

STUDENT LIFE AT RWU

A Newsletter for Parents and Students

Fall 2015

A Message from the Vice President of Student Life

Dear Parents and Students,



This semester we welcomed over 1000 new resident, commuter and transfer students to campus with a weekend of activities. Most resident students and their

families received the traditional move-in assistance from faculty, staff and returning student volunteers – many of them student athletes, peer mentors, or ROTC cadets. The entire entering class, along with many parents, student leaders and staff joined faculty, senior administration, trustees and staff marshals in celebrating Convocation on Saturday, August 22nd. On Sunday, almost 700 new students visited Newport and later that evening over 900 of them took part in the “Target Run” organized by New Student Orientation. On Monday, August 24th the class provided several hours of service – in some cases through rain showers – assisting 42 not-for-profit sites in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts through the eleventh annual *RWU Community Connections* program. On Labor Day weekend, over 800 students attended an outdoor concert and BBQ featuring *The Mowgalis* and nearly 2000 students attend the annual *Student Involvement Fair* on September 2 featuring 75 clubs and organizations recruiting new student members.

This year’s *Weeks of Welcome* featured many important programs for new students. Mr. Don Mays (Director of the Intercultural Center) produced and directed “*The*

Amazing American Race (And Other Difficult Conversations)” an original theatrical concept presented to new students as part of Weeks of Welcome. The interactive program was designed to assist students in navigating dialogue around issues of race, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic background. Assisting in the development and facilitation of the program were students involved in clubs and organizations that address these issues as part of their mission, including: Multicultural Student Union; Africana Student Coalition; Diversity Leaders; Sexual Advocacy for Everyone; and the Intercultural Leadership Coalition. On August 27th and 28th nationally renowned gender violence prevention educator Jackson Katz came to Roger Williams University to speak to students, faculty, and staff. Katz first spoke to all first-year students, student athletes, and student leaders on the topic of violence against women prevention and how it is a men’s issue. The visit was arranged by Dr. Kathleen McMahon, Associate Vice President of Student Life & Title IX Coordinator, who also invited upper class students, faculty, staff, regional student life professionals and the external community to hear Katz the following day. This program included a panel of speakers that included: the Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Kilmartin, Deb Debare from the Rhode Island Coalition on Domestic Violence, Ann Burke from the Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund, and Beth Devonshire Esq., a higher education expert on Title IX.

Student Senate has been meeting weekly under the leadership of President Matt Mazzie and Executive Board members,

Harry Hall, Jami Hall, Paulina Boyle, and Jesse Langknecht. Senate has already met with President Farish and other key administrators regarding the new Core Purpose/Core Values and other timely campus issues.

In Athletics, our fall varsity programs all remain in contention for Commonwealth Coast playoff tourneys with Women’s Soccer and Volleyball currently undefeated in conference play and regionally ranked. Women’s Tennis completed a fantastic season capped by an appearance in the conference finals against Endicott. Sailing is currently ranked in the top ten nationally and the new Richard L. Bready Sailing & Education Center has been well received by the team and fans. Women’s and Men’s Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee, Crew, Cheerleading and Men’s Ice Hockey are all in play with strong talent and participation levels.

This issue of *Student Life at RWU* offers more insight on campus life but is no substitute for a visit to our vibrant campus. We encourage all parents and family members to attend all or some portion of *Homecoming & Family Weekend* taking place October 23–25. A full schedule of activities and online registration can be reviewed at <http://www.rwu.edu/homecoming>

We hope to see you on campus SOON!

Sincerely,
John J. King, Ed.D.
Vice President – Student Life

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THE INTERCULTURAL CENTER...worth a thousand words!

By Don Mays, *Director of the Intercultural Center*

Inside the walls, outside the walls and even on the walls, the fall semester has been especially active for The Intercultural Center where, on any given day, one can walk into “The Center” and hear a conversation in Arabic, Spanish or Chinese, taste foods from Haiti, Lebanon or Brazil and be caught on camera playing chess, Jenga or the latest version of Madden. Step outside the door of the newly painted Multipurpose Room and see students of all backgrounds kicking around a Futbol, joining in the Drum Circle or just chillin’ looking out over the bay. From Spiritual Life, International Affairs, LGBTQ and Multicultural programs, words cannot fully capture the vibrancy that is The Center.



