



FINAL DRAFT FOR REVIEW

**Join Us for a Joint Meeting of the Chapters!
New Jersey Chapter & Princeton-Trenton Chapter
Present:**

Richard T. Sweeney
University Librarian, N.J. Institute of Technology
**“Engaging Millennials and Accelerating Their
Learning”**

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

The Rutgers Club, 199 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8547
(Map below and directions: <http://rutgersclub.rutgers.edu/directions.pdf>)

- 5:30 Networking Reception
- 6:00 Dinner (including vegetarian selection)
- 7:00 Richard T. Sweeney, New Jersey Institute of Technology

The Chapter thanks the following sponsor for their generous support of this
meeting
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Please return this form with your check (*made payable to P-T SLA*) **no later than Fri. September 1, 2006** to:

Michelle Brewer
NJHA Library
760 Alexander Road PO Box 1
Princeton, NJ 08543-0001 – 609-275-4230 with any questions

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Is this your first time attending an SLA Chapter program meeting? YES NO

Program Description:

They already know that they don't want to work or play like their parents' generation. They are called the Millennials, Gen Y, Next Gen, Echo Boomers, or..."Don't Label Us." They use information, and learn, differently. They were born between 1979 and 1994, and they are the largest generation since the Boomers (1946 to 1964). Millennials currently crowd our colleges and universities and libraries, both because they are a larger generation and because more of them are going to college than ever before. Millennial researcher, Richard Sweeney, will discuss how Millennials differ from generations before them at the same age and explore the implications for colleges, universities and libraries. This program will explore these issues for libraries.

Background on Richard T. Sweeney

Richard T. Sweeney is the University Librarian, responsible for directing all the services and activities of the NJIT libraries (Robert W. Van Houten Library and Barbara & Leonard Littman Architecture Library). Mr. Sweeney joined NJIT as university librarian in 1995. For the previous 11 years, Rich directed the library at Polytechnic University, Brooklyn. Before that, he directed public libraries in Columbus, Ohio; Flint, Michigan; and Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Rich is researching the Millennials (born 1979 to 1994) and the impact that this large, quite different, generation will have upon libraries and academic institutions. He has conducted over twenty eight panels (focus groups) in front of live audiences in over ten states. Rich will be conducting additional live panels at the American Library Association LAMA preconference in New Orleans on June 23, 2006 and at other colleges and universities.

Rich has written an article in the Fall 2005 *Administration and Management* entitled "Reinventing Library Buildings and Services for the Millennial Generation". Rich's work was the principal subject of a cover article by Scott Carlson entitled "The Net Generation in the Classroom", October 7, 2005 (Volume LII, Number 7) *Chronicle of Higher Education*. He is on the Executive Board of VALE, the Virtual Academic Library Environment of New Jersey . He is a past Snowbird Library Leadership Mentor.

He consults with and leads scenario planning for public and academic libraries preparing them for the significant paradigm shifts happening in libraries today. Rich is a frequent speaker and consultant on the library of the future, library services, digital libraries, library automation and multimedia applications, and library buildings. He is also currently working with Michael Bieber and others at NJIT on an NSF National Science Digital Library grant called IntegraL as well as an Institute for Museum and Libraries Systems (IMLS) grant called IntLib. Rich is also pursuing a research project called the The Higher Education Competitive Advantage: Accelerated Learning Part of this research is learning how technology in higher education can be used to accelerate human learning while maintaining a comparable or even increased level of understanding.

Location: The Rutgers Club, 199 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8547 Directions

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