

2 Cancer and the environment



2 A.D. Coleman on the digital future



3 RIT United Way campaign launch



4 RIT photos make RG&E calendar hum
—photo by Ryan McFadden

News & Events

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RIT team develops software for global "pipeline to the stars"

A team of RIT students and faculty are building a pipeline to the stars.

Working in a windowless room in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, they've developed software that will make it possible for astronomers

capture images continuously, weather permitting. The data will arrive at RIT via satellite for processing. The individual images won't show much, but the software developed by the RIT team can distill hundreds of images to create pictures of, say, stars forming in clusters of cosmic dust.

"Until the development of infrared astronomy, we were not able to see this phase of star formation," says Gatley.

The multi-disciplinary AstroPipeline team is made up of: Adith Chandrasekhar, a graduate student in imaging science; Erika Tolar, James DeFelice and Stephen Schaeffer, software engineering undergrads; Bob Krzaczek and Scott Lawrence of the CIS staff; software engineering professor J. Fernando Naveda; imaging science professor Harvey Rhody; and Gatley.

The Pipeline, now a working version that the team will continue to refine, has gone together in a surprisingly short time. The CIS people started work last summer, and the software engineering students



The AstroPipeline team, from left: Harvey Rhody, Scott Lawrence, Erika Tolar, Stephen Schaeffer, James DeFelice, Adith Chandrasekhar, J. Fernando Naveda, Bob Krzaczek (standing) and Ian Gatley

signed on in December. For a look at what they've accomplished, visit the Web site at <http://pipe.cis.rit.edu>.

"I have to say that the group continues to surprise me," says Rhody. The work has required expertise in many technologies including several programming languages,

as well as strong interpersonal skills. "The complexity of this project," he adds, "is hard to overstate."

The three software engineering students say their classroom preparation has proven invaluable. "When you take a course," says Schaeffer, "you don't know if it will be useful. But it's turned out that what we

(continued on page 4)

"The complexity of this project is hard to overstate."

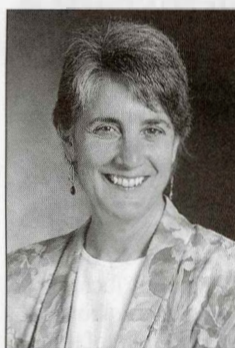
—Harvey Rhody

around the world to receive pictures from a telescope in Antarctica.

The CARA Pipeline project came to RIT via Ian Gatley, director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Prior to coming to RIT in 1997, Gatley, an astronomer, worked at the National Optical Astronomical Observatories where he helped develop the infrared camera for the Center for Astrophysical Research in Antarctica (CARA).

The team's work will show results when the South Pole slips into six months of darkness on March 21. The camera will

Long search for CIAS dean ends: Joan Stone named



Joan Stone

Joan Stone has been named dean of the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, effective immediately, announces Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The CIAS Dean Search committee, led by Wade Robison of the College of Liberal Arts, had narrowed the choice to two finalists. McKenzie commended the com-

mittee for a successful search process that gave him "a most difficult decision between two extremely attractive final candidates." After weighing extensive input and considering the "midstream First-in-Class initiatives in which CIAS will be highly integrated," he chose "to continue with the tremendous record that Joan has achieved during her tenure as interim dean."

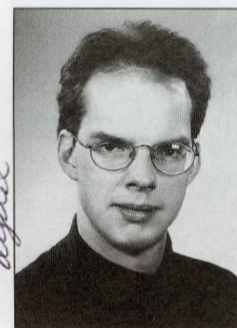
Stone took a leave from her position as associate provost for academic programs to serve as interim dean for the college in July 1997 and later became a candidate.

She holds a B.S. from St. Lawrence, a master's in mathematics education from Syracuse University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Rochester.

She joined RIT in 1976, teaching mathematics at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. From 1990 to 1993 Stone chaired RIT's Faculty Council and, in 1994, became associate provost for academic programs. Her RIT committee and task force work includes co-chairing the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee, implementing the 1996 Middle States Association accreditation process and working in-depth on the CIAS Crossroads curriculum.

"We can look forward to a continuation of the real growth and progress the college has made under her leadership and an enhancement of the college's rich and varied degree programs enjoying worldwide renown," says McKenzie.

RPO and piano virtuoso



Young pianist Ronald Greidanus performs with RPO March 24 at RIT.

As the final installment of RIT's 1998-99 Performing Artist's portion of the Cultural Spotlight Series, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, with conductor Jeff Tyzik and special young guest-pianist Ronald Greidanus,

comes to Ingle Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24.

