

Greetings from Mary Hendry



Dear Parent of a Roosevelt University Student:

I am pleased to greet you on behalf of the Roosevelt University community. Because you assume a crucial role in your student's success we are excited to provide enhanced resources for parents, such as this newsletter and a website that will "go live" later this year.

Student leadership and involvement have been at the heart of Roosevelt throughout our 60 year history. Student membership in clubs and organizations and even on the Board of Trustees provides us with ideas for new programs, resources, facilities and services. Many recent changes and improvements, such as request registration and new furnishings in several lounges, are direct outcomes of student suggestions. I believe our "students first"

philosophy creates an environment where students are happy, successful and driven toward personal and professional goals.

Thank you for your continued support of Roosevelt. Primary among your concerns are your student's academic success and personal happiness. Know that the Roosevelt University faculty and administration are doing everything we can to ensure your fondest hopes for your child's future are realized. In the event that you ever need to contact me, please feel free to call me at (312) 341-3524 or email me at mhendry@roosevelt.edu.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Hendry
Vice President for Enrollment & Student Services

Internships Combine Experience and Achievement

Internships have come a long way. Gone are the days when a student is required to work forty hours a week. The key to today's internships is flexibility, according to George Bagel, Director of Career Services at Roosevelt University. "The number of hours is less important than the quality of the experience." Bagel goes on to explain that internships can run "ten, fifteen, or twenty hours per week." Internship opportunities can also vary greatly and while the majority of offers Bagel sees are for part-time, he says that for some situations salaries can be as high as \$18 per hour. This flexibility allows students participating in an internship during the summer to also take a summer school class if they want, or hold down a part-time job in addition to their internship.

Whether a full- or part-time internship is your student's goal, Bagel explains that the first step is for them to visit us. "You can't apply to these opportunities without a resume," he says. It's this key first step that aids in helping your child focus their interests and background to begin pursuing their internship opportunity. "Make an appointment, come see us," Bagel stresses. The Office of Career Services offers support with writing resumes, but can also recommend resources for networking and set a student up with an account for their online job database.

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To Go or Not to Go? Faculty Office Hours

Universities often entice students by touting small class sizes and a low student-faculty ratio. Roosevelt University has both, with an average class size of 17 and a student-faculty ratio of 11:1. But what kinds of advantages do small classes and low student faculty-ratios afford students? For one, a small class means more one-on-one time with the professor, a greater opportunity for discussion, and more substantial feedback on assignments than a student would receive in a large lecture class. In many respects, however, a low student-faculty ratio may be of equal, if not more, benefit to your student's education, allowing him or her easy access to faculty outside of the classroom.

Yet, even in schools with low ratios, students often fail to take advantage of the time-honored tradition of faculty office hours. A recent survey indicated that only 44% of freshmen and 25% of seniors communicated with professors outside of class about ideas or reading. The reasons for this are probably

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diverse. A student may be intimidated, or if he is struggling, he may feel it is his responsibility to gut it out alone. Perhaps the student believes she has nothing to say. Faculty consider office hours (or appointments) an extension of the classroom experience. This time is for their students. If a face-to-face meeting seems too overwhelming to contemplate, start with an e-mail.

So, now that a student has the courage to visit the faculty member, what should he or she do? Specifically, use faculty office hours or appointments to go over difficult material, get additional feedback on assignments, and/or to discuss ideas for future assignments. Forging this kind of intellectual relationship may lead to other educational opportunities, such as the chance to pursue an independent study on a topic of interest to your student.

Meetings outside of class also provide the opportunity to draw on a professor's expertise and to learn more about the discipline. Professors can be a wonderful resource for information on careers and the job market, and often have professional contacts that can help a student network. Faculty frequently become mentors to students, and even after the semester ends, they may continue to drop by or e-mail professors for advice.

