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RIT honors King, Jan. 15



Alvin Poussaint speaks at 4 p.m. on Jan. 15.

RIT celebrates the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with multiple celebrations today, Jan. 15.

RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism brings world-renowned psychiatrist, author and media consultant Alvin Poussaint, to campus for a free presentation today at 4 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium. Poussaint will be speaking about Martin Luther King Jr., the Civil Rights Movement, and the pursuit of democracy and justice in the U.S.

Poussaint is co-author of several books including *Raising Black Children* and *Lay My Burden Down: Suicide and the Mental Health Crisis Among African Americans*. He is a professor of psychiatry and faculty associate dean for student affairs at Harvard Medical School and media center director of Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston.

As a script consultant to *The Cosby Show*, Poussaint was hired by Bill Cosby to review scripts to screen out inappropriate humor and provide consultation on psychological and educational issues.

Other events in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day include a candlelight vigil on the residential side of campus at 7:06 p.m. and a march down the Quarter Mile at 8:30 p.m.

For information, log onto www.rit.edu/diversity. The program is co-sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.—Mu Sigma Chapter and the North Star Center's Coalition for a Better World and The North Star Society. ■

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Strategic planning committee asks for input

RIT community asked to provide feedback and guidance during the process

RIT will lead higher education in preparing students for successful careers in a global society—Vision statement draft, 2004 Strategic Plan

RIT's 2004 Strategic Planning process is on an aggressive timeline and Institute leaders are seeking participation from the campus community.

"I encourage the entire community to remain engaged in the planning process by reading progress reports, visiting the Strategic Planning Web site and providing your input," says President Albert Simone.

A new Web site, www.rit.edu/ president, will allow the RIT community to track progress.

The internal Web site may only be accessed with DCE authentication. A few of the items currently on the

planning process. The more participation on the part of the community in the process the stronger the

"Our university has embarked on this process to define the direction this university will take to go from good to great. This can happen with the commitment of all members of the RIT community. Together we can shape the destiny of this great university."

—Albert Simone, RIT president

Web site are background planning documents, steering committee members, task force membership, strategic planning timeline, draft mission, vision and values statements, environmental scan assumptions and task force charges.

"There is a relationship between participation and the outcome of the

Strategic Plan will be," says John Whitely, director of institutional research and policy studies, who is serving as the expediter of the Strategic Planning process.

Meanwhile, five Strategic Planning task forces are working on independent assignments. The Task Force charges include:

Career Focus: Identify strategies towards attaining RIT's mission to pursue emerging career areas and develop curricula in response to technology and social conditions.

Community: Address issues related to strengthening a sense of pride and community within RIT.

Global Dimension: Address issues related to RIT's global dimension while focusing on strategies to support the vision and mission.

Scholarship: Develop strategies for full implementation of RIT's new scholarship policy.

Student Success: Address issues related to achieving the highest levels

Strategic plan, page 4

RIT student takes to the ice in skeleton competition

How do you travel more than a mile in less than a minute with no engine, no wheels and no wings?

It takes a lot of ice—and courage.

Second-year software engineering student Chris Nurre is an avid skeleton competitor. He'll be competing Feb. 2-8 on the U.S. Junior World Skeleton Team in Winterberg, Germany, one of only eight sliders representing the U.S. at this international competition.

Skeleton is similar to bobsled—it involves sliding down an icy track at high speed—with the difference being that you luge head-first, an inch off the ice on a 4-foot metal 'sled'. Nurre describes it as "a cookie sheet with runners," with no mechanisms other than minute body movements to control steering.

What would make a person want to get involved in such a sport?

Nurre, formerly a track runner, says he was intrigued by the skeleton



Chris Nurre, an RIT software engineering student, takes off in competition.

Paul Malenfant

competition in the 2002 Olympics at Salt Lake City. Skeleton was reinstated as an Olympic sport for the 2002 Games, with the U.S. winning gold medals in both men's and women's teams and women also taking the silver. So he signed up for a month-long skeleton camp in Lake Placid last January, qualifying for national championships in March and making the world team in November.

As a track runner and keen sledder, it comes naturally to him (skeleton is a mix of sprinting and sliding). Nurre grew up in Ohio with a big sledding hill behind his house. Skeleton didn't seem that much different. "I like roller coasters. I like snow, ice and sledding," he says. "Why not mix them together?"