Greidanus, a 29-year-old piano virtuoso, was discovered while working in a bed and breakfast in Stratford, Ontario. With little formal training, he had managed, by age 16, to become quite proficient as a pianist, had taught himself to play the violin and had written a fully scored three-movement concerto for piano and orchestra. He went on to earn an undergraduate degree in piano performance, and pursued advanced studies at the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam.

He has been performing with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra on a regular basis and has given many solo recitals and chamber music concerts in both Canada and Europe. Next May, he will perform the difficult Rachmaninoff third piano concerto with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

The RIT concert program will include the *Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture* by Glinka, *Symphony No. 13* by Haydn, *Three Preludes and a Rag* by Gershwin, followed by a solo piano piece, to be announced, and the third movement of Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2*.

Tickets—\$3 for RIT students, \$8 for RIT faculty and staff and \$12 for the general public—are for sale at RIT's candy counter and game room. Visa and Mastercard accepted. For more information, call RIT's Center for Campus Life, -7058, or game room, -2239.

NTID receives \$500,000 to work with Hungarian schools

Thanks to a \$500,000 grant from George Soros' Open Society Institute, a first-of-its-kind partnership called Project Access has been formed between the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and the eight schools serving deaf students in Hungary.

The funds will help NTID faculty train Hungarian teachers in the latest information technologies and provide updated curriculum and state-of-the-art computers. Fourteen Hungarian educators recently spent a week at RIT working closely with NTID faculty during the first phase of Project Access. NTID faculty will travel to Hungary in April.

"This new partnership with Hungary demonstrates NTID's commitment to programs that are relevant to the changing occupational needs of society," said Robert Davila, vice president for NTID. "We're looking forward to a long, mutually beneficial relationship."

Hungary was chosen for this project due to OSI's particular interest in Central and Eastern Europe. RIT/NTID was chosen for its international experience and expertise in deafness and advanced technology. Since 1990, RIT has developed technology

transfer projects and educational programs in 10 countries of Central and Eastern Europe. NTID has reciprocal relationships with universities in China, Japan, Russia and Thailand.

Project Access includes four phases: introducing Hungarian faculty to computer and Internet use in educating deaf youth in the United States; installing hardware and software; intensive training for faculty and administrators at each of the schools in Hungary; and developing a Hungarian deaf education home page to be operated by Hungarian teachers and students.

James DeCaro, former dean of NTID, and Kenneth Nash, director of international partnerships, developed the project with Hungarian colleagues Egon Toth, director of the Budapest School for the Deaf, and Istvan Muzsnai, faculty member of the Budapest School for the Deaf.

"Teaching computer technology to our deaf students will greatly enhance their chances of succeeding in the job market," Toth said. "Right now, less than 15 percent of deaf students ever get their high school diploma, and most are employed in vocational trades."

"We're confident NTID's faculty can

help Hungarian teachers and their deaf students realize their full technological potential," said George Soros, chair of OSI, a private operating and grant-making foundation that promotes the development of open societies around the world.



Robert Davila (right), vice president, NTID, and Egon Toth, director, Budapest School for the Deaf, view the Project Access page in NTID's learning center, which includes multi-based technologies.

Free tax assistance

It's tax time again, but have no fear. RIT's College of Business has come to the rescue once more through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program's free help in filling out basic tax returns. Trained hearing and deaf students are available to prepare United States tax returns on Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. and international tax returns on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 12 through April 10, in the RITreat, Student Alumni Union. You'll need to bring this year's tax package, W-2 tax forms from employers, interest statements, last year's tax papers and any other relevant data. For more information, call -6838 or e-mail vita@rit.edu.

M.F.A. shows in Bevier

Starting on March 15, Bevier Gallery hosts the first of three exhibits featuring the work of M.F.A. candidates in the School of Art, School of Design and School for American Crafts. A reception for the first show, which runs through March 31, will be held in the gallery, James E. Booth Building, from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 19. Subsequent exhibits will run through May 12. Bevier Gallery is on the second floor of the James E. Booth Building. For more information and gallery hours, call -2646.

Alternative health fair

RIT's Student Health Center hosts an alternative health fair, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 17, Student Alumni Union lobby. Representatives from Equipoise and Student Health Center, along with massage therapists and yoga and qigong experts, will distribute literature and answer questions. Blood pressure and body-fat screenings will also be available. Information sessions, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 1829 Room, SAU, feature chiropractic, homeopathic and herbal medicine experts.

