Accreditation: So your degrees mean something

Beth Kleiman
Herald Staff

It is re-accreditation time for Roger Williams University, and there is a lot of preparation required. Without proper re-accreditation, RWU won’t receive any federal money. No federal money for the university means no financial aid, no student loans, and no work study, among other things. For the large number of students who depend in some way, on one or more of these, the possibility of a failing grade by RWU to re-accredited might cause concern.

University accreditation is necessary for every school across the country. It ensures that the school maintains high standards of education and meets requirements in all areas including academics, faculty, and finances. Without accreditation RWU would receive no federal money. Also, any degree granted by the university would be meaningless and invalid.

Accreditation is required every 10 years, and RWU is approaching the eight year mark. After eight years, the university conducts a two year self-study where it evaluates its strengths and weaknesses, obtains input from the university community, and closely examines all aspects of the university.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) is the accreditation agency responsible for Roger Williams University. This agency is also responsible for the accreditation of every school in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont that awards bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral and associate degrees.

To conduct the two-year self-study, a Steering Committee, made up of eight administration and faculty members, is formed. This committee oversees the 100 other members of faculty, staff and administration from RWU, who are divided into sub-committees called Task Forces.

See ACCREDITATION, p. 8

Newsweek journalist
Eleanor Clift speaks to RWU students

Eleanor Clift, the journalist and prominent figure of women’s rights, speaks to students on Monday in CAS 157. SEE STORY, PAGE 5.

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"From Bayside, with Love"

"Dining Hall or Transfer?"

One of the toughest daily decisions I can remember having to make for the majority of my college experience was the choice between the D-Hall or Transfer. Although I haven't had to make that decision for about a year and a half, I'm suddenly reminded of it now as I sit on the cusp of making another hard decision.

This would mean waking up earlier and taking earlier classes and in turn helping to establish a well-structured "early to bed, early to rise" day. And then I'd get all A's. I'd never miss a class, it would never rain in Rhode Island, and every class I tried to register for would be open. While all that sounds great, it's highly unrealistic. And then there's the other option, Transfer. This subsidiary of the Dining Hall is open later but has less variety of options. It's basically a deep fried assault on your stomach, with ketchup and salt. One thing I never understood about the whole process is the fact that if I went to the Dining Hall for dinner I could drown myself in a boiling cauldron of Italian Style Wedding soup and then devour an entire pizza but yet when I transfer my meal points it only equals about $6.50. Where did that number come from?

But anyway, I always found this option to be the less than sensible choice; the easy way out. I could stay up later and even take my food back to the room and hang out and watch movies while eating chicken fingers. And then I'd fail random tests, miss classes, it would rain six days a week, and every class I tried to register for would be full. This, although exaggerated slightly, is more realistic.

So why, having been removed from making this decision for a year and a half, am I suddenly reminded of it now? Because once again I'm forced to choose between the sensible/unrealistic or the less than sensible/unrealistic option. And although I'd really love to be mature about this and choose to be the bigger man and not let it bother me, I just can't make the decision to not stand up for myself.

I never went to the Dining Hall for anything except brunch, so I swear that place and screw you too, Matthew Smith. As a matter of fact, I never asked that you love me, but while I'm on that subject, I'm sorry you wasted all your time freshman year on some girl who obviously dumped you. However, what I do want from you is respect, and I'll tell you why.

Journalism students are constantly reminded every day that the field we're chosen to make a living in is highly competitive. Basically, our professors tell us we're not going to make any money when we get out into the real world. This always bothered me a little; actually, I'm sure it bothers all Communications students. But instead of changing majors or accepting my future which seemed destined for mediocrity, I decided to do something to help distinguish myself from the crowd.

Now I know what you're thinking, no possible future employer of mine is going to read "Titties McGunBarrels" and say "oh this is genius, you're hired, here's a million dollars." But that's not the point I'm trying to make. Someone recently told me that each week I perpetuate the negative college student stereotypes and make them look just stupid while in turn making myself look stupid.

This is actually a really good argument and it got me to think long and hard about what I'm doing. I've heard people say that newspaper journalism is an industry that is slowly decreasing in popularity due to the advent of new and more easily accessible media sources (a.k.a. the Internet).

So now you tell me what's more important for me to try and do. Write an article that people read albeit sometimes tasteless and crude, or write a cookie-cutter column that's safe and inoffensive? The choice is simple.

But that's just what I have to say in my defense. I didn't start writing this column for my own benefit, or as you so eloquently put it, "I am merely here to amuse myself so that when I pick up the Hawks Herald there is something witty and fun to read." I really hope you weren't talking about that garbage you submitted, riddled with poor grammar, shout outs, bad advice, and just awful writing in general. Because what you wrote wasn't even close to witty or fun, it was just disturbing. I'm sorry you don't like my writing Matthew, but I'm even sorrier you made me waste half the page defending myself this week. This will be the last time the column I've worked hard on for 25 weeks will be reduced to something so petty.

Editor's Note:

There will be no Hawk's Herald next week, Nov. 25, due to the observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

The Hawk's Herald will print its final issue of the semester on Dec. 2, which, not coincidentally, is Editor-In-Chief Timothy Mannion's 22nd birthday.

Dearest Meg and Ash,

I'm a senior and I'm starting to stress out about graduating. I have no idea what I'm going to do when I leave here! I worry about money and whether I'm going to get a job. I'm getting headaches all the time. How can I stop this craziness?

