

Scholarship @ R·I·T

R·I·T LIBRARIES

The RIT Faculty Scholars Series: Amit Ray and Students Present to Eager Audience

PHOTO BY JENNIFER FREER



Patrick Kelley, Erhardt Graeff, and Amit Ray

“VENI. VIDI. WIKI?” A people-packed Idea Factory was the venue for an informative and entertaining presentation on February 9, 2006. Featured scholar, **Amit Ray** (College of Liberal Arts), presented “WWW/Wiki Wacky Web?: Wikis, Authority and the Public Sphere.” The always-animated Dr. Ray shared the stage with students **Erhardt Graeff** (GCCIS) and **Patrick Gage Kelley** (COE). Erhardt (current Editor-In-Chief of the *Reporter*) and Patrick are working with Dr. Ray on projects involving wikis and social computing. Erhardt’s primary focus was on the function of ‘authorship’ on wikis. For details on the presentation, visit: http://condu.it.rit.edu/wikitheory/index.php/Faculty_Scholars_Presentation.

Patrick Kelley introduced *condu.it*, a newly-launched digital media repository where faculty, students, and staff can submit material and comments. Visit the site at: <http://condu.it.rit.edu/>. Patrick outlined prominent examples of wiki collaboration and discussed wikis in the context of established media and the public sphere. Members of the audience engaged in a discussion of authorship, publishing, and editing and how they relate to wikis.

Our next Faculty Scholars event is Chance Glenn (CAST); April 13th, 2006. We hope to see you there!

Robert Chandler / Wallace Library

Packaging Faculty Scholarship...

As I mentioned in my Fall Newsletter column, all RIT faculty have scholarship. It lurks in file cabinets, on desktop surfaces, in computers, and in the minds of those who teach and apply their work through research and in the integration process of one’s academic focus. Packaging the scholarly work takes some thought and organization whether the faculty member or researcher is presenting, publishing, or posting scholarship in the RIT Digital Media Library.

Are you looking for a venue in which to publish or present your work? Check out the PapersInvited database at: <http://wally.rit.edu/electronic/papersinvited/papersinvited.html>, the world’s largest listing of calls for papers from professional bodies, universities, journal editors and conferences. There are also student (professional and volunteer) opportunities.

This newsletter focuses on RIT activities that benefit people, such as wikis and the scholarship of oyster dilemmas, privacy issues, photography listservs, an undergraduate research scholars program, heavy statistics in Australia, plagiarism tools, faculty and student collaborations, a L. Lessig talk, galaxy visualizations, interactive teaching applications, Diabetes Type II nutrition, engineered assistive devices, Lulu publishing, and some recent RIT DML submissions.

Marianne Buehler / Wallace Library

“Universities should not be centers to transmit what is already known. They should produce knowledge to benefit their societies and the rest of the world.”

—Nemir Kirdar, Iraqi-born president of Investcorp Bank

The Pearl in the RIT Oyster

College of Liberal Arts

As a historian of science and a passionate advocate of the liberal arts, I believe that a college education should go far beyond the specialized knowledge of one's major discipline. Teaching RIT's technologically-oriented students how to think historically about the relationships between science, technology, politics, and the environment is thus both a challenge and an opportunity. While some may consider their liberal arts courses a distraction, others are trying to figure out how to combine their career interests with ways to solve the technological and environmental dilemmas of the twenty-first century. To that end, my courses aim to instill in such future leaders, an appreciation for the political, social, economic, and ethical aspects of environmental, scientific, and technological issues.

My own scholarship focuses on the political role of scientific expertise, and how scientists, users of natural resources, and ordinary citizens value natural capital. I am completing a book on the conflicts between watermen and scientists since 1880, with respect to the



oyster, which was once the greatest commodity of the Chesapeake Bay, North America's largest estuary. Today, oysters are recognized for both their economic and ecological value, which has produced new tensions.

The later chapters address the heated, ongoing debates over whether efforts to restore oysters to the Bay should focus on maximizing ecological functioning (since oysters clean the water by filtering out pollutants) or on maintaining the traditional way of life of the watermen (who have fished the Bay for three centuries), and whether these purposes should be served by focusing on the besieged native oyster (which is vulnerable to disease) or by introducing a heartier species from Asia (about which many unknowns remain). Resolving these difficult questions will require an ability to integrate knowledge from many different disciplines, as is true of most environmental problems facing us today.

Christine Keiner / Science, Technology & Society

Privacy—Who has it?

