



RIT College Bowl to challenge wits



Relocated observatory goes public



RIT icewomen rule. top contest in sight

# ws & Events

January 22, 1999

# Five-course minors become part of liberal arts course offerings

RIT has long been a leader in the "major" league in terms of its 200-plus programs of study, or majors, supplemented with concentrations from a liberal arts curriculum. As of this spring, RIT adds a new facet to its educational leadership-minors in the liberal arts.

The College of Liberal Arts has adjusted its general education requirements to encourage undergraduate students to pursue minors in selected liberal arts subjects. The five-course, structured minors will appear on student transcripts.

"A minor is a rigorous study in a liberal art or social science that demands research and critical-thinking skillsskills that we know are valued by industry," explains Diane Hope, interim dean,

College of Liberal Arts. "Recognizing that today's students are the leaders of an increasingly interconnected world, we are adding structured minors to our rigorous core courses in the humanities, social sciences and behavioral sciences.

"Offering RIT students the option of a minor in the liberal arts is a clear career advantage. Since the minors are certified and will appear in transcripts, employers will know our students have something extra to offer," she says.

Every marketplace edge adds to college graduate employment options, agrees Robert French, assistant vice president, **Enrollment Management and Career** Services. "Students who apply to RIT tend to be very career-oriented, and sometimes

they don't recognize how courses outside their major can contribute to their career success." Pursuing a liberal arts minor

technical communication. "For example, each of our three minors in communication has specific, focused courses that

"Recognizing that today's students are the leaders of an increasingly interconnected world, we are adding structured minors to our rigorous core courses in the humanities, social sciences and behavioral sciences."

—Diane Hope

gives students a secondary area of expertise that can complement their major and fit their career goals, he adds, citing the following examples.

An environmental management student could add a minor in Spanish to take advantage of the growing demand for environmental professionals in Latin America. A business major interested in corporate law might find added preparation for law school in a criminal justice minor. And photojournalism majors could expand their options through news writing or public relations courses in the new communications minor. "There are a lot of examples that can benefit both current

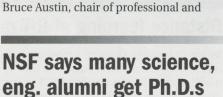
Minors available this Spring Quarter are: communication; criminal justice; economics; foreign language (French, German, Spanish); foreign language/culture (German, Spanish); philosophy; psychology; and sociology/anthropology. The college plans to offer more minors in fall 1999, possibly in history, literature, writing, political science, social welfare and science/ technology/environmental studies.

In designing the minors, CLA builds upon original concentrations to offer conceptually linked, cohesive courses, notes Bruce Austin, chair of professional and

move the student further into the subject. At the same time, we're offering a broader subject menu from which to select; like choosing this appetizer with that entrée followed by that dessert."

But minors won't mean a heavier course load. "Students don't have to take any extra courses since the minor goes toward liberal arts requirements," says Paul Ferber, chair of social sciences. And setting up the minors demonstrates further how the College of Liberal Arts makes its expertise applicable to RIT's diverse majors, he adds.

That, ultimately, is the goal of offering minors, explains Hope. "Our graduatesno matter what their major—must have the skills to find answers on the job, to be flexible and informed. A liberal arts minor coupled with core CLA requirements not only gives them a second area of study, it gives them the grounding that is central to professional ethics, intercultural understanding, leadership and citizenship in the global economy.'

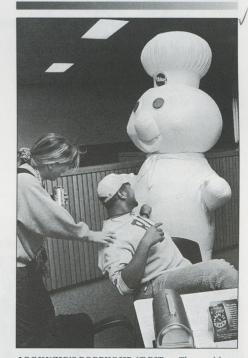


Although RIT offers only one Ph.D. (imaging science), a significant number of RIT grads go on to earn doctorate degrees.

In fact, RIT ranks 20th among the top 25 "master's colleges and universities" where doctorate-degree recipients in science and engineering earned their undergraduate education, according to a recent study by the National Science Foundation.

