

# R·I·T

The University Magazine

Fall 2009

## Innovation takes flight

New center spotlights student creativity

Imagine RIT: Festival brings 25,000 visitors to campus

Music at RIT: Noteworthy developments





## RIT: The University Magazine

### Executive Editors

Deborah M. Stenard  
Government and Community Relations  
Bob Fianerty '87, University News Services

### Editor

Kathy Linsley, University News Services

### Contributing Editors

Lisa Cundin, Development and Alumni Relations  
Lydia Palmer, Development  
Kelly Redder, Alumni Relations  
Craig Smith, Development  
Alumni Relations Staff

### Art Director

Colleen McGuinness-Clarke '87, '08  
University Publications

### Photographer

A. Sue Weiskir '93, University News Services

### Writers: University News Services

Kelly Dwyer  
Will Dube  
Bob Fianerty '87  
Susan M. Gaudiniers '95  
Kathy Linsley  
Marcia Murphy  
Paul Stella '03

### Print Production

Genade Monahan, University Publications

### University News Services

132 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623-5608  
Voice: 585-475-5064, TTY: 585-475-5414  
Fax: 585-475-5097, E-mail: [unps@www.rit.edu](mailto:unps@www.rit.edu)

### Office of Alumni Relations

Pressrooms: 41 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623-5603  
Voice: 585-475-ALUM, Toll Free: 866-RIT-ALUM  
TTY: 585-475-2764, Fax: 585-475-5108  
E-mail: [ritalum@rit.edu](mailto:ritalum@rit.edu)

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York, publishes *The University Magazine*. RIT will accept and hire men and women, veterans and people with disabilities, individuals of any race, creed, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age or marital status in compliance with all appropriate legislation.

Vol. 11, No. 2, 10 MB-P0801-8/09-LAN-C/MCK  
Printer: The Lane Press, Burlington, Vermont  
© 2009 Rochester Institute of Technology.  
All rights reserved.

## Perseverance: An RIT Trait



President Bill Destler

Perseverance ... I see it all around the campus. Perhaps it's built into RIT's DNA, dating back to our 19<sup>th</sup> century Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute roots.

I especially see perseverance in our recent 2009 graduates, who remain resolute despite the deepest economic downturn since the Great Depression. I also see it in our alumni, who are making a difference in the workplace and in their communities. And for those in our family who have fallen on tough times in their jobs, we can help (see page 5).

Here are some "lessons" from my commencement speech to this year's graduating class that I think pertain to all of the RIT family:

1. Change is almost always a good thing.
2. You do not have to give up your family and friends while you undertake this new adventure. In fact, they will be your greatest source of support. The friends you keep, however, will be the ones you continue to reach out to.
3. Make new friends both inside and outside of your work environment. You will need both.
4. Come back and see your family, friends, and RIT often. All of them will be a source of support for you in good times and bad.
5. In terms of finding a job, I cannot by myself change the global economic climate, but I can tell you that many years ago I finished my education in a similar economic downturn. I sent out 100 resumes to potential employers, and received not one encouraging response. I persevered, however, and eventually found a job, as I'm sure all of you will. In this climate, the best I can suggest is to make the point to potential employers that you can add real value to the company, and as RIT graduates, you are in a better position to make this point than almost any other new college graduates.

Finally, I told the Class of 2009, keep track of the goings-on at your alma mater. I can assure you that RIT will continue to grow and prosper along with all of you.

Let's fast-forward to yet another exciting fall. In September, we plan to dedicate our new Center for Student Innovation (see page 10). The center will be a signature structure that brings RIT closer to the vision of becoming America's "Innovation and Creativity University."

We're also looking forward to Brick City Homecoming, Oct. 9-11 (see page 29). For the first time, we've built a hockey game into our homecoming events. The Tigers open the season Oct. 10 vs. Colgate in downtown Rochester's Blue Cross Arena.

I hope to see you on campus and at the game.

So as you see, we persevere.

Bill Destler  
President  
[www.rit.edu/president](http://www.rit.edu/president)





**14** High school students from around the country look to the future at NTID.  
(Photo by Mark Benjamin)



**17** Music Professor Ed Schell leads the RIT Singers at a concert in May.  
(Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)

## Departments

- 2** On Campus
- 5** FYI
- 7** Tiger Sports
- 28** RIT Works!
- 34** Alumni Activities
- 38** Class Notes

## Cover

RIT's new Center for Student Innovation, completed in May, will be in full swing this fall.  
(Photo by A. Sue Weisler '93)



**26** Capturing images of dragonflies and damselflies has become a passion for alumni Steve and Vici Diehl. This is an extreme close-up of an eastern pondhawk.

## Features

- 6** Afghan scholar finds a haven at RIT  
Former teacher, once jailed by the Taliban, pursues MBA at RIT
- 8** Shots in the dark  
RIT's intrepid photo team takes aim for the 25th Big Shot
- 10** Innovation takes flight  
New facility, programs move RIT toward status of 'Innovation University'
- 14** 25 years into the 'Future'  
NTID summer program gives high school students a chance for self-exploration
- 17** Noteworthy developments  
Music is a growing part of life at RIT
- 22** What will we think of next?  
Second Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival draws 25,000 visitors
- 26** Capturing damsels & dragons  
Alumni Steve and Vici Diehl help document species with vivid photographs



# On Campus

## Xerox leader inspires grads to strive for 'the unimaginable'

Ursula Burns, a veteran Xerox Corp. executive who became chief executive officer in July, says she is proof that the United States is "the greatest country on earth." She made that observation during her RIT convocation address on May 22.

Burns served as the keynote speaker for RIT's 124<sup>th</sup> annual commencement. Just one day prior, Xerox's board of directors appointed her CEO to replace Anne Mulcahy, who retired from that post July 1. Burns told graduates that her success is reason for each of them to dream big.

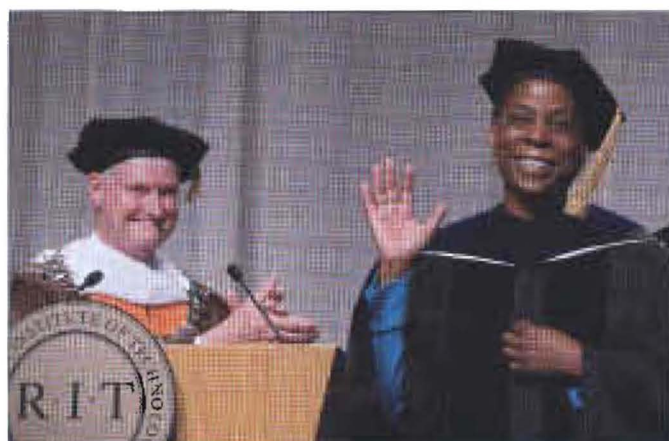
"When I was at my own commencement back in 1980, being CEO of Xerox was probably the farthest thing from my mind," she said. "And I can assure you that no one at my commencement was pointing at me and predicting that I would become a CEO. Women presidents of large global companies were non-existent. Black women presidents of large companies were unimaginable.

The possibilities for each of you are also unimaginable."

RIT conferred degrees on more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students during two days of commencement activities. RIT President Bill Destler awarded Burns an honorary doctor of humane letters degree during the convocation event.

Burns encouraged RIT graduates to set their sights on "changing the world" by taking up an important cause, helping to create good jobs for others, or simply raising a family that espouses good values.

"Believe in something larger than your-



President Destler applauds convocation speaker Ursula Burns, Xerox CEO.

self. Make a difference. Live your life so that at the end of your journey, you will know that your time here was well spent."

Paul Stella '03

## Donald Boyce '67 will lead RIT Board of Trustees

Donald N. Boyce '67 (business administration) will take the helm of the RIT Board of Trustees later this year.



Don Boyce '67

The trustees, during the July meeting, elected Boyce the university's 17th chair. Michael E. Morley '69 (business administration), who has served as chair for four years, will hand over the gavel to Boyce at the conclusion of the

November board meeting.

Boyce, a member of RIT's Board of Trustees since 1999, becomes the fourth alumnus chair. He has served as chair of the Presidential Search Committee and a member of the Hospitality and Service Management National Advisory Board, and took a leadership role in the Campaign for RIT, which concluded successfully in 2006.

Boyce is a recipient of RIT's Outstanding Alumnus Award as well as the Distinguished Science and Technology Award. In 2008, he and his wife, Jeris, received RIT's prestigious Nathaniel Rochester Society Award.

Prior to retiring in 2000, Boyce was chair and CEO of IDEX Corp., a diversified manufacturing firm.

A native of Oakfield, N.Y., Boyce resides in Lake Forest, Ill.

The board also has eight new trustees:

- Kathleen Anderson '94 (professional and technical communication), media director for Travers Collins & Company, a Buffalo based advertising agency. Anderson serves on the board as president of the RIT Alumni Association.

- Mark C. Clement, president and CEO, Rochester General Health System.

- Frank S. Hermance '71, '73 (B.S., electrical engineering, M.S. electrical engineering), chairman and CEO of AMETEK Inc., a

global manufacturer of electronic instruments and electromechanical devices with headquarters in Paoli, Pa.

- Joyce B. Klemmer '78 (business administration), a partner at Smith, Gambrell and Russell LLP, one of Atlanta's largest law firms.

- Harold M. Mowl Jr., superintendent of the Rochester School for the Deaf.

- Brian O'Shaughnessy '81, '84 (chemistry), a shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, Alexandria, Va., where he practices intellectual property law and patent law. He has served on the board as past the president of the RIT Alumni Association.

- Frank S. Sklarsky '78 (business administration/accounting), chief financial officer and executive vice president, Eastman Kodak Co.

- Harry P. Trueheart III, chairman of Nixon Peabody LLP, Rochester.

Bob Finnerty



# After 17 years, Formula team wins first competition in U.S.

After several years of top-five placements in international competitions, the RIT Formula SAE racecar team took first place among 81 teams in the 2009 Collegiate Design Series California event.

This was the first time the RIT team placed first overall on American soil. The team swept the individual categories in the week-end competition in June.

"We've gone to multiple events most years and have won the events in Australia and England, but until this year we had not



Formula team has done well with latest car.

won in the United States," says Alan Nye, faculty adviser.

The 2009 racecar placed first in performance events for endurance, acceleration and skid pad. The

group is also required to make a formal presentation about the overall design and development process as part of the competition. Teams competing at the California event included the University of Oregon,

Clemson University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as universities from Sweden, Mexico, Korea and Venezuela.

The events are annual design competitions where college students design and build a small Formula-style race car. The RIT Formula team enters three competitions yearly with two in the United States and one overseas. In May, the team placed second overall at Michigan International Speedway in Detroit.

Michelle Cometa

## RIT offers special help to recent veterans

RIT is now a "Yellow Ribbon" college. The federal designation allows veterans who have served since Sept. 11, 2001, to receive additional financial assistance for tuition as well as existing veterans' benefits for housing and textbooks.

The amount of assistance will depend on their length of service, but eligible veterans would have most of their tuition provided by the Veterans Administration, the college and the state.

"There is really no higher cause one can have than a commitment to serve one's country," says James Miller, senior vice president for Enrollment Management and Career Services. "Given RIT's history and the kinds of curricula we offer, it is only fitting that we take this important initiative to participate in providing increased access to RIT for those who have had distinguished

service to this country."

More than 300 RIT students are currently receiving veterans' benefits. The Yellow Ribbon Program is now in place to accommodate veterans who enroll at RIT this fall and could be applied to undergraduates or students pursuing graduate degrees. Veterans transferring from other colleges to RIT may also qualify, Miller said.

In addition, RIT is reaching out to recent veterans who have suffered hearing loss – a top disability among veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Military Veterans with Hearing Loss Project at RIT/NTID will help those servicemen and women transition back to college with the assistance of classroom captioning, notetakers and counselors. Details are at [www.rit.edu/ntid/veterans](http://www.rit.edu/ntid/veterans).

Greg Livadas

## RIT sports teams will compete in Liberty League

RIT is moving its Division III Intercollegiate Athletics programs from the Empire 8 Conference to the Liberty League, starting in the 2011-12 academic year.

RIT, which has 24 varsity sports, will move all but men's and women's hockey and wrestling to the Liberty League. The Liberty League currently has eight full-time members: Clarkson, Hamilton, Hobart/William Smith, RPI, St. Lawrence, Skidmore, Union and Vassar. In addition, the University of Rochester competes in a handful of Liberty League sports, but is currently not a full-time member.

RIT President Bill Destler says he is extremely pleased with the move.

"Over the last year, intensive efforts have been made by Athletic Director Lou Spiotti, Vice President Mary-Beth Cooper and myself to gain membership in the Liberty League," said Destler, announcing the change. "Interestingly, RPI, Clarkson, St. Lawrence and Union all have Division I hockey programs, and Hobart has a Division I lacrosse program. Thus RIT fits in very well with the intercollegiate athletic philosophy of the other Liberty League institutions."

Joe Venniro

## Online Executive MBA program begins this fall

Business professionals who wish to increase their competitive edge and earn a graduate business degree through online education can now log in to RIT's newest virtual classroom opportunity.

RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business has announced a partnership with Toronto-based online service provider Embanet to launch an e-learning Executive MBA program in September.

The 72-week program is identical to the curriculum taught on campus and includes an international trip for students to explore the global influence of business.

Stanley Widrick, director of RIT's new online EMBA program and professor of marketing and international business in the Saunders College, says the

AACSB-accredited Executive MBA will give working executives the flexibility they need to access course content, post discussions and brainstorm with peers at their convenience.

"Our EMBA is designed specifically for busy professionals whose time is valuable," Widrick says. "It can be accessed at any time of the day or night from anywhere with an Internet connection."

A leading full-service provider of online learning technology for more than a decade, Embanet offers support for students, faculty and administrators through a dedicated toll-free number, live online chat, e-mail and a self-help "frequently asked questions" portal.

Marcia Morphy

To learn more, go to <http://embaonline.rit.edu/>



Stanley Widrick





## Notebook

### Filmmaker kicks off 'Visionaries' series

Film producer Joslyn Barnes will headline the Caroline Werner Gannett Project's 2009-2010 "Visionaries in Motion III" series this fall.

Barnes, a noted film producer and political activist who co-founded Louverture Films with actor Danny Glover, will discuss "Imagination and the Cinema of Resistance" on Sept. 21. Barnes was executive producer of the 2008 film *Trouble the Water*, a documentary of a couple's struggles in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina.

All Gannett events are free and open to the public. For more information about the series visit [www.cwgp.org](http://www.cwgp.org).

### Chemical engineering program begins

In response to the increasing demand for chemical engineers, a new undergraduate degree program has been launched by RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering. The first students will begin studies this fall.

In the past two years, the college has also gained approval for a master's degree program in sustainable engineering as well as minor options in energy and the environment and in sustainable product development.

### Funding brings viable fuel cells closer

Delphi Corp. and RIT will receive \$2.4 million in federal funding for joint efforts to develop a cost-effective method to manufacture fuel-cell auxiliary power units.

Congresswoman Louise Slaughter helped secure the

funding, which could help Delphi's fuel-cell unit become the first commercially produced solid-oxide fuel-cell unit to hit the market as soon as 2012. Delphi has produced a prototype solid oxide fuel cell that produces electricity by "harvesting" hydrogen from diesel, biofuel or natural gas.

At the same time, RIT engineers have been working to identify options to minimize fuel cell life-cycle costs. Delphi and RIT have come together to merge their researchers and resources to develop a cost-effective way to mass-produce Delphi's fuel cell technology.

### Grant will help students in computing disciplines

The Department of Networking, Security and Systems Administration in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences has secured a grant from the National Security Agency, on behalf of the U.S. Department of Defense, to fund a scholarship program aimed at students studying a discipline related to computer and network security.

The scholarship covers the full tuition for the winner. In addition, undergraduate winners receive a \$12,000 stipend and graduate recipients receive a \$17,000 stipend. In exchange, recipients agree to work for the Department of Defense for one calendar year for each year they receive the scholarship.

Many winners also participate in internships with the Department of Defense during the time they receive the scholarship.

To learn more, visit <http://print.rit.edu>.

## In Memoriam

# Longtime RIT benefactor Thomas Gosnell dies

Thomas Gosnell, former chairman of the RIT Board of Trustees and well-known community philanthropist, died April 27, 2009.

Mr. Gosnell, former chief executive officer of Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., was appointed to RIT's Board of Trustees in 1977 and served as chairman from 1987 to 1992. The great-grandson of Ezra R. Andrews, a founding trustee of Mechanics Institute (RIT's predecessor), Mr. Gosnell followed a long family tradition of involvement with the university. RIT's College of Science building is named in his honor, and he was instrumental in the establishment of the \$13 million Center for Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Technology, an addition to the Gosnell Building.

Other contributions have helped establish or have supported the Student Life Center, eight scholarships (each in memory of family members), the Nathaniel Rochester Society, Center for Hearing and Speech Research and the Arthur J. Gosnell Professorship in Economics.

RIT's Gosnell Boathouse was named in honor of Mr. Gosnell and his wife, Georgia. He also supported RIT men's and women's



Thomas Gosnell at the boathouse opening in 2005.

crew teams with the donation of three rowing shells.

The family connection to RIT continues: Thomas Gosnell's son, Arthur Gosnell, joined the board of trustees in 1997.



## Searching for a job? RIT can show the way

When Colleen McCarthy '03 (professional and technical communications) was an RIT student, she expected to work for an



**Colleen McCarthy**

advertising/public relations agency after graduation.

She did a co-op at a Rochester agency, which led to some contract work. But then her career path went in an unexpected direction. She worked for the *Labor News*, a Rochester

trade union publication, as director of communications for the Monroe County (N.Y.) Democratic Committee, and in the communications bureau for Rochester Mayor Bob Duffy '93 (multidisciplinary studies). Last year, she became assistant director of the Government and Community Relations Office at the University of Rochester.

McCarthy's best advice for people seeking jobs? "Don't focus too narrowly," she told students at RIT this spring. "Keep your options open."

McCarthy was one of the participants in a panel discussion titled "How to Conduct an Effective Job Search." Organized by RIT's Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services, such panels are among the services available to alumni at any point in their work life as well as to students and new grads. It's just one of many career

resources offered.

A growing number of alumni are taking advantage of the services, says Emanuel Contomanolis, associate vice president and director, Co-op and Career Services. For the last three months



**Contomanolis**

of 2008, 344 alumni accessed the system. From January through March 2009, the number jumped to 855.

"We know alumni are being affected by the economic downturn, and they are looking to RIT," says Contomanolis. "We're prepared to help."

For starters, he offers these considerations:

- Determine how much flexibility you have. Can you relocate to a distant city or does your personal situation make moving difficult?
- Are you willing to take a lower-salary position, or perhaps work on a contract or consulting basis without benefits? Many companies are looking for alternatives to hiring full-time employees.

• What are your interests? In addition to your job experience, your extra-curricular activities may steer you toward a new career.

• Start your job search early. If it appears that your position is in jeopardy, don't wait to be laid off. If you have lost your job, don't wait until your unemployment benefits are exhausted before starting your search.

"Earlier is always better than later," says Contomanolis, "and the fact is that it is always easier to look for a job when you're currently employed."

• Tap into your personal and professional network. The people you know are often the best sources of information about jobs. That includes professors and departments at RIT.

• Consider using search firms, "head hunters," employment agencies and temp firms.

• Further education "is an option for some," says Contomanolis, "but we don't recommend returning to school for everyone." For people who do need to expand

### You can help, too

There are many ways to assist alumni and students in need of career guidance. For starters, individuals may:

- Participate in panel discussions, forums or career networks.
- Alert the Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services regarding career and co-op opportunities within their place of work.

To learn more, go to [www.rit.edu/alumni/careers/](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/careers/) or call 585-475-2301.

their skill set. RIT offers certificate programs and tuition assistance that can be of help for dislocated workers in particular circumstances.

• Degree programs – undergraduate and graduate – can be a route to a new career for some, but be sure to do your homework and choose a program that leads where you want to go.

• Do take advantage of social networking options including Facebook, Linked In, RIT's Alumni Online Community, Twitter and other online resources. "Any job seeker who is not leveraging social networking, online job postings and similar tools is simply missing an opportunity," says Contomanolis.

**Members of the RIT community share expertise on a variety of subjects in FYI.**

### Career assistance

RIT alumni can access the Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services for free services including one-on-one career counseling, group sessions, online job postings, career fairs, on-campus interviews with employers, resume forwarding, databases of alumni career volunteers and other resources. Visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/careers/](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/careers/) or call 585-475-2301.



# Tiger Sports

## Hardbarger started running and never looked back



Mike Hardbarger

Mike Hardbarger, a standout in both cross country and track and field and two-time All-American, returns for his fifth season at RIT.

A fifth-year mechanical engineering student, Hardbarger was a 2008 Outdoor

All-American in the 1,500-meters, finishing fifth in a school-record time of 3:49.36, and a 2009 Indoor All-American in the mile, placing seventh. In addition, Hardbarger holds two outdoor and five indoor RIT school records.

Hardbarger was the 2009 NYSCTC Indoor Athlete of the Meet and 2009 Empire 8 Indoor Runner of the Year. He also competed in the 2008 NCAA Indoor Championships in the distance medley (9:58.59). Hardbarger was an All-Empire 8 cross country first team selection in 2006 and helped lead the Tigers to the NCAA Championships.

### Why did you choose RIT?

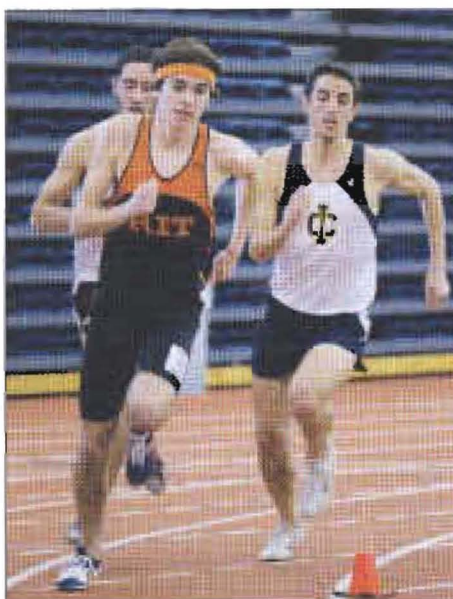
I came to RIT because I was impressed with the opportunities that the mechanical engineering program offered. Also, I wanted to get out and experience the world beyond the hills of West Virginia where I was born.

### What was your experience with athletics before coming to RIT?

I played basketball, baseball and even football for years when I was younger and absolutely hated running. Then during my final two years of high school, my best friend talked me into running and I have never looked back.

### What's the best part about being a student athlete?

Being able to have a team to hang out with and have fun with is the best part. It's like when you are part of your team you automatically have 20 friends to hang out with for two hours a day. It's just great!



Mike Hardbarger will be back for a fifth season.

### How does being an athlete affect being a student?

I have to be more responsible for my body. I have to be aware that my actions affect not only myself but the team as well.

### What is your greatest moment in sports at RIT?

Winning the ECAC Distance Medley Relay my junior year, definitely! We broke the school record and qualified for the national meet. Every leg of that relay team ran a personal record and it was an unbelievable moment, something I will never forget.

### What is your greatest academic accomplishment at RIT?

Getting All-Academic track and field honors my junior year. It is nice to be recognized for my work on and off the track.

### What are you looking forward to for the coming year?

I am pumped for my fifth year! This is it for me and I really want to go out with a bang and see all the work I have put in come together and produce some amazing performances for myself and the team.

### How have your co-op experiences prepared you for life after college?

I have had wonderful co-op experience while at RIT. They have taught me valuable life tools that a student could never learn while in the classroom. These skills will continue to benefit me for years to come while working as a mechanical engineer.

### What advice do you have for freshmen?

Find something you love doing and are very passionate about and do it! The campus is full of people who might share your interests, so just go out there and find them and make friends. The social side of college is a part you will always remember, so take advantage of it while you are here.