Why not, indeed. And why not dream big? His goal is to compete on the U.S. Olympic team at the 2010 Games in Vancouver. ■

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RIT to host "By the People" event for Rochester area

Institute sponsors PBS broadcast event and opinion poll on foreign policy issues

More than 100 Rochester area residents will visit RIT on Jan. 24 to participate in a national conversation about America's role in the world.

The project, titled "By the People: America in the World," is an initiative of PBS' MacNeil/Lehrer Productions. Rochester area residents who are part of the randomly selected sample will participate in a discussion on foreign policy. Rochester is among 10 cities across the nation participating in the event.

The discussion at each site will end with a "Deliberative Poll" in which citizens will offer their opinions after they have had a chance to discuss the issues.

The dialogue and survey results will be the subject of a national broadcast at 8 p.m., Jan. 29, on PBS. RIT, WXXI and the *Democrat and Chronicle* are sponsoring the project. WXXI will air a one-hour live call-in program at 9 p.m., Jan. 27, on the subject of free trade. WXXI will also discuss results of the poll at 8:30 p.m., Jan. 30.

The project will consider two major questions of foreign policy that



will be discussed during the 2004 presidential election year: How can the United States best ensure its security? How can the United States best ensure its economic well-being?

A goal of "By the People" is to create a wide range of opportunities for citizens to debate and discuss the

positions, policies or perspectives.

"This is an excellent opportunity for RIT to showcase its expertise on international relations and globalism," says Bob Finnerty, RIT's chief communications officer, who is helping coordinate the event. "The sole purpose of 'By the People' is to pro-

"By the People's" goal is to create a wide range of opportunities for citizens to debate and discuss the necessary trade-offs and compromises involved in making foreign policy decisions.

necessary trade-offs and compromises involved in making foreign policy decisions. In order to attract new voices to this public conversation, "By the People" attempts to frame foreign policy issues in terms of the values and priorities that speak to Americans' foremost concerns. "By the People" supports no particular

mote informed dialogue on issues that are relevant to all Americans."

President Albert Simone will moderate a discussion among the 100 citizens and several expert panelists. Expert panelists for the event include Amitrajeet Batabyal, professor, Gosnell Professor of Economics, College of Liberal Arts; Nabil Kaylani,

professor, history and international relations, College of Liberal Arts; Joseph Lobo II, president and CEO of JML Optical Industries, and RIT trustee; David Reid, professor, RIT Center for International Business, College of Business; Congresswoman Louise Slaughter; and Congressman Jim Walsh. Five College of Liberal Arts professors will also help moderate small-group discussions during the event. They are Rhonda Callaway, Grant Cos, Keith Jenkins, Elizabeth Matthews and Spencer Meredith.

For more information on the project, visit the WXXI Web site at www.pbs.org/newshour/btp. ■

Editor's Note

With this issue of *News and Events*, the staff of University News Services is pleased to unveil a new design.

We welcome reader feedback to newsevents@rit.edu.

Student Affairs Division honors longtime employees

Four faculty/staff saluted for outstanding achievements at awards ceremony



Sharon Kompalla

At RIT, some people are in it for the long haul.

RIT's Division of Student Affairs honored 32 employees for length of service and presented awards to distinguished faculty and staff members at a brunch in December.



Maureen Glegg

Daryl Sullivan, associate director for intramurals, was toasted for his 35 years of service to RIT. He oversees the intramural program and was inducted into the RIT Sports Hall of Fame in 1992.

The New Staff Outstanding Service Award, for staff with less than five years in their fields who have made outstanding contributions that embody the mission of Student Affairs, was presented to Sharon Kompalla, area director in the Center for Residence Life.

Kompalla joined RIT as a full-time employee in 2002, after working as a graduate assistant while obtaining her master's degree in college student personnel.

She has established relationships with the Greek community, Housing Operations and the Monroe County Sheriff's Dept. She spearheaded the effort to establish a Campus Resource Living Guide and is an advisor for Panhellenic Council.

Kompalla's nominators for the award say, "Her ability to communicate standards through her role modeling, balanced by her sensitivity and approach to students has led them to relate to her freely and respectfully."