College of Business

Society is riding the crest of a tsunami wave in the development of information collection, storage, and access. We are riding that wave without seriously assessing where that wave is taking us.

There are public and private presentations about the technological advances in reducing financial costs, including accrued benefits. More information can be stored in a portable flash drive than the Apollo spacecraft that launched humankind to the moon. The prevailing, unthinking sentiments apparently are, "If it can be done it will be done." and "If it is high technology, it must be good." Events, such as making a telephone call, paying bills online, or other online activities, are no longer just current transactions with short-term records. Documentation is now virtually eternal.

Privacy is essential in defining our humanity. Privacy provides control over our sense of autonomy and well-being, and over how others perceive us. Without privacy, others control us and determine how we are perceived. Technology is reducing our privacy. We are continually observed through direct or indirect observation.

Discussions and debates in my *Ethical Issues in Technology Intensive Environments* course elicit a classic, but misguided student response to privacy concerns such

as, "It's okay, I have nothing to hide. It is only people with something to hide that must be concerned." This position is naive as it ignores the changes in personal behavior that occur in the observed and the observer. When a person is observed or even believes that he or she is being observed, behaviors are altered in the direction believed desired by the observer. This is an infringement on a person's autonomy coupled with the natural right to be treated as a reasoning, rational individual, as an end in and of one's self, not merely as a means to someone else's end. The observer gains a shift in behavior and a sense of power over the observed.



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Bruce Oliver / Center for Business Ethics & Accounting

Connecting to a World of Photography

College of Imaging Arts & Sciences

The School of Photographic Arts and Sciences (SPAS) has maintained a world presence through communication exchange opportunities afforded to it by the Internet. In late 1993, the School established a worldwide message exchange facility (aka a listserv) designed to serve photographic educators, professionals and students, providing informational databases of particular interest to these groups.

The PhotoForum was one of the first listservs on the Internet dedicated to photography. Over the years, it has established connections to over 1000 photographers worldwide, from Canada to England, Egypt to the



Phillipines, South Africa to Sweden and beyond. The PhotoForum has served not only as a communications link, but in 1996, it also established a photographic gallery for its members that

is updated with twelve new images every weekend.

To complement the PhotoForum, the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences also implemented a listserv to cater to Hispanic photographers worldwide. Founded in 1996, the language on Fotored is Spanish and membership numbers approximately 400 individuals from countries such as Mexico, Spain, Venezuela, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and others.

Fotored, unlike other lists, is a community of photographers who exchange information not only about photography, but also about anything related to the life of a member photographer. Birth announcements, the best wines, recipes for “dulce de leche,” and the local and international political scene, are all fair game for this photographic “family.”

As the Coordinator, I find it gratifying to facilitate these listserv projects. They have brought me into contact with photographers from around the globe.

Fotored, in particular, is impressive since one of its southernmost members sends messages to Rochester from Tierra del Fuego. The message, upon arrival to the RIT redistribution center, wings its way to Spanish-speaking countries everywhere, including Chile, across the Andes from the point of origin of the message. PhotoForum: <http://www.rit.edu/photoforum> and Fotored: <http://www.rit.edu/fotored>.

Andrew Davidhazy / Imaging & Photo Technology

Undergraduate Student Scholarship at its Very Best!

College of Science

Prior to 2004, the Biological Sciences Department had offered only modest opportunities for undergraduates to do research. We attract some of the best students in the life sciences, eager to seek challenging ways to engage their minds well beyond the acquisition of facts and understanding of concepts that must necessarily form the foundation for their education. We strongly believed that we could give many more of our students the opportunity to participate in rigorous, meaningful research.

We implemented the *Research Scholars Program* in the Fall of 2004. The Program created an active community where students are encouraged to learn, think and talk science, while maturing into self-confident, young research investigators. Students design and execute their own personal high-quality research projects under the guidance of their selected faculty mentor for at least one academic year. Some of the Program benefits and activities include:

- Opportunities to Publish and Present Research
- Weekly Seminar Series
- Special Recognition at Graduation
- Competitive Summer Research Funding Awards (\$4,000)
- Summer “Chow Chat” Series (good food and good discussion!)
- Travel Awards to Support Participation in National Meetings (\$300)
- Best Written Manuscript Recognized with a Distinguished Scholar Award and Cash Prizes (\$300).