Loony over Life

Dear Meg and Ash,

I have physical abnormality that keeps me from getting close to girls. I have been dating this girl for a few months and I can tell she's getting restless. She definitely wants to take things to the next level, but I'm really nervous about her reaction. What should I do?

-One is the Loneliest Number...

Dear One,

Ok... so have you talked to this girl about what's going on? Chances are, if you don't she's going to get offended and she may even call it quits. If she really cares about you, then she'll understand what you're going through. If you tell her your situation and she freaks out then, she isn't really right for you. Everyone has their skeletons, so you might as well come clean soon so you don't ruin the relationship. Good luck!

Meg & Ash

Loony over Life

Dear Meg and Ash,

I'll give props to some of my other countries, but the Lemple Report says that my Antarctica was the "coolest" spot in the land. For the story, we page it.

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Students not deterred by dangers abroad

This Week was International Education Week at Roger Williams. But, by the time you read this many of you have not gone to a single event. I do not understand this, especially since it has been so widely publicized. Posters were hung all over campus, e-mails were sent out, and many teachers mentioned it to their students. This leads me to believe that many students just do not care about these topics. It doesn’t make any sense. Just because you are American doesn’t mean that you can ignore the fact that America is covered with foreign people. You do not live in a world that is all the same. I know you’ve heard that America is a melting pot, but it really is. We live in a culturally diverse place.

There were several wonderful programs that took place this past week, of which most students didn’t take advantage. Celebrating Living Traditions was a great event that took place on Sunday the 13. This was an inter-cultural festival of South Asia, the Middle East, and Celtic. International students dressed in their native wear and talked about their culture. They focused on three holidays that are celebrated around this time: Eid, Diwali, and Ramadan, all of which were new to me. There was also food there that I had never tried. I went to this event because I figured it would be cool and respectful to go and learn about a culture other than my own and was upset by the poor turnout. I learned so much and wish more people had attended. Only about 40 people were there and many of those were the ones participating. The students involved had a good time in their eyes and it was apparent that they were getting to talk about themselves. It made me sad to know that so many people would never be affected the way I was.

A Brown Bag Lunch Series was held each day of this week. The series were meetings where different international topics were discussed. And on Monday, no one showed up. Are people that busy that they can’t eat their lunch in a conference room and expose themselves to something new? Global Fest on Wednesday seemed to be more popular. Maybe it was because of the free food, free henna tattoos, belly dancers, or music. The event was from 12-4 and took place in the field house. Tables were set up from countries all over the world. It was great to see students get a chance to learn about a different country. I must somewhat defend some of the students who were not aware of these events. However, if you do not pay attention to notifications around campus, they will not find you. If people are not interested in learning about other cultures, it is their choice. Going to these types of things will only help you grow as a person and become more worldly.

It is sad that we live in such a diverse world and people like to keep themselves sheltered from much of it. So much can be learned from people from different cultures if only more of us would go outside our shells and see for ourselves.

OP-ED:
Why doesn’t anybody care?
Traci Harris

Students not deterred by dangers abroad

Tracy Lemle
Features Editor

Paris is burning, Jordan is blowing up, and London has just gotten over their summer attacks. It is most definitely a scary time to go overseas. But RWU students seem to be overcoming their potential fears and continuing their studies abroad in these three countries.

“None of our programs have been canceled,” Coordinator of Study Abroad Programs, Gina Lopardo stated. RWU currently has twelve students studying in London and one student in Jordan through the Center for International Education (CIE) approved program. Although no attacks have plagued London since early July, the fear is still there for those students who are living and touring the city. As for the junior who resides in Jordan, more pertinent and scary threats are looming. With the three American hotel bombings just last week, many would assume that the RWU student would have a desire to leave the program and return to the states. However, it is much to the contrary. The unnamed student, due to privacy issues, is so content in Jordan that he has already decided to stay for second semester.

Lopardo went on to explain that the student in Jordan is enthusiastically learning Arabic and getting involved with the culture. “Being in Jordan has reinforced his belief to be there... he would eventually like to be involved in law enforcement or government.”

As for the Paris program, there are currently no students studying there. As of January, however, there will be two. Junior Danielle Ameden will be one of those students boarding the plane.

“No, I’m not scared,” Ameden stated. “The news reports are a little scary, but honestly, I’m not that worried. There’s still a lot of time until February when I leave, so hopefully the unrest will cool by then.” Although the students are still planning to travel abroad for the spring semester, it is not going without RWU’s close attention to the matter.

“Do monitor and check world events all the time,” Lopardo stated. It may be difficult, however, for RWU to allow the continuation of study abroad in the near future. Recently the Avian Flu is plaguing many countries in Southeast Asia at a rapid rate and President Bush has suggested that if the situation turns into a pandemic, he may for forced to restrict travel.

“There is a possibility that a pandemic would force restrictions of international travel and commerce,” White House Spokesman Trent Duffy stated.

It is difficult to actually monitor if students are deterred from such acts and bombings, but the abroad office hasn’t seen many changes with application numbers.

With two students planning to study in Paris and a female student joining the male in Jordan, RWU is still finding interested and eager students to participate.

“Rumors may be circulating but they wouldn’t be further from the truth,” Lopardo stated. “For now, I’m just thinking about how amazing the Parisian cafes and museums and culture will be, and studying at the Sorbonne. I’m trying to keep a positive outlook about the situation,” Ameden said.