Social work ethics

A much-revised code-of-ethics document for social workers brought over 200 people to the conference, *Reviewing the Changes in the NASW Code of Ethics*, on Feb. 11 at RIT. Addressing sexual ethics and client boundary-setting, Virginia David of Nazareth College gave the keynote talk. The audience and a panel of social work professionals discussed ethics-committee roles in workplace issues, client-record protection in the age of electronic media and private practitioners' need for legal counsel. The conference was sponsored by RIT, Nazareth, State University of New York at Brockport, Roberts Wesleyan College and Syracuse University.

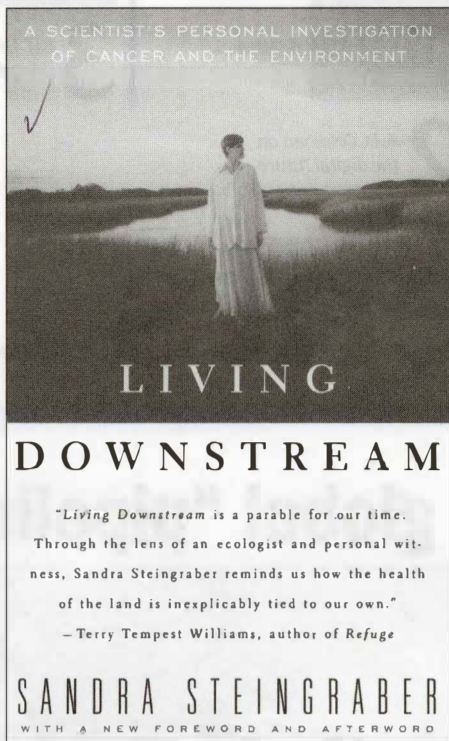
"It was wonderful for our students to see all the schools together representing the social work profession," says Debra Fromm Faria, RIT assistant professor and event co-organizer.

Academy award goes to RIT software grad student

Michael McCrackan, who will receive his M.S. in software development and management in May, has won a Scientific and Engineering Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

The award plaque, one of 14 awarded this year, ranks just below the Oscar for technical achievement. McCrackan and four other Eastman Kodak Co. employees received the honor for design and development of the KodakLightning Laser Recorder, a machine that transfers high-resolution digital motion picture images to motion picture film stock. One of the first projects to make use of the device was the restoration of Walt Disney's *Snow White* in 1992.

Environmental author/biologist addresses cancer links



Living Downstream is a parable for our time. Through the lens of an ecologist and personal witness, Sandra Steingraber reminds us how the health of the land is inexplicably tied to our own.
— Terry Tempest Williams, author of *Refuge*

Sandra Steingraber's acclaimed environmental book on cancer links will be available in Campus Connections bookstore as well as by Webb auditorium the night of her talk, March 18. A reception immediately follows the 7:30 p.m. free Gannett lecture.

Human cancer and the environment—have scientists found links? Can they make connections between baby-boomer women's breast cancer rates tripling that of their grandmothers' and a 50 percent increase in pesticide use since Rachel Carson wrote *Silent Spring* in 1962? Can they link a marked general increase in cancer to the air we breathe, the food we eat, the places we work and play?

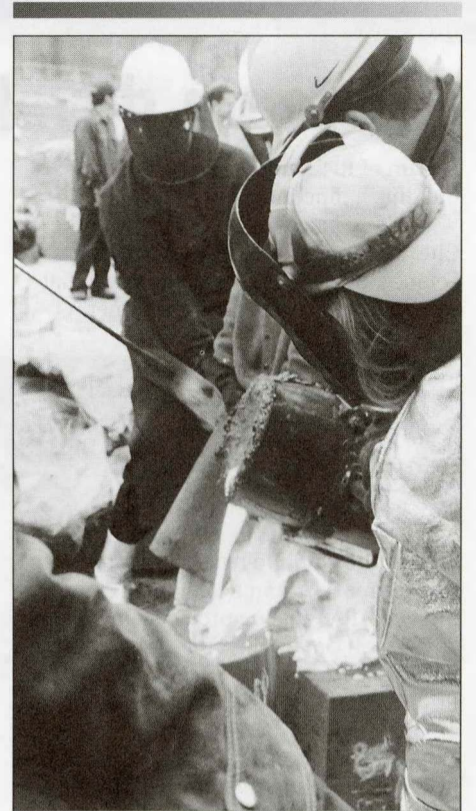
Acclaimed biologist, author, researcher and teacher Sandra Steingraber will discuss such links in her talk, "Living Downstream: Cancer and the Environment," 7:30 p.m., March 18, Webb auditorium, James E. Booth Building. Her talk, cosponsored by the women's studies department, is part of RIT's 1998-99 Caroline Warner Gannett Lecture Series.