The impact of the Program has been incredible! The number of undergraduates doing long-term, high-quality research has nearly tripled. First-year students are becoming engaged in research projects (as a lead-in to the Program), an almost unheard of activity in the past. Publications and presentations of student work have increased dramatically. The impact on career opportunities for our graduates and, as importantly, on the scholarship of our Faculty who mentor these students that have been already realized from the Program can never be overstated. More program details are at: <http://www.rit.edu/~jbjsbi/researchscholars/>.

G. Thomas Frederick / Biological Sciences

Faculty Off-Campus

A Statistical Discovery in Australia...

This is an unlikely story of fascinating research leading to a visit to the exotic continent of Australia. Several years ago, I began collaborating with Prof. John Schott and Dr. Emmett Lentilucci of the RIT Remote Sensing Lab, who deal with hyperspectral images of Earth taken from high altitudes. In a hyperspectral image, each pixel is represented by a spectral curve digitized into hundreds of narrow spectral bands (visible and invisible light) that can be described as a 200-dimensional vector. This is in contrast to a traditional color picture that is seen on a computer screen or in print, in which each pixel is represented by an intensity of 3-4 basic colors. Considering that a hyperspectral image may consist of hundreds of thousands of pixels, there is a lot of data to analyze. Statistics, an indispensable tool in such situations, allows us to extract the most important information from the data and to build predictive statistical models.

Over the years, I have done interesting research on these enormous data sets using multivariate statistical methods, working in n-dimensional spaces. The power of

the hyperspectral images can be illustrated by the ability to detect a subpixel-size object, which is clearly impossible in monochromatic images and unlikely in traditional color images. In looking for a red target and if nothing else has a red color, then a reddish pixel may point to the target location. The same principle is used in hyperspectral images, but with more information available in the 200-dimensional space. The range of applications spans agriculture, fire detection, pollution monitoring and natural disaster assessment.

I solved several important problems, but the list of unanswered questions grew much faster. I tapped the expertise of one of the top brains on the planet to work on this important application by taking a sabbatical to work with a leading expert in theoretical statistics, Prof. Peter Hall of Australian National University. He is the most published theoretical statistician in the world and was interested in my research. I spent three months in Canberra, where we solved problems for a much broader range of applications. We are continuing our collaboration to increase the range of practical applications in statistics.

Peter Bajorski / Center for Quality & Applied Statistics



PHOTO BY PETER BAJORSKI

Author on top of the Continent, Mt. Kosciuszko



PHOTO BY PETER BAJORSKI

An Aboriginal plays on a didgeridoo.

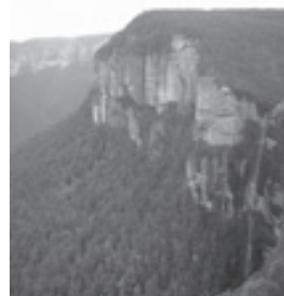


PHOTO BY PETER BAJORSKI

Blue Mountains - West of Sydney, Australia

Copyright Corner

Tips and tools for combating classroom plagiarism...

Over the past four and half years, 200 RIT faculty and 10,832 students have used Turnitin, uploading 25,062 papers, to check for plagiarism. Turnitin is a proprietary system that exposes and curbs plagiarism by quickly identifying improper paraphrasing and quoting, and a lack of attribution in a paper. The tool acts as a powerful deterrent to check student plagiarism by creating an algorithm of a

paper and circulating it via web-crawlers around the Internet, such as into the Proquest databases (published papers) and in Turnitin's proprietary databases that contain student papers.

Turnitin also has research resources that include best practices, easy to use training tips, suggestions, and guidelines for using the tool: <http://www.turnitin.com/>.

Brian Barry (Psychology/Sociology) found Turnitin to be a valuable classroom tool: "I adopted the use of Turnitin.com a

year ago and found it very useful. I believe the use of Turnitin accomplishes three important goals. First, it sends a clear message to students that academic honesty is important. Secondly, it acts as a deterrent to those tempted to indulge in dishonesty. Finally, it enables professors to catch (as I did) those foolish enough to cut and paste work not authored by themselves."

If you are interested in a Turnitin account, stop by or contact the Publishing and Scholarship Support Center, 475-7713 OR Marianne Buehler, mabwml@rit.edu.