### Who is your favorite pro athlete?

As a follower of professional distance running, I have to choose American distance runner Anthony Famiglietti. He has a great personality both on and off the track. He ran steeplechase at the past Olympics and he wasn't scared of the competition, he just went out and pushed the pace from the gun.

### What is your favorite non-RIT Rochester hangout?

I like going up to Lake Ontario with my friends and just hanging out throwing Frisbee and soaking up the sun all day.

### Favorite food?

I love chicken prepared just about any way. I really like Buffalo chicken wings but they aren't very good for my running so I usually eat them only in the off season.

### Favorite professional sports teams?

I have been an Oakland Raiders fan for as long as I can remember. It has been a few years since they have been very good but I'm not about to give up on them anytime soon.

### Tiger Sports Online:

For highlights of all RIT teams and athletes and to see schedules of games, visit [www.ritathletics.com](http://www.ritathletics.com).



# Afghan scholar finds a haven at RIT

Shukria Amani taught at Kabul University, was jailed by the Taliban and now considers herself "so very lucky to continue graduate studies in the United States."

Amani left her homeland and now lives on "borrowed time" while pursuing her MBA degree at E. Philip Saunders College of Business at RIT. She previously studied at RIT on a Fulbright Scholarship following the American-led invasion that toppled the Taliban government.

She learned of the Fulbright opportunity while working at Kabul University and was one of 20 Afghan women selected out of a pool of 2,000 applicants to pursue the nine-month non-degree program in 2005. It was her lucky break, because during the Taliban regime from 1996 to 2003, Amani was banned from her job teaching economics at that very same university.

## **"All the women had to leave,"**

Amani explains. "The Taliban demanded women stay at home, not work, and if they came out of their homes for any reason they had to wear a burka covering their entire body."

That's when Amani became a rebel: She covertly taught students at her home until the risk became too great for her family's safety. Then she taught in a secret room at Kabul's Rabia Balkhi Hospital for women from 1999 to 2000. Her life became endangered when she agreed to teach the staff of a U.S. non-government organization headed by American Mary MacMakin (founder of PARS: Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Support for Afghanistan).

"We were having lunch one day and received a surprise visit from the Taliban," Amani recalls. "They ordered us to put our burkas on, they beat Mary, and took us to Kabul Prison. Some women resisted and fought but I just cried and they didn't touch me. Somehow the BBC News and CNN found out Mary was arrested and we were all released after four days."

Now 51 years old, the unmarried Amani doesn't know her actual birth date. Her parents had 12 children and Shukria was baby number 10, born five minutes after her mother delivered her identical twin sister, Zohra.

Two memories still haunt Amani: Her sister Zohra was badly beaten by the Taliban for walking alone near dusk and now suffers from a totally impaired left arm. The second incident happened after the Ameri-



Shukria Amani left Afghanistan to pursue a master's degree at RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business.

**"My hands and hair were covered with blood from shattered glass and as I started to run, I had to step around the dismembered body parts of children and shoppers I had seen alive just minutes ago."**

**Shukria Amani**

can presence when a bomb hit the Kabul marketplace.

"My hands and hair were covered with blood from shattered glass and as I started to run, I had to step around the dismembered body parts of children and shoppers I had seen alive just minutes ago," Amani says in a quiet voice. "When you see the rockets here, here and here, then you think it's my turn. After the Americans came we had hopes of peace but now we have suicide bombs, and before that the Taliban would hang people by their hands and feet in the square. When you see these things it makes you very, very sad."

**"Oh God, I used to say** to myself, please help our people in Afghanistan because they suffer so much."

Amani worked three years at Kabul University for the ministry of finance to save up enough money to return to the United States and RIT after the Fulbright.

"She speaks Farsi, the formal language of Afghanistan, Pashto, French, Russian and

English. But nothing prepared her for RIT's advanced business courses using Power Point, Excel and other programs," says Peggy Tirrell, senior associate director of graduate business programs. "It's a tough program, but Shukria is doing very well."

Amani agrees. "I had to take my homework very seriously and the professors at RIT have been very supportive during my practical training. I hope to have a co-op here in the United States."

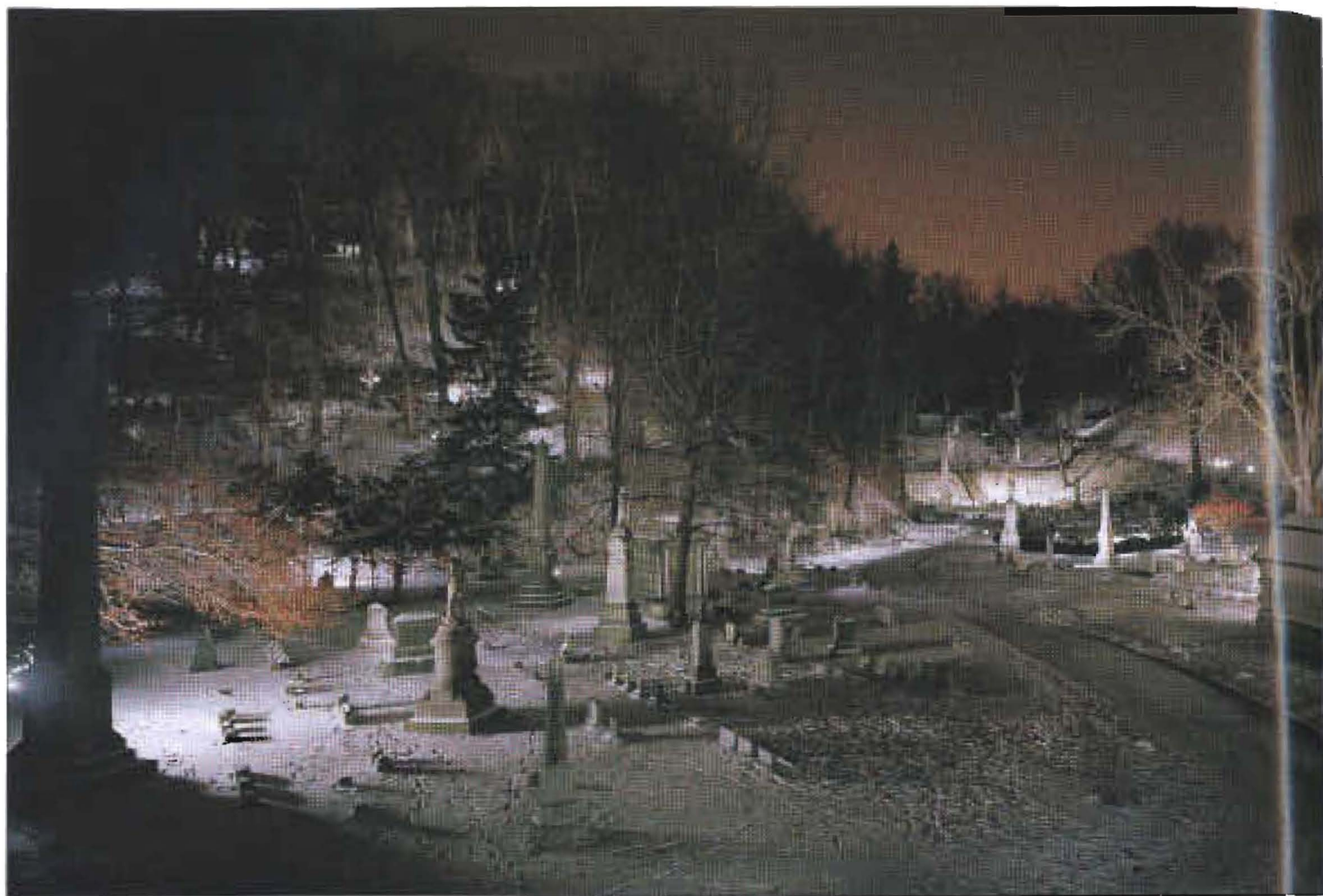
Does Amani wish to return to her homeland?

"My mother died last August and I don't have a home to go back to," Amani says. "And I have the same fears of leaving the house to go to work and not knowing if I would return."

"If I do go back to my country, I will take what I've learned at RIT and help to educate women," Amani says with a long sigh. "But I like the United States very much and want to stay. There are happy endings here, not like in Afghanistan."

**Marcia Morphy**





Rochester's Mt. Hope Cemetery, the subject of the the 1995 Big Shot, was particularly memorable: The camera crew had to be tied to a tree to remain upright.

# Shots in the dark

## RIT's intrepid photo team takes aim for the 25th time

RIT's Big Shot photography project first flashed onto the scene on a wintry Rochester night in December 1987. Since its inception, the project has hoppedscotched to several national landmarks and twice crossed the Atlantic Ocean.

No matter what the subject, the photo-making process yields a unique nighttime image and fosters a spirit of community among the hundreds of strangers, friends, children and adults who provide the guiding light.

This September, the project shoots for 25.

The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., is the subject of the 25<sup>th</sup> Big Shot photo. Located along the National Mall just south of the U.S. Capitol, the curvilinear and domed museum has an exterior clad in Kasota limestone.

"From the moment Bill and I first visited the museum with family a few years ago, we thought it would make for a perfect Big Shot photograph," says Dawn Tower DuBois, professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and one of the Big Shot

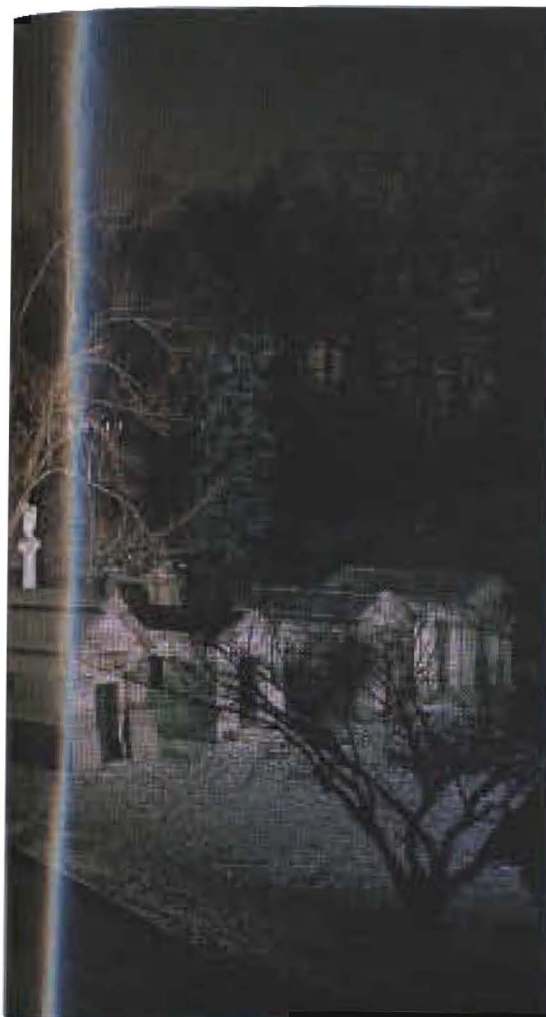
organizers. "What drew us to the structure was its unique architecture, the color and the texture of the stone, and the museum's location on the National Mall."

The longtime project organizers are a trio of RIT faculty members: Tower DuBois, Bill DuBois and Michael Peres from RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

On the night of the actual photo shoot, the DuBoises are behind the cameras perched on scaffolding while Peres is on the ground managing logistics and volunteers.

All the planning and preparation can't





## Want to be a Big Shot in Washington, D.C.?

The National Museum of the American Indian (above) will be the subject of RIT's Big Shot project on Saturday evening, Sept. 26. Find out more at [www.rit.edu/alumni/bigshot09](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/bigshot09).

## Below-freezing temperatures

welcomed in the first Big Shot at Rochester's Highland Hospital in 1987. The Big Shot project began as an extracurricular event for the biomedical photographic communications department.

"We decided to illuminate a medically related subject," says Peres, chair of biomedical photographic communications. "We picked Highland Hospital because it was near my house and we could go back there after the picture was taken to drink hot chocolate. For that first Big Shot, we only had about 75 volunteers. The students wanted to know where the next Big Shot was going to be."

George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, with its ties to photography and Eastman Kodak, was a natural choice for the second Big Shot.

The growing excitement and number of volunteers armed with flashlights each year solidified the Big Shot as a fun tradition that could draw in the community no matter its destination.

"While we were setting up for the photograph at the Ontario County Courthouse in

Canandaigua (N.Y.), a woman pulled up in a car and asked if she could get involved," says DuBois. "We said of course. She then showed us her keychain with a very small flashlight on it and said, 'I've got my light with me.' We've had stories like that with youngsters and adults who want to be part of it."

The three eventually set their sights on national landmarks like the Alamo and the World War II Aircraft carrier the USS Intrepid. The Big Shot has gone international twice with the Presidential Palace in Stockholm, Sweden, in 2003 followed in 2007 by Dubrovnik, Croatia, the home of RIT's sister school, the American College of Management and Technology.

There is no shortage of anecdotes.

Due to freezing snow and rain, the DuBoises found themselves in a precarious predicament at the 1995 Big Shot inside Rochester's Mt. Hope Cemetery.

"We were set up on a 45-degree slope to get the vantage point we wanted. Both Bill and I fell and started sliding down," says Tower DuBois. "We were afraid we were going to take out the cameras so Michael used some rope and tied the two of us to a tree. That rope became our good luck charm. We decided we would bring the rope with us to every single Big Shot."

The rope certainly came in handy in 2003, with the camera perched three stories above street level on an apartment balcony across the street from Sweden's Royal Palace.

"We could have thrown the test Polaroid from the roof and watched Michael chase after it down below," says DuBois, "but we turned around and there was the rope so we tied a knot and lowered it so he could see the print and we would know how to shoot the next two exposures."

With the 25<sup>th</sup> Big Shot event on the horizon, what is the secret to its successful longevity?

"It's great fun," says Peres. "We make an image of something that has never been photographed in that way. And creating a sense of community is an integral part of the RIT experience."

Kelly Downs



Big Shot coordinators in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in 2007. From left are Dawn Tower DuBois, Michael Peres and Bill DuBois.

account for the unknowns.

"It's the total anxiety wondering how many people are going to show up and then when you get the crowds there, it's 'Are we communicating effectively?'" says Bill DuBois, chair of visual media photography. "Is the camera focused? What's the weather going to be like?"

## What is a Big Shot photograph?

RIT's Big Shot, often described as a "painting with light" photograph, requires many volunteers to help illuminate the subject area during an extended exposure. To make the nighttime photo, participants use flashlights or camera flash units to light the subject, while RIT faculty shoot the image.

Previous Big Shot photos can be viewed online at [www.rit.edu/cias/bigshot/](http://www.rit.edu/cias/bigshot/)



# *i*NNOVATION takes flight

Facility, programs move RIT toward position as 'Innovation University'

**O**n a perfect May afternoon, two students are contemplating a dramatic new addition to the campus skyline.

"It reminds me of the Enterprise," observes one. The other agrees.

The similarity runs deeper than coincidence. Like the starship, the circular glass and steel Center for Student Innovation is designed to take students where they haven't been before. The 10,000-square-foot space will serve as a nexus of creativity and technology, a hub where teams of students from all corners of the university can develop and showcase innovative and entrepreneurial projects.

"The center will be a signature structure that brings RIT closer to the vision of becoming America's 'Innovation and Creativity University,'" says RIT President Bill Destler.

The goal is for every RIT student to acquire an intrinsic understanding of the innovation process, says Ian Gatley, recently named director of Student Innovation and Undergraduate Research Support. "The

world is eager for young people who are eager to change the world," says Gatley. "And the best approach to solving the problems of the world is to work in teams."



Ian Gatley

that position to take the new post. There's no job more important than guiding the launch of the new center, he believes.

"My sense is that RIT is ready to take a giant step forward," says Gatley, "and I want to help lead the charge."

Jeremy Haefner, RIT Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, notes that research and scholarship grew significantly during Gatley's tenure with the Col-

**Above: The Center for Student Innovation was filled with exhibits and visitors during the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival May 2. (Photo by Max Schulte '97)**

lege of Science. Two new doctoral degree programs – in color science and astrophysical science and technology – are among the achievements.

Haefner points to the success of the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium as another example of Gatley's leadership. In 2008, 93 students presented research guided by faculty from nearly all the colleges at RIT.

## **Innovation is for everyone**

Research and innovation are two sides of the same coin, Gatley believes, and these activities should not be the domain of a few upper-level undergrads and graduate students. In his new role, he will help make such experiences available to all students much earlier in their college careers.

Gatley will have plenty of help. People



across campus are working to define what it means to be the innovation university. The Innovation Curricula Working Group is currently focused on inventorying curricula (existing and planned) that supports the innovation vision.

"The problems of the world are interdisciplinary in nature, but traditional education often turns students into single-discipline 'adepts,'" says Jon Schull, associate professor, interactive games and media, and co-chair of the curricula group. "We want to build a culture of collaboration and unleash it on the world's most wicked – and interesting – problems."

During the past academic year, while the Center for Student Innovation was taking shape, about 100 students were already participating in an experiment in innovation. The Collaborative Innovation Program offered nine honors courses that explored the question, "How do we approach innovation at RIT?" In addition to the courses, a series of related "town hall" meetings open to anyone took place in the Wallace Library "Idea Factory."

The classes and meetings attracted students from science, engineering and technology as well as visual art and design



Xanthe Matychak '07

disciplines, says Xanthe Matychak '07 (industrial design), coordinator of the program. Faculty from different colleges joined forces to teach courses such as Design Research, Social Networking

in Action, and Innovation and Invention. Students also had the opportunity to lead workshops (for example, photographic technology major Eric Kirby presented a session on taking product photos).

"Students who would not normally have the chance to meet got to know each other," says Matychak. "Those communications are really hard. We all speak different languages."

"From my own experience as a student, I know that when I took courses outside my comfort zone, I didn't always 'get it' right away," says Matychak. "But later, I realized those experiences were invaluable."

### Embracing collaboration

In addition to exploring multi-disciplinary, collaborative ways of working, students used those methods to develop ideas for possible furnishings, technologies and uses for the Center for Student Innovation.

"We tried to simulate the experience of



Mark Almekinder, a science outreach presenter for Rochester Museum & Science Center, demonstrates an experiment with liquid nitrogen in the Center for Student Innovation. RMSC presented two exhibits at the Imagine RIT Festival in May. (Photo by Elizabeth Lamark '00/ETC Photo)

## Center fosters new relationships

The new Center for Student Innovation is already helping RIT connect to organizations outside the university.

The center's corporate partnership with Vuzix Corp., a Rochester-based manufacturer of 3-D video eyewear, was announced in April, and a formal alliance with Rochester Museum & Science Center has also been established.

Vuzix will supply the center with the company's advanced personal display eyewear, software development kits, technical expertise and previews of future product offerings. Vuzix designs and manufactures digital displays and eyewear used in a range of commercial, medical and defense applications. One of its upcoming products, see-through "sunglass" displays, will bring 3-D movies and graphics to iPhone users.

"It's only natural that we team with a premier technology and innovation center that just happens to be in our backyard," says Paul Travers, president of Vuzix. "We have a special relationship with our RIT co-op employees, and many of our engineering staff are graduates of the university."

Cultivating curiosity about science and technology in children and in their families is at the heart of the relationship between RIT and the Rochester Museum & Science Center.

"RIT and the museum are in the same business, which is the education of the next generation," says Ian Gailley, director of Student Innovation and Undergraduate Research Support. "The museum typically gets students at a younger age than we do on campus, but we both help develop the upcoming generation of people who are going to save the planet."

"For years now, we've been involved with RIT and this is a celebration of our past work and stimulation for future opportunities," says Kate Bennett, president of RMSC. "So much of what goes on can be driven or executed by faculty and student projects, and we welcome new ideas."

a new person coming here," says Lauren Courtney, a new media publishing major from Buffalo who begins her second year this fall. Dozens of ideas were explored: a directory of electronic business cards, social

networking systems, interactive displays and specialized accoutrements to make the facility functional, impressive and inspirational.

"We were from all different majors," says





Vuzix Corp., a Rochester-based manufacturer of 3-D video eyewear, has become a corporate partner of the Center for Student Innovation. Vuzix technology was on display in the center at the Imagine RIT festival.

## "We want to build a culture of collaboration and unleash it on the world's most wicked - and interesting - problems."

Jon Schull, associate professor, interactive games and media

Courtney, "so when people brought ideas to the table, it was really interesting to see.

"Before I came to RIT, I never thought I would be working on something like this," she adds. "It was a great experience. I'm a designer, and it would be easy to stay in my own little bubble. I don't want to do that."

The Center for Student Innovation will serve many people and many functions, so the space needs to remain very flexible. Gafley uses the analogy of a park, which could be the setting for a picnic, a ball game, or a band concert.

The center, in fact, is a big, open space surrounded by glass. It's not set up as a classroom, a lab or a workshop - but it could be any of those things.

### Hands on, minds open

One idea under development is a system of two-way "video portals" that will connect the center with labs and facilities all over campus, says Schull.



Jon Schull

"There's going to be a holodeck aspect to this," says Schull, "and we think RIT students will be able

to implement it using digital projectors and augmented reality eyewear manufactured by a local company called Vuzix."

Rob Vlosky, who helped negotiate the deal with Vuzix (see related story page 11) and taught commercialization in the Saunders College of Business this year, says, "I think the center can become a catalyst for all sorts of interesting collaborations between RIT and innovative businesses. It's going to be very cool."

Chris Tompkins-Tinch, a fourth-year

imaging science major from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., helped develop a prototype for the video portal system. In spring 2008, he was taking Schull's Innovation and Invention class.

"He set out a challenge to come up with 'immersive computing systems' for the Center for Student Innovation," says Tompkins-Tinch. "We came up with a four-screen, rear projection system in a cube. We called it 'Sensational 4-D' and demoed it at the first Imagine RIT festival."

Tompkins-Tinch is president of RIT's MAKE Club, a student group interested in do-it-yourself projects, skill exploration and learning. He's developing a "people project finder," a Facebook application that he describes as a "dating site for projects," for use in the innovation center.

He has a particular vision for the new facility. "We hope the it will become a hacker space - not in the negative sense. It would be great if it could be a space where students could get together to work any time, 24/7."

### Epicenter of action

Whatever happens inside the new structure, it is destined to be surrounded by a bustling new campus complex. The University Services Center, a 44,000-square-foot, three-story office building that opened in May, is attached to the Center for Student Innovation by the new Student Services Lobby. That area is now the site of student business functions related to finances, scheduling, parking and housing.

Construction has begun nearby on Global Village, a complex of student housing and services that will open in fall 2010. Included is Entrepreneurs' Hall, a residence and business development program affiliated with the Albert J. Simone Center for In-

## Hall of Fame will honor innovators

As the Center for Student Innovation was being constructed, an idea for recognizing innovators and innovation was also taking shape.

RIT's Innovation Hall of Fame is intended to acknowledge individuals and innovations that have had a positive impact on global society.

Criteria for inclusion in the hall will focus on: artistic, creative and/or technical work; creation of a working product, system or design; unique developments within a particular field or profession; creation of a product or start-up business based on a unique intellectual property.

RIT alumni, students, faculty, staff or others affiliated with the university are eligible. Nominations can be made online at [www.rit.edu/ihfnomination](http://www.rit.edu/ihfnomination).

The first induction ceremony will take place in May 2010 in connection with the third annual Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival.



## Artist provides a clear view of science and technology

An intriguing glass mural marks the boundary between the Center for Student Innovation and the adjacent University Services Center.

