

THE STUDENT

EXPERIENCE

Vol. 4, Fall 2017

at RUSVM

**NEW GYM
EQUIPMENT**

**NEW RUSVM
AMBASSADOR
PROGRAM**

**NEW HEALTH
SERVICES MANAGER**

**ALUMNI CORNER:
DR. ALEX ADLER**

SPECIAL TOWN HALL

KAYLA CATURAY
SEVENTH SEMESTER
SPOTLIGHT

**LEADERSHIP
AND EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**

DEMBE

**LOLA: SAFETY AND
SECURITY DEVICE**

**PASS SPEED
NETWORKING
EVENT**

COMMUNITY BRIDGING PROJECT

DIVERSITY INITIATIVES



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

©2017 Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. All rights reserved.

Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program can be found at <http://veterinary.rossu.edu/gainful-employment.html>

A Message from the Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs

Dr. Charles Wallace

Welcome to the 4th issue of The Student Experience newsletter. In my role as Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, I have the pleasure of getting to know students beginning with their white coat ceremony to commencement. In my near 25 years at Ross, I have taught 72 semesters and I never stop to be amazed by what Rossies achieve as students and later, as alumni. Ross strives to produce high quality veterinarians and deliver an education program that truly prepares graduates for practice.

And it all starts with your campus experience here in St. Kitts. Therefore, we are always looking for ways to improve your experience throughout your career as a student. In this issue, you will find the most recent



developments in student life including the progress of our research building, a recap of the PASS Best Dressed photo contest and a feature on our new manager of health services, Dr. Donna Barry.

We are also proud to be a recent

member of Phi Zeta, the honor society of veterinary medicine. Through this membership, we honored 16 students in the top 10 percent of their class at the spring Transition Ceremony, and look forward to continuing to recognize your achievements.

Whether you are a new student, or about to embark on your veterinary career, please stay in touch and I wish you all the best for your fall semester. Irma may have touched us, but don't let her hold you back.

Kind regards,

Dr. Charles Wallace, DVM MS Dip ACVS
Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Alumni Relations
Professor of Large Animal Medicine

CONTENTS

Updates from Research	Page 2
Ambassador Program	Page 2
ADTALEM Announcement	Page 2
PASS Speed Networking Event	Page 3
RUSVM Diversity Map	Page 3
7th Semester Spotlight: K Caturay	Page 4
LOLA Security Device	Page 5
Special Town Hall	Page 5
Small Ruminant Farmers Day	Page 6
Diversity Committee	Page 6
New Health Services Manager	Page 6
Featured Colleagues	Page 7
Alumni Corner: A. Adler	Page 8
"Life of a Veterinarian"	Page 8
Legislative Fly-In	Page 9
PASS Certificates	Page 9
Academic Achievement Awards	Page 9
Leadership and Excellence Awards	Page 10
Best Professionally Dressed Contest	Page 10
New Gym Equipment	Page 11

Community Bridging Project



Ross students played football against the St. Kitts National Under 20 Team as part of a student-led Community Bridging project to join Ross students with the St. Kitts and Nevis community in friendly competition and fun. Thanks to the leadership of DVM student Elroy Williams, Dr. Fortune Sithole, and everyone who assisted.

