

STUDENT LIFE @ Roger Williams University

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

FALL 2013

A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dear Parents and Students,



While we saw many of you at Homecoming and Family Weekend activities (October 25-27) it is hard to believe that November is upon us and final exams are just five weeks away!

This semester our new resident students were once again welcomed to campus with move-in assistance from faculty, staff, and many returning student volunteers (125 in total)– many of them student athletes or ROTC cadets. The entire entering class, many parents, faculty and staff along with senior administration and trustees participated in Convocation on Saturday, August 24th. This year, a new tradition began with a Faculty Address from the past year's Outstanding Faculty Award winner, Professor Robert Blackburn, who shared historical lessons from the life of Roger Williams transferable to the adjustment to college life.

A vibrant *Weeks of Welcome* schedule featured national diversity speaker Maura Cullen in an interactive presentation sponsored by our Multicultural Student Association. Our Health and Wellness Peer Education group hosted former college and NBA player Chris Herren in front of a standing room only crowd. Herren spoke about his 13 year personal journey of addiction to drugs and alcohol which began when he entered college and the many interventions necessary before he entered recovery. On the lighter side, 500 new students attended a day trip to Newport; over 900 students took RWU provided transportation to a special Target shopping night; and 800 attended the fall concert over Labor Day weekend.

The entire first year class together with faculty, staff and student peer leaders participated in our 9th annual Community Connections program by providing several hours of service at 42 not-for-profit sites in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts. Our Performing Arts students produced "Metamorphoses" directed by Professor Jeff Martin in early October. The RWU Stage Company performed "The Game" by Louise Bryant and "Helena's Husband" by Phillip Molleur in late October. Our first year Dance majors performed last week and an adaptation of "Jane Eyre" is set to run from November 15 – 23.

Student Senate, under the leadership of President David Kendall and Vice President Tim LeBel, has been meeting weekly and inviting key administrators in to discuss issues and provide them with student insight about campus life. Senate has been engaged in dialogue with the administration on parking, the possibility of increasing the student activity programming fee in order to more fully support clubs and organizations, banking, and proposals for new business activity on campus.

This past weekend, our Men's Cross Country Team won the Commonwealth Coast Conference Championship for the 13th consecutive year. Senior John Ferguson led the entire field of 98 runners from the start and placed first overall for the second year in a row. Junior Hannah Zydanowicz also repeated as Women's Cross Country overall champion, besting the field by over one minute, and leading her team to second place in the conference meet. Both John and Hannah were named CCC Runners of the Year – both for the second time in their careers. As of November 6th our Women's Volleyball (#1 NCAA Regional Ranking) and Women's Soccer (#22 NCAA National Ranking) teams are in the CCC playoffs this week seeding to defend their 2012 conference championships. Men's Soccer upset #1 seed Gordon College this week and plays for the conference championship on Saturday. Women's Tennis had a terrific season finishing 10-4 before bowing out in the CCC semi-finals. Our Equestrian riders are enjoying one of the best seasons in team history and are currently ranked #1 in the region while Sailing continues to turn heads with a #7 national ranking. Congratulations to our Women's Rugby Team for winning the Colonial Coast Rugby Championship and for our men who finished as runner-ups in their division. Women's Field Hockey and Men's Golf became increasingly competitive in games and matches during their inaugural varsity seasons and the future looks bright for both programs.

This issue of Student Life @ RWU offers more detailed insights on the campus experience inside with special focus on new program opportunities and educational messages on important issues faced by RWU and many other higher education institutions. As always – my staff and I are amazed at the endless energy of our students and their passion for making Roger Williams an exciting, inclusive, and memorable place to learn and live.

We hope to see you on campus SOON!

Sincerely,

John J. King, Ed.D.

Vice President – Student Affairs

WEEKS OF WELCOME

Former NBA Speaks on Campus

By Bronwen Kalmes, RWU Health and Wellness Educator



Former NBA star Chris Herren spoke to the freshman class this September as part of the RWU Weeks of Welcome, which offers 40 days and nights of programming for first year students. In a heartfelt story, Herren detailed how his struggle with drugs and the fight to overcome his addiction destroyed his career. And it all began with one bad decision. Herren's story truly resonated with the freshmen who are faced with new decisions each day as they begin their college career.

Born in Fall River, Massachusetts in 1975, Chris Herren was a standout on the varsity basketball team at B.M.C Durfee High School. In his senior year Herren was chosen to play on the McDonald's All-American Team and was named the Player of the Year by both The Boston Globe and Gatorade.

Family, friends and coaches held high hopes for Herren, and were thrilled when he turned down offers of acceptance to schools like Duke and the University of Kentucky to play basketball locally at Boston College. Shortly into his BC career however, Herren failed one drug test, then another, until he was eventually kicked off the team. With his basketball career over at Boston College, Herren made the decision to transfer to Fresno State, where he continued to play basketball and continued to struggle. After failing a drug test at Fresno State, Herren was forced into rehabilitation by his coach. Herren finished out a very successful college career at Fresno State, and was drafted to the Denver Nuggets in the second round. After two seasons with the Nuggets, Herren's dream came true with a trade to his hometown team, the Boston Celtics. He'd spent his adolescence dreaming about playing in front of a hometown crowd at the Garden, but in less than a season, Herren's dream came crashing down. Once again, his addiction got the best of him, and Herren was released from his contract after yet another failed drug test. After striking out in the NBA, Herren went on to play in Europe, where he replaced prescription pain killers and cocaine with heroin use. Drug use ended his career in Europe, and forced him to return to the United States where his continued use of cocaine, heroin, and prescription drugs nearly killed him twice before he entered treatment on his own accord. Herren has been sober since 2008, and has been sharing his message with athletic teams and students across the nation ever since. In the book, *Basketball Junkie: A Memoir*, published in 2011, Herren reveals the entirety of his struggle with addiction. Herren's is a triumphant story, where he defeats his demons; now he works to help others realize that they can overcome theirs.