From 1991 to 1995, 86 RIT graduates received doctorates in science and engineering. That group is made up of 17 chemistry, 11 physics and astronomy, one earth, atmospheric and oceanographic, one mathematics, 25 biological sciences, one agricultural sciences, two psychology, three social sciences, three civil engineering, six electrical engineering, six mechanical engineering and 10 other engineering doctorates.

The NSF surveyed recipients of science and engineering doctorates from 1991-1995. Nearly a quarter of the doctorate recipients earned their baccalaureate degrees from the group of 25 master's colleges and universities that included RIT. The master's colleges and universitiescomprised of 529 institutions—are defined as those that offer a liberal arts program, a professional or occupational program and master's degrees. RIT was the only university in the Northeast outside of the New York City university system in this group.



LOOK WHO'S POPPIN' UP AT RIT ... The worldfamous Pillsbury Doughboy made an appearance this fall at The College Grind, the hip coffee and snack bar in Shumway Dining Commons. The lovable mound of dough greeted customers as part of a Pillsbury baked-goods promotion.

#### Sticky situations are needed to learn how to speak the language no problem for RIT of industrial design." junior Mark Bridges. In the midst of his RIT program, Bridges The industrial design enjoys tapping into the energy and freshand future RIT students," says French. student's "precision

hot melt glue gun with filament-style glue and cartridge' recently took third place honors in the

Patent-holding student's glue gun a

winner in U.S. housewares competition

National Housewares Manufacturers

Association Student Design Competition. As part of his prize, Bridges traveled to Chicago and the International Housewares Show where he demonstrated his tidy

Mark Bridges

Unlike most glue guns on the market today which use glue sticks, Bridges' model uses thin, filament-style glue. The result: far less mess. His model as well as his detailed product proposal left one judge saying, "This is a guy I want to hire," according to Victoria Matranga, NHMA designs program coordinator.

Unfortunately for that judge, Bridges already has a job. At 45, he fits a non-traditional student profile. A 27-year employee of Eastman Kodak Co., Bridges began his career assembling cameras and projectors—training he calls invaluable. "I got to put together parts from other people's designs," he says. "I had firsthand experience of what 'design for assembly' really

He began using Kodak's Suggestion System as a way to offer his own insights for design improvements. His creativity and inquisitiveness served him well. He now holds 18 patents and works as a senior product designer for the company, which is sending him to RIT part time. "I found myself longing to soften the sharp corners of my own sheet metal parts and add some beauty to the functional curves of molded and cast parts," he says. "I

ness of his fellow students while at the same time exposing them to his experiences and perspectives working for a large corporation.

With this year's NHMA competition attracting a record-number 245 entries from both undergraduate and graduate students at 24 colleges and universities, Bridges' win is impressive, along with fellow student Jensen Lai's honorable mention for his stirring whisk. That makes two wins for RIT in only its first year of participation—"a commendable feat for our students," notes Jim Sias, ID professor who coordinated RIT entries.



His glue gun for the 21st century recently won RIT industrial design student Mark Bridges national attention and a trip to Chicago.

## Peace activist Jesse Jackson at RIT

Rev. Jesse Jackson, president and founder of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, will speak at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10, in Clark Gymnasium as part of RIT's Frank Horton Distinguished Speaker Series. Tickets—\$4 for students, \$8 for faculty/staff and \$12 for the public—are for sale in the game room and candy counter. For more information, call -2239.

#### **New date for MLK event**

RIT's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration featuring economist, columnist and writer Julianne Malveaux has been rescheduled for 4 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 26, in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. A diversity rap session will be held earlier that afternoon at 2 p.m. in 1829 Room, SAU. The entire RIT community is invited to the free events.

#### **De-stress at midnight**

Students facing end-of-quarter finals can take a break at the annual Midnight Breakfast, a stress-relieving tradition where faculty and staff serve students in Hettie L. Shumway Dining Commons. Faculty and staff volunteers are still needed for the event, 10:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23. Last year, nearly 1,000 students paid the \$1 admission fee and over 50 faculty and staff served breakfast and cleaned.