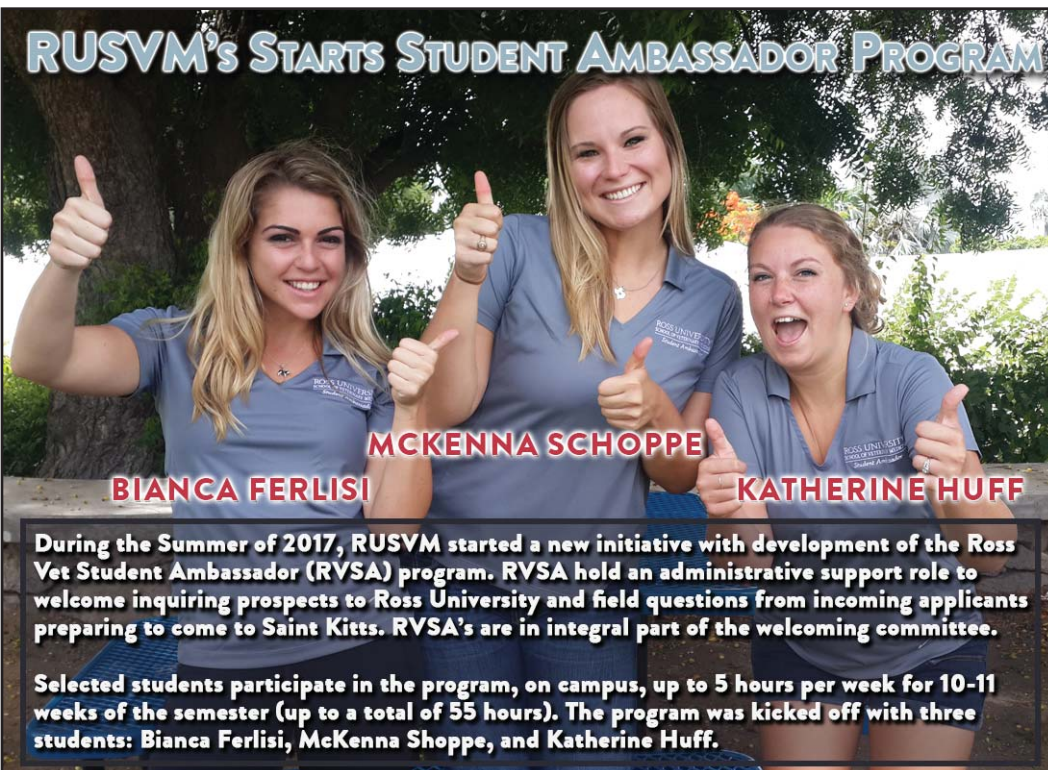
Update from Research and Postgraduate Studies

Research Building: Construction of the new Research & Pathology Building continues to progress with the main superstructure and roof sheeting completed. The focus is now on internal wall partitions and mechanical and electrical installations with final finishes, doors and windows to be addressed in the remaining months. The project is due to be completed as planned in late 2017 providing 13,000 sq. ft. of research space including a state-of-art research laboratory, offices for research laboratory personnel and a study/work area for approximately 15 postgraduate students. The new 2000 sq. ft. necropsy facility will comprise take place in December.



Singapore Research Interns: Five research interns from Temasek Polytechnic in Singapore will be spending Fall Semester 2017 at RUSVM involved in different studies under the mentorship of research active faculty. The studies will include epidemiology of animal leptospirosis, methods to keep sheep parasites alive in the laboratory, pathology of protozoal infection in farm-reared tilapia, pathology and parasite assessment in sport fish, and histological assessment of wound healing in coral.

RUSVM'S STARTS STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



BIANCA FERLISI

MCKENNA SCHOPPE

KATHERINE HUFF

During the Summer of 2017, RUSVM started a new initiative with development of the Ross Vet Student Ambassador (RVSA) program. RVSA hold an administrative support role to welcome inquiring prospects to Ross University and field questions from incoming applicants preparing to come to Saint Kitts. RVSA's are in integral part of the welcoming committee.

Selected students participate in the program, on campus, up to 5 hours per week for 10-11 weeks of the semester (up to a total of 55 hours). The program was kicked off with three students: Bianca Ferlisi, McKenna Schoppe, and Katherine Huff.

ADTALEM

GLOBAL EDUCATION

On May 23, 2017, the parent company of RUSVM announced its new name, Adtalem Global Education Inc.

Why Adtalem? Adtalem (pronunciation: ad TAL em) is Latin for "To Empower," which is our purpose as an organization. Our educators and our academic programs empower our students to achieve their goals, be successful and contribute to global communities.

PASS Hosts Faculty Speed Networking Event

Over 30 students participated in the speed networking event on June 28 sponsored by RUSVM Professional Attitude for Student Success (PASS). Students had 6 minutes with 8 faculty members to learn about their chosen specialty and how they got there in an informal, relaxed setting.

Learn more about PASS and see more photos on the RUSVM PASS Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/RUSVMPASS/>



RUSVM Celebrates the Diversity of Our Colleagues

The diversity of the RUSVM colleagues is worth celebrating. Our staff quite literally comes from all over the planet!

The flags on the map represent countries that RUSVM employees have called their home.



7th Semester Spotlight: Kayla Caturay

1. Where are you from? Where's home?
The city by the bay, where Tony Bennett left his heart ... San Francisco, CA!

2. Where did you go to undergrad and what degree did you earn?
Animal Science BS from the University of California, Davis

3. What made you choose RUSVM?
My mentor from the first animal hospital I worked at in the city always advocated the Caribbean schools to me, and the more I researched into the curriculum, the more I fell in love with RUSVM. The hands-on approach from your very first semester and especially performing various surgical procedures before your clinical year were the main draws.

