The “RMU Record,” is a chronicle of academic life at Robert Morris University. It details faculty actions (including appointments and promotions), changes in university organization and structure, new programs and curricula as they are approved, and academic highlights of the past year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Academic Program Dates for 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday August 22, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday August 23, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 26, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday October 22, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday October 24, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday November 3, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday October 31, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday November 21, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon-Sat December 8-13, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday December 12, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday December 15, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday January 9, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday April 25, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday May 8, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday May 9, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probationary Faculty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday September 15, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday November 8, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Faculty Seeking Promotion in Rank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event/Action</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday October 1, 2014</td>
<td>Faculty notification to Dean of intent to apply for promotion</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday October 15, 2014</td>
<td>Candidate provides Dean with list of external reviewers</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday November 3, 2014</td>
<td>Promotion Dossier due (to Dept. Head)</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday November 17, 2014</td>
<td>Scholarship sent to external reviewers</td>
<td>Dept. Head/Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday January 15, 2015</td>
<td>Promotion Dossier to Promotion Committee</td>
<td>Dept. Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday February 16, 2015</td>
<td>Dept. Head/Promotion Committee Recommendations to Dean</td>
<td>Dept. Head/Committee Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday March 2, 2015</td>
<td>Deans Recommendation to Chief Academic Officer</td>
<td>Deans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other Faculty Actions

### Contractual Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event/Action</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for eligible bargaining unit members to notify University of intentions to participate in the Retirement Incentive Program</td>
<td>Eligible Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notice of non-reappointment mailed to non-probationary faculty (if applicable)</td>
<td>Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notifications/ Applications Due for:</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16 Sabbatical Leaves (Art XIV-D)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16 Course load reductions for scholarships (non-probationary faculty) (Art XV-B2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Summer Fellowships (App A, Sch 1,4b)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Annual Report/ Merit Pay Request submitted to Dept Head (Art XV-x1)</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Dossier for probationary faculty submitted to Dept Head (Art IX-D3)</td>
<td>Probationary Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Dept Head written review of the FAR (Art XV-x5)</td>
<td>Dept Heads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for Dept Head/ Dean Performance Review of probationary faculty (Art IX-D4)</td>
<td>Dept Heads/Deans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Faculty Promotions (effective Fall 2014)

Congratulations to our newest cadre of associate, full, and university professors for 2014.

### University Professor

| SBUS       | Brian O’Roark       |
| SBUS       | Stanko Racic        |
| SCIS       | Bea Kunka           |
| SESS       | Mary Hansen         |
| SESS       | Philip Harold       |
| SESS       | Shellie Hipsky      |
| SNHS       | Nadine Englert      |

### Professor

| SESS       | Jasmin Lin          |
| SBUS       | Jianyu Ma           |
| SBUS       | Marcel Minutolo     |
| SCIS       | Jamie Pinchot       |
| SEMS       | Daniel Short        |

### Associate Professor

Library: Abiodun Ibraheem

Academic Affairs

Diane Fatigati joined the Academic Services staff in April 2014 replacing Ron Suhayda who retired after 27 years. David Hartley was promoted to Transfer Services Analyst in April 2014.
Dr. Derya Jacobs was promoted to Vice President and Senior Vice Provost.

School of Business
Dr. Riza Emekter has agreed to serve as the new Department Head of Finance.
Dr. Frank Flanegin returns to faculty having served as Department Head of Finance for nine years. Thanks to Frank for his service and we look forward to his many future contributions as a senior faculty leader and University Professor.
Dr. Steve Clinton has agreed to serve jointly over the next year as both Department Head of Marketing and as Interim Associate Dean for Student Success.
Dr. Pat Litzinger returns to a single administrative position as Department Head of Economics and Legal Studies after serving jointly in that position and as Interim Associate Dean for Student Success over the past year. Special thanks to Pat for his many contributions to the School of Business across many leadership roles over time.

School of Nursing and Health Sciences
Dr. Valerie Howard was appointed Dean of the SNHS.
Dr. Nadine Englert was appointed Department Head of Nursing.
Dr. Katrina Pyo serves as BSN Program Director.
Dr. Joyce Ott serves as MSN and RN-MSN Program Director.
Dr. Susan Van Cleve was appointed as Interim DNP Program Director.

School of Education and Social Sciences
Dr. Rick Fuller was named Education Department Head in January.
Dr. Shelly Haser returned to faculty and was named Teacher Education Accreditation Coordinator.
Dr. Bruce Golmic was named Principal Program Coordinator.
Dr. Lauren Rauscher joined the Social Sciences Department as a new Sociology faculty member in August and was appointed as the Coordinator of the RMU Women’s Leadership and Mentorship Program in December 2013.
Dr. Darcy Tannehill returned to faculty and joined the Education Department in March; she was named Coordinator of the Master’s in Higher Education Program.