Roger Williams University Host WaterFire

On September 28, Roger Williams University and the School of Law hosted the full lighting at WaterFire Providence. WaterFire Providence® is an independent, non-profit arts organization whose mission is to inspire Providence and its visitors by revitalizing the urban experience, fostering community engagement and creatively transforming the city. This event was truly an experience, and our students, faculty, staff, families and alumni were in full force during the evening. Students were able to participate in many portions of WaterFire including: volunteering during the day to set up the event, answering questions on academic and co-curricular life in themed tents, dance theater was showcased in the Basin Theater and several students were able to be honorary torch bearers. More Photos of the evening can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rwu-photos/sets/72157636356655623/with/10170944764/>



INTERCULTURAL CENTER NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS



The Intercultural Center hit the ground running this semester as they welcomed 61 new international students, increasing the RWU international student community to a total of 280 students. Students began the semester with an annual outing to Newport, RI where they enjoyed the afternoon exploring Newport.



Both returning and incoming international students were welcomed back to the IC with a Fro-Yo style ice-cream social, which provided students with sweet treats and a welcoming atmosphere, encouraging students to take a break from classes and socialize with their fellow international and commuter colleagues.



The IC started the semester with the first “An Hour With...” presentation of the year. A total of 71 attendees attended the presentation. Participants learned all about traditional Nigerian ceremonies and enjoyed some traditional Nigerian food and beverage.



The month of September finished with an action packed field trip to an Indoor Rock Climbing gym. International, commuter and domestic students alike joined the Intercultural Center for a night of climbing. The IC is excited for the weeks ahead, looking forward to a RI wide, 5-college Global Soccer Tournament, as well as “An Hour with Australia”. Hold the date for NEXT semester for Global Fest 2014, which will be taking place on April 2 in the field house. Everyone is welcome.

The Spiritual Life Program greeted the academic year with its first annual Open House for all students interested in faith/ethical groups on campus. Chaplains and members of the RWU Hillel, Catholic Campus Ministry, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Muslim Students Association, Zen Buddhist Meditation Group, and Secular Student Society, were available to greet freshmen and current RWU students.

INTERCULTURAL CENTER cont.

Also this fall the Spiritual Life Program celebrated Second Eid with the Muslim Student Association with music and traditional dancing. The Second Annual GospelFest will take place on Sunday, November 24, featuring Michael Évora and Prism of Praise Community Gospel Choir of Providence and RWU's Chorus. There will be a workshop of gospel style singing in the afternoon and a concert in the evening.

Spiritual Life also welcomed the Rev. Cleo Graham, as an affiliated Chaplain to the Protestant community. Graham, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, began her career as a nurse, becoming RI's first African American Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She worked for over twenty-five years as a clinician educator and community health activist. She is a graduate of Andover Newton Theological School. The Spiritual Life Program at RWU continues to educate and nourish the spirits of students of all faiths.

The Multicultural Affairs department kicked off the semester with two new very exciting programs. We welcomed 45 new mentees into our Diversity Leadership Program, a brand new initiative that empowers upper class RWU students as mentors to first year students from underrepresented groups. The mentors are there to show new students the ropes and to help them feel a stronger connection to campus.



We partnered with the Student Programs & Leadership office to hold RWU's first ever Unity Day. Unity Day welcomed new students to RWU and explored issues such as racism, classism, sexism, homophobia, heterosexism, ableism, privilege and more. Through fun, educational and interactive activities, students had opportunities to engage in open and honest dialogue about various diversity issues that can create barriers on a college campus. Students walked away with an ability to see the world from other students' perspectives.

Later this semester, we are holding several programs to raise awareness of diversity and social justice issues for students. A few to be on the lookout for, include: our World Theater program (a partnership with MSU, CEN and the Common Reading committee), a two-day examination and celebration of Native American history and culture. A panel on October 15 explores Christopher Columbus' legacy and impact on this community. During Social Justice Week, on October 23 and 24, we are hosting two programs to get students excited about social change. On October 23, we hosted a Direct Art, Direct Action workshop with guest speaker, Jared Paul. Students learned the basics of community organizing. On October 24, our Diversity Leaders hosted a film and discussion of the movie, *The House I Live In*, a moving film about America's War on Drugs. Next month, we'll hold our Sisterhood Night, a night meant for young women to connect and discuss issues across race and gender.

LGBTQ student affairs has been busy planning RWU's first Coming OUT Day with a coalition of student groups. For the past several years, colleges across the country and around the world have celebrated National Coming Out Day to celebrate individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning. RWU Coming OUT Day also provides an opportunity for allies of LGBTQ students, faculty and staff to visibly offer support through participation in events. RWU Coming OUT Day will consist of an LGBTQ and allies community photo, OUTFest 2013 celebration, a coming out open-mic, and a candlelight vigil to end the night.