To volunteer and receive a free T-shirt, contact Hamad Ghazle, faculty-in-residence, at hhgscl@rit.edu or -2241, or Sarah Whiffen, assistant director for residential education, at sewrhs@rit.edu. Midnight Breakfast is sponsored by the Faculty-in-Residence program, president and provost's offices and several other campus organizations.

#### **Ecology and art**

Sculptor Lewis "Buster" Simpson will give the 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4 Gannett Lecture on "Public Art and Ecology," cosponsored by the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences and the Arts and Cultural Council of Rochester. An artist who merges ecological and social issues with aesthetic concerns, Simpson has made commissioned public sculpture around the world. He focuses on public art that engages communities in environmental and social issues. The free talk in the Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building, is sign interpreted and concludes with a reception.

#### **Bilingual learning**

For their 12th annual professional conference, the school psychology graduate program presents "Bilingual Models of Education: Deaf and Other Diverse Learners." The 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jan. 29 conference in the Robert F. Panara Theatre focuses on teaching and assessing diverse groups of speech-, hearing- and languageimpaired learners and children with English as a second language. Tane Akamatsu, a school psychologist in the Toronto District School Board, and Connie Mayer from the teacher preparation program at York University, will demonstrate both theoretical and applied aspects of bilingual and bicultural education. To register, call -6701;

#### **Dress up for Snow Ball**

RIT's Community Service Clubhouse hosts the second annual "Snow Ball," 8 p.m.—midnight, Saturday, Jan. 30, Student Alumni Union cafeteria.

Tickets for the formal dance—\$8 in advance and \$10 at the door—can be purchased 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Grace Watson Hall and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday in the SAU lobby. Half of the proceeds benefit the Lupus Foundation of America. For more information, contact Dennis Lloyd at -3088 or dx11048@rit.edu.

#### **CAST** building update

Construction began this month on the building that will house portions of the College of Applied Science and Technology. The building, to be located between the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies and MicroE, is scheduled to open fall 1999. Meanwhile, the work brings some disruptions.

- About 24 parking spots in the top row of J lot will be out of service.
- The north/south roadway east of S
   lot and west of MicroE and Hugh
   Carey buildings will be used to
   access the construction site, which
   may result in heavy traffic there.
- The sidewalk running diagonally from the east entrance of CIMS to the south side of MicroE will be permanently closed.
- Earth will be piled just south of S lot, which may result in dust on cars parked nearby.
- Contractor cars will park in H lot.

# Student blends multimedia, history, clothing design

Katherine Summerfeldt thinks her future may be in the past.

Summerfeldt, who will receive an M.S. in cross-disciplinary professional studies in May, hopes to build a career combining her interest in garment construction and historic preservation with her computer-design and multimedia skills. Her first effort: creating period costumes for George Eastman House guides.

To meet the capstone project requirement for her M.S., Summerfeldt researched clothing worn by household staff when George Eastman lived at 900 East Ave. She then designed versions of period outfits on the computer and constructed sample garments.

Summerfeldt's tailor-made plan of study is a terrific example of the flexibility of RIT's cross-disciplinary master's degree. "This is the only place on earth where this could happen in this way," says Lawrence Belle, graduate program chair for the cross-disciplinary professional studies program and acting director of the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies. "The cross-disciplinary mechanism, RIT's special strengths in computer design and interactive multimedia and the association with the George Eastman House offer educational possibilities that are not available anywhere else."

Summerfeldt, a native of Canada, is the first deaf student in the innovative master's program. She studied computer design in Toronto and received a bachelor of fine

arts in painting and illustration from RIT in 1994. Although she finds the computer a helpful tool, Summerfeldt is just as comfortable with a sewing machine.

"I love the hands-on part, working with different materials and fibers," she says. She's been creating clothing since age 10. Work with costume design for National Technical Institute for the Deaf theater productions helped develop her eye for detail and hone her techniques.