School of Engineering, Mathematics and Science
Dr. Jeff Mitchell serves as an Interim Department Head of Mathematics and an Associate Dean.
Dr. Arif Sirinterlikci serves as a Department Head of Engineering.

School of Communications and Information Systems
Dr. Anthony Petroy was appointed head of the Organizational Leadership Department.
Professor Jon Radermacher was appointed Associate Dean of SCIS.
Dr. Diane Todd Bucci was appointed head of the English Department.
Dr. Helena Vanhala was appointed head of the Media Arts Department.

University Library
Dr. Tim Schlak joins RMU as Director, University Library

New Faculty Bios for 2014-15

University Library
Tim Schlak joins RMU as Director, University Library. He earned his Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh. He is joining us from Northwestern College in Iowa where he served in the same capacity. In addition to his doctorate, Tim has Masters degrees in Library Sciences as well as Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Pittsburgh and his bachelor’s degree in Russian Area Studies from Wittenberg University.
School of Communications and Information Systems

Letrell Crittenden is an Assistant Professor of Communication. Dr. Crittenden earned his Ph.D. in Communications from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, M.A. in Media Studies and B.A. in Journalism from Penn State University. Prior to joining RMU, he was an adjunct instructor at LaSalle University and Visiting Assistant Professor at Lincoln University. He is also the founder and education director of Voices of Philadelphia.

Chad M. Wertley is an Assistant Professor of Communication. Dr. Wertley earned his Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, an M.B.A. from Saint Louis University and a B.S. in Marketing and Finance from Miami University (Ohio). While earning his Ph.D., he taught courses in research methodology, business and professional communication and marketing.

Diane A. Igoche is an Assistant Professor of Computer and Information Systems. Dr. Igoche earned her Ph.D. in Instructional Technology (focus on technology integration) from the University of Georgia, a M.Sc. in Information Systems from Kennesaw State University and a B.A. in Management Information Systems from Truman State University. Prior to joining RMU, she was an Assistant Professor at Effat University in Saudi Arabia, an Information Systems consultant in Algeria and an instructional design manager at New York Institute of Technology.

Cigdem Slankard is an Assistant Professor of Media Arts. Cigdem earned her MFA in Filmmaking from Ohio University and her BA in Translation and Interpretation from Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey. Prior to joining RMU, she was a Visiting Professor at Baldwin Wallace University and for the past two years, she was the Program Manager from Media Arts Studies/Visual Communication & Design at Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, Ohio.

School of Education and Social Sciences

Justin DePlato joins the Social Sciences department in the fall. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from The State University of New York at Buffalo, and is joining us after teaching at the University of North Florida. His research and teaching interests are American politics, political theory, and public law. Among his publications is the very timely, The Cavalier Presidency: Executive Power and Prerogative in Times of Crisis, which examines the reasons, justifications for, and use of executive emergency power from Ancient Greece to Modern America.

School of Business

Jacob C. Peng joins RMU School of Business as an Associate Professor of Accounting from the School of Management, University of Michigan-Flint where he served since 2005. He received his Ph.D. in Business Administration with an accounting concentration from Texas Tech University. Prior to his doctoral work he earned an M.S. in Accountancy degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Professor Peng’s research interest focuses on the behavioral impact of information technologies and how technologies affect the dissemination of accounting information. His work has been published in a number of scholarly journals, including Journal of Information Systems, Review of Accounting and Finance and Accounting Perspectives. Professor Peng is also an active in the international academic community and a member of professional organizations such as the Information Systems Audit and Control Association and the American Accounting Association.

Manmohan D. (MD) Chaubey joins Robert Morris University as an Assistant Professor of Human Resource Management. Dr. Chaubey earned his Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Iowa; an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta; and, a Bachelor of Technology from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur. He has held faculty positions at Michigan Technological University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Bucknell University. He was the Dean of the College of Business Administration, Rider University. Dr. Chaubey has a long record of service and has covered a variety of courses in the business curriculum. He has additionally, been responsible for designing several new programs including an Executive MBA program, an International Business major, and an Entrepreneurship track.