4. What has been your favorite part about living on St. Kitts?
The lifestyle. "Rush Slowly" seems to provide the ideal balance between an intense, accelerated professional program and the outside environment in which we live.

5. What advice do you have for students coming to RUSVM and St. Kitts?
In the words of my veterinarian at home, "Don't work harder than you have to!" It sounds counterintuitive at first, but I think it actually is wise advice. Absolutely continue to work hard and succeed in the field that we love so much, however, *work smart*.

6. After being at RUSVM 6+ semesters, what fact about yourself would your colleagues be surprised to learn?
My first-choice karaoke pick would be anything Biggie, 2-Pac, or Eminem.

7. Where are you headed for your clinical studies?
Michigan State University



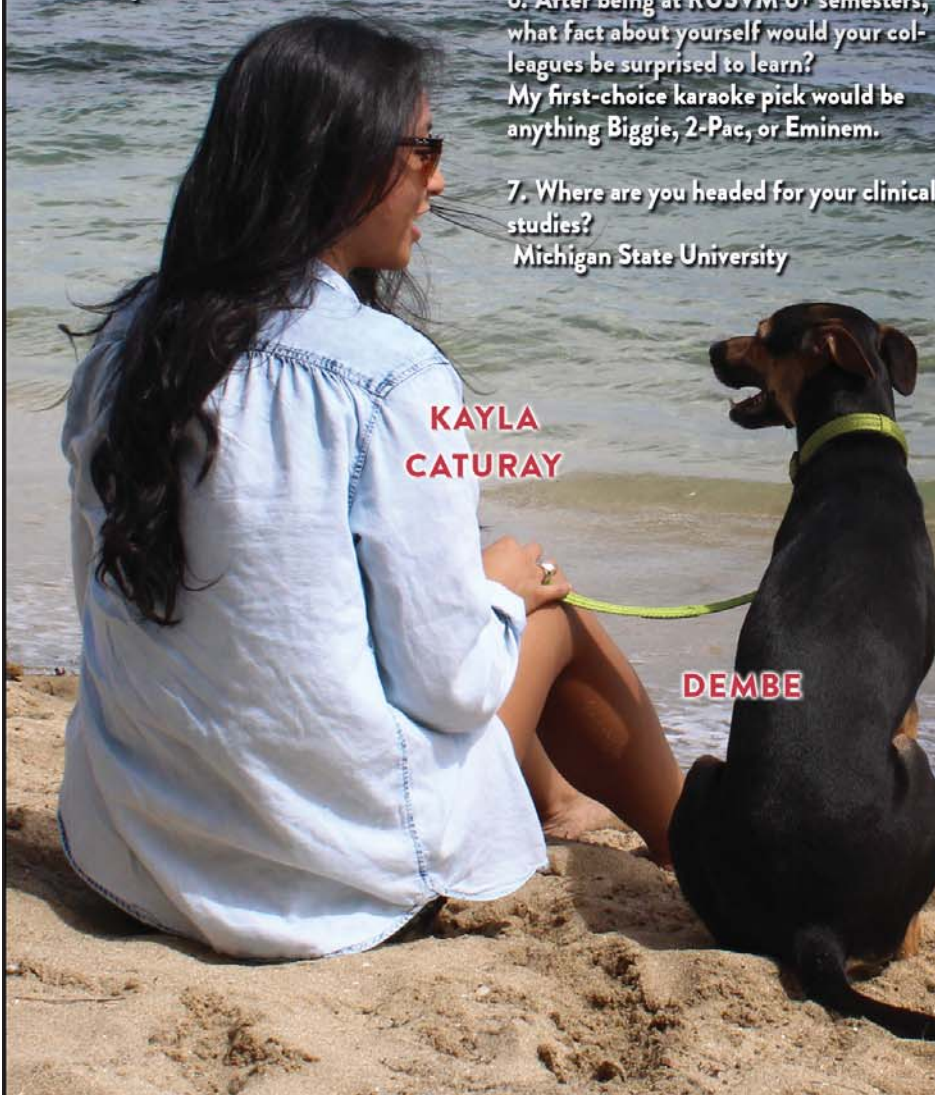
8. What is your ultimate career goal with your DVM?
In a perfect world, I would be a small animal orthopedic surgeon by day and an emergency/critical care doctor by night. My ultimate goal is to become a board-certified doctor in one of these fields.

9. Who is your professional role model and why?
I have to pick 2: Dr. Temple Grandin and VetGirl, Dr. Justine Lee. Both gave two of the best talks I have ever heard. They are pioneers in our profession, demonstrating non-traditional paths to success and betterment for animals and humans!