"My job as an area director allows me many opportunities for collaboration with other RIT offices and departments, and I have been fortunate to work with and for some outstanding individuals on this campus. Being nominated by them, and winning this award, is a real high point in my student affairs career," Kompalla says.

The Outstanding Support Service Award, given to support staff who have made exceptional contributions, went to Maureen Glegg, staff assistant in the Office of Student Conduct and Mediation.

Glegg has worked in the Office of Student Conduct for six years and is repeatedly assessed by students as

being helpful, knowledgeable and student-centered. Even when students don't like the outcome of their conduct case.

"I was completely shocked and honored to receive this award," says Glegg. "I feel very blessed to be able to work with a group of very caring individuals and to be a member of the Student Affairs division."

The Excellence in Service Award was presented to Gail Gucker, chair of the Learning Development Center's mathematics department and math instructor in the College of Science.

Gucker has been recognized previously with several Eisenhart Award nominations during her 22 years at RIT.

"She is a skilled problem-solver, with an uncanny knack for cutting to the essence of a situation and figuring out what to do next," says Susan Donovan, LDC director. "Guiding everything she does is a clear sense of priorities, which helps her make decisions that are ethical, sensible, kind and generous."

"It is a wonderful gift to realize that your peers believe you have achieved a level of excellence in your professional roll. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the RIT community—faculty, staff and, most especially, the students," Gucker says.

The Award for Promoting Learning Outside the Classroom was

given to Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The creator and author of the original RIT Student Code of Conduct and judicial process, McKenzie was once RIT's judicial officer.

"He found the goodness in each student he encountered in those judicial hearings, tailoring developmental, nurturing responses to student misconduct," says Dawn Soufleris, assistant to the vice president for student affairs.

"I enjoyed the chance to see all my 'old' colleagues again from my years in that division as the RIT judicial officer, as well as the opportunity to meet so many of the new people who have come on board in the past 10 years," he says. ■

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Gail Gucker



Stanley McKenzie

Gannett lecture series



Paul Grebinger

The impact of cocaine on Colombia will be the subject of the next Caroline Werner Gannett lecture,

sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts.

Paul Grebinger, professor of anthropology at RIT and coordinator of Senior Seminar and the Gannett lecture series, will present "Labyrinth of Cocaine: Colombia and the United States in an Age of Drugs," at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22, in Webb Auditorium.

Grebinger specializes in Latin American culture and the problems of indigenous people resulting from colonialism and capitalism.

A panel discussion will include John Klofas, professor of criminal justice, and John Schwartz, supervising judge of city courts, seventh judicial district, and the first presiding judge at Rochester Drug Treatment Court.

Visit www.rit.edu/gannettseries or call 5-2057.

Producer, writer to speak Feb. 6



Antwone Fisher will address the RIT community as part of Black History Month celebrations on Feb. 6. Fisher is best known for rising from his humble beginnings to become a top Hollywood writer and producer.

Celebrating Black History Month at RIT this February, Antwone Fisher will speak at 8 p.m. on Feb. 6 in Ingle Auditorium in the Student Alumni Union. After his presentation, Fisher will sign autographs at a reception in Fireside Lounge.

The Black Awareness Coordinating Committee, Student Government and the Center for Campus Life's Cultural Spotlight Series are sponsoring the event.

Fisher was born in prison to a single mother and lived through the first 17 years of his life in foster homes as a ward of the state. Resisting crime and drugs, he enlisted in the Navy in order to find a family of his own. His life trajectory from the streets of Cleveland to the highest echelons of Hollywood, where he is a successful writer and producer, has become legendary.

Fisher's best selling autobiography, *Finding Fish* was adapted for the screen in the movie *Antwone Fisher* by first-time director Denzel Washington, who also starred in the film.

Tickets—\$5 for students, \$12 for faculty/staff and \$18 for the public—are available at the candy counter and game room in the SAU. Call 5-2239 to order by credit card. ■

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RIT Homecoming Week

Campus hosts comedians, parties and crowns its own "idol"

Comic Tracy Morgan of helps get the New Year off to a spirited start during Homecoming Week.

Morgan, a long-time member of the *Saturday Night Live* cast, is most often remembered for sketches such as "Astronaut Jones" and "Brian Fellow's Safari Planet."