Rochester artist Nancy Gong created the 11-by-54-foot work, titled *In Art, Science & Life. What is the Question?* Etched on 13 tempered-glass panels each weighing 450 pounds is a flowing design that is more than decorative. Gong has incorporated symbols representing colliding atoms, DNA, the Earth and other planets, molecules, fractals and other images from science, math and technology. The dominant wave motif, which could be



Artist Nancy Gong puts finishing touches on a panoramic glass mural. The artwork, left, forms a dramatic backdrop for the Center for Student Innovation.



seen as a moonscape, represents the Bose-Einstein condensate theory from quantum physics. Along the top of the mural is binary code representing a

quote attributed to Thomas Berger: "The art and science of asking questions is the source of all knowledge."

Gong talked to faculty and administrators to develop ideas. "It was important to me that the imagery have meaning," she says.

She worked on the panels at Rochester Glass Inc., and completed the hand-chipped texture etching after the pieces were assembled on site. In the

30 years since she founded Gong Glass Works, this is the largest piece she's ever created. Considering the scope of the project, the timetable was short: About three months from conception to completion.

Gong is delighted to have had the opportunity to be part of the new Center for Student Innovation.

"It's really cool to be able to share this with the students," says Gong. "Soon, they'll be the stewards of our world."

novation and Entrepreneurship, a business incubator for ideas developed by students.

Richard DeMartino, professor of management and director of the Simone Center, says the Center for Student Innovation and the entrepreneurship program are closely aligned. The process of innovation entails finding an opportunity, creating a solution and putting it into action – either as a commercial entity or to address a societal issue, explains DeMartino, who co-chairs the Innovation Curricula Working Group with Jon Schull.

"The vision is that every student in every program will have an innovation experi-

**"The vision is that every student in every program will have an innovation experience."**

**Richard DeMartino, director, Simone Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

ence," says DeMartino. "We add a business component for students who want to take their projects in that direction."

The center opened just in time for the Imagine RUF: Innovation and Creativity Festival May 2. For that one day, the center was filled with exhibits showing a range of student innovation.

The academic year ended just a few

weeks later, so many students and faculty members left for the summer without setting foot inside the new structure.

When they return in September, the center will be ready and waiting.

"I really hope people take advantage of it," says Lauren Courtney. "It can become such a great resource for everyone."

**Kathy Lindsley**





Students in the 1988 Explore Your Future program participate in a team-building activity at the Red Barn, RIT's interactive adventure facility.

# 25 years into the 'Future'

NTID summer program gives high school students a chance for self-exploration

A lot of classroom learning goes on during the summer at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. But a different type of education – one of self awareness – occurs as deaf and hard-of-hearing high school students from around the country come together for a six-day Explore Your Future session.

Celebrating its 25th summer this year, EYF began in 1985 with just 18 high school juniors who came to the RIT/NTID campus to explore career options. This year, more than 200 students participated over two weeks in July.

One of the pioneering students was Kathleen Moran-Doskos '91 (social work), now an NTID counselor. "I remember some of the staff who were working there during the

first EYF and still keep in touch with them."

"The point is not to pick a career then, it is to encourage students to ask questions and start thinking, 'What fits me?' " says Robb Adams, chairman of NTID's Counseling and Academic Services Department and a counselor at the first EYF.

Just as important is the socialization the students have with their peers. In many cases, the students may be the only deaf student in their high school. Here, they make friends they can communicate with – whether they use their voice, sign language or both.

"A lot of real bonding goes on during EYF," Adams says. "At the end of six days, they build relationships that will last their whole lives."

Nearly 100 RIT/NTID faculty, staff, students and others work with the EYF campers.

Gerry Buckley, NTID's assistant vice president for College Advancement, says EYF was established when the U.S. Department of Education noted that individuals with disabilities often didn't attend or succeed at college.

"In 1985, NTID already had 15 years of experience working with deaf and hard-of-hearing students with career decision making and student development," Buckley says. "We also knew the value and power involved in exposing students to role models both in the classroom and in the residence halls. We were well aware of the shift in educational placement from residential to



mainstream schools and were proactive in planning educational models that would meet the transitional needs of this evolving population."

For two decades, Jean Bondi-Wolcott was the EYF director until her retirement in 2005. She was the program's biggest cheerleader and is fondly regarded as "the mother of EYF," Buckley says. Debbye Byrne '01 (applied arts and sciences) now holds the reins.

Del Dagel, an NTID counselor, has worked at every EYF, most recently as the coordinator of student testing and the dozen EYF counselors. He says the students are tested to determine whether they are introverts or extroverts, and they learn about personality types and corresponding career options.

"The students are very attentive, eager to learn and eager to meet other students as well," Dagel says. "The reward is that you have these young people who are so excited to be on campus – not just for the program itself, but the overall experience of what it's like to be a college student.

"Not only do we promote teaching and learning and education, we're trying to promote the whole notion of thinking about continuing your education – and it doesn't have to be on the RIT campus." However, about 70 percent of students in the EYF program apply to attend RIT/NTID.

Rob Rice '97 (business administration) witnessed the transformations of students over a matter of days when he worked as a resident director for EYF in the early 1990s. He is now president and managing partner

of BayFirst Solutions in Washington and a member of NTID's Foundation Board of Directors and RIT's President's Roundtable.

"EYF for many high school students is an opportunity to meet other deaf peers and realize that they are simply not alone in this hearing world," Rice says. "To be immersed in a collegiate environment where one doesn't struggle to communicate is just an incredible social experience and one exhilarating enough to have students realize that RIT is a welcoming place they can return to upon graduation from high school."

Scot Atkins '94, '97 (business administration, career and human resource development), a member of NTID's National Advisory Group and director of Organizational Development and Human Resources at Interpretrek, worked as a mentor during EYF's second year in 1986.

"There was always something going on in the evenings and the mentors played an active role in those activities," Atkins says. "We had field trips, a tour of Rochester, ice cream and activities in the Red Barn (RIT's interactive adventures facility). We had students practically from all over the U.S., many of whom had never met other deaf people from other places. It was fun to see



1986 mentors included Scot Atkins, second from left, who now serves on NTID's National Advisory Group.

friendships develop throughout the week. Some friendships have lasted to this very day."

Although the core mission remains the same, the classroom activities have evolved as technology and career options have changed over the years.

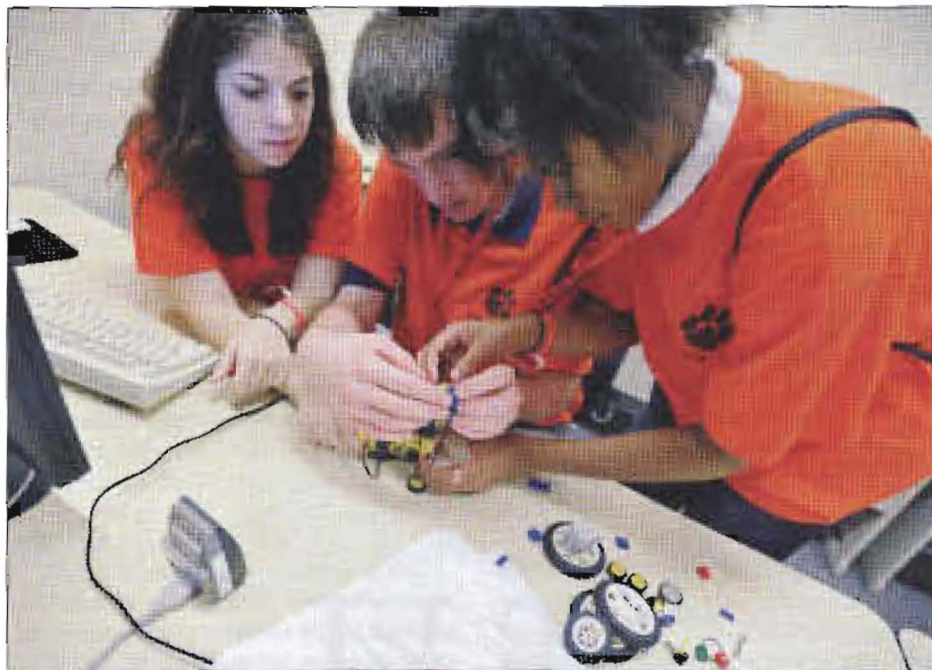
"Despite the technological advancement over the years with Facebook and video games, students at that age are always searching for that special connection to the world as they become more independent," Atkins says. "EYF helps to foster those connections through a glimpse of technical careers and through the development of life-long friendships."

The students pay \$650 to attend EYF, which includes their housing and meals. Vocational Rehabilitation in some states may help with expenses because students receive needed testing during EYF. Private scholarships may also be awarded to students, and a drive is underway to increase the scholarship pool for future students.

After 25 years, EYF has found a recipe that works. Almost unanimously, participating students and their parents agree EYF is a positive experience.

"It's always exciting. There is new energy, it's never boring and it doesn't get old," Adams says. "It was always an exciting program to be involved in. And the parents are very appreciative. They say their kids changed when they came home – they grew up a lot in that week."

Buckley agrees. "I often hear parents and teachers comment on the value of EYF," he says. "Often teachers will say that once a student has attended EYF, all of the 'preaching' about preparing for college that students hear from their teachers and parents hits home and makes sense."



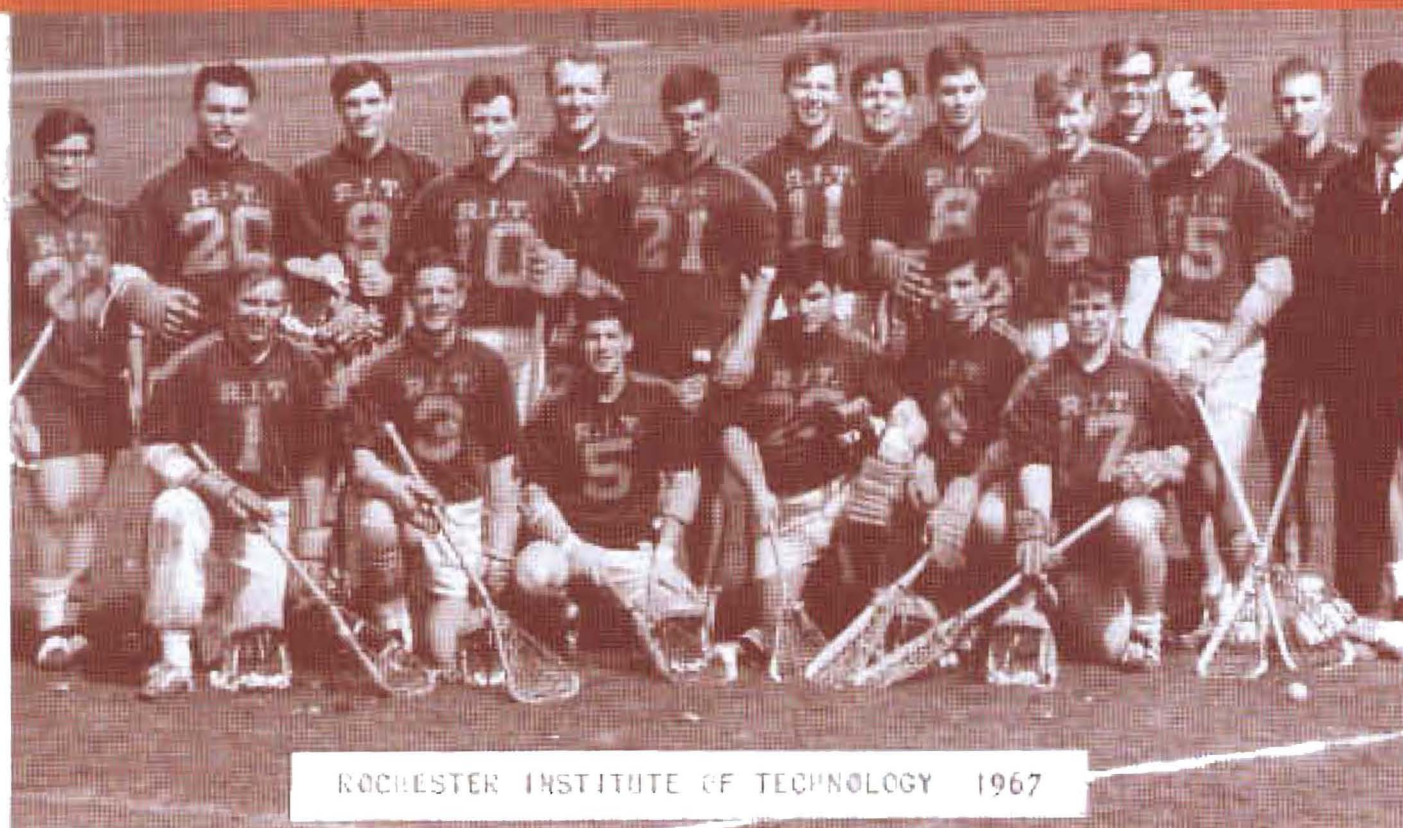
2008 EYF participants work together on a technical challenge. The activities have evolved over the years.

Greg Livadas





# Make your mark on the future.



Among the values of RIT are teamwork and collaboration. Gerry Kleiman '70 (#22) embodies those values by giving back to the team that taught them. "I chose to include a bequest for the RIT lacrosse team in my Will because of the many wonderful experiences that I had as a member of the team. I learned to be a team player, to win and to lose, and had a great relationship with our coach, Ralph Armstrong. Many of these experiences affected my whole life and still mean a lot to me."

Including a bequest to RIT in your will or trust is an easy way to make a difference. It doesn't affect your current cash flow or assets. It's easy to change if your circumstances change, and it may save you estate taxes later. Best of all, you have the satisfaction that goes with making your mark on RIT's future.

For more information, contact Leila Rice, Director of Planned Giving, at 800-477-0376 or [leila.rice@rit.edu](mailto:leila.rice@rit.edu).

Visit us online at [www.rit.planyourlegacy.org](http://www.rit.planyourlegacy.org)

Planned Giving



R·I·T



# Noteworthy developments

**Music is a growing part of life at RIT**

**W**hen Steve Haber came to RIT, he didn't know many other students.

He joined RIT Singers, then auditioned for and was accepted into Eight Beat Measure men's a cappella vocal ensemble.

"Eight Beat has been my support system," says Haber '09 (information technology). "It's been a big part of my RIT life."

Haber is among 400 to 500 students who participate in RIT's growing music program headquartered in the Fine Arts Department of the College of Liberal Arts. That number includes members of 11 performing groups as well as students taking academic classes ranging from music theory and music history to Bach and the Baroque and The Blues as Personal and Social Commentary.

Students from all colleges sign up for classes, and more than 200 students are pursuing music concentrations and minors.

In the coming school year, a new music minor is being rolled out: Music and Technology. It's a logical step for RIT, says Carl Atkins, director of the music program. Music plays a part in film and animation, multi-media, digital recording, electronic games and a host of technological devices and systems.

"We talked to people in several of RIT's other colleges, and there's a lot of synergy," says Atkins. "The program will be multidisciplinary." To complete the minor, students will take eight credits in required courses



Steve Haber '09 performs with Eight Beat Measure. (Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)

plus 12 credits in electives. Down the road, Atkins hopes Music and Technology will become RIT's first music major.

It's part of the goal of developing what Atkins calls "a music program that's right for RIT and right for music."

## **Music has some history at RIT.**

Going back to the early 20th century, there was a "glee club," and NTID had a very active music program in the 1970s and '80s. The NTID groups included the NTID Combo

(consisting of four to six deaf and hard-of-hearing students), the RIT Timestompers (hearing and deaf students), and a concert band.

When Associate Professor of Music Edward Schell arrived in 1982, music at RIT consisted of a few performing groups (including NTID groups) and a handful of music appreciation and music history courses. The music room in the Student Alumni Union didn't exist; the only rehearsal space was in the lower level of the





Encore, RIT's female a capella ensemble, performs in the spring 2009 concert in Ingle Auditorium. (Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)



Ed Schell accepts a bouquet at the close of a concert in May. He is stepping down as conduc-

College of Liberal Arts building.

RIT Singers had 17 members; by comparison, the group today comprises 80 to 100 students.

"We began to develop an academic curriculum," says Schell. "It took time. We had to persuade people that there was a need. We're not trying to become a music conservatory, but many students are interested in music and one of our goals is to help them grow their abilities and also give them the tools to appreciate music on a deeper level.

"You know we had that saying, at RIT you learn how to earn a living, live a life," Schell notes. "Music is part of living a life."

By the time Atkins arrived in 2002, the evolution of the program was underway, but music was still considered by many to be "more of a recreational activity," he says.

"At first, I wasn't sure I wanted to teach music in a technical school," says Atkins, an accomplished musician who was teaching at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music. The former director of Rochester's Hochstein School of Music, and former president of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Atkins has a doctoral degree from the Eastman School of Music in conducting and music theory.

"I was impressed with the administra-

**"Music and performing arts are part of providing a comprehensive education. As professional musicians, we take it very seriously."**

**Carl Atkins, director, RIT's music program**

tion's commitment to make this a comprehensive university," says Atkins, explaining his decision to join the music faculty. "Music and performing arts are part of providing a comprehensive education. As professional musicians, we take it very seriously.

"It's unfair to the students to go into it in any other way."

Today, there are four full-time music faculty members and eight adjuncts. The performing groups include RIT Singers, Chamber Singers, four a capella groups, RIT Orchestra, RIT Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble and World Music Ensemble. The groups perform regularly at RIT and at Rochester community venues and participate in collegiate competitions and festivals. In addition, several student-led groups are supported by the music program.

Students can receive academic credit for participating in the ensembles, and also have the opportunity to take private lessons. Currently, clarinet, saxophone, flute, violin, viola, tuba, trombone, piano, percussion and voice lessons are offered.

"Many students have had lessons right up until they arrive at RIT, and they're playing at a high level," says Atkins. "But without one-on-one instruction, they begin to lose that edge. The lessons have really enhanced the ensembles."

Luke Auburn '09 (professional and tech-

nical communications) agrees. He played cello in the RIT Orchestra throughout his four years at RIT. Auburn says the orchestra has improved dramatically in that time, due to the private lessons. (His brother Zeke, a third-year public policy major, plays viola in the orchestra and takes lessons.)

Being involved in music "keeps me mentally balanced," says Auburn. "I use different parts of my brain when I play music. It's therapeutic.

"It's a constant struggle to find the time," he adds. "But I would have been sad to put down the cello."

Many students seem to have that need to feed both sides of their brains.

That was the situation for Paul Melnychuk '83, '84 (chemistry, imaging sci-

ence). He started to play the piano and violin at age 9. He also loved photography.

He continued his love of music at RIT, becoming the first concertmaster of the RIT Philharmonia and also singing in RIT

Singers. He began his career at the Kodak Research Labs in 1981 and left in 1998 as founder and senior vice president, Kodak



Carl Atkins



Paul Melnychuk '83, '84





tor but will continue teaching.  
(Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)



Professor Carl Atkins leads the World Music Ensemble, which he founded. (Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)

Recording Products. Subsequent positions continued to combine music and technology.

Today, as co-founder of Too Far Independent Media in San Francisco, he works as a music producer. He also pursues his own creative projects, and has a CD in the works.

Melnychuck visited RIT in 2003, when he was named Distinguished Alumnus for the College of Science.

"I was so impressed with how the music program has grown," he says. "In my speech, I talked about my education being grounded in science and technology. But at RIT I also learned how to bow a Beethoven symphony, the nuances. I would say the music program had a profound affect on me."

Pam Feldman Munn '00 (hospitality and service management) remembers the friends she made as a member of RIT Singers. Encore a cappella ensemble and participating in musicals.

"You meet people from other parts of RIT, outside of your major and college. I ended up being roommates with women



Pam Munn '00

says. "I really looked forward to Thursday night."

I met through music," says Munn, now a salesperson for Unisource Worldwide, a distributor of paper and packaging.

"It is a time commitment, but rehearsals are a break from classes and studying," she

Kathy Lindsley



Electrical Engineering Professor David Perlman founded the Performing Artists Concert Series in 1995.  
(Photo by Rigoberto Perdomo)

## Concert series is engineer's gift to RIT

RIT's Performing Artists Concert Series owes its existence to David Perlman's mother.

Perlman, an RIT electrical engineering professor (now emeritus), was visiting his mom at an assisted living facility in Florida in 1995 when a young woman – with a baby in a bassinet – sat down at the piano to play for the residents.

"I thought, 'Yuck – I'll have to listen to more patronizing elevator music,' but all of a sudden I heard this incredibly

played Chopin," Perlman recalls. "I was astounded."

**An idea grabbed him** and wouldn't let go. "It occurred to me that there were many talented musicians thirsting for opportunities to play, while, at the time, there was a nearly total absence of professionally performed classical music and jazz on campus."

He took his idea to the RIT administration.



"They said 'If you'll run it, we'll fund it,'" says Perlman.

What Perlman then called the Emerging Artists Concert Series was launched in the 1995-96 school year with two concerts—including a recital by Russian pianist Eleonora Lvov, the young pianist Perlman had discovered in Florida.

The 15th season, which begins Sept. 25, 2009, will feature five concerts.

Perlman has proved a passionate and tireless impresario. He and his wife, Marjorie, are long-time arts supporters with many and deep connections with arts organizations. David has served on the boards of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and Geva Theatre and Marjorie has worked for the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts and is currently on the boards of Friends of the UR Libraries, Friends of Eastman Opera, Park Avenue Dance, and Project U.N.I.Q.U.E.

He has had no problem finding performers and audiences for the RIT series. "I think I stumbled onto something," he says with characteristic modesty. He believes there are several reasons why performers are enthusiastic about participating:

- RIT's 500-seat Ingle Auditorium is an ideal size.
- Performers present music they want to play; Perlman is open to their ideas.
- Musicians perform with people they want to play with.
- RIT offers musicians a chance to reach students as well as music lovers from the Rochester community.

"Plus," says Perlman, "We do innovative



Rod Blumenau at work. (Photo by Rigo Perdomo)

things that musicians like."

Rochester jazz pianist Rod Blumenau concurs on all points. Blumenau and his trio opened the first season and he has returned at least once every year since with ensembles made up of some of the area's finest jazz musicians.

"David is very interested in the concert content," says Blumenau. "He thinks 'out of the box' and we always have animated discussions about the themes of my concerts, but once we decide he gives me a long leash and doesn't micromanage, which I really appreciate. David is very supportive throughout the process, especially going beyond the call of duty to promote the

concert in publications, posters, radio interviews and ads, etc."

On Dec. 11, Blumenau and his group will perform a jazz concert based on music of the Beatles. Past efforts have included "Legends of Jazz Piano" and "Music Recycling 101," in which Blumenau demonstrated how composers borrow from their predecessors.

Performing Artists Series also provided the setting, in 2003, for the premiere of *Sydney the Sea Squid* (poem by Barbara Stewart, music by Paul Stuart), commissioned by RIT and performed by the Equinox Symphony Chamber Orchestra. A concert this past May in conjunction with the Imagine RIT Festival brought the world premiere of a concerto grosso written by Eastman doctoral candidate Paul Coleman for the Rochester string quintet Quartsemble and electronics, commissioned by the Performing Artists Concert Series.

**The series has succeeded** in tapping into the depth of musical talent in the Rochester area, as well as bringing in up-and-coming performers from as far away as Moscow. The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and several of its subsets have performed numerous times, as have ensembles and faculty members from the Eastman School of Music. In a memorable trio performance, internationally known pianist Jon Nakamatsu was joined by RPO principals Kenneth Grant (clarinet) and Melissa Matson (viola). Lang Lang, who has become one of the world's most famous classical pianists, was 17 when he came to RIT to perform with the RPO in the 1999-2000 series.

The audience for Performing Artists Series concerts is growing—particularly students, who have accounted for as much as 50 percent of tickets sold. Sellouts or near sellouts are not unusual. Not surprisingly, the classical concerts attract a different audience than the jazz performances, although both groups seem equally enthusiastic about the shows.

"While I have no particular idea why," says Blumenau, "the audience at David's concerts is always very receptive to our efforts. They are the most intent and appreciative audiences I run into each year."

