Creating a More Comfortable Campus

Creating a comfortable living and learning environment for our students is a priority at RMU. During the Fall, we introduced new places for study, play, and socializing, and the Spring semester will bring even more improvements. These are just a few of the many visible changes to campus that will enhance our students’ college experience.

- **Residence Halls** - Changes already made include painting, restroom repairs, new lighting, new recreational equipment and designated gathering space for entertainment. Additional improvements are expected to be completed by summer 2009.
- **Outdoor Gathering Spaces** - A fire pit opened in the fall, and later this semester we will install new benches, picnic tables and grills around the residence halls.
- **Health & Fitness Club** - The very popular center, which is free to students, was relocated to Jefferson Center. It includes free weights, Cybex circuit machines, cardio equipment and fitness classes. New pool tables and ping-pong tables were added this past semester.
- **Market Place** - The Market Place hours have been extended for late-night eating and entertainment. The café now remains open until midnight on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

“Taking Back Sunday” Tour Stops @ RMU

Warner Bros. national recording artists **Taking Back Sunday** will bring their version of melodic hardcore to the Sewall Center Arena on Saturday, March 31, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the band’s 2007 North American tour with **Underoath** and **Armor for Sleep**.

Tickets for the concert are on sale through Ticketmaster at a cost of $25. RMU student tickets are available for $10 in the Student Activities Office. Student Government Association President, David Toole, was instrumental in gaining administrative approval for the event and worked closely with the University staff and a booking agency to set concert plans in motion in late Fall 2006.

Having gained a national and international following through performances on the Warped Tour, at British rock festivals Reading and Leeds, a sold-out headlining tour, and co-headlining North American arena tour with Jimmy Eat World, Taking Back Sunday released their third album, "Louder Now," last year, with the album peaking at number 2 on the Billboard 200. In June 2005, the band performed two sold-out shows with Green Day at Britain’s Milton Keynes National Bowl, during which each band played to the largest audiences of their careers. Visit www.takingbacksunday.com to learn more about the band.
Student Programs & Activities

How our students make the most out of their college experience:

- 55 professional, social, governing and special interest organizations: including 5 new organizations chartered this year (Concert Choir, History Club, Lambda Pi Eta Communications Honor Society, Students for Environmental Awareness, Society of Automotive Engineers)
- 7 academic honor societies
- 7 social fraternities and sororities
- Cultural programs (International dinner, Salsa Dancing, Musical performances)
- Professional development grant opportunities
- 23 intercollegiate athletic teams
- Student leadership opportunities (Resident Assistants, Mentors, Organization officers)
- Educational workshops, programs, and speakers (Etiquette dinner, Career expo)
- Weekend activities (Late night dances, Movies, Off-campus trips)
- Study abroad opportunities
- 3 Bands (Marching/Pep Band, Jazz Ensemble and West Hills Symphonic Band)
- 5 faith based Campus Ministry Association student groups: Campus Crusade for Christ, Catholic Campus Ministry, Chi Alpha, Coalition for Christian Outreach, and CrossSeekers, as well as an Association membership of 21 clergy, lay personnel, and advisors
- There are 124 participants on the University’s 10 club sports teams
- 2 NEW Teams: Winterguard (Co-ed) & Women’s Synchronized Skating
- Women’s Synchronized Skating finished 5th out of 17 schools at the Intercollegiate Team Moves Competition at Boston University in January
- Women’s Synchronized skating placed 6th at the Eastern Sectional Championships of the National Figure Skating Association in February
- Men’s D1 Ice Hockey captured the Eastern College Hockey League Championship (ECHL) & earned a bid to the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) National Championship
- Men’s D1 Ice Hockey Team has 7 ECHL Academic All Americans (3.5 GPA or higher)
- Men’s DIII Ice Hockey won their first College Hockey East (CHE) Northern Division Championship
- Men’s Inline Hockey had a combined record of 23-4-1. The Tier I Inline team won the Western PA College Inline Hockey League (WPCIHL) Regular Season Championship. The league competes at the Island Sports Center
- Men’s Club Baseball won the 3rd Annual Bob Kloska Invitational in State College, PA this Fall under the new coach Jason Sample ‘06
- This Fall, the intramural program concluded its best flag football season on record with 24 teams, over 115 games, and 225 student participants
Taking a Look Inside STUDENT LIFE

Center for Student Success:  
A One-Stop Resource for Students

The Center for Student Success welcomed new staff members and expanded their services to better service the needs of RMU students. New to the Center staff are:

- **Gail Detweiler-Shostak RN, CS**, joins RMU in Spring 2007 as a counselor from the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh. She has more than 33 years of experience in psychiatric counseling, including substance abuse, grief and psychiatric disorders. She assists RMU students in personal and crisis counseling.