He has lent his voice to characters on Comedy Central's *Crank Yankers* and has hosted the standup comedy series *Comedy Groove*. His new sitcom, *The Tracy Morgan Show*, recently debuted on NBC.

Morgan performs at RIT at 8 p.m. on Jan. 30 in Clark Gym.

Tickets—\$10 students, \$15 faculty/staff and \$20 public—are for sale at the candy counter and game room in the SAU. Call 5-2239 to order by credit card. The show is sponsored by the College Activities Board.

Sponsored by Student Government, Homecoming runs Jan. 29 to Feb. 1. Here's the lineup:



Tracy Morgan

Thursday, Jan. 29
9–11:30 p.m.: Pep rally in Clark Gym.

Friday, Jan. 30
6–8 p.m.: Tiger Idol Final Competition, the second annual showcase of RIT's most entertaining talent, SAU cafeteria.

8–11 p.m.: Tracy Morgan in Clark Gym.

Saturday, Jan. 31
11 a.m.–1 p.m.: Staff vs. students flag football game on the turf field.
3–5 p.m.: RIT Hockey Game in Ritter Ice Arena.

5–7 p.m.: Student Government tailgate party in the auxiliary gym.

7–9 p.m.: RIT Hockey Game in Ritter Ice Arena.

8–10 p.m.: RITep Shonuff Step Show, a showcase and competition of RIT's step teams, Webb Auditorium.

10 p.m.–2:30 a.m.: Tormenta Tropical in the SAU cafeteria, sponsored by the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Lambda Alpha Upsilon Fraternity Inc. and Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity Inc.

Sunday, Feb. 1
5–10 p.m.: Superbowl Party in Clark Gym. ■

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NTID professor earns art award for photo submissions

It's an achievement and recognition many dream about and never attain.

But it's one that was not insurmountable for NTID associate professor Michael Voelkl, who recently earned an Award of Excellence in the highly coveted *Communication Arts* magazine's 44th annual photography competition.

Touted as the largest and most important juried competition for photography, a nationally representative jury of distinguished designers, art directors and photographers selected only 162 photographers'



A collage of stringed instruments is one of the three images that landed Mike Voelkl an award of excellence.

work from the 8,293 entries submitted from around the world.

Voelkl submitted three images—stringed instrument collages—in the Voelkl award, page 4

Hillel hosts celebratory events

To open the doors of communication about Israeli culture and events, RIT's Hillel is kicking off the year with a campaign for Israel activism.

From 7:30-10:30 p.m. on Jan. 15, Hillel is sponsoring an Israeli Culture Night in the Skalny Room of the Interfaith Center. A night filled with Israeli food, music and dancing, it will offer a chance to experience life as an Israeli student. Also in the program will be a short presentation on some of Hillel's student trips to Israel. Admission is \$2 and the event is open to the public.

From 7:30-10:30 p.m. on Jan. 22, *Relentless: The Struggle For Peace in Israel*, will be shown in the Van Peursen auditorium in the Gosnell Building. Produced by Honest Reporting and Palestinian Media Watch, the video is described as an "an eye-opening documentary which unravels the myths and exposes the obstacles to achieving peace in the

Middle-East." It will be followed by a moderated question-and-answer session supported by the Hasbara Fellowship. The event is free and open to the public.

Hillel also holds discussion forums at 10 p.m. every Wednesday in the Hillel House in Colby Residence Hall.

Begun in fall 2003, discussion topics range from what incited the second intifada to recent developments in security and peace efforts. Their purpose is to emphasize, enforce and explain Hillel's position on the subject and to continue open discussion.

Hillel is a nationally recognized Jewish student organization with the mission to foster and promote education, service, community and religion. At RIT, Hillel strives to build friendship and awareness. For more information, visit www.rithillel.org. ■

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A world of photography



Swedish photographer Per Ofverbeck shares the delight of a child's first Christmas. The image recently appeared on PhotoForum, an Internet gallery sponsored by the imaging and photographic technology department within the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. Professor Andrew Davidhazy updates the gallery on a weekly basis with 12 new images that highlight the work of photo-enthusiasts from around the globe. To follow this parade of top-notch photography, visit www.rit.edu/~andpp/gallery.html.

