

Dear Friends of YPPP (Eagleton's Youth Political Participation Program):

Spring break has arrived on the Rutgers campus! For YPPP, it's been an active semester thus far with much more to come as the academic year winds down.



Students in the Darien Civic Engagement Project are hard at work on *RU Ready™*, YPPP's initiative to equip high school students with the encouragement and tools to be active citizens. A group of students from New Brunswick High School will come to Eagleton in April for our "Young Leaders Conference," and teams of *RU Ready™* Rutgers students will be going into NBHS classrooms to administer workshops with the theme "politics matters to you and you matter to politics."

Young Elected Leaders Project

Student researchers from the Aresty Research Center are continuing their research on the Young Elected Leaders Project - accounting for how many young adults are serving in public office and conducting interviews with young leaders to explore their paths to office and their leadership styles (read more [here](#)). As an extension of this research, YPPP and the League of Women Voters of New Jersey's Young People's Network are joining together to pilot the initiative *RU Running?* - a training for politically interested college students considering running for public office. *RU*

Running? builds upon the expertise and experience of both organizations and promises to be a model for colleges and universities throughout New Jersey and nationwide.

Finally, I was proud to be awarded the Craig L. Brians Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Mentorship by the American Political Science Association (APSA). Established in 2014, this award is given annually by



the APSA Political Science Education Section at the Teaching and Learning Conference and is awarded to faculty members who demonstrate commitment to and excellence in encouraging and developing scholarship among undergraduate students, and in mentoring undergraduate students in preparation for graduate school or public affairs related careers.

Thank you for your continued support and happy spring!

Yours truly,

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth C. Matto

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