RWU Student Senate

Meetings
Monday 6:30 pm
Student Senate Chambers
Upper Level, Rec Center

Meetings Open
To Everyone!

Police, rescue squads and soldiers in Jordan attempt to quell the bombings that have plagued much of France. Despite this and many other scary situations abroad, students at RWU are largely undeterred and still plan to study overseas next semester.
Mr. RWU event raises money for charity

Rebecca Ribe and Roy Brocuglio
Special to the Herald

The Inter Residence Hall Association (IRHA) is inviting you to see who will be crowned the 4th Annual Mr. RWU on November 19. This year’s event will once again benefit the Children’s Miracle Network. The 11 members of the RWU community have been hard at work to be named this year’s winner.

This year’s contestants are Karl Pelletier, Christopher George, Joseph Marchione, Eric Rollo, Jake Silberstein, Alex Nicholl, Christopher McGrath, Shashwat Baxi Al Borrelli, Kerry Gilmore, and Todd Hiller.

The Children’s Miracle Network is an alliance of premier hospitals for children, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping kids by raising funds for 170 children’s hospitals across North America. Each year these non-profit hospitals provide the finest care, research and community outreach to help millions of children with diseases and injuries of every kind. The Children’s Miracle Network hospitals are open 24 hours a day to help kids of every age and background overcome every imaginable disease and injury. This year alone, Children’s Miracle Network hospitals will provide charity care worth billions, yet these non-profit children’s hospitals depend on community support to help fund their vital services. (all taken from the CMN website www.cmn.org).

The money that will be donated by the Mr. RWU pageant will allow Baystate Medical Center to purchase needed equipment for the hundreds that are in need.

The Mr. RWU contestants have raised money by carrying donation jars through campus from the beginning till the night of the pageant. The contestants also sent out fundraising letters to family and friends to help donate.

The Mr. RWU Spectacular will take place on November 19 in the Field House. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and tickets are $3 for students.

Come laugh and have a great time while supporting a worthwhile cause!

For more information on the Children’s Miracle Network or to donate money to this worthwhile cause, visit www.cmn.org.

Socrates: Censorship draws large crowd to discussion

Continued from p.1

Chris Riendeau.

“It [changing the question] didn’t affect the topic of discussion at all.”

Professor Tait agreed. “If anything, by changing the subject, it put a focus on the question.”

The forum began with a presentation dedicated to controversial art over the years. Tait gave the example of Manet’s Olympia, a nude prostitute who shocked much of society.

Tait also claimed that there is a constant tension between artists. Her examples showed how various pieces of art in today’s society would be considered controversial in another culture. “Art is that which challenges us and rips apart established norms,” said Tait.

Questions brought up in the discussion included “Can masturbation and pornography be considered art?” “When is it life and when is it art?” “Can something functional be art?” “How do we define good art?” and how do we define art in general?”

Discussion in the forum varied from the portrayal of masturbation in various mediums and whether or not pornography can be art to discussion of what the definition of art actually and whether censorship on a college campus is appropriate.
Wireless Internet available, but sporadic

Keri Tanzi
Herald Staff

Many students at RWU have had the pleasure of using the wireless Internet service that is made available throughout campus, usually to research assignments, do homework, and study. The wireless Internet service has existed since the fall of 2004, but many students wish they had access to it in their dorm rooms. Pangborn said, "Currently, we can currently use the wireless Internet at about twelve places around campus. The library, the multi-cultural center, and the commuter lounge in the recreation center are a few places, among others."

Information Technology (IT) hopes to put the wireless Internet in about ten different classrooms throughout campus during the 2005-2006 academic year. Currently only about 20-30 registered hosts per an access point are allowed to be on the wireless service for limited use (e-mail and web research).

Joe Pangborn, Chief Information Officer for Information Technology, reflects on the limited action of the wireless technology. "One needs to understand the shared bandwidth and broadcast/collision domain concepts and constraints for wireless design. In highly populated areas with constant activity, a more dense deployment of access points would be required." Pangborn explains.

Due to the limitations in the current wireless Internet access points, there are fewer resources available to use, thus eliminating students from chatting and gaming in the library, the multi-cultural center, and the commuter lounge in the recreation center. Pangborn explained.

"One needs to understand the shared bandwidth and broadcast/collision domain concepts and constraints for wireless design. In highly populated areas with constant activity, a more dense deployment of access points would be required." Pangborn explained.

"I-T: Director Joe Pangborn explains the Academic Information and Technology Committee (AIT) has set up locations for use of the wireless Internet because there are priorities and also the budget doesn't give them an opportunity to expand campus wide. Putting wireless into the dorms has been discussed by AIT. However, given their budget and the cost for deployment the focus has been mainly academic areas. A conservative estimate (just for network equipment) would be approximately $600k - $700k. This does not include either network or power wiring for the probably more than 390 access points which, within existing buildings, can add significant costs itself," Pangborn added. Pangborn said that the wireless Internet service to be very helpful when trying to complete an assignment or study for a test.

"We do see wide usage of the wireless capability. We have to assume that this means that students find it useful," Pangborn said.

Frank Tuthill, junior, is a frequent wireless Internet user. He says, "Most of the cable ports in the library don't work, so wireless is your most convenient option. It would be useful to have it in all of the academic buildings.