This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. We hope "Viewpoints" inspires discussion among the RIT community. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

globe and sacrificed his life for that cause.

Human rights are a vital subject in domestic and international political discussion. Part one of the Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, in part, that, "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care."

In 2003, the U.S. Congress passed legislation intended to make it easier for older citizens to pay their medical bills. Is health care a human right? The United States stands alone among Western liberal democracies in not yet answering that question in the affirmative.

It is implicit in the language of Article 25 that access to water for drinking, cooking and hygiene is a fundamental human right. And yet, here in the United States, and in many other parts of the globe, water has been commoditized. More than 100 million of the world's population depend on water provided by private companies at whatever charges they

may assess for it. Fortunately, the general comment on the right to water adopted by the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in November 2002 explicitly recognizes water as a fundamental human right, and has been ratified by 145 countries.

However, documents such as the Universal Declaration and the Covenant do not have the force of law. Therefore it is necessary for every

citizen to be vigilant and to take action, as Eleanor Roosevelt and Sergio Vieira de Mello have done.

Vigilance depends on education. On one hand, here at RIT, professional programs and professors, for example in allied health and civil engineering technology, train students to find solutions to problems of healthcare and water supply. We also look to the liberal arts for insight into issues of ethics and human rights. This is the thrust of the Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series and Senior Seminar on the topics of glob-

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights stipulates not the rights of some, but of ALL the people. It is in the interest of all of us that they flourish, and that we defend them.

alization, human rights and citizenship. In this winter term, 2003-04, we have raised the issue of the juvenile death penalty. On Jan. 22, in the talk, Labyrinth of Cocaine, we will explore the impact of the illicit drug trade on the country of Colombia, including human rights abuses associated with Plan Colombia, a program designed to reduce drug production. Finally, on Feb. 5, in the talk, Citizen

Activists: Global and Local, panelists will relate their experiences organizing to address issues of human rights among indigenous peoples. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights stipulates not the rights of some, but of ALL the people. It is in the interest of all of us that they flourish, and that we defend them. ■

Grebinger is professor of anthropology and Caroline Werner Gannett lecturer and coordinator of senior seminar; Kannyo is associate professor of international relations; and Larsen is associate professor of civil engineering technology.



Larsen, Kannyo and Grebinger

Did you notice the light blue United Nations flag flying at half-mast here at RIT on Dec. 10? Why fly the U.N. flag? It marked the 55th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document created by the U.N. Commission on Human Rights under the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt. She observed that human rights begin "in small places—close to home" and that "without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."

Why fly the U.N. flag at half-mast? We wished to honor Sergio Vieira de Mello, the U.N. Special Representative and Undersecretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, who was killed by a bomb in Iraq on Aug. 19, 2003. He was committed to defending human rights around the

Mellon grant will help to study digital documentation

The digital camera has changed how museums archive their collections for print and posterity. While film has fallen by the wayside in museum photography, imaging professionals fear the quality of the new digital archives may have suffered in the transition.

RIT recently won a \$164,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation to benchmark and improve the quality of art imaging in American museums. The 15-month project will establish standards and automatize the process of digitally documenting museum holdings for archival and printing purposes.

"RIT is taking the lead on this," says Franziska Frey, assistant professor, School of Print

Media. "No one has comprehensively looked at the quality being produced in the museums."

Co-investigators Frey and Roy Berns, the Hunter Professor in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, are documenting the workflow museums use to digitally photograph paintings and sculptures.

The workflow is the process that begins with taking an object from an archive to the photo studios in a museum, lighting the object, taking a picture, putting the image into photo shop and "putting it in to different uses"—such as on the Web, Frey says.

Frey and Berns developed and administered a questionnaire about art-imaging practices to museums to get an overview of current practices. The survey will elicit information about specific hardware and software, calibration, viewing environment, file format, image storage, and other aspects of the process. Five museums



Roy Berns and Franziska Frey are studying how museums digitally photograph their collections.

will be chosen for in-depth case studies and on-site visits.

"The goal is to improve the quality of the practices in the United States," Berns says.

The transition from film to digital has left the onus on the photographer to get the printing right.