Tapan Seth joins Robert Morris University as an Assistant Professor of Strategic Management. Mr. Seth is completing his Ph.D. in Strategic Management at Wayne State University with a focus in Entrepreneurship. He has an M.S. in Finance and in Finance and Risk Management from the Collins College of Business, University of Tulsa and a B.S. in Management from Marriott School of Management, Brigham Young University. Mr. Seth has won best proceedings paper from the Academy of Management, Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Research awards from Wayne State University, and several fellowships and scholarships. His research interests are in the areas of human capital, entrepreneurship, and innovation.
**Prasad Vemala** joins Robert Morris University as an Assistant Professor of International Business. Dr. Vemala earned his Ph.D. in International Business from Texas A&M International University; an MBA from the University of South Dakota; a Master’s in Computer Science from the University of South Dakota; and a Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science from Bangalore University, India. In addition to teaching courses in International Business, Dr. Vemala has also taught courses in Finance. He was the First Federal Bank of Louisiana Endowed Professor at McNeese State University and has been a guest faculty at the Pole Universitaire Leonard de Vinci, Paris, France. Dr. Vemala’s research interest focuses on the impact of cross listing on CEO turnover and compensation.

**James R. Shock** joins RMU as an Assistant Professor of Marketing. He recently earned a Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) degree from the Grenoble École de Management in Grenoble, France. He started his doctoral studies while living in Basel, Switzerland. To show how the role of Marketing has changed and evolved, he holds three patents as co-inventor for products used to transplant articular cartilage and the meniscus. Jim began his career in broadcasting after earning a BA in Journalism and Communications from Point Park University. His medical career began shortly after earning an MSci in Business Administration from Robert Morris University. A native of Pittsburgh, Dr. Shock also speaks intermediate-level German. His research interests include entrepreneurship, market pioneering/disruptive technology, organizational structure, and leadership.

**School of Engineering, Mathematics, and Science**

**Heather Hunt** is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Hunt holds a BS in Mathematics (minor in Statistics) and a MA in Mathematics from the University of Louisville, Kentucky. She will defend her thesis: Ph.D. in Applied and Industrial Mathematics from the University of Louisville, Kentucky, before her arrival in fall 2014. Her areas of concentration are Functional Equations and Group Theory. Her focus of dissertation is solving functional equations on non-commutative groups using ideas from analysis, abstract algebra, calculus, and differential equations.

**Rika Wright Carlsen** is an Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Wright Carlsen holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from University of Pittsburgh, MS and Ph.D. also in Mechanical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University (JHU). Most recently Dr. Wright Carlsen was a postdoctoral researcher at the Nanorobotics Laboratory at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). Her previous experiences include a Research Internship at Sandia National Laboratories as well as Graduate Research Assistantship at JHU.

**Ergin Erdem** is an Assistant Professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. Dr. Erdem holds BS and MS degrees both in Industrial Engineering from Middle East Technical University (Turkey) and a Ph.D. in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering from North Dakota State University (NDSU). Most recently he was a researcher at the Veterans Engineering Research Center at NDSU. He previously worked as a lecturer in the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department.

**School of Nursing and Health Sciences**

**Holly Hampe** comes to RMU with a wealth of experience from the healthcare industry, with her most recent position as VP and Chief Quality Officer at St. Clair Hospital. She also held the title of National Quality and Patient Safety Director for Amerinet, St. Louis MO. She has served as an adjunct faculty member for our HSA undergraduate program for the past 3 years. Holly earned her BSN from Penn State University, her MHA from the University of Pittsburgh, and her D.Sc. in Information Systems and Communications from Robert Morris University. Her research interests include publicly reported health care data, the culture of patient safety, and characteristics of top performing hospitals.

**Jessica Kamerer** joins RMU from the Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences where she served as director of faculty development and support, Education & Simulation Learning Facilitator, Site Coordinator for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing National Simulation Research Study, in addition to BSN instructor specializing in Maternal-Child health. She earned her BSN from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and her MSN in Adult Education from Walden University. She has also serves as an educational consultant for innovative teaching strategies in higher education and simulation. She will be relocating to Pittsburgh from her home in Middletown, PA.

**Suzie Kardong-Edgren** joins RMU from Boise State University where she served as the Jody DeMeyer Endowed Chair in Nursing fostering Nursing Research. She earned her BSN from the University of Nevada, her MS and PhD from Texas Women's University and has over 21 years of teaching experience. She is currently serving as project director for a nationally funded study on the use of a fighter pilot algorithm to maintain CPR skills, funded by the National League for
Michalene King joins the School from Duquesne University, where she taught in the graduate and undergraduate nursing programs. She also has teaching experience from University of Akron, Kent State University, West Liberty State College, and West Virginia Northern Community College. She earned her BSN from West Liberty State College, her MSEd from the University of Dayton, her MSN and PhD from WVU. Her research interests include parish nursing, holistic care, simulation and community health. She also serves as a Parish Nurse in Wintersville.

