

STUDENT LIFE AT RWU

A Newsletter for Parents and Students

Spring 2014

A Message from the Vice President of Student Affairs

Dear Parents and Students,

During the last week of April, beginning on Thursday evening, the Campus Entertainment Network sponsored Spring Weekend with nearly 1600 students attending the Spring Concert (Krewella) in the Recreation Center. About 1,100 students passed through Quad Fest on Friday afternoon and despite rain on Saturday that forced a relocation of the Block Party Carnival the event occurred with similar attendance to past years. Students worked closely with Dean of Students Kathleen McMahon to plan a successful Saturday evening outdoors event for Juniors and Seniors in Bayside. "UFEST" attracted 900 students and improvements are already being discussed for next year. The previous weekend, our campus radio station (WQRI) sponsored an outdoor concert drawing over 350 students.

On May 3rd, a student initiated Relay for Life event raised approximately \$33,000 for cancer research through 200 participants in teams representing students, faculty and staff. During the academic year, 144 students completed one of three tiers (Emerge, Develop, and Lead) of our SOAR Leadership Development program under the mentorship of our dedicated Student Programs & Leadership staff.

68 Students participated in Winter or Spring Break Service Trips this semester. An additional 9 students traveled to a Habitat for Humanity build project in New Jersey immediately after Commencement for a week of service. The 77 students participating in service trips in one academic year is an increase of 8 over last year's record – the highest total ever – and we remain committed to sending out 100 participants in one of the next two academic years.

This year our Habitat for Humanity groups traveled to Birmingham, Alabama and Tutwiler, Mississippi. Our Foundation for International Medical Relief for Children (FIMRC) groups traveled to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. Our Intervarsity Christian Fellowship club traveled and served in New Orleans.

In preparation for a focused trip next March, Associate Dean Ande Diaz traveled to a Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona with two students in order to lay the ground work for a large group of students to accompany our University Chaplain, the Rev. Nancy Soukup, next Spring.

Spring semester has been busy with dance, music and theatre events. In addition to our student performances, Jazz musician Aaron Diehl performed for students, faculty and staff on April 16th in Global Heritage Hall. The event was sponsored by the Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, WQRI Radio, Student Programs and Leadership, and the Inter-Residence Hall Association.

The Dance Club Show was a huge success on April 9th. With performances from jazz to lyrical to hip-hop there was something for everyone. The Dance Theatre in Concert had their performance from May 2nd through 4th. Also, on May 6th at 2:30PM in the Rec Center, Junior and senior Dance majors present a Site Specific performance, "Perception: Creative Athletes' Re-Creation of the Recreation Center," through movement that could only have been imagined in these specific spaces. Their intention was to highlight the many uses of the Rec Center as well as to suggest some of the similarities between athletes and dancers, breaking the barriers between dancers and audience with a type of performance that allows the movement to be seen from multiple vantage points and accommodates the normal traffic flow and activities happening at the site.

In music, RWU's Instrumental Ensemble and the RWU Chorus hosted brilliant performance May 5th & 7th to the delight of parents and community members. The Theatre Arts wrapped up their production season on April 25th with the final performance of "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," a Wild West rock musical. One April 9th, The University also hosted "Sister Outsider" a spoken word performance by Dominique Christina and Denice Frohman, Women of the World Poetry Slam champions.

This is a bittersweet time of the academic year for any University as we say goodbye to our Seniors and welcome them to our Alumni family and network. In this newsletter you will find the listing of this year's Core Values Medallion recipients, some Commencement photos and additional coverage can be seen at ([imbed main web page link here](#)). The leadership and accomplishments of this year's senior class – and the class spirit built by the class officers – has been remarkable.

In closing, I want to congratulate several of our prestigious outstanding senior award winners determined this Spring. Krystie Luczynski, Kaitlyn Bovee, and Tyler Pogmore were named RWU Female and Male Athletes of the Year for their stellar four year careers. Krystie earned the CCC and New England Women's Volleyball Association Player of the Year awards along with unprecedented AVCA All-American and Capital One Academic All-American honors. Kaitlyn earned CCC, ECAC, and New England Women's Basketball Association Player of the Year honors along with Honorable Mention recognition as a WBCA All-American. Tyler earned All-New England Intercollegiate Baseball Association First Team and All-CCC Second Team honors and his senior season pitching line of 3-0, 9 saves, and a 0.40 ERA will surely result in additional honors in the coming weeks.

The major awards for student leadership this year were presented to Tim Clarkin and Danica Donnelly-Landolt as the Karen Haskell Outstanding Senior Leaders, to Jeronima Panjoj-Nix and Lauren Astone as the Prof. Harold Way Outstanding Juniors (Academic & Leadership), and to Willie Borkai as the Mellissa Carrasquillo Intercultural Leadership Award winner.

Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

John J. King, Ed.D

Vice President of Student Affairs



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INTERCULTURAL CENTER UPDATE

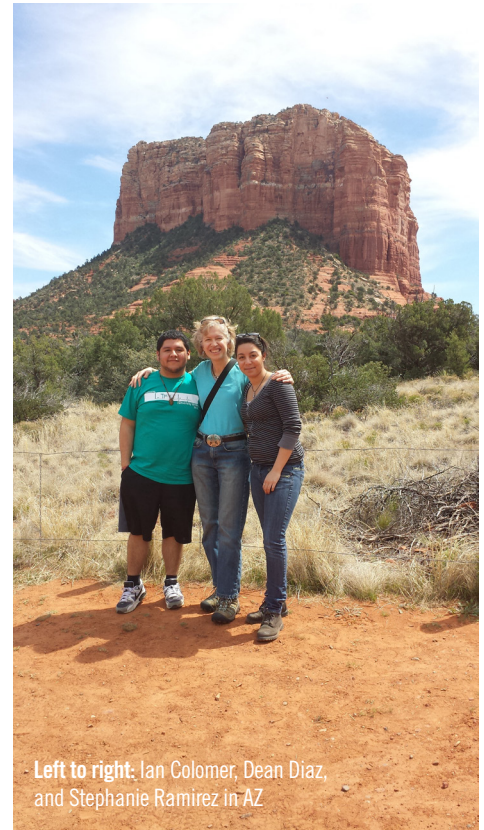
By Ande Diaz, Associate Dean & Director of the Intercultural Center

The Intercultural Center supports and challenges students to create a more inclusive campus and world. From sitting in quiet contemplation in our Multifaith Prayer Room, to participating in this spring's smash success of Diversity Week, students and staff at the Intercultural Center help people from all cultural backgrounds, personal identities, and spiritual traditions, learn about and contribute to our increasingly diverse world. This year more students expressed a desire to work on social justice issues. The community responded with initiatives such as a faculty-launched Social Justice Summit and a multi-racial group of students who created a Sustained Dialogue on Race Relations. One of the IC's greatest partners is the Multicultural Student Union which

surprised the IC with a very special gift this spring. On Earth Day, students from MSU planted a beautiful dogwood tree at the IC which will blossom for all to enjoy in years to come. Best of luck to all our graduating seniors – you will always have a home at the Intercultural Center, and we wish you all the best on your future endeavors! Come back and visit soon because intercultural learning at RWU has never been more exciting.

RWU's Spiritual Life Program this spring celebrated religious holidays and offered faith-based programming, all to further its goal to educate and nourish the spirits of students of all faiths and ethical practices. The Program's chaplains and student groups continued to convene for regular worship services, prayer and meditation and the study of sacred texts. These ranged from daily prayer for the Muslim community to weekly Catholic Mass, Ecumenical Protestant worship, Friday Jumu'ah Prayers, Zen Meditation and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship meetings. A highpoint of the semester was the Third Annual Passover Seder. Hillel students, faculty, administrators and staff gathered to share an authentic meal prepared by Bon Appetit and to read together the Haggadah.

Spiritual life programming is essential to the Office's mission. For a fourth semester, we collaborated with the Roving Eye Film Festival to offer the Film/Speaker Series on the Jewish Experience, featuring an afternoon of films on themes about rescuers and the Holocaust. The keynote was from Director Artemis Joukowsky III about his documentary, "The Sharps' War: Two Who Dared," the story of his grandparents Martha and Waitstill Sharp who saved more than 1,500 Jews from Europe in 1939 and 1940. In addition,



Left to right: Ian Colomer, Dean Diaz, and Stephanie Ramirez in AZ

Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer and Mufti Ikram ul-Haq offered conversation sessions with their respective communities, RWU Hillel and the Muslim Students' Association, during the semester.

Finally, the Office and the Intercultural Center have been planning an Alternative Spring Break Trip and service-learning experience to Navajo Nation, proposed for March 2015. Dean Ande Diaz (director of the IC) and two students, Ian Colomer and Stephanie Ramirez, made an advance trip in April to Tuba City, AZ, where the service organization Amizade has a site. Planning for next year's weeklong trip learning about Native American spirituality and culture has already begun.



RWU's Third Annual Passover Seder in the Upper Commons.

INTERCULTURAL CENTER UPDATE

By Ande Diaz, Associate Dean & Director of the Intercultural Center

The International Affairs Department also had an amazing semester. The largest international event of the year, Global Fest, brought together 940 members of the community, celebrating the many countries and cultural identities currently represented at RWU. Offering 38 student-run country tables, tastes from around the world catered by RWU Bon Appetit, professional performances including traditional Irish musicians and step dancers, as well as an afro Caribbean drum master, the event was a huge success. Audience engagement included receiving heritage influenced name tags, free henna, raffle prizes and giveaways, as well as traditional Saudi Arabian singing and dancing!



Other events included the country presentation series more commonly referred to as the "An Hour With..." program. Countries highlighted this spring included China, Rwanda, and Haiti. Over a hundred members of the community, including faculty, staff and students, virtually journeyed to these nations through the eyes of our international students, enjoying traditional food samples at each event.

Spring field trips included snow tubing down the snow covered hills of Ski Ward Ski Resort, watching the Boston Celtics take on the Chicago Bulls at TD Garden (while dancing their way onto the big screen!), and whizzing down rollercoasters at 6 Flags New England.



The monthly Middle Eastern cooking series reinforced a worldwide appreciation for good food and good company - together with Jim Azar, Director of the Counseling Center, students from all around campus came together to enjoy delicious cuisine from the Middle East.



