

THE STUDENT

EXPERIENCE

Vol. 1, Fall 2016

at RUSVM

**LEADERSHIP
AND EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**

**GROUND BROKEN ON
RESEARCH AND
PATHOLOGY BUILDING**

PUPPY THERAPY

**CAMPUS PHYSICIAN
VISITS ADDED**

**VANESSA PADILLA
FIFTH SEMESTER**

**PASS CERTIFICATE
PROGRAM STARTED**

**NEW SATURDAY
GROCERY SHUTTLE**

**IMPROVED BASKETBALL COURTS
AND NEW GYM EQUIPMENT**



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

A Message from the Director of the Student Experience

Hazarie Ramoutar

I am very pleased to launch this newsletter as a means of keeping you informed of the many activities we have been involved with to improve your experience at RUSVM. The last year has been quite active as we have seen the shift to a much stronger student-centric approach and continue to reinforce the RUSVM Culture of Care.

We have been guided by the voice of our students through your feedback by way of the Student Satisfaction Surveys, Lunch with Leadership meetings and through SCAVMA. We launched a number of initiatives including transportation to and from campus, a focus on professionalism with PASS and RULE, a physician on campus and other physical improvements across the campus.

As we continue to focus on your health and wellbeing, we have seen the Student Success, Health and Counseling Centers combined with the SCAVMA Health and Wellness Committee play significant roles

in improving our students' ability to deal with the stresses of vet school and to ultimately being successful.

The debt load of our students is important to RUSVM, this is evidenced by a zero increase in tuition for this academic year 2016/17 as well as through the financial awareness programs instituted by the Financial Aid team which has helped students manage their budgets effectively and return over \$4M to lenders over the previous year.

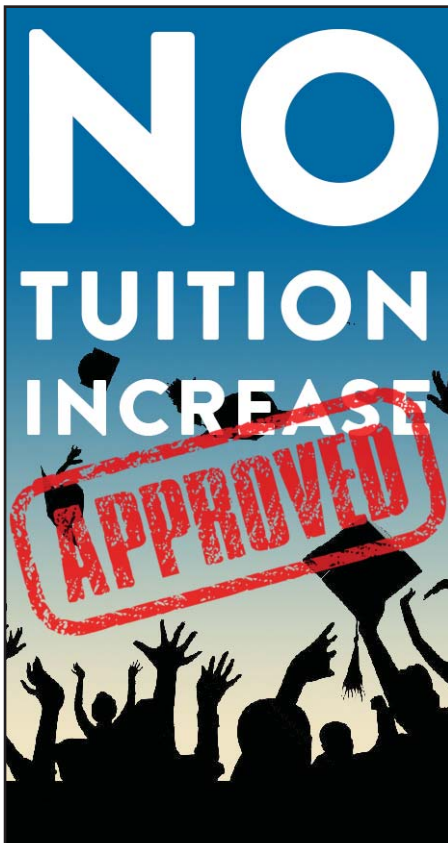
The improvements with the new housing website has allowed the process of getting apartments a lot simpler. The RUSVM Fitness Center has recently received new equipment and continues to evolve to meet the needs of our students.

I am proud to share that RUSVM is a pioneer in the development of new technology with the newly released PawPad – the first in the veterinary teaching community - an iPad® with RUSVM proprietary apps to enhance teaching and learning. This new technology has been rolled out to the new 1st semester students.

As we continue our journey of improving the student experience here at RUSVM, expect to see greater emphasis on health and wellness, increased awareness of diversity, more dialogue with students and additional efforts to manage students' debt load.

I wish you all the best for the rest of the semester.

Regards



RUSVM Students Learn Smart Financial Decisions

RUSVM hosted a Financial Aid Fair to educate students on how to limit their student loans debt.

In the last six semesters (September 2014 to August 2016) RUSVM students have returned \$7,518,722.00 (U.S.) in dispersed loan money.