The idea for her capstone project came during an internship at the George Eastman House. Kathy Connor, curator of the George Eastman collection, hopes to enhance the museum experience with the addition of costumed guides, but hadn't found the time to do the necessary research. Summerfeldt concentrated on the typical garb of a male and female gardener, a maid and Eastman's personal secretary. Her challenge was to come up with vintage-style clothing that can adapt to today's physiques.

Connor was impressed with the results. Although there's no timetable for costuming the Eastman House guides, Summerfeldt's work "will be of tremendous help in the future," she says.

The George Eastman House has figured prominently in the work of several others in the cross-disciplinary master's program, including two Fulbright Scholars and two other international students. All four studied photo preservation with Grant Romer, director of conservation at Eastman House,



Katie Summerfeldt (right) and George Eastman House curator Kathy Connor discuss period clothing Summerfeldt designed, including a daytime dress and a finely detailed woolen coat.

as part of their master's degree work.

"The cooperation of the Eastman House staff provides our students with a wonderful opportunity to work with a world-class institution," says Belle. "We're very appreciative of their support."

# Student Affairs awards four faculty, staff for special efforts



Tom Frederick

RIT's Division of Student Affairs presented a series of distinguished awards to faculty and staff members during a recognition brunch Dec. 18.

Tom Frederick, professor of biological sciences, College of Science, received

the award for Promoting Learning Outside the Classroom. Frederick, a 23-year RIT veteran, believes that being involved with students outside of the classroom enhances their performance in the classroom.

"To be an educator means that you help students open doors to their futures"—in or out of the classroom, says Frederick.



Mary Ann "Cookie" Campbell

"Students today are facing extraordinary challenges. This is especially true for international students. Many are away from home for the first time and when I am able to help them out, I feel that I've had a hand in their happiness and survival."

Mary Ann "Cookie" Campbell, affectionately called the "foreign student maven," earned the Excellence in Service award. Campbell, program coordinator for international students, Center for Student Transition and Support, handles all issues relevant to immigration and foreign stu-



Helene Manglaris and Marie Giardino

dent advising, including the exchange visitor program.

A 17-year RIT veteran, Campbell says, "My favorite part of this job is working with these students. I greet them when they arrive and say goodbye to them when they leave. Along the way you see how much you've helped them accomplish what they came here to do."

She also believes that she has helped create strong ties with the legal community, which translates into providing the best service for RIT students. "We've all worked very hard to build a quality reputation with immigration and the community. And, more importantly, our students are confident that they are getting the right advice from us. It's all about building a climate of trust."

Student Affairs awarded the Innovation in Program award to co-winners Helene Manglaris, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, and Marie Giardino, director of student services, Learning Development Center, for their development of *The Source*. The women also co-chair the Student Affairs Marketing Network.

The Source, a comprehensive student handbook and academic planner designed to give students information about RIT programs, services and policies, lists academic support services, campus activities, important dates and ways to contact faculty and staff. The handbook comes in a print version and online at www.collegebeat.com/handbooks/rit.

By maximizing resources, Manglaris and Giardino managed to lower costs, provide more features in the book and increase collaboration among RIT departments.

"We want students to use this as a tool to organize their classes, activities and social commitments," says Manglaris. "Students are given so much information; it's impossible to remember everything," adds Giardino. "By using *The Source* they can access the information when they need it."

## Distance learning at RIT ranked third largest in nation

Inside Technology Training, a magazine that discusses education outside of the traditional classroom, has listed RIT as the third largest provider of distance learning in the nation.

In the special section, "Learning Online," in the June 1998 issue, the magazine rated eight academic institutions for undergraduate and graduate distance learning programs that "never require a student to step foot in a classroom." RIT placed third in size with 2,000 students enrolled in distance learning programs; the University of Maryland and the University of Phoenix ranked first and second, respectively.

"Our enrollment numbers keep growing,"

says Chris Geith, distance learning director. At almost 20 years old, RIT's program has had time to develop and mature, she adds, whereas other institutions are relative newcomers to the field.

