

# Meaningful World

**The Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP)**

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## **Rutgers University SMLR Recruiting & Networking Event**

Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ

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### **Annika Jawanda BA, Intern Coordinator**



What inspires students today to seek careers? Is it success, or service? This question came alive at the Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations (SMLR) Recruiting & Networking Event, where ATOP MeaningfulWorld represented by Dr. Ani Kalayjian, trauma expert and President and CEO of MeaningfulWorld, together with Intern Coordinator Annika Jawanda participated in its first internship fair at Rutgers, engaging with students eager to align professional development with humanitarian values.

The ambiance of the event was energetic and welcoming, with students, faculty, and organizations gathered in a collaborative space dedicated to career exploration and meaningful dialogue. Other organizations were the NJT, Police Dept, and a few dozen companies.

Many students were drawn to the MeaningfulWorld table, with its distinctive interfaith altar, thoughtfully arranged to reflect the organization's commitment to inclusivity, healing, indigenous practices, and global unity. The display stood out among traditional recruitment tables, inviting curiosity and sparking conversations about MeaningfulWorld's integrative approach to psychology, spirituality, and humanitarian outreach, with its flowers, banners on peace, flickering candles, and positive uplifting messages.

Throughout the program, a steady flow of students visited the MeaningfulWorld table, asking thoughtful questions about trauma-informed leadership, global outreach, and how human resources can serve as a vehicle for social impact. The presence of symbolic elements representing diverse cultures created a reflective space within the busy networking environment, encouraging dialogue not only about careers, but about purpose, meaning in life, and how to nurture meaningful connections.





Many students shared their own creative initiatives and entrepreneurial experiences. Several had already launched and marketed small businesses, ranging from handcrafted jewelry brands to independent digital enterprises, and expressed a strong desire to apply these innovative skills toward community-building and humanitarian work. Their enthusiasm reflected a generation motivated not simply by employment, but by purpose. The conversations extended well beyond the event itself. MeaningfulWorld received multiple emails from interested students exploring internships and ways to expand MeaningfulWorld's HR and marketing initiatives. This sustained engagement demonstrated a genuine commitment among students to remain involved and contribute their talents toward creating a more compassionate world.

A key highlight of the event was the connection with faculty and university leadership interested in future collaboration. Special recognition and gratitude are extended to Teresitia Walters, MA; MPA, Career Management Specialist, whose leadership and coordination made MeaningfulWorld's participation possible. Her dedication to linking students with mission-driven organizations created an invaluable bridge between Rutgers University and MeaningfulWorld, laying the groundwork for future partnerships, guest faculty speaking engagements, and student opportunities.

Dr. Kalayjian shared, "It was invigorating to meet a diverse group of students that approached us not just to fulfill employment, but to make a difference in the world. I'm looking forward to fostering a closer relationship with Rutgers University." while intern coordinator, Annika Jawanda stated "I loved hearing from students with creative passions, including those who've built and marketed their own businesses, and seeing how they want to use those skills for social impact!"

We extend heartfelt appreciation to Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations (SMLR), the dedicated organizers, and all the students who engaged with openness, curiosity, and passion. Their interest reaffirmed the importance of creating professional pathways rooted in empathy, resilience, and global responsibility.

To learn more about ATOP MeaningfulWorld, our educational programs, and internship opportunities, please visit [www.meaningfulworld.com](http://www.meaningfulworld.com). We warmly invite you to join us for our upcoming workshop on Saturday 21 February on Self-Care & Meaning-Making, as we continue fostering personal growth, healing, and meaningful connection.

"When one helps another, BOTH become stronger!" a reminder that acts of service are never one-sided. In supporting others, we also cultivate our own resilience, purpose, and sense of shared humanity, strengthening individuals, communities, and the world we build together.