Steingraber, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, wrote the data-packed but very personal book, *Living Downstream*, and a poetry volume, *Post-Diagnosis*. Her many endeavors and awards include field work in Minnesota, East Africa and Costa Rica; a Ms. magazine Woman of the Year award in 1997; appointment to the National Action Plan on Breast Cancer; a Will Solimine Award for Excellence in Medical Communication in 1998; and the Jennifer Altman Foundation Award for "the

inspiring and poetic use of science to elucidate the causes of cancer."

"In the United States alone, over 10,000 people die from environmentally induced cancers each year," wrote Steingraber in *Living Downstream*. "What is crucial now is a human rights approach to cancer. Only then can we look toward a time when the release of known and suspected carcinogens is simply unthinkable."

For more information about the free public lecture, call -2929. A reception immediately follows her talk.



POURING IT ON . . . Sculpture students in RIT's School of Art recently traveled to Buffalo where they took part in an invitational cast-iron pour. The three-day event proved itself a wonderful, hands-on learning opportunity for participants. The 1998-99 school year marks the first time that RIT students have been able to major in sculpture.

First CLA undergrad-research event

To celebrate and share their students' diverse research, the College of Liberal Arts presents its first-ever Undergraduate Research Conference in the Liberal Arts on Friday, March 12. The day-long event begins at 8 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. when judges will present awards for outstanding papers.

Arranged in nine sessions, students will give 36 papers representing the disciplines of anthropology, communication, criminal justice, economics, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, philosophy, political science, psychology, science/technology/society, social work, and sociology.

Study in the humanities, social sciences and behavioral sciences have been required foundation work at RIT for all students throughout much of its history.

Yet, with RIT's renown for technology education, the role of liberal arts often gets overlooked, notes Diane Hope, interim dean of the college. But, study in the liberal arts helps prepare future professionals for an increasingly interconnected world, she says. A world where professional ethics and social responsibility must include "intercultural understanding and citizenship in the global economy."

"This research paper conference stresses RIT's recognition of diverse, well-rounded study for all our students," says Hope, a perspective reinforced by the college's spring launch of liberal arts minors.

The conference, open to the public, offers the keynote talk, "Science, Soundbites and Spin: Modern Medicine in the Media," by professional and technical communication alumnus Christopher DiFrancesco at 8:30 a.m. During lunch, students will perform scenes from *A Midsummers Night's Dream* in Fireside Lounge. And the closing reception will feature a performance by RIT's Philharmonia String Quartet and the Eight-Beat Measure singers.

Call Cassandra Shellman, -2076, for more information and to reserve a place at lunch (\$5).

ACS approves new environmental chemistry option

The American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, has certified the department of chemistry's environmental chemistry option.

"We're pleased that this prestigious organization has given its stamp of approval to this new program option," says Gerald Takacs, chemistry department head. The ACS also re-certified the department's chemistry and polymer chemistry programs for another five years.

The environmental chemistry option, introduced in 1997, includes three specialized advanced courses: environmental chemistry, aquatic toxicology and chemistry, and atmospheric chemistry. Students

taking the option also complete required biology and microbiology courses, the environmental studies concentration from the College of Liberal Arts, electives such as field biology, general ecology, introduction to oceanography and others in the College of Science, and environmental management electives offered by the College of Applied Science and Technology.

Three environmental chemists from Eastman Kodak Co., Jim Worman of the chemistry department and John Morelli, head of the environmental management department, worked with Takacs to develop the curriculum. All of the developers of the option have helped teach the advanced environmental chemistry courses.

The environmental chemistry option strengthens RIT's environmental thrust, notes Takacs. Four RIT colleges offer environment-related programs.

Acclaimed photo critic A. D. Coleman on ethics

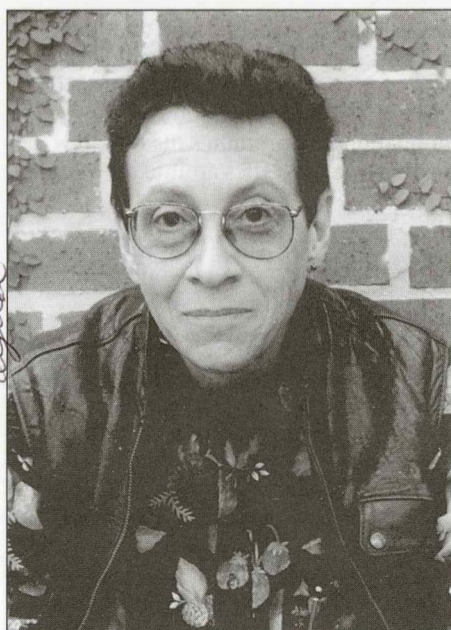


Photo critic A.D. Coleman

He has written columns for both *Village Voice* and *The New York Times*, and penned over 200 reviews for the *New York Observer*. His books, *Critical Focus: Photography in the International Image*

Community, Depth of Field and *Light Readings*, are often required texts for photography students worldwide. And though some may disagree with his criticisms, no one questions that they're based on solid and thorough knowledge of his subjects.