On the Walls – Throughout the summer, Senior Pelumi Adegawa created a mural to go on the wall of the Multipurpose Room in the lower level of The Center. With the help of several friends, working mostly in the evenings, Pelumi orchestrated the painting of the intricate design which sought to capture the breadth of the diversity of the student population on campus.



Inside the Walls – The day starts early with prayer and meditation in the prayer room, and a hot cup of coffee or tea in the kitchen to jumpstart the day. Late morning, just before lunch the buzz begins to pick up. Students gather to study, get a quick nap or catch up with or meet new friends. In the afternoon The Center is a respite for commuters, a safe space to vent or a soft shoulder to lean on. Continuing into the late evening, the steady flow of students, faculty and staff gather for club/org meetings, study sessions, planned and unplanned international meals that are big enough to satisfy all. Indeed, there’s always plenty of really good food ...well, except for brownies ...there are never enough brownies!



Outside the Walls – The Center’s reach expands far beyond its walls, touching the entire campus community. The ever-growing collaborations with departments across campus brings new faces into The Center and elements of The Center into classrooms and academic programs, small and large events in the dorms and leadership programming, and in support of students through struggles and triumph. Without a doubt, to find the single most important measure needed to determine the impact of the Center, one need look no further than the faces of those comforted within these walls.

ACADEMIC SERVICES Fall Semester Check-in

By Morgan Cottrell, Associate Director Center for Student Academic Success



The Center for Student Academic Success (CSAS) serves as an integrative hub of academic resources. The professionals within CSAS understand that parents can be key partners in student's success. To make sure you are empowered with important information regarding upcoming academic calendar items and success initiatives, please be aware of the following points and discuss them with your student:

- All freshman who have a C- or below in a course will receive a mid-semester warning grade that will be viewable to students within the "Grades" tab under the Academic Profile in MyRWU on October 17th*. Some professors may issue warning grades for non-freshman as well.
- If a student is unsure of what to do about a warning grade, they can talk to their advisor or set up a meeting with someone in CSAS.
- Advisement period begins October 26th. This is when students should be meeting with their academic advisor to review the classes they can take for the Spring 2016 semester and review their academic plans.
- Students receive a registration date and time from the Registrar's Office via email and can only register after that time.
- All students must connect with their faculty advisors and resolve any holds before they will be able to register. Students can view holds immediately by looking at their notifications within MyRWU.
- The Advising and Peer Mentorship office within CSAS serves as a resource to students who need registration assistance. Students can walk-in for assistance from a Peer Mentor Monday through Friday 9-5pm or set up a meeting with one of the three professional advisors within the office.

The Advising and Peer Mentorship Office within CSAS is located on the second floor of the University Library and can be reached at 401-254-3456 anytime Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**The Registrar's Office can send official mid-semester reports to parents for students who have signed a FERPA release if you call 401-254-3510. The FERPA Release is accessible to students in the "Student Forms" tab in MyRWU Portal.*

BON APPÉTIT Dining Philosophy & Vegan Options

By Stephanie Keith, *Bon Appétit Controller/Marketing Manager*



Whether it be generally trying to eat healthier, allergen concerns, or personal ethical beliefs – nutritional awareness is on the rise. Bon Appétit Dining's kitchen principles and initiatives offer our dining guests seasonal, local, made-from-scratch meals with ingredients purchased humanely, in a socially responsible and sustainable manner. Even with this mindful philosophy, there will always be the need to grow and adapt, including the desire for increased vegan

options. By providing our guests with their requested vegan choices in our café's, our ingredient purchases completely align with the Bon Appétit commitment to purchase more local, seasonal produce and to decreasing our dairy and beef purchases which in turn addresses climate change (as cattle naturally produce methane gas!). Beginning this semester, an all-vegan station has replaced the former create-your-own deli in the Upper Commons. The station is heavily influenced by Middle Eastern and Mediterranean flavors with dishes like spicy garbanzo beans, house made naan, roast vegetable couscous,

baba ghanoush, fattoush salad, sweet potato salad, lemon – tofu orzo, and tahini cookies. The new vegan dinner station has been a hit; and by replacing the dinner deli station, we're passively removing excess sodium, processed carbohydrates, and some fat-heavy spreads/condiments found in many deli meats, breads, and flavor-toppers. We've been pleased to see this uptick in requests for more plant-based meals, and Bon Appétit Dining is fortunate to be able to serve those meals with the highest quality ingredients to best serve the health and nutrition needs of the café's visitors.