"I could not have received this degree any other way. The program gave me the flexibility to accommodate other needs in my life," says Paul Giovanni, who recently earned a master's degree in information technology via RIT's distance learning program. Giovanni lives with his family in Connecticut and is a member of the Coast Guard.

RIT's distance learning offers five graduate programs, three undergraduate programs, 12 professional certificates and over 200 online courses.





# Viewpoints

## Libraries, technology, consortiums: The value in togetherness

This column presents opinions and ideas from your peers on issues relevant to higher education. We welcome response and hope "Viewpoints" inspires discussion amongst you, the RIT community. To suggest an idea for a column, e-mail to newsevents@rit.edu.

by Sarah Reynolds, outreach user services coordinator, Wallace Library



Sarah Reynolds

The world of technology is forever expanding. Libraries are logical places for technological advances to take hold. The goal of the academic library is to effectively and efficiently meet the varied needs of the university's commu-

nity: teaching, learning, scholarship and research. But, providing access to needed

materials challenges academic libraries during the ongoing transition from a print-focused environment to an emerging electronic environment.

Technology is allowing libraries and publishers to expand access and information delivery. The World Wide Web has become the primary means for people to gain access to electronic material. Estimates show that Web users worldwide in the year 2000 will reach 1 billion. Students have the highest Web usage of any demographic group, with approximately 40 percent considered high users.

The ubiquitous nature of the Web in our lives cannot be denied.

For libraries, offering information technologies to facilitate the delivery of this information is both exciting and costly. Online reference and research databases are often priced far above what an individual library can afford. How is Wallace Library working through this problem and holding down costs? One of the most effective means is through consortial purchasing efforts: libraries joining forces with other libraries (local, regional, state and national) to acquire aggregate purchasing power for volume discounts on needed resources and services.

Consortial purchasing allows Wallace Library to provide desktop access to a robust array of discipline-related online reference and research databases via the Web. Database licenses, negotiated at affordable prices, enable our electronic information dollars to go further and maximize the number of electronic information resources available to RIT.

Indeed, through the combined buying power of consortial arrangements, Wallace Library offers Internet access to over 185 commercial electronic databases (http://wally.rit.edu/electronic/electronic.html) as well as hundreds of online, full-text journals and magazines. Database content varies from full-text newspapers, journal articles and encyclopedias to bibliographic databases, stock price histories, international company balance sheets, industry reports, government statistics and more. These online databases, accessible remotely, are available seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Examples include:

 AMICO (Art Museum Image Consortium); a collection of 20,000 images available over the Internet in four resolutions. RIT is one of 20 elite universities, in cooperation with several major museums including the Eastman House, chosen for this consortium.

- IDEAL (175 full-text Academic Press scientific and technical journals) via the Northeast Research Libraries consortium.
- OCLC's FirstSearch (60+ multidisciplinary databases) via Pi2 (Partners in Innovation and Information), a consortium of New York state independent academic libraries.
- Full-text articles in ABI/INFORM (business database); periodicals, newspaper, criminal justice and social work abstracts as well as PsycINFO, via Rochester Regional Library Council (RRLC).
- Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe (fulltext, multidisciplinary) via a recent nationwide consortial arrangement.
- STAT-USA via RIT/STAT-USA Consortium (based at RIT).

Does electronic information retrieval mean that the role of the librarian has changed? No, our role has not changed; our tools have changed. Librarians are still information providers, but the way the information is provided has changed. Librarians must help the user understand this electronic information. The way we instruct our users now includes increased online tutorials. We teach how to use a particular electronic product more efficiently and we teach how to navigate the Web to find the best data.

The academic library, with its progressive staff, facilities and consortial relationships, continue to be universities' gateway to teaching, learning, scholarship and research information. The value in togetherness is clear. In only the past decade libraries have come together to form ad hoc and formal consortial partnerships, giving libraries bargaining power and economies of scale. Recognizing our goal of effectively and efficiently meeting the varied needs of the university's community, Wallace Library leads consortiums and grows with technology, learning new tech-tools and passing on that knowledge to RIT students and faculty.