Marianne Buehler / Wallace Library

Students On-Campus

The Cary Graphic Arts Collection recently announced the restoration of one of its historic handpresses by Aaron Bodell and Michael Hansen, two Print Media students working under the supervision of curator, David Pankow. The press, known as an Albion, is a rare and important exemplar of early 19th century graphic arts technology that utilizes an ingenious piston/lever impression mechanism. For many years, it was owned by Frederic W. Goudy, one of the greatest of all American type designers, who used it almost daily in his studio near Marlborough, NY. It was then owned by John De Pol, a distinguished and prolific wood-engraver, who eventually donated the press to the Cary Collection.

David Pankow / Cary Collection



PHOTO BY MARNIE SOOM

Aaron Bodell and Michael Hansen



PHOTO BY SCOTT MERYDITH

Elizabeth Garfield and Jennifer Merry

In my personality assessment class, graduate students learn how to use career assessment instruments with adolescents who have a disability. The assessments are used to develop transition plans from school to work.

Two School Psychology students are collecting career assessment data from high school adolescents who are learning-disabled or emotionally disturbed. They investigate adolescents with disabilities who are prone to career indecision. They plan to use the results to work through career indecision difficulties. Both Elizabeth's and Jennifer's theses have been accepted for presentations at the National Association of School Psychologist Conference in Anaheim, CA in Spring 2006.

Scott Merydith / School Psychology

As part of the College of Business drive towards experiential learning, some faculty are encouraging students to apply what they learn out in the field. In my marketing courses, student activities range from advising an RIT student-managed start-up company, to being part of a start-up enterprise, or providing pro bono consulting for local organizations. My approach involves having small teams work with a client for eleven weeks, applying class theory towards a fully operational or internet marketing plan. Students learn how to apply the theory in a motivating environment; the community benefits from the creative insights of our students, and RIT benefits from positive publicity.

Neil Hair / Marketing



PHOTO BY MARIANNE BUEHLER

Evaluating consumer perceptions

Lawrence Lessig, Copyright Expert, at RIT

Lawrence Lessig, one of the world's foremost experts in the field of intellectual property and cyber-law, will speak at RIT on Friday, March 24, from 9am-11am, in Ingle Auditorium. This special event is free and open to the public.

Lessig, a Professor of Law at Stanford University, is widely known for his work on intellectual property and the limitations of copyright in the digital age. He has been a central voice in steering public discourse towards recognizing the restrictions being imposed upon cyberspace. He

argued against the constitutionality of the 1998 Copyright Extension Act in front of the United States Supreme Court.

An advocate for access and collaboration, Lessig has led a campaign to inform the public that the Internet is not inherently free. Besides serving on the boards of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the Software Freedom Law Center, Lessig is the founder and chairman of Creative Commons, a non-profit organization devoted to expanding the range of creative work available for others to legally build

upon and share. He has spearheaded the Creative Commons Foundation, which allows creators and users to quickly, efficiently and legally license and exchange intellectual work.

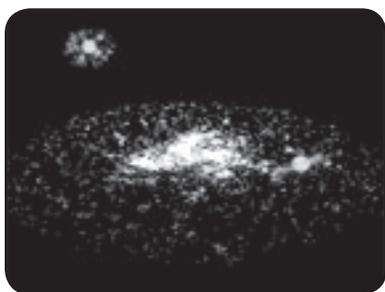
Lessig has authored three books: *Free Culture* (2004), *The Future of Ideas* (2001) and *Code and Other Laws of Cyberspace* (1999). He has also won numerous awards, including the Free Software Foundation's Freedom Award, and was named one of *Scientific American's* Top 50 Visionaries. More information on Lawrence Lessig: <http://www.lessig.org>.

Amit Ray / Language & Literature

A Picture is Worth More Than a Million Data Points

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing & Information Sciences

Have you ever wished that you could observe the dance of gravity when galaxies collide? You can actually do that if you have access to a powerful telescope and you are willing to spend a few hundred million years of time in front



of the telescope. Scientists, such as David Merritt, overcame the time issue by simulating systems comparable to colliding galaxies on very powerful computers, like his gravitySimulator, which is hosted in the Laboratory for Astrophysical Dynamics.

The results of a simulation-run using the Simulator, is a file which describes the system over the simulated time. The file size is approximately 20 GB. The question is, how do you analyze this vast amount of data? One way is to visualize it.

Dr. Hans-Peter Bischof, Co-director of the Laboratory for Astrophysical Dynamics, leads a project titled *Spiegel*, for visualizing n-dimensional data (a large data set of particles in 3-dimensional time). *Spiegel* was developed in collaboration with Dr. David Merritt, Director of the Laboratory for Astrophysical Dynamics.