10. What has been your favorite course at RUSVM and why?
Small Animal Medicine 1. It felt like the first "doctor class," and it is my area of interest! The professors were all exceptional.

11. What extra-curricular activities have you been involved in at RUSVM?
All things sports! Friday beach volleyball, Sunday soccer, and SUP yoga. I served RUSVM as the SAVMA Delegate, nationally in the House of Delegates, and now internationally as our SAVMA International Exchange Officer-Elect.

12. If you could thank one person for all you have achieved so far, who would that be and why?
Mom! (Sorry, dad). Everyone says their mom is the best, but truth be told, I have the actual best mom.



KAYLA
CATURAY

DEMBE

Safety and Security piloted Phase II of the Mobile Personal Emergency Response System

As part of RUSVM's continued commitment to the security of our community, RUSVM piloted Phase II of the Mobile Personal Emergency Response System (mPERS) that locates and recovers individuals by GPS tracking technologies. This small, portable personal GPS loca-

tor provides instant two-way communication between the holder of the S911 Lola GPS tracking device and the designated recipient.

LOLA is a portable locating device with an emergency call button that connects persons to an emergency communications call center for assistance in the case of an extreme emergency situation. The purpose of issuing these devices is to improve our communi-

ty's communication link to emergency responders in the case of an emergency when a traditional phone call (cell or landline) would not work. LOLA is for sudden and extreme emergency situations when timeliness or physical proximity does not allow for dialing the RUSVM 24-hour Emergency Line.

The LOLA devices will be issued incrementally, in order to maximize the experience of our users.



Community Town Hall: A Focus on Safety & Security

RUSVM hosted a special Town Hall meeting to discuss safety and security in St. Kitts and Nevis. The event included a security summary and tips to promote increased awareness. An overview of U.S. Embassy services was shared through a keynote address by the Consul General William D. Bent, U.S. Embassy, Bridgetown.



The Small Ruminant Club hosted Annual Small Ruminant Farmers Day



The Small Ruminant Club hosted the 2017 Annual Small Ruminant Farmers Day on May 27 and 28. The two-day event invited a number of farmers from St. Kitts and Nevis for workshops and presentations on sheep and goat nutrition, parasite control and management of a herd or flock. World renowned Boer goat breeder Dr. Fred Homeyer was the invited guest speaker. Interactive workshops included learning how to use weight tapes, and rope halter-making. SAFE also presented on spaying and neutering.

Celebrate and Honor with the Diversity Committee

The RUSVM Diversity Committee recognizes various special dates and moments. The committee is dedicated to sharing information with students so they become well-rounded, culturally-aware professionals.



Moment of Silence for Manchester



Culturama



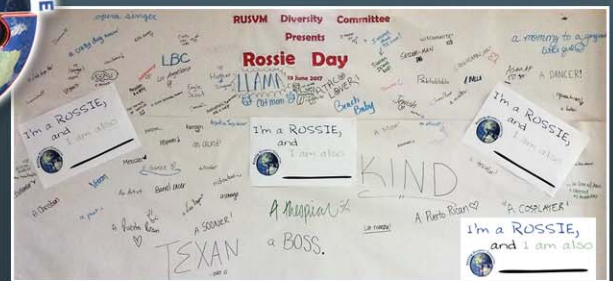
US July 4 and Canda Day



Bastille Day



Father's Day Photos



Rossie Day ~ Celebrating our uniqueness

Announcing the new RUSVM Manager of Health Services

RUSVM is pleased to welcome our new Manager of Health Services Donna M. Barry, APN, DNP, FN-CSA.

Dr. Barry comes to us with extensive experience that includes over 20 years of experience as a Nurse Practitioner and administrator in student health. Her most recent position was Director of the University Health Center at Montclair State University in New Jersey where she provided patient care to a campus of 20,000 students and served as medical advisor to the university in matters of public health and emergency preparedness.

Dr. Barry holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Loyola University New Orleans and has been licensed as a Nurse Practitioner since 1997. She is a member of a United States Disaster Medical Response Team and is the co-author of the book *Campus Sexual Assault Response Teams: Development and Operational Management*, now in its second edition.