Stop by, take a look, visit us on the Web; we welcome your feedback.



SNIPPING THE PRESIDENTIAL RIBBON... Rochester attorney Frederick Wiedman Jr. (seated), an RIT trustee emeritus, cuts the ribbon opening the Frederick Wiedman Jr. Collection of Presidential Papers, during a December ceremony to open the exhibit at the Greater Rochester International Airport. Joining Wiedman, from the left, are Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle, Wiedman, RIT President Albert Simone and Wiedman's long-time law partner Jim Vazzana, chairman of the Monroe County Airport Authority. Simone thanked Vazzana for facilitating the partnership between the county, RIT and Fred Wiedman. The exhibit is a complete collection of presidential autographs dating back to George Washington.

## A Midsummer's Night's Dream in February

1 dsumme1

The RIT Players present their production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer's Night's Dream* in two Rochester venues on select February dates.

The classic romantic comedy plays at 8

p.m. on Feb. 4, 5
and 6 at RAPA
Performing
Arts Center,
727 East
Main Street,
Rochester. A
second set of
performances
on the RIT
campus runs at 2
p.m. on Feb. 7 and 8
p.m. on Feb. 11 and 12 in Ingle

p.m. on Feb. 11 and 12 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Directed by fourth-year imaging and photographic technology major Gretchen Gast, with Seth Seeger, third-year com-

puter science major, in the role of techni-

cal director, A Midsummer Night's Dream

sweeps the audience away to the woods to revel in the world of disrupted lovers and fairy magic. All it takes is a magical, mischievous sprite to mix the ingredients together to create mayhem. Or is it all a

The play, the largest RIT production run solely by students, boasts

dazzling costumes
created by
Elizabeth
LeBlanc,
music by
Derek Punaro,
choreography

Welsh, and a dramatic set with sculpted copper trees created by RIT art students.

Tickets—\$2 in advance for RIT students and senior citizens (\$3 at the door) and \$4 for faculty/staff and general public (\$5 at the door)—can be purchased at RIT's candy counter. Half of the proceeds will go to charity. For more information, call 234-3547.

## It's brains against brains in annual RIT college bowl

The seventh annual RIT College Bowl pits brainy teams in trivia-challenging trials from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 23, in the Student Alamni Union Clark meeting rooms.

This year, up to 32 teams of full-time RIT students will have the opportunity to match wits in the popular question-and-answer game of general knowledge and quick recall. Game questions cover every conceivable topic, from history, literature,

science, multiculturalism, religion and geography to current events, the arts, social sciences, sports and popular culture.

The four-member teams will compete for the first-place prize of \$200 gift certificates to RIT's bookstore and a trip to the regional competition Feb. 20–21 at Cornell University.

This year, over 300 colleges and universities nationwide will play College Bowl, now celebrating its 22nd year.

## Liberty Hill breakfast talks begin for the new year

The Liberty Hill Breakfast Series events—each from 7:15 to 9 a.m. at the president's home, 2201 Lehigh Station Road—open 1999 on Wednesday, Jan. 27, with Rev. Paul Womack, co-pastor of Covenant United Methodist Church, and Rabbi Alan Katz of Temple Sinai presenting "An Interfaith View of the Holy Land from August, 1998."

The next scheduled talks are:

 Wednesday, Feb. 3, "The Future of Performing Arts in Rochester: An Update" by Tom Mooney, president, Greater Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce, and co-chair, Performing Arts Center Committee  Wednesday, Feb. 10, "Federal Gun Control: Friend or Foe of the Second Amendment" by The Honorable Michael Telesca, United States District Judge

A 7:15 a.m. continental breakfast precedes each talk, followed by a presentation at 7:30. President Simone moderates the dialogue; most sessions end by 9 a.m.