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RUSVM Leadership & Excellence Awards Ceremony

The RUSVM Leadership and Excellence Awards hosted by SCAVMA were held on Saturday, July 9 in collaboration with the Student Experience Committee, the evening celebrates the achievements of individuals, clubs and organizations that have made an impact in the RUSVM and/or the St.Kitts community. Winners are nominated by the RUSVM campus community. Congratulations to all of our awardees!

Student Awardees

Aman Kanwar
Afifah Abdul-Rahim
Kalah St. Pierre
Kasie Richey
Kay Tiburcio

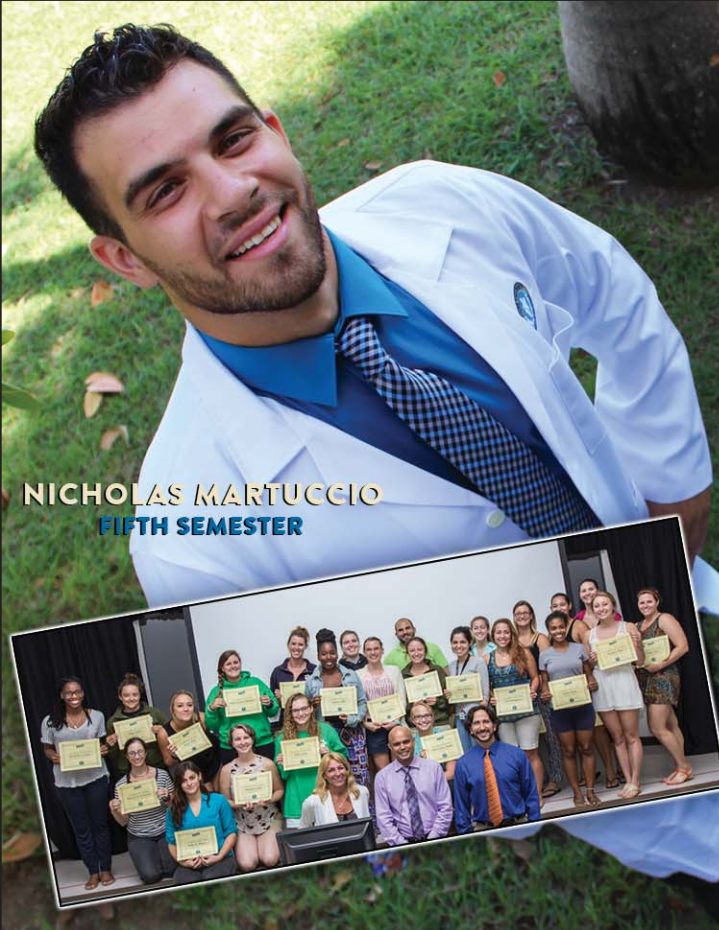
Colleague Awardees

Janel Rose
Ria Ramoutar
The Student Services Team:
Judith Smithen-Berry
Amal Wilkin
Sebastian Henry
Mr. Ed Durham
Dr. Cathryn Sparks
Dr. Sandra Sample


Club Awardees


*Contribution to the
Kittitian Community Award:*
AASRP (Small Ruminant)
*Student Enrichment
and Innovation Award:*
Ross Talk





NICHOLAS MARTUCCIO
FIFTH SEMESTER





Professional Attitude for Student Success unveils new certificate program

PASS hosted their inaugural certificate program aimed at the development of professionalism within the RUSVM DVM community. The program consists of six sessions, each encompassing forty-five minutes during the lunch hour and presented by different faculty and administrators.

The program is open to all RUSVM students. Attendance is voluntary, but students need to register. The sessions do not have to be completed in order or within the same semesters so students can attend sessions as they fit their schedule.

For more information, contact Jeffrey Fazio, student engagement and professional standards specialist, at jefazio@rossvet.edu.kn

Vincent Bradley presents "Foundations of Leadership"

"Foundations of Leadership" was presented by Vincent Bradley, president and CEO of Banfield Pet Hospital, on July 19. Vincent joined Banfield in 2011 as senior vice president of operations, where he was responsible for hospital operations and field leadership, as well as real estate, facilities, construction, international and charter operations. He also led Banfield's partnership and collaboration with PetSmart.

