

Arrigo O. Rogers Biography

Arrigo O. Rogers was a graduate of the EOF program at Rutgers College in New Brunswick, where he received EOF funding for both his undergraduate and graduate studies. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice and Political Science in 1994 and a Master's in Social Work from the Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work in 1998. As a student, Arrigo served as one of the founding members and

then President of the Alliance of EOF Students of New Jersey (AESNJ), the statewide EOF Student organization.

Other student leadership roles that Arrigo undertook as an undergraduate include: President of the Paul Robeson Club, Business Manager for the Black Voice/Carta Boricua campus newspaper, and Chair of the Human Interest Rutgers College Programming Committee. He was also involved with the Rutgers Police Department/Student Interaction Committee, was Business Manager for the African Kaleidoscope (radio program), and member of the Black Men's Collective and the Rutgers Sexual Assault Date Rape Theatrical Group.

While pursuing his graduate study, Arrigo was a residence counselor for the Rutgers College Office of Residence Life for three years. During that time, he was commended for his bravery in the resolution of an incident involving the kidnapping of a resident at gunpoint. This tenacity continued into his professional life, as an Academic Counselor with the Rutgers College EOF Program. As a counselor, he was instrumental in establishing the Summer Residence Life staff-training program.

After joining the Rutgers College EOF staff in 1994, Arrigo served as the Student Leadership Development Coordinator and advisor to the Rutgers College Educational Opportunity Program Student Association (EOPSA). He was also a member of the Executive Board of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association (NJEOFPA) in the role of Advisor to AESNJ. Additionally, he was an advisor to the Rutgers College Alpha Pi Chapter, of Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society and the Rutgers College Dean's Diversity Advocacy Board. A sought after facilitator, Arrigo conducted numerous workshops and seminars involving diversity training, grant and proposal writing, and leadership development.

In addition to these diverse roles, Arrigo was also pursuing a second Master's degree in Public Administration from the Baruch College School of Public Administration, and was a highly respected community leader in his home town of Woodbridge New Jersey.

He volunteered countless hours to the Woodbridge Domestic Violence Response Team and the Middlesex County Human Relations Commission at the time of his untimely death in November of 2002.

Arrigo earned numerous awards and accolades for his outstanding service and unselfish commitment to EOF, students, and his community. He was a constant source of light that will be forever remembered.

Arrigo O. Rogers Memorial Scholarship was established in the spring of 2003 in remembrance of this truly special individual.