Call Kim Bishop at -7500 or e-mail to bas5010@rit.edu to attend the free events or to suggest a speaker and/or topic. Interpreter assistance is available upon request.



UPWARDLY MOBILE... Because the formal dedication of the Center for Excellence in Mathematics, Science and Technology took place in July, when few students were on campus, College of Science students organized their own celebration. The semi-formal event Dec. 12 attracted 170 students who danced until midnight in the Bruce and Nora James Atrium decorated with billowing balloons and 6,000 tiny lights. Here, Jessica Sparrin, Katie Marron and an unidentified helper work on the preparations. Elated by the success of the event, organizers already are planning to make it an annual affair.

### Newsmakers

- Bruce Austin, professor, College of Liberal Arts, had an essay, "Audience Research for Motion Pictures: Uncovering the Interests of Moviegoers," published in *History of Mass Media in the United States*, a collection of essays on various topics related to mass communications.
- Milton Cofield, chair of imaging systems management, gave the paper, "Applications of Imaging Technologies in Education," to the Montgomery Community College Technology Conference Oct. 16. He also presented the invited lecture, "Structure and Color Studies of Imaging Dyes," at the 54th Southwestern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, held Nov. 3 in Baton Rouge, La. And he has been elected to a second term on the United Way of Greater Rochester board and nominating committee.
- James Fleming, professor, College of Liberal Arts, recently published a chapter, "Oscar W. Underwood: The First Modern House Leader,

- 1911–1915," in the book, *Masters of the House*, part of a book series that addresses change in American politics.
- Barbara Fox, assistant professor, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, had an exhibit of her work in mixed media images, "Provence Series and Beyond," at the Little Theatre in Rochester in January.
- Tom Moran, assistant professor, College of Applied Science and Technology, presented "Designing Usable Lists" at the 16th Annual International Conference of Computer Documentation, held Sept. 23–26 in Quebec City, Canada.
- Warren Sackler, associate professor in food, hotel and travel management, in December opened his new restaurant, Goal Post Grill, in the ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton-Henrietta Townline Road.
- Katherine Schumacher, writing director, College of Liberal Arts, was elected chair of the

- board of directors of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts during the annual conference in Dallas this November. The Guild represents over 230 certified community schools of the arts with over 300,000 students.
- Mary Sullivan, professor, College of Liberal Arts, was honored by RIT at the 100 Heroines awards ceremony on Oct. 29 at the Hyatt Regency in Rochester, for her "selfless dedication to helping others." The local honorees were part of the celebration for 100 worldwide heroines who won for their courageous efforts to achieve freedom and equality for women.
- Paul Taylor, associate professor, National Technical Institute for the Deaf, was recently recognized by Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc., as one of 30 individuals who had the greatest impact on telecommunications accessibility for America's deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens during 1968–98. TDI's 30th
- Anniversary GA-SK Newsletter praised Taylor for his advocacy for a nationwide telecommunications relay service.
- Joseph Voelkel, associate professor, Center for Quality and Applied Statistics, co-authored the article, "Minimum-Aberration Two-Level Split-Plot Designs," with Peng Huang and Dechang Chen in the November issue of *Technometrics*. He also presented a paper, "Processes Indices for Certain Non-Stable Processes," at the Fall Technical Conference, held Oct. 22–23 in Corning.
- Janet Zandy, associate professor, College of Liberal Arts, was an invited plenary speaker for Diversity and Learning, the Association of American Colleges and Universities Network Conference, held Nov. 13 in Philadelphia. Also, she recently published an essay in a new collection, Coming to Class: Pedagogy and the Social Class of Teachers.

## Everyone can see stars before their eyes; observatory's public debut a big success

It's 6 p.m. on a crisp November evening and a steady stream of cars rapidly fills a small parking lot beside a nondescript ranch house at 645 John St. The RIT observatory sits behind the little building.

For the first time, the College of Science has opened the facility to the public, and the response is overwhelming. Over the next two hours, about 100 people will line up to look at the moon, Saturn, Jupiter and several other features of the miraculously clear November sky.

