As the academic year begins winding down, the RLL faculty hopes that you have had a successful time. Take a moment to celebrate the wins and to acknowledge the impact that you have on your students and colleagues. Our work is challenging at times and exhilarating at others, but it is always essential. Thank you for all that you do!

Please [click here](#) to share your thoughts. We will share the responses in September’s newsletter as we embark on a new year! In the meantime, we hope that the end of this year goes well.

Be great in act as you have been in thought.

~ William Shakespeare

**What are we reading?**

*How to Know a Person* by David Brooks
There’s no shame in taking longer.
You aren’t behind, and your timing isn’t wrong.
Your path is just different. And it’s okay.
Life isn’t a competition or a race.
You can’t compare the journey you’re on or the things you’ve achieved because everyone is going to different places.
We all have different goals and dreams and values.
Different strengths and struggles and traumas.
Different opportunities and access and resources.
And that means the places we get to and the ways in which we get there are going to be unique.

It’s okay if your timeline looks different.
And it’s okay to walk down a completely different path.
There’s strength in honoring your needs.
Strength in giving yourself the best possible chance to succeed by going at your own pace and being mindful of what you’re currently able to give.
You just have to be patient with yourself and your process.
You’ll get to where you want to be.
You’ll achieve your goals.
You’ll make it to the end.
You have time.
There’s nothing written in stone that says you have to reach certain milestones by a specific age.
There’s no rule that your successes count less if you take longer to achieve them.
It takes however long it takes, and it’s okay.
It’s still real and worthwhile and valid.
You’re allowed to take longer than other people.
You’re allowed to take the time you need.