SAFE (Sexuality Advocacy for Everyone), our LGBTQ student club on campus has seen a significant increase in their membership this year.

New Culinary Leadership Team to Lead RWU's Nationally Recognized Campus Dining Program

By: Public Affairs Staff

Chefs Reuben Haag and Jonathan Cambra will continue RWU's commitment to fresh, delicious meals with local, environmentally conscious ingredients



BRISTOL, R.I., – As part of its ongoing commitment to providing students with one of the leading campus dining programs in the country, Roger Williams University has named chefs Reuben Haag and Jonathan Cambra as the new leadership team for the University's culinary operations.

With their collective experience in managing academic dining operations with a focus on healthy, creative culinary choices featuring local, sustainable ingredients, Haag and Cambra will continue to deliver to RWU students the fresh, diverse and delicious menu for which the University has become so well known. Haag will lead culinary operations as executive chef and director of culinary operations, and Cambra will serve as assistant director of culinary operations and head catering chef.

“With Reuben's and Jonathan's deep culinary talents, our dining program will further its commitment to

social responsibility and sustainability by sourcing nearly all of our fruits, vegetables and meats from local areas, while continuing to serve a rich selection of delicious food to our students every day,” says James Gubata, general manager for Bon Appétit at Roger Williams University.

Haag joins Roger Williams with more than 18 years of professional cooking and kitchen management experience. He previously served as executive chef and operations director at Hamilton College in New York and also led dining programs at St. Mary's College and Grove City College. He trained at the Academy of Culinary Arts at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Cambra joins the University with nearly 15 years of experience in the restaurant industry and is well known in Rhode Island, having recently served as executive chef at local restaurants The Boat House in Tiverton and Castle Hill Inn in Newport. Under his leadership, both restaurants received national awards and rankings. Cambra trained at the New England Culinary Institute in Vermont.

The campus dining program at Roger Williams University is provided in conjunction with food service provider Bon Appétit Management and serves an average of 2,700 students and 25,000 meals a week using fresh, seasonal ingredients sourced from local farmers, artisans and vendors. The dining program has been ranked in the country's top 5 percent based on findings from a student satisfaction survey and was recently named one of the 60 Best Colleges for Food in America for 2013 by *The Daily Meal*.

A Deadly Kind of “High”

By Donna Lynn Darmody MS C.W.P.

Director of Health Education and Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Coordinator



Some Colleges had a deadly start to the new academic year:

- August 28 – a 19 year student from Plymouth State College died at a concert at the House of Blues in Boston
- August 30 – a 23 year old Syracuse University alumni and a 21 year old student from the University of New Hampshire, lost their lives on the same day at the Electric Zoo Music Festival in NY
- August 31st – a sophomore honors student attending prestigious UVA on a Jefferson Scholarship dies at a D.C. club

All four deaths caused by the popular street drug Molly.



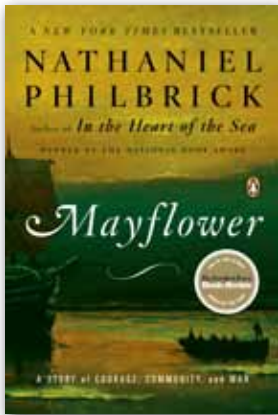
Molly is short for molecule and is smoked in crystal form, snorted in powder form or taken orally in a pressed pill form. It is MDMA, (3, 4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine) also known as pure Ecstasy. While law enforcement is investigating whether these deaths are linked to a single batch of the drug, they challenge the notion that this is a pure form of ecstasy because dealers often cut it with other substances. Users enjoy the euphoria, elatedness, empathy and energy associated with the drug. However, their thought process is completely distorted and side effects such as teeth clenching, muscle tension, chills, nausea, anxiety, depression, paranoia, sleep problems, drug craving and the more fatal effects of rise in body temperature, heavy sweating, chills, increased heartbeat, and dehydration make its' use extremely dangerous. Taken in large doses, Molly can also cause hallucinogenic reactions similar to LSD. So why are young people at “death’s doorway” after using this drug? First of all, when you buy street drugs you never know what you are getting, and it could be cut with different sorts of drugs with fatal side effects and hyperthermia leads to liver, kidney and cardiovascular failure.

In response to the media about Molly, Roger Williams University was proactive in building awareness and identifying risks. On September 4 *A Campus Safety Advisory re: MDMA/Molly Drug*, produced by the Department of Student Affairs and Public Safety, was sent via e-mail to every student warning them about the potential risks and five ways to protect themselves. RWU also has alcohol and drug prevention efforts that rely on group presentations delivered by trained peer educators called the Health and Wellness Educators (HAWES's) that provide information on symptoms of overdose and how to respond. The HAWES's created an informational brochure on Molly and added information on Molly to the presentation they gave to the RWU XP first year classes. A poster campaign about Molly is also presently being designed by an intern in the Health Education office.

