Welcome From the Program Director

Students who choose Rensselaer do so for many reasons. In discussions with students over the years, I've discovered that the majority of RPI students enjoy challenging themselves by working hard and playing hard. They also possess a high level of self-confidence and understand that being persistent and seeking assistance when they get stuck are key to reaching their goals.

You may not realize it, but having signed up to be paired with a mentor is one of the smartest choices you could have made as a first-year student. Your decision to participate in the Mentor Program will allow you to obtain advice and coaching from students who have successfully navigated through the first year of college and who have learned a trick or two about managing their time, acquiring good study habits, balancing their courses and extracurricular activities, making friends through clubs and organizations that offer activities they enjoy and opportunities to lead and grow personally and professionally.

We hope you will take advantage of the monthly social and professional development activities that the Mentor Program and the Society of Women Engineers has to offer. While it may be a little scary to be in a new place where you don’t know many people, we’re thrilled that you’re part of our community and we want to do everything we can to make you feel at home at RPI. You’re part of the Rensselaer family now!

Your mentors, the Mentor Program co-chairs, your peers, the faculty, staff and administration at RPI want you to have an exceptional student experience. If something isn’t going the way you’d expected, please tell someone so we can discuss the situation. There are lots of programs and services available to you, but it takes some time to become familiar with them and to realize how you can make them work for you. Talk to your mentor; she’s there for YOU!

I hope that your first year is everything you’d imagined it would be! If I can help in any way or you just want to chat, please feel free to stop by and see me. I’m located in room 3004 in the Jonsson Engineering Center and my email address is ruelb@rpi.edu.
Dear Returning Mentors and First-year Students,

First of all, we hope that you all had a great summer and we welcome you to the 2006-2007 school year. With your help, we will plan and implement social and professionally-related activities and events and are anxious to develop these with you! Having participated in the Mentor Program as mentees and mentors during our time at RPI, we are eager to get to know you, to share our experiences and are excited to lead such a great program. We look forward to meeting all of our incoming first-year mentees and continuing students at the Navigating Rensselaer and Beyond Welcome Reception on August 25th and August 26th and/or the Ice Cream Social on September 6th.

Our mentors are supportive and caring individuals who want to help you meet your first-year goals and to quickly feel at home at RPI. Please call or e-mail your mentor or mentee during the summer. From our experience this is a great way to calm any anxieties you may have as a new student before moving on campus and to help you adjust to Rensselaer once you are here. Plus, you’ll have a friend waiting for you once you come here in the fall! As Co-Chairs for the program, we are also very willing to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please, feel free to send us an e-mail or give us a call using the contact information at the end of this letter. We’d love to hear from you!

The main focus of these events is for all of us to relax, have fun, to gain wisdom, and learn skills that will be later be important in the workplace.

Although it may not be possible for mentor/mentee pairs to attend all of these events, we will be recruiting representatives from each of the majors who will take responsibility for letting students from the same major know who will be attending monthly events. That way, you will get to know students from your major and can go to events with someone you know, even if it’s not your mentor or mentee.

In the fall, in addition to our Navigating Rensselaer and Beyond Receptions and the Ice Cream Social, we will host a faculty/student networking mixer where you’ll have the opportunity to get to know some of our faculty. We will also have a Thanksgiving Dinner and Panel during which professional women and alumnae will discuss their successes in the workplace and interact with students.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! We look forward to getting to know you in the upcoming months, and are excited to meet you at the Mentor Program events!

Sincerely,

Your Women at Rensselaer Mentor Program Co-Chairs

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Women at Rensselaer Mentor Program Co-Chairs 2006-2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mentor Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jana DiZenzo ’08</td>
<td>Management &amp; Psychology</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dizenj@rpi.edu">dizenj@rpi.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin O’Neill ’08</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oneilc3@rpi.edu">oneilc3@rpi.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jolly Pradhan ’09</td>
<td>Undeclared Engineering</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pradhj@rpi.edu">pradhj@rpi.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Ronan ’07</td>
<td>Electronic Media, Arts, and Communication</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ronans@rpi.edu">ronans@rpi.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nina Saxena ’08</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering &amp; Mechanical</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saxenn@rpi.edu">saxenn@rpi.edu</a></td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alyssa Stewart ’09</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stewaa2@rpi.edu">stewaa2@rpi.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Whitener ’08</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering &amp; Aeronautical</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whitea@rpi.edu">whitea@rpi.edu</a></td>
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Welcome to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute! We at the Advising and Learning Assistance Center are happy that you’ve decided to participate in the Women at Rensselaer Mentor Program. Rensselaer is certainly an exciting and challenging place to further your education, and the women’s mentoring program is an excellent way to navigate your way through this new experience.