One of the most fundamental jobs of a faculty member is to write reference letters for students furthering their educational or pursuing jobs. If a student takes the initiative to get to know a faculty member—even if he or she is not the best performer in the class—that person will get a much more detailed and personal reference than the star student who comes to class, but

otherwise has little contact with a professor.

Communicating with faculty members outside classroom hours will not only foster your student's intellectual growth, but also humanize the educational experience. In the end, if he or she sees faculty as a resource and an opportunity to continue learning outside the four walls of the classroom, that student will reap the rewards.

*Margaret Rung Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History
Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences*



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Bagel is quick to point out the benefits of an internship. A student has the potential to not only gain experience, but also perspective on their job, the organization, and a particular industry at large. It's also been reported that students who participate in internships often have starting salaries of a few percentage points higher than students who did not. In addition, when an internship experience is mutually successful, it isn't uncommon for the student to be offered a job with that particular company or organization. Bagel sites that almost 30% of interns are offered employment by the time their internship has been completed.

Another reason Bagel promotes the benefits of internships is that today's college graduates can face some fierce competition – not only with other grads throughout the state, but from more seasoned professionals, who might have experienced layoffs or restructuring, who are looking to re-enter the job market. “You need to have everything in your corner that you can have,” he says.

For more information on internships, contact the Office of Career Services at (312) 341-3560 or (847) 619-7925 or log on to www.roosevelt.edu/ocs.



Roosevelt University Celebrates Third Annual New Deal Service Day

On Saturday, April 9, Roosevelt University students, faculty, staff alumni, and Board of Trustees will come together as a community to perform a day of volunteerism in the Chicagoland area.

What makes this year's effort significant, is there will be volunteer sites in the Schuamburg area, as well as in Chicago. Co-chairs Laurie Cashman and Susan Rohde have assembled two sub-committees to help with the planning and organization on both campuses. In addition to individual and group projects, there will be family-friendly sites for those interested in making the day a family event. Volunteer opportunities include painting in homeless shelters, gardening, reading to senior citizens, and serving food to the homeless, to name a few.

Laurie considers New Deal Day participation as a great way to introduce students of any age to how good it feels to help others. “It can't be matched.” She goes on to explain, “When you've worked hard all day and you see a difference and the results, and you see the sparkle in the eyes of the people who you've helped – their beaming faces – the rewards are just immeasurable.”

For more information on New Deal Service Day, log on to www.roosevelt.edu/newdealday/default.htm.

“The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.”

– Franklin D. Roosevelt



Roosevelt University Study Abroad Program: The World is Your Classroom

The Office of International Programs has created a new study abroad program, designed to offer RU students the opportunity of a lifetime that blends overseas travel with new educational and cultural experiences.

When students choose to study abroad, they are choosing an experience that will forever change their lives. Studying overseas can be an exciting and rewarding adventure. In addition to personal growth, students can immerse themselves in a new culture. They also have the opportunity to learn or master a foreign language. Another advantage is the chance to make friendships with people from around the world, creating irreplaceable memories. And once they have completed their education, students will discover how potential employers will value international experience, especially in this increasingly interconnected world.

In addition, the Office of International Programs at Roosevelt University provides information related to study abroad programs through other universities and study abroad companies. Most of these programs provide orientation programs as well as contacts that live in the countries where the students live and study, therefore bringing the benefit that there will always be someone immediately available while a student is studying overseas.

For more information, contact:
Colleen Earley,
Director of International Programs
(312) 341-2128
internat@roosevelt.edu
www.roosevelt.edu/isa



Academic Alert: Request Registration

Encourage your student to utilize Request Registration! This program allows students to register early for the classes they want at the times most convenient for them. This reduces scheduling problems and closed classes that could interfere with a student's internship plans, work schedule, or possibly his or her graduation timeline.

During the month of April all your student has to do is make an appointment with his or her academic advisor and sign up for summer and/or fall classes. The rest of this semester your student will be free to focus on finishing courses.

For more information on Request Registration, visit www.roosevelt.edu.