For Perlman, the series remains a labor of love—and make no mistake, there is a lot of labor involved. How much?

"I don't know," he says. "A lot."

"But I've got to say, honestly, I can't think of anything I've ever done that gives me more pleasure."

## The 15th season

The 2009-10 season of RIT's Performing Artists Concert Series features the following concerts:

- **Louis & Ella**, Sept. 25: Herb Smith, trumpet; Joilet Harris, vocals; Michael Lasser, narration.
- **Andrey Pisarev Returns**, Oct. 30: Recital by the Russian pianist, back by popular demand.
- **Jazz Impressions of the Beatles**, Dec. 11: Rod Blumenau Quartet with Jeff Campbell, bass; Gabe Condon, guitar; and Brad Paxton, drums.
- **Four Classical Stars**, April 2, 2010: Soojin Ahn, piano; Michael Larco, viola; Rachel Barton Pine, violin; Wendy Warner, cello.
- **The Ying Quartet**, April 30, 2010: Classical string quartet.

All concerts begin at 8 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium (Student Alumni Union). Tickets are \$5 for students, \$15 for faculty, staff and alumni, and \$20 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased at the RIT Student Alumni Union Candy Counter or at the door on concert night, if available. For VISA or Master Card phone orders, call the RIT Gordon Field House Box Office at (585) 475-4121.

For more information, visit [www.davidigital.com](http://www.davidigital.com).

Kathy Lindsley



# Banding together

## Music reconnects friends following a family crisis

They formed a band to play music for fun and to make a few bucks back in their college days in the '90s.

They reunited for a more important reason. Ryan Cahill '95 (biology), Matt Daniels '95, '99 (mechanical engineering), Ron DiFelice '94, '95 (chemistry) and Dylan James '98 (civil engineering technology) got back together to make a CD in honor of Savanna James, daughter of Dylan and Robin Martin James '94 (finance).

Savanna – now 8½ and doing great – was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma, a rare type of cancer, at age 4.

"We wanted to help in a meaningful way," says DiFelice.

"The best thing we could do as friends of the Jameses was to be true to our music/roots and put out this CD," says Cahill.

**The result is** *Dickie Nyquist Explodes*, a CD by We Love 2 Rumble Band – a new name for the group once known as Dickie Nyquist. The nine songs are new and original, written by DiFelice, Daniels or the two together. After a year of working out the music, the four friends got together to record at DiFelice's house in North Carolina over four days in fall 2007. After final mixing, mastering and production, the CD came out at the end of 2008.

All proceeds from sales of the album go to The Jimmy Fund at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, which was instrumental in Savanna's treatment.

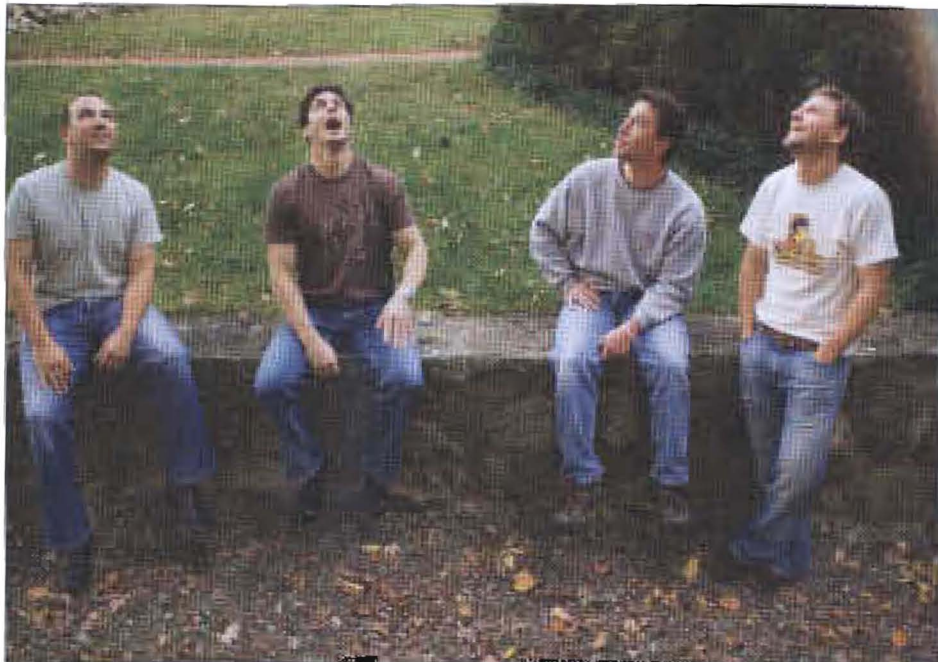
That part of the story began in May 2005.

"Savanna started having headaches," recalls Robin James. The headaches got worse. Savanna's doctor thought it might be sinusitis and sent her for a CAT scan that revealed a tumor in her skull. Within 24 hours, Savanna was undergoing surgery at Children's Hospital Boston.

Over the following year, she completed 14 rounds of chemotherapy and five weeks of radiation treatment. Because a piece of her skull had been removed, she wore a hockey helmet for protection. In July 2006, a plastic prosthetic about the size of a fist was implanted.

"She's unbelievable," says Robin. "She did better than the rest of us. I don't think she realized how sick she was."

Savanna started kindergarten that fall.



From left are Ryan Cahill '95, Ron DiFelice '94, '95, Dylan James '98 and Matt Daniels '95, '99.

### Dickie Nyquist lives!

The band known around RIT in 1995 as Dickie Nyquist has been reborn as We Love 2 Rumble Band. Members Ryan Cahill '95 (biology), Matt Daniels '95, '99 (mechanical engineering), Ron DiFelice '94, '95 (chemistry) and Dylan James '98 (civil engineering technology) reunited to produce a CD titled *Dickie Nyquist Explodes*.

DiFelice spearheaded this project, and he and Daniels wrote the scratch tracks and the music developed from there. DiFelice (bass guitar and vocals) brings his funk roots and Daniels (guitar and vocals) his rock/pop background. Cahill (percussion) adds a rock/jazz influence and James (lead guitar) contributes blues sensibilities. Two non-RIT musicians round out the sound: Kyle Crosby (keyboard and piano) and Steve Daniels, Matt's brother (saxophone and trumpet).

Included among the nine songs is one titled *Brick City*, described as "a nostalgia-soaked anthem that related to the social scene at RIT during the mid '90s."

The band plans to return to RIT for a performance during Brick City Homecoming, Oct. 9-11.

The CD, a fund-raising project for The Jimmy Fund at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, can be purchased online at [www.myspace.com/welove2rumble](http://www.myspace.com/welove2rumble), or <http://cdbaby.com/welove2rumble-band>.



The new CD features new, original music by DiFelice and Daniels.



with "a buzz cut and a horrible, horrible scar," says her mom. She still has checkups that include a chest X-ray, brain MRI and blood work every three months. Now in second grade, Savanna takes piano lessons, dance class and gymnastics, plays with her friends and her 5-year-old sister, Isabelle. In other words, her life is pretty normal.

**But no one forgets.** Every Valentine's Day, the family puts on a party for the oncology floor at Children's Hospital. Friends and family have also participated in the Jimmy Fund Walk each year. In August, Team Savanna's Smiles will be cycling from Wellesley to Provincetown — 180 miles — in the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge, a bike-a-thon supporting the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Jimmy Fund Clinic. Team Savanna's Smiles, formed in 2006, has raised more than \$100,000 to date.

The CD is also contributing to the cause. But it has had another effect. The project reminded four friends how much they enjoyed making music together.

Even before they met at RIT, all had played in bands. Daniels (guitar and vocals) and DiFelice (bass and vocals) recruited Cahill (drums) and James (lead guitar) to form a new band in 1995. They practiced in the basement of a townhouse Daniels and DiFelice shared and played covers of popular music at a few Rochester establishments as well as parties for RIT groups, particularly the lacrosse and rugby teams, Greek organizations and house parties at Colony and Racquet Club apartments.

"We didn't have any illusions of star-



The James family on vacation earlier this year. From left: Savanna, Dylan, Isabelle and Robin.

**"Everyone in the band can vouch for the impact of music in their lives. This band enabled us to deal with the stresses of life, learning at RIT and through performance, influence others in the same way."**

**Ryan Cahill '95**

dom," DiFelice says. "A hundred bucks was a big night for us."

Dickie Nyquist had a short life. Within a year, members had graduated and gone their separate ways. Cahill became a physician; he has a family medical practice in Babylon, N.Y., on Long Island. DiFelice earned a doctorate and a business degree

at University of North Carolina, and now owns a technology business and lives in Chapel Hill. Daniels lives in Pittsboro, N.C., and works as a mechanical engineer for Parata Systems. (Photos of the band used for the CD were shot by his wife, Megan Quinn Daniels '97, photo journalism.)

Dylan James owns and operates a home construction and renovation business, Patriot Residential, with his brother, Anson, in the Boston area.

The four friends have kept in touch, despite time and distance. Music is one of the ties that bind them.

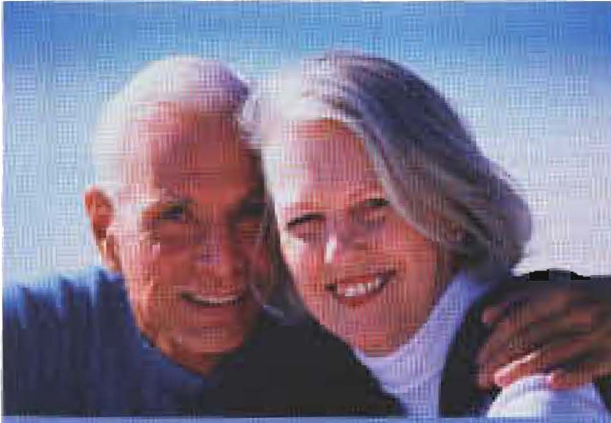
"When we were in school, playing music together and practicing, we got to be fairly tight," says Daniels.


"Music is a means in which people can energize, relax and heal themselves," says Cahill. "Everyone in the band can vouch for the impact of music in their lives. This band enabled us to deal with the stresses of life, learning at RIT and through performance, influence others in the same way."

They plan to do a live performance at Brick City Homecoming (Oct. 9-11).

"We don't want to lose touch with the music — or each other," says DiFelice.

**Kathy Lindsley**





**RIVERS RUN**

Active Adult Community  
Independent Living Apartments

Make the move now to the  
Rivers Run  
Campus and enjoy active  
Senior Living  
in a country club style setting.

Now Leasing!

For more information contact  
585-292-5440  
50 Fairwood Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623

# live NOW





# What will we think of next?

RIT signature showcase is a tremendous success



# RIT shines as 25,000 enjoy the show

**RIT was the place** to be on May 2, when more than 25,000 people turned out to be part of the second annual Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival.

Imagine RIT showcased nearly 2,000 exhibits created by students, faculty and staff. They displayed examples of green technology, new ideas for products and services, creative arts and crafts and groundbreaking research.

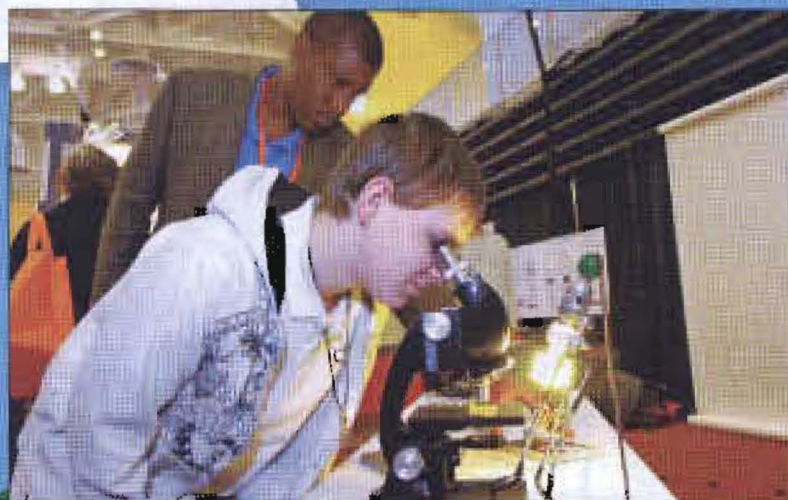
"Today was simply magnificent for RIT and the greater Rochester community," said President Bill Destler, who proposed the

festival shortly after arriving at RIT in 2007. "It was exciting to see the ingenuity used in all the exhibits and activities. Visitors who explored campus discovered what happens when you unlock your imagination."

Destler's "Green Vehicle Challenge" kicked off the day. Participants competed to see which vehicle could complete a 3-mile loop around campus while expending the least amount of energy.

What will we think of next? Find out at the third festival on May 1, 2010.

For more photos and information, visit the Imagine RIT Web site: [www.rit.edu/imagine](http://www.rit.edu/imagine)



Kiowa Minor, a Rochester seventh grader, learns about research methods at the "Artists in Labs" exhibit. Behind him is Moka Lantum, RIT's Minet Professor. (Max Schulte '97)



Eva Ames '09 (mechanical engineering) shows young visitors how to operate a robotic hand developed at the Kate Gleason College of Engineering. (Max Schulte '97)



"The Storm," a vehicle sporting a wind generator, did not win President Destler's Green Vehicle Challenge but it was the only entry that generated electricity on the race course. It was designed and built by mechanical engineering students. (Elizabeth Lamark '00/ETC Photo)

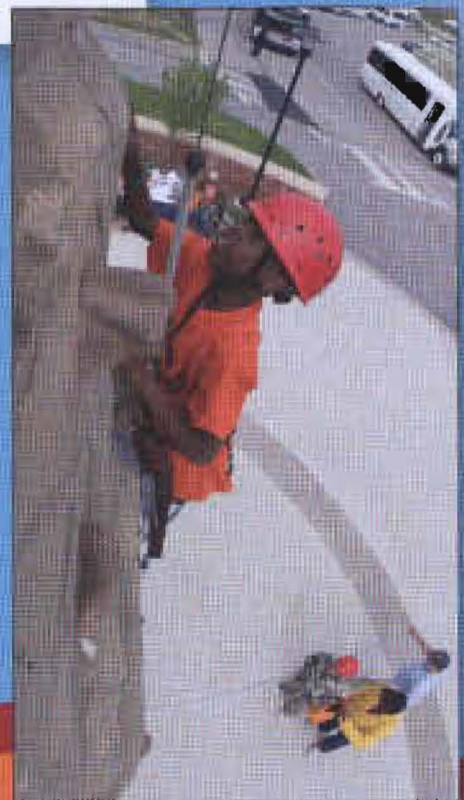


A crowd gathers to watch – and sample – smoothies made by RIT Cycling Club's Human-Powered Bike Blender. (Elizabeth Lamark '00/ETC Photo)





Visitor Anderson Hall experiences the magic of green screen technology in an exhibit presented by RIT's School of Film and Animation. (A. Sue Weisler '93/University News)



As seen from above, a young visitor enjoys a challenging rock climb. (Julie Kang '09)



NTID Performing Arts presents *Alice in Wonderland* in spoken English and American Sign Language. (Mark Benjamin '76, '93/NTID Educational Design Resources)



Jared Lyon '01 (information technology), right, talks to visitors about "Dominoes Everywhere," a video produced by RIT University Publications that has been viewed more than 200,000 times worldwide on YouTube and Vimeo. See it at [vimeo.com/4313226](http://vimeo.com/4313226). (Elizabeth Lamark '00/ETC Photo)



RIT's Computer Science House created this tabletop computer display screen that allows several people to run various applications simultaneously. (Max Schulte '97)





Large photo above: four-spotted skimmer dragonfly. Small photos below, from left: unicorn clubtail, southern spreadwing and tule bluet.



Photos by Steve and Vici Diehl



## Capturing damsels & dragons

Alumni Steve and Vici Diehl help document species with vivid photographs



## Capturing and photographing large, flying insects is challenging work. For Steve and Vici Diehl, it's also a fun and rewarding experience that has become an obsession.



Steve and Vici Diehl

The Diehls, who reside in Antwerp, in northern New York, have become Odonata (dragonfly and damselfly) researchers. Over the past two years, they have put in hundreds of hours wading through

bogs, swamps and rivers and hiking fields and forests to net, identify and photograph damselflies and dragonflies.

Vici and Steve are alumni of RIT's College of Imaging Arts and Sciences where Steve Diehl '76, '85 (professional photography, instructional technology) is currently an associate professor in the Imaging and Photographic Technology Department. Vici Zarembo Diehl '75 (photo illustration) runs the couple's photography business, Indian River Photography. She also consults on environmental issues and serves as a board member of the Indian River Lakes Conservancy.

**"I have loved dragonflies** since I was about 8 years old," Vici says. "I remember hiking near the Adirondack Park with my Girl Scout troop to a small lake where thousands of dragonflies had just emerged.

"The granite rocks were covered with them; their wings were sparkling in the sun. This is a vivid, great memory."

Damselflies and dragonflies, which range in size from one to four inches in length, are suborders of the insect order Odonata. Damselflies are generally smaller and more delicate than dragonflies and can be distinguished by their resting wings, which are held together or partially open over their abdomens. Dragonflies' wings, at rest, are always straight out at their sides like an airplane.

The Diehl's dragonfly and damselfly research began when Vici read that the New York Natural Heritage Program (a partnership between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and The Nature Conservancy) was seeking volunteers to assist with their survey. Vici quickly enlisted herself and Steve as volunteers. They headed to Jamestown, N.Y., for training on identification and field survey protocols.

Armed with sweep nets, field guides from other states and their photography equipment, the Diehls have been able to capture, identify and photograph approximately 95 of the 190-plus species known in New York state during two seasons of survey work. Steve excels with the net, using 15 to 20 feet of handle to snag high flyers. Vici is considered one of the best survey participants at identification, with an accuracy rate over 90 percent.

The equipment and techniques they use in the field allow the Diehls to create images that exceed the survey requirements. One of the goals is to use these images to produce, with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York Natural Heritage Program, a state field guide.

"While most people like dragonflies and damselflies, it is only recently that thorough surveying and research efforts have begun," says Vici. "Many birders and other naturalists have turned their attention to damsels and dragons as so little is known about them."



Vici Zarembo Diehl '75

The Diehls are grateful for the generous support of major imaging companies aiding their efforts. Pentax of America Inc. has donated camera systems to photograph live specimens. E.J. Westcott Co. provided additional lighting equipment. Epson's V700 flatbed scanner enables them to make images of adult specimens and exuviae (skins shed during emergence) with greater resolution than camera-generated images. HP donated printing supplies.

Their survey work in Monroe County last summer yielded 18 Odonata species

of which four were new to the county. Of those four, three were discovered on the RIT campus during several brief outings: the unicorn clubtail dragonfly (*Aviogrammus villosipes*), the tulle bluet damselfly (*Enallagma carunculatum*), and the southern spread-wing damselfly (*Lestes disjunctus australis*).

The images they have made range from dragonflies and damselflies in their natural environment to close-up, detail shots exhibiting species-specific characteristics. They have plans to collaborate with RIT's Chester E. Carlson Center for Imaging Science to create Odonata wing pattern recognition software. This would enable Odonata researchers to input an image and get an identification, much like facial recognition software. Steve assisted in arranging for a graduate student from RIT's Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences to begin his capstone work rebuilding the database for the entire New York Natural Heritage Program.

"We began this project as volunteers for the Natural Heritage Program," Steve says,

**"While most people like dragonflies and damselflies, it is only recently that thorough surveying and research efforts have begun. Many birders and other naturalists have turned their attention to damsels and dragons as so little is known about them."**

"but have since brought RIT talent and resources to bear on the survey with the possibility of more RIT involvement in the future.

"This is all in the early stages, but we see some great possibilities for future Odonata imaging and research."

Patricia Beggs '09

For more information on the New York Natural Heritage Program, visit [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/29338.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/29338.html).

Additional information on Odonata can be found at [www.odonatacentral.org](http://www.odonatacentral.org).



## Obama gets 'Serious' message from RIT alum

When it comes to creating "green collar" jobs, President Obama takes Kevin Surace '85 (electrical engineering technology) very seriously.

Surace, a member of the RIT Board of Trustees, is president and CEO of Serious Materials, a burgeoning green technology company that has caught the eye of the White House.

President Obama recognized Serious Materials, based in Sunnyvale, Calif., during a nationally televised news conference in March. The president used Serious Materials as an example of the benefits of his economic stimulus package, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"I met with a man whose company is reopening a factory outside of Pittsburgh that's rehiring workers to build some of the most energy-efficient windows in the world," Obama said during the news conference. He was talking about Surace.

The president commended Serious Materials on creating jobs that will aid the economic recovery while creating the technologies that will fuel America's long-term prosperity. At that event, which focused on Serious Materials, Obama spoke to more than 100 clean-energy entrepreneurs and leading researchers in Washington, D.C.

"Last year, (the Pittsburgh) factory was shuttered and more than 100 jobs were lost," said the president. "The town was devastated. Today, that factory is whirring back to life, and Serious Materials is rehiring the folks who lost their jobs."

On April 27, Vice President Joe Biden visited the company's new window manufacturing plant in Chicago. Biden and Surace discussed advanced window technology and the company's re-hired workers.

Serious Materials develops and manufactures sustainable building materials that save energy, save money, improve comfort and aggressively address climate change, said Surace.

National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* program did a story on the company the day after Biden's visit.

Energy efficiency is a major portion of



Kevin Surace '85, right, talks to Vice President Joe Biden during a tour of the new Serious Materials window manufacturing plant in Chicago.

**"It is an honor to be recognized as a company that is helping to lead our economic recovery and push forward towards energy independence."**

**Kevin Surace '85**

the \$787 billion federal stimulus package, totaling an estimated \$38 billion in government spending and about \$20 billion in tax incentives over the next decade.

"It is an honor to be recognized as a company that is helping to lead our economic recovery and push forward towards energy independence," said Surace. "Working to counteract the negative impacts of climate change and saving Americans substantial energy in their homes and offices are essential endeavors, but doing so while recovering jobs for American workers makes me proud beyond words of all of our employees."

Surace has major expansion plans for Serious this year as the company looks to hire new employees to help manufacture its highly insulated windows, glass and dry-wall material. Serious now has five plants with employment company-wide doubling

from 200 to 400.

Several RIT students have cooperative education experience with the company. Surace would eventually like to add more from the RIT family to his workforce as the company matures.

"We've become the poster child for the Obama administration," said Surace. "This is an exciting time as we work to improve the economy with green-collar jobs. Our advanced technology in windows (four times more energy savings than virtually any other brand) and panels (EcoRock generates 80 percent less CO<sub>2</sub>) is here today, and we continue to push the envelope with aggressive R&D efforts aimed at addressing energy usage in the built environment."

**Bob Finnerty '07**

For more on Serious Materials, visit [www.serious-materials.com](http://www.serious-materials.com)





**BRICK CITY**  
.....  
**HOMECOMING**  
**& FAMILY WEEKEND**  
.....



**October 9-11, 2009**  
**REGISTER NOW**  
to be part of our annual tradition  
[www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity)

**R·I·T**





## RITHOCKEY Season Opener!

Cheer on the Tigers as they take on Colgate at downtown Rochester's **Blue Cross Arena**  
Saturday, Oct. 10, 7:05pm

.....

FREE bus shuttle to the game! Register at [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity) to save your seat!