Whether you’re enrolling just out of high school or whether you’re coming from another college, becoming familiar with all of the resources that Rensselaer has to offer will be a continuing process for you! One of these resources is the Academic Advising and Learning Center.

The ALAC’s services include:

• Individual academic counseling – just call for an appointment
• Workshops on a variety of topics including study skills and time management
• Tutoring for most undergraduate courses
• Supplemental Instruction
• Advising for undeclared majors

We also hire and train the Learning Assistants (LA’s) who live in the first-year residence halls. Our Learning Assistants will be one of your academic resources in your residence hall throughout your first year. All of our services are free!

Your academic workload at Rensselaer will be very different from what you’ve been used to. The amount of time you’ll have to learn the material for your college courses during one semester is approximately one-third the amount of time you spent learning course material for your high school classes. Additionally, your homework and projects will likely be more challenging and you’ll have more of both than you did in high school. Learning how to manage your time so that you can complete assignments on time and how to study to get the most out of your courses will require new skills and habits. We can help you with that.

You may have excelled as one of the top students in high school, but some students will find that it’s not as easy to earn grades equivalent to those they received in high school. Don’t panic! When you get your first tests back, you’ll know whether you need to seek additional help. Many students seek additional help outside of class time to understand the material they’re learning in class. Remember that your transcript will only list your final grade in your courses; it will never divulge whether you received extra help from professors, graduate teaching assistants, supplemental instructors, peers, or a tutor. Use whatever assistance is available to you to fulfill your academic goals and to be the successful student you know that you are!

If you’re not doing as well as you’d like, talk to your mentor. Ask for suggestions on what you can do. Be honest with yourself and get the help you need! Remember that you’re in a new environment with a new set of challenges and expectations, It’s only natural that you will need to make a number of adjustments. If you need help with your academics, visit us in the Academic Advising and Learning Assistance Center. Chances are that we can help you to address whatever situation you’re facing. We can arrange for you to have tutors, offer you academic counseling and support, as well as advise you on Rensselaer’s academic policies and procedures.

Nan Williams
Assistant Director

Stop in to see us in the Advising and Learning Assistance Center in Sage 2106, call us at x6269, and visit our web site frequently at http://www.rpi.edu/dept/advising. We can help you reach your goals!
Welcome to Rensselaer! We are happy to hear that you will be joining us! And for the returning upper-class mentors, a very special THANKS for donating your time and energy to help our new women as they begin their Rensselaer career. Only with such enthusiasm and dedication could the Mentor Program continue to be such a success! We hope to become your partner in staying healthy.

Most people think that the health center is simply a place to go when you are not feeling well. Actually it’s much more than that! The Student Health Center is made up of an outpatient medical clinic (that’s the part for when you’re not feeling well!), a counseling center and a health education program. Our comprehensive, accredited, physician-directed program also features a certified laboratory, gynecological clinic, and allergy clinic.

The Student Health Center is located at 3200 Academy Hall, The Student Life Services Center. During the school year we are open seven days a week – Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm. The Counseling Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5 pm during the academic year. A more limited schedule is available during the summer.

Weekdays, the Health Center operates on an appointment system. Call 276-6287 to schedule a medical appointment. You will usually be able to make one within 24 hours. And don’t forget – since every student pays a health center fee with their tuition, there is no charge for these services.

Check out our gyn services. Gynecological care is available three days per week. The free and confidential services for women include annual exams, pap smears, as well as contraception options, pregnancy tests, and ECP (“morning after pill”). We recommend that every woman over the age of 18 have a yearly gyn exam. Kris Newman, our part-time nurse practitioner, is great with women who are having their first exam, explaining what is involved and making her more at ease. Contraception and ECP can be obtained from the SHC for a minimum cost; condoms are always free.