Holding On/Letting Go: A Delicate Balance

By Donna Darmody, *Director of Health Education & Alcohol/Drug Prevention Coordinator*

From the time of birth, your children are in the process of moving away from you. They go from the bassinet in your room to a bed and room of their own; they enter kindergarten; they begin to move away from parents and family and toward their peer group during the high school years; and now they live away from home at college. The parent in each of these situations wonders “how did the time go by so quickly?” and “where did my baby go?” Therapists have a term for this: developmental individuating. In simple language it means the following: they’re moving out!

Your son or daughter is traveling down a path toward maturity, their future and all the changes it will bring. In his article “Letting Go of Your Teen,” Tim Sanford notes four major changes and challenges parents need to consider and work with by understanding just what IS yours to control, and what IS NOT.

1. The move away from parents and family and toward his or her peer group.

Most college freshmen students have already done this and it is a “getting ready to leave the nest” process. Although most college freshmen can’t make it on their own in the adult world yet, they need opportunities to try. After all these are the people your son or daughter will work with, for, lead, follow, vote for, run against, buy from, sell to, marry and bury. Practically speaking this quest is usually as uncomfortable for parents as it is for your young adult. Try to let them solve their own problems and deal with the university and its’ challenges on their own. Refrain from calling the school to help solve their problems.

2. Moving away from dependence on you and toward being independent of you.

But, s/he is not necessarily responsibly dependent. In his Time magazine article, “They Just Won’t Grow Up,” Lev Grossman cites research that indicates your son or daughter will be dependent on your pocketbook – to some extent - until the age of 26 on average. This is a sticky situation for both parents and young adults especially when the latter doesn’t want your involvement in their life but still needs your financial backing. This is also a way for you to hold your behavioral and academic standards high.

3. Moving away from your rules toward welcoming your advice and control.

This is a struggle for many parents especially when your college freshman comes home for the first time. Do you keep the same rules they had in high school (e.g., curfew, chores around the house, telling you where they are going, etc.)? They have been on their own at school for quite some time. Have a conversation inquiring about their expectation around these issues and give them yours also.

4. Moving away from your control and toward influence.

The reality is that as your children grow they need you less. This can create conflicting emotions in parents because your job from when they were first born was to form a close emotional bond and encouraging separation seems unnatural. The truth is that the healthy outcome of your care and focus is that your children will eventually leave you.

In reality the issue of letting go/holding on exists on a continuum. At one end of the spectrum is parental over-involvement (aka helicopter parenting), enmeshment and children who are allowed no autonomy or latitude to figure things out for themselves. These children go out into the world to the detriment of their development and future functioning. At the other end of the continuum is detachment and emotional distance where the letting go feels more like abandonment than healthy separation.

Parenting is such a personal journey that there is no exact right point on this scale. Family members need to work together to come up with a place between these two extremes, one where parents and young adults are comfortable with and work consciously to avoid the spectrum’s end points. Culture also plays a significant role here. While some cultures admire and encourage independence, others stress closeness and interdependence. Either is healthy as long as parents avoid the extremes.



TITLE IX @ RWU

By Dr. Kathleen McMahon, AVP for Student Life & Title IX Coordinator

Creating a Culture of Prevention

Turn on the news or walk on any college campus and the topics of sexual violence and safety on college campuses is at the forefront. Here at Roger Williams we are empowering students to not only report incidents of sexual violence, but to also be proactive and take steps to prevent sexual violence.

Jackson Katz



Jackson Katz Event

On August 27, 2015, Roger Williams University hosted Jackson Katz. Katz is known for his work within sexual violence prevention, most notably for his work with empowering men to take a stand against sexual violence. He spoke to the first year class, student leaders, and student athletes and engaged them on the topic of sexual violence prevention. Katz also spoke to Roger Williams faculty and staff, community members, and members of the RI Attorney General's office. The event was followed by a panel consisting of victim advocacy groups, the Rhode Island Attorney General's office, and higher education professional experts in the field of sexual violence prevention.



