

# Community Engagement

*The Office of Campus and Community Relations/OCCR*

**RUTGERS**  
NEWARK

## Memory Conference Tests Brain Power



(above) OCCR student representative Kendall St. Ange (standing) with senior citizens; (right photo) graduate student Anu Sobanjo, Dr. Peter Amua-Quarshie, Dr. Mark Gluck, Executive Director Diane Hill and Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Jennifer Smith with senior citizens at the conference. Photographs by Rutgers-Newark student Diana Hutyk.

Over 100 senior citizen participants from seven Newark area senior centers attended November's African-Americans and Alzheimer's Disease conference (AAAD). This premier conference took place for the third time at the Paul Robeson Campus Center, under the auspices of the Memory Disorders Project of Rutgers-Newark and OCCR, with generous support from Novartis, Wyeth and Pfizer Corporations.

Diane Hill, Community Outreach Liaison for the project, welcomed the participants, provided an overview of Rutgers-Newark and addressed the importance of Alzheimer's disease research by Rutgers Professor Mark Gluck.

The program covered information how the human brain creates and stores memories. In addition, Dr. Peter Amua-Quarshie, Newark African-American Alzheimer's Disease Education and Preven-

tion Program Coordinator, compared the eating habits and lifestyles of urban Africans from Ghana and Newark-dwelling residents' habits. And, Anu Sobanjo, undergraduate Honors College student at the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience, presented a speech about the benefits of participating in research.

Plans for the fourth annual AAAD Conference are already underway. •