DONNA M. BARRY
APN, DNP, FN-CSA

Featured Colleagues

HOUSING TEAM



DEREKA THOMPSON
Assistant
Housing Manager

ADELE STRAUN
Housing Manager

COLLEEN GOVIA
Support Coordinator

ANDREA LIBURD
Assistant
Housing Manager

1. What services do you provide to the students?

- Monitor off-campus housing site
- Liaise between students & landlords
- Conduct campus tours
- Assess/inspect off-campus housing
- Manage all student, long-term visitor, and VIP visas
- Provide pet import/export guidance
- Prepare car transfer letters
- House students on and off campus
- Instrumental student orientation

- Manage campus living residences
- Offer other assistance as needed

2. What job tasks do you do behind the scenes?

The Housing team does a lot of negotiating, organizing, planning, strategizing, managing of data, etc. so that our students and colleagues can experience top quality service.

3. Is there something students or colleagues can do to make your job

easier? We provide the RUSVM community with a lot of information and it would be helpful if everyone read our information in its entirety.

4. What is the most common question you are asked? A myriad of questions come our way in regards to matters involving tenant/landlord situations. Our campus residents will often ask questions about topping-up their laundry cards.

ALUMNI CORNER

Dr. Alexandra Adler: Alumna welcomes the class of 2020

One way that Ross alumni engage with our student body is by sharing words of wisdom with incoming students at the Ross White Coat Ceremony.

As a new class of students celebrated the start of their DVM career and donned their white coat for the first time, alumna Dr. Alexandra Adler, DVM '14 shared words of wisdom with the class of 2020 during the keynote address on May 8, 2017.

"You have finally made it to Day 1 of your veterinary career and it will likely be one you will never forget. [...] Acceptance into the veterinary profession is a high honor; don't let anyone sell it short. Upon graduation, you will be a part of a small, elite group of professionals. We all share a common passion for helping

animals and advancing our skills. I can't think of a better place to prepare you for your future as a veterinarian than RUSVM."

Dr. Adler is originally from Colonia, New Jersey. She attended undergraduate at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, where she earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry. After graduating from Skidmore in 2010, she began her studies at Ross and completed her clinical year at The Ohio State University. Dr. Adler then continued on as a small animal general practitioner in Woodbridge, New Jersey, joining her father at Woodbridge Veterinary Group which focuses on surgery and ultrasound.



**Alexandra
Adler**

"Life of a Veterinarian" presented to preschoolers

Dr. Andrea Peda, Clinical Instructor, participated in a show and tell Presentation "Life of a Veterinarian" for preschoolers at Antioch Baptist Academy in St. Kitts. She demonstrated the role of a veterinarian, and how vets care for animals.