I am a certified health education specialist and am available for individual sessions or group programs on topics such as alcohol and other drugs, eating disorders, exercise, HIV/AIDS, nutrition and healthy eating, safer sex, sexuality, smoking cessation, healthy relationships, stress and wellness. I also serve as the student advocate for Rensselaer’s SART (Sexual Assault Response Team). The Student Health Center also coordinates the campus-wide Safe Zone Program, which assures sensitivity and understanding to our GLBT students, faculty and staff and The Women’s Circle, a monthly meeting of Rensselaer women (students and staff) discussing issues as they affect and are affected by women. As health educator, I am happy to work with you to provide information or create a wellness program that meets your needs. Call 276-2305 for an appointment or information about any of our program initiatives.

Finally, four licensed PhD psychologists staff our Counseling Center. The goal of the Counseling Center is to help students maximize their sense of well being, as well as their academic, personal and social growth. Call 276-6479 to schedule an appointment. The Counseling Center has a psychologist on call 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. To reach the Counseling Center after hours call Public Safety at 276-6211.

As you see there are many people at the Student Health Center waiting to welcome you to Rensselaer and to help make your stay here a healthier one! Enjoy the rest of your summer and be sure to seek us out in the fall…just for a visit, for information, or for an appointment. We look forward to meeting you!

Terri Kersch
Certified Health Education Specialist
Gallagher Student Health Center

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Whether you’re a new student or a continuing student, you may be wondering what the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is all about, what it has to offer you, and what contributions you have to offer Rensselaer’s student chapter.

The Society of Women Engineers is the largest non-profit educational and service organization representing both student and professional women in engineering and technical fields. Founded in 1950, it was designed to serve as a center of information on women in engineering and to encourage women engineers to attain high levels of education and professional achievement. SWE represents over 17,000 members in 90 sections and 300 student sections; one of which is here at RPI.

We hold activities on and off-campus that include monthly general meetings, interacting with local Girl Scout troops and area schools to encourage interest in science and engineering fields in college, plant trips to company sites, speaking with prospective students and incoming first-year students, hosting an etiquette dinner, and fun monthly social events.

In addition, SWE is a unique opportunity to meet other women on campus with similar interests as your own, give and receive support, and create a network of friends.

Be sure to check out our chapter website http://swe.union.rpi.edu/ as well as the national website http://www.swe.org/ for more information. If you have any questions, ideas, or thoughts, please feel free to get in touch with one of us through email. Enjoy your summer and come learn more about SWE once you arrive on campus!

“To encourage and support women in the pursuit of a professional career through corporate interaction, outreach, and social events, both locally and nationally.”

Mission Statement
SWE Rensselaer Student Chapter

SWE Officers
Fall 2006- Spring 2007

President- Andrea Catelotti
catela@rpi.edu

Vice President- Anne Roberts
robera2@rpi.edu

Treasurer- Alicia Castagna
castaa@rpi.edu

Secretary- Lisa Muscanell
muscal@rpi.edu

Corporate Coordinator- Lydia Lindult
lindhl@rpi.edu

Networking/Social Coordinator- Elizabeth DeLouise
deluie2@rpi.edu

Outreach Coordinator- Tara Clancy
clanct@rpi.edu

Membership/Publicity Coordinator- Teresa Amaducci
amadut@rpi.edu

Webmaster- Dimple Patel
pateld@rpi.edu
Community Service - The Right

Do you want to be involved in something important in college that will help you accomplish your goals at Rensselaer and in the future? Civic engagement through community service and volunteerism is a positive path to choose. Using your knowledge, skills, and life-experiences to help others and to contribute to society will not only help the community: on a personal level civic engagement will also give you valuable new life-experiences that will help you handle real world applications in the future with grace and confidence.

The Rensselaer Community of students, faculty, and staff participate in a variety of volunteer activities and programs each year. Besides the intrinsic good that occurs from service, students have a lot of fun volunteering with their friends. Opportunities include day-long projects - Community Service Days - to discover what kind of service you like to do. There are tutoring opportunities in local schools and on the weekends and summers in the Tutor Time, STEP and PREFACE programs. It’s also possible to give blood to the American Red Cross every month on campus. There are a number of service club activities, as well as opportunities to volunteer through fraternities and sororities – or even through the Mentor Program! Many students volunteer individually at one of over 50 agencies and public sector organizations located within walking distance of the campus on a regular basis.

