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Public Affairs, Roger Williams University

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Discover Newport Honors University with Governor's Tourism Achievement Award

RWU honored for serving as an economic driver and 'a major catalyst for travel' in Newport and Bristol counties



May 21, 2013 | Public Affairs Staff


Newport, R.I. – Each year, [Discover Newport](#) – the Newport and Bristol County Convention & Visitors Bureau – nominates an individual, business or organization to be recognized with the Governor's Tourism Achievement Award at the Annual Rhode Island Tourism Unity Luncheon.

This year's theme, "Making a Difference," highlighted people and places that make a profound impact on Rhode Island's tourism industry. On Wednesday, May 8, at the Twin River Event Center in Lincoln, Roger Williams University was ceremoniously recognized by Governor Lincoln D. Chafee as the Bristol County honoree.

"Roger Williams University is a major catalyst for travel in our destination," said Evan Smith, Discover Newport president and CEO. "From the time potential students pay a visit to the school with their families, these visitors are staying in local hotels, eating in local restaurants, shopping our independent boutiques and visiting area attractions. Sequentially through the years, family and friends come to visit and share time together while exploring this exceptional destination. It is our distinct pleasure to recognize Roger Williams University as a major economic driver and promoter of travel that makes a difference throughout our community."

The award was received on behalf of the university by Peter Wilbur, associate vice president of university relations, and Mrs. Maia Farish.

The luncheon, which welcomed more than 400 tourism and hospitality industry professionals, was the highlight of the statewide celebration of National Travel and Tourism Week (May 4 to 12), recognized coast-to-coast with myriad localized events in cities, states and travel businesses to champion the power of travel.

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