The visualization system allows a user to explore the simulation by moving through time and space in a 3-dimensional environment. Like Star Trek's Captain James T. Kirk, one can travel through time and space and observe the dance of gravity when galaxies collide.

Spiegel has to be a very flexible system, because it is not possible to predict what kind of attributes should be visualized. As a side-effect of the unpredictability, *Spiegel* is also used to visualize the behavior of atoms in a protein under increasing temperature.

Spiegel was developed as a team effort. More than thirty RIT Computer Science graduates and undergraduate students have been or are involved in the development of *Spiegel*.

To find out more about *Spiegel* and our work visit: <http://www.grapecluster.rit.edu>.

Hans-Peter Bischof / Computer Science

Interactive Applications for Teaching & Learning

National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Four professors in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies (DCCS) (Patti Durr, J. Matt Searls, Karen Christie, and Aaron Kelstone) are working on a scholarship of discovery process. Their goal is to develop a central, online depository of videotapes, photographic segments, and essential text documents for the Deaf Studies Program.

Future funding will cover the cost of compiling these documents online, using IdeaTools software. They plan to develop an interactive application to support effective teaching and learning opportunities from these resources in the classroom environment. These materials are often difficult to locate for faculty teaching or student learning. One of the current online Deaf Studies' depositories sponsored by DCCS, is the NTID/RIT Deaf Art/Deaf Artists website, <http://www.rit.edu/deafartists>, which became public in October 2005. The site has a growing number of over 54,000 hits.

NTID/RIT Professors of Deaf Studies/ASL courses are currently working jointly on IdeaTools-based course websites in the area of Deaf Literature (Conley), ASL Literature (Christie), Deaf People and World War II (Durr), and Deaf Heritage and Deaf Theatre History (Kelstone).



Deaf Art / Deaf Artists website

Each website will provide an in-depth study of the course topic similar to the Deaf Art / Deaf Artist website. J. Matt Searls is serving as the Deaf Studies/ASL Coordinator for DCCS. This process, started approximately three years ago, will continue for several more years.

Work will continue in Spring 2006, with instructional developer Simon Ting (Educational Design Resources), Web designer Cathy Clarke, and IdeaTools, to make the resource materials interactive and linked to the Wallace Library. Joan Naturale, NTID Librarian, is an instrumental person in securing copyright permissions and creating resource guides. She also supports Becky Simmons' (RIT Archivist) expansion of the Library's *Deaf Studies Archives*. Eventually, many of the materials donated to the archives will be accessible via the Deaf Studies / ASL online collaborative depository.

Aaron Kelstone / Cultural & Creative Studies

Nutritional Interventions for Hispanic Populations

College of Applied Science & Technology

The School of Hospitality and Service Management Nutrition faculty and senior Nutrition students are involved for a third year in the nutrition research project sponsored by the Rochester Diabetes Network. The grant is funded by the Center for Disease Control. The faculty (Linda Underhill, Barbara Cerio-Iocco, Liz Kmiecinski) and the students enrolled in the *Community Nutrition* course, are actively involved in delivering nutritional intervention strategies to allow lower-income Hispanics to control their diabetes disease process, empowering them to manage their disease over their lifetime.



To attain this goal in the first year, the students developed a needs assessment for the targeted population to determine food preferences

and food shopping habits. They also analyzed the cost of an average “shopping cart” to purchase preferred foods. The second year, students prepared selected recipes for these food preferences, modifying the recipes to accommodate diabetic guidelines. This year, the students will be working with members of the Hispanic communities and provide cooking demonstrations to teach audiences how to prepare these modified recipes to ensure compliance with diabetic guidelines. The students will also develop and provide shopping tours at local supermarkets to educate the participants on how to select healthy foods which are within their budget requirements.

The challenges of working on a multiple year research project are significant; however, the faculty is pleased to provide students with the educational research opportunities recommended by the Institute as part of the teaching endeavor at RIT. It is a win-win situation for all involved. The faculty are involved in research which makes a difference for the recipients of their efforts. The students have the opportunity to work with an at-risk population while receiving guidance and mentoring from faculty. Through their combined effort in assisting people to live healthier lives, RIT faculty and students help to enrich the Rochester community. Visit: <https://ritdml.rit.edu/dspace/handle/1850/1214>.