The Conversation Partners Program

continued to support 12 domestic and over 40 international students, advising and engaging students as they built their intercultural communication skills and relationships on campus and around the world.



Through our fun filled, student centered events, we are honored to continue providing opportunities to connect students across cultural variances and similarities on campus.

INTERCULTURAL CENTER UPDATE

By Ande Diaz, Associate Dean & Director of the Intercultural Center

The Multicultural Affairs Department

This spring marks the end of our first pilot year of the Diversity Leadership Program. Forty-two first year students from diverse backgrounds completed the program and received one-on-one mentoring from our Diversity Leaders. Their Diversity Leaders helped them have successful transitions from home to college and throughout the year. They participated in social activities and several of our mentees applied for and accepted leadership positions for next year. Our Diversity Leaders are sophomores, juniors and seniors from diverse backgrounds with a passion for social justice and mentoring.

This semester, we kicked off the mentors introductory training with sessions on race and racism, classism and privilege. The students spend two weekends learning to understand their own personal identities and how that relates to their interactions with others. The mentors passion and preparation has helped incoming students find more friendships and community on campus. In the words of one of our first-year students who was inspired to apply and secured a mentor position for her sophomore year, Jasmin Gillard says her Diversity Leader “really helped me transfer into RWU with ease and find a group of friends that I could relate to. But most importantly, my Diversity Leader inspired me to want to become a Diversity Leader myself. She was such an amazing mentor

and I want to be the same to my future mentees next year... You also get to know all of the mentors as well and especially you begin to build and establish a family away from home”. Upperclassmen are invited to connect with the Diversity Leadership community and consider applying for this leadership opportunity next year.

Also this semester, SAFE (RWU’s Gay/Straight Alliance) organized LGBTQ Pride Week with support from other groups on campus. With events such as QueerFest, an outdoor campus art installation, an open-mic storytelling event, the Day of Silence and various film showings and discussions, LGBTQ students and allies came together to celebrate our campus pride! The Intercultural Center partnered with the Campus Entertainment Network, Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, and SAFE to bring Sister Outsider to campus during this week. Sister Outsider are poets, educators, activists and performance artists. Their work represents the diversity of their identities across race, gender and sexuality, and they use personal stories that connect to a range of social and political issues. Sister Outsider facilitated a workshop on “otherness” for students and were featured in a well-attended spoken word performance later in the day. Students were very moved and inspired by both of the programs. As one student put it, “Dominique and Denice captivated and empowered us (the audience) to embrace our otherness. They inspired me

to look beyond what “normal” is supposed to be, because you can be part of the template all you want, but as they spoke in front of me I realized that it is what is outside of the box that is truly beautiful.”

This spring, we also celebrated RWU’s Diversity Week, organized by the Multicultural Student Union (MSU) with collaboration from a number of student organizations, departments and staff and faculty. They featured events such as Holi (an Indian celebration of the Festival of Colors), a film showing and discussion on the topic of “What is Race?” with filmmaker David Wilson, a Ted Talks style event on progress we’ve made around diversity issues with four faculty members, and a performance by traditional Taiko drummers. It was an exciting week and we hope to make Diversity Week even more widely-celebrated next year.

Next semester, please be on the lookout for Leadership Unity Day scheduled for the end of September. Leadership Unity Day program is a half-day exploration of issues that can create barriers between students, faculty and staff including: racism, classism, sexism, homophobia, heterosexism, ableism, privilege and more. Through fun, educational and interactive activities, all students are welcome to attend and work toward building understanding across differences with their fellow students. Be the change you wish to see!



Winter season big success for Hawks

By Samantha Christopher, *Athletic Communications Intern*

The winter season was a successful and eventful one for the Hawks. There was an abundance of team and individual success as teams soared to the playoffs and set new records.

The women's basketball team recorded the first 20-win season in the program's history going 22-7 and making their first NCAA Tournament appearance making it to the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Championship game for the first time as well at the #2 seed. Senior Kaitlyn Bovee received a number of awards and honors as well in her final and most successful season as a Hawk. She was named New England Women's Basketball Association (NEWBA) Player of the Year, D3hoops.com All Region, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-American,

Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) New England Player of the Year, and Capital One Academic All-District Team. In the process of being honored with these titles, the captain also set the scoring record previously held at 1,370 points. Senior Ari Renwick was named to the NEWBA Honor Roll, while head coach Kelly Thompson was named Cox Sports DIII Women's Co-Coach of the Year.

Men's basketball finished the season at 10-16 after reaching the first round of the CCC Tournament. Junior Ryan Palumbo and freshman Chris Bardwell were named to the All-Commonwealth Coast Conference Team, Palumbo making the All-CCC Second Team and Bardwell on the All-CCC Third Team. Bardwell was also named CCC Rookie of the year. Men's Swimming

and Diving also had a successful season, finishing second at the 2014 New England Intercollegiate Swimming and Diving Association Championships. Women's Swimming and Diving would also place second at the NEISDA Championships.

In other sports, the Wrestling team completed their season with a trip to the NCAA DIII National Championships where senior Colin Crowell and sophomore David Welch earned All-American Honors. The National Wrestling Association also recognized ten wrestlers as Scholar All Americans and placed them in the sixth spot for Team GPA. The team also claimed the Pilgrim League Title and placed fourth at the NCAA East Regional.