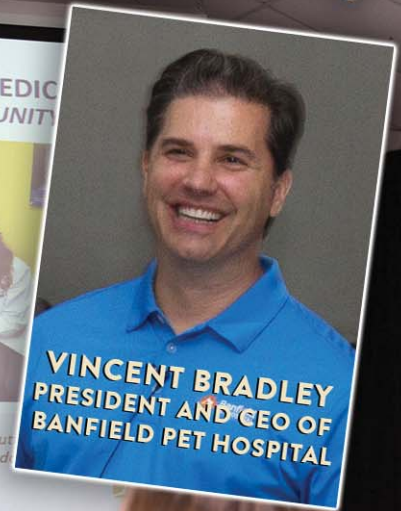
LEADERSHIP PATHS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE
STRENGTHENING THE VETERINARY COMMUNITY

Alexandra Quarti, DVM

- 2007: Graduated from Ross
- 2008: Joined Banfield
- 2009: Promoted to medical director
- 2015: Joined Connecticut VMA Board of Directors

On thought leadership

"I love that I am part of a practice that is cut big as we are, there are so many things to do of ways to grow."— Dr. Quarti



Student Success Center making the grade

The Success Center offers a two-pronged approach:

- Provide services that empower and support the student to perform at his/her highest academic potential.
- Provide support and educational services that empower the student to achieve academic success while maintaining and improving emotional well-being, coping skills and resilience.

During the Summer 2016 semester the Student Success Center provided:

- 41 teaching assistants
- 135 tutors
- 6 interactive workshops served 75 students
- Services for 102 accommodated students
- 20 student-note-taker and 2 readers
- 4 seminars served over 300 attendees
- 178 hours of student one-on-one sessions

PAMELA COLARETA
SECOND SEMESTER

*Pamela attended 6 interactive learning workshops and 4 seminars during her first semester and earned a 4.0!

Counseling Center

COUNSELING CENTER



Our goal is to assist RUSVM students who may be experiencing academic, personal, and other difficulties. We provide confidential services to help students build a more satisfying and successful experience while working toward their educational goals.

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

During the Summer 2016 semester the Counseling Center provided:

- 78 intakes
- 420 individual counseling sessions
- 17 crisis interventions
- 146 students served in group counseling
- 28 client consultation

RUSVM students bring community together for moments of silence

On several occasions over the last few months, inspired students have brought the RUSVM community together for moments of silence to honor the lives needlessly lost to violence.

Thursday, June 16, 2016 — In honor of the LGBTQA community lost or affected by the Orlando, FL night club shooting
Event organized by fourth-semester student Kalah St. Pierre and supported by SCAVMA



Thursday, July 14, 2016 — In honor of the Black lives lost and those affected by the shootings in a number of U.S. cities
Event organized by VOICE and supported by SCAVMA



Thursday, July 21, 2016 — In honor the police officers killed and those affected by the shootings in Dallas, TX
Event organized by second-semester student Emily Hughes and supported by SCAVMA