Student Government  
Horton Speaker  
**Jimmy Wales**  
Founder of  
Wikipedia  
**Saturday, Oct. 10,  
11:00am**



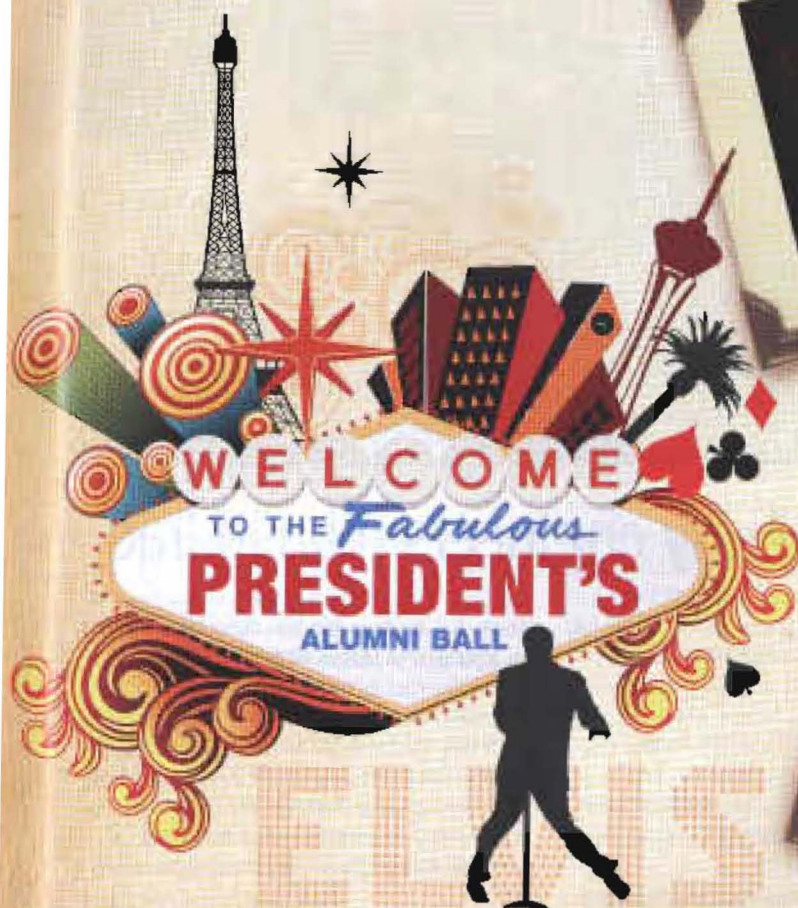
Comedian  
**Jim Gaffigan**  
of Comedy Central's  
*Beyond the Pale*  
and *King Baby*  
**Friday, Oct. 9  
9:00pm**





# Plus, your FAVORITE Brick City TRADITIONS

- Brick City 5K
- Golden Circle Luncheon
- Class Reunions
- Welcome Parents!
- Athletic Reunions & Greek Reunions
- Brick City BBQ, featuring Dinosaur Barbeque
- Foreign Language Fair
- Kaleidoscope Concert

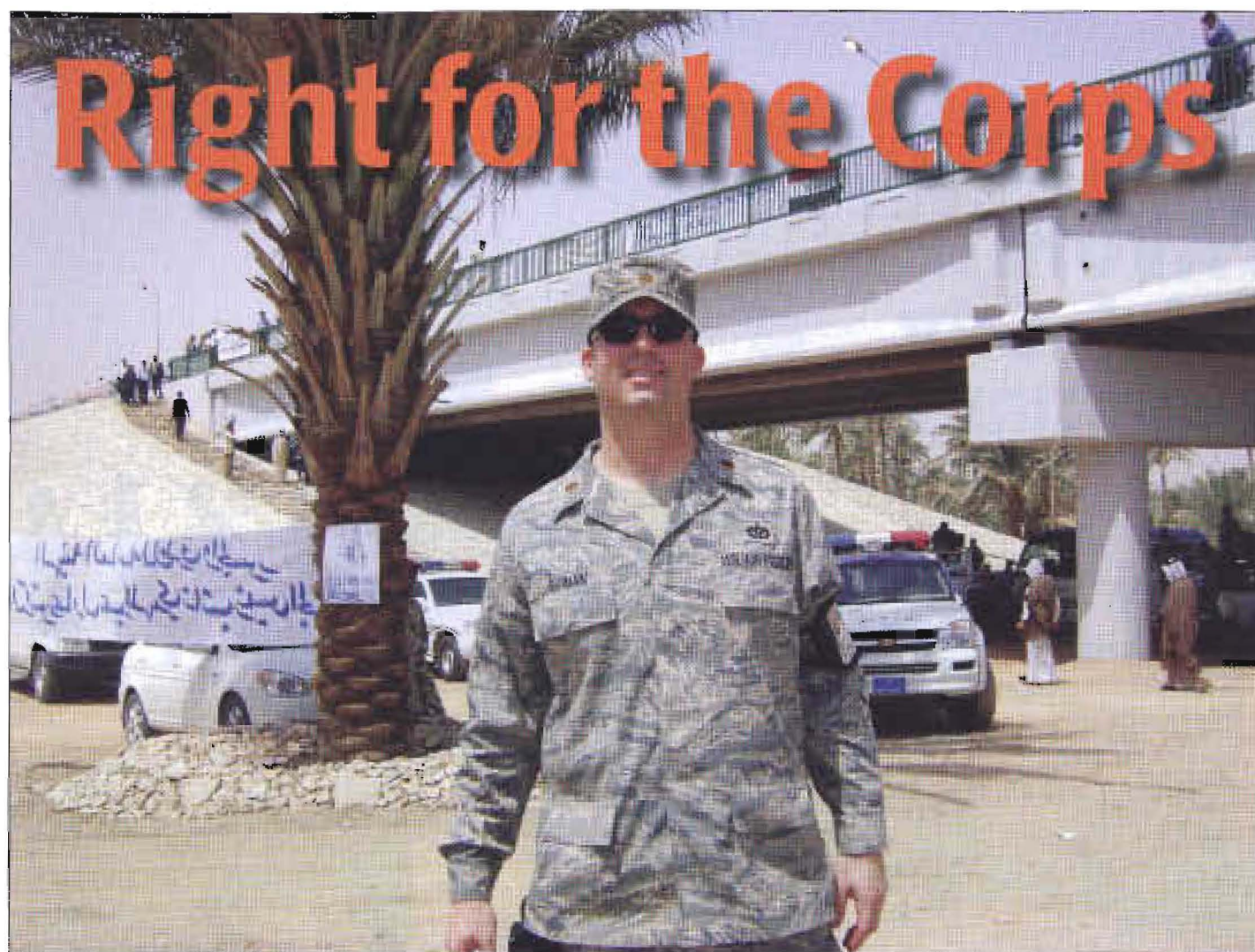


Friday, Oct. 9, 6:00pm



Register and purchase tickets online!  
[www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity)





## Three RIT grads are helping Army engineers rebuild Iraq

For more than five years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division has been helping to rebuild Iraq.

Since January 2004, the Gulf Region Division has overseen the construction of nearly \$7 billion in projects in 11 different programs. Among the more than 4,500 projects completed are electricity projects, water projects, healthcare facilities, schools, railroad renovations, oil-related projects and airport and seaport projects.

Three RIT grads have been part of that effort. Maj. Gen. Michael Eyre '91 (M.S. packaging science) has been serving as Gulf Region Division commanding general since Oct. 9, 2008. U.S. Air Force Maj. Dan Guinan '94 (civil engineering technology) served with the division from July 2008 to January 2009. Peter Mistretta '94 (criminal justice), an attorney, was assistant division counsel with the Gulf Region Division

Office of Counsel from August 2008 to February 2009.

**Big accomplishments, more to do**  
Eyre began his military career in 1977, commissioned as a second lieutenant from the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of Vermont.

He also had an aptitude for engineering and received a bachelor's degree in manufacturing and management engineering. After four years of active duty in the Army, Eyre went to work for Mobil Chemical Co.'s consumer products division (now Pactiv), maker of Hefly products. He worked in the company's facilities in the Rochester area, and also joined the Army Reserve 98th Division (Training).

"Our responsibility was in training new soldiers," he says.

He came to RIT to get a master's degree

**Above: U.S. Air Force Maj. Dan Guinan '94 pauses for a photo at the Imam Ali Bridge.**

in packaging science as a direct result of his work at Mobil. "There were many ties between the company and RIT," he says. "There were great folks in the department who helped us many times, and Mobil donated funds toward the packaging lab at RIT."

He also continued his military education. Eyre is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College. Eyre served as the Deputy Commander of the 99th Regional Readiness Command in Coraopolis, Pa., from 2001 to 2005. Immediately before his current assignment in Iraq, he was commander of the 416th Theater Engineer Command, headquartered in Darien, Ill., with the rank of major general.





**Maj. Gen. Michael R. Eyre talks with a CNN producer in December about the \$176 million Qudas Power Plant Expansion Project. The project was completed in May and added an additional 200 megawatts of electricity to the Iraq National Power Grid. (Photo by Nicole Dalrymple)**

Eyre left Pactiv in 2005 and went to work for Trex in Winchester, Va. The company, a manufacturer of wood-alternative decking, railing and fencing products, was once a division of Mobil Chemical. Eyre expects to return to his job after completing his tour of duty in Iraq, which will run through October.

He also anticipates continuing his life as a soldier, with a new assignment as deputy commanding general for Reserve Affairs at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers headquarters in Washington, D.C.

It goes without saying that he'll be glad to be home with his wife, Sue. They have three children, sons ages 26 and 22 and a daughter, 20.

Meanwhile, there's a lot to do. Several hundred more projects are in various stages of planning, construction and completion. A big part of the work is preparing the Iraqi counterparts to assume more responsibility for the nation's continued rebuilding.

It's demanding to say the least. "We work every day, seven days a week," Eyre says. But it's rewarding as well.

"Something I observed when I first got here is the positive attitude and energy level," he says. "The focus is on doing something good for the people of Iraq. There's a real sense of accomplishment."

### Constructive efforts

U.S. Air Force Maj. Dan Guinan's most recent deployment to Iraq was a terrifically positive experience.

Guinan '94 (civil engineering technology), an East Rochester, N.Y., native, served

with the Army Corps of Engineers in support of reconstruction efforts.

"In the media, there's a lot of focus on the negative," says Guinan. "But seeing something built instead of destroyed, and working alongside people who are rebuilding their country – that is absolutely rewarding."

Guinan served as sector lead for transportation and communication projects, as well as assisting with the provincial reconstruction development council. The work included water and sewer projects, roads and bridges and schools and hospitals in cooperation with Iraqi officials and citizens. Not all of the rebuilding is necessitated by the war; in many cases, Iraqi infrastructure suffered from decades of neglect.

One high point for Guinan was participation in a press conference announcing the completion of 133 health clinics, which were turned over to the Iraqi government.

"The national pride is amazing to see," says Guinan.

Guinan participated in ROTC at RIT and received his commission at graduation. His duties as an Air Force civil engineer typically involve maintaining air bases and other facilities "to keep the Air Force able to move anywhere in the world at any time." He has been stationed in Nebraska and Illinois as well as England and Guam, and was deployed in Germany during the Kosovo crisis.

Upon his return in January from six months in Iraq – his fourth deployment to Southwest Asia since 1995 – Guinan went back to the Pentagon, where he has served

for three years in the Air Force Military Construction Program. He also learned that he will be promoted to lieutenant colonel later this year.

Better than that recognition, of course, is being home with his wife, Karen Zugner Guinan '94 (hotel and resort management) and their two daughters, ages 7 and 4, and 5-year-old son.

"Spouses don't get the credit they deserve," he says. "They hold the families together."

### Glad to be of service

When Peter Mistretta was an RIT student, he knew he wanted to become an attorney.

He did not know he would go to work for the Army. But he's pleased with the way his career path turned out.

"I enjoy the ability of being able to serve my country," he says.

After RIT, Mistretta went to University of



**Peter Mistretta '94**

Detroit Mercy School of Law, graduating in 1998. He worked in a small firm in Buffalo, his hometown, for about a year and then worked in the legal department for Beretta U.S.A. Corp. in the Washington, D.C., area for six and a half years.

His wife's job with the State Department piqued his interest in working for the government, and in 2006 he joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He has worked in the Far East District in Seoul, Korea, and at the Transatlantic Center in Winchester, Va., his current duty station.

During his six months in Iraq (August 2008 to February 2009), Mistretta served as assistant division counsel, providing legal advice and support to the various departments within Gulf Region Division on a wide range of subject areas including contract law, fiscal law, ethics, and labor law.

"I was there at the time when Iraq became a sovereign nation," says Mistretta, who volunteered for the Iraq assignment. "It was very challenging. The tempo was high-paced, and we worked seven days a week, with five hours off on Fridays."

Although Mistretta focused on the same general area of law in his time as a corporate attorney, he says working within the military is more interesting. "Day to day, there's a lot of variety," he says.

"It's very rewarding. I would definitely encourage others to consider this line of work."





Los Angeles alumni gathered before an Anaheim Ducks hockey game March 23.



On March 7, RIT grads employed by Boeing in Seattle enjoyed their second alumni event.



Cincinnati alumni created a special float for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

## Regional Alumni Activities

Jon Rodibaugh and Jennifer Ashbaugh are your contacts in the Office of Alumni Relations for regional alumni activities. Don't hesitate to contact them toll free at 1-866-RIT-ALUM.

To learn more about the events listed below go to [www.rit.edu/alumniactivities](http://www.rit.edu/alumniactivities). You can register for events through our secure Web site.

### Albany

**Recent activities:** Incoming RIT students from the Albany area received a fine send-off reception at the Desmond Hotel Aug. 10.

### Atlanta

**Recent activities:** The Atlanta Alumni Chapter enjoyed a pre-game reception Aug. 2 in the ballpark and cheered on the Atlanta Braves as they played the Los Angeles Dodgers. Thanks to host **Joe DeConte '95**.

**Coming up:** Keep checking the Web site for events.

### Austin/San Antonio

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an event this fall. Please check the Web site for details.

### Boston

**Recent activities:** The Boston alumni chapter cheered on the Red Sox July 4.

**Coming up Aug. 12 and Aug. 28:** Alumni will gather for sold-out Boston Red Sox games.

Plans are underway for an alumni happy hour. "Make your own Garbage Plate" in **September**. Please check the Web site for more details.

### Buffalo

**Coming up Jan. 3, 2010:** Alumni will gather to watch the Buffalo Bills take on the Indianapolis Colts.

### Central Florida

**Recent activities:** Alumni and guests enjoyed a networking reception at Wall Street Cantina on May 14. Thank you to host **Aaron Swyers '03, '04**.

### Charlotte

**Recent activities:** The Charlotte Alumni Chapter enjoyed a happy hour at Tavern on the Tracks on May 7. Thanks to host **Andrea Setta '06**.

### Chicago

**Coming up Aug. 26:** Join fellow RIT alumni, family and friends at Wrigley Field as the Chicago Cubs take on the Washington Nationals. Enjoy a pre-game reception in the stadium before the game. Please check the Web site for details.

### Cincinnati

**Recent activities:** On Aug. 1, Cincinnati alumni enjoyed a pre-game reception at GameDay Café and watched the Cincinnati Reds take on the New York Yankees. Thanks to host **John Johnson '05**.

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an alumni event at the Cincinnati Art Museum in **October**. Please check the Web site for details.

### Cleveland-Akron

**Recent activities:** The Cleveland-Akron Alumni Chapter enjoyed a pre-game reception and dinner at Local Heroes Grill and Bar. They then cheered on the Cleveland Indians as they played the New York Yankees on May 30. Thanks to host **Al Tenfen '73**.

**Coming up Sept. 5:** Join alumni, family and friends at the Blossom Festival for Bugs Bunny at Blossom. There will be a reception prior to the performance. Check the Web site for more details.

### Colorado

**Recent activities:** The Colorado Alumni Chapter enjoyed a networking happy hour at Breckenridge Brewery on May 28. Thanks to hosts **David Belden '04** and **Jennifer Wicus '04**.

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an alumni event this **September**. Please check the Web site for details.

### Corporate Chapters

**Recent Activities:** Alumni at Boeing enjoyed happy hour on March 7 in Mukilteo, Wash. Thanks to host **Lawrence Litchfield '08**.

A group of alumni at Cisco in San Jose, Calif., and Raleigh, N.C., enjoyed a meeting with RIT President **Bill Destler** via Cisco TelePresence on March 25. Thanks to hosts **Bob Dimicco '84** and **Marty Martinez**.

More than 30 alumni working at Microsoft in Redmond, Wash., enjoyed lunch on April 16. Thanks to hosts **Mark DeFalco '07**, **Tom Guzewich '06** and **Yin Lu**.

The RIT Wall Street Alumni Chapter enjoyed an evening with RIT President **Bill Destler** on April 22 in Manhattan. Thanks to **Don Terwilliger '84** for hosting our group at Legends 33.

**Coming Up:** Plans are underway for alumni events this fall. If you are interested in planning a corporate alumni event where you work, please contact **Jon Rodibaugh** at 585-475-4485.

### Dallas/Fort Worth

**Recent events:** Alumni and their families enjoyed the annual Potluck Picnic April 18. Thanks to hosts **Scott Saldinger '89, '91** and **Jennifer Neary '99**.

**Coming Up Aug. 15:** Join alumni and guests to watch the Texas Rangers take on the Boston Red Sox. Check the Web site for details.

### Detroit

**Recent activities:** Alumni and guests attended a cooking class at Mirepoix Cooking School at the Holiday Market on July 31. Thanks to host **Yolanda Lewczuk '00**.

**Coming up Sept. 12:** Plans are underway for a community service event. Please check the Web site for more details.

### Houston

**Recent activities:** Alumni and guests enjoyed an evening of baseball on July 9 as the Houston Astros took on the Washington Nationals.

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an event this fall. Please check the Web site for more details.

### Long Island

If you are interested in becoming a chapter volunteer, please contact **Jennifer Ashbaugh** at [jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu](mailto:jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu) or at 585-475-7953.

### Los Angeles

**Coming up Aug. 22:** Join alumni and guests to watch the LA Dodgers take on the Chicago Cubs. Check the Web site for more information.

### New Jersey

If you are interested in becoming a chapter volunteer, please contact **Jennifer Ashbaugh** at [jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu](mailto:jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu) or at 585-475-7953.





Dallas chapter members gathered for their annual picnic April 18.



Rochester alumni showed the RIT colors, brown and orange, for the Lilac Festival Parade.



RIT grads at the Microsoft Alumni Chapter in Redmond, Wash., gathered for lunch in April.

## New York City

**Recent activities:** The New York City Alumni Chapter enjoyed an evening with RIT President **Bill Destler** at the Associated Press on April 23. Thanks to host **Thomas Curley '77**, president and CEO of the Associated Press.

Alumni and friends enjoyed a happy hour at Copper Door Tavern on June 23. Thanks to hosts **Beth Sabbatini '89** and **Cindy Rosenshein '90**.

A sold-out group of alumni, family and friends cheered on the New York Yankees as they took on the Seattle Mariners on July 1. Thank you to host **Mike Larson '93**.

Alumni, family and friends cheered on the New York Mets as they took on the Los Angeles Dodgers on July 7. Thank you to host **Mike Larson '93**.

**Coming up Sept. 13:** Alumni will gather for the U.S. Open Tennis Championships.

## Philadelphia

**Recent activities:** On April 25, more than 40 alumni and guests enjoyed a wine and cheese reception as well as a tour at Chaddsford Winery. Thanks to host **Aviva Dubrow '91**.

Alumni and guests enjoyed an afternoon of baseball as the 2008 World Series Champion Philadelphia Phillies took on the St. Louis Cardinals on July 25. Thanks to host **Aviva Dubrow '91**.

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an alumni event this fall. Check the Web site for details.

## Phoenix

If you are interested in becoming a chapter volunteer, please contact **Jennifer Ashbaugh** at [jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu](mailto:jennifer.ashbaugh@rit.edu) or at 585-475-7953.

## Pittsburgh

**Coming up:** Plans are underway for an alumni event this fall. Please check the Web site for details.

## Raleigh-Durham

**Recent activities:** The Raleigh-Durham-Alumni Chapter enjoyed a happy hour at Blinco's Restaurant on May 8. Thanks to hosts **Mike '98** and **Sue '98** Paul.

## Rochester

**Recent activities:** More than 40 alumni and guests enjoyed a reception and movie at The Little Theatre on April 20. Thanks to hosts **Kerry Phillips '84**, '97 and **Stacy Kurtz '05**, '07.

A dedicated group of alumni, staff and student volunteers built a float for the Lilac Parade on May 9. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the float a success!

Alumni and their families enjoyed the inaugural RIT Mother's Day Brunch at the RIT Inn & Conference Center on May 10. Thanks to hosts **Tonya Brooks '07**, **Shirley Murphy '81**, '95 and **Candi Boston '09**.

A sold-out group of alumni and guests enjoyed breakfast at the Del Monte Lodge in Pittsford with RIT President **Bill Destler** on May 14.

Alumni and guests enjoyed a performance of *The Wizard of Oz* on May 30 and Beatles tribute band Rain on June 7 at the Auditorium Theatre.

More than 40 alumni and guests enjoyed a day of thoroughbred action at Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack on June 13. Thanks to hosts **John '60** and **Mary Bartholomew** and **Loretta Lamb '78**.

Alumni and guests enjoyed a networking reception at TC Riley's on June 23. Thanks to hosts **Shirley Murphy '81**, '95, **Sharyn Duffy '87** and **Kristy Mooney-Graves '00**.

A sold-out group of more than 100 alumni and guests watched the Rochester Red Wings take on the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Yankees on June 27.

Thanks to hosts **Donna Bell '83**, **Bob Beyer '83**, and **Bary Siegel '66**, '68, '75, '87.

More than 40 alumni and guests enjoyed a sailing trip aboard a 53 ft. catamaran on Lake Ontario with Wildhearts Charters on July 18. Thanks to hosts **Tonya Brooks '07** and **Maggie Reilly '04**.

Alumni and guests enjoyed a day of white water rafting on the Salmon River on Aug. 2. Thanks to hosts **Frank Lucas '75** and **Tonya Brooks '07**.

**Coming up:** Registration is now open for the following events. To register, visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/rochester](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/rochester)

**Sept. 12:** ROCS Day: Reaching Out for Community Service

**Oct. 24:** Finger Lakes Railway Fall Foliage Trip

**Nov. 5:** Networking Reception at the Strathallan

**Nov. 9:** New York Wine & Culinary Center Cooking Class

## San Diego

**Recent activities:** RIT alumni and guests watched as the San Diego Padres took on the New York Mets on Aug. 8.

## San Francisco/San Jose

**Recent activities:** On Aug. 1, alumni and guests enjoyed a pre-game reception at AT&T Park and cheered on the San Francisco Giants as they took on the Philadelphia Phillies. Thank you to host **Mark Leonardi '94**.

## Seattle

**Coming up Aug. 16:** Join fellow RIT alumni and guests to watch the Seattle Mariners take on the New York Yankees. A pre-game reception is included. Check the Web site for more information and registration.

## Southern Florida

**Coming up Sept. 12:** Plans are underway for a community service event at Caring Kitchen. Please check the Web site for details.

## Syracuse

**Coming up Aug. 15:** Join alumni and guests on the picnic patio at Alliance Bank Stadium for an evening of Chiefs baseball. Check the Web site for more information and registration.

Plans are underway for an alumni event this fall. Please check the Web site for details.

## Washington, D.C.

**Recent activities:** Alumni and guests enjoyed an afternoon of baseball at Camden Yards as the Baltimore Orioles took on the Boston Red Sox on Aug. 2. Thanks to host **Kevin Sheldon '02**.

**Coming up Sept. 26:** The RIT "Big Shot" photo event will take place at the National Museum of the American Indian (see page 8). To register for the alumni event and reception, please visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/washington\\_dc](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/washington_dc).





**CIAS grads gathered at the home of Professor Frank Romano.** From left: front row, Luke Vailancort, Romano, Ron Goldberg; back row, Rachel Russ, Justin Searles, Mason Axford and Dave Branca.



