

UR Family

NEWSLETTER

ARTS, SCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING
University of Rochester

A Publication of the College Parents Association



It's not too late to register for Meliora Weekend 2011 (October 20-23).

Visit the website at www.rochester.edu/melioraweekend/.



Meliora,

Richard Feldman
Dean of the College

The Parents Council

Parents play a vital role in the life of the University, and involvement through the Parents Council can help to continue to improve the quality of education and enhance the collegiate experience for students. The Parents Council is a group of leadership donor families who

- make a Parents Fund annual gift of \$1,500 or more, which qualifies them for membership in the George Eastman Circle (GEC). The GEC is a group of leadership donors who pledge a five-year commitment of \$1,500 or more each year and who are invited to attend special University events both on and off campus.
- volunteer their time to support admissions programs, offer career guidance, and attend and host events
- attend at least one of two Parents Council meetings per year and hear University administrators and faculty
- have a direct link to the Parents Program staff to answer questions and help with your involvement

Don '79 and Joanne '79 Rose, P '07, P '10, P '14M (MD), P '14 are our Parents Council cochairs, and they look forward to welcoming new parents who want to be more actively involved. If you are interested in more information about joining the Council, email Parents_Program@rochester.edu.

The Parents Fund

Parents' participation in Rochester's Parents Fund helps make possible the outstanding educational opportunities that are part of their son's or daughter's experience. The fund provides Richard Feldman, dean of the College, annual unrestricted support for programs and events that support and strengthen the educational experience for students. Dean Feldman uses the fund to

- strengthen and deepen the academic experience for students by supporting programs like the Office of Undergraduate Research, Center for Workshop Education, and the Center for Study Abroad
- enrich the cocurricular experience through funding for the Collegiate Readership Program and the Student Activities Office, which helps pay for student groups that travel to regional or national conferences and meetings
- improve campus life through improved services, technology, and health and safety programs

Gifts of every size are welcomed, and they send a message that you like what's happening at Rochester. For information on giving to the Parents Fund, call (585) 276-4075 or go online to www.rochester.edu/parents/pfund.html.

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Athletic Preview

Dennis O'Donnell, Director of Athletic Communications

A year ago, Rochester sent 11 sports to the national championships on either a team or national basis. Eleven athletes earned All-America honors. As the new academic year dawns, there is plenty of excitement for Rochester's athletes and teams.

FALL

Men's and women's soccer debut from Sept. 1-3 with the Flower City Tournament. Both sports are regulars in the NCAA Division III National Tournament. **Football** is poised for a big year with 18 returning starters. Yellowjackets play in the Courage Bowl at Sahlen's Stadium downtown on Sept. 17 and then host Union on Sept. 24 at Fauver to open Liberty League play.

Field hockey has nine home matches, starting on Sept. 7 against Nazareth at 7 p.m. **Women's volleyball** will host the UAA Round Robin Oct. 15-16. **Men's and women's cross country** host their Yellowjacket Invitational on Oct. 15.

WINTER

Three starters return for **men's basketball**, which reached the NCAA Sweet 16 last year and won the UAA title. **Women's basketball** is looking for its seventh straight NCAA bid with an experienced senior class.

There's a lot of talent in the water for **men's and women's swimming**. The men have won two of the last four Liberty League titles. The women have won two straight. **Men's and women's track** compete continuously—indoors through mid-March, then outdoors. Talent abounds on both rosters. They will host the New York State Outdoor Championships May 4-5. With two All-Americans returning to the lineup, look for **squash** to retain its Top 10 ranking for the fourth straight year.

SPRING

This could be a bountiful year for **men's** (seven veterans return) and **women's tennis** (all but one singles players are back). **Softball** had both the Liberty League Pitcher and Rookie of the Year. Seven starters return. **Baseball** has a good cast of veterans throughout the lineup.

Golf was the runner-up in the Liberty League and UAA championships last year and broke into the top 25 poll. Five home games in March could help **women's lacrosse** to a quick start. **Women's rowing** will continue to build, fueled by a bronze medal at the Dad Vail Championships in 2011.



Student Fellowships, continued

tremendously from this process of reflection, writing, and self-presentation, and these insights and skills will stand them in good stead as they venture beyond the University of Rochester in pursuit of their dreams.

The Fellowships Office has raised the campus profile of these potentially life-changing opportunities for outstanding students, and we strive continuously to foster an environment where it is expected that ever increasing numbers of Rochester students will apply for prestigious national fellowships. In the last 10 years, the participation level of our students and recent graduates in fellowships competitions has grown significantly, with dozens winning a wide array of major awards. Recent winners and finalists are listed on the Fellowships Office website.

Each spring we recognize applicants, nominees, finalists, and winners in high-profile student fellowships competitions with a reception that is attended by faculty, staff, deans, and the University president.

