RIT | Honors Program

Weekly Newsletter
September 30, 2026



Students volunteering with Walking for Rochester on Saturday 9/26 | Photo credit to Ethan Flynn

This week, we'd like to highlight the pillar of *Leadership* through acts of service. The Service & Leadership Committee (SLC) of Honors Council has hit the ground running this fall with events that illustrate the power of collective action and the lessons in leadership that can be gained through service to others.

Last Saturday, more than 20 Honors students worked with the nonprofit Walking for Rochester to collect trash in the city center. The group picked up 124 pounds of trash, beautifying our streets and making them cleaner for residents and visitors alike. This annual event is one of the many ways the SLC creates opportunities for students to connect with and learn about the Rochester community while gaining experiences that will impact their personal and professional development, making them more informed and leaders.

Next on the SLC agenda this fall is making and writing cards for veterans that will be distributed at RIT's annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Friday, Nov. 13. If you'd like to get involved, the SLC will be making cards at all upcoming Full Council meetings and will also need volunteers to help distribute the cards at the breakfast. Check the Honors Council and Events pages for more details, and as always, reach out with any questions or thoughts.

In this message

Subscribe to our email list.

- World Affairs Council: The Two Climate Migrations
- The Honors Apparel Store is Open!
- 10/2 Coffee & Chat
- Complementary Learning - Open House Volunteers Needed & CABM Panel

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World Affairs Council: *The Two Climate Migrations*

The World Affairs Council of Rochester, NY (WACR) is one of over 90 affiliates of the World Affairs Council of America (WACA), headquartered in Washington DC, with several thousand individual members nationwide. WACA represents and supports the largest nonpartisan network of local councils in the US, each dedicated to educating, inspiring, and engaging Americans in international affairs and critical global issues of our times.

Climate migration is usually understood as people fleeing places made unlivable by a warming world. But there is a second migration that is just as consequential: factories and technology shifting across borders in response to climate policy. Join Claire Brunel, PhD, Associate Professor in the School of International Service at American University, for a small group discussion before networking, dinner, and her formal presentation to the group at the Irondequoit Country Club.

Registered students will receive a reading list prior to the event and will meet over a free breakfast at Panera on Saturday, Oct. 10 to prepare for the dialogue. Students will carpool to the Irondequoit Country Club on Oct. 14 at 5:00 pm for the discussion and dinner.

This event is approved for complementary learning.

Preparation meeting at Panera with Dr. Lutzer:
10:00 am
Saturday, Oct. 10

About Claire Brunel, PhD
Professor Brunel's research focuses on issues at the intersection of environmental economics and international economics. Her research examines whether climate change and environmental regulation create cross-border effects, including the relocation of industries, the transfer of green technologies, and human migration.

Dr. Brunel received her B.S. in Mathematics and Economics from Georgetown University, her M.Phil in Economics from the University of Oxford and her Ph.D. in Economics (with distinction) from Georgetown University.

Only a few seats are left!

World Affairs Council Registration

World Affairs Council Event:
Wednesday, Oct. 14
5:00pm - 9:00pm
Irondequoit County Club



The Honors Apparel Store is Open!

Back by popular demand, the Honors Apparel Store is now open! Show your Honors pride with a hoodie, hat, fleece blanket, a pair of socks, and more - there's something for everyone!

The store opens today and will remain open through Sat. Oct. 31. Follow the link below to place your order - all items will be shipped to the Honors office in late November.

Honors Apparel & Gear Store



Graphic of Stanley holding a cup of coffee

Subscribe to our email list.

Stop by the office to hang out with other Honors students, talk with the Honors Office staff, and ask any questions you might have!

Office Chats happen during the first Friday of every month. We will have breakfast treats from Panera as well as coffee, tea, and juice. Whether you want to stay for a while or are just pass by on your way to class, come in and say hi!

Friday, October 2
10:00 - 11:00am
Honors Office

Register in advance or just stop by - all are welcome!

Register now on CampusGroups!

Complementary Learning

We have two opportunities to highlight this week: Open House Volunteers and a CABM Panel.

You can find other opportunities on the complementary learning webpage that can fit almost anyone's busy schedule and diverse set of interests.

Students are expected to engage in at least 20 hours of complementary each cycle (Sept. 1-Aug. 31) to remain in good standing in the program.

All complementary learning hours should be submitted contemporaneously, within 30 days of the event or activity, using the submission form linked below or located within the *Student Portal* tab of the Honors website.

Submit Complementary Learning



Represent the Honors Program at an upcoming Open House event! We are seeking Honors students to table at Open House events throughout the semester. We will be tabling at Open Houses this fall that will engage prospective students and

Volunteers needed:
- October 12
- October 24
- November 14

Students will receive an Honors polo and will earn complementary learning hours for their time.

1:00pm - 2:30pm
SHED

We are looking to have a diversity of voices at the table, so we will consider students' colleges/majors/year in school, and will recruit 3 students for each session.

Sign up here!



Are you in the Combined Accelerated Bachelor's / Master's Program (CABM) and want to share your experience with prospective students to the program? There are several opportunities to sit on a panel of your peers to share your insights and help other students decide if it is a good fit for them.

Please see the dates below and if interested email Evan Pierce, Academic Program Operations Administrator, RIT Graduate School to learn more and select your session.

- October 7, 12:00-1:00 PM – CABM How It Works: 1st Year Information Session (Zoom)
- October 8, 5:00-6:00 PM – CABM How It Works: 1st Year Information Session (GOL 1400)
- October 13, 6:00-7:00 PM – CABM Prospective Student Webinar (Virtual)
- November 4, 5:00-6:00 PM – CABM Prospective Student Webinar (Virtual)

Stay up-to-date on all upcoming events, opportunities, and deadlines!

Follow us on Instagram
Join the Honors Discord
Check out the Honors Calendar

"Small acts of kindness build a stronger, kinder community."

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