To be able to use the wireless Internet service on campus students must have an 802.11b wireless network card installed into their computers. Once the card is properly installed into the computers, the students can easily get online by opening a web page, entering their username and password, check the 'I accept' box, click the log-in link and minimize the connected mini-screen. Students can purchase the wireless cards at the RWU campus computer store.
**R-WU's Food Critic:**

**Nello's Pizza:** Good food, O.K. service, so-so spinach pie

Kaitlin Curran  
Herald Staff

Instead of reaching for the phone and dialing the number for Domino’s again, why not try something new? Nello’s Pizza, located on 574 Metacom Avenue in the Bell Tower Plaza in Bristol, is your average local pizza place. They offer free delivery, 35 different kinds of sandwiches, pasta, salads, and of course, pizza.

The pizza ranges anywhere from cheese, vegetables, and assorted meats. They do, however, offer a variety of "Nello’s Specialty Pizza," which includes the “Mexican” (hamburger, tomato slices, hot cherry peppers, and spice) and the “Portuguese” (chouriço, peppers, and onions.) Nello’s also offers Package deals like the large one-topping pizza/ten wings/2 liter Coke, all for $15.95.

On this particular occasion, I decided to go for the classic cheese pizza. I called for delivery and they said it would take about an hour. Unfortunately, I was not surprised because I’ve noticed a trend among delivery services in Bristol. It seems that no matter what time of day the week it is, in order to get ANYTHING delivered to Roger Williams, it always takes about an hour and usually more. Strange, considering most of the dishes can be made within minutes...

The sauce, in my opinion, was what made the pizza so great. It had a very light spice, which gave it a kick, and blended well with the cheese. The crust was crispy on the outside and soft on the inside and the dough was fluffy and light.

I found myself wanting to eat more because I wasn’t full. I probably could have eaten an entire large pizza by myself without even blinking; it was just that good.

Aside from the pizza, I also tried ordering a spinach pie and a vegetable calzone, just to see if the other food offered was as good as the pizza. The calzone was fabulous; jam packed with an array of vegetables and covered with melted cheese. It also comes with the option of adding sauce cooked into the calzone or on the side. The spinach pie, on the other hand, was not so good. There were two slices of soggy flattened bread and a pile of mushy green sloppy stuff that they tried to pull off as spinach squished in between. The taste, as you could imagine, was not palatable.

The best part about Nello’s Pizza is the prices. A large one-topping pizza is only $8.75 and a large Italian sub is mere $4.95. The staff was friendly and the food was superb. What more could a hungry customer ask for?

**Do you have a restaurant that needs a positive or negative review? Send your suggestions to:**

hawksherald@gmail.com

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**Xbox 360: Doing circles around your other consoles**

Timothy Mannion  
Editor

The truck will roll around 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22. The boxes, which fill up most of the bed, will be handled with extreme care. The workers move on schedule, sorting through the goods with smiles from ear to ear. The eager people will pick up their new Xbox 360 at midnight, in search for hours of unadulterated fun. Microsoft will be unleashing the wrath that is 360.

The Xbox 360 is first in the line to enter the next-generation console market. They are several months ahead of Sony's PlayStation 3 and up to a year ahead of Nintendo's Revolution. Microsoft is looking to make a big splash; big enough to knock most of the water out of the pool before Sony and Nintendo make their way to the diving board.

The Xbox 360 will feature most of the equipment the X-heads have already come to love and crave from Xbox 10. With the built in Ethernet port and free silver service right on the box, the Xbox 360 will have the capability to connect to Xbox Live, the global online network. With Xbox Live, gamers can chat with friends online, build and share gamer profiles, send and receive text and voice messages, and gain access to Xbox Live Marketplace, for new content such as game demos, trailers and games from Xbox Live Arcade.

Subscribers to the gold level of service will also have access to online multiplayer, playing against people from across the globe.

"I expect online game-play to be on a whole new level," says RWU senior Scott Kennedy, whose Christmas break will be filled with an unhealthy dose of egg nog and multiple hours of online mayhem. "The newest Xbox games were starting to become multiplayer focused, and I expect that trend to continue with the 360. Online communities are starting to form and I expect to see that developed a whole lot more."

"I'm sure that we will see upward of 32 players playing against each other, and probably even up to 64 players online at one time. The interface is going to be user friendly, while sharing personal information about yourself (as much as you want to share) from where you live, to what you like to do, and even pictures of the players themselves. Online ranking isn’t going to be solely for one game. The ranking system will be put in place for the game and not just how good you are to say Halo 2 or NBA Street. In general, I expect it to be more fluid and user friendly, while making it more personal so you are dealing with actual people and not just a video game."

The launch of Xbox has created quite a stir near RWU. GamingSpot in Seekonk, Mass. has 46 systems ready for the first delivery. Right next door, Best Buy has 30 new systems in all. All of these will be off the shelves before Wednesday morning rolls around. The impact of the system has spawned 19 games, all due out before the end of the year.

"The newest features to hit the 360 the one that stands out first is the new sleek design. The look and feel of the console may almost make the strongest gamers cringe. The new cream color is indeed degrees from the black and green slop they tried to pull off as spinach squished in between. The taste, as you could imagine, was not palatable."

"The games look vivid and real. The control is responsive and fluid and the controller itself has a natural feel to it. It combines the fluidness of the Xbox controller with the compactness of the PlayStation 2 controller."