As a matter of fact, during 2005-2006, over 27,000 hours of service were reported for engaged clubs and organizations, fraternities and sororities, and individuals as volunteers and in Federal College Work Study community service positions. Countless additional hours were spent in a number of student initiatives to fund raise over $175,000 for worthy causes, including Hurricane Katrina and Pakistan Earthquake Relief and the American Cancer Society “Relay for Life.”

Finally, you will want to save the following dates: The 13th annual Community Service Fair will be held on Wednesday, August 30, the first Community Service Day will be on Saturday, September 9; the first blood drive this year is scheduled for Monday, September 11. Look for information on the website on these and other opportunities that will be offered throughout the upcoming year.

The Dean of Students Office coordinates all campus community service initiatives. To find out more information and to get involved:

- Drop by Academy Hall, Suite 4600, or check out the Community Service bulletin board in the Union (outside the bookstore)
- Phone - (518) 276-6266
- Email – Community-Service-L@lists.rpi.edu
- Check out the Web site – doso.rpi.edu/communityservice

Cynthia Smith
Assistant Dean
Dean of Students Office
graduates worked hard for what they've received. They have acquired the work ethic that is required to thrive at this school. Someday, you too will be able to walk down the isle on Harkness Field and receive that (very expensive) piece of paper with your name on it, and finally you’ll know that you did it. In order to get there you have got to keep your nose to the grindstone. I guess what it all comes down to is balance - balance of fun, work, and necessity. Make sure that above all else, you start to build this balance as early as you can, because if you don’t, you may not get a shot at it later. Once you’re there, help others get there, because we’re all in this together. Like I said, no one makes it through on their own.

As a bit of a side note to the conclusion of this address, I’d like to tell you a bit about who I am. As Grand Marshal of the Institute, I am the student body president, the chair of the Senate, and the voice of the students to the administration. If you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact me at gm@rpi.edu, or IM me at CarlosTheGM.

Welcome to the institute,
Carlos Perea
140th Grand Marshal
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Several weeks ago I was presented with the chance to address you and your peers as new students and members of the Women at Rensselaer Mentor Program. One might think that when presented with such an opportunity, pages upon pages of advice might easily be generated. However, this task has plagued my thoughts for days. After all, how can I, possibly know what it is like to be a female in our community? Furthermore, how can I reasonably evaluate the circumstances and provide you with sagely advice for your next few years at RPI? Clearly this is not a task I was prepared for, and so I turned to my female friends from Rensselaer in order to obtain the best advice for you.

Over several days I spoke with a large number of friends, asking them what they might offer as single best piece of advice to someone like yourself. I was not alone in having difficulty answering this question, and none of the responses I finally received were similar in message or subject. While initially frustrated, I realized that my dilemma was itself the answer I was seeking. The RPI experience is extremely complex and has a plethora of possible outcomes. There is in fact no right answer to my question, there is no defined method of success at RPI.

Rensselaer is a unique place. There is no doubt that RPI is a tough institution, and it can at times be very overwhelming. We, as RPI students, face rigorous challenges on a daily basis. However instead of creating a society built on competition, statistics, and triumphs, the Rensselaer community is built on a basis of trust, cooperation, and support. I've never been to a place where people are more willing to help and give of themselves in order to see you succeed. You will soon begin to learn of the monstrosities that exist in classes such as IEA, O-Chem, DSA, and Thermal Dynamics. These classes present tremendous academic challenges that can only be conquered with the assistance of others. I consider you to be very fortunate to be part of the Women at Rensselaer Mentor program, because it gives you just one more venue through which you can begin to learn and connect with others early in your career here at RPI.

Though we are a pretty smart bunch, it is rare to find someone at RPI who can make it through four years on their own. Incidentally, it is these people who are notorious for being the most unhappy individuals on campus. These are students who isolate themselves and do not actively engage the campus community around them.

It is well known that students who actively participate on campus and explore new venues of interest have a far more rewarding experience than those who do not.