As a parent, I invite you to join our efforts to keep our students safe. Molly needs to be part of the conversation you have with your son or daughter when you are talking to them about alcohol and other drugs. Ask them if they know about Molly, know anyone who uses it or heard of anyone selling it. Ask about the types of clubs and events off campus they go to. Molly use is often associated with very popular raves like foam or paint parties especially those put on by the Barstool Blackout Tour. Tell them never to buy or use designer or street drugs and never accept drinks including water bottles from strangers. Know how much money they are spending and what they are spending it on. Set clear expectations and keep your fingers crossed.

COMMON READING

Mayflower by Nathaniel Philbrick



The Common Reading Program at RWU provides an introduction to academic life at the University for our new students and serves as a vehicle to bring the community together over a shared intellectual endeavor. This program was started in 2006 and has become a tradition that promotes the importance of academics,

community, and discourse. Each year the Common Reading Selection Committee meets to discuss possible books and carefully considers themes and topics that are integral to student learning, academic exploration and discussion. The authors of the selected books are invited to campus to provide a lecture and to participate in related activities, including classroom discussions. The result is a program that encourages new students, upperclassmen, and faculty and staff to explore interesting topics together and to share a common experience during the first weeks of the new semester each year.

This year's selection was *Mayflower* by noted author and historian Nathaniel Philbrick. *Mayflower* chronicles the first half-century of the Pilgrim settlement in New England, from the religious refugees' arrival in Plymouth Harbor, to the fragile working relationship they established with the Native Americans, to the eruption of King Philip's War, a conflict that nearly decimated the English colonists and the natives alike. The majority of the events depicted in Philbrick's book took place in the immediate geographic vicinity of where Roger Williams University is located today – nearby Mount

Hope, just a mile northeast of campus, served as headquarters for Metacombet (better known as King Philip), who led the Wampanoag against the settlers in the war that bears his name.

In *Mayflower* and the recently published *Bunker Hill*, award-winning author Nathaniel Philbrick takes readers beyond the myth to paint a complex and captivating portrait of nascent America – a history that even in its earliest stages was defined by a quest for tolerance and freedom against a backdrop of race relations, religious conflict and endemic violence. RWU welcomed Mr. Philbrick to campus on October 3 as part of the Common Reading Program and in celebration of the 350th Anniversary of Rhode Island's 1663 Colonial Charter. Philbrick, a National Book



Award winner and finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in History shared his perspective on the events that shaped four centuries of American History, from King Philip's War to the Battle of Bunker Hill. This lecture saw one of the biggest crowds ever for the Common Reading lecture. Mr. Philbrick also led discussions in several classes earlier in the day and stayed for a book signing following the lecture.

The celebration of the Common Reading will continue throughout the fall semester with a series of events including a panel on Native/Indigenous People, a walk to King Phillip's Seat and a trip to Plymouth Plantation and *Mayflower II*. The Common Reading Committee encourages students, especially first year students, to participate in these events and to explore the history that surrounds them. For more information on the Common Reading program visit:

<http://rwu.edu/campus-life/events-traditions/common-reading>

10 SKILLS JOB SEEKERS NEED

By Robbin Beauchamp, *Director of the Career Center*

When it comes to a job seeker's skills/qualities, employers are looking for team players who can solve problems, organize their work, and communicate effectively, according to employers who responded to NACE's *Job Outlook 2014* survey.

Employers who interview and hire new college graduates were asked to rank a job candidate's desired skills and qualities. Employers rated seven of 10 qualities as "very important"; three were rated "somewhat important." (See Figure 1.)

Figure 1: Employers rate the importance of candidate skills/qualities

Skill/Quality	Weighted average rating*
Ability to work in a team structure	4.55
Ability to make decisions and solve problems	4.50
Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work	4.48
Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization	4.48
Ability to obtain and process information	4.37
Ability to analyze quantitative data	4.25
Technical knowledge related to the job	4.01
Proficiency with computer software programs	3.94
Ability to create and/or edit written reports	3.62
Ability to sell or influence others	3.54

*5-point scale, where 1=Not at all important; 2=Not very important; 3=Somewhat important; 4=Very important; and 5=Extremely important

Source: *Job Outlook 2014*, National Association of Colleges and Employers

How can your student demonstrate that you have these qualities? Here are some things your student can do during his/her college years to meet these demands:

Join extracurricular activities. Being an active member of a club or an intramural sports team, organizing a volunteer project, or taking part in group tasks, will help your student earn that top quality spot, "ability to work in a team structure." Participating in extracurricular activities while maintaining a high GPA will demonstrate that your student have the "ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work."

Keep A High GPA. Good grades show that your student has a good knowledge base—the "technical knowledge related to the job"—and demonstrates a strong work ethic—a quality that employers value.

Find an internship. Another way to demonstrate knowledge of the job is to have done an internship or two in the field. Your student will have opportunities to look at his/her future career close up while getting hands-on experience with any potential job. Internships can put a "foot in the door" to a job opportunity with many employers and help build a network of professionals in a professional field.

Make a Date With the Career Center. The Career Center staff can help your student go a long way in preparation for selling themselves to future employers. In addition to helping a student choose a major and career direction, a Career Advisor can help your student find internships, perfect a cover letter and resume, and develop interviewing skills. Good interview skills will help your student show a potential employer know that he/she can "verbally communicate" with people inside and outside the organization.