Now, well-known photo critic A.D. Coleman comes to RIT, where he will examine central questions of ethics, politics and philosophy that emerge from what he calls "the digital evolution." He will present ways to consider those concerns in light of the earlier model provided by photography, whose introduction into western culture almost 160 years ago raised parallel concerns.

"Analogizing the Digital: Issues for a Medium in Transition," part of the Charles Arnold Lecture Series, is sponsored by the department of applied photography, School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

The free, public talk begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. Copies of his most recent books will be available for purchase before and after the lecture, and Coleman will stay for a book signing following his presentation. Call -2770 for more information.

Grant for voice-recognition use in closed captioning

A project to develop a new closed-captioning system for instructional videos is getting a boost from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation.

Chemistry professor Robert Paine will receive \$30,688 from the foundation's Special Grant Program in the Chemical Sciences to use voice-recognition technology for instantaneous closed captioning.

Paine says such a system could greatly reduce the video-captioning production cost and effort while speeding up the process. Currently, it requires listening to the tapes and adding the captions; voice-recognition software could do the job automatically and instantaneously.

Paine will speak on his work in March at "Technology and Persons with Disabilities: Where Assistive Technology Meets the Information Age," a conference at the California State University Center on Disabilities.

United Way '99 campaign launches with food gala



Posters detailing how the United Way has specifically helped four RIT staff members and their families will go up around campus during the campaign. Last year, 434 members of the RIT community benefited from services provided by United Way-funded agencies.

The time has arrived once again to open your mouths and your hearts for a good cause. During "A Taste of RIT," 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, you can sample more than 100 treats from 16 vendors for \$3.50.

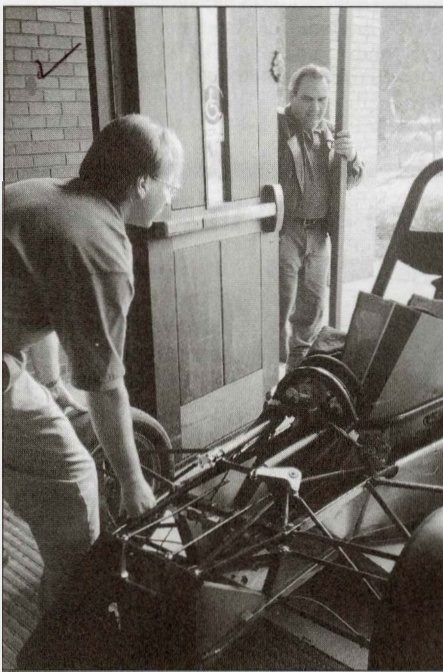
The event kicks off RIT's 1999 United Way campaign, which runs through April 16. This year's goal, established by a 20-member steering committee made up of faculty and staff, is \$212,000—an increase of 9.6 percent over last year.

Last year, 434 members of the RIT community benefited from services provided by United Way-funded agencies. This year's campaign once again focuses on giving people information to increase their awareness of the role the United Way plays in greater Rochester and in the lives of their friends and co-workers.

Committee members are asking those

who haven't made donations before to consider doing so and those who give annually to think about increasing their donations. Bob Baker, campaign chair, reminds people that of donations made, 92 percent goes directly toward service-provider programs as opposed to overhead costs.

For more information on RIT's 1999 United Way campaign, check out the Web site at: www.rit.edu/UR/GOV/united.html.



RACEY RELATIONS... A student-built Formula SAE race car from a past season has found a temporary home in the Bausch & Lomb rotunda (building 77). Getting the car into the building took a bit of work, but the display provides excellent visibility for a popular student project. The building is visited daily by perspective students and families and representatives of companies recruiting on campus. The Formula team is hard at work building a new car for the 1999 competition May 19-23 at the Silverdome in Pontiac, Mich.

Entrepreneur to give 'how-to' advice

If questions about starting a business or effective leadership are on your mind, be sure to attend a free talk sponsored by RIT's College of Business quality management team. The team hosts a presentation by Joseph Lobo, president and CEO of JML Optical Industries, Inc. and graduate of RIT's Executive M.B.A. program, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 17, room 1215, Max Lowenthal Building, followed by a reception in room 1105. The talk and reception are open to the RIT community.