"I do not know what to expect from what the system will be able to do, as I do not currently own one, but I have seen many game previews and screen shots, and currently they all look amazing and these are just the initial system releases. I think that this system is going to have a great future, both with the online community and the single player gaming."
Christopher Parish
Sports Editor

A lot of people say their best ideas come to them in the bathroom. So a few weeks ago, I was looking for an interesting column idea for my sports page when "nature called," as they say.

Now, it's important to note here that I, along with my fellow editors, spend more time in our office than I do anywhere else. And the closest bathroom to my office (located in the Rec Center, for those of you living under a rock) is just down the stairs from me (to the immediate left of the Rec Center entrance). So I meandered down to the men's room and took a seat in the middle stall.

It didn't take long for the idea to dawn on me. Scrawled across the stall were dozens of catchy phrases and grotesque sayings.

It's called "bathroom graffiti.

For the life of me, I don't know who writes this stuff. I can't say that, while exercising one of life's dirtiest but most necessary deeds, have ever felt compelled to leave it thoughtful note for future bathroom-goers.

Not to mention I'm sure I'd know what to say. "Chris was here!" Nah, too cliché. "Red Sox rule!" It's been done. How about "All you mother [expletives] burn in hell?" No, I'm just not a mean-enough person.

But whoever does write it sure takes pride in their work, and it's really caught on as a popular lavatory pastime. If I'm not mistaken, I learned in my core History class that bathroom graffiti started with cavemen. Hell, the earliest languages started with one of life's dirtiest but most necessary deeds. One of the earliest sayings on me. Scrawled across the stall were "Red Sox rule!" It's been done. How about "All you mother [expletives] burn in hell?"

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No, I'm just not a mean-enough person.
Accreditation: Provost Martin says NEASC "very helpful"

Continued from p.1

The job of the Task Forces is to talk to people and hear what they have to say about the university, and to "incorporate reactions, comments and points of view." There have been a total of about 20-25 meetings, all of which have been open for university community to attend. The entire process "should be a very public process," said Interim Provost Jeffrey Martin.

For those who may have concern about the university obtaining its re-accreditation, fear not. Martin, chair of the Steering Committee, is dedicated to making the self-study process run smoothly and properly. He spent a weekend with NEASC officials last fall, in order to learn the correct process to conduct a self-study, and in turn, be fully prepared for the university's re-accreditation.

Community input is very important to the self-study process. The committees want to hear thoughts from students about how they think the university is performing, and what could be improved. Martin said there has been a lot of feedback so far from the community. There have been student forums where students have had the chance to voice their opinions and concerns. Martin believes that lots of good input came from these forums.

One of the deeper aspects of the self-study that requires a look and an analysis done is the schools strengths and weaknesses. According to Martin, "NEASC doesn't expect a perfect institution." The agency is aware that all schools have strengths as well as weaknesses. NEASC doesn't want to see an institution that isn't aware of any problems or one that doesn't want to fix those problems.

Roger Williams, too, has its strengths and weaknesses. Martin believes that some of these weaknesses have stemmed from some of the strengths, which he referred to as "growing pains." For example, the considerable growth of Roger Williams over the last few years is considered a strength. The school is gaining popularity; there are more applicants and minuses. We want to continue to become a better institution." Even though Martin believes "it's an asset to what the school has achieved over the last 50 years," he also feels that there is still more opportunities to grow. Some other strengths of RWU that Martin pointed out included a grand improvement in the IT department, and a more international population on campus. The university is striving to become more global by internationalizing the curriculum and sending more and more students abroad. As of now, about one quarter of students at Roger Williams spend a semester abroad.

Martin believes that NEASC has been "very helpful in trying to get RWU through the process." He said they are helpful with not overwhelming the process by breaking it down into steps. "It's really a group effort," Martin said.

NEASC is a regional accreditation agency. RWU's current regional accreditation from NEASC means that Roger Williams is also accredited nationally, as well as for the state of Rhode Island. There is no agency that specifically accredits nationally; however, if an institution is accredited regionally, it automatically means that it is accredited nationally. There are two kinds of accreditation.

Roger Williams' accreditation is both institutional and programmatic. NEASC's accreditation is institutional because it looks at the entire university and all its aspects. In addition to this, however, specific professional schools at RWU have separate accreditations.

The architecture program at RWU is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. RWU's Construction Management program, Elementary and Secondary Teacher Education programs, Engineering and Environmental Engineering programs, and Science (chemistry programs) are all accredited by different agencies that specialize in their specific field. In addition, the Ralph R. Pappato School of Law and the Paralegal Studies degree at RWU received approval from the American Bar Association for accreditation. Each of these programmatic accreditations are nationally accepted.

Less time is spent by NEASC looking at the above mentioned departments, since they are accredited by other individual agencies that focus more specific attention to them. These programs are still included in NEASC's accreditation, however, meaning that all the professional schools are accredited by two agencies.

Roger Williams University is undergoing a long, yet crucial process. The school is in the good hands of the Steering Committee and its Task Forces, who will be well prepared for re-accreditation in 2007. This will not only allow the university to keep receiving federal money, but will also ensure the success of both the University and its students. As Provost Martin stated, "We give real degrees for real studies."
StudentsReview Update:
Students speak up; RWU's grades improve

Sean McGriff
Herald Staff

Question: What do 27 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student and 13 RWU alumni have in common?
Answer: A keen overall dislike towards our beloved university.