Courtesy of the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

The Roger Williams University Career Center wants all students to have a plan in place to obtain internships, professional jobs or graduate school acceptances. Students are strongly encouraged to attend the **Career Planning Seminar**, a five-week program that will teach your student about HIM/HERSELF, how his/her major can lead to a career, what kind of experiential educational opportunities await at Roger Williams University, how to use social media as a job search tool, how to network successfully, how to write a resume, cover letter and how to interview. Students will leave this five week session invigorated, motivated and with a concrete action plan. Sessions include discussions, written assignments, research and assessment. Students will have a road map to seek and enjoy meaningful work! Please encourage your student to sign up.

RAD PROGRAMMING

By Sarah Santiago

Roger After Dark (RAD) is a group of students, organized by the Dean's Office, which plans programs on Friday nights for all of the RWU student body as an alternative to drinking. For each event, RAD co-sponsors with a different club or organization on campus and organizes each event around a specific theme. To go with the theme of the event RAD provides food, giveaways, decorations, and entertainment to make the program as successful as possible. Roger After Dark is funded by the "Kelly Fund" which collects fines from alcohol violations to help provide funding for late night, alternative weekend programming.



For RAD's first event of the school year, they paired up with the Student Advocates on campus to hold a Last Day of Summer themed bash. Our Student Advocates each have a group of students who they help transition into University life and the RWU culture. The goal of RAD's kickoff event is to really show our first year students that there are a lot of weekend options on campus besides partying. Student participated in corn hole, twister, board games, and dancing while snacking on some local eats from Leo's.

Tell your student to look for more awesome, upcoming Roger After Dark events this semester on October 18, November 1, November 15 and December 6.

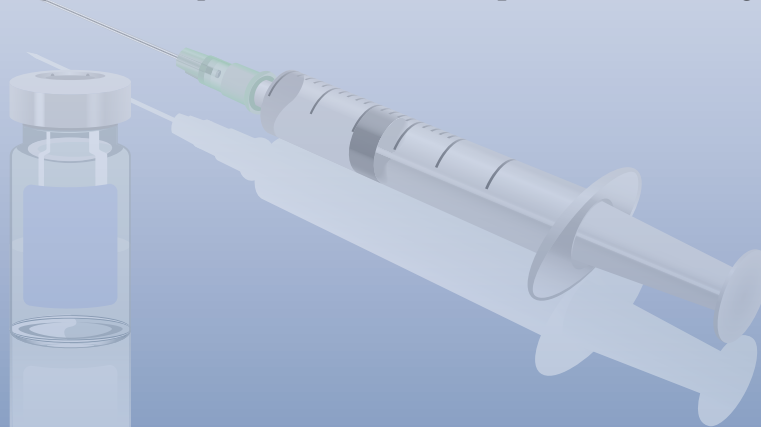
HEALTH SERVICE FLU UPDATE

Student Flu Vaccine Clinics Scheduled for October

In preparation for the 2013-4 influenza season, Health Services is encouraging all students to be vaccinated with the influenza vaccine. Flu vaccines will be available starting in October. Call Health Service at 401-254-3835 to make an appointment for your flu vaccine. Vaccines received at Health Service will cost \$25 with receipt provided as we are unable to do third party billing.

For more information on the vaccine as well as tips on influenza prevention and care, please visit the following links:

The Rhode Island Department of Health: <http://www.health.ri.gov/flu/>



RWU Athletics – Fall 2013

By Nicholas Williams, *Athletics Communication Director*



On September 14, the RWU Field Hockey team played its first varsity home game in front of a packed crowd on Bayside Field against Bay Path College.

The pre-game ceremony was marked by a special appearance by President Donald J. Farish, Ph.D., J.D., who gave a brief address expressing his pride for the program and his excitement for the team's endeavors for the rest of the season. Both teams made their way to midfield for President Farish's dropping of the ceremonial first ball in honor of the team's first home varsity game.

Once the game started, the Hawks used the energy from the crowd to vault the team to a 3-0 win over the Wildcats. Meghan Curran scored the first goal of the game 11 minutes into the second half, notching her third goal of the season.

Eight minutes later, Hailey Wolfe put in a shot to bring RWU to 2-0. Kelly Keating wrapped up the scoring for RWU at 58:57, chipping in a pass from Sarah Link for the final score of the day.

Melora Lavoie picked up the win for the Hawks, playing the second half in relief of starting keeper Mary Yurkevicius.

This past spring, the RWU Sailing team qualified for the three spring National Championships for the first time in school history. The championship events consisted of the Sperry Topsider/ICSA Women's National Championship, Gill Coed Dinghy National Championship, and the ICSA/APS Team Race National Championship. All three championships were competed at St. Petersburg, Florida.

The Hawks qualified for the Sperry Topsider/ICSA Women's National Championship after taking eighth place at the Sperry-Topsider/ICSA Women's Semi-Final Championship. Normally a two-day event, racing was suspended at the semifinals after the first day due to lack of breeze. As a result, the Hawks' eighth-place standing punched their ticket to the championship. At nationals, the Hawks finished 15th, holding on to that position after each day of racing.

The team qualified for the Gill/ICSA Coed Dinghy Championship after finishing second at the College Sailing Eastern Semifinals, scoring 145 points and coming only nine points of runner-up Old Dominion University. At the dinghy championship, the Hawks came in seventh place, tallying 309 points over the three-day event. The team managed to place fourth in A Division and tenth in B Division.