In addition to discussions on entrepreneurship and leadership, Lobo will focus on how to build and operate a successful business domestically and internationally while still maintaining a fulfilling personal life.

Lobo began JML Optical Industries, Inc., a Rochester-based manufacturer and designer of precision optical lenses, in 1972 in his basement at the age of 28. Starting out with only \$10,000, he used his

keen business instincts to quickly grow JML Optical into a company with 85 employees and net sales of \$13 million. He also chairs the United Way of Greater Rochester and is on the boards of trustees for Strong Memorial Hospital and Visiting Nurse Service. A seasoned runner, he has run in every New York City Marathon for the past 15 years.

"We intend for Mr. Lobo to share the wealth of information he has gained through his business and personal endeavors," says Ray DeJohn, student and president of the team. "Ultimately, we want to enhance the students' college experience and give them the managerial tools they can apply to their own careers."

For more information, call Donna Slavin, -2199.

Leenhouts win Vandenbrul Award



Norman and Nelson Leenhouts, 1999 Vandenbrul Award winners

Home Properties of New York, Inc., a Rochester-based real estate investment trust firm, has become one of the regions most successful and respected organizations. As a result, Norman and Nelson Leenhouts, the company's leaders, have won the 1999 Herbert W. Vandenbrul Entrepreneurial Award, given by the College of Business.

RIT honors the Leenhouts Wednesday, March 24, with an invite-only luncheon in the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies. They will give the keynote presentation, open to the public, at 2:30 p.m. in room 1215, Max Lowenthal Building.

"The Herbert W. Vandenbrul Award symbolizes the links that join RIT and the Rochester business community," says Thomas Hopkins, interim dean, College of Business. "The Leenhouts exemplify the essence of this award—keen management skills and business savvy, together with innovation and the practical application of higher learning."

Norman Leenhouts serves as chairman and co-CEO of Home Properties and focuses on acquisitions, while his identical-twin brother, Nelson, is president and co-CEO and takes the lead on property management. The company operates 260 communities containing 34,427 apartment units and manages 1.7 million square feet of commercial space. According to *Rochester Business Journal's* "Rochester Top 50" publication, Home Properties, whose stock is traded on both the New York and Berlin Stock Exchanges, ranks second among local public companies in earnings, sales and employment growth. Since going public in 1994, the company has acquired \$750 million worth of apartments.

"During 1998, Home Properties generated some of the best results we've had in over 30 years of operation," say the Leenhouts. "Our decentralized structure provides employees with the appropriate tools, authority and motivation to exceed expectations for residents and meet the goals of our investors. We also take great pride in building customer loyalty and our commitment to customer service."

The Herbert W. Vandenbrul Entrepreneurial Award, created at RIT in 1984, goes annually to an individual who successfully developed a business that improved the Rochester economy or whose innovative management skills have changed the course of an existing business. Past winners include: Dilip Vellodi, The Sutherland Group, Ltd.; L. Michael Hone and Jay M. Eastman, PSC, Inc.; Valerie Mannix, Mercury Print Productions; and Charles and Burton August, Monro Muffler Brake, Inc.

Applications are under review for the Vandenbrul Student Entrepreneurial Award, given annually to RIT undergraduate or graduate students who display enterprising management ability.

A swingin' time ahead for the 14th RITz gala

"Swingin' 2 the Future" is the theme for the final "Puttin' on the RITz" dinner of the millennium. The 14th annual gala takes place March 27 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, 123 E. Main St. in downtown Rochester. The evening begins at 6:30 with a reception in the

Riverside Court, followed at 7:15 by dinner in the Highland Ballroom. The grazing-style meal will feature salads, seafood, pasta and carved meats and poultry, with a grand finale of extravagant desserts.

Food, hotel and travel management students will create all the foods.

Tickets are \$35 for the reception only, \$85 for alumni, spouses or parents, or \$125 for other guests. For tickets and more information, call -2608.



Cerio wins prized dietetic educator-of-the-year award

Barbra Cerio, assistant professor in food, hotel and travel management, has won a New York State Dietetic Association's Educator of the Year award.

Cerio will receive the honor in the "didactic program in dietetics" category, one of four educator awards given annually by the organization.

The nominees are judged on professional activities, awards and honors received, publications and presentations and recommendations from students.

"The letters from Barb's students were very impressive," says Anne Kendall of Cornell University, the immediate past president of the association and this year's awards chair.

One student wrote, "If ever anyone epitomizes the term 'teacher' it is Barbra," and praised her "dynamic classroom presence" and her mentoring outside the classroom.