As shown in a previous issue of The Hawk’s Herald, such disgruntled students took the responsibility upon themselves to show not only fellow students and members of RWU but also the world just how terrible our university really is in their own words and opinions.

However, since the full-page spread of comments, some disparaging, more students have taken an opportunity to voice their opinions, and the school’s grades have gone up considerably.

The overall rating of D+ for our university caused many to question the credibility of such a survey, saying that a survey of such a small number of students and alumni cannot truly represent the overall opinion of a student body made up of 3,800 undergraduate students.

"People with negative opinions are more likely to report to a website like that," freshman Sacey Axelrod said.

"People that are satisfied don’t want to rate the school, thus, the negative out-weights the positive opinions of people.

Grades as of 11/4

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<tr>
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<td>Campus Aesthetics</td>
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<td>Campus Maintenance</td>
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Total students: 41 (27 undergrad, 1 graduate, 13 alumni)
Average SAT: 982

Grades as of 11/18

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Total Students: 86 (59 undergrad, 2 graduate, 25 alumni)
Average SAT: 1100

Despite few outbreaks, Scabies not a problem

Courtney Nugent
Herald Staff

When coming to college, most students worry about making the Dean’s List, roommate problems and being far away from home.

A problem most Roger Williams University students did not think about adding to this list, however, were health related issues involving scabies.

Recently, a panic set in across campus after an all-campus email about scabies was sent out. The email stated that although students should not be alarmed, Health Services treated more than one case of scabies.

A list of the signs of scabies and precautionary matters were included in this email.

Rightfully so, this email sparked fear within students.

"I know it sounds stupid, but I had a rash on my finger for about a month and I thought it was scabies," student Elizabeth Nye said.

"It said in the email the first place you would show signs of scabies would be around your hands. It seems stupid for them to send out an email about a health issue and not explain it fully.

"Students are obviously going to be worried about it," Director of Health Center Ann Andrade explained.

"There are a couple of cases. No current cases as of right now though. We haven’t seen anymore cases this year, than years past. There is no outbreak or epidemic by any means. Everyone has been treated and so have their contacts, so the situation is well under control."

Although a second all-campus email was sent out, indicating that the university finds cases of scabies each year and there is no reason to be alarmed, students still felt uneasy about the situation.

"If the scabies issue wasn’t a big deal, why would they send the initial email in the first place?" student Ana Deal questioned.

The health tips were sent out to inform people about the problem, but rumors went around saying the school would have to be shut down. There is no truth to that at all. The emails were sent so the students understand what is happening on campus," Andrade added.

Nonetheless, the emails allowed for students to become aware of the situation at hand.

"It was good that the first email told us what scabies was and the signs and symptoms of it," Deal said.

"I’m glad I wasn’t kept in the dark about the situation- this is where I live and it’s nice to know what’s going on. I just wish the email had been clearer so everyone would have stopped freaking out."

Other students found the outbreak of scabies to be disgusting and something the university should have kept under wraps.

"I thought scabies was something that came about because of unsanitary conditions," student Kathleen Day said.

"If students are living in conditions where they are getting scabies, maybe something needs to be done about maintaining facilities."

No matter what their initial reaction was, many agreed that although it is a good thing the university keeps its students enlightened, some things are just not meant to be shared.

"Scabies is just gross," Day said. "I’d almost rather not know about an outbreak where I’ll be living for the next four years."

StudentsReview.com survey, which has received almost triple the number of original reviews since the emergence of the original survey a few weeks ago. The second of these surveys is a similar survey done by students, shown on CampusDirt.com.

The updated StudentsReview.com survey increased in reviews from 27 undergraduate students to 60 undergraduate students which showed a clear distinction between the outcomes of the two surveys.

In response to the publication of the original survey, almost three times as many students logged onto StudentsReview.com to try to present Roger Williams University in a more accurate light. In every field across the board, ratings improved for this university. While still not receiving quite as prominent ratings as Salve Regina, the ratings for the university have greatly increased.

The second of these surveys, one done on CampusDirt.com, also deals with information reported by students on the university. The overall report of this information gives the school mostly average scores with a few on the higher side, such as the "campus" category, which scored 70th out of all schools reported on. This rating, shown in contrast to the "campus" section in the StudentsReview.com survey, which received a "C" report, was clearly acknowledged with much more enthusiasm, and hence receiving a better overall rating.

These comparisons between different surveys just show that there are countless opinions of students throughout the university, whether satisfied or dissatisfied with their school experience.

No matter what type of survey is done online, the true feelings of the student body towards the school cannot accurately be reflected. The job of the university is not to please everyone but to just do what it can to make the most people happy, positive or negative reviews aside.
Holiday concert joins RWU choir, Bristol

Traci Harris
Herald Staff

Thirty-four Roger Williams's students. 60 local residents. There's only one time a year you'll find these 90 voices singing in harmony.

For the past 25 years, the Roger Williams University chorus and the Bristol County Interfaith Choir have been teaming up for their annual Christmas concert.

The concert, titled, "The Many Moods of Christmas," features a variety of holiday songs in many different languages. Two shows will be held at St. Mary's Church in Bristol on December 3 at 7 p.m. and December 4 at 3 p.m.

The concert is a Bristol tradition because it announces the start of the holiday season. This concert is also special because it reflects the silver anniversary for RWU Chorus Director, Joan Roth, who is founder of the RWU Chorus and the Interfaith Choir.