Student-athletes use DIII Week to celebrate academic success and community service

By Samantha Christopher, *Athletic Communications Intern*

Athletes showed their school spirit in a celebration of teams and community service during their Division III Week in April. Student-athletes and coaches took this week to recognize hard work and dedication to their school and community beginning with a recognition of all student-athletes with Dean's List honors at half time of a men's lacrosse game. Over 150 athletes took to Bayside field that day to be honored for making their respective Dean's List.

Athletes and coaches had also been hard at work leading up to DII Week collecting gently worn shoes, sneakers, and backpacks. With sophomore softball player Meghan Maliga leading the way, teams collected enough equipment to donate to the Bristol

Good Neighbors Soup Kitchen and Day shelter with team representatives from each sport at the softball game to present the donation to Annual Giving Coordinator Rindy Sicard.

Behind sophomore Veronica Alicea, the softball team also used Division III Week to Play for a Cause and raise awareness for the poor living conditions in Tilory, Haiti. The team played that day to promote Alicea's organization The 900 Project and collect donations from spectators to build the 900 latrines that are needed in the small village. T-shirts were sold and donation jars were set up as the girls teamed up with Gordon College to make it a successful day, raising enough money to build three more latrines.

The Hawks took to Bayside Field again during DIII Week as they hosted their annual Special Olympics Bocce Tournament. Numerous RWU athletes teamed up with Special Olympics athletes and spent their afternoon on the turf playing in, officiating and watching the tournament. The final day of the Bocce Tournament featured a reception where both RWU and Special Olympics athletes were recognized for their performance and dedication to the program.

Teams concluded DIII Week by uniting as one and sporting their uniforms or other RWU athletic attire to celebrate their accomplishments as student-athletes.

STUDENT PROGRAMS & LEADERSHIP UPDATES

By Carol Sacchetti, *Director of Student Programs and Leadership*



Caption

The Department of Student Programs and Leadership has had much successful collaboration with our clubs, organizations and leadership programming during this Spring Semester. Students were encouraged to attend events, leadership training and attend regional and national conferences. This academic year saw over 125 major events for students to take advantage and participate.

The Department worked with a number of clubs and organizations to host Johnny Cupcakes. In this highly engaging lecture, Johnny pieced together how his success reinforced the power of details, experience and loyalty. Through his inspiring, and certainly unpredictable journey, Johnny exuded the fundamental connection between the person and the brand. Johnny's presentation provided comprehensive blueprints for getting any small company, passion or idea off the ground. The company also created customized RWU theme apparel for the event.

The Spring Semester continued a tradition of various events that our students could engage in. The Holler Hawks (athletic events super fans) hosted Roger's Cup in late February. This event had the crowd

split up by colors and features school spirit, costumes and a live broadcast by our student radio station and the Sport Editors of the campus newspapers. Our Multicultural Student Union (MSU) created a Diversity Week of programming for the campus community in April. This week's events included a soccer tournament, a celebration of progress (Ted Talks inspired) lecture, a performance from Brown University's Taiko Drummers and a Holi celebration. The students spent the better part of the academic year working to ensure that this week would be highly attended. Our Dance Club hosted their Annual Spring Dance Club show that featured over 25 dances and had over 200 students participants. This event is an annual sell out and features family members, students and the University community. Our Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter organized a trip to visit New York City PR firms; over 40 students visited eight different firms to learn about the industry and network for positions and internships.

Spring Break was a very busy time for several of our groups who participate in service break trips. Habitat for Humanity spent their Spring Break as part of Habitat

The highlight of the Spring Semester for the department is the **Annual Student Involvement Recognition Banquet** which took place on May 6. This traditional event awards over 60 awards for students involved in clubs, organizations and leadership positions on campus. Below are some of our top student leader awards:

Organization Member of the Year:
Jessie Reed (ICC Class Officer)

Club Member of the Year:
Haley O'Callaghan (Dance Team) and
Caitlin Galotti (PRSSA)

Best Education Program:
Chris Wade, CEN Hawk Talks

Club Program of the Year:
PRSSA Speed Networking

Organization Program of the Year:
CEN March Meltdown

Club Sport of the Year:
Women's Rugby

Best Cultural Awareness Program:
SAFE Coming Out Day

Best Co-Sponsored Event:
CEN and Add Nothing
Slender Man Games

Hawk's Pride Spirit Award:
Avery Davis

Rising Star Awards:
Polina Boily

Award for Individual Excellence:
Lilly Naqvi, David Kendall, Katie Muttitt,
Shawni Robinson

Club of the Year:
Peer Pals

Karen Haskell Student Leader of the Year:
Danica Donnelly and Tim Clarkin

STUDENT PROGRAMS & LEADERSHIP UPDATES

By Carol Sacchetti, *Director of Student Programs and Leadership*

for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge, 18 students and two advisors travelled to Birmingham, AL. The Foundation of International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) chapter had 2 groups travel to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. FIMRC's mission is to provide access to medical care for the millions of underprivileged and medically underserved children around the world. Our Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) went to New Orleans with other Northeast chapters to build houses in the Ninth Ward as part of Project Hope. This is the fourth year of our students working in the Ninth Ward as part of the Serve Up New Orleans project. These groups came back to campus with various stories of their experiences and were recognized at the Service Break Trip Reception on May 4.