Cerio also has been nominated for Educator of the Year for the Northeast Region of the American Dietetics Association.

Heart Walk '99

Make plans to stroll with the RIT team during the American Heart Association Heart Walk '99, scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 20, at Monroe Community College. The annual 5K walk raises money to fight heart disease and stroke in the community and helps build "out of classroom" relationships between students and faculty/staff. To register, contact Tom Richardson at -7486, tmrslc@rit.edu, or Hamad Ghazle at -2241, hghscl@rit.edu.

Nomination forms are in the Student Affairs office, room 2410, Student Alumni Union, the circulation desk of Wallace Library and SAU information desk. To know more, call Frank Lamas, assistant vice president, Student Affairs, -2268 V/TTY.

Design students place

The National Paperbox Association bestowed honors on RIT at its national student competition in Virginia in January. Shawn Fadden and Melissa Huffman, School of Design students, placed second and third, respectively, in the rigid box category. The pair's efforts were supported by Lorrie Frear, a lecturer in the graphic design program, and the Paul T. Freund Corporation in Palmyra, which sponsored them.

RIT's "Rising Star"

Douglas Kirkland, the exclusive photographer on the movie set of *Titanic*, chose a recent RIT graduate to receive the "Rising Star" award during Fotofusion '99—an annual imaging festival presented by Palm Beach Photographic Centre. Keisha Scarville, biomedical photographic communications alumna, was chosen as an artist whose work promises to influence the future of photographic arts.

CQAS co-presents 55th Annual Quality Conference

RIT's John D. Hromi Center for Quality and Applied Statistics joins with the Rochester Section of the American Society for Quality to present the 55th Annual Quality Conference this month.

Set for Tuesday, March 30, at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center, the conference is dedicated to the memory of Mason Wescott, who died last year. He taught mathematics and statistics for 60 years and helped build RIT's graduate statistics program.

The conference features 20 presentations by CQAS faculty members and industry representatives on topics such as Implementing a Quality Culture, Six Sigma, Customer-Focused TQM Tools, and Chaos and Complexity in Software.

RIT President Albert Simone will give the welcome, and Edward Schilling and John Hromi of CQAS will present a remembrance of Wescott. The luncheon speaker is A. Blanton Godfrey, chair and CEO of the Juran Institute Inc. and former head of the quality theory and technology department of AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Registration is \$85, or \$95 after March 19. For more information, call Mary Kane of the American Society for Quality, Rochester Section, at 467-5318.

CQAS is sponsoring two more conferences this spring:

- April 22: The 13th Annual Quality Engineering by Design Symposium promotes the use of experimental design methods through examples of their effective use in industry. Call Tom Barker at -6005 for information.

- June 15: The fourth annual conference on Practical Software Quality: Processes, People and Tools, will be applicable to small and large organizations. For information, contact Donald Baker at -5070 or e-mail to ddbca@rit.edu.

News makers

• **Marcia Birken**, professor, mathematics and statistics, was an invited panelist and facilitator at the Fourth International Conference on Asynchronous Learning Networks in New York City in November. She also presented a talk, "Teaching Calculus III and IV over the Rochester Area Interactive Television Network" at the National Mathematical Association of America and American Mathematical Society joint meetings in San Antonio in January.

• **Andrew Davidhazy**, professor, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, published an article, "In-camera Masking with 35mm Cameras," in the Jan/Feb 1999 issue of *Photography Educators Association Journal*. The article describes a technique previously only attempted with large-format cameras.

• **Eugene Fram**, professor, College of Business, has been named co-chairperson of the Alliance for Children and Families, an international nonprofit organization representing child- and family-serving organizations in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Canada.

• **Richard Hirsch**, professor, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, has recently had his work featured in the books *American Ceramic Artists Today*, *Ceramic Form and Hands in Clay*.

• **Satish Kandlikar**, professor, mechanical engineering, has been named a fellow of ASME International (American Society of Mechanical Engineers). The fellow grade is conferred upon a member with at least 10

years active engineering practice who has made significant contributions to the field.

• **Richard Zakia**, professor emeritus in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, received the Golden Career Award at Fotofusion '99. The honor goes annually to a person who has significantly contributed to the field of photography. A faculty member since 1958, Zakia has also been an Eisenhart Award recipient.

• **Janet Zandy**, associate professor, College of Liberal Arts, organized a panel and presented a paper, "What Makes a Text Working Class?" at the Modern Language Association conference. She also had a collective reading from her book, *Liberating Memory*, at the New College in San Francisco in December.