Jackson Katz Event Panel

Yes, No, Maybe?



Consent can be a tricky subject, especially for college aged students. The Health and Wellness Educators (HAWEs) are working hard to educate their peers on the topics of consent and the role alcohol and drugs can play in consent. So far, the HAWEs have presented to the first year class in their RWUxp classes and they will be making more presentations to students and student groups throughout the year!

It Only Takes One Action...



Green Dot is a nationally recognized bystander intervention training focused on teaching students that their daily actions can truly make a difference. Thus far, Resident Assistants, Peer Mentors, HAWEs, and the Hawks Leadership Academy have been trained in Green Dot. All RWUxp classes participate in the initial one-hour training. More in-depth six hour trainings will be offered later in the semester for students interested in taking a more active role in bystander intervention efforts.

The Hunting Ground



The Hunting Ground is a documentary about sexual assault on college campus. It focuses specifically on two students who were sexually assaulted during their time at the University of North Carolina and the university's response. Roger Williams University will be hosting a screening of The Hunting Ground on October 20, 2015 at 7pm in the School of Law Appellate Court room.

Student Title IX Educator



Educating students about Title IX and their rights is a priority at Roger Williams University. This year we have hired a Student Title IX Educator, Tatiana Rugel, who is working with students across campus to help them understand their rights and resources under Title IX. Within this role, Tatiana will be working with the newly formed Student Sexual Assault Task Force and the HAWEs to revamp the It's On Us campus campaign, as well as conducting training sessions on Title IX and sexual violence prevention.



Pancakes & Handshakes

By Kyle McAuliffe, *Coordinator of Residence Education for Stonewall*

On August 30th, the Stonewall Terrace RAs held Pancakes & Handshakes, a program designed to help the students from all four buildings connect with one another and make new friends. The RAs spent two hours cooking plain and chocolate chip pancakes for the students of Stonewall. While pancakes were a big draw, students also had the opportunity to play a variety of lawn games such as corn hole, ladder ball, and kan-jam around the picnic area outside of Stonewall 1. There were over 100 students who attended this event and over 250 pancakes were served. Pancakes & Handshakes was a great event to start the year for Stonewall Terrace!



Battle for the Hawk

By Danny DiCamillo, *Assistant Director of Residence Life*



On Sunday, September 13th, four teams came together to determine the winner of the Department of Residence Life and Housing's annual Battle for the Hawk. Although it was pouring outside, our student players vied for the right to call themselves Champions!

Earlier that day, teams met in their residence halls for the preliminary round. Teams had an hour to search for 40 assorted items including: 43 cents without any dimes, a postcard from a foreign country that is not in Europe, and a plastic spork.

Following the initial game, the winning teams from Cedar Hall, Maple Hall, Stonewall Terrace and Willow Hall scoured the campus in monsoon-like conditions in search of another 30 items. In this championship round of play, teams needed to take pictures of the entire team posing with other community members or in front of a landmark. The teams' laminated lists included: the entire team posing as Rodin's "The Thinker" in front of the Library, the entire team (plus 3 to 5 non-members) ballroom dancing, or the entire team pointing to where RWU's Men's, Women's and LGBTQQ groups are housed.

At the end of an hour, all 4 teams returned soaking wet, but with cameras full of fun photos. After the tabulation, the Beta Sharks of Stonewall had returned with 30 out of 30 items. Caroline Keane, Rebecca Proulx, Emma Guillot, Rachel Wiser and Kaitlin Garcia won small trophies, their team name on the perpetual plaque, a pizza party and of course, bragging rights. All four finalist teams won t-shirts that read "I battled the clock for the hawk and won!" Kyle McAuliffe, Coordinator of Residence Education, took the Hawk trophy home to Stonewall, where it will nest until next year's competition.

THE LOCKER ROOM

By Corey Brown, *Coordinator of Residence Education for Bayside Courts*



The 2015 Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Event.