The Department of Student Programs wants to thank all of the students who successfully programed all our Spring Semester events. Students interested in getting involved and leadership opportunities should visit the Department of Student Programs and Leadership, located in the Campus Recreation Center. Staff members are accessible by emailing studentprograms@rwu.edu or calling (401) 254-3088.



HAWKS ENTERING STUDENT AFFAIRS

Hawks Entering Student Affairs (HESA) had its final session of the year which concluded in a panel of five Roger Williams University full time professionals in the field to show the breadth of experiences and viewpoints that students can have when entering Student affairs. Our panel consisted of:

Dr. John King
Vice President of Student Affairs

Dr. Kathleen McMahon
Associate Vice President of Student Affairs/
Dean of Students

John Zajicek
Assistant Director of Student Programs
and Leadership

Morgan Cottrel
Assistant Director of Student Advocacy

Mike Gallagher
Assistant Director of Athletics for
Recreational Services and Facilities

Six students, five of which have attended all four sessions throughout this year, attended and listened to the advice, stories, and pathways of each of the five professionals. We spoke about undergraduate experiences and how they discovered working in student affairs.

Questions were asked about national job search techniques and avenues. Networking, professional organizations, and mentorship was stressed as important in a field that thrives on a tight web of connections.

One piece that was also stressed was work/life balance. Tips included shutting off notifications of work related things on smartphones. Dean McMahon spoke about personal wellness and taking control of your own life. "Your life won't come find you. You have to find that balance for yourself." Morgan spoke about knowing how productive you are being while you are at work and recognizing your own habits. John Zajicek said "A mentor of mine told me that it'll be there tomorrow. The work will always be there. It's time to just go home".

With decisions of graduate school searches, financial obligations, and balancing involvement with academics at the undergraduate level and beyond, our panelists stressed the importance of understanding what our students will want to get out of the position, what type of school that will be found in, and what job will give you that fulfillment.

We had students consistently of all age ranges and backgrounds. We had students

who were athletes, Resident Assistants, Orientation Advisors, CEN and MSU Board members. We had freshmen students through graduating seniors from the 2014 class.

To wrap up the year we are working on learning outcomes and assessment surveys to show the growth in learning about the field to prepare our students for their futures. In the future we want to branch HESA into two tracks: Exploring- for those underclassmen who want to explore the basics of the field and of themselves, and Searching- a more narrowly focused set of sessions focusing on the graduate school search, interview processes, and an introduction to Student Affairs Theory.

If you have any questions regarding this session, or assessment, or what we hope to see HESA become in the future please contact CORE Adam Nichols (anichols@rwu.edu), CORE Sarah Santiago (ssantiago@rwu.edu), or CORE Danielle Remigio (dremigio@rwu.edu) with any further questions. We want to take the time to thank the entire Division of Student Affairs who have been beyond supportive in HESA's inaugural year. Without the continued support from everyone this endeavor would not have been the success it was.

Spotlight: "It Can Wait" Mock Extrication Demonstration

By Chris Bastarache, *Head RA in Bayside*

On Thursday April 10, the Roger Williams community saw firsthand the dangers of distracted driving, specifically the dangers of texting and driving. With the help of Roger Williams Department of Public Safety, the Bristol Fire Department, and the Bayside Complex staff, a mock extrication was enacted in front of Maple Hall. Bayside Head Resident Assistant Christopher Bastarache, who is also a volunteer for the Fire Department, headed the program. This was the second annual mock extrication; in April 2013, a similar

event was held to show the dangers of drunk driving. The purpose of these events is to bring awareness to the community the large number of people who are seriously injured or killed as a result of these types of accidents. This year's event, "It Can Wait," brought in over 150 students who viewed an extrication of acting "victims" as a result of texting and driving. Additionally, over 100 students signed the pledge to stop texting and driving and to promote safer driving habits.



ROGER STAYING RAD

By: Ron Lucia and Derick Cowan, *Roger After Dark Co-Coordinator*s

Over the course of the past three years, Roger After Dark (RAD) has transformed from an event that many didn't even know about, never mind attended, into an award-winning initiative. RAD's success this year was made possible because of the hard work from its committee, advisors, and support from the Dean of Students and Department of Residence Life & Housing. While celebrating our recent successes, RAD is always looking for new, innovative way to improve the event we give to the students who are searching for fun substance-free events on campus.

One of RAD's biggest successes this year was improving what we offer to our guests. RAD works hand in hand with other clubs to co-sponsor our events, the

cosponsor creates the theme for the night that activities are created from that our guests can take part in during the event. Some of these interactive activities include trivia nights, karaoke, mini golf, and even a dance party. These are just a small example of the things offered at RAD, and we believe that this is what keeps RAD a top option of what to do on a Friday night at Roger Williams University.

It is very easy to become complacent with success, but RAD believes that the only way to stay relevant in a college setting is to evolve to the wants and needs of the student body. Some of the things that RAD is working on for the future is to offer a wider range of options during our events, assessing the current practices, and

exploring different advertisement outlets to reach all of the student body at RWU.