As students at RPI, we have the benefit of an organization that is unparalleled at any other higher learning institution in the nation. The Rensselaer Student Union is an organization run by students exclusively for the benefit of you and I. With an $8.1 million dollar budget, the Union supports over 170 clubs and organizations which offer support for virtually every interest you may have. You also have hundreds of opportunities to explore new interests and to try on new experiences for absolutely no additional charge. Needless to say, RPI students are overall a very active group of people. We understand the value of the opportunities that the Union provides and are not shy about taking advantage of them. Ever been spelunking? Why not give it a try with the Outing Club! Want to learn to ride horses? We've got an Equestrian Team for you to bring your talents! Do you like singing or play a musical instrument? We support numerous types of musical organizations. Miss the latest movies? Check them out at UPAC Cinema each weekend. It is through your involvement with organizations and events such as these that you will have the opportunity to meet people who share your common interests yet may not be in your classes or live on your floor.

I strongly encourage you to reach out and get involved with organizations on campus. Not only will you have a better experience overall but you will also form friendships and acquaintances that are vital to your academic success. If you are not sure what groups to join or where you might like to start, why not ask your mentor what she does on campus and then join her at the next club event?

Welcome to Rensselaer, the Union and I look forward to enabling you to have the most fantastic experience possible during your time here at RPI.

James Fisher
123rd President of the Union

A Message from the President of the Union

The Derby hat is the official symbol of the President of the Union
Sorority members participate in various social events including sisterhood events, BBQs, and formals. We volunteer at local animal shelters, food pantries and hospitals. The houses hold events to benefit different charity events such as a 24-hour Volleyball Tournament, Jail n’ Bail, and the Mr. RPI Contest. Over the past five semesters, the Panhellenic Council has raised over $10,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeastern New York. In order to achieve this, we have held many events including a Singled Out event based on the MTV show along with our yearly Lip Sync competition. This past semester we also held the first Greek Weekend in several years with a BBQ, Greek Olympics, and other contests. Even if you choose not to go Greek, attending Greek events is a great study break.

Academics are always a first priority. Being a part of a sorority is a great way to learn study skills through sponsored seminars. Houses also have study files from girls who have taken classes before and support is available from older sisters with similar majors. Once you are a member of a sorority, you become a member of that family. This family helps to support you and make your time at college safe, fun, and focused on the right priorities.

No matter what your initial opinion is on Greek Life, I encourage you to check it out. We are a friendly group of people with high aspirations. Every house is different and encourages individuality. Sorority life at Rensselaer truly challenges stereotypes and creates lasting and endearing friendships that we call sisterhood. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at harrij5@rpi.edu. I look forward to meeting you all in the fall!

Jan Harrington, President
Rensselaer Panhellenic Council

Welcome to Rensselaer! Life at Rensselaer is full of opportunities and a wide array of organizations seeking your involvement. Each one of these opportunities will assist you in building a well-rounded education. However, not all of these opportunities can you give you the excitement and rewards that being in a sorority lends its members. Greek Life helps you to develop leadership skills, social skills, promotes community service, and provides opportunities to develop lifelong friendships. Members can work on their leadership skills by holding various positions within chapters and the Panhellenic Council (the governing body for sororities). Greeks hold many leadership positions in campus activities ranging from Class Presidents, Captains of the Varsity Athletic Teams, and Resident Directors and are also members of student clubs and organizations. Greek Life also helps to develop both personal and professional networks that will be there for you to call upon throughout your lifetime.

When you arrive on campus you may not know much about Greek Life. Even if you are not interested in Greek Life, going through recruitment is a great way to meet new people and become familiar with the campus. Our campus is home to five sororities: Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Omega Epsilon, Alpha Phi, Pi Beta Phi, and Sigma Delta. I encourage you all to meet the members of each sorority, as each one offers something unique.

In order to become a member of a sorority, you’ll be required to participate in “recruitment”. Recruitment is when sororities open their doors to potential members. During this time, you may attend recruitment parties during which you spend time with the girls from each sorority house. You may be surprised by how friendly we are! After getting to know the girls, you may be confused as to which house is the best fit for you. While this decision is a personal one, there are fifteen recruitment counselors who are available for unbiased advice.

The first recruitment event is “Meet the Greeks” in the McNeil Room of the Union right after Freshmen Convocation.

Visit http://panhel.union.rpi.edu/ to learn more about the sororities at RPI
Leadership is perhaps the most valuable resource for the business world, as well as society as a whole. Without solid leadership, even the best organization will fail. While some people have been called “born leaders,” upon close examination, we usually find that their leadership skills have been nurtured somewhere: at home, in school, or on the job.