The Locker Room, established in 2010, is entering its 6th year as a club on RWU's Campus. The Locker room is a club for men looking to better their community

through discussions and outreach on social justice issues. The Locker Room holds a weekly meeting for men to discuss what it means to be man in today's society. With interactive programs and discussions on hot topic social and cultural issues, the Locker Room allows men to speak their views freely, to learn and grow

alongside one another. The goal of The Locker Room is to create male leaders on the RWU campus as well as leaders in their respective communities once the student graduates from RWU.

The Locker Room co-sponsors events with many other clubs and organizations on campus such as the substance free program Roger After Dark, The Women's Center, SAFE, and (new this year) with IRHA for the annual Mr. RWU competition. The Locker Room's largest event is the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event which will take place in April 2016. This event where men walk in heels around the RWU campus to raise awareness to end violence against women, raises money for the Rhode Island Crisis Assistance Center. The Locker Room is looking toward another great year on the campus of RWU.

Health Service Flu Update

By Anne Andrade, *Director of Health Services*

Student Flu Vaccine Clinics Scheduled for October 20 & 28, 2015

In preparation for the 2015-6 influenza season, Health Services is encouraging all students to be vaccinated with the influenza vaccine.

Flu vaccine clinics will be held

**Tuesday, October 20 &
Wednesday, October 28
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

The Commons

Sponsored by CVS: all major credit cards accepted.

Additionally, flu vaccines will be available at RWU Health Services 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 process third party billing.

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

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

RWU HAWKS ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

By Nicholas Williams, *Athletics Communication Director*



The Roger Williams University Athletic Department concluded the 2014-15 academic year as the one of the most successful years in the 43-year history of athletics at the University.

RWU teams captured seven Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Championships, taking the titles in Volleyball, Women's Soccer, Men's Cross Country, Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving, and Men's and Women's Track & Field. For the Volleyball team, this marks their sixth consecutive CCC Championship, while the Men's Cross Country won an unprecedented 14th straight CCC title. Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving have won eight straight conference championships, and the Men's Track & Field team won its seventh straight. The Women's Track & Field team earned its fifth title in six years and the Women's Soccer team tallied its fourth in the past five years.

In the second year of the Commonwealth Coast Conference All-Sports Trophy, Roger Williams University took second in the CCC Men's All-Sports Trophy and won first in the CCC Women's All-Sports Trophy. On Saturday, September 19, CCC Commissioner Gregg Kaye and CCC Assistant Commissioner Kaylyn Smith came to the RWU campus and presented the Women's All-Sports Trophy to Roger Williams University President Donald Farish at halftime of the women's soccer game vs. Eastern Nazarene College.

For the year, Roger Williams University yielded nine All-Americans in their respective sports, including Sailing, Volleyball, Baseball, Men's Lacrosse, and Women's Soccer, as Breanne Baldino '16, Abby Preston '15, Tyler MacDonald '15, Kristen Boyer '16, Elizabeth Flaherty '15, Brittany McMullen '16, George Lund '17, Mark Fesenmeyer '16, and Mariah Kaiser '16 were each honored in their respective sports. In addition, five Hawks were recognized as Academic All-Americans.

The hard work of Roger Williams' coaches did not go unnoticed, as five individuals were recognized as coach of the year, including Barry Gorman as Men's Tennis Coach of the Year, Sean Livingston as CCC Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year, and Kelly Thompson as CCC Women's Basketball Coach of the Year, Ben Somera as CCC Volleyball Coach of the Year, Jon Egan as NEWA Coach of the Year, and Tim Moody as CCC Women's Soccer Coach of the Year and ECAC DIII New England Coach of the Year.

Not only were the Hawks dominant in intercollegiate competition, the student-athletes also worked just as hard and were just as accomplished in the classroom. RWU student-athletes finished the 2014-15 academic year with a cumulative GPA of 3.18, the highest all-time for an academic term. In addition, 115 student-athletes were recognized as CCC All-Academic Team honorees, the most in a single year in school history.

The Hawks also made tremendous strides in being active in the community. This past year, Roger Williams student-athletes recorded 5,826 total hours of service, the highest number of hours since 2005. Every team was involved in at least two efforts and some as many as six.

Roger Williams University Athletics falls proudly in the top 30% nationally for the second year in a row according to the Learfield Sports Directors Cup standings.