"Cool," exclaims one enthusiastic youngster, peering into the eyepiece of the 10-inch Meade Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. "It looks like a rocket!" And, perhaps, if you look at it just right, Saturn and its rings do resemble a rocket.

"Youngsters are drawn to this like a magnet," says James Kern, physics professor and director of the observatory.
"Looking through the eyepiece, that's always better than seeing things in books, TV, or on the Web."

Kern, Michael Richmond and Anne Young from the physics department and Roger Easton of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science are all on hand for the public opening—and they're all busy, answering questions and explaining how everything works and discussing what's in view.

The observatory was moved from its original site to allow construction of the University Commons at Riverknoll apartments. Completed with the support of the RIT administration and Physical Plant, the relocation brought improvements that

made the facility more user-friendly for large groups.

The RIT Astronomy Club, several labs for students taking astronomy classes and community visitors such as members of the astronomy section of the Rochester Academy of Science have made the observatory a busy place this fall. "We've been out here just about every clear night," says Kern. "We will attempt to accommodate other community groups, such as scouts and school science students in the future as staffing and scheduling permit."

The primary observing instrument, a 16-inch AutoScope telescope, now sits in a metal structure with a roll-off roof. The 10-inch Meade telescope is mounted on a steel support in the metal dome-topped building. Both the 16-inch and 10-inch telescopes are computer-controlled, and like any other computer system, upgrades to the computer technology are always underway. Video or digital cameras can be attached to either of the big telescopes for viewing via TV monitor or to capture still images. The observatory also has four smaller, portable telescopes used on a large concrete pad adjacent to the large telescopes.

"There are significant scientific contributions that can be achieved at smaller observatories such as this one, even though the skies are bright due to its proximity to an urban area," says Kern. "Our students can investigate the rotation and shape of asteroids, study the physics of the stars and planets by observing them at different wavelengths or search for and



College of Science faculty members (from left) Anne Young, Jim Kern, Roger Easton and Michael Richmond logged countless hours getting the RIT observatory up and running at its new location.

monitor supernova explosions."

The RIT community has access to the observatory through the RIT Astronomy Club, which is open to everyone. More information about the club and the observatory is on the Web, as well as public viewing cancellations, at www.rit.edu/~ritobs.

Monthly public observing sessions,

subject to weather conditions, are scheduled for 7–9 p.m. Jan. 22, Feb. 19 and March 26, and 9–11 p.m. April 23 and May 14. The decision to cancel will be made two hours before the session and the information will be posted on the Web or can be obtained by calling -6824.

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#### Women's hockey carves up the ice, piles up wins

Just four months ago the women's hockey team wasn't sure of its future. The team lacked a head coach and the list of players had dwindled. Now the Tigers find themselves 5–1–3 and chasing the top spot in the ECAC and another trip to the post season.

"It's really an interesting turn around for this team," comments captain Kristine Pierce. "We were really uncertain of our future and now things have gelled for us. The team is dedicated to the cause and the coach."

First-year head coach Robert Scuteri guided his troops to two wins this past week. The Tigers downed Amherst College 5–2 on Saturday and then tripped up Southern Maine 4–3 in overtime on Sunday. The Tigers host Clarkson University at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31.



RIT women's hockey players Jessica Rogers (left) and Maria Lewis (right) seal a St. Lawrence player from the puck.

The men's hockey team, ranked second in the nation, will face a formidable opponent this Saturday when they host Fredonia, State University of New York, at 7:30 p.m. Come see RIT's 14–1 team gun for a national title and piece of hockey history.

## Photography faculty show their best in Feb. exhibit

Bevier Gallery's first show of the new year features recent work by faculty in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

From Jan. 29 through Feb. 24, the nonjuried exhibit of work by instructors in the school's six programs will fill the secondfloor space of the James E. Booth Building. Work ranges from portrait and abstract photography to digital imagery and video.

The show kicks off with a public reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 29. For exhibit hours, call -2646.

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