Luann Richardson moves to RMU from Duquesne University, where she taught in the graduate nursing program since 2005. She earned her BSN from University of Alabama, and her PhD and DNP, degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. She is certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner, Geriatric Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and practices as an NP at a Cardiology Office serving urban, rural, and underserved populations, in addition to Western PA Behavioral Health Resources. Her research interests include cardiovascular health and she currently serves as Co-Principal Investigator in ongoing studies to improve outcomes with heart failure patients. Dr. Richardson also serves as a Parish Nurse.

Welcome CITADEL. One of the principal core values of Robert Morris University is academic excellence, established and codified in 2007 in the RMU Strategic Plan to sustain and strengthen our commitment to teaching and learning. Academic excellence remains a key core value in the new 2014-2018 Strategic Plan with an additional imperative of innovation. “Goal 9: RMU will pursue innovation in its academic mission in order to facilitate academic excellence and faculty and student success.” The mission of the Center for Innovation in Teaching And Directed Engaged Learning (CITADEL) is to develop both faculty and students as lifelong experiential learners and to ensure core values are visibly present in the classroom through the support of teachers and learners in the areas of educational technology, innovative teaching, and directed engaged learning. As of the publication of this newsletter, we are completing our search for the first Director of CITADEL. Dr. Anthony Moretti has been appointed as Co-Director of the Office of Engaged Learning with Terri Byrnes as its Assistant Director and Samantha Moik as Engaged Learning Specialist. A Co-Director of the Office of Teaching, Learning and Technology will be identified before the end of the year. Visit CITADEL in its new location on the third floor of Patrick Henry early in the Fall semester.

Transcripts Go Digital. Beginning August 18, 2014 current students at RMU will request copies of their academic and student engagement transcripts from the Parchment automated eTranscript system. Under pilot since last November, over 2,500 transcript requests have been filled by this latest upgrade to campus academic services. Past graduates of RMU (May 2014 and earlier) still have the option to receive hard-copy transcripts by contacting Academic Services. All requests for transcripts may be completed using the online transcript request form at www.rmu.edu/transcripts. Current students, those who have not graduated, as well as all future graduates will use the Parchment system to request copies of their academic records.

Center for Global Engagement Update

By the spring semester, 2013, there were 461 international students on campus, most of whom were F-visa holders. They included students from our partner institutions of Australia (1), China (1), Germany (1), Mexico (3), Switzerland (2), and Turkey (1). The largest international student populations are Saudi Arabia (284), Canada (63), United Arab Emirates (11), and India (8). There were 107 international student Athletes for Fall 13 and 94 for Spring 14. Sixty-two (62) international students graduated in last May’s commencement ceremonies. In 2013-2014, 100 RMU students participated in a study abroad program. Students participated in Faculty-led Education Abroad Program (FLEAP) opportunities in Belize (5), China (12), Ireland (11), United Kingdom (14), Morocco and Spain (10), Nicaragua (89), Turkey and Northern Cyprus (6), and Switzerland and France (12). Additionally, in 2013-2014, 100 graduating students had completed at least one study abroad experience at RMU.

RMU hosted 3 visiting scholars during the 2013-2014 academic year. There were 2 short-term scholars in the fall; 1 was on campus for the entire spring semester. Fall 13: Tommy Fegan, a musician and historian from Ireland, was on campus for two weeks in October to share Irish history and music with the campus community. Bhabani Choudhury from the United Kingdom came for ten days in November to share his experiences in journalism and broadcasting with the RMU.
community, and offered classroom workshops. Spring 14: Gaelebale Nnunu Tsheko joined campus from Botswana for the entire spring 2014 semester. She presented her expertise on education and HIV with the community, and also shared stories and culture from her home country.

In February 2014 the University signed a partnership Memorandum of Understanding with Edinburgh Napier University in Scotland.

**Engaged Learning Office Update**

At the Spring 2014 Commencement Ceremony, over 550 students graduated with a Student Engagement Transcript. The Renaissance Award was presented to 25 recipients for outstanding accomplishment on the SET, completing the requirements for all seven SET categories. The recipients were: Chauncey Alexander, Rachel Calhoun, Sarah Cave, Hilary Davis, Natalie Debarto, Connor Donoghue, Melissa Egnacheski, Justin Fuss, Gabriela Gasparich, Joel Gray, Veronica Guiyard, Gary Horstmann, Christian Kayishema, Carter Khalequzzaman, Carly Maloney, Benjamin Opp, Carley Padgett, James Perry, Allison Peters, Mychal Ross, Ashley St. Jacques, Bethany Sweitzer, Lacey Vallery, Lindsay Waugh, and Nicole Weis.