Roger After Dark has come a long way this past year, but we believe that we are only scratching the surface of the potential we have as an initiative. Our goal has always been to crash the stereotype that the majority of college students are only interested in drinking activities during the weekends. The reality is that there is an even larger population of students who are searching for a fun and safe environment to hang out with friends and do not feel the need to drink. Roger After Dark gives those students what they want, and this is why we are as successful as we are.



SOAR LEAD BRANCHES OUT TO BARRINGTON

By: Matthew Regan, *Class of 2016*

As a part of the curriculum for the Lead Tier of the RWU SOAR Leadership program, members of the class engaged in a semester-long service project. Through the University's Community Partnerships Center (CPC), we were assigned a project that was aimed at allowing us to utilize everything we have learned throughout our two years in the SOAR program.

At the end of the Fall semester, we met with a representative from the CPC to determine what project would be best for us to work on as a class. We wanted something that would enable us to put our newly developed leadership skills to the test. The CPC provided us with a ten-page list of projects available for us to engage in. We narrowed the list down to our top five projects and submitted them back to the CPC.

Upon returning to RWU for the Spring semester, we met again with Stephany Hessler, the Project Coordinator for the CPC Office. She informed us that her office placed our class with the project at the Barrington Senior Center. The Center contacted RWU in hopes of finding a group of students willing to help their members with their technological devices that they had either received as gifts from family members or purchased on their own. The Senior Center was also looking to revamp some of their marketing materials.

Shortly after our meeting with the CPC, the class traveled to the Barrington Senior Center to meet with the Director, Louise House. The class met with Louise and discussed exactly what her expectations were for both the classes and the marketing materials. Upon hearing the Center's

requests we divided our class into three teams: a marketing team, a class team, and a resource guide team. This allowed us to provide individualized attention to each of the Senior Center's needs.

Led by Andrew Erickson, the marketing team focused on creating a new logo and redesigning a brochure and newsletter used by the senior center. Prior to this project, the center had no logo to use on any of their promotional items. By creating a new logo, this allowed the Senior Center to better market themselves. The Senior Center also had a brochure that they would use at various events they attended in hopes of gaining new members. The original brochure was very plain looking and didn't attract the reader very much. Andrew's team incorporated the new logo and used new fonts, which brought life to the brochure. The team also added the new logo to the newsletter and rearranged it to make it much more visually appealing. Louise is currently in the process of meeting with the Chamber of Commerce for the town of Barrington to receive approval to feature the new logo throughout the center as well as on their promotional materials. The members of the marketing team were: Evan Beck, Josh Grab, Alana Peoples, and Manveer Singh.

The class team, led by Matthew Regan, focused on creating a series of classes aimed at aiding the members in using the many devices they had. Prior to any planning, we sent a survey to the Senior Center in order to gauge what the interests of the members were and what types of devices they were using. Based on these results we created lesson plans for five classes with topics

including: "Getting Used to iOS/Windows & Navigating the Internet," "E-Mail & Photo Sharing," "Video Chatting on Skype," and "Computer & Internet Security." Each class started with the SOAR students giving an overview of each topic which lasted about fifteen to twenty minutes. This allowed us to use the remainder of the class as a "Q&A." Anyone who brought in a device was able to ask us any questions they had or help them resolve any issues they may have been facing. Members of the class team included: Veronica Alicea, Mike Field, Josh Leitao, and Jackie Sears.

Meghan Cleaver led the third group who composed a resource guide for the seniors to use. Copies of this guide were sent to the senior center for anyone to use. This guide provided step-by-step instructions based off of some of the topics covered in the classes. Anyone who missed one of the classes or who forgot how to do something covered in a class are now able to reference their guide for instructions on how to make a video call using Skype, how to create an E-Mail account and much more. Members of the resource guide team included: Kate Farinha, Kyler Jesanis, Colleen Munroe, Gabby Reardon, and Taylor Sutherland.

This project was the perfect opportunity for SOAR LEAD program to use our leadership skills in the real world. Throughout their time as members of the SOAR program, the students had opportunities to practice leadership on campus, but we haven't been able to use our skills outside of RWU. Working with the Barrington Senior Center allowed us to branch outside of campus to put our role as leaders in perspective.

THE CENTER FOR COUNSELING AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The Center for Counseling and Student Development emphasized resiliency in their programming this past year. We were struck by how many students have dealt with illness and loss in their lives. In fact, the recent research has shown that at any one time 25 to 30% of all college students have experienced the loss of a family member or friend in the previous 12 months. The percentage jumps up to 40 to 50% over the past 24 months and these figures do not reflect the number of students who have parents battling various forms of cancer or illness. Needless to say, grief affects students in all aspects of their lives – emotionally, socially and certainly academically.

We have tried to be helpful in several ways. First, we offered a series of workshops

on loss in the spring semester and found them to be beneficial for a number of reasons. The workshops often normalized and legitimized students' grief-related thoughts and feelings. They enabled students to interact with other bereaved students and thereby decrease the sense of isolation that they often felt. They provided students with options for coping with grief. And finally, they provided education about the grief process which helped them understand their experiences as well as anticipate possible future challenges. Several students that attended the workshops requested that we form an ongoing group, which we did. The group met weekly in the spring and students reported feeling much benefit from sharing their experiences as well as receiving the support of others.