Upcoming Campus Events

April 1

Fall 2005 advising & class registration begins
For more information, visit www.roosevelt.edu/schedule

April 9

New Deal Service Day in Chicago & Schaumburg
For more information, visit www.roosevelt.edu/newdealday

April 14

Roosevelt University & Harold Washington Discussion
6 p.m. in the Harold Washington Library, State & Congress
For more information, visit www.roosevelt.edu/60thanniversary/events.htm

April 15 & 16

Alumni Weekend

April 22-24

Kiss Me Kate Spring Musical Production
7:30 p.m. on April 22-23 & 2 p.m. on April 24
O'Malley Theatre, Auditorium Building
For more information, visit ccpa.roosevelt.edu

April 25

Etiquette Dinner
5:30 -8:30 p.m. in Congress Lounge, Auditorium Building
For more information, visit www.roosevelt.edu/ocs/etiquette.htm

April 27

Distinguished Alumni Lecture: Dr. Raymond Smock,
US House Historian, writer & historical consultant
4:30 p.m., Congress Lounge, Auditorium Building
For more information, visit www.roosevelt.edu/60thanniversary/events.htm

May 1

Deadline to cancel housing applications for the fall semester without penalty

May 4

Annual Spring Concert
Parents Appreciation Reception
6:30 p.m., Congress Lounge, Auditorium Building
Concert
7:30 p.m., Auditorium Theatre
For more information, call (847) 619-7920 or email jgaribaldi@roosevelt.edu

May 6

Last day of regular classes

May 7-13

Final Exams

May 13

University Commencement Ceremonies
1 & 3:30 p.m., Auditorium Theatre

May 15

Residence hall move-out day

May 23

Summer session classes begin

For more information on campus events, visit www.roosevelt.edu/calendars

Summer School Courses Brighten and Enlighten

After a challenging spring semester, many students look forward to summer so they can bask in “American Comic Books: Myths, Ideology and Culture” or “Culture and Cuisine in American History.” These are just two of the nearly 450 courses Roosevelt University is offering during its summer semester this year.

According to Derek Shouba, Assistant Dean for Summer Session and Special Programs, the Office of Summer Session works to promote programmatic innovation by offering flexible sessions and special-topics classes, in addition to the many degree requirements students want to take. Each summer Roosevelt offers eleven sessions, including one twelve weeks in length, an eight-week, two six-week, and seven different “intensive” sessions.

“These scheduling options offer students the opportunity to get ahead and still have an enjoyable summer,” Shouba says. “Or sometimes students have a difficult class and choose to take just that one in order to concentrate on it fully.” He also cites research from the North American Association of Summer Sessions that has found students graduate

earlier or have a higher rate of success when they take summer session classes.

In addition to traditional classroom-based courses, Roosevelt offers over 20 online courses and almost 90 external studies classes. Shouba states that both the Chicago and Schaumburg campuses offer a wide variety of courses.

Shouba cites another benefit of the summer session is the tuition discount they offer to undergraduate students. When a student enrolls in six semester hours, they pay only for five. This tuition incentive reflects the student-centered philosophy of Roosevelt University.

For complete listing log on to www.roosevelt.edu/summer/highlights.htm or call 1-877-APPLY RU.



You're Invited! Annual Spring Concert Wednesday, May 4

You are cordially invited to the Annual Spring Concert as part of Parents Appreciation Evening. This performance, free for RU parents, features the Chicago College of Performing Arts Symphony Orchestra and Choir.

Special Parents Pre-concert Reception, 6:30 p.m.

Auditorium Building, 2nd floor Congress Lounge

Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Auditorium Theatre, 53 E. Congress Parkway

Don't miss this exciting opportunity to meet other RU parents and enjoy an evening of talented performers.

RSVP by April 25th for the reception and free tickets to this concert by calling (847) 619-7920 or emailing your response to jgaribaldi@roosevelt.edu

ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY
Office of Student Services
430 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60605
www.roosevelt.edu



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