New Gym Equipment

NEW SQUAT RACK

ERIKA BLANCO
SEVENTH SEMESTER

NEW INCLINE PRESS

FOUR NEW BIKES



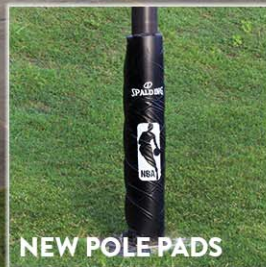
Basketball Court Improvements



NEW HOOPS & NETS



NEW LIGHTING



NEW POLE PADS

Attire to Inspire

Professional Attire Fashion Show

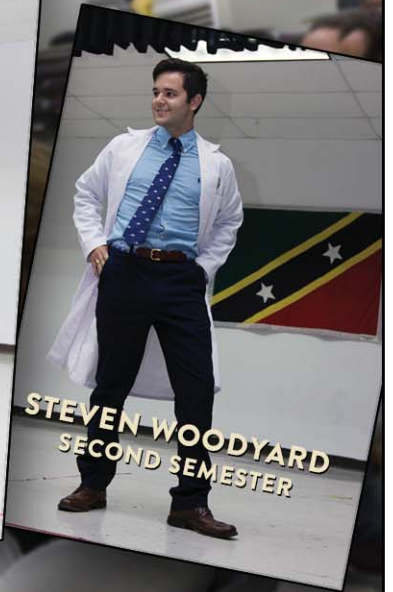
The Professional Attitudes for Student Success (PASS) committee hosted their first-ever professional attire fashion show on Friday, July 15 to showcase professional dress, and ways to step-up your professional attire A-game.



EMILY GUENTHNER
SIXTH SEMESTER



FELICIA SMALTZ
THIRD SEMESTER



STEVEN WOODYARD
SECOND SEMESTER



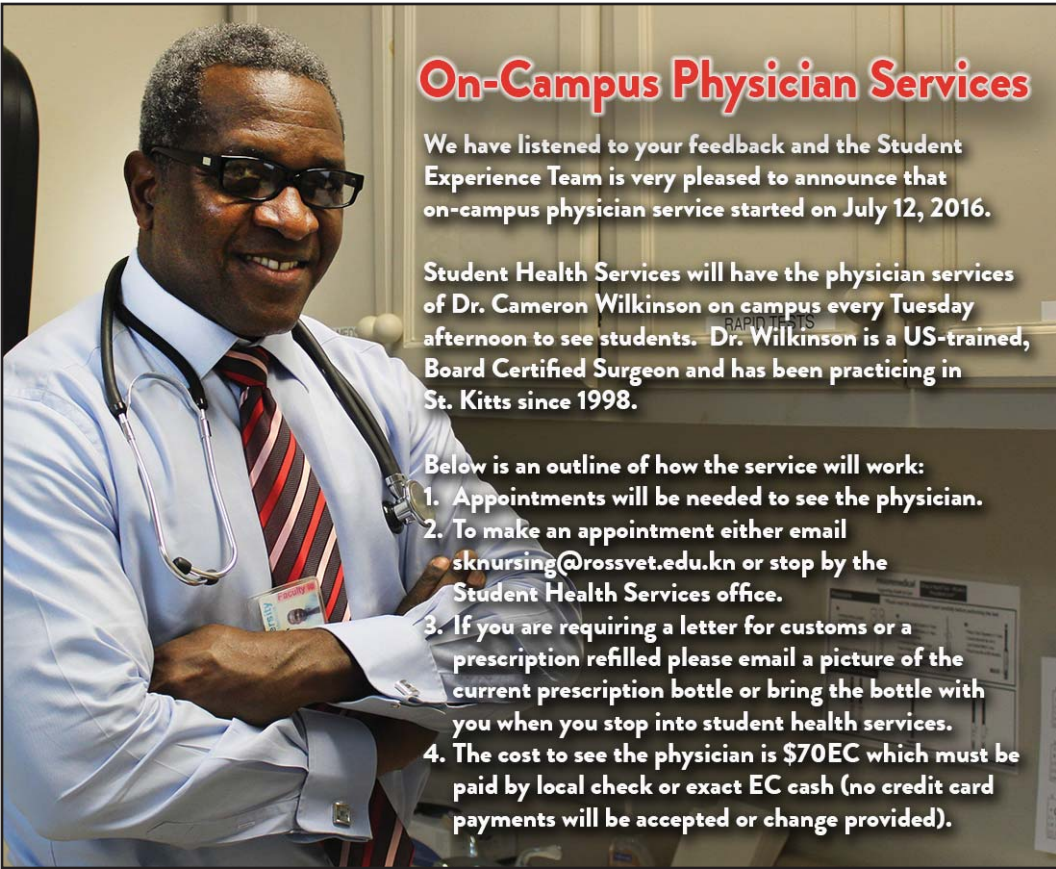
Professional Proud Wednesday

The Professional Attitudes for Student Success (PASS) committee is promoting “Professional Proud Wednesdays.” Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to step-up their professional attire A-game on Wednesdays. Research shows that “Dressing for Success Leads to Success” and that dressing casual can kill productivity. As a campus, let’s push our bar higher by improving our dress, behaving better, increasing civility, and achieving more success.