With film, Frey explains, an intermediate person handled prepress details, which are now the responsibility of the photographer.

"And if that isn't done right, later on you don't have the quality you would need," Frey says. "In the museum environment money is always a problem. You want to get things done the right way. You don't want to have to redo them."

Berns and Frey will develop new test procedures by compiling

current standards, test targets and practices, and by soliciting input and feedback from museums, sensor and camera manufacturers, and organizations that develop standards for digital cameras, such as the American National Standards Institute, the International Organization for Standardization and the National Information Standards Organization.

The procedures and targets will be tested at RIT's Munsell Color Science Laboratory using camera systems representative of those used at the museums surveyed. Field tests at the museums will provide further information for refining the process. By the end of the project, a series of test procedures and targets will be available to museums.

Working with Berns and Frey are graduate student Erin Murphy and MCSL staff scientists Mitchell Rosen and Lawrence Taplin. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguncs@rit.edu

Course to teach students about computer forensics

It's the hottest topic on primetime television, but crime scene investigation is increasingly more complex than what's depicted in a glitzy one-hour drama. RIT's information technology students will soon have the opportunity to learn about that firsthand.

Computer forensics will make its debut during spring quarter in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. It joins a sequence of security courses recently introduced by the college's IT department.

"The forensics course addresses the rapidly growing need for professionals who can analyze the contents of computers seized by law enforcement," explains Jim Leone, chair of information technology.

The expansion of communication networks over the past decade has resulted in an alarming increase in the use of digital devices in illegal activities. Computers, PDAs, cell phones and cameras frequently become evidence in fraud, white-collar crime and other criminal investigations.



Luther Troell

Luther Troell, associate professor of information technology, led development of the new course. His research indicated that few colleges, if any, offer forensic courses that explore issues that extend beyond file recovery. By comparison, RIT students will be introduced to software used by law enforcement to retrieve data without compromising its integrity.

Additionally, students will design and put together their own forensics computers to be used for transferring relevant files.

"Our focus is on teaching students what they have to do so that the evidence they gather will ultimately be admissible in court," explains Troell.

GCCIS faculty members Sharon Mason, Yin Pan and Bill Stackpole will serve as course instructors. Members of the local legal community are also being invited to provide their expertise during class discussions.

A graduate-level course in computer forensics will be offered this fall, becoming an integral part of the college's new master's degree program in computing security and information assurance. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

COB honors business plans

Winners have been selected for the RIT Undergraduate Business Plan Competition, sponsored by the College of Business.

Kyle Scholz from the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences and Jonathan Ross from the Kate Gleason College of Engineering took first prize. The pair earned \$4,000 for the business plan they developed for coFu. Second prize, worth \$2,000, went to Michael Cutaia (COB) for his ICON Consulting Inc. entry. Anatoly Shilman (CAST) and Marc-Anthony Arena (COB) received a third-prize award of \$1,000 for their Shaker's Blends plan.

Thomas Hopkins, COB dean, states, "The popularity of the competition exceeded our expectation. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Writing from the heart



Student winners of the first Phoenix Fiction Award, sponsored by the department of language and literature in the College of Liberal Arts, were recently announced.

First prize and \$100 went to Jill Welks; second prize and \$50 went to both Saunter Sprehe and Amanda Keane; and honorable mentions and \$10 gift cards went to Peter Reske and Jonathan Hennessey.

Shown above are Sprehe, right, and Rebecca Housel, contest coordinator and faculty advisor to the student writing club, Inklings.

Electronic recycling

RIT's Student Environmental Action League is hosting the first Electronic Waste Recycling Day, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16.

Electronic equipment including computers, monitors, cell phones and TV sets will be accepted for recycling from RIT faculty, staff, students and departments. Students may also turn in other personal electronic devices (anything with circuitry).

Drop-off locations include the Student Alumni Union lobby, Gracie's in Grace Watson Hall, and the Building 70 atrium (near the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences). There are no fees to drop off equipment, which will be recycled or refurbished for resale by Maven Technologies.

"Benefits include keeping heavy-metal-laden electronics out of landfills and dumpsters, since it's illegal to dispose of electronic waste in dumpsters," says Josh Goldowitz, associate professor of environmental management and safety and advisor to SEAL.