Linda Underhill / Health Systems Administration

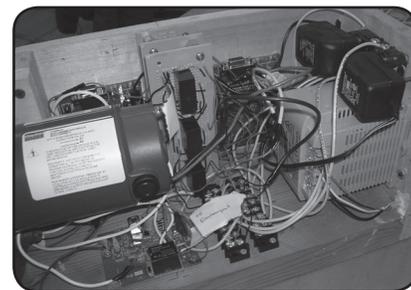
Engineered Devices for People with Disabilities

Kate Gleason College of Engineering

During the recent Fall and Winter quarters, nearly fifty KGCOE students embarked on Multidisciplinary Senior Design projects with the goal of using engineering to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. The projects are part of a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation that is intended to introduce engineering students to biomedical engineering design through projects. They either work one-on-one with local consumers with disabilities or with local organizations providing services to groups of consumers with specific needs.

One engineering team nearing completion is the Seizure Monitor team. Alexey Chernyakov (EE), Zachary Levine (ME), Jum Siridej (EE), and Eric Smith (ME) are working with Dr. Daniel Phillips and the Strong Memorial Epilepsy Center to design a wireless device that can be used to collect 3-D motion data from individuals having seizures. Using patterns collected from different individuals, an alarm system will eventually be set up to alert caregivers that a seizure event is occurring, allowing them to provide prompt care.

Another team has designed and built an automated home-entry system. Two consumers from the Arc of Monroe County have disabilities that require them to use wheelchairs that prevent them from opening their own home’s front door. Mechanical engineering students (Robert Karpowicz, Brian Long, Joshua Ribbeck, and Jeff Webb) have created a device that allows the two consumers to enter their home using a remote control. Using a system of gears, motors, and clutches, the team’s device enables the home’s other residents to use the entryway in a conventional manner and even senses whether there are obstacles in the door’s path.



Automated home-entry device

Additional projects range from an adapted computer keyboard for a consumer who cannot use a conventional keyboard to a system that will enable blind and visually-impaired workers to accurately fill shipping orders.

Elizabeth DeBartolo / Mechanical Engineering

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<http://www.lulu.com/openbookRIT>

As digital technology surpasses film, I fear that memories will remain in the computer, lost in oblivion, leaving future generations with nothing to look at. Lulu Press can help prevent that.

For years, my family, dispersed over three continents, has sent out an electronic bulletin twice a month. Having saved all of them, I reprinted them in two books using Lulu technology, allowing members of my family to have their own copies, while capturing a part of our family's history.

After photographing my two nieces' weddings, I made each of them an album with 120 photos and printed them through Lulu for family and friends. I also created a book of my granddaughter's first four days of life, including photos and email messages sent congratulating her parents. What a treasure that will be for her in the future!

Another enjoyable project was producing *Flowers Up Close*, a collection of my favorite flower photos, which I have given as gifts and is also for sale at: <http://www.lulu.com/openbookRIT>.

My experience with Lulu has been very positive and I highly recommend using their services.

Jorge Samper / Lulu Author

RIT Digital Media Library

Creating an online community of scholars...

<http://ritdml.rit.edu>

The RIT DML captures, distributes and preserves RIT's scholarly works. Our content grows daily as new items are added. Recent submissions include the following:

CAST—conference paper: Wolcott, Scott. "On-Line Learning: One Successful Approach."

CIAS—thesis: Vogl, Howard. "The use of Technical Metadata in Still Digital Imaging by the Newspaper Industry."

COLA—poetry: Roche, John. "Gleneagles Sequence."

COS—article: Merritt, David. "A universal density profile for dark and luminous matter?"

GCCIS—thesis: Page, Gavin. "An Investigation of Techniques in Deformable Object Recognition."

KGCOE—thesis: O'Day, Joseph. "Investigation of a Coupled Duffing Oscillator System in a Varying Potential Field."

NTID—thesis: Koo, Caroline. "Understanding and Analyzing Visual Arts: How it is used in Art Education to assist students..."

RIT STUDENT SHOWCASE—*Signatures Magazine*: RIT's journal of art and literature, 1997-2005.

Marianne Buehler / Wallace Library

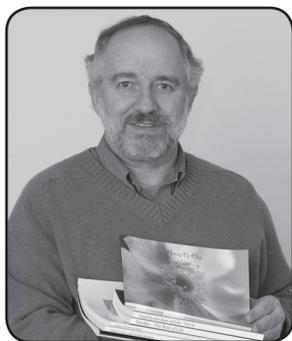


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