"Every year we perform for at least 1,200 people. There will be a 90 voice chorus, accompanied by a 40 piece orchestra," said Roth. "This concert is the big thing of the year. It's one of the biggest things in Bristol, from the point of view of performing arts."

Meghan Rothschild, the president of chorus, also acknowledges what this concert means to the area. "This concert has been bringing the community and RWU students together for 25 years, and it really means a lot to the town."

"There are more people off campus that know about us than there are people on campus."

Despite the annual event, the chorus has found a way of tweaking the performance to make it different than years past. "It will be longer, and we will be doing four suites, each with a solo by Roger Williams students," Rothschild said.

"There are four carols in each of the suites, and every year only one or two are done but this year all four will be done because it is the anniversary year," Roth explained.

While the audience is sure to enjoy the show, the members of the chorus will also take in the experience. "It's a wonderful thrill for the kids. We are a small school, we have a small music department, a small chorus," says Roth. "When do they get a chance to get up and sing with a large group, and make this magnificent sound with a full professional orchestra? It's a fun thing for them and a wonderful learning experience."

"They seem to love it, they seem to enjoy it, and they enjoy singing with the big group, although we only sing with the big group at Christmas time. In the spring we do a concert on our own," Roth said.

Roth is a dedicated director who will do anything to make sure that chorus has a place at RWU year after year. She even went as far as having the practices at her house. There is no room to practice or perform on campus, but she hopes that will change soon, aiding her goals to the future. "I want to build the chorus, to make it bigger and better, but more important than that is to find a place for us to practice and have a place to perform on campus," states a hopeful Roth.

25 years of hard work has certainly paid off for Roth. "Joan is really strict on technique and sound of the chorus, but it all pays off when it comes together," Rothschild said. "I don't know how she's done this for the past 25 years! It's really hard work, and she has to be a powerhouse."

To Roth, however it doesn't seem like work to her. "I really love it, because first of all I love music, and secondly, I love the kids, and I love being with the kids."

"How much respect I have for the kids and how very hard they work for 2 solid hours at each rehearsal - the music is NOT easy but they are dedicated," Roth said, expressing her gratitude to the chorus.

The members of the chorus have the option to make singing a class and receive one credit, or they can join as a club activity. Some love it so much, they stay even after they graduate. "There are several alumni members in the chorus, kids who sang when they were students, graduated but stayed in the area, and continue to sing in the chorus," Roth said.

Roth wants students to attend the concert. "I want the students to come and support their friends, and their fellow students at Roger Williams. I want them to be proud of what Roger Williams does in the community, as far as music is concerned," she continues to say. "I hope they think they are going to hear a fine performance and enjoy themselves."

Tickets for the concert will be on sale in the student union on November 30th from 11-2, and 4-6. The cost is $5 for RWU students and $10 for anyone else.

If you are interested in joining the chorus, please e-mail Rothschild at mrothschild67@rwu.edu

Graffiti: It's graphic sometimes, but hey, it's free advertising!

Continued from p.3

renovated, I decided to head to the one floor I know had remained untouched; the attic. Cedar 5th floor. I called Dan, the RA on the floor, and asked him for assistance. In we headed to the men's room. Dan pointed out a particularly interesting insight from some relatively unknown white rapper. I won't print it, but it was amusing. Check it out if you're ever up there sometime.

Cedar residents had also taken it upon themselves to label their stalls, #1 being for, well, a number one, and #2 being, again, for a number two (if you're not getting the correlation here, then I honestly can't help you). A gentleman who I suspect was breaking the rules in stall (simply by the length of time he was in there) was preventing me from doing a thorough inspection. Again, I took the opportunity to interview the young fellow.

"Excuse me, but is there any bathroom graffiti in there?"

"Uh, not really, no."

"Well what are your thoughts on bathroom graffiti?"

Another brief pause.

"Well I think it's lame," the freshman said. "I think if you're gonna take the time to write on the wall, it should be humorous."

Words of wisdom from the man on the wall, and how he feels about the whitewriting on his stall.

"Words of wisdom, I'm not sure I'd know what I'd say." I suppose it's because they spend more time in the stalls because of men, what with their anatomical make-up and all.

Having traveled to dozens of bathroom stalls across the campus, I saw many interesting and informative quotes from people determined to leave their legacy in the most public of places. And yet, I never did get to my true understanding of the graffiti. Why is it written? Who has decided to leave their legacy by expending tedious effort carving their quotes onto the stalls? What goes through the mind of a man who pulls a pen out of his pocket and scribbles a note to a future bathroom user? And who is this mysterious Purtle who, I should so assume, is well-known throughout the graffiti circles? The answers may never be known. But I must take this opportunity to thank the members of this dark and largely unappreciated sub-culture. Without your words of wisdom, I'm not sure I'd know what I'd do in there.
**Sports**

**Wrestlers flex their muscle at Home Invitational**

Sophomore Anthony Pulliaris eyes his opponent during Saturday's RWU Invitational. RWU placed third in the meet.

Shaun Hogan
Herald Staff

To put it simply, the Roger Williams wrestling team has a tradition of winning. To date the team has had nine straight winning seasons and their first two matches of the 2005-2006 season have put them well on their way to a 10th.

