Cornwall Center Hosts the Wuhan University of Technology

On November 9, 2015, the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies hosted the Wuhan University of Technology (WUT) located in Wuhan, China (http://english.whut.edu.cn).

WUT numbers around 37,000 undergraduates and 16,000 graduate students studying in fields such as mechanical engineering, information technology, fiber optics and oceanography. Fourteen faculty and staff visited the Center to learn more about the American system of higher education and efforts to include underrepresented groups in postsecondary education. The Wuhan delegation also wanted to hear about the use of technology in the classroom.

Rutgers University-Newark colleagues John Gunkel, Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs and Services, Junius Williams Esq., Director, Abbott Leadership Institute provided an overview of U.S. higher education and the challenges in incorporating underrepresented groups. The Cornwall Center’s program manager for the Newark City of Learning Collaborative (http://nclc2025.org), Mahako Etta, gave a presentation on this multi-sector effort to build pathways to higher education for Newark’s residents. Finally, Kevin Dowlin, RUN-N’s Assistant Provost, Technology and Learning Spaces
gave our guests an update on innovative uses of technology in university’s classroom instruction.

Cornwall Director, Dr. Roland V. Anglin summed up the visit saying, “this was a tremendous opportunity to host a true international exchange. We had just as many questions about higher education in China as they had about higher education in United States. What I found fascinating is their interest in underrepresented groups. Of course, it translates a bit different in the Chinese context, but not much different from our own efforts to attract and support first generation students.”