We also wanted to offer the campus community new skills to cope with stress in general. Each Friday at noon we offered a meditation/yoga group which incorporated mindfulness, breathing exercises, visualization as well as psychoeducation to help participants learn to better cope with stress. The group was utilized by students, staff and faculty. In addition, the Center offered a series of five distinct workshops on stress and distress aimed at providing students tangible skills to help them manage their feelings and reactions to events in their lives. We hope to expand on this theme of resiliency in our fall programming. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer.

Spotlight: Service Trip Recognition

On May 4th, the Division of Student Affairs recognized students who participated in Service Trips during their Winter and Spring Breaks. The Student clubs that were recognized were Habitat for Humanity, Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship, and the Foundations for International Medical Relief. The University had 68 students participate in these trips. Photos below are from all 3 trips.



CAMPUS EVENTS



“Walk a Mile in Her Shoes”

Despite two rainy days and a change in location, 18 men joined The Locker Room and The Women's Center to walk in Roger Williams University's 4th annual “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” event. This event is “a playful opportunity for men to raise awareness in their community about the serious causes, effects and remediations to men's sexualized violence against women.” (<http://www.walkamileinher shoes.org/>) . Basically, men are asked to do two things: First – literally walk one mile in a pair

of women's red high heels in a show of support and solidarity for women. Second, men are asked to make a commitment to educate others, on a daily basis, about men's violence against women. This year, we had teams from Residence Life and Housing, Facilities, and Athletics, as well as handfuls of students join us for a quick walk around the Campus Recreation Center!

All of the money raised from this event are donated to the Rhode Island Crisis

Assistance Center (<http://www.ricrisis.org/index.html>), an organization that supports women who are, or have been, victims of sexual assault. This year's event raised more than \$700 and since the Rhode Island Crisis Assistance Center is run solely by volunteers with zero overhead cost, 100% of our donations are being used to directly help and support victims of sexual violence and/or domestic abuse.

The Annual Bayside BBQ

By: Christopher Bastarache, *Head Resident Assistant*

On Friday, April 11, under the clear blue skies of Bristol, RI the residents of Bayside Complex enjoyed their annual BBQ, hosted by the Department of Residence Life and Housing in conjunction with the Bayside Hall Council. Over 200 Bayside residents came to claim their free t-shirt, enjoy the yard games, and eat their favorite BBQ foods including hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, and sausage. Also, the Bayside Residents enjoyed a special treat of fun food from cotton candy to cheese fries to fried dough. At the end of the day, the residents of Bayside got to enjoy the nice weather together after a long winter at Roger Williams.



Roger Williams University Asks Guests to “Meat in the Middle” *Bon Appétit Management Company gives beef & dairy dishes a climate-friendlier makeover for Low Carbon Diet Day*

On Thursday, April 24, Roger Williams University turned the Upper Commons into a fun culinary classroom offering ways that guests can minimize their carbon “foodprint” through tasty alternatives to beef and dairy. Through cooking demonstrations, makeovers of popular dishes, and takeaway recipes, the Bon Appétit Management Company team will show guests they don’t have to go entirely meatless to make their diet a climate-friendlier one.

What’s the beef with beef? Well cows (and goats and sheep) are ruminant animals, which thanks to their digestive systems produce a lot of methane — a greenhouse gas that is 20 to 25 times as potent as carbon dioxide. Dishes made with beef or dairy of any kind are thus the highest carbon choices. If all Americans skipped meat and dairy just one day a week and replaced them with vegetable-based proteins, it would be the equivalent of taking 19.2 million cars off the road for one year.¹ Learn more at EatLowCarbon.org, the interactive website Bon Appétit launched in 2008.

The concept of flexitarianism — whether Meatless Mondays or Vegan Before 6 — has almost gone mainstream. Perhaps even more Americans would be happy to forgo beef and dairy once in a while if they knew they were doing something good for the environment ... and they didn’t have to give up flavor or their favorite dishes to do so.

At Roger Williams University, Bon Appétit’s chefs used a cooking



demonstration — a raspberry, pear, mint fruit smoothie— to discuss the impact of beef and dairy and encourage guests to swap them for other choices occasionally, whether vegetarian or pork and chicken. (Those animals emit much less methane over their lifespans.) Then at the Grill in the Upper Commons guests tried a Low Carbon Makeover of traditional grill fare in which the beef and dairy have been replaced by a local red fish taco bar.

Bon Appétit Management Company began celebrating Low Carbon Diet Day one year after the 2007 launch of its Low Carbon Diet program — which made it the first in the industry to address how food choices can affect our shifting atmosphere. The

goal of this companywide event: to spur our guests to join us in reducing their contributions to climate change.

Bon Appétit has reduced its own purchases of beef by 33% and cheese by 10% since launching the program — and many of the cheeseless pizzas first introduced on Low Carbon Diet Day have become beloved menu staples at its college and corporate accounts.

“This year’s Low Carbon Diet Day is going to be fun. My team is looking forward to showing guests they can have a positive impact on the future of our planet without sacrificing flavor or their favorite dishes,” said Executive Chef, Reuben Haag.