COUNSELING CENTER STUDENT LIFE UPDATE

By Dr. Jim Azar, Director of The Center for Counseling and Student Development



The fall semester can be a challenging time for incoming freshmen to adjust to campus life and for returning students to face the new challenges that lie ahead. 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. Returning students can have difficulty adjusting to the increased academic demands or the change that often takes place with their social groups from year-to-year. Sometimes students need some assistance navigating through these challenges and

we try to provide a variety of ways to be helpful. For example, we offer groups on Freshmen Adjustment, Anxiety and Stress Management, Happiness Habits and yoga/meditation. We also offer a weekly Student Success workshop series. Some of the topics this year have been Dreams, Mindful Eating, The Five Love Languages, Practicing Relaxation, Sleep and Healthy Relationships. And, of course, we offer individual counseling to students who need more focused attention as they navigate their college journey.

In early 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 realized 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.

We invite students, parents, staff and faculty to check out our website for various resources. Numerous brochures can be found at <http://www.rwu.edu/campus-life/health-counseling/counseling-center/resources/>. Weekly mental health tips can also be accessed anytime throughout the academic year at <http://www.rwu.edu/campus-life/education-learning/health-counseling/counseling-center/resources/mental-health-tip-week>. There is helpful information on many topics including, but not limited to, adjusting to RWU college life, depression, anxiety, and overcoming procrastination.

A reminder that 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 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.



Roger Williams University Summer '15 Internship Experiences

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

The summer months are often a time for vacation, enjoying the beach, and working to save money for the upcoming academic year. Many of our RWU students also complete internships during the summer months. Here's how three of our seniors spent the summer of 2015.

Michelle Ryder '16, Public Relations



Over the summer Michelle Ryder was given the opportunity to work in the media relations department at Boston's #1 news station, WCVB Channel 5. Michelle helped conduct station tours, draft press releases, sit in on social media meetings, and watch the noontime news broadcast every day. Internships are supposed to help you determine what fields you are interested in: through this internship, Michelle found her passion in the television and entertainment industry. With the help of faculty and alumni from Roger Williams University, Michelle was able to explore different paths in the industry. Michelle developed professional relationships with the station's staff, and she was able to apply all that she learned in her RWU classes in this major market setting.

Jim Kelley '16, Business Management



Jim interned at Advanced Network Services (ANS), a telecommunication solutions company. During Jim's internship, he updated the company's CRM data to ensure organization and ease of accessible information. Additionally, Jim represented the Quality Department by distributing and collecting data from clients while he visited job sites to conduct internal quality audits. To further the advancement of the company, Jim researched, developed, and presented project management solutions to ANS's President and Vice President of Operations, solutions that will be implemented into daily operations. This presentation was the culmination of Jim's summer-long research project as a full time intern. On his last day, the Vice President of Operations asked Jim to come back during the winter intersession and to begin thinking about his post-graduation plans.

Clayton Daher '16, Architecture



Clayton spent the past summer (winter in Australia!) working in Sydney for the internationally acclaimed firm Thomas Hamel and Associates. This amazing experience allowed Clayton to live and work overseas, and to see the logistics of the firm as they worked on projects all over the world. A big part of Clayton's internship was seeing the detailed processes required to receive materials for projects and to communicate with the rest of the world. Clayton was involved with the schematic design work for an inn at one of England's grandest homes, Burghley House, as well as a gut renovation of an historic home on Bellevue Hill in Sydney. Clayton was also able to do a bit of traveling during his stay to all of Australia's major cities and beach destinations, including a snorkel outing on the Great Barrier Reef.

Homecoming and Family Weekend

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

Come back to Visit Campus!



Homecoming and Family Weekend is an annual tradition for many students and their families to reconnect here at the beautiful Roger Williams University campus. This year's events will take place on October 23rd-25th and we hope that you can attend. With so much to do on campus you will find something for everyone, especially younger siblings. Visit www.rwu.edu/homecoming for registration information and our tentative schedule.

Please note that some of our events are ticketed and may sell out due to capacity.

Friday, October 23rd

Casino Night: Our RWU casino features excitement for all as you and your family play blackjack or Texas Hold'em. If casino games are not your thing, look to play in our campus Dance Dance Revolution tournament.

