

Regional Water Authority visits campus

By Brianna Wallen
News Editor

The world of public utilities plays a crucial role in maintaining the infrastructure that supports everyday life and the “Special One-Time Session: ‘A Day with the RWA!’” co-sponsored by the Regional Water Authority, offered a valuable opportunity to explore its challenges, opportunities and real-world impact.

Held on Wednesday, April 9 in the Case Study Room of the School of Business, this PEP Talk allowed attendees to learn from industry professionals, network with leaders and gain insights into career and internship opportunities at RWA.

“It’s important to get a mentor or someone who can really help you understand what a day in the life is about the role that you’re looking to get into,” Human Resource Generalist of RWA, Thomas Carfora said.

Featured speakers included Jim Hill, General Manager and Head of Operations, Elizabeth Calo, General Manager and Head of Human Resource, Steve Vitko, Environmental Planning Engineer.

The university’s alumni also returned to the School of Business to share their post-grad experiences. This included speakers: Andrew Marotti, IT Network Technician, Eric Girolimon, Water Treatment Team Lead and Thomas Carfora.

Each speaker shared their expertise and provided a well-rounded perspective on the various roles within public utilities.

The session provided a deep dive into the critical roles that water treatment, environmental planning, IT infrastructure, construction, accounting and human resources play in delivering essential public services.

“We really have a full spectrum of opportunities for any individual interested in joining,” Thomas Carfora said.

It also featured valuable information about RWA’s internships and career pathways, offering attendees a direct connection to potential career opportunities.

“I’m glad that SCSU and RWA has that relationship because those opportunities will open doors for your career,” Marotti said.

The strong and ongoing partnership between the university and the Regional Water Authority was evident throughout the event.

From internships to career development, the collaboration has provided students with meaningful opportunities that align closely with industry needs.

Reflecting on the value of this relationship, Patti Moran, Assistant Director of External Relations, highlighted the mutual commitment to innovation and student success.

“RWA is arguably our top employer partner at the university,” Moran said. “We manipulate our academics on what the workplace needs are and we rely on them for expertise.”

Alumni also supported this by sharing their own experiences at the university.

“It gave me the foundational knowledge that I needed to jump start my career,” Marotti said. “I’m able to time myself and plan out my projects and I met some great people that gave me great connections and gave me other opportunities.”

Additionally, Moran expressed the importance of having alumni return to campus to share their professional journeys, noting the positive influence it can have on current students.

She hopes that seeing successful graduates in the field will encourage

students to feel more confident as they begin exploring their own career paths.

“I hope it gives students the upper hand to know their own skill set and worth,” Moran said. “So they know that they have the ability to do those things too.”

Currently, there is a new internship opportunity available through the School of Business, offering students a direct path to apply what they have learned in a real-world setting.

Directed by Carol Stewart, the Energy and Utility Leadership Program not only provides scholarship support but also equips students with the specialized skills, sustainable perspectives and leadership tools needed to thrive in the rapidly evolving energy and utility sectors.

If interested email Stewart at stewartc1@southernct.edu.

Additionally, PEP Talks are open to all students, providing a valuable opportunity to engage with professionals, gain career insights and build confidence.

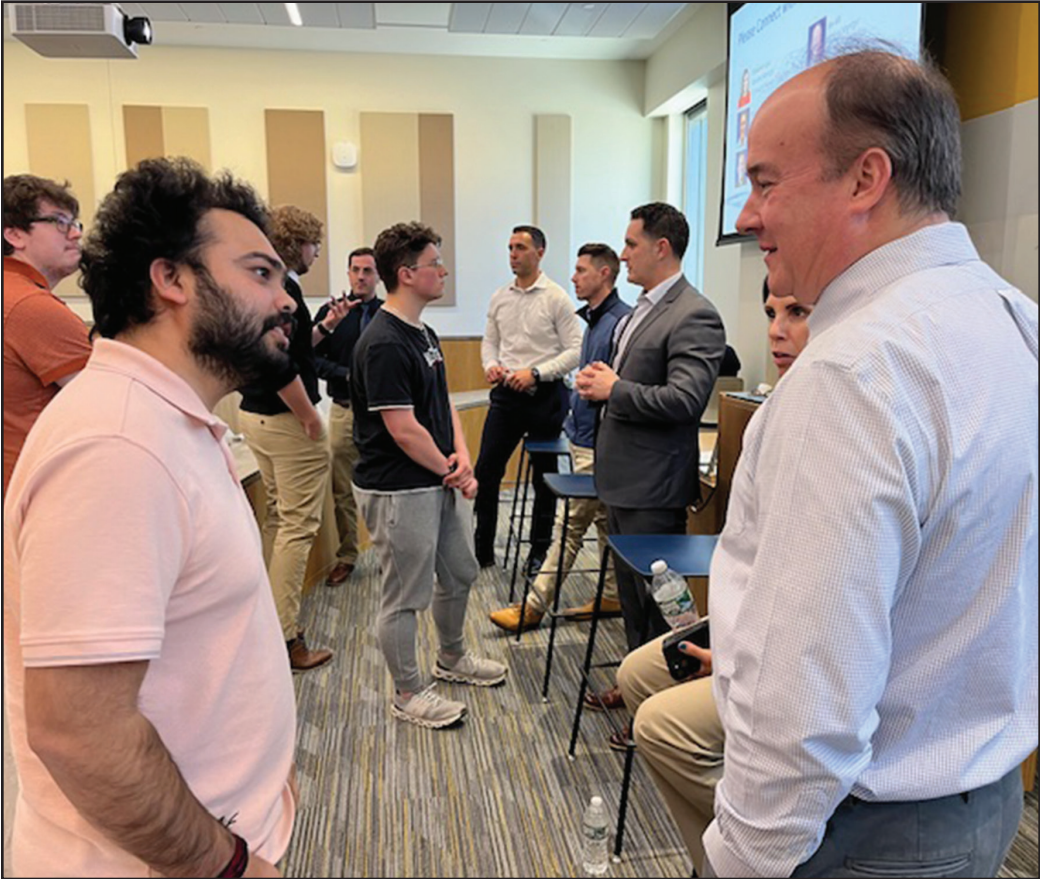
Mark Zampino, the Director of Professional Enrichment and MBA recruiter, said that the PEP Talk series aims to identify and create opportunities for students to learn beyond their classrooms and textbooks.

