The Phelps Colloquium was initiated in April 2004 by former provost Chuck Phelps and was eventually named in his honor by President Seligman upon Provost Phelps’ retirement in 2007.

The colloquium began as “Lunch with the Provost,” with the simple goal of bringing together academic leaders from across the University in a relaxing setting to learn about interesting projects taking place at the institution while also providing time for interaction with colleagues outside their normal spheres of contact. Provost Phelps’ belief was that this mingling would engender more cross-school and cross-discipline collaborations. Although no official data exist on whether this outcome has been realized, there are several collaborative teams that credit the start of their work together to a conversation at a Phelps Colloquium.

Speakers and topics presented in the colloquium have been varied and fascinating. A complete history of the series from 2004 to 2012 is available at www.rochester.edu/provost/assets/PDFs/all_speakers_phelps.pdf.

**October 3, 2013**

“What you should know about stock volatility (and how that might help you sleep better at night . . . )”

G. William Schwert, Professor, Finance and Statistics

Faculty Club, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**November 7, 2013**


Nicholas Bigelow, Professor, Physics

Evarts Lounge, Helen Wood Hall, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**December 12, 2013**

“To MOOC or Not to MOOC? Opportunities and Perils in Online Teaching”

Mark Bocko, Professor and Chair, Computer and Electrical Engineering

John Covach, Professor and Chair, Department of Music

Eric Fredericksen, Associate Vice President for Online Learning

Genrich-Rusling Room, LeChase Hall, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**January 9, 2014**

“Claude Debussy, a Diplomat's Commission, and Rush Rhees Library”

Marie Rolf, Professor, Music Theory and Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Eastman School of Music

Welles-Brown Room, Rush Rhees Library, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**February 27, 2014**

“Reducing Racial and Socioeconomic School Inequities: Interdistrict Choice in Rochester and Beyond”

Kara Finnigan, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership

Eisenberg Rotunda, Schlegel Hall, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

**April 3, 2014**

“Why do so many support organ donation, yet so few actually sign up?”

Christopher Barry, Associate Professor, Clinical Surgery

Bausch & Lomb Parlor, Memorial Art Gallery, 4 to 5:30 p.m.