**Alumni and co-op students at Thomson Reuters in Rochester gathered for lunch hosted by the Gollisano College and Computer Science Department.**



**Area alumni met with NTID President Alan Hurwitz, right, during the Pittsburgh Association of the Deaf meeting in May.**

## College Alumni Relations

Connect with your college! The ways you can stay engaged with RIT keep growing. In addition to regional activities for all alumni, your college supports special programming designed especially for you and fellow graduates of your department and college.

To learn more about the activities below or to contact your college alumni relations officer, visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/groups/](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/groups/).

### College of Applied Science and Technology

[www.rit.edu/alumni/cast](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cast)

**Catherine Bement '89; 585-475-4975, [catherine.bement@rit.edu](mailto:catherine.bement@rit.edu)**

**Highlights:** Spring marked many "firsts" for CAST. Dean **H. Fred Walker** hosted his first alumni and friends receptions on campus and in Chicago at Pack Expo 2008. Walker also presided over his first commencement ceremony, celebrating the success of more than 800 graduates. The Class of 2009 increased CAST's alumni population to nearly 32,000 – the largest of RIT's eight colleges! CAST held its first alumnae reunion for Women in Technology (WIT) ([www.rit.edu/cast/wit](http://www.rit.edu/cast/wit)). At Imagine RIT, a CAST student exhibit – Wet Scrubber Capstone Project – won a prize of \$1,000 from the Alumni Association Board of Directors in recognition of the team's creativity, innovation, and research ([www.rit.edu/alumni/volunteers/board/prize](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/volunteers/board/prize)).

**Coming up:** Oct. 5, Pack Expo West Alumni & Friends Reception in Las Vegas; Oct. 8, HSM Alumni Awards Dinner in Rochester. For details, registration, news, and photos go to [www.rit.edu/alumni/cast](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cast).

### College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

[www.rit.edu/alumni/cias](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cias)

**Ron Goldberg '99, '00; 585-475-3112, [ron.goldberg@rit.edu](mailto:ron.goldberg@rit.edu)**

**Highlights:** On May 7, alumni gathered at the Boston home of Professor **Frank Romano** to enjoy a home-cooked meal and a viewing of his private collection of historic print industry memorabilia. In June, the School for American Crafts glass alumni gathered in Corning, N.Y., for a reception held for

the first time in conjunction with the annual Glass Art Society conference. As the summer heated up, so did the baseball pennant race: A sold-out bus full of CIAS alumni and their families headed up to Toronto for the second summer in a row to see the Boston Red Sox take on the Toronto Blue Jays. Also in July, Professor **Jim Perkins '92** hosted an alumni gathering at the Richbrau Brewery in Richmond, Va., during the Association of Medical Illustrators conference.

**Coming Up:** CIAS is going to be busy as summer winds down and the leaves start to fall! Sept. 14, Print '09 Alumni Reception, Chicago at McCormick Place; Oct. 23, PhotoPlus Reception, New York City, at Connolly's Pub and Restaurant; Jan. 15, 2010, CIAS Alumni Reception, New York City, at The Playwright Tavern. **Mark your calendar for Sept. 26** for the 25th Big Shot! In celebration of the 25th Big Shot and the fifth anniversary of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, the Big Shot is coming to Washington, D.C. (See story, page 8). For more information and to register, visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/bigshot09](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/bigshot09).

### College of Liberal Arts

[www.rit.edu/alumni/cola](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cola)

**Christine Corrado; 585-475-5797, [christine.corrado@rit.edu](mailto:christine.corrado@rit.edu)**

**Highlights:** In May, Dean **Robert Ulin** finished his first year at RIT by presiding over the College of Liberal Arts commencement ceremony, officially welcoming graduates into the alumni family. (Class of 2009: Log in to the free CLA online community at [www.rit.edu/alumni/cola](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cola). Tell us where you are and what you're doing!) Are you LinkedIn? The College of Liberal Arts has an alumni group on the free professional networking site LinkedIn. Joining will allow you to post and look for jobs, make professional contacts and find old friends and classmates. Visit [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and search for our group:

Rochester Institute of Technology – College of Liberal Arts Alumni.

**Coming up:** College of Liberal Arts Alumni Relations is going green! If you are interested in receiving invitations to future alumni events, make sure we have your e-mail address. To add or modify your contact information, log in to the free online community at [www.rit.edu/alumni/onlinecommunity.php](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/onlinecommunity.php).

### College of Science

[www.rit.edu/alumni/cos](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/cos)

**Christine Corrado; 585-475-5797, [christine.corrado@rit.edu](mailto:christine.corrado@rit.edu)**

**Highlights:** The commencement ceremony in May was a bittersweet celebration as Dean **Ian Gatley** welcomed College of Science graduates into the RIT alumni family for the last time. Gatley steps down as dean of the College of Science to assume the directorship of the new Center for Student Innovation and Undergraduate Research Support. **Sophia Maggelakis**, head of the School of Mathematical Sciences, will serve as interim dean until a successor is named. Are you LinkedIn? The College of Science has an alumni group on the professional networking site LinkedIn. Joining will allow you to post and look for jobs, make professional contacts and find old friends and classmates. Visit [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and search for our group: Rochester Institute of Technology – College of Science Alumni.

**Coming up:** College of Science Alumni Relations is going green! If you are interested in receiving invitations to future alumni events, make sure we have your email address. To add or modify your contact information, log in to the free online community for alumni at [www.rit.edu/alumni/onlinecommunity.php](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/onlinecommunity.php).





**Kathleen Whitten '08** (civil engineering technology) and **CAST Associate Dean Maren Valentine** at the **WIT Alumnae Reunion** in May.

## B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences

[www.rit.edu/alumni/gccis](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/gccis)  
**Tandra Miller: 585-475-6908,**  
[tandra.miller@rit.edu](mailto:tandra.miller@rit.edu)

**Highlights:** Alumni and faculty enjoyed the inaugural Software Engineering Alumni Happy Hour and the second annual Computer Science Happy Hour, two warm traditions to anticipate during the cold winter months in years to come. In San Francisco, a record-breaking number of alumni attended the annual Game Developer's Conference Alumni Dinner. More than 100 alumni and friends enjoyed a great meal at Buca Di Beppo and heard the latest RIT news from President Bill Destler. In April, the Golisano College was proud to host "the father of the internet" **Vint Cerf**, vice president and chief Internet evangelist at Google, for the spring installment of the Dean's Lecture Series, drawing more than 200 students, faculty, staff and alumni. In May, we wrapped up a successful series with a presentation by **Sangtae Kim**, executive director at the Morgridge Institute for Research. RIT has strong partners in industry thanks to our alumni, as seen at the first RIT-Cisco Virtual Meeting where alumni from several Cisco divisions across the country met via telepresence technology. In Rochester, 53 alumni and 13 co-op students from Thomson Reuters joined together for lunch hosted by the college and the Computer Science Department.

**Coming up:** Golisano College Family Day at Seabreeze Amusement Park, Rochester (Aug. 26). Brick City Homecoming: Dean **Jorge Diaz-Herrera** is leading the charge to keep the cup! Last year, the Golisano College won the inaugural President's Alumni Ball College Alumni Cup Challenge. The college with the most alumni (per capita) in attendance at the 2009 President's Alumni Ball wins this year's challenge. Get your tickets for the ball now: [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity)

Visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/gccis](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/gccis) to see more upcoming events as they are posted, and follow us on twitter at [@millerRIT](https://twitter.com/millerRIT).

## Kate Gleason College of Engineering

[www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe)  
**Jasmine DiSalvo: 585-475-5045,**  
[jasdar@rit.edu](mailto:jasdar@rit.edu)



## Who will win the cup?

Last year, alumni of the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences turned out in droves for the President's Alumni Ball during Brick City Homecoming, allowing Dean **Jorge Diaz-Herrera** to claim the inaugural College Alumni Cup. Diaz-Herrera doesn't want to give it up. Will your college wrest the cup away from him?

Register now for the President's Alumni Ball, Friday, Oct. 9. The race for the cup is on! [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity).

**Highlights:** Spring was a busy time in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering. **Gary R. Gay '73** was named the 2009 KGCOE Distinguished Alumnus and **Erin George '06** was honored at the 2009 Women's Career Achievement Dinner. KGCOE was out in force at the second annual Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival, where RIT hosted more than 25,000 alumni, friends and family for a fun-filled day of exhibits and live entertainment. We welcomed the newest class of graduates into the Alumni Association over Memorial Day weekend and wish them all the best of luck in their endeavors. (Class of 2009: Be sure to log in to the free KGCOE online community at [www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe). Tell us where you are and what you're doing!) In June, KGCOE hosted a luncheon for our retired and emeritus faculty as well as a networking event for our Rochester area alumni co-hosted by the Office of Cooperative Education and Career Services.

**Coming up:** The Dean's Alumni Speakers Series begins again in September. Also coming Oct. 9-11 is Brick City Homecoming. Mark your calendars now and remember to register for the President's Alumni Ball.

For more information, updates or to register for any of the events, visit [www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/kgcoe).

## National Technical Institute for the Deaf

[www.rit.edu/alumni/ntid](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/ntid)  
**Matthew Driscoll SVP '90, '94:**  
**585-475-6408 (VP),**  
[matthew.driscoll@ntid.rit.edu](mailto:matthew.driscoll@ntid.rit.edu)

**Highlights:** In recent months, NTID hosted alumni receptions in Rochester and in several cities across the country. In April, **Ken and Gretchen Logue**, proud parents of **Nick Logue, SVP '08**, graciously hosted a reception for more than 20 alumni, parents and friends at their home in St. Louis, Mo. In May, several alumni employed at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and major banks and insurance companies in and around the "Steel City" got together during the Pittsburgh Association of the Deaf meeting in Pittsburgh. New York and New Jersey alumni enjoyed Cajun-style appetizers and beverages at Oddfellows Rest Louisiana Bar and Restaurant in Hoboken, N.J., in June, and later that month more than 35 alumni gathered in Washington, D.C. In July, alumni from across the nation gathered in Las Vegas, Nev., at the renowned Bully's during the Deaf Seniors of

America 2009 Conference.

At home, three major alumni functions took place during a one-week period. **Donna Gustina '75** represented NTID at the 2009 RIT's Women's Career Achievement Day on April 26. Along with alumnae representing RIT's other colleges, Donna was recognized for her professional accomplishments at a reception and dinner involving nearly 400 women students, faculty, staff, families and friends. Later in the week, the NTID Alumni Association Board of Directors met on May 1. The diverse group – some who traveled from as far away as Colorado – came together to endorse a strong vision for the future of the NTID Alumni Association. The next day, many of these board members were among the more than 25,000 attendees at the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival, which included an NTID Alumni booth in the CSD Student Development Center.

**Coming up:** Watch for details on the annual NTID Alumni Picnic and Golf Tournament. And remember to mark your calendars for the annual Brick City Homecoming Oct. 9-11. For details, visit [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity).

## E. Philip Saunders College of Business

[www.rit.edu/alumni/scb](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/scb)  
**Megan Cheever: 585-475-2354,**  
[mcheever@saunders.rit.edu](mailto:mcheever@saunders.rit.edu)

**Highlights:** The Saunders College celebrated exciting spring and summer seasons at RIT. We announced **Philip C. Gelsomino II '86** as our 2009 Distinguished Alumnus, and he enthusiastically helped the college welcome our newest graduates into the alumni family during commencement in May. (Class of 2009: Be sure to log in to the free SCB online community at [www.rit.edu/alumni/scb](http://www.rit.edu/alumni/scb) to tell us where you are and what you're doing!) As summer began, we hosted the 11th annual Saunders Alumni Golf Tournament where more than 80 alumni golled with friends, faculty and staff of the college. Soon after, we held the inaugural, and very successful, Women's Alumni Network's Power Your Potential leadership conference featuring **Maggie Brooks**, Monroe County (N.Y.) Executive, as keynote speaker.

**Coming up:** Look for invitations to receptions with Dean **Ashok Rao** as he travels to our alumni chapters in Boston, Syracuse, Buffalo, Albany, New York City and beyond. Also, mark your calendars to return to Rochester for Brick City Homecoming Oct. 9-11. For details, visit [www.rit.edu/brickcity](http://www.rit.edu/brickcity).



# Class Notes

## Key to abbreviations

**CAST** College of Applied Science and Technology

**CCE** College of Continuing Education (now CAST)

**CIAS** College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

**COLA** College of Liberal Arts

**SCB** E. Philip Saunders College of Business

**KGCOE** Kate Gleason College of Engineering

**COS** College of Science

**FAA** Fine and Applied Arts (now CIAS)

**GAP** Graphic Arts and Photography (now CIAS)

**GCCIS** B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences

**NTID** National Technical Institute for the Deaf

**SVP** NTID "Summer Vestibule Program"

## 1951

**James Amos '51 (GAP)**, renowned for his career as a photographer for *National Geographic*, exhibited his works at the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery at the University of Maryland January through March 2009.

## 1956

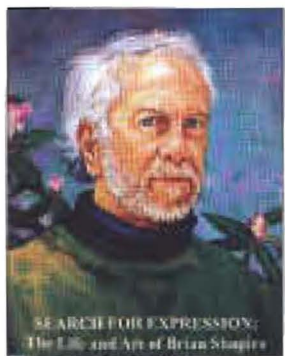
**Richard Zakia '56 (GAP)** started working on his 14th book on his 83rd birthday! Co-authoring his new effort, which has a working title *Photographic Composition VISUALIZED*, is his former student **David Page '66 (GAP)**. In the meantime, Zakia's book *Perception and Imaging*, third edition, has entered its second printing and is being translated into Japanese.

## 1961

**John Wright '61 (GAP)** writes, "For those interested—I have a happy marriage of some 40-plus years and I earned my M.A. from Empire State College in 1998. The best to all!"

## 1962

**Brian Shapiro '62 (FAA)** authored *Search for Expression*, a book detailing his life, now available at [www.LuLu.com](http://www.LuLu.com). The book contains 240 photos of paintings, drawings, sculpture and architecture from Brian's earliest childhood works to the present time.



## 1964

**Donald Kingston '64 (SCB)** retired as the vice president of Kelly Services in 2007. He was appointed in March 2009 to the planning board for the Town of Duck, N.C.

**Gerald Yahn '64 (CCE)**, a very spunky 95-year-old alumnus, visited campus requesting a copy of his diplomas. Why? Because he wanted to show his grandchildren the value of having an RIT education!

## 1970

**Janice Fox-Ford Sterling '63, '70 (FAA)** attended the U.S. Design Policy Summit along with leaders representing major U.S. professional design organizations, design education accreditation organizations, and federal government in Washington, D.C., to develop a blueprint for a U.S. national design policy.

## 1972

**Thomas Camiolo '71, '72 (SCB)** and **Ronni Gilder Camiolo '73, '74 (SCB)** will be visiting China for three weeks on their 32nd wedding anniversary.

**Stephen Schultz '72 (SCB)** writes, "Not an XK150, it's a real live Jaguar!"



**Richard Woodring '72 (KGCOE)** is the vice president of operations-NA at the Parker Hannifin Filtration Group. Upon graduating from RIT, he joined Parker in 1972 as an engineering trainee. He and his spouse, Cheryl, recently celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary.

## 1973

**Rick Colson '73 (GAP)** writes, "I just launched the world's first virtually 100 percent green custom photo lab, [www.greenphotoprint.com](http://www.greenphotoprint.com). It would be such an honor to print for anyone from RIT!"



**Kenneth Reasoner '73 (KGCOE)** retired in January 2006 at age 56 from Johnson Controls after 30 years in the Rochester office. He now is the bookkeeper for a group travel business: [www.groupstoursinc.com](http://www.groupstoursinc.com). Ken and Sheila still reside in Victor, N.Y.

**Barry Roth '73 (GAP)** and **Jeff Sakoff '73 (GAP)** are working on a photo book entitled *The 5th question*. It is a photo essay exploring modern Judaic imagery.

## 1974

**Charles Baird '74 (FAA)** donated a painting at the dedication of the Julius P. Seeger Career Center at the Texas School for the Deaf on Aug. 29, 2008. The painting depicts hands signing "a career can earn a comfortable life."

**David Binko '74 (GAP)** marked the 10th anniversary of his incorporated consulting practice, Collabrium LLC. Dave founded Collabrium after concluding a 22-year career in research and administration at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He currently resides in bustling Ellicott City, Md.

## 1975

**Leslie Baxter '75 (KGCOE)** was named a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc. (IEEE) for his contributions to high-speed digital communication networks, including digital PBX architecture, structured cabling systems and local area networks. The IEEE looks to the fellows



for guidance and leadership as the world of electrical and electronic technology continues to evolve.

**Richard Wegman '75 (CAST)** has been promoted to chief systems engineer at Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC). Rick has been a software/systems engineer for more than 30 years and currently is assigned to the NASA ARES-I program at the Marshall Space Flight Center at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

## 1976

**Laurence Goldberg '76 (GAP)** writes, "The members of House LS of the original United Nine of CENTRA, later dubbed Fish G., still opposite Sol Huemann Hall, will be celebrating their 40-year anniversary in Rochester. These were the daring young men that put the Mickey Mouse hands on the Kate Gleason clock in March 1970."

**David Smith '76 (GAP)** is thrilled to be part of the Metropolitan Opera's *Live in HD* broadcast team, transmitting live HD video performances to theaters around the globe. For the last two seasons, David has been operating a robotic dolly camera attached at the foot of the Met's gigantic stage. This year, *Live in HD* garnered a 2009 Peabody Award, as well as a technical Emmy Award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He writes: "Congratulations and many thanks to The Met for this wonderful and meaningful opportunity."

## 1977

**Carol Fonde '78 (GAP)** is a professional photographer and master color printer based in New York City and is internationally recognized for her expertise in the field of archival color reproduction. Carol prints for many significant photographers such as Christian Witkin, Bruce Davidson, Steven Klein, Hiro and Brigitte LaCombe. Her personal photographs of sea and landscape have recently sold through Ralph Lauren showrooms in New York, Chicago, Beverly Hills and London and are often used to support The Nature Conservancy.

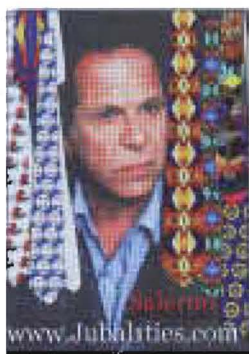


**James Perkins '77 (KGCOE)** is the founder of S4T Consultancy LLC, a management consulting firm focused on working with companies to improve the effectiveness of their engineering function. [www.s4tconsultancy.com](http://www.s4tconsultancy.com)

## 1979

**Gregory Hafer '77, '79 (GAP)** and Elaine Lynch were married on May 30, 2009, in Pottsville, Pa., where they currently reside. Gregory is a systems administrator at Schuylkill Medical Center.

**Gene Salerno '79 (FAA)** started Jubal1 Ties, an online designer necktie company. "I have been working with fractals, using a program based in fractal geometry that creates some very new and exciting images. I actually have a whole section on my Web site. [www.jubal1ties.com](http://www.jubal1ties.com), devoted to RIT ties."



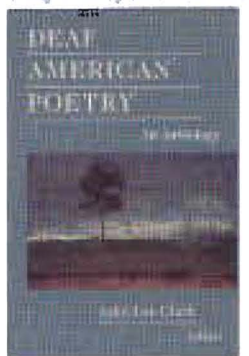
## 1980

**Jeffrey White '79, '80 (GAP)** has been promoted to vice president/general manager of the Monarch Division of Electronics for Imaging.

## 1981

**Marilyn Bridges Davis '79, '81 (GAP)** was part of a photographic exhibition, *Natura*, in February and March 2009 at the Rochester Contemporary Art Center. It featured work by former RIT professor **John Pfahl** and a number of RIT alumni who studied with him. Among the alumni participants were **Barbara Phillips Bosworth '84 (GAP)**; **Dean Chamberlain '77 (GAP)**; **Alida Fish '76 (GAP)**; **Richard Gray '82 (GAP)**; **Paul Lange '74 (GAP)**; **Silvia Lizama '83 (GAP)**; **Forest McMullin '77 (GAP)**; **Steven Mosch '83 (GAP)**; **Judy Natal '80 (GAP)**; **Jean Pearce '76 (GAP)**; **Stuart Rome '77 (GAP)**; and **Jane Chase Wattenberg '73 (GAP)**.

**Willy Conley SVP '76 '80, '81 (GAP)** writes,



"My photo was recently published on the cover of a new book titled *Deaf American Poetry* by Gallaudet University Press." The book also includes three poems by Conley ([gupress.gallaudet.edu/book-page/DAPbookpage.html](http://gupress.gallaudet.edu/book-page/DAPbookpage.html)).

**Gale Bram Gand '81 (FAA)** is the author of *Chocolate & Vanilla* and *Gale Gand's Short & Sweet*. The Food Network host, co-owner of the world-renowned Chicago restaurant Tru, and mother of three, has just released her latest book *Gale Gand's Brunch!* The recipes are aimed at making entertaining effortless for chefs at every level.

**Brock Maylath '79, '81 (GAP)** is the director of business planning at Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center; a 380-bed acute-care hospital in Reno, Nev. Projects that Maylath has completed include Reno CyberKnife, expansion of the Saint Mary's Urgent Care service line, acquisition of the daVinci Robotic Surgical System and an ambulatory surgical center.

**Robert Schott '79, '81 (FAA)** attended the Leadership Forum at Silver Bay, Lake George, N.Y., in July 2009.

## 1982

**Keith Cagle SVP '77, '82 (COLA)** taught an interpreter workshop sponsored by Sorenson VRS called "1000 Faces of ASL" on non-manual ASL features in Canada on Dec. 20, 2008. He is a current Ph.D. student in educational linguistics through the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque. Keith attended the wedding of his brother, **Robert Cagle SVP '75, '78 (NTID), '82 (CAST)** to Margaret "Peggy" Mudd on Aug. 17, 2008, in Rochester.

**William Siskar '82 (KGCOE)** is general manager at Refcon LLC in New Jersey.

## 1983

**Bryan Grubb SVP '80, '83 (NTID)** was the keynote speaker at Goodwill's annual meeting on Sept. 28, 2008, for MRDD month. He works for the Union County Board of Developmental Disabilities in Marysville, Ohio. Bryan focuses on his capabilities instead of his disability. He was born with Usher's Syndrome and is both deaf and blind. Visit [www.brgms.com](http://www.brgms.com).

**Robert Luce '81, '83 (GAP)** is a forensic sales specialist at Leica Microsystems in Manasquan, N.J. Previously, Robert was employed at Fujifilm USA as director of Government Sales. "The changing imaging market prompted the search for a new position. Working with the crime labs and forensic examiners is exciting and personally rewarding."

## 1984

**Faron Fleury '84 (KGCOE)** is director of U.S. Operations with BreconRidge Corp. with operational responsibility for two U.S. facilities and global electronic repair services. "I've been with BreconRidge for nearly 20 years and have had the distinct pleasure of working in many different capacities including engineering, marketing and senior management. In 2002, I received a patent award for software design of an autodialing solution used during European telecommunications deregulation."

**Scott Hill '82, '84 (SCB)** is property manager at Uniland Development Company and was honored by the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) Rochester-Western New York Chapter 58 with the 2008 President's Award. The award recognizes service to the organization and promoting excellence in the field of property management.

**Raymond Kunzmann '83, '84 (GAP)** is business development manager at InnerWorkings in New York City. Ray lives in the New York/New Jersey area.

**Lisa Lewis '84 (CAST)** recently accepted a position at Princeton University in the Department of Molecular Biology.

**T. I. Weintraub '82, '84 (GAP)** continues to work at General Dynamics C4 Systems in Colorado Springs. He is the director of Business Development and Colorado Operations. "Still living the dream in

Colorado Springs. Family and job are going great! Who could ask for more? Maybe the Tigers will beat the Air Force Academy in 2010!"