ITS Web workshops

Join RIT's Information Technology Services for a series of workshops during Web Week, Jan. 26-30, part of the ITS Technology Seminar Series.

Workshops will help participants use the Web effectively for internal and external marketing, branding and showcasing colleges and departments.

Sessions include:

- Jan. 26—The RIT Web Site and the Web Committee Report: Recommendations for Branding Efforts, Standards and Site Improvements

- Jan. 27—Branding efforts and building customer experiences on the Web; RIT Web templates; Standards and creative implementation; Web information architecture

- Jan. 28—Marketing on the Web; Using e-Commerce applications

- Jan. 29—Accessibility on the Web; Compliance and standards; Analyzing information on the Web

- Jan. 30—Web design workshops

A complete list of seminars and details can be found at www.rit.edu/its. To register for one of the presentations, contact Michelle Cometa at ciots@rit.edu.

RIT's "wright" man for the job



Members of the RIT community gathered in Fireside Lounge in the Student Alumni Union on Dec. 17 to watch RIT mechanical engineering professor Kevin Kochersberger try to recreate the Wright brothers' first powered flight. Broadcast live from Kill Devil Hills, N.C. (near Kitty Hawk), re-enactment of the historic Dec. 17, 1903 flight was part of the First Flight Centennial Celebration and yearlong Countdown to Kitty Hawk. Above, Kochersberger is shown in a reproduction 1903 Wright Flyer before attempting the flight. Although off the ground for only a few seconds due to weather and mechanical difficulties, Kochersberger was gratified by the experience. For more photos, see www.rit.edu/upub/kittyhawk/photos.html.

Strategic plan

from page 1

of student success, RIT's central enterprise.

The task forces must prepare their preliminary reports for campus feedback by March 5. A progress report will be given to the Board of Trustees in April. The final Strategic Plan will be delivered to the Board for its approval during the July trustee meeting.

"I am confident the task forces and the RIT community will be successful in meeting the expectations of this process at this critical time in the life of the university," says Simone. "I look forward to engaging the entire campus community throughout the year, whether as a task force member, during an open forum, or directly receiving your thoughts about the future direction of the Institute." ■

Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

RIT Strategic Plan at-a-glance

2003

Oct. 1-Dec. 1
Strategic Planning Steering Committee evaluates vision/mission/values, conducts environmental evaluation, evaluates and prioritizes RIT attributes and elements to go from good to great, develops process timelines and charges for task forces

Dec. 1-15
Task force formed and core members identified, call for volunteers from the community

Dec. 15-Break
Task force convenes first meeting to discuss charge, develop plan of work, make assignments and begin data collection

2004
Jan. 5-Feb. 13
Task force data collection, focus groups, open hearings and deliberations

Feb. 16-March 5
Task force deliberations and preparation of preliminary reports

March 8-12
Committee reviews task force preliminary reports

March 15-26
Community review and feedback on task forces preliminary reports

March 29-April 2
Task forces incorporate community feedback into preliminary reports

April 5-9
SPSC prepares Progress Report for Trustees

April 15-16
Strategic Planning Progress Report to RIT Board of Trustees

April 19-May 7
SPSC develops draft strategic plan from task force reports

May 10
Draft Strategic Plan published to community

May 12-21
Governance groups, colleges, divisions and Community review Strategic Plan and provides written comment

May 24-June 14
SPSC prepares final Strategic Plan

June 15
Final Strategic Plan mailed to Board of Trustees

July 15-16
RIT Board of Trustees' Final approval of strategic plan

NTID announces new appointments



Chris Licata

Getting NTID from good to great has already begun during Alan Hurwitz's first few weeks on the job as the college's new CEO/Dean and

RIT's newest vice president.

After careful consideration to what organizational structure would best serve NTID, Hurwitz has streamlined the operation into four major clusters, and has made some new appointments to support that effort.

They include Chris Licata, formerly associate dean for academic affairs, as associate vice president for academic affairs, working closely with Laurie Brewer, formerly Center for Arts and Sciences director, as associate dean for academic administration; Gerry Buckley, formerly associate dean for student affairs, as assistant vice president for college advancement; Al Smith, formerly director of institutional services as assistant vice president for college operations; and Ellie Rosenfield, formerly coordinator for First-Year Experience and chair of the Career Explorations Studies program, as associate dean for student and academic services.