Find us at:

Fellowships Office
4-209B Dewey Hall
(585) 276-5859
fellowships@rochester.edu
www.rochester.edu/college/studentfellowships

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Fall 2011 HOT SPOTS

September 17	Courage Bowl Football Game; UR vs. St. John Fisher
September 21	Wilson Commons Wednesday
September 25	Hive Smash Bros Tourney
October 1	Janelle Monae Concert
October 7	Club Rochester
October 14	No Jackets Required Concert
October 15	Tropicana
October 21–23	Meliora Weekend, featuring comedian Russell Peters, Diversity of Dance, Mystic Midnight Madness, Rochester Revue, A Cappella Jam, keynote speaker President Bill Clinton, Coffeehouse Show and Meliora Friday Night Live, and Hive Game Room Night
October 26	Wilson Commons Wednesday
October 28	Drag Show
October 29	Viennese Ball
October 30	Hive Game Tourney
November 4	Club Rochester and Ballet Performance Group Show
November 5	South Asian Expo
November 11	YellowJackets Show
November 12	Mediterranean Night and After Hours Concert
November 16	Wilson Commons Wednesday
November 18	Off Broadway On Campus Show
November 19	Midnight Ramblers Concert
December 1	77th Annual Boar's Head Dinner
December 2	Kwanzaa Celebration and Holiday Vendor Fair
December 3	Jugglers show and Poetry Slam
December 16	Late Night Breakfast

For more information on these events, call the Common Connection at (585) 275-5911.



Students attending Fall Leadership Conference at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center

Dining Services Update

Cameron Schauf, Director
Campus Dining Services and Auxiliary Operations

The semester has started, and the students are excited about all the changes in the Dining Services program. We commemorated our newly renovated Danforth Dining Center and Hillside Market with a grand opening celebration on August 22. It was a great occasion, and everyone loves the new facilities.

As the students returned to campus, they found lots of changes in addition to the renovated facilities. Douglass Dining Center has been converted into an all-you-care-to-eat dining facility, and there are new menus in all of our dining locations.

Throughout the planning process, the goal of Dining Services was to incorporate an abundance of vegan and vegetarian options all over campus. We have added a number of whole-grain dishes utilizing super grains and legumes.

Danforth, Eastman, and Douglass have cycle menus featuring main entrees with lentils, wild rice, falafel, couscous, tabouleh, barley, quinoa, faro, legumes, and brown rice. All of this was done in addition to the tried and true menu favorites of previous years.

Another focal point of our new menus is an increased international flair. Danforth, Eastman, and Douglass menus include Indian, Thai, Italian, Spanish, Mexican, Greek, Chinese, and Japanese cuisines.

Not only have our facilities and menus changed, but we've ELIMINATED Club Meals! Reacting to student feedback, Dining Services eliminated clubs and created unlimited meal plans. Unlimited meal plan members can enter Danforth, Douglass, and Eastman Dining Centers as often as they like. Whether in the mood for a quick snack or a full meal, students can just swipe their card, and they are in.

We want to remind you that the meal plan contract is for the entire year, and if your student wants to keep the same meal plan for the spring semester, they don't need to do a thing. If they wish to make a change, the free change period is November 7 through 11. The change parameters vary based on residence hall group.

For information throughout the year, visit www.rochester.campusdish.com.

For answers to any questions concerning meal plans or URors, please contact the University of Rochester Customer Service/ID Office at (585) 275-8756. For questions about meals or any University of Rochester dining facility, contact our marketing manager at (585) 275-6265.



Wilson Day 2011



The M. K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence

Kit Miller, Director, Gandhi Institute

The M. K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence (www.gandhiinstitute.org) is an independent nonprofit that offers programs, training, and projects based on Gandhian and Kingian nonviolence. We are grateful to be sponsored by the University of Rochester, which offers fiscal as well as professional support to the institute. Our mission is to educate, embody, and serve. We offer students free programs, events, and classes in nonviolent communication, meditation, Kingian nonviolence training for activists and more, as well as community service opportunities through our events and projects in the city of Rochester and surrounding communities. This fall we will launch the third year of the Gandhi Service Fellows program, which offers 8–10 students an opportunity to work with us intensively on the service project of their choice with lots of mentoring and budget support. We enjoy having Rochester student board members who serve as full members for one-year terms on our nonprofit board, a great learning experience in and of itself.

We have offices at the University of Rochester's Interfaith Chapel and a space in Rush Rhees Library called the Gandhi Reading Room, which is used for classes, workshops, and meetings of all kinds. This fall we will be expanding our offices (while maintaining campus ones) to an off-campus location on S. Plymouth Avenue near Riverview Apartments where, among other things, we will have a one-acre urban agriculture project.