¹According to calculations by FuelEconomy.gov, an initiative of the US Department of Energy and the US Environmental Protection Agency

Health Services and Student Health Insurance Update

Health care and health insurance is often a concern of parents as their sons and daughters depart for college. We at Roger Williams University are actively involved in the health and well-being of our students. Use of the Student Health Service is covered by the undergraduate student fees. All full-time undergraduate day students have access to Student Health Services. There is no charge for visits to the Student Health Services for illness or injury. Charges will be incurred for routine well physical exams, immunizations, lab work, prescription medication and referrals to outside providers. These charges can be submitted to your private health insurance. Charges not covered by your private health insurance will be billed directly to the student by the provider of the service.

Health Service is open 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. After hours, emergency care is provided through Newport Hospital, Rhode Island Hospital or Bristol County Medical Center. Emergency transportation to and from these facilities is provided if needed. Students should contact their CORE/RA or Public Safety at 401-254-3333 for any after-hours medical concern.

I encourage you to check out our web site for specific details.

<http://www.rwu.edu/studentlife/studentservices/healthservices/>

Looking forward to the Fall semester this is a reminder to all returning students.

1. If a student expects to play a sport during the 2014-15 academic year, an updated physical will be required. This is best done over the summer break. Please contact Athletics for details.
2. Non-athletes are only required to have the initial admissions physical.
3. Remember that Health Service is a great resource for wellness; in particular we have smoking cessation counseling and reduced cost nicotine patches for any student seeking help with smoking cessation.
4. Students should carry a current private insurance card and have a copy on file at Health Service as well.

An Important Message for Parents Regarding Student Health Insurance at Roger Williams University

As you prepare for the 2014-15 academic year, we urge you to consider your health insurance coverage a top priority. It is important that students have access to comprehensive medical care while enrolled at Roger Williams University and we are pleased to make available an Accident & Sickness Insurance Plan for our students. The following provides additional information regarding the Plan:

In accordance with the Affordable HealthCare Act, as of Fall 2014 ALL student will be required to show proof of Health Insurance. In the past this was not required of commuters. Starting Fall 2014 both residential and commuters, both international and domestic students will be required to show proof of health insurance in order to waive the Student Insurance fee which will appear on your term bill.

All undergraduate students will be automatically enrolled in the University's Student Accident & Sickness Insurance Plan for coverage effective August 14, 2014 - August 13, 2015. Those students who provide proof of adequate coverage under an existing plan may waive the University's Student Insurance Plan through the below process. Those students who do not waive the insurance and those not covered under an existing plan will see a separate charge of approx. \$1,189 on their bill. An explanation of the Student Accident and Sickness Insurance can be found online at: <https://consolidatedhealthplan.com/group/112/home>

Waiver Process: If you are currently insured under another insurance policy and do not wish to have coverage under the Roger Williams University sponsored plan, you may waive out of the insurance. To waive out, students will be required to decline the University's Student Insurance Plan and provide information on their insurance plan by completing the online form here: <https://consolidatedhealthplan.com/group/112/waiver/1>

By completing a waiver, you are certifying that you have comparable coverage and agree that you will be responsible for your medical expenses, and that Roger Williams University will not be responsible for those expenses. Upon your waiver being accepted, the insurance fee will be removed from the student's account. **FAILURE TO COMPLETE** the on-line Waiver Form by the deadline, August 14, 2014, will result in your mandatory purchase of the University's Student Insurance Plan for the 2014-15 academic year, without the possibility of later waiver, refund or cancellation.

Before Waiving

If you are considering waiving the University's Student Insurance Plan, please note that some insurance plans are restrictive and may leave students essentially uninsured while away at school. This could result in you incurring substantial out-of-pocket costs for medical care. In evaluating your plan and to assist you in making an informed decision, you must verify the following

- My plan provides adequate coverage that is accessible in the Rhode Island area for:
 - Lab tests and x-rays
 - Prescription drugs
 - Hospitalization (including room & board, physicians' fees and surgical expenses)
 - Outpatient hospital services
 - Mental health care
 - Emergency room care
- My plan will cover me from August 14, 2014 through August 13, 2015
- My plan does not have a high deductible that needs to be met before I am allowed to access coverage
- If I intend on studying abroad this upcoming year (including for a short-term study abroad trip) my plan provides coverage anywhere in the world

Please understand that the University reserves the right to decline a waiver request (and revoke an approved waiver) if it determines that the alternate insurance does not provide adequate insurance coverage.

2014 CORE VALUE MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

Christopher Lance Winkler

School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation

Lauren Elizabeth Macbeth

School of Continuing Studies

Mia Marie Sargent

School of Education

Timothy James Clarkin

School of Engineering, Computing and Construction Management

Leah Polly Catania

*Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences,
Humanities and Performing Arts Division*

Ryan B. Rezendes

*Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences,
Math and Natural Sciences Division*

Samantha Curran

*Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences,
Social Sciences Division*

Alexandra Caitlyn Landry

Mario J. Gabelli School of Business

Danielle Elizabeth Sneyd

School of Justice Studies

Willie Welleh Borkai

At Large

Richard Mendoza

At Large

Rebecca Ann Quigley

At Large

COMMENCEMENT 2014



STUDENT LIFE **AT** RWU

Roger Williams
University