Laurie Brewer



Gerry Buckley

"I'm eager to work with this new administrative team to design, develop and implement a new strategic plan in collaboration with

RIT's university-wide strategic planning process," Hurwitz says. "Each brings a wealth of experience and talent to take NTID to the next level.

"NTID must continue to be at the forefront of adapting technological change for the betterment of our students' education," Hurwitz adds. "We

will work together to continue enhancing curriculum to meet the changing needs of current and future students, enabling them to find meaningful careers."

Hurwitz says his vision and strategic direction will position NTID strongly for the future.

"I'm also placing a high priority on fund raising and development, as well as developing our relationship with the federal government, including the U.S. Department of Education," he adds. ■

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Al Smith



Ellie Rosenfield

Sen. Alesi secures funding for RIT programs



Sen. Jim Alesi

Sen. Jim Alesi has secured additional funding for two RIT programs in the FY 2003-04 state budget.

The RIT Student

Ambulance Program will receive \$10,000 to support its services to the RIT and Henrietta communities. This is the third year that Alesi has secured funding for this life-saving program.

The student-run RIT Ambulance has used the state funding to purchase vital equipment, including the purchase of a new

ambulance vehicle.

"This funding has been of invaluable assistance to us in enhancing the services that we have been able to provide to the community," says E. Cassandra Jordan, director, Student Health Center.

"We greatly appreciate the support that Sen. Alesi has made it possible for us to receive over the past several years, and we will continue to put this vital funding to good use," adds Jordan.

The College of Imaging Arts and Sciences will also receive \$10,000 to support its efforts in hosting the Scholastic Art Awards Competition, a prestigious competition that enables hundreds of high school students from a 10-county region to showcase

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Athenaeum winter open house, Jan. 19-22

The Athenaeum invites adults over 50 to sample classes and activities during a weeklong winter open house from Jan. 19-22. Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Participants are invited to stay the day, bring a brown-bag lunch and socialize with current members.

For more information or to request a complete winter catalog, call 292-8989 or visit www.rit.edu/athenaeum.

Call ahead to reserve seating during the open house.

Voelkl art award

from page 2

For Sale category as a series.

"As an artist, I am always searching for visual ideas as inspiration," Voelkl says. "I have also been playing acoustic music for many years. Joining a musical group last year gave me a chance to be exposed to a variety of stringed instruments and also to see their textures and shapes as design elements to be used compositionally."

Voelkl had been taking digital images of stringed instruments, which led to the images that were accepted in the *CA Annual*.

"I never intended to submit them, but my wife encouraged me to do so," he adds. "She also suggested that I should create similar portraits. It became a real family affair with our teenage son, who is a talented young artist, giving me helpful feedback," he says. "I wanted to know what other professionals might think so I submitted them to *CA* for a kind of thumbs up or thumbs down critique."

An RIT faculty member for 27 years, Voelkl also plays mandolin for the Fiddlers of the Genesee.

"I have been playing guitar since

I was a kid and picked up the mandolin back in the 70s," he says. "Music and the visual arts have been part of me for many years. I find it interesting that it took so long for the two to come together."

Producers at the music giant VH1 in New York City saw Voelkl's work in *Communication Arts* and commissioned him to create an 18-inch by 24-inch portrait for its newsletter *STM* (Save the Music), a non-profit effort to promote and acquire musical instruments for students in schools that lack funding for music programs.

He is also designing a CD cover for The Montana Mandolin Society and has recently created instrument portraits for several Bluegrass and Newgrass musicians.

"It has been a great year," Voelkl says. "Any time organizations such as these recognize your work, it's a real motivator and a challenge at the same time."

"I guess I have raised my own bar of excellence and that's always a good thing." ■

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Obituary

James McMillion Jr.

James McMillion Jr., emeritus professor of photography, passed away Dec. 19. McMillion, a World War II veteran, was RIT's first James E. McGhee Professor in the School of Photography, and established RIT's photo management department.

"James was a true professional and was very well known and respected on campus and in the photo industry," says Bob Kayser, RIT professor emeritus.

Contributions in his memory can be directed to Asbury First United Methodist Church, 1050 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.