## 1985

**Michael Graziano SVP '79, '82 (NTID), '85 (CAST)** writes, "In July 2008 I was elected secretary of St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf Alumni Association. I will serve a four-year term. Currently, I am in Aberdeen Proving Ground; 2009 chairman of the Combined Federal Campaign. I am also the APC webmaster and have been since 2007."

**Robert Wells '85 (COS)** is the senior oncology sales specialist with Eisai Inc. in their lymphoma division. Eisai has committed its resources to helping patients with cutaneous t-cell lymphoma (CTCL), a rare form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

## 1986

**James Cain '86 (KGCOE)** has just authored his fifth teambuilding text, *Essential Staff Training Activities* has more than 50 unique activities that explore a wide variety of staff training topics, from decision making and goal setting to creative problem solving and teamwork. "You expect your staff to be able to think on their feet," he says. "This book shows you how to train them on their feet."

**Michael Crandell '86 (KGCOE)** was recently promoted to engineering manager at Norwich (N.Y.) Aero, a leading manufacturer of sensors for the aerospace industry. Michael and his wife, Katrina, have twin sons, Trevor and Spencer, who are attending RIT, both majoring in engineering.

**Lawrence Kosson '84, '86 (GAP)** was elected to the Association of Performing Arts Presenters board of directors. Founded in 1957, Arts Presenters is a national service organization with nearly 2,000 organizational members and 4,000 performing arts professionals who come together from



around the world at the AAPA Conference in New York City. The organization is dedicated to developing and supporting performing arts and the professionals who work in the field. Members range from the nation's leading performing arts centers, to civic and university performance facilities, to the full spectrum of artist agencies, managers, national consulting practices that service the field, and a growing roster of self-presenting artists.

## 1987

**David Lazareff '87 (KGCOE)** is a senior systems architect for the U.S. Geological Survey while guiding the nonprofit Holistic Community Living he founded in 2007. Visit [www.holisticcommunityliving.org](http://www.holisticcommunityliving.org) for more information.

## 1988

**Zarek Dietz '88 (GAP)** writes: "In addition to running a successful photography studio in Sherman Oaks, Calif., I have added an online travel department to my repertoire."



# Go on a Tiger Hunting Spree!





**Daniel Mendelson '88 (COS)** is an associate professor of medicine, Division of Geriatrics, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. Dr. Mendelson is the medical director of the Highlands at Brighton, The Baird, and Visiting Nurse Service of Rochester and Monroe County. He

is co-director of the Geriatric Fracture Center as well as director of consultative services and palliative care at Highland Hospital.

## 1989

**Brian Murphy '89 (CAST)** has moved back to Western New York and is a Six Sigma consultant/MET professor at the University of Buffalo and Erie Community College. Brian was employed by the United States Navy as repair officer, Submarines and Surface Fleet. Brian worked at Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) serving as project superintendent on the submarines USS Boise, USS Montpelier, USS Hampton, and USS Jacksonville. He served as the Fleet Forces Command maintenance director, submarine maintenance program manager and Atlantic Fleet diving and salvage officer until March of 2006. Brian served as the submarine repair officer of the Mid Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center, Norfolk, Va., until retiring from Naval Service in February 2008. He is a licensed professional engineer in the mechanical engineering field and a Six Sigma Blackbelt licensed by the American Society for Quality (ASQ). This year marks the 20th reunion for RIT's class of 1989 and he looks forward to reconnecting with his class.

## 1990

**Dale Dimick '90 (CAST)** and Ryanna Allen were



married on Nov. 22, 2008, in Rochester. They currently reside in Webster, N.Y. They honeymooned in Scotland, France and Italy. Groomsmen included **Paul D. Wheeler '90 (SCB)** as best man and **Bradley T. Moore '90 (KGCOE)**. Also in attendance were **Anthony Laruffa '92 (CAST)** and **Bryan Casebolt '90 (GAP)**. Ryanna, a graduate of Daemen College, is a physical therapist with Monroe No. 1 BOCES. Dale enters his 20th year with Lu Engineers in Penfield, N.Y.

**Glen Eggert '90 (GAP)** and **Margaret "Meg" (Watts) Eggert '90 (GAP)**, celebrated 15 years of marriage in September 2008. They have two daughters, Anna, 14, and Chloe, 11, and reside in Meg's hometown of Middlebury, Conn. Glen is a New York-based pilot with American Eagle, flying the

Embraer regional jet to dozens of cities throughout the Eastern U.S. and Canada. Meg is the dean of students at Westover School, a selective boarding school for girls grades 9-12 in Middlebury. She has been associated with the school in numerous capacities for nine years, and is responsible for the overall student-life experience at the school.

**Michael Karpovage '88, '90 (FAA)** announces his second novel, *Crown of Serpents*, a mystery thriller set in Central New York's Finger Lakes Region. "If you're looking for a fast-paced murder mystery, check full of Revolutionary War, Iroquois, and Masonic history, then check out *Crown of Serpents*.com. Living back down in Atlanta, Ga. and enjoying the weather!"



**Anne McDermott '90 (CAST)** received the 2008 Milton and Anne Sidney Prize for her dedication and ongoing commitment to the promotion of evidence-based care for pregnant women and infants by Yale University School of Nursing.

## 1991

**Paul Finkelstein '91 (GAP)** and **Sara Finkelstein** celebrated their 10-year wedding anniversary. They currently reside in Delray Beach, Fla. "Several years ago we launched a unique, innovative mobile photography studio ([paulstevenphotography.com](http://paulstevenphotography.com)). We love hooking up with alumni living in Florida and have been assisting with leading the South Florida Alumni Chapter for the last three years."

**Lisa O'Mara '91 (COLA)** and **John O'Mara** announce the birth of their son, **John Baldwin**, born in November 2008 at St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond, Va. "Mom and Dad, big sister Kieran, and the O'Mara, Pratt and Decker grandparents welcome Jack to our family."

**Julie Apolito Rehm '91 (COS)** is the senior associate dean and associate vice president of strategic initiatives at Case Western Reserve University. In this capacity, Rehm and her team seek, manage and coordinate public and private sector alliances and initiatives that raise awareness for university priorities and leverage investments in projects with synergy. Rehm graduated from the University of Rochester in 1996 with a Ph.D. in chemistry from the College of Arts and Sciences.



## 1993

**Joseph Brennan '93 (FAA)** writes "Nothing but fine design for a divine 2009! I never thought building one-of-a-kind art furniture and accessories would be a crucial part in learning to walk again. I now know what I do is my true calling. Please visit my Web site: [www.brennandesigns.net](http://www.brennandesigns.net), and contact me for the whole story... I miss you RIT! God Bless!"

**Sanford Fitelson '93 (CAST)** and **Kristin Ricotta** announce the birth of a daughter, **Hannah Rose**, on

Jan. 9, 2009, at Torrance Memorial, Calif. Sanford is packing manager at Schwarzkopf & Henkel in Irvine, Calif.

**Robert Harner '93 (CAST)** is now a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accredited professional.

**Tonia Pelletier Meyer '93 (GAP)** and **Matthew Meyer** announce the birth of a daughter, **Lila Grace Meyer**, on March 3, 2009, in Rochester. Lila joins a brother, Griffin, and sister, Ava.

**Victor Parente-Blake '93, '98 (CAST)** is an independent consultant in telecommunications. Visit [victorblake.com](http://victorblake.com) to learn more.

**Grant Seon '93 (CAST)** is a senior engineer at Covidien in New Haven, Conn. Grant moves running production lines around the world and has been employed with Covidien since July of 2008. Covidien is one of the largest healthcare companies in the world.

**Robert Wagner '93 (SCB)** is director of worldwide corporate industry analyst relations for Xerox Corp.

## 1994

**Timothy Krablin '94 (CIAS)** formed a company,



**Modern Cellar**, with his fiancé in 2005. They design and build custom wine cellars and furnishings and are featured in many national publications, including the May 2009 *Men's Journal*. The

company is currently located in San Diego, but relocating to Philadelphia.

**Sean Morrison '94 (CAST)** is a structural designer responsible for corrugated packaging for International Paper's four Florida manufacturing plant locations.

**Atul Patel '94 (KGCOE)** accepted a position at MTS Systems Corp. in the Minneapolis, Minn., area as product manager. Atul previously was employed at Daimler Trucks North America as product specialist, Heavy Duty Powertrain. Other recent accomplishments include the completion of his first century (100 mile) bike ride at Lake Tahoe in June 2008. He rode to honor his father and to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

**Philip Potts '94 (CIAS)** passed the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) exam in March 2009.

**Susan Unger '94 (CIAS)** and **John Snoonian** announce the birth of a son, **Dante Louis Stone Snoonian**, on Jan. 30, 2008, in Cambridge, Mass. He is constantly surrounded by his three siblings, Charlotte and Else, twin girls, age 6, and big brother Vinny, age 2.

Matthew, on Sept. 3, 2008, in New Haven, Conn. "Tyler's big sister Sara just loves him," they report.

**Aaron Waterman '99 (KGCOE)** and **Kelly Reese** announce the birth of a daughter, **Zoe Reese Waterman**, on Jan. 28, 2008, in Hartford (Conn.) Hospital.

## 1995

**Lisa Bork '95 (SCB)** writes, "My debut mystery novel, *For Better, For Murder*, will be published by Midnight Ink in September. For more information, see [www.LisaBork.com](http://www.LisaBork.com).



## 1996

**Dale Davis '96 (KGCOE)** is a patent attorney for General Electric Corp. and was extremely honored to have been selected to be sworn-in to the United States Supreme Court Bar by Chief Justice John Roberts.



**Cristin Frank '96 (CIAS)** and her husband launched Cargot brand Roll & Go, which makes organizers to discreetly and conveniently carry cosmetics and baby essentials. They are made using recycled cotton and have been featured in several baby blogs and were included in the *Cleveland Leader's* Ultimate Baby Guide in May 2009. [www.carrycargot.com](http://www.carrycargot.com).



**Valerie Lusczek '96 (CIAS)** was promoted to director of major gifts at Wildlife Conservation Society. "In my new role, I raise gifts of \$100,000-plus for WCS to support their zoological parks, education programs and global wildlife health initiatives. Prior to that I was executive director of NYU's Finding A Cure for Epilepsy and Seizures and director of donor relations at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center."

## 1997

**David Drake '83 (CCF), '97 (CAST)** is director of operations for the Hillside Family of Agencies, Human Resources Department, Rochester.

**Jennifer Griswold SVP '92, '95, '97 (COS)** is a research associate and has been employed for seven years at Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute in Buffalo. "My lab had a paper published in the Jan. 8, 2009, edition of *Nature Magazine*. I am listed as second author. The article is titled "Structural basis for androgen specificity and oestrogen synthesis in human aromatase."

**Charles Wilson '97 (CIAS)** presented at the May 2009 Kalamazoo Animation Festival International regarding work with accident reconstruction and product failures as well as a recent historical animation project with the Bard Graduate College and the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. He also taught a hands-on workshop where people learned to animate using the paint-on-glass technique.

## 1998

**Lori Bloom '98 (CIAS)** was recently promoted to lead graphic designer for Cinnabon at FOCUS Brands in Atlanta.

**Alan Bruce '97 (CIAS), '98 (SCB)** was promoted to director of information technology solutions from publishing systems manager at Gannett Wisconsin Media in Appleton, Wis.

**Servio Ramirez '98 (COS) and Rachel DeMent Ramirez '98 (COS)** are the proud parents of Servio Alvan Eugene Ramirez (4 years) and Gabriel Henry Daniel (13 months). They reside in Omaha, Neb.

**Adam Will '98 (KGCOE) and Julie Will** announce the birth of a daughter, Emily Grace, on April 3, 2009, in Rock Hill, S.C.

## 1999

**David Haas '99 (KGCOE) and Shannon Haas** announce the birth of a son, Jaden Robert, on Oct. 12, 2008, in Concord (N.H.) Hospital. He joins big brother Evan and big sister Addison.

**Mistic Munton SVP '93, '99 (COLA) and Thomas W. Cramer SVP '89, '06 (NTJD)**, were married in April 2008 and have a son, Hayden Thomas, born on July 3, 2008.

**Marci Norton '99 (KGCOE) and Sean Norton '99 (KGCOE)** announce the birth of their son, Tyler Matthew, on Sept. 3, 2008, in New Haven, Conn. "Tyler's big sister Sara just loves him," they report.

## Alumni Updates

# In work and life, 'care' is her operative word

Holly Hillberg '92 (M.S., electrical engineering) has long had a passion for engineering and has sought to use that enthusiasm to enhance her own professional career and to help make the world a better place.



Holly Hillberg '92

Professionally, Hillberg is a leader in the imaging and health care industry and serves as chief technology officer of Carestream

Health Inc., the Rochester-based company that spun off from Eastman Kodak Co. in 2007. In that capacity, she oversees more than 800 staff in 13 sites worldwide and has authority over the company's research and development, product development, regulatory affairs and clinical affairs divisions. She has also played a key role in the establishment of Carestream as an independent company and has led the introduction of more than 40 new products over the last two years.

"The transition from being a component

of a multi-national corporation to being an independent business has been both challenging and extremely rewarding," Hillberg says. "We were given a fabulous legacy from Kodak and have been working to transform those initial resources into our own identity as a major medical and dental imaging provider."

Prior to joining Carestream, Hillberg spent 24 years at Kodak rising up through the ranks to ultimately serve as vice president of research and development and chief technology officer of Kodak Health Imaging.

On top of her professional endeavors, Hillberg has also worked to give back to the community and to her alma mater. She has been active in youth ministry for over a decade, conducting multiple missions around the globe and service projects here in Rochester. She has traveled to the Amazon River on five occasions with Project Amazon, which seeks to improve living and medical conditions, build training facilities and to serve the people of the region.

At RIT, she sits on the board of the Women in Engineering Program (WE@RIT) and is heavily involved in broader efforts by the Kate Gleason College of Engineering

to increase diversity among students and faculty.

"I truly love being an engineer and have always felt the profession gave me the skills to excel in a wide variety of jobs," she says. "I hope by enhancing engineering opportunities for women and minorities I can help others find the same professional enjoyment and success."

For her significant success in her career and in service to the community, Hillberg was honored as the 2009 recipient of the Rochester Athena Award, which recognizes professional excellence, community service and the enhancement of women in society.

While the Athena Award provides significant validation for all of her accomplishments, Hillberg sees the award as more important for providing inspiration and motivation to future engineers to follow in her footsteps.

"I am extremely honored to receive this award, particularly because I was nominated by my colleagues at Carestream," she adds. "But the true value of this recognition is that it shows current engineering students, particularly women, that the profession can be incredibly rewarding at all levels."

Will Dube '09



**Aaron Waterman '99 (KGCOE)** and Kelly Reese announce the birth of a daughter, Zoey Reese Waterman, on Jan. 28, 2008, in Hartford (Conn.) Hospital.

## 2000

**Michael Cerchio '00 (KGCOE)**, commander, Co. E, 2nd Bn., 4th Avn. Regt., was interviewed by the magazine *Eagle Talon* (of the Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division) regarding the versatility of the CH-47F Chinook cargo helicopter-based portable refueling system.

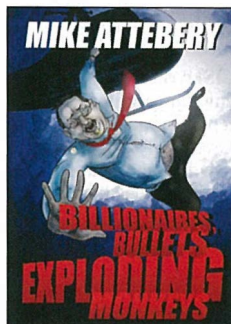
**Jesse Klein '00 (KGCOE)** and **Sarah McNeil Klein '00 (CAST)** announce the birth of a son, Jonah Andre, Feb. 22, 2009, in Rochester.

**Norma Moran SVP '95, '00 (COLA)** recently accepted a position at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., as a data analyst.

**Leslie Wickham '00 (COS)** is a molecular technologist III at the Genzyme Genetics facility in midtown Manhattan. Genzyme is a pharmaceutical company headquartered in Boston predominately focusing on the treatment of rare genetic disorders.

## 2001

**Michael Attebery '01 (CIAS)** writes, "My second novel, *Billionaires, Bullets, Exploding Monkeys*, is available in bookstores and through Amazon.com as both a printed book and a Kindle eBook."



**Patricia Palmer Canne SVP '99, '01 (NTID)** is a teaching assistant at the Rochester School for the Deaf. On March 6, 2009, she received the American Red Cross Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action for saving the life of a RSD student last December.

**Joseph Iacovissi '01 (SCB)** and **Melanie Icovissi** announce the birth of a son, Joseph Amato, on Feb. 24, 2009, in Rome (N.Y.) Memorial Hospital.

**Monique Godbolt Mills '01 (CAST)** and **George D. Mills '01 (CAST)** celebrated their 6-year



wedding anniversary. They have two children, Tre, 1, and Amerie, 2.

**Thomas Oravsky '01 (SCB), '01 (GCCIS)** was promoted to lead systems architect at American College of Physician Executives in Tampa, Fla.

**Jennifer Thompson '01 (COLA)** and **Rich Keel** were married on April 19, 2009, in Littleton, Colo. They currently reside in Aurora, Colo.

**Aimee Whyte Solomon SVP '96, '01 (CAST), '01 (COLA)** co-authored an article with Douglas Guiffreda from University of Rochester Warner School. The article, titled: *Counseling Deaf College Students: The Case of Shea*, was featured in the *Journal of College Counseling*, Fall 2008.

## 2002

**Mitul Gandhi '02 (SCB)** was featured on NBC news. When Mitul and his wife couldn't find reliable information online about a good daycare for their son, they started their own Web site. Based at Jacksonville Beach, Fla., they are hoping to make [www.topdaycarecenters.com](http://www.topdaycarecenters.com) a first stop for parents.

**Paul Gomez '01 (CAST), '02 (GCCIS)** is senior associate at Baker Robbins & Co. in New York City. Paul works as a litigation technology consultant, working with Fortune 500 corporations and AmLaw 100 law firms to provide guidance in technology implementation and support during discovery for large scale litigations.

**Heidi Plain '02 (SCB)** and **Nathaniel Langdon '02 (KGCOE)** were married on Oct. 11,



2008, at Esperanza Mansion in Bluff Point, N.Y.

**Meghan Sweeney '01 (CIAS)** served as maid of honor while **Shawn Jackson '04 (KGCOE)** acted as groomsman. Following the wedding, the couple returned to Austin, Texas, where Nate is currently

employed as an engineer for Freescale Semiconductor and Heidi works as a senior web developer for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Christine D'Amato Stratemeier SVP '96, '02 (CIAS)** and **William W. Stratemeier, '02 (CIAS)**, have a daughter, Izabella Rose, born on Sept. 18, 2008.

## 2003

**Denise Herold '03 (SCB)** is a marketing manager at National Healing Corp. in Boca Raton, Fla. Denise is responsible for strategic marketing and communication functions for region-specific wound healing centers in the United States.

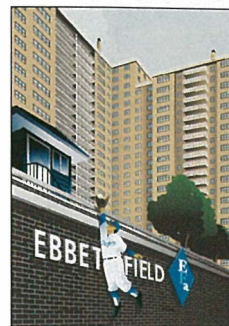
**Sarah Kankiewicz-Arkins '03 (CIAS)** and **Brennen Arkins** announce the birth of a son, Ambrose Joseph, on Dec. 16, 2008, in Savannah, Ga.

**Cheryl Lomedico '03 (CAST)** and **Joseph S. Lomedico** were married Feb. 21, 2009, in Rush, N.Y.

**Scott Risinger '03 (CAST)** and **Rachael Vollaro** were married May 29, 2009, at Lombardi's on the Sound in Port Jefferson, N.Y. They currently reside in Kew Gardens, N.Y. **Tung-To Lam '04 (CAST)** attended the ceremony. They honeymooned in Santorini, Greece, and Tuscany, Italy.

**Julie Stewart SVP '94, '01 (CIAS), '03 (NTID)** played the lead role of Annie Sullivan in *The Miracle Worker*, which opened Jan. 9, 2009, at the Riffe Center in Phoenix, Ariz. This bilingual theater production was produced by the Phoenix Theatre for Children.

**John Tomac '03 (CIAS)** had an illustration, "There Used to be a Ballpark Here," included in the Summer 2009 *Communication Arts Illustration Annual*.



**Dominic Vera SVP '99, '03 (NTID)** was the exhibit coordinator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Government's National Training Conference, May 5-7, 2009. The theme was "Climbing Ladders of Opportunity." Find out more on the Web at [dhig.info/ntc/2009/](http://dhig.info/ntc/2009/)

## 2004

**Timothy Bonarski '04 (CAST)** was recently promoted to special agent for the FBI. Previously, Tim was employed by the United States Army as an executive officer, 75th Ranger Regiment, in Savannah, Ga. Tim graduated from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., on Feb. 10, 2009.

**TuWanner Cleveland '04 (COLA)** received a master's degree in social work from University at Buffalo on May 9, 2009. TuWanner is also the recipient of this year's Thorn and Rose Award.

**Wagner DaSilva '04 (COS)** received an M.S. in chemistry from RIT, an M.S. in business administration from the University of Rochester; and will soon receive his MBA. He works for Xerox Corp. as a project chemist.

**Nicole Dowse Dowd '04 (SCB)** is the founder and president of Green Baby Shoppe Inc. ([www.GreenBabyShoppe.com](http://www.GreenBabyShoppe.com)), which specializes in natural products for baby and mom.



**Matthew Hartman '04 (CIAS)** recently accepted a seat as part of the Suffolk University School of Law Class of 2012, Boston.

**Kristin Mills (Reiland) '04 (COS)** entered her fourth year of medical school. She plans to complete an internal medicine residency program and subsequently enter an allergy/immunology or infectious disease fellowship.







**Stephanie Otto '98 took a walk on the wild side and found a rewarding new job.**

## Med tech grad's patients are real animals

When an elephant gets a fever, when a gazelle goes off her feed, when a flamingo is feeling blue, the veterinarians at the National Zoo might order a blood test to determine what's wrong.

That's when Stephanie Otto '98 (medical technology) goes into action. Otto recently joined the staff of the zoo's veterinary hospital as a lab technician. Her duties range from conducting blood tests to testing the water in marine animal tanks.

"Our job is to support the veterinary staff and help keep the animals healthy." Although the patients might be lions, lizards or laughing kookaburras, she says the laboratory principles are similar to human labs even if their chemistry differs from humans. Most of the lab equipment is the same as what's found in hospital settings where Otto has worked.

She began her career at the Clifton Springs (N.Y.) Hospital and Clinic, where she spent a year. Then she returned to her hometown, where she worked as a hematologist at Albany (N.Y.) Medical Center and then at New York Oncology and Hematology in Albany for a total of eight years.

In the meantime, thinking she might want to move away from medicine, she earned a master's degree in public history and museum studies from the University of Albany and began looking online for a museum job. That's where she spotted the National Zoo's ad. She had the requisite skills and experience and the job sounded interesting, so she applied. She started her new position in November 2008.

"It's the best job I've had in a long time. This is a nice place to work." The National Zoo, located at 3001 Connecticut Ave. in Washington, D.C., shelters about 2,000 animals from about 400 different species, many of which are endangered.

Otto's job doesn't generally include direct contact with the residents. And that's OK — she's allergic to some animals.

She encourages others with backgrounds in medical technology to consider zoos as potential employers.

"I never would have thought of it," she says. "I found this job completely by accident."

**Amy Niggel '04 (COS)** received her M.A. in liberal studies from SUNY College at Plattsburgh on Dec. 13, 2008.

**Amber Stanton Zion SVP '97, '03 (NTID), '04 (CIAS)** was featured in a television commercial for Kay Jewelers during the holiday season. She was also featured in an episode of *CSI: NY* in 2006. She moved to Los Angeles to pursue her acting career and is working as a graphic designer. Visit [www.amberzion.com](http://www.amberzion.com).