PASS is a collaborative effort between the office of Professional Standards and the Student Success Center to promote professional attitudes within the RUSVM student body. Research shows that the more professional a student behaves, dresses, speaks, and feels, the more likely they are to be academically successful.



JAMES C. SHEA III
THIRD SEMESTER
PASS Committee Member
Lead on thr Professional Proud Wednesday initiative



On-Campus Physician Services

We have listened to your feedback and the Student Experience Team is very pleased to announce that on-campus physician service started on July 12, 2016.

Student Health Services will have the physician services of Dr. Cameron Wilkinson on campus every Tuesday afternoon to see students. Dr. Wilkinson is a US-trained, Board Certified Surgeon and has been practicing in St. Kitts since 1998.

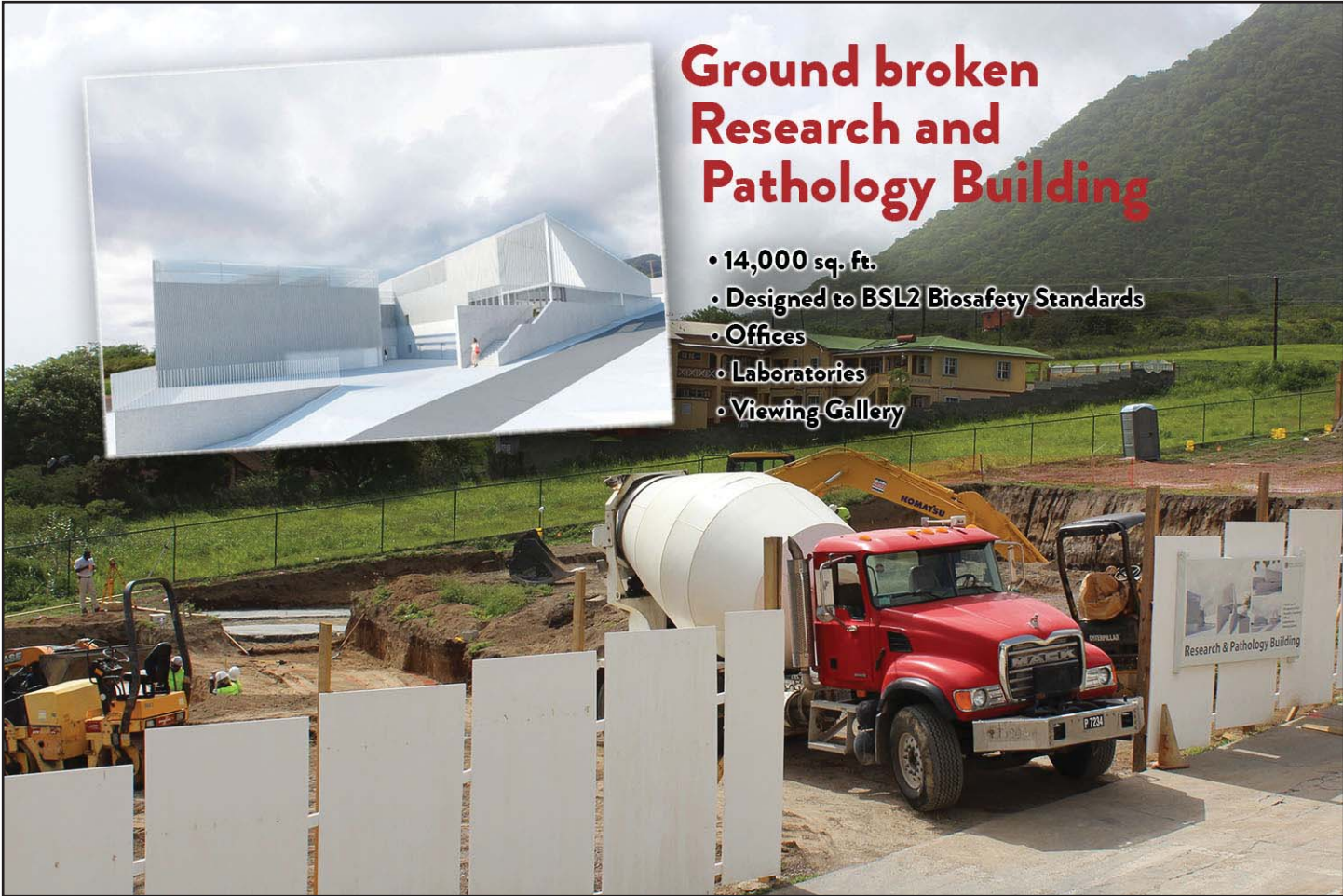
Below is an outline of how the service will work:

1. Appointments will be needed to see the physician.
2. To make an appointment either email sknursing@rossvet.edu.kn or stop by the Student Health Services office.
3. If you are requiring a letter for customs or a prescription refilled please email a picture of the current prescription bottle or bring the bottle with you when you stop into student health services.
4. The cost to see the physician is \$70EC which must be paid by local check or exact EC cash (no credit card payments will be accepted or change provided).

New Clinical Affiliates

In November 2015, RUSVM contracted with the Royal Veterinary College in London, England. We currently have 7 students there who started in May 2016. There are 3 more students going in September.

RUSVM signed a contract with Massey University in Palmerston North, New Zealand in February 2016. Massey has 15 places, per year, for our students. They will take up to 5 each semester.



Ground broken Research and Pathology Building

- 14,000 sq. ft.
- Designed to BSL2 Biosafety Standards
- Offices
- Laboratories
- Viewing Gallery

Lyme Disease Challenge

RUSVM participated in Lyme Disease Challenge on Wednesday, June 22. Community members were filmed stating one fact about Lyme disease and other tick related diseases. Once the participant stated their fact, they bit into a lime and made a funny face. They could then post the video to social media and challenge others to complete the challenge. Many RUSVM students challenged other veterinary schools to complete the challenge.

"I really believe it was one of the main reasons why so much change has happened this year with research development and legislation! It's basically similar to the ice bucket challenge for ALS and a great way of raising awareness for tick-borne diseases, especially Lyme Disease," said Cassidy McCarthy, who organized the event.



CASSIDY MCCARTHY
THIRD SEMESTER



DANERY GARCIA
THIRD SEMESTER

Diversity Day

PATRICK WALTERS
ARTIST

On Friday July 1, RUSVM students held the first Diversity Day on campus. Hosted by SCAVMA and the Diversity Committee, the event was a celebration of the wide variety and diversity of cultures here at RUSVM. The afternoon featured booths exhibiting cultural heritage including Puerto Rico and St. Kitts and Nevis, with information and treats celebrating the country or region. The event concluded with a powerful performance by Patrick Walters, spoken word artist from St. Kitts.

