete a Mentoring Program Consultation Meeting between March 1 and May 7. Phone appointments will be available to students who are not yet on campus.

A copy of the application can also be downloaded from our Sakai site: http://sakai.rutgers.edu. Current and incoming graduate students who do not have access to our Sakai site should send an email to gradfund@rci.rutgers.edu to request access.

If you have any questions about our Mentoring Programs, please feel free to contact me at delcorso@rci.rutgers.edu or 932-2705. Please see attached.