“We bring in business experts, business leaders, business owners and business consultants to discuss ‘How Business DOES Business,’” Zampino said. “Those discussions focus on ‘real world’ current business trends, emerging business trends and projected business trends, as well as ever-green topics such as career preparation.”

These sessions take place every Monday and Wednesday from 1-2 p.m. in the Case Study Room (SB 122) of the School of Business.



Students at the “Special One-Time Session: ‘A Day with the RWA!’” event in the Case Study Room of the School of Business on April 9.



RWA members interact with students and staff in the Case Study Room of the School of Business on April 9.

Students voice concerns about fall housing selection



Nursing major Lindsay Troisi, a freshman and tourism hospitality and event management major Alexa Henderson, a freshman, in Chase Hall on April 9.



Residence Quad on April 14.

By Brianna Wallen
News Editor

As the fall semester approaches, students are beginning to secure their

housing for next year. Those who paid their housing deposits on time had the opportunity to select their new residence halls on April 9, kicking

off the housing selection process for fall 2025.

This year, there are some important updates. While many students were eager to secure a single

room, it is crucial to note that singles are limited. There are no singles available for general selection. Students will only be assigned to a single if they are selected after entering the housing lottery.

“I think that if people want a single and can afford it, they shouldn’t have to enter a lottery just to get one,” exploratory major Cameron Parson, a freshman, said.

While many students prefer single rooms for the privacy and personal space they offer, Parson emphasized that a student’s living environment plays a major role in their academic performance and overall well-being.

“I feel like if people aren’t comfortable in their living situations, their academics are going to be jeopardized,” Parson said.

Students with approved housing accommodations are guaranteed a single room.

However, Alyssa Underwood, a freshman political science major, expressed concern for those without accommodations who still have a genuine need for a single.

“There’s people that need accommodations, but have to go through the whole process,” Underwood said. “And if they say no that invalidates their whole situation.”

While singles are scarce, Neff Hall will offer

both single and double rooms, providing a variety of options for students.

Chase Hall, Farnham Hall, Hickerson Hall and Wilkinson Hall will also feature a limited number of single-bedroom options per floor.

Additionally, Brownell Hall, North Campus and the North Townhouses will have a small number of single-bedroom spaces available.

While these options provide a little more flexibility, availability will still be limited.

Other students who are looking for the social atmosphere of double rooms or suites, also critiqued the housing process.

Nursing major Lindsay Troisi, a freshman, said that when she went to select her room for next semester, the process was complicated.

“We put down six roommates and all the six person rooms were gone,” Troisi said.

After contacting Residence Life, Troisi said her issue was resolved. Instead, her group was split in half and was applied to a suite in Brownell Hall.

Troisi recommends for the website to be updated to help guide students more accurately.

“The pics of the suites are outdated and so is the information,” Troisi said. Along with singles,

rooms for groups of six are also limited.

Tourism hospitality and event management major Alexa Henderson, a freshman, also shared a similar story.

“I wanted to live with my four friends in Brownell, but now it’s just us two,” Henderson said.

While single rooms are granted by chance, suites that accommodate large groups are first-come, first-served.

Each residence hall also has credit requirements and specific eligibility guidelines, which has led some students to seek alternative housing options or be dismissed from certain halls entirely.

Social work major Alexcia Murphy, a sophomore, who selected in Schwartz Hall as her choice of housing next semester, said that she supports the credit limit.

“I feel like they are good because it keeps age groups apart and prevents me from living with people who are two to three years younger than me,” Murphy said.

For students who did not secure their preferred housing during the initial selection, there may still be opportunities later on.

Those who entered the lottery will be able to participate in the Single-Bedroom Room Change Lottery Process two weeks after room selection concludes.