

Focus on Freshmen

Dr. Dianna Galante
Mathematics
Robert Morris College
digalante@robertmorris.edu

Ms. Catherine Stark
Business
Robert Morris College
cstark@robertmorris.edu

The purpose of the Freshmen Faculty Blackboard community site at Robert Morris College (RMC) is to connect freshmen faculty by providing a program of quarterly faculty development on active learning, available resources to support the program, and a method for communicating institutionally with other freshmen faculty and staff.

An institutional workshop schedule for all seven campuses is posted quarterly.

Campus	Date/Room/Time	Facilitators
DuPage	Tuesday, October 10, 2006 4:30 – 6:00 PM Room TBA	Shauna Travis
Orland Park	Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2006 3:00 – 4:30 PM Room TBA	Carrie Roath
Orland Park	Saturday, October 28 9:30 – 11:00 T113	Dianna Galante
Lake County	Thursday Oct 12, 2006 4:30 – 6:00 PM Room TBA	Steve Mendelson
Chicago	Tuesday, October 10, 2006 4:30 – 6:00 PM Room 212	Mick McMahon Eleanor Champagne
Chicago	Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Room 212	Larry Nieman
Bensenville	Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2006 4:30 – 6:00 PM Room TBA	Beth Gainer
Springfield	TBA	Cathy Talano
Peoria	Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2006 4:30 – 6:00 PM Room TBA	Cyndy Byrd Blace Romence

An announcements page provides links to important memos and files.

The screenshot shows the Robert Morris College website interface. At the top, the header reads "ROBERT MORRIS COLLEGE" with navigation links for Home, Help, and Logout. Below the header, there are tabs for "Robert Morris College" and "My Courses". A left sidebar contains a vertical menu of blue buttons: Announcements, Facilitators, Workshop Schedule, Workshop Content, Communication, Faculty Resources, Tools, Freshmen Programs, Research Reports, Facilitator Forms, and 05.06 Materials. The main content area is titled "MY COURSES > FRESHMEN FACULTY > ANNOUNCEMENTS". It features a yellow maple leaf icon and a date range "October 07, 2006 - October 14, 2006". Two announcements are listed: "Mon, Oct 09, 2006 -- Fall Training" with a course link to "Workshop Schedule / Freshmen Training Fall 2006", and "Tue, Oct 03, 2006 -- Important Information for Freshmen Faculty" with a course link to "Faculty Resources / Fall 2006 Resources". Both are posted by Dr. Dianna Galante.

Resources and research related to the freshmen student and improving the first-year experience are posted.

The screenshot shows the Robert Morris College website interface for the Research Reports page. The header and navigation are identical to the previous screenshot. The left sidebar menu is the same. The main content area is titled "MY COURSES > FRESHMEN FACULTY > RESEARCH REPORTS". It features a book icon and the heading "Research Reports". Below this, there are four entries, each with a folder icon: "Lumina Foundation" (Current Reports on Student Success), "American Council on Education", "The Education Trust", and "Dr. Vincent Tinto". A fifth entry, "Graduation Rates", is shown with a globe icon and a description: "A search tool for institutional graduation rates." At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a "Tools" section with links for "Communication" and "Course Map".

Communication is facilitated using the Discussion Board and Group Pages.

The screenshot shows the Robert Morris College website interface. At the top, there is a red header with the college name and navigation links for Home, Help, and Logout. Below the header, there are two tabs: "Robert Morris College" and "My Courses". On the left side, there is a vertical menu with buttons for Announcements, Facilitators, Workshop Schedule, Workshop Content, Communication, Faculty Resources, Tools, Freshmen Programs, Research Reports, Facilitator Forms, and 05.06 Materials. Below this menu is a "Tools" section with icons for Communication, Course Map, Control Panel, Refresh, and Detail View. The main content area displays a list of seven discussion boards, each with a dropdown menu, a title, and a prompt to post a response:

- 1 [Bensenville Freshmen Faculty](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 2 [Chicago Freshmen Faculty](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 3 [DuPage Freshmen Faculty](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 4 [Lake County Freshmen Faculty](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 5 [Orland Park Discussion Board](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 6 [Peoria Discussion Board](#)
Select the link to post a response.
- 7 [Springfield Freshmen Faculty](#)
Select the link to post a response.

The screenshot shows the Robert Morris College website interface for a group discussion board. At the top, there is a red header with the college name and navigation links for Home, Help, and Logout. Below the header, there are three tabs: "Robert Morris College", "My Courses", and "RMC homepage". On the left side, there is a vertical menu with buttons for Announcements, Facilitators, Workshop Schedule, Workshop Content, Communication, Faculty Resources, Tools, Freshmen Programs, Research Reports, Facilitator Forms, and 05.06 Materials. Below this menu is a "Tools" section with icons for Communication, Course Map, Control Panel, Refresh, and Detail View. The main content area displays a breadcrumb trail: MY COURSES > FRESHMEN FACULTY > COMMUNICATIONS > GROUP PAGES > TRAINERS > GROUP DISCUSSION BOARD. Below the breadcrumb trail is a section titled "Group Discussion Board - Trainers" with an "Add Forum" button. Below the button is a list of one discussion board entry:

- 1 [Feedback on Fall 2006 sessions](#)
Please add your comments and concerns to the discussion board by hitting the reply button.