Besides the new faces in the Engaged Learning Office, there is a new online submission process rolling out for SET activities and replacing the paper submissions. Instead of students submitting a paper SET Activity Approval Form for faculty or authorized staff to sign, students can submit activities through Sentry Secured Services. This process will streamline submissions and better track them in the system. Members of the Engaged Learning Office will be meeting with faculty during upcoming department meetings to go over the process and will be available to answer any questions that might arise.

**University Honors Program Update**

The University Honors Program has a record number of students and hosted a record number of events last year, and an honors program assistant, Lindsey Sobolosky, was hired in the spring. Freshmen are eligible to join the program as sophomores; please mention the program to any excellent freshmen in class who you think may be interested in applying.

The UHP hosts a Roundtable series with faculty members giving presentations. This semester the lineup includes: Elizabeth Stork (Images of Women in Leadership, Sept. 16, 1:45pm), Barbara Burgess-Lefebvre (Titanic research for a Titanic Musical, Oct. 9, TBD), Benjamin Campbell (Student Research Projects, Oct. 22, 11:45am), and Liang Hong (Nov. 7, TBD). Additionally, the Honors Program will be sponsoring or co-sponsoring three informational panels for students: Going to Grad School, Going to Med School, and Going to Law School.

The program is looking to advise and support more students across campus applying for competitive scholarships and fellowships revolving around research, travel abroad, and professional and academic development. Please let us know about top undergraduates who may be interested in applying for these opportunities.

**Veterans Education and Training Center Update**

The VETS Center continues to support the 230-plus veteran-students here at RMU. During the past year, we have been involved in numerous projects and programs, including: hosting the RMU Disabled Veterans Golf Academy, Resume Writing & Interviewing Techniques (Career Services), Pittsburgh All Veterans Fair, RMU Homecoming Weekend, National Association of Veteran Program Administrator Symposium, Veteran/Military Appreciation Football Game, Seventh Annual Veteran/Military Breakfast (mark your calendars for November 10, 2014 for the next Vet’s Breakfast). We hosted the Veterans Educators Consortium, Veterans Benefit Motorcycle Run, and the Veteran Graduation Dinner. All faculty are encouraged to drop by the VETS Center on the bottom floor of the Jefferson Center to meet and greet the student-veterans who call RMU their alma mater.

**RMU Bayer Center for Non-Profit Management Update**

The Bayer Center for Non-Profit Management continues to be a vital center providing consulting, training, and support for the more than 4,000 nonprofit agencies in Allegheny County. In 2013-14, the Center sponsored over 100 continuing education programs and completed significant consulting contracts with both local and national nonprofit entities.

**Library Update**

2013-2014 was a year of transitions for the Robert Morris University Library. A significant renovation project occurred
mid-year that saw the most significant overhaul to the library space to date. The update brought new floors, walls, furnishings, and fixtures to the first floor of the library as well as new types of space, including a quiet study area, modern computer banks with upgraded technology, various collaborative and group work areas, and a new point of service desk. Most important are the dozens upon dozens of additional seats available to students, who continue to express their positive impressions of the improvements.

The library’s customized Discovery Search has become a popular one-stop research platform as a central entry point for locating academic books and scholarly journal content. Since Discovery Search went live, article downloads are up 44% over last year, meaning that faculty and students are increasingly satisfying their information needs from within the library’s resources. To that end, the library now offers access to the powerful market research report and analysis tool Euromonitor Passport.

The Textbook Reserve Program continued to grow, thanks to robust student demand and the Office of Student Life, which partially addresses the cost of the texts. Required textbooks for RMU core courses were checked out for in-library use 6,614 times to 2,534 unique students during the 2013-2014 academic year. A grand total of 10,369 circulations have occurred since the program went live in Fall 2012. And thanks to another partnership with the Office of Student Life, the library has continued to develop the popular DVD collection so more of the movies students want to watch are available for browsing.