On Saturday, November 12 the Hawks hosted the 15th annual RWU Invitational Tournament, where they fought their way to a third place finish out of 17 schools. Their team ended up with 197-186.5 points, 10 points more than 122.5. The Hawks faced 16 schools, all of them nationally ranked, including Division One competitor Boston University, which claimed first place in the tournament.

Head wrestling coach Dave Kemmy was extremely pleased with his team’s performance in the face of strong competition.

"Coach Kemmy said that Saturday’s Invitational Tournament is the largest athletic competition hosted by Roger Williams. "We are off to a great start," Kemmy explained. "We are currently third in New England."

Kemmy was pleased that his team was able to continue to perform so well even after several of his athletes were injured.

However, they all were expected to be back in action by this past week.

"I don’t expect any major problems from these injuries," he said.

One of the injured players, Freshman Zach Weinrich, was honored as the most outstanding upper-weight wrestler in Saturday’s tournament.

Weinrich also gave an outstanding performance in the Hawks first tournament on November 5 and 6 at the Uthaca College Invitational Tournament. The team placed seventh out of 16 schools, breaking the school record of 12th. This trend continued into Saturday’s match.

Weinrich became the first freshman in RWU wrestling history to place in a tournament when he emerged sixth in his weight category.

"He is a quality kid," Coach Kemmy said. "He works very hard, he comes from a very strong wrestling program in New Jersey.

"He has really turned it up in the past few weeks," he said. "He is only going to get better."

Coach Kemmy feels that Weinrich has a promising future and he hopes that the Hawks will continue the record-setting trend they started this season.

**RWU Top Finishes**

15th annual Roger Williams University Wrestling Invitational
November 12

1. BU 191
2. Norwich 128.5
3. RWU 122.5

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**Sports, My Way: Dying for a playoff system**

Christopher Parish
Sports Editor

I don’t know about you, but I really want to see Notre Dame and USC play again.

I don’t care where or how. Let USC host it. Let Texas host it. For crying out loud, let RWU host it after the National Championship has already been played. We’ll set up a flag football version or something. But these two teams need to play again.

Unfortunately, they won’t be playing again unless the eight teams between the two (Texas, Miami, Penn State, LSU, VA Tech, Ohio State and Alabama) somehow completely collapse between now and then. Notre Dame’s overtime loss to Michigan State set them back a game, and the fluke loss to the eventual-national champion Trojans has kept them an arm’s length away from the Rose Bowl.

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**How the BCS Works**

Team percentages are derived by dividing a team’s actual voting points by a maximum 2500 possible points in the Harris Interactive Poll and 1500 possible points in the USA Today Coaches Poll.

Six computer rankings calculated in inverse points order (25 for #1, 24 for #2, etc.) are used to determine the overall computer component. The best and worst ranking for each team is dropped, and the remaining four is multiplied by 100 (the maximum possible points) to produce a Computer Rankings Percentage.

The six computer ranking providers are Anderson & Hester, Richard Billingsley, Colley Matrix, Kenneth Massey, Jeff Sagarin, and Peter Wolfe. Each computer ranking accounts for schedule strength in its formula.

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The 2005 race for AL MVP was one of the closest I’ve ever seen in my life. When you look at the numbers, A-Rod and Big Papi are almost identical. Rodriguez led the league in home runs, but only had one more than the Ortiz. Ortiz led the majors in RBIs but was helped by having guys who got on base in front of him. Although most writers have forgotten this true meaning of “value”, it does affect the chemistry of a ball club. David Ortiz is a likeable guy. He has the ability to pick his team up when they’re down. Supporters of Ortiz are quick to point out that if Rodriguez was a closer, leading them to a division championship, it’s no wonder he’s center fielder spent all season shopping himself, left fielder and good friend of yours again demanded to be traded off your team, and players took shots at each other in the dark, such as when someone questioned why the fans weren’t railing Chavez for playing badly. Sounds like a quality leader there. And although Alex Rodriguez is not the leader of his team, he does the things to help is team in anyway he can. He was willing to change positions for his team, something that many superstars are not willing to do. He may not be the most vocal leader, but sometimes actions speak louder than words.

The only other possible argument in support of Ortiz is that he is a clutch hitter. I will admit that Ortiz did come up with many timely hits. However, should we punish A-Rod for leading his team to victory every year? Of course not. Ortiz did the same thing. He hit .315 with 22 home runs, played strong defense at DH and was named to AL All-Star game.

The importance of fielding comes into question this year because David Ortiz is designated hitter and does not play the field. Supporters of Ortiz are quick to point out that he was more clutch than Ortiz. Ortiz was hit by a pitch in the 8th inning of the 2004 ALCS, rep­ resenting the go-ahead run, and the Yankees began the year terribly, with even Tampa threatening to finish the year with a better record at one point. They also lost almost their entire rotation to injuries. Yet through all of the turmoil, and threats of firings, the one constant the team could always count on was Alex Rodriguez. Rodriguez should be given more credit as being clutch since his team had to overcome far more adversity. He helped the Yankees win 19 games in each of the last two months of the sea­ son, leading them to a division champi­ onship. If that isn’t more impressive than a couple clutch hits, then I don’t know what is.

Both Ortiz and Rodriguez put up impressive numbers and both did what ever they could to help their teams. The fact of the matter is that Rodriguez was able to hit for his team while also playing great defense, while Ortiz, well, he did an excellent job sitting on the bench watching.