The Sailing team earned a berth to the ICSA/APS Team Race National Championship via a third-place finish at the Fowle Trophy the first weekend of May. At the team race championship, the team placed seventh. In the final day of competition, the Hawks advanced to the top eight round robin, where RWU compiled a record of 2-5, managing wins over St. Mary's College and Brown University.

Self-Proposed LLCs

By Tess LeConche



Self-Proposed Living Learning Communities are created with the intention of giving students the opportunity to propose their own special interest living community topic. They are able to combine their curricular and co-curricular efforts with the intention that it will enhance both the living and learning experiences of the students within their residential environment. At the end of last year, approximately twenty groups of students applied for self-proposed LLCs. They each went through an application process comprised of an individual application as well as group essay questions. They were given the responsibility of finding an advisor for their community as well as outlining their service project and presenting their idea to Tess LeConche, Coordinator of Residence Education for North Campus Residence Hall and Self-Proposed LLC Coordinator.



This year's Self-Proposed Living Learning Communities have hit the ground running with their service projects throughout the Bristol community. The 2013-2014 school year has twelve different Self-Proposed LLCs ranging from volunteering at food banks and shelters, animal shelters, retirement homes, interacting with children after school, as well as sports related projects helping children or raising money for cancer.

On September 27, all of the groups got together in the North Campus Residence Hall lobby for the annual ice cream social. Each group was given a poster board prior to the event, and decorated the board together as a group to give a visual representation of what their individual LLC is all about. The excitement of each student within their LLC was quite visible and the event was a perfect kick start to set the rest of the semester up for success.



Student Involvement at Roger Williams University

The start of the Fall Semester is always exciting for the Department of Student Programs and Leadership and the Office of New Student Orientation; the staff look forward to implementing our traditional Weeks of Welcome (WOW) Programming. WOW is a 40 day series of programming that welcomes our new students to campus and allows returning students a chance to reconnect with the community. This type of programming requires support from our student club and organization members as well as several departments to ensure students have a quality experience during their first few weeks of campus.

The Weeks of Welcome events begin for our first year students to connect with their class, and the Student Programs staff has been fortunate to create a few traditional events that allow this to occur. Our Annual Newport trip allows the class to explore Newport's culture and visit local shops and restaurants. This

trip allows students to connect with one another and expand their social circle. The highlight event for our opening weekend has been our RWU Takes Over Target. Student Programs staff has worked with our local Target to open on Sunday night for students to shop, dance to one of our local DJs, play games and socialize. In its second year, this trip is one of the most talked about event, which was evident by over 900 first year students attending.

The highlight of Weeks of Welcome is our Student Involvement Fair. This event allows our students to shop around and see what involvement is here on campus. With over 60 clubs, seven organizations and eight club sports; there is something for everyone to engage in. Due to weather, the event was moved inside but that did not stop our students from signing up and learning what Roger Williams has to offer them outside of the classroom. Below are photos from the event:



A MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR

By Steven Melaragno *Director of Public Safety*



On behalf of the Department of Public Safety, I want to welcome you, the parents of our students, to the University Community. Allow me to describe for you some of the services we provide, and give an overview of the Department.

Overview

DPS is available year round 24 hours a day, seven days per week. The combination of our beautiful location and our continued commitment to keeping students safe makes Roger Williams University one of the safest campuses in New England.

The department's 25 full-time staff members - including a Director, Associate Director, a four member command staff and 19 patrol officers - are trained to enforce campus rules and regulations as well as local, state and federal laws. Officers patrol all properties owned by Roger Williams University on foot, bicycle or motor vehicle. Some of our services include building checks, campus security patrols, traffic and parking enforcement, campus-wide crime prevention, Emergency Medical Technician services (EMT), courtesy transports, shuttle transportation to and from scheduled locations (both on campus and off campus properties). Public Safety also investigates a wide variety of incidents. Our presence is felt throughout the University community and we are always willing to assist anyone in need.

"ALWAYS BE SAFE AND REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO PUBLIC SAFETY"

We believe that maintaining a safe and secure environment, conducive to living, learning, and personal growth can only be attained through a collaborative effort involving the entire University Community.

Crime Prevention

On September 19, 2013 the DPS and the Department of Environmental, Health and Safety held the annual Crime Prevention Fair. Police and Fire Departments from around the state, university departments and victim advocate agencies participated in the Fair. The University was privileged once again to have local self-defense trainers on campus to give martial arts self-defense demonstrations.

DPS has various programs that are designed to inform students and employees about campus safety procedures and practices. These programs encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own personal safety.

- The University has established a standing Safety Committee to assist in reviewing, recommending and establishing policies, procedures and practices. The committee is made up of staff. An example of an on-going review is lighting surveys and occupational safety hazards.
- Staff members are provided with public safety information at the new employee orientations which are held for new university staff and faculty members once a month.
- Crime prevention information is available to student and staff groups throughout the year. Example: personal safety tips and theft prevention practices.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to:

- Public Safety at (401) 254-3333 or dialing 3333 from a campus phone
- Resident Assistants (RA's)
- Bristol Police Department at (401) 253-6900 (campus and Town of Bristol related emergencies)
- Portsmouth Police Department at (401) 683-0300 (Town of Portsmouth related emergencies)

Public Safety – Bristol Campus

- Non-Emergencies (401) 254-3611
- Crime Prevention (401) 254-3212
- Campus Emergency Information (401) 254-4400 or 4400 from a campus phone
- Shuttle Services (401) 254-7333 or 7333 from a campus phone

Public Safety – Providence Campus

- Providence Campus (401) 276-4830

Public Safety – School of Law

School of Law (401) 254-4500

We at the Department of Public Safety encourage students to think about their personal safety and security, and we provide the following information as part of our Safety Awareness education;

A Message from the Public Safety Director cont.