Midnight Madness: Join our Campus Entertainment Network as we celebrate our winter sports team. The 2015 RWU Homecoming Court will be featured during the event.

Saturday, October 24th

Homecoming 5 K Road Race: Join our 4th Annual Road Race, see the sights of campus and run as a family. Registration for the race can be found at <http://rogerwilliams.imodules.com/2015roadrace>

Homecoming King and Queen

Coronation: The biggest question on campus will be answered: Who will be crowned the 2015 Homecoming King and Queen?

Autumn Festival: The highlight of Homecoming Weekend is our Annual Autumn Festival with activities such as pumpkin painting, carnival games, local food vendors, live music and performances featuring our students. This family friendly event is a favorite of students and family members.



Athletic Events:

Cheer on **Hawks Soccer** as the Men and Women's teams are both in action.

Special Event: End your Saturday night with a special guest comedian; visit the Homecoming Website for more information.

Sunday, October 25th

Jazz Brunch: Join your student for a wonderful brunch in our Dining Commons. This is a great way to wrap up your weekend before saying goodbye to your student.

Questions on Homecoming and Family Weekend can be directed to the Department of Student Programs and Leadership at (401) 254-3088 or via email at studentprograms@rwu.edu



Student Involvement at Roger Williams University

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



Student visiting all the clubs and organization tables at the Student Involvement Fair

The mission of the Department of Student Programs and Leadership is to engage students in meaningful out of classroom experiences that foster student learning through social, intellectual, spiritual, cultural and interpersonal development. The Student Programs staff, along with student clubs and organizations, began to engage our student community through our annual Weeks of Welcome (WOW) program. WOW is a 30 day series of programming that welcome new students to campus and has a welcome back feel for our returning students. These events, ranging from social to educational to athletic events, allow our students to sample what campus life outside the classroom can offer. Many of these events are facilitated by upper class student leaders who arrive back to campus before the start of the semester to coordinate these programs.

WOW begins during our first year student move in process, and allows these new students to build a community and connect with student leaders. The highlights for our

first year students are our trips to Newport and RWU Takes over Target. Our annual Newport trip allows students to experience the seaside town through the shops, visiting local restaurants and exploring historic parts of town.



The signature first year student WOW event is the RWU Takes over Target event in which a local Target store closes early for our first year students to spend an evening shopping. With a local DJ quizzing students on RWU trivia, special deals, and lines that can rival any holiday shopping sale, this event played host to over 900 students waiting in line for buses to transport them for a night of shopping and fun!

Another traditional WOW event that our campus community enjoys is the Student Involvement Fair, a fair that highlights student involvement from clubs, club sports, organizations and departments. This year's event featured 85 tables from our Outing Club to Hollerin Hawks Super Fans to Dance Club; there truly is something for everyone at Roger Williams University! A list of our current student clubs and organizations can be found at <http://www.rwu.edu/campus-life/get-involved/clubs-orgs>. Students who may still be looking to see what is occurring at Roger Williams can contact the Student Programs staff or visit www.orgsync.com; Org Sync is the department's online involvement management tool that allows students to learn about what we have to offer.

Students interested in getting involved or wanting more information on a club or organization are encouraged to stop by Student Programs and Leadership in the Campus Recreation Center or email us at studentprograms@rwu.edu.

Student Programs staff, along with student leaders, are gearing up for an exciting Fall Semester of events. With programming happening almost every weekend, in addition to athletic contests and academic events, there is always something to engage our students.

Some upcoming highlights include:

Fire Dance at the CEN Fall Sport Pep Rally Bon Fire



October 27 – 31

November 7

November 21

December 5

December 8

CEN's Wicked Week of Events

Dance Club Fall Show

IRHA's Mr. RWU Spectacular

Class of 2019 Winter Getaway

Late Night Breakfast

Students attending the CEN Fall Sports Pep Rally Bon Fire



RWU SPIRITUAL LIFE UPDATE

By Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, *University Multifaith Chaplain*



RWU Hillel Rosh Hashanah
l-r: Jake Sussman, Sarah Breslau,
Bertha Rakhunov, Matt Holman, Sam Guttentag,
Dylann Cooper, Daryn Javier and Leah Brodsky



Leaders in the RWU Muslim student community.
L-R: Faihan al-Fahani,
Moayad Kutby, and Riad al-Muhanna



Students and staff on the west lawn of the US Capitol Building.
L-R: Jillian LaBonte, Caitlyn Hansbury,
Allison Chase Padula, Melanie Morales.
Photo taken by Renee Danho.