The Mary Jane and Hugh M. Archer ’37 Center for Student Leadership Development helps students at all levels to enhance their leadership skills through a variety of interactive learning experiences. Its programs are designed to reach every student at the Institute by working both in and outside the classroom. The Center’s goal is to provide the means for students to acquire/practice the leadership skills necessary to interact better in their daily lives, and to carry their experiences into the industrial world. Student groups, faculty, staff and administrators, and Fortune 500 companies regularly benefit from Archer Center programs.

The Archer Center offers a variety of classes and programs, including:

• Credited required classes in engineering and management
• Custom-designed workshops: the Center will custom-design and facilitate interactive leadership workshops for your club, organization, fraternity, or sorority
• “A Slice of Leadership”: Leadership Development Series – Workshops offered on a variety of leadership topics. Students may attend one workshop, or all. Pizza is served.
• Key Executive Conference: a unique forum, which allows a limited number of students to interact with established, high level directors and managers at corporations with ties to Rensselaer on selected leadership topics.

Keep your eyes open for information about the Annual Student Leadership Conference, scheduled for Saturday, September 16th. This full-day event will feature educational sessions facilitated by executives and staff from ten of the world’s leading companies on current issues surrounding leadership. These companies include: Accenture, BAE Systems, CISCO Systems, Exxon Mobil, General Motors, Lockheed Martin/Knolls Atomic Power Lab, Merck, Procter & Gamble, Northrop Grumman, & Sensata Technologies. The even is FREE to all first-year through graduate students. Pre-registration is required: seating is limited.

Contact the Archer Center at 276-2119 or archer-center@rpi.edu for more information about these programs or to add your name to our mailing list.

Archer Center For Student Leadership

Academy Hall Suite 2232, x2119
http://archer.union.rpi.edu

Annual Student Leadership Conference
September 16, 2006

Key Executives Conference
October 2006
April 2007

Credited Courses:
Management Leadership Sequence (MGMT)
Professional Development Series (ENGR)
Connecting to the Career Development Center

College freshman. Does it seem possible? For many of you, the notion of starting college may still not seem real. After all, when you began your first year of high school, it seemed like those years would last forever, but they didn’t. Neither will your four years at Rensselaer. Down the road and looking back, in what will seem like the blink of an eye, you will be starting your career. What can you do to get ready for that big day? Acknowledge that it’s important to connect early with the Career Development Center (CDC) and take advantage of these services:

Walk-In Hours. Every weekday, we have walk-in hours for students. Have a question about a resume? Want to get some quick tips on writing a cover letter? We can help. Be sure to arrive early, as this is a popular service.

Career Counseling & Assessment. For more in-depth discussions with a Career Counselor, please schedule an appointment. Use this option if you need more time for a reflective discussion about academic majors, career options, or just general career planning.

Workshops & Special Events. Something is always happening in the CDC. We coordinate programs on just about any career development topic, from resume writing, to interviewing, to job search tips, to our spring career fair. To find out what’s going on, refer to our calendar of events. Or, simply stop by our office to pick up a schedule.

Pathways Program. If you’d like to spend some time with an alumnae of Rensselaer to explore professional options, then this mentoring program is for you. Students participating in Pathways will select from a list of alumni and then be matched with a mentor suited to their individual interests. Your interaction can be as minimal as a few conversations or it might build up to an on-site visit to your mentor’s workplace.

Experiential Learning. Take note of something: you cannot, and will not, get a great job at graduation without solid work experience. There are many ways to do this. First, try for a relevant summer job next year. If you are unable to secure a job related to your academic major, consider an unpaid internship or volunteer position for even a few hours a week (we can advise you on this). Next, at some other point in the future, apply to the Undergraduate Research Program (URP). Having a URP on your resume will be extremely helpful in getting a technical summer or co-op position. Through the Cooperative Education Program, you will work in a job related to your academic major for a semester and a summer (typically, from January to August or June to December). Co-op is very popular; during 2005-06, these students worked in 20 different states. Attend an informational meeting for more details.

Believe it or not, there is a lot more to tell you about the CDC. Come and visit us; we’re expecting you. Our office is in Darrin Communication Center, Suite 209. All the services described above can be accessed at our website at: www.cdc.rpi.edu.

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