Puppy Therapy

**RACHEL
ALMENGUAL
CLINICALS**

**SARA JANE
MCKINSTRY
CLINICALS**

**AFIFAH
ABDUL RAHIM
SEVENTH SEMESTER**

SCAYMA collaborates with SAFE to provide Puppy Therapy for students

Saturday Grocery Shuttle

VALU MART/IGA

BEST BUY

BEST BUY "Every Day Low Prices"
466-9497

RAMS

**RAMS
CASH & CARRY**

**REMINDER:
RUSVM ALSO
OFFERS A NIGHT
SHUTTLE BUS
WHICH RUNS
FROM
6 P.M. TO 12 A.M.**

Grocery Store	Campus Pick-up	Store Pick-up	Campus Drop-off
Horsford's Valu Mart/IGA	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	10:35 AM
Best Buy - Camps	9:00 AM	10:25 AM	10:35 AM
Rams Cash & Carry/ Rams - Bird Rock	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	11:15 AM
Horsford's Valu Mart/IGA	11:30 AM	12:40 PM	1:00 PM
Best Buy - Camps	11:30 AM	12:50 PM	1:00 PM



PAW Pad?

Beginning with the September 2016 Semester 1 class, RUSVM launched the innovative new PAW Pad program. Through this program, all incoming 1st Semester students were issued an iPad® custom-designed to offer a digitally advanced multi-media learning experience.



Fall 2016 Crossword Puzzle

Across

4. Which Committee hosted Aspire to Inspire?
8. What time does the Counseling Center close?
9. What does the 'A' in PASS stand for?
10. Which day of the week is a physician on campus?
11. Director of the Student Experience
12. Which part of campus got new lighting last semester? _____ Courts
13. Office that Deals with Student Loans
14. What fruit was RUSVM students 'challenged' to bite into last semester?
16. Which day of the week are students encouraged to focus on dressing professionally?

Down

1. What electronic device are all new first-semester students supplied?
2. CEO of Banfield Pet Hospital: Vincent
3. What kind of new rack did the gym install?
5. Which day of the week is the Grocery Shuttle?
6. Club that won the Student Enrichment Award
7. Office that manages TAs and Tutors
15. Amount of Fall 2016 tuition increase



Health, Wellness, Safety, and Success!

Nurse: If you will be away from your island home for an extended period of time and want to be sure what you left in your freezer is still safe to eat, here is a simple solution. Fill a glass with ice cubes place it in your freezer, when you, if there are still individual cubes your food is safe to eat. If it is a solid glass of ice, then power was off for an extended period of time and food may not be safe.

Counseling Center: Take a mindful moment. Create some space in your mind it will help your stress levels and your focus. What are you thinking just now? Are you worrying about the future or pondering on something that has already happened? Take a break from your negative ruminative thinking. Look around you what can you see, hear, feel, taste or smell? Notice just this moment, stop take a breath.

Safety and Security: Keep unattended doors and windows locked. Do not leave valuable items unattended in public spaces, vehicles or close to residence windows. If you become aware of a crime or observe any suspicious activity on or off-campus, do not hesitate to call RUSVM Security 465.6161 or the Police 911 to investigate.

Student Success Center: Do not worry about things that you have no control over. Break problems down into manageable solution-focus steps, then take each step one at a time.

RUSVM Care Snacks

The Student Experience Team, in collaboration with campus vendors, provided a variety of snacks during finals week.

Crossword Puzzle Answer Key

1. iPad	5. Saturday	9. Attitude	13. Financial Aid
2. Bradley	6. Ross Talk	10. Tuesday	14. Lime
3. Squat	7. Student Success	11. Ramourtar	15. Zero
4. PASS	8. Four	12. Basketball	16. Wednesday

THANK YOU



RUSVM earns highest Net Promoter Score to date!

All of the initiatives contained within this newsletter have resulted in RUSVM's highest Net Promoter Score to date on the Student Satisfaction Survey and we hope to see this increase even more in the upcoming survey.

The next Student Satisfaction Survey is available from November 3 to 24.



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

RUSVM Student Experience Team: Pictured (left to right):
Colleen Govia, Roxanne Schreiber, Hazarie Ramoutar, Juliet Battice, Judith Smithen, Adele Straun, Dereka Thompson, Sebastian Henry, Wayne Clarke, Andrea Liburd, Jennifer Bradtke, Anne Callanan, Avonelle Fahie, Jeffrey Fazio, and Isha Webster.