- **Daniel Gittins** join the Center in January as crisis counselor and disability coordinator after more than 15 years in the behavioral counseling field. As disability coordinator, he provides accommodations for disabled students in areas such as note-taking and test-taking.

- **Nicole Hammond** joins the full-time staff as counselor and tutor coordinator after serving as a graduate assistant at the center. She assists students with academic and personal concerns including course registration and planning, teaches First Year Experience, designs tutorial workshops, and coordinates the Early Success Program.

- **Cecilia Torres** joined RMU in October 2006 as the Act 101 activity/leadership coordinator, working to ensure Act 101 students are gaining the skills necessary to compete in today’s global marketplace. She coordinates study skill workshops, cultural and educational events, and acts as a liaison between students and their academic counselors.

Career Center

- RMU introduced a one credit Career Decision Making course in Spring 2007. Sixty-seven students are enrolled in the course.

- The placement rate among RMU graduates remains strong.

![Graduation Placement Summary](image)

* as of 2/23/2007
America’s Promise & Student Community Service

- More than 200 students from 15 Allegheny County high schools attended the 6th Annual Youth Promise Summit in October 2007. The event was held in partnership with Communities In Schools and the Pittsburgh Public Schools.
- 7 RMU students serve as tutors/mentors in the Mooncrest After School Program through the University’s collaboration with the Felician Sisters. Federal work study funds the positions. More than 30 children in grades 1 - 6 are served by the program.
- 8 RMU students have served as volunteer tutors/mentors in the Cornell School District’s 21st Century Community Learning Center after school program that serves 120 children in grades 2 – 9.
- The Office of America’s Promise is working in collaboration the Office of Academic Affairs to establish an American Humanics program on campus by Fall 2007. This national nonprofit certifies undergraduates for careers in the nonprofit sector through a program that includes academic course work, internships, volunteerism, and attendance at the national American Humanics Management Institute conference.
- Over 500 students participated in Student Community Service Center (SCSC) events in Fall 2006.
- SCSC Fall events included: Hundred Acre Haunted House, Freshman Day of Service, Holiday food and toy drives, Bark in the Park community event, Nursing Home visits, Salvation Army Project Bundle-Up and Bell Ringing, and Books for Africa textbook collection drive.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Creativity @ Work Conference - March 20
WestPACS Job Fair - March 22
Monte Carlo Night - March 23
Etiquette Dinner - March 26
PERC Education Job Fair - March 29
Start Educating the Minds Career Conference - March 30
Taking Back Sunday Concert - March 31
Academic Recognition Awards Program - April 1
Scouting for Food Drive - April 2 - 27
Gateway Clipper Dance - April 12
All Sports Banquet - April 15
West Hills Symphonic Band Concert - April 15
Student Excellence Dinner - April 17
RMU Idol Contest - April 19
Spring Fest - April 21
Almost Midnight Breakfast - April 24

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Girls Hope Toiletry Collection Drive - March 1 – 22
Library Display: Generations of Women Moving History Forward - March 1 - 31
“Why is HE Worth $1million More than HER?” Presentation - March 12
Youth Empowerment & Girls Night In Workshop - March 14
Health Fair & Wellness Programs - March 15
All Female Review: Miss RMU - March 15
Girls Hope Mentoring Day - March 16
“Can We Talk?” Gender Communication Discussion - March 21
Amnesty International Swing Dance For Rights - March 24
BRA: 3 Film Festival - March 26
Battle of the Sexes Game Show - March 27
Women’s History Month Luncheon Program - March 28
Alumni Coffeehouse - March 29