News from the School of Business

- The School of Business (SBUS) received an extension of its prestigious AACSB International accreditation for another five years continuing its place among the top 5% of business schools in the world.
- SBUS received a $400,000 unrestricted grant from the PNC Foundation.
- SBUS completed a comprehensive strategic planning process resulting in a new five-year strategic plan congruent with the RMU Strategic Plan.
- SBUS hosted its inaugural Business Week, February 24-27, 2014 at the Charles L. Sewall Center. The week is designed to help students prepare for their future careers in business, with this year’s theme being “Setting Sail: Charting Your Own Course”. Programming included 21 panel discussions and presentations by members of the business community with approximately 1,700 students taking part in events.
- The inaugural SBUS Celebration of Excellence Ceremony was held on April 16th, 2014 at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel. Recognized individuals included Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) Inductees and Honorees, Dean’s Scholars, Outstanding Students by Discipline, Special Scholarship Award Winners, our inaugural Faculty and Staff Excellence Award Winners, and the recipients of the University Distinguished Achievement Awards for Teaching and for Service. School of Business alumni and university Board of Trustees members, Michael J. Smith ’77, President/CEO, Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, and Gary Claus ’74, Retired Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP were honored as BGS Honorees.
- The inaugural edition of The Colonial Ledger, the SBUS newsletter, was released in February and will be published three times a year.
- Developed the new On-Line General BSBA Program targeting adult learners.
- Reduced the School of Business BSBA program from 126 to 120 hours.
- Greatly improved the School of Business Assurance of Learning Process.
- Established a new committee structure within the School of Business consistent with future initiatives and new AACSB standards.
- Established a new Dean’s Suite and received approval to renovate the Ferry Room in Massey Hall.
- The Department of Accounting & Taxation was honored with seven RMU accounting students awarded $24,500 in 2014 PICPA scholarships making RMU the top recipient university in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- In April 2014, RMU Accounting faculty and students attended a meeting of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the NABA (National Association of Black Accountants) to discuss the formation of a city-wide student chapter of the NABA with efforts commencing in fall 2014.
- Dr. Zhou Yang, Assistant Professor of Economics, received major funding for her taxation research through a David C. Lincoln Fellowship in Land Value Taxation for 2013-2014 representing her second consecutive fellowship from this grantor.
- The 25th Annual Teaching Economics: Instruction and Classroom Based Research Conference was held February 13 - 15, 2014, at the Charles L. Sewall Center. The conference included over 20 sessions with presentations by
economists from around the country.

- The 10th Annual RMU Student Sport Management Career Conference was held in October and sold out with 150 students representing 11 universities and colleges along with 55 industry speakers and 15 visiting faculty.
- The Sport Management Association sponsored the Colonial Chaos Event in February. This day-long, free throw shooting event had more than 130 participants and raised $8,800 for Cystic Fibrosis.
- Dean Beehler served as a member of the AACSBS Initial Accreditation Committee and as an officer and board member of MAACBA.

### News from the School of Communications and Information Systems

- The Washington Center, which offers seminars and internships for students and faculty advisors across the country, named Robert Morris University its 2014 Academic Seminar University of the Year. This spring, 20 cyber forensics and information security majors participated in the Washington Center’s two-week national security seminar. The trip and the student club, Top Secret Colonials, which raised funds for the seminar, were organized and led by Dr. Karen Paulet, Assistant Professor of Computer and Information Systems. Dr. Anthony Moretti, Associate Professor of Communication and recently-named co-director of RMU’s Office of Engaged Learning, is a Washington Center faculty liaison in Political Journalism and oversees RMU’s student internships for the D.C. program.
- 11 SCIS students won awards from regional, national and international professional associations.
- 40 SCIS students presented papers at regional, national and international conferences.
- SCIS faculty and academic administrators published 79 Category A and creative and scholarly works.
- SCIS hosted two Rooney Scholars, Tommy Fegan (Ireland) and Barney Choudhury (England), and Media Arts hosted a Visiting Documentary Film Scholar, Greta Schiller.
- 41 students participated in SCIS FLEAPs: 30 students studied in Ireland (two FLEAP courses) with Dr. Christine Holtz, Dr. Anthony Moretti and Professor Jim Vincent; 11 students studied in Morocco, Spain and England (two FLEAP courses) with Dr. AJ Grant and Dr. Elizabeth Stork.
- SCIS hosted several conferences and events: the CIS Department hosted two international Enterprise Systems Educators Conferences for employers and educators, and a technology conference for high school teachers, Trends in Computing Technology; the English Department hosted the 6th Annual Creepy Conference, celebrated the launching of Rune’s (literary magazine) website and 2014 print edition of Rune with readings from guest poet, J. Beatty, and RMU students and faculty, and organized Robbie Burns Day, which featured readings from RMU English majors; the Media Arts Gallery displayed six exhibitions of both student and professional works of arts and design and hosted a West Hills Art League painting workshop; the Academic Media Center and the Television and Video Teachers Consortium hosted the annual teachers conference and student awards festival for nearly 400 students from 23 regional high schools; SCIS co-hosted with Career Services Creativity at Work seminars and workshops, which introduce our majors to career opportunities.
- Professor Hyla Willis was named 2014 Artist of the Year by the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.
- Dr. Connie Ruzich was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship (fall 2014) to study the poetry of World War I and develop curriculum for students to learn the relevance of the poetry to contemporary social and political issues and compare it to the literature of conflicts, including Iraq and Afghanistan.
- The CIS Department’s B.S. degree in Cyber Forensics and Information Security was ranked #4 in the world for online undergraduate information security programs.
- Dr. Karen Paulet was invited by several prestigious organizations, including NASA, Homeland Security and NSA, to present information on cyber bullying and security issues.
- Professor John Turchek was awarded a $40k grant (sole awardee) for the IBM Faculty Grant Program.
- Dr. Ken Gargaro was awarded grants from Pittsburgh foundations totaling $30K for theater and performing arts.
- Students in the Communication Seminar course raised $6K for five Pittsburgh nonprofits.
- RMU Colonial Theater celebrated its 10th anniversary and produced six professional productions, including Amadeus, a portion of which was performed at the Kennedy Center College Theater Festival.
- RMU Sentry Media expanded to 12,000 views/month, and student editors created Sentry Media smart phone app.
- The Organizational Leadership Department expanded its offerings to the military, including its B.S. degree at the 911 Air Wing and the M.S. at the 171st Air Base.
- The Academic Media Center substantially increased its engaged learning opportunities, including student
participation in 115 news, sports, educational and entertainment programs and 145 *RMU Radio* programs (doubling its listeners to 4,218 worldwide).