DR. ANDREA PEDA

AVMA LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN



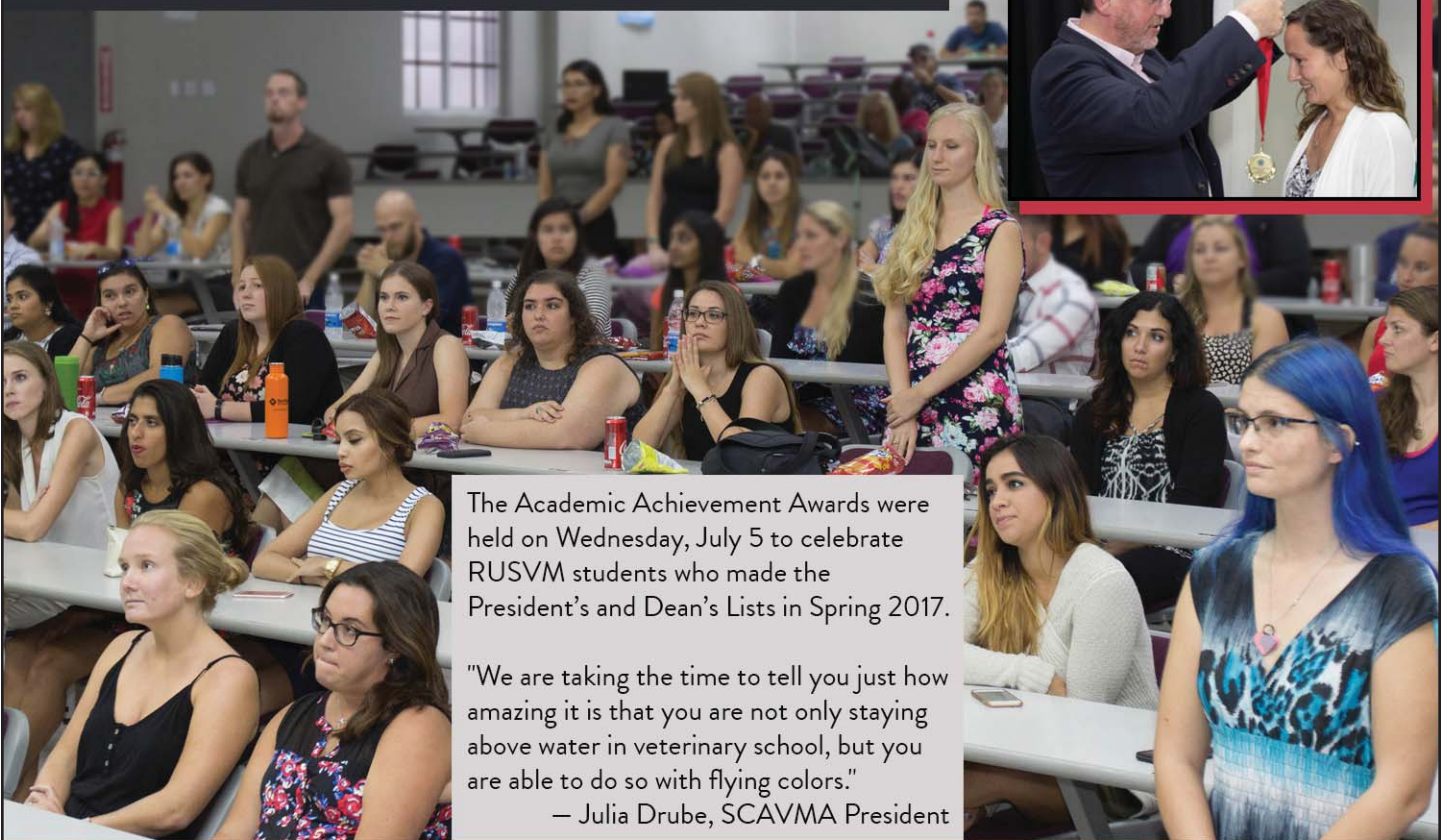
This past spring, three students, Renee Jones, Robert "Bob" McCarthy, and Ann Marie Picone had the opportunity to attend the AVMA Legislative Fly-In in Washington, D.C., to advocate for vet students and the veterinary profession.



The PASS program had 32 students complete their certificates during the summer semester of 2017.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



The Academic Achievement Awards were held on Wednesday, July 5 to celebrate RUSVM students who made the President's and Dean's Lists in Spring 2017.

"We are taking the time to tell you just how amazing it is that you are not only staying above water in veterinary school, but you are able to do so with flying colors."

— Julia Drube, SCAVMA President

The top 10% (16 students) of the spring 7th semester class was inducted into the Phi Zeta Veterinary Honor Society. They were: Janelle Anderson, Valerie Cadena Rivera, Maria Davila, Erin Elder, Tanya Gale, Ury Goloumenko, Alexandra Greaves, Alexandria Hollis, Stephanie Perez Rivera, Danielle Pettifor, Pedro Rivera, Marygrace Spera, Ashley Vail, Rachel Vistein, Lauren Wygant, and Kaitlyn Zaino.

RUSVM LEADERSHIP & EXCELLENCE AWARDS CEREMONY

Student Awardees

Kelly Barton
 Jade Conroy
 Tanya Gale
 Kawi Gonzalez Rodriguez
 Brian Huber
 Elizabeth Muller
 Robert McCarthy

Club Awardees

Volunteers for Intercultural and Definitive Adventure
 Shelter Medicine Club

Colleague Awardees

Souvik Ghosh
 Adele Straun
 Glenville Henry



The RUSVM Leadership and Excellence Awards hosted by SCAVMA were held on Saturday, July 8 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. Congratulations to all of our awardees!

Best Professionally Dressed Photo Contest!

On Wednesday, July 26, PASS hosted it's semesterly Best Professionally Dressed photo contest.

AMANDA BROWN

EMILLIE DODD
1ST PLACE WINNER

DR. SAMPLE
FACULTY WINNER

ALEXIS COLE
2ND PLACE

TIFANY JONES

THALITA LEITE

COURTNEY MCGONIGLE

FELICIA SMALTZ

LYNLEE STEVEY

MARISSA TURNER

NICOLE ANDERSON

SUSANA VILLELA

New Gym Equipment

FABIOLA
QUINTEROS

REAR DELT
SWITCH AROUND FOR PEC FLY

WORRELL
HENRY

ROW

ABDOMINAL/BACK
EXTENSION

PRONE LEG CURL

BENCH PRESS
SQUAT RACK