One of our major projects is the observance of the Season for Nonviolence January 30–April 4, an annual 64-day observance launched by the United Nations in 1998 that marks the dates of the assassinations of Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. The Season, which offers an opportunity to continue the work of these two great human rights heroes, was observed in more than 400 U.S. cities and 15 other countries last year. Both the city of Rochester and Monroe County issued proclamations observing the Season, as did 22 other partners, among them many University of Rochester departments and student groups.



Our new location is 929 S. Plymouth Ave.

The University of Rochester welcomes the parents of the Class of 2015 and transfer students.

Nationally Competitive Student Fellowships

Belinda Redden, Director, Fellowships Office

The Fellowships Office aids Rochester students in pursuing high-profile, externally funded, merit-based fellowships and scholarships to further their educational and career goals. These awards are disbursed through national and international competitions and target students at different stages of their studies, often seeking candidates with particular academic interests. Sponsors include the U.S. government as well as publicly funded educational organizations from other countries, private philanthropic foundations, nongovernmental public interest organizations, and societies with particular cultural orientations. The director of fellowships is the campus representative for many competitive student fellowships and oversees promotion, recruitment, advisement, and competition management. We work closely with individual students, helping them determine which awards suit them best and guiding them through the fellowship application process.

Sponsors set eligibility and selection criteria for their awards. While academic merit is the primary criterion, sponsors define academic achievement according to their own guidelines. Selection factors may also include record of leadership and service, research experience, civic engagement, graduate-study goals, career aspirations, potential for future significant contribution or impact, and, *occasionally*, financial need. Regardless of a student's academic achievement, there should be a good match between the applicant and the fellowship's purposes. Applicants who advance and succeed in national fellowships competitions distinguish themselves by demonstrating the desired characteristics in ways that usually exceed what typical high-achieving, involved students do in college. They aim high and stand out.

The most widely recognized and coveted of the competitive student fellowships is the Rhodes Scholarship for postgraduate study at the University of Oxford in England. Similar awards for study in the United Kingdom and Ireland modeled after the Rhodes include the Marshall Scholarship, the Mitchell Scholarship, and the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. The federally sponsored Fulbright U.S. Student Program is another highly regarded selective award that provides student grants for international postgraduate study, research, and teaching projects in approximately 140 countries and world regions.

Other major competitive student fellowships include the Goldwater Scholarship for research-loving undergraduate math, science, and engineering majors; the Udall Scholarship for environmental leaders; the Truman Scholarship for those with "fire in the belly" for public service careers; the NIH Undergraduate Scholarship for biomedical and health sciences students; and the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship for PhD-bound researchers in science, engineering, and selected social science fields. There are also student fellowships for undergraduate study abroad and several prestigious programs supporting students in their pursuit of less studied foreign languages and cultures, such as Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Chinese, Korean, and Punjabi, among others.

The Fellowships Office informs students of national opportunities via our website, email messages, announcements in the *Weekly Buzz* and other campus publications, bulletin boards, and information sessions. Faculty and staff also recommend outstanding students to the Fellowships Office. Interested students may meet individually with the director of fellowships during weekly walk-in hours or by appointment. Students may also receive advisement while they are studying or interning away from campus.

Many would see winning a prestigious student fellowship as the measure of success; we believe there is value in the process regardless of the competition outcome. Fellowships applications require students to reflect in essay form on what they have done, why, and how these choices fit with where they would like to go next in their studies and eventual careers—and who they would like to be. Past achievement may allow one to enter the game, but these awards are very much focused on the future. Students gain

continued on next panel



Meliora—defined as “ever better”— is not just the University of Rochester's motto, it is an ethic that we share as a community, a way of life that unites us in a common bond, and a powerful description of who we are and what we value. The Meliora Moments project, <http://meliora.rochester.edu>, invites the entire University community to join together to share a personal moment or moments that made them “ever better.” Visit the site to read many inspirational and heartfelt stories from our alumni, parents, faculty, and friends, and share your own, too.

My Bus Home

My Bus Home is an independent company that arranges transportation for college students during college/university breaks. Recently, the company launched a new website, www.MyBusHome.com, for the convenience of students, parents, and families. My Bus Home has arranged transportation for University of Rochester students since the spring of 2010. Transportation has been provided for students traveling to Ludlow and Newton, Mass., as well as Easton, Pa., and New York City. (A minimum of 25 students is necessary to arrange travel.) Families have found that it's more convenient to pick up their students from these areas as opposed to the longer drive to Rochester. If you are interested in transportation to those areas for your Rochester student, you may contact My Bus Home owner, Betsy Kirschbaum, at mybushome@aol.com. We will reach out to students and parents at a later time to explore interest in transportation to other areas.

For additional information, please contact
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