**News from the School of Education and Social Sciences**

- The addition of a new undergraduate program in sociology,
- The addition of a principal’s certification program including program approval from the Pennsylvania department of education
- Comprehensive program revisions and overall credit reductions to the early childhood, early childhood/special education, and middle level education majors
- Development and approval for a fully on-line master of science in higher education
- Development of an on-line program to meet the requirements for a reading endorsement in Ohio, now under review by the Ohio board of regents,
- Two experimental courses in composition and oral presentation for RMU students who are second language learners and revisions to the psychology undergraduate programs.
- A full approval re-accreditation decision (seven years) from the *council for the accreditation of teacher preparation* (CAEP) for all of our teacher education programs,
- Expansion of our outcomes based assessment system through LiveText and implementation of e-portfolios for all teacher education majors,
- Capacity enrollment in the Ph.D., Program in instructional management and leadership,
- A successful open house to introduce our new physical space to the community
- Active student organizations,
- Significant faculty scholarship: authorship or co-authorship of 2 books, 10 book chapters, 20 refereed articles, 12 international or national conference presentations and 3 grant applications (2 successful)
- Sponsorship of two successful conferences, including the introduction of the *RMU Recommends* book lists for parents and teachers,
- A successful second “psych in a box” event for local high school students,
- Significant development of several key partnerships including:
  - An MOU with the Avonworth school district,
  - A contract with the beaver intermediate unit to jointly offer the pa certification in English as a second language,
  - Negotiation of a partnership agreement with the national education association to become one of only three higher education institutional partners to offer sponsored graduate programming to their national membership,
  - Completion of a partnership agreement with Duquesne university school of law to permit a 3 + 3 program integration with our history, psychology, social sciences and sociology degrees.
- Completion of a five year strategic plan for the school consistent with the university’s strategic plan and mission.

**News from the School of Engineering, Mathematics, and Science**

- This year SEMS is 15 years old and celebration is underway
- Enrollment is 841 UG students and 53 GR students. Engineering is the fastest growing major followed by Biology.
- Currently SEMS is getting ready for two very important re-accreditations in the school: Actuarial Science re-designation, fall 2014 and ABET for engineering, fall 2015.
- In preparation for ABET re-accreditation, SEMS Engineering is expanding its laboratories by building Mechanical Engineering and 3-D Printing Laboratories and updating and designating a laboratory for Biomedical Engineering. The increase in laboratory space is about 1,500 sq. ft.
- Development of new curriculum in SEMS (in response to industry demands) included: Land Management and Nutrition Certificates (both could be offered on-line); additional three energy certificates in collaboration with Energy Innovation Center. Articulation Agreement with PTI-Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering is underway. Articulation Agreement with NYCC has been finalized and this is an opportunity for premed students to have a chiropractic option in New York State.
- Community Outreach in SEMS included: Leadership Pittsburgh and Energy Innovation Center, EIC, Advanced Manufacturing Initiative-America Makes, Shenango Board, Allegheny Conference, Rachel Carson Institute, National Board of Environmental Deans and Directors in Washington DC, and Planning Committee for Water Quality Conference, OBCRE.
- RMU maintained its presence in NAMII (now called America Makes). One grant proposal was submitted to
America Makes and now is under review. A second grant proposal was sent to the Pennsylvania’s RAMP (Research in Additive Manufacturing in Pennsylvania).