Photo students' work stars once again in Rochester Gas and Electric's calendar



Heidi Powers' photograph illustrates the month of February 1999; part of RG&E's calendar.

the Ginna Nuclear Power Station with emergency planning information.

"It's just a wonderful opportunity for students," says Steve Diehl, associate professor who has taught the Nature Photography class in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences for the past 17 years. "RG&E keeps coming back to us. So it's really exciting to know that our RIT students are able to compete with professionals."

Diehl, photographic editor for the

project, says that the number of images submitted for consideration for the 1999 calendar was up considerably over last year, making the selection process even tougher.

Helping the project along once again were two RIT alumni—Mike Lynch, owner

of Lynch Creative Services, and Franklin Orienter, coordinator of radiological safety communications at RG&E.

The RIT photographers in the calendar are: Mary Webb, Heidi Powers, Deron Berkhof, Patricia Wilder, Mark Sager, Ryan McFadden, Linda Crawford and John Williamson. They each received a \$100 gift certificate to Campus Connections as well as a great portfolio piece.

Plans are underway for the 2000 calendar.

The 1999 Rochester Gas and Electric calendar features the photographic work of RIT students and alumni for the third year in a row. Using 13 full-color seasonal images, RG&E has found an interesting and enduring way to provide neighbors of



LOVERS OF THE RAIL... Devoted to a resurging American hobby, members of RIT's Model Railroad Club run their trains for hours during quarterly open houses. Students Otto Vondrak, graphic design, Joe Wolff, electrical engineering technology, and Ryan Kane, environmental science, help run the exhibit in the club's quarters, room A420, Student Alumni Union.

"pipeline to the stars" (continued from page 1)

were taught is perfect for what we want to do. We were able to sit down and start working, from day one."

The CARA Pipeline is paving the way for a project with NASA. CIS will develop a similar system for SOFIA, the Stratospheric

Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, an airborne telescope.

But Gatley believes the method of building a strong, interdisciplinary team to work on complex, multi-faceted projects may ultimately be more important than any one project. "This has been a prototype in knowledge networking," he says, noting that the network in this case extends beyond RIT to people in other parts of the world working on other aspects of the project.

"We've taken a manufacturing approach, a production-line approach, and it happens to be a very good way to get a lot of very good work accomplished."

Reception event set for faculty/staff innovators

RIT salutes faculty and staff who submitted project proposals in 1998 with a reception event, Industry—Innovation—Impact, 3 to 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 9, lobby and auditorium of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. More than 100 members of the RIT community offered ideas last year for funding through the Institute's grants, contracts and intellectual property department.

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the event includes project exhibits, project presentations by Jeff Pelz, Patricia Pitkin and Michael Robertson, and Marie Giardino and comments by Albert Simone, Stanley McKenzie, Gary Conners and Marjorie Zack. For more information, contact Carol Matthews, -7983 or cemgcp@rit.edu.

RIT teams in tournaments

RIT women and men's hockey teams will host Eastern College Athletic Conference playoff games this week while men's basketball hits the road for the NCAA tournament. Wednesday, the women hosted Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in a first round.

The men host the ECAC West Tournament as the #1 seed. RIT plays #4 Hobart, 7:30 p.m. Friday. The championship is slated for 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

Men's basketball, seeded #6, will play in the NCAA Tournament, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at SUNY Cortland, seeded #3.



GLASSY EYED... Visitors had much to see, including these beautiful glass pieces, during the School for American Crafts winter walk-through. Hundreds of works by students in the school's glass, metal, wood and ceramics programs were on display, oftentimes accompanied by the artists' sketches and models.

RIT College Bowl winners

RIT again sent students to the regional College Bowl championships held Feb 20-21 at Cornell University, this year fielding a deaf team who had won the preliminaries on campus.

Katie Hoheusle, Kevin Bernadt, Danny Milliken and Billy Huber, four National Technical Institute for the Deaf students, beat 15 other RIT teams on Jan. 23 in the popular question-and-answer game of general knowledge and quick recall. The team, "Last Minute Winners," read the questions on an overhead projector and communicated through an interpreter," explains Julie Morgan, coordinator of campus life programs.

Remarkably, the team registered for the RIT competition at the last minute and claimed victory without any preparation. Though the team expected to be more prepared for the Cornell contest by reviewing old questions and rummaging through books and Web sites, they lost in the 16-team tournament, ending their run for the national championship.

Still, the effort was worth it, says Huber. "We really enjoyed meeting our challengers at Cornell and the opportunity to represent RIT."

For their RIT win, the team members each received a \$200 gift certificate to Campus Connections.

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