“THINK OF YOUR RESIDENCE AS YOUR HOME!”

“Be Aware, Be Safe, and Be Respectful and secure your doors”

BE AWARE: Students should think of their residence rooms and halls as their home while living at RWU.

- Would you leave your front door at home unlocked when leaving?
- Would you allow a stranger to enter your home without any question?
- Do you prop any exterior doors of your home and leave them unattended?

Don't allow tailgating: This is allowing strangers to follow you into your residence hall or campus home. If people have reasons to be in the residence halls, they should have their own access cards or call someone who will give them access. Just say NO to tailgaters in order to maintain a safe and secure residential environment.

Be Safe: Don't hold the door open for strangers. Allowing strangers into the residence halls only serves to jeopardize safety and security at RWU.

Never prop open exterior doors: This action endangers everyone in the residence halls and any propped-open doors should be immediately secured and reported to Public Safety and or Residence Life.

Never lend keys: Do not lend your keys, ID card, or electronic access card to anyone, even a friend. Not everyone will take the same care as you would.

Be Respectful: Don't damage or mistreat any RWU property. We have a beautiful campus at RWU and let's keep it that way by being respectful and responsible with any and all RWU property. Immediately report any acts of vandalism to Public Safety.

Lock doors, Lock doors, Lock doors: Nearly all reported burglaries on any University campus involve unlocked doors. Whenever sleeping or stepping out of the room to visit the bathroom or hallway friends, lock the door! Locking your room door is the best deterrent to theft in the residence rooms.

At Other Locations on Campus:

Never leave valuables in plain view or left unattended: Valuables should not be left in plain view in public places or vehicles and never left unattended.

Secure your bicycle at all times: Buy a good lock and use it (“U-locks” are recommended). Record your bike's serial number.

Crime Reporting: All crimes or emergencies that occur on the Roger Williams University property, to include the Providence Campus should be reported to the Department of Public Safety (DPS), in person or by phone by calling (401) 254-3611, or (401) 254-3333. Crimes should be reported to the DPS to ensure inclusion in the annual crime statistics and to aid in providing timely warning notices to the community, when appropriate. It should be noted that when using a cell phone to call the DPS, callers should dial (401) 254-3611 as dialing 9-1-1 directly will route them to an outside police agency. If you should be routed to an outside police department, you need to advise them of your specific location at Roger Williams University so that they may dispatch that information to the DPS. There are 28 emergency telephone locations throughout the campus designated by blue lights for easy identification at night. Simply picking up the receiver or pressing a button activates them. They are directly connected to the DPS Dispatch Center, which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The location of the activated telephone is automatically identified to the DPS Dispatch Officer. When calling, tell the Dispatch officer the following information:

- Identify yourself
- Location from where you are calling
- What is the nature of your call
- When the event actually occurred

The Roger Williams University DPS responds to all reports of criminal activity occurring on its campus. In response to a call, the Roger Williams University DPS will dispatch an officer to file an incident report. All Roger Williams University DPS incident reports are forwarded to the Dean's Office for review and referral to the Student Conduct Council or University Hearing Board for potential action, as appropriate. Roger Williams University DPS Investigators will investigate a report when it is deemed appropriate.

Crimes may be reported anonymously by utilizing the DPS crime prevention hotline at (401) 254-3212 or by emailing crimeprevention@rwu.edu. If a complainant files a report with the DPS, the information may not be able to be kept confidential. Please visit DPS on our RWU website at: <http://www.rwu.edu/about/university-offices/public-safety>

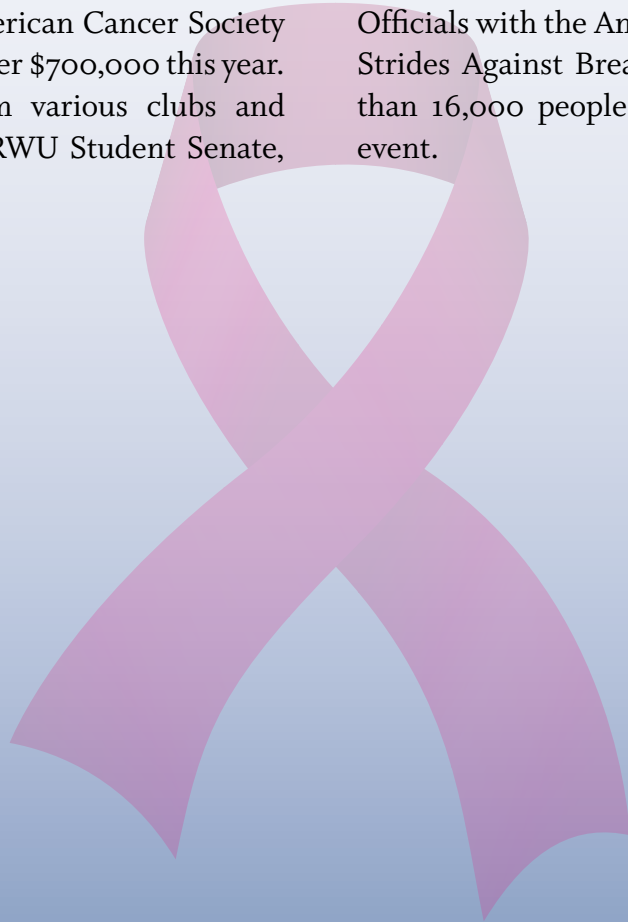
Students Making Strides Against Breast Cancer



