Greetings once again from the University of Rochester! I’m happy to bring you our first counselor newsletter of 2015, which we hope will keep you and your colleagues up-to-date on new developments here at Rochester and in the Office of Admissions.

We have all been busy in the past months evaluating more than 17,000 applications and have offered admission to about 5,000 of these students. They come from all 50 states and 71 countries, and we have enjoyed greeting many of them as they visit campus.

Inside this newsletter, you’ll find updates on many topics, including the Taste of College Program for high school students, the IB World Student Conference on campus this summer, upcoming deadlines to participate in the High School Awards Program, and Rochester’s growing commitment to data science.

I look forward to building Rochester’s relationship with you and your students in the years ahead, and we hope to see some of you in San Diego at NACAC 2015!

Jonathan Burdick
Dean of College Enrollment
Vice-Provost for Enrollment Initiatives
ROCHESTER TO HOST IB WORLD STUDENT CONFERENCE

The University of Rochester is thrilled to be one of two global hosts for the 2015 International Baccalaureate World Student Conference, held on campus August 2–8. This exciting and prestigious conference brings students together from around the world to develop innovative solutions to global issues. This year, students will explore the theme, “Game-Changers: Creating Solutions Through the Instinct to Play.”

The keynote speaker will be world-renowned game designer and New York Times bestselling author Jane McGonigal. The conference will also feature a plenary speaker each day (including New Yorker cartoon editor Bob Mankoff) who will present on a different facet of our theme. Working in Global Action Teams and led by IB educators, students will identify a global issue of interest and develop an action plan they can use in their own communities. Of course, we will also build in time for fun, social events, and excursions to local attractions!

The University of Rochester, a proud supporter of the IB program and international education, is a world leader in finding creative solutions to global problems through research across all academic disciplines. Encourage your students to spend a week on our beautiful campus this summer and return home with new tools to impact social change and “put play to work!”

To register, please visit enrollment.rochester.edu/ibwsc. If you have any questions, please email ibwsc2015@ur.rochester.edu. Check out our IBWSC Facebook and Twitter for updates, photos, and more.
Data science is the centerpiece of the University of Rochester’s five-year strategic plan. Rochester researchers plan to continue harnessing the potential of data in ways that will transform the 21st century and place the University as a leader in the field.

This commitment includes the creation of the new Goergen Institute for Data Science. It also includes the construction of a state-of-the-art building that will house the new Institute along with the Department of Computer Science and other academic areas. In recognition of the Wegman Family Charitable Foundation’s support of the Institute, the new building will bear the Wegman name.

The University is also committed to hiring new faculty in areas in which data science plays a critical role, including (but not limited to) bioinformatics, biomedical engineering, brain and cognitive sciences, business and economics, computer science, mathematics and statistics, physics, and political science. In the past year alone, the University added 14 new faculty members who work in data science. The Institute plans to dedicate its new home in fall 2016 and move in by winter 2017.
TASTE OF COLLEGE

High school can be overwhelming for a teenager: classes, schedules, exams, papers, clubs, sports, and friends, just to name a few. It becomes even more stressful when they have to start exploring what schools to apply to and what they should major in.

Our Taste of College program alleviates some of that stress by offering students the opportunity to take college courses with college students on Rochester’s campus. There is a wide range of class options, including biology, chemistry, philosophy, film and art, and political science. Students get a true sense of what to expect in college-level coursework.

One former Taste of College student shared, “I had a great experience at the University of Rochester. I met a lot of people who seemed really intelligent and wholesome, which is what I need in college.” Another said, “I loved attending this program and it has made me feel more prepared and excited for college.”

Encourage your students to join us this summer for a real taste of college. To learn more, please visit enrollment.rochester.edu/precollege.

NACAC CONFERENCE 2015

NACAC’s 71st National Conference will be in San Diego, California, October 1–3, 2015. If you plan to attend, Rochester’s Office of Admissions would love to connect with you while you’re there!

Email your contact information to counselorprograms@admissions.rochester.edu and we’ll follow up before the conference about any special events and opportunities to connect with us in San Diego.

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

There is still time to submit your nominations of current, deserving juniors for Rochester’s four High School Awards: The Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Award, the George Eastman Young Leaders Award, the Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award, and the Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology.

To learn more, please visit enrollment.rochester.edu/hsawards or email hsawards@admissions.rochester.edu. The final deadline to submit nominations is June 15, 2015.