## 2005

**Sarah Messina '05 (CAST)** and **Scott L. Anderson** were married on March 14, 2009, in the Port of Miami, Fla., on the Celebrity Century cruise ship. Forty-two friends and family joined them for the ceremony, followed by a five-night voyage to Ocho Rios, Jamaica, and George Town, Grand Cayman. The Andersons reside in North Dakota and both are employed by Microsoft.



**Humayun Zafar '05 (GCCIS)** writes, "I have a research paper titled 'Current State of Information Security Research in IS' accepted for publication in the *Communications of the Association for Information Systems*. It is a top-five ranked journal in information systems. I am currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Information Systems and Technology Management at the University of Texas, San Antonio."

## 2006

**Mayank Agrawal '06 (KGCOE)** is the senior associate at L.E.K. Consulting, a Boston-based management consulting firm. Recent projects include assessment of a potential acquisition candidate for a large Middle East-based shipping and logistics company, a comprehensive organizational restructuring for a major private jet carrier in the U.S., outlining corporate strategy for a leading pharmaceutical company in Europe, improving profitability for a British media and publishing firm, and developing a marketing plan for a new product entry in Latin America. He received a master's degree from Dartmouth College.



**Nichole Bolding '06 (CIAS)** and **Chris Jones** were married on Dec. 21, 2008, in Frederick, Md. They currently reside in Alexandria, Va. Nicole is a senior research analyst at InfoTrends Inc.





## Over 50 years, circle of friendship grows strong

Every year on the first weekend of August, a group of alumni gathers to celebrate a friendship that began at RIT five decades ago.

Customarily, the group includes nine couples. Peter Browne '64 (business administration) and Bill Turri '62 (printing) both have homes in Sodus Point, N.Y., a tiny community on Lake Ontario 30 miles east of Rochester that has become the annual gathering spot. The three-day event includes rounds of golf and concludes with an all-day clambake, with plenty of time for reminiscing and catching up.

"It is unusual, I think, that this group has stayed so close for so long," says Browne. "We do work hard at it, now more than ever. We've moved in all different directions, but the friendship has continued."

In addition to Browne and Turri, the group includes Richard Pilon '61 (retail management), James Williams '64 (printing), Richard Justino '62 (printing), Richard Irland '62 (business administration), John Absalom '62 (printing), Philip Skidmore '65 (printing) and Bill Sloan '63 (printing). They live substantial distances from each other — as far away as Florida, Arizona, California, New Jersey and Massachusetts — but they have stayed close.

The annual reunions began just a few years after they graduated.

"We were in Kappa Sigma Kappa fraternity, which became Theta Xi," says Turri. "Many of us lived together in a fraternity house we purchased on Troup Street (on RIT's former campus in downtown Rochester). We socialized, we studied together. We just did a lot of things together and I think that formed the basis of our continuing friendship."

This year, the reunion took on a new dimension. About 150 people joined in to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> birthdays of Browne and Turri. The two used the occasion to help RIT students: They asked guests to contribute to a scholarship fund they started 30 years ago, when they both turned 40.



In the 1996 photo above are, from left, standing: Dick Pilon '61, Phil Skidmore '65, Dick Irland '62, Jim Williams '64, Bill Turri '62 and Peter Browne '64. Seated, from left, are John Absalom '62, Dick Justino '62 and Bill Sloan '63.

In the photo at right are, standing, from left: Pilon, Turri, Justino, Irland and Absalom. Seated, from left, are Skidmore, Williams '64 and Peter Browne '64. Sloan was not in the photo.



Browne, who grew up in Williamson, N.Y., settled on a career path when he went to work for Union Central Life Insurance Co. while still an RIT student. By age 24, he was general manager of the Rochester office, and many of his clients and employees were friends from RIT. He re-located to the New York City area and continued as a manager for the company's New York operation. In 1984, the New York agency merged with Price and Raffel Inc., and he is now president of Price Raffel and Browne.

Both Browne and Turri are members of RIT's President's Roundtable. Browne was honored as RIT's Outstanding Alumnus in 1998, and Turri received that distinction in 2002.

"I have never before encountered a fund like the Turri-Browne Scholarship," says Lisa Cauda, RIT's vice president for Development and Alumni Relations. "The fact that these two dedicated alumni established this fund on their 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays and are still supporting it 30 years later is remarkable. Over these three decades, more than 20 students have received support from these

generous graduates and their friends. It is truly selfless to invite friends and family to make birthday gifts toward the scholarship fund instead of to the birthday boys. What a great way to celebrate!"

### Join the celebration

If you would like to add your contribution to the Turri-Browne Scholarship, go to [www.rit.edu/tigerpride](http://www.rit.edu/tigerpride), call 585-475-5500, or write to Office of Development, Rochester Institute of Technology, Box 92765, Rochester, N.Y. 14692-8865

RIT has nearly 600 named scholarships. Annual scholarships may be established for gifts as small as \$1,000, and endowed scholarships may be created with a minimum of \$25,000. Gifts are always accepted to any of the scholarships across the campus.

"RIT is responsible for where I am today," explains Browne.

"We've been the beneficiaries of the relationship with the university," adds Turri.

Both have enjoyed significant career success.

Turri, a native of Seneca Falls, N.Y., rose through the ranks at Case-Hoyt, one of the foremost quality printers in the nation. In 1985, he was named chief operating officer of Monroe Litho, and served as president from 1993 to 1995 when he returned to Case-Hoyt as president, retiring in 2001. In 2003, Bruce James '64 (printing), then U.S. Public Printer, named Turri to the position of Deputy Public Printer, the second-highest position within the U.S. Government Printing Office. After James stepped down in January 2007, Turri served as acting public printer for 10 months.



## RIT Alumni Association elects new officers

### R·I·T alumni ASSOCIATION

RIT's Alumni Association has new leadership. Elected to two-year terms this spring are Kathleen C. Anderson '94 (professional and technical communications), president; Victoria A. Griffith '93 (food marketing distribution), vice president; and Ryan M. Troll '05 (mechanical engineering technology), secretary. As president of the Alumni Association Board, Anderson also becomes a member of the RIT Board of Trustees.

Anderson, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2004, served as vice president for the past three years. She has served RIT as an admissions volunteer and career mentor and was a member of the university's presidential search committee 2006-2007. She is media director for Travers Collins & Company, a Buffalo advertising and public relations firm.

Griffith has been a volunteer for reunion planning, admissions receptions and summer send-offs. A member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2005, she currently chairs the Development committee. She has been in top-level management positions for Clyde's Restaurant Group in Washington, D.C., since 1997, currently working as director of quality assurance.

Troll is active in the Washington, D.C., alumni chapter and has served as a career speaker at RIT. He has been a member of Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2006 and was chair of the AABOD Chapters committee for the last two years. Professionally, Troll is a private consultant specializing in project management and business analysis. He is currently working for AARP.

RIT's Alumni Association Board of Directors has 38 members who serve three-year terms.

To find out about activities and benefits of being part of the RIT Alumni Association, visit [www.rit.edu/alumni](http://www.rit.edu/alumni) or call 585-475-ALUM or 866-RIT-ALUM.



K. Anderson V. Griffith R. Troll

## 2007

**Helena Fruscio '07 (CIAS)** was recently appointed by the governor to the Massachusetts State Wide Creative Economy Council.

**Abraham Janne Herrera '07 (GCCIS)** and Maria Carolina Janne-Celemin were married on Jan. 3, 2009. They currently reside in Herndon, Va.

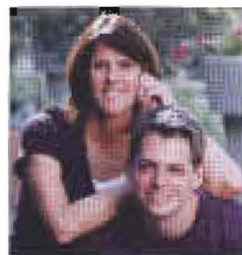
**Andrea Kahn-Richie '07 (NTID)** recently became an RID nationally certified interpreter and will be completing her M.S. degree at the end of this summer, 2009.

**Laura Mona '07 (CAST)** has been admitted to the Albany Law School class of 2012 and will be leaving her position as senior project manager with SPEC engineering to attend law school in the fall of 2009.

**Andreana Paoletta '05, '07 (NTID)** and **Raymond Durkin '06 (GCCIS)** were married May 3, 2008, in Webster, NY. They currently reside in Rochester. Guests included: **Lisette Silver '05, '09 (CAST); Eric Bustamante '06 (GCCIS); Vincenzo Aquino '05 (GCCIS); Sean Sullivan '06 (GCCIS); Michael Ray '06 (CGGIS); Jean Rodman '86 (NTID); Tony Madalena '05 (NTID) '09 (CAST); Michelle Koplitz '08 (COS); Lynn Finton '84 (CAST) and Ken Finton '84 (COLA) '91 (CCE); Chris Edgerton '05 (NTID); Karen Wilcox '05 (NTID); Gina Coyne '07 (NTID); RIT interpreter Aaryn Adams; Tom Raco '63 (CIAS); Brion Swanson '01 (CIAS); Russell Lenigan '05 (CIAS); Robert Bowman '08 (CAST); Erin Snyder '07 (CIAS); Erica Dorfingler '07 (COLA); Aleshia Miller '07 (COS); Nate Rooke '06 (CIAS); Mary Steensma '95 (NTID); Brad Francis '05 (GCCIS). Andreana currently works at RIT as an interpreter and Raymond works at Thomson Reuters as a software engineer.**

**Joshua Poehlein '07 (CIAS)** was interviewed recently by UK-based *Photo Pro Magazine* regarding Jason's "Unstill Lives" series.

## 2008



**Luke Adams '08 (COLA)** became the first deaf contestant on the CBS reality show *The Amazing Race*. He traveled around the world with his mother, Margie, as his teammate. They finished third overall, appearing in the final episode in May and winning \$10,000 and three future trips for coming in first on three different legs of the race.

**Ryan Carroll '08 (CAST)** is a manufacturing engineer with Kennametal Inc. in Greenfield, Mass. "In November, I completed my Six Sigma Green Belt training and am currently working on a project to save \$6,000-plus of scrap and generate \$80,000-plus annually.

**Steven Dibelius '08 (GCCIS)** is joining the School of Information at the University of Michigan in the fall of 2009. He will be pursuing a master of science in information degree.

**Ryan Fortin '08 (GCCIS)** is the IT director at Archer Communications in Rochester. "I love working on the cutting edge and meeting challenges every day," Ryan writes. "It keeps life interesting."

**Michelle Gerson '08 (COLA)** is the outreach coordinator for Viable Inc., a Maryland-based company that provides video relay services. Viable

**Michael Jones '06 (SCB)** and his wife, Nicole, announce the birth of a daughter, Grace Lynne. "Mom, daughter and dad are doing fine!"

**William Keyser '06 (CIAS)** held a one-person



show, "William Keyser: Painting/Sculpture" at the Dyer Arts Center at NTID earlier in 2009. More than 150 works were on view. Keyser is a professor emeritus in RIT's School for American Crafts, where he taught in the woodworking program.

**Megan Lutz '06 (KGCOE)** received an M.S. in statistics from Virginia Tech in May 2009. She will begin pursuing a Ph.D. in quantitative psychology at Georgia Tech this fall.

**Lisa Menard '96 (NTID), '00, '06 (CAST)** married Corey Julseth on June 2, 2007, and gave birth to their daughter, Lila, on Oct. 15, 2007.

**Charles Palmer SVP '02, '06 (NTID)** was inducted into the New York State Section V Basketball Hall of Fame on Nov. 15, 2008. While attending high school at Rochester School for the Deaf, Palmer scored 2,875 points—the highest total ever recorded by any boys' basketball player in the state.

**Donald Slate '06 (KGCOE)** is an engineer at Raytheon Corp. in Andover, Mass. He also tutors Lawrence High seniors in math and English using sign language through a program called Stand and Deliver.

**Brendan Van Meter '06 (CIAS)** recently accepted a position at SourceMaker Inc. in Tappan, N.Y., as director of product R&D and Manufacturing.

**Matthew Weinstock '06 (KGCOE)** received a master's of science degree in engineering management from Northeastern University in May of 2009.

**Jennifer Wozniak '06 (CAST)** is a project engineer for Pike Co. She has received her leadership in energy and environmental design accreditation from the Green Building Certification Institute.



helped sponsor a seven-week cross-country tour by (reaf)Nation. The crew stopped at NTID on the 7,500-mile trip.

**Erica Passarelli '08 (CIAS)** and **Samuel Kendall**



were married on Jan. 24, 2009, in Albion, N.Y. They currently reside in Columbus, Ohio.

**Jason Wagner SVP '02, '05 (NTID), '08 (SCB)** is a tech support person for Sorenson Communications Inc. in Salt Lake City, Utah.

## 2009



**Elaine Gilbert '09 (nutrition management)** shares a hug with her grandmother, **Margaret Gilbert '36 (retail distribution)** following the College of Applied Science and Technology graduation ceremony.

Margaret began her studies at Mechanics Institute in 1933, during the Great Depression and after graduation worked at Sibley's Department Store in Rochester. She also worked in the purchasing department of General Railway Signal. Elaine will begin a 10-month dietetic internship at the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) in Baltimore in September. Margaret lives with family, including Elaine, on Conesus Lake in Livonia, N.Y.

## In Memoriam

**1933**

**Louise Meeker Booher '33 (SCB)**, March 24, 2009

**1940**

**Mary A. Hughes '40 (FAA)**, April 23, 2009

**1941**

**Dorothy Winship Evans '41 (SCB)**, April 24, 2004

**1945**

**Roger E. Buckler '45 (KGCOE)**, April 23, 2009

**1947**

**Gordon "Mickey" E. Fagan '47 (GAP)**, May 25, 2009

**1949**

**Donald W. Napier '49 (CCE)**, April 27, 2009

**1950**

**Fred H. Bickford Jr. '50 (KGCOE)**, April 10, 2009

**1951**

**Don J. Delaura '51 (CCE)**, Dec. 27, 2008

**Thomas C. Dieren '51 (FAA)**, Dec. 2, 2008

**Joseph H. Murrelle '51 (GAP)**, Jan. 21, 2009

**David P. Rosen '51 (GAP)**, February 2009

**1952**

**Lawrence E. Contois '52 (COS)**, April 14, 2009

**Leonard N. Gillon '52 (GAP)**, April 24, 2009

**1953**

**Kenneth O. Aenis '53 (CCE)**, Jan. 25, 2009

**Donald J. Haag '53 (CCE)**, Jan. 13, 2009

**1954**

**Samuel J. Latone '54 (CCE)**, March 27, 2009

**Pietrina Giordano Markle '54 (FAA)**, March 11, 2009

**1955**

**Mary Radell Durkin '55 (SCB)**, Jan. 30, 2009

**1957**

**Bernard R. Druzynski '57 (CCE)**, Feb. 19, 2009

**1959**

**Richard J. Sobus '59 (KGCOE)**, Jan. 22, 2009

**1960**

**Edward J. Rydzewski '60 (CAP)**, Oct. 12, 2008

**1961**

**E. Lee Garclick '61 (KGCOE)**, Dec. 5, 2008

**1962**

**Russell H. Kesel '62 (CCE)**, Feb. 21, 2009

**James R. Paulus '62 (GAP)**, Feb. 26, 2009

**Mary Psenninger Schroeder '62 (SCB)**, Jan. 22, 2009

**1963**

**Elliott R. Mibaum '63 (FAA)**, April 22, 2009

**1967**

**Robert J. Fahrner '67 (CCE)**, Jan. 9, 2009

**John R. Pierce '67 (GAP)**, Feb. 26, 2009

**1970**

**Daniel L. Strong '70 (SCB)**, Jan. 17, 2009

**1971**

**Raymond G. Burton '71 (CCE)**, March 22, 2009

**Dennis J. Shea '71 (CCE)**, Feb. 21, 2009

**Ronald J. VanStean '71 (SCB)**, Feb. 16, 2009

**1973**

**Phillip J. Santo '72 (CCE)**, Feb. 20, 2009

**Nicholas A. Vitagliano '72 (GAP)**, March 26, 2009

**1973**

**Lee R. Irwin '73 (SCB)**, Jan. 27, 2009

**1976**

**William H. Hearne '76 (COS)**, May 7, 2009

**Laone Washburn '76 (CCE)**, April 27, 2009

**Richard A. Zuegel '76 (SCB)**, May 6, 2009

**1977**

**Mark Keogh '77 (SCB)**, March 3, 2009

**Marvin Patterson '77 (CCE)**, Feb. 18, 2009

**1980**

**Frederick R. Catt '80 (GAP)**, Jan. 22, 2009

**Daniel Robert Fitzgerald '80 (CCE)**, Oct. 25, 2008

**1981**

**David Drake '81 (SCB)**, March 3, 2009

**Martin R. McClelland '81 (CAST)**, March 7, 2009

**Stephen William Olejarski '81 (CCE)**, April 25, 2009

**1983**

**Aldo Mastro Simone '83 (CAST)**, Feb. 18, 2009

**1985**

**Joseph Bertolero '85 (COS)**, Jan. 19, 2009

**1994**

**Lee Mondesir '94 (SCB)**, Jan. 1, 2009

**1997**

**Janine Marie French Walker '97 (CIAS)**, March 27, 2009

**Samuel P. Ritz SVP '93, '97 (NTID)**, Jan. 4, 2009

**2000**

**Sean M. Hill '00 (SCB)**, Jan. 30, 2009

**2007**

**Anand Kannabiran '07 (CAST)**, May 2, 2009

## Connect Network with more than 100,000 alumni

You're already using Facebook®, now add the RIT Alumni Connections application and make networking with your classmates even easier!

**R·I·T**  
*alumni*  
ASSOCIATION

A powerful network  
at your fingertips...  
[www.rit.edu/alumni](http://www.rit.edu/alumni)

The application allows you to:

- **update** your alumni profile
- **search** for classmates
- **view** and **post** class notes
- **obtain** a personalized @alum.rit.edu email forwarding address
- **and more...**

**facebook**



# from the Archives

## 1960

### Distance learning

Shibani Basu '62 (printing) traveled from Calcutta to study in RIT's School of Printing. An unknown photographer made this portrait of Basu, dressed in traditional attire, ready for work at a typesetting machine.

If you have additional information about this photo, we'd love to share it with other readers. Write to The University Magazine, University News Services, Rochester Institute of Technology, 132 Lomb Memorial Drive - Bldg. 86, Rochester, NY 14623. E-mail can be sent to [umag-www@rit.edu](mailto:umag-www@rit.edu).

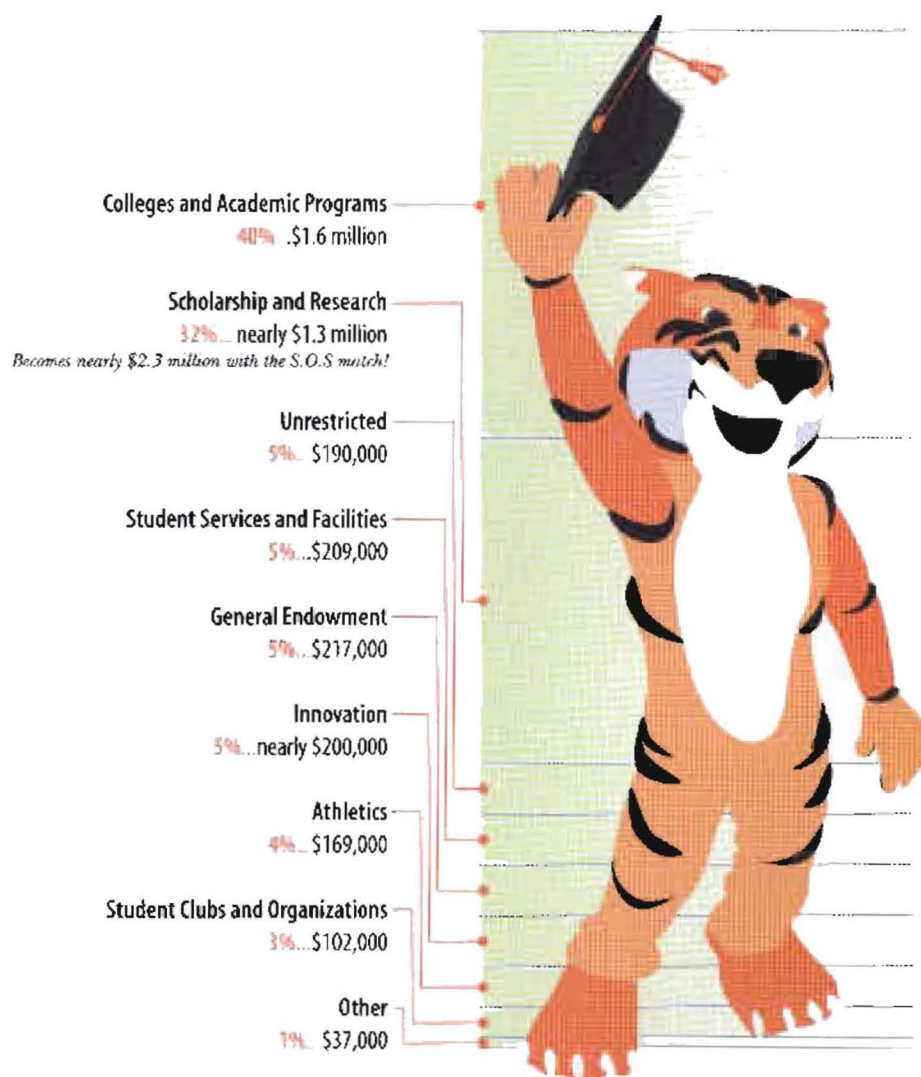


No. 4 August 2009

RIT USPS-676-8701 is published 16 times annually by Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603, once in April, four times in June, nine times in August, once in September and once in December. Periodicals postage paid at Rochester, NY and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to RIT, Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603.



# Hats off to our donors!



## You did it!

*You came through for RIT again and we are grateful.*

**W**ith help from thousands of alumni, parents and friends, RIT's **S.O.S. (Supporting our Students) \$1 Million Scholarship Matching Gift Challenge** has been a success. Practically speaking, that's another \$2 million in financial support for students who might otherwise have had to "bow out" of a great RIT education. As our preliminary figures above show, you also helped support other areas of the university that are vital to providing an excellent education. We hope you continue to make a difference for RIT and its students — the Institute wouldn't be the success it is today without **YOU**.



### 2009-2010 FUND FOR RIT

Online: [rit.edu/makeagift](http://rit.edu/makeagift)  
Call: 1-800-477-0376 or TTY 585-475-5018  
Mail: RIT Office of Development  
P.O. Box 92765  
Rochester, NY 14692-8865



# R·I·T

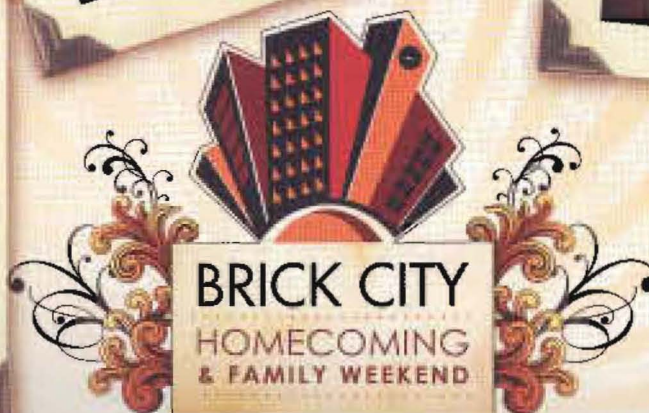
Rochester Institute of Technology

Periodicals

[www.rit.edu](http://www.rit.edu)

Horton Speaker **Jimmy Wales**  
**Saturday, Oct. 10, 11:00am**

Comedian **Jim Gaffigan**  
**Friday, Oct. 9, 9:00pm**



**OCTOBER 9-11, 2009**

## **RIT HOCKEY** **Season Opener!**

Cheer on the Tigers as they take on Colgate at downtown Rochester's **Blue Cross Arena**  
**Saturday, Oct. 10, 7:05pm**