A little rain did not stop a passionate group of RWU students from stepping out in Providence on Sunday, October 6 for the annual 3 mile “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” walk. This annual event which benefits the American Cancer Society was reported to have raised over \$700,000 this year. Student representatives from various clubs and organizations including the RWU Student Senate,

Colleges Against Cancer, Values of Sisterhood, the RWU women’s field hockey team and soccer teams, and the RWU Women’s Center participated in this event as walkers and event volunteers.

Officials with the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer reported that more than 16,000 people took part in the 18th annual event.



The Center for Counseling and Student Development



The Counseling Center realizes that students have different styles and comfort levels with regard to accessing our services. As a result, we offer students support in a variety of ways since we realize that the fall semester can be particularly challenging time for incoming freshmen as well as for returning students who are facing new challenges. First, the Center offers individual counseling to students seeking guidance as they navigate their college journey. Challenges for freshmen can come in the form of learning how to balance increased responsibility, finding a social niche, negotiating conflicts with roommates and friends, and reexamining personal goals, values and priorities.

We also offer a weekly Student Success Workshop series. Some of the topics this year have been healthy relationships, overcoming procrastination, sleep, managing emotions, changing bad habits, and stress relief, to name a few. In October the Counseling Center participated in the National Depression Screening Day. The screening consisted of students completing relatively brief questionnaires and receiving immediate feedback from a trained counselor. It also provided students with the opportunity to schedule a follow-up appointment at the Counseling Center. We also realize that students may feel more comfortable completing them in the privacy of their own rooms. As a result, the screenings are on our web page at

<http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/studentservices/counselingcenter/> and they can be accessed at any time.

Additionally, the Counseling Center has increasingly utilized the internet to provide information to students, parents, staff, and faculty. Various brochures can be found at <http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/studentservices/counselingcenter/resources/>. Weekly mental health tips can also be accessed anytime throughout the academic year at <http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/studentservices/counselingcenter/resources/mhtips.htm>. There is helpful information on many topics including, but not limited to, adjusting to RWU college life, depression, anxiety, and overcoming procrastination.

We also expanded our group therapy offerings this year. The following groups were offered: Anxiety and Stress reduction; Grief and Loss; Women and Relationships; Substance Abuse Support group; Freshmen Adjustment and an LGBTQQ support group.

Our services are confidential which means we cannot share information about the fact or nature of students' visits to the Center without their permission. However, as a parent you are welcome to call us to share your concerns or to consult with one of our counselors. All full-time undergraduate and graduate students (other than the law school) are eligible for our services, free of charge. The Center for Counseling and Student Development is located on the 2nd floor of the Center for Student Development, and we may be reached at (401) 254-3124.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Greetings Parents!

As we kick-off the 2013-14 academic year, we hope that your students are settling into their new homes and that you both are transitioning well to the changes in your lives. At RWU we recognize that parents are an integral part of our educational community. Over the course of the year, there will be many opportunities for parents to become involved with the University – both on and off campus – and we hope that you will consider volunteering in an area that is of interest to you.

To get you started, please visit the RWU Parent Portal at <http://parents.rwu.edu/> for quick access to all parent-related information on our website. Here you can learn more about the Parents Association, gain insight into the mind of President Donald Farish and his vision for Affordable Excellence, check the year's academic calendar, and “like” our Parents Facebook page to stay in touch with our online community. This parent's homepage also provides you with current news items, parent announcements and information on upcoming events. From the Parent Portal, you can link to a form to volunteer in your areas of interest. We are always looking for volunteers to assist within the areas of Advancement, Admissions, Career Services and Student Affairs.

Sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, the Roger Williams Parents Association (RWPA) informs and engages parents of undergraduate, graduate and continuing education students, as well as alumni, for the purpose of supporting each other and advancing the University's mission. RWPA supports parental advocacy on behalf of students, and encourages parents to serve as ambassadors of the University through philanthropic, educational, fundraising, or career development and student development initiatives.

Thank you for your consideration and it was a pleasure to see you at Homecoming & Family Weekend!

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Edmonds, M.Ed.
Alumni Relations Officer
redmonds@rwu.edu
401-254-3068



If you know others who would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or care to change your e-mail address, please send current email addresses to advancement@rwu.edu.

While every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate and up to date, we're writing about a dynamic educational environment, and it is not possible to guarantee that all items will be accurate at all times.

Roger Williams
University

Division of Student Affairs
One Old Ferry Road
Bristol, Rhode Island 02809
(401) 254-3042
<http://studentaffairs.rwu.edu>