RWU's Office of Spiritual Life began the academic year with religious observances and faith-based programming, all of which advances our goal to enhance the spiritual and ethical components of students' lives. The Office's chaplains and student groups also began regular worship services, prayer and meditation groups, and the study of sacred texts.

As classes began, the Office of Spiritual Life advanced its profile on campus with involvement in orientation activities, the third annual Spiritual Life Open House, and a presence at three activities fairs to familiarize students with campus faith-based communities and multifaith programming. As part of Weeks of Welcome in September, the Office cosponsored (with the Intercultural Center's Diversity Outdoor Film Series) a screening of "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee." This event is part of the Office's initiative on Native American cultural and spirituality.

Also in September, the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur and Muslim sacred holiday of Eid al-Adha or Second Eid were observed. This year Yom Kippur and Second Eid fell on the same dates, offering opportunities for shared education about each holiday. RWU Hillel students attended religious services at area synagogues, and many visited the Brown-RISD Hillel for High Holy Days, giving students an opportunity to learn more about how to build the Hillel community on our own campus.

The Muslim student community held Second Eid events on two evenings, and both featured traditional tea/coffee, food, and dancing. In October, the Office will sponsor the University's Fourth Annual Second Eid Dinner in the Upper Commons prepared by Bon Appetit. Reflecting back to the summer, the Spiritual Life and International Program Offices began a new tradition for Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr or First Eid by supporting community iftars (evening meals) three nights a week, as well as a first night and First Eid iftars.

Additionally, several Catholic students and staff were able to attend Pope Francis' visit to Washington on September 24. They joined thousands who heard the Pontiff speak on the Capitol's west lawn. The pilgrimage was profoundly transformative for each who made the journey to Washington. While there, they met other students from Rhode Island colleges and universities.

This fall, the Office will be offering events to increase education about nonviolence conflict resolution, the African-American gospel tradition, and the Jewish film genre. Planning is also underway for the Native American service-learning trip scheduled for March 2016. For more information about the Office of Spiritual Life, please contact the Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, Director, nsoukup@rwu.edu.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

By Steven Melaragno, *Director of Public Safety*

This year, the Department of Public Safety has promoted two initiatives on campus: our annual Crime Prevention Fair and the Rave Guardian Smartphone App. These are just two examples of our ongoing efforts to promote safety and security on the RWU campus.

Crime Prevention Fair - September 17, 2015

Public Safety, in cooperation with other University departments, hosted the annual Crime Prevention Fair. Police Departments from around the state, university groups, and victim advocate agencies participated in the Fair. This year the Crime Prevention Fair featured a DUI demonstration that involved having students drive a go cart through a road course, wearing special DUI goggles to simulate impaired driving.



The Crime Prevention Fair provides an opportunity for students to speak to Law Enforcement professionals about a career in Public Service in a casual atmosphere.



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.



As an added benefit to personal safety, Roger Williams University offers at no charge the Rave Guardian smart phone app. This app effectively puts a blue light phone in the palm of your hand. If you need help, simply activate the app and it will call Public Safety and tell us where you are using the GPS feature on the phone. The Rave Guardian mobile phone app enhances safety on campus through real-time interactive features that create a virtual safety network of friends, family, and Public Safety.

Features

Panic Button – Direct immediate connection to Public Safety with GPS location and personal profile information.

Tip Texting – Enables anonymous, 2-way, crime tip reporting through text and images.

Personal Guardians & Safety Timer – Students can identify Public Safety, friends, roommates, and family as “Guardians” when setting their Rave Guardian Safety Timer. During a timer session, Guardians and Public Safety can check the status of the student. If the Safety Timer is not deactivated before it expires, Public Safety is automatically provided with the user’s Rave Guardian profile to proactively identify and check in on the individual.

The RWU Department of Public Safety encourages everyone to download Rave Guardian to their Android or Apple smartphone.

STUDENT LIFE **AT** RWU

Roger Williams
University