- International connections: Napier University, Scotland; Universities in Slovakia, Ireland and Germany.
- Grant applications included: Sprout, Benedum, collaboration with RK Mellon and Calcom, Epiphany Solar Water Systems grant application to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for the Discovered and Developed in PA grant program, SME, Alcoa, and more. Overall, SEMS has submitted numerous proposals this year which four proposals are currently pending, worth more than $600,000.
- Dr. Tony Kerzmann and collaborators have submitted a proposal to Mascaro Energy Center, Pittsburgh. The proposal was recently awarded $20,000 for development of energy labs.
- Scholarly Achievements in SEMS total 47 publications plus two grants submitted to NSF, worth more than $1,100,000.
- RMU hosts the 11th annual actuarial career fair for summer internships and full-time positions. Fifteen regional and national employers attend with both RMU and non-RMU students participating.
- The Science department held its third annual Science Day, including presentations from students that have completed a Senior Thesis or other research project and/or an Internship.
- SEMS-Outreach held over 20 different K-12 events impacting more than 10,000 students in the area.

News from the School of Nursing and Health Sciences

- Denise Ramponi, DNP, RN, FNP, CEN, FAEN was the 2014 recipient of the Frank L. Cole Nurse Practitioner Award from the Emergency Nurses Association.
- Dr. Susan Van Cleve was inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP)
- Dr. Lisa Locasto received the 2013 Cameo of Caring Nurse Educator Award for RMU
- Dr. Angela Macci Bires received Fellowship status form the NMTCB on June 9, 2103
- Bill Wentling earned his doctorate from the RMU SCIS
- A new degree, the Masters in Science in Health Services Administration (MS HAS) was developed and approved, with enrollment for the first cohort beginning Fall 2014.
- 20 Category ‘A’ publications were “Published or In Press” between May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, and 13 SNHS faculty led 52 regional, national, and international presentations
- The BK Simon Foundation continued their funding of nursing scholarships in the amount of $100,000.
- George, L. , Locasto, L. & Pyo, K Pyo received funding internally by the Dean and supported by the DSF Charitable Foundation for their project: Impact of the Dedicated Education Unit on Student Self Efficacy ($5000).
- The DNP program was awarded the fourth round of scholarship grants from the Jewish Healthcare Foundation in honor of Alvin Rogal.
- Completed year 1 of the HRSA funded Advanced Nursing Education Training Grant ($923,487) for the Psychiatric Mental Health NP Certificate Program under the leadership of PI Dr. Kirstyn Kameg
- Completed year two with J. Angelelli Principal Investigator on a four-year, $700,000 sub-contract from UPMC Community Provider Services to provide educational support and consulting in support of Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) cooperative agreement aimed at reducing preventable acute care transfers among long-stay nursing home residents. Simulation training has been offered to over 20 long term care facilities by Susan Mihaljevic, simulation coordinator, in an effort to decrease readmission rates.
- The Regional Research in Innovation in Simulation Education (RISE) Center received accreditation from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare
- The Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program is undergoing a self-study in preparation for a CCNE Accreditation Site Visit in October, 2014
- At the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Conference in St. Louis (June 6-11), our NMT student, Ashley Crawford, presented and was in the top 10 for Research Presentations, therefore awarded a spot and Travel Grant to present at the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB) meeting in Cancun in August.
- The RMU Senior Class donated over $12,000 to support our Nursing in Nicaragua efforts facilitated by Dr. Carl Ross. These funds will be used to purchase healthcare supplies for the citizens in Managua, Nicaragua.
- Our RMU Nursing Team earned 1st Place in the NCLEX Challenge Competition held at PSU New Kensington Campus (Myke Ross, Jessica Capozzi, Brandon Locke, Rayvan Bellany, Brendon Ignatz)
- A Pharmacology Update: preceptor conference was held in January 2014 in Sewall Center for those who dedicate their time and resources to provide clinical supervision for our DNP students.
- RT Connections led to four workshops held on the RMU campus: “The Magic of Mentoring, Blogs, Wikis and Tweet
chats – OH MY! Do no harm applies to nurses, too, and How to motivate your daydreamers and sleepwalkers”.

- A recognition event was held to honor founding Dean, Dr. Lynda Davidson, and her incredible contributions to RMU in March, 2014. A scholarship fund was established in her honor.
- The SNHS hosted a regional workshop, “Flipping the Classroom”, from the Academic Consulting Group
- Joe Angelelli led a meeting of regional experts from CMU and Pittsburgh City officials on the Green House Project, an innovative way to provide care for our aging population.
- The SNHS sponsored a Being with Dying Workshop - April 19 & 20 - 2014
- The Southwest Pennsylvania Partnership for Aging (SWPPA) Conference was held at Sewall on November 26, 2013

The RMU Record is also available online at: my.rmu.edu/faculty-staff/provost-news