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Trustees examine shared governance; updated on strategic plan

It was a busy two days for RIT's trustees during their board meeting on campus Nov. 14-15. Activities included breakfast roundtable discussions with RIT's Distinguished Professors and students, an update on the strategic plan implementation, an overview on the Executive MBA program, and participating in a cornerstone ceremony for CIMS (see separate story on page 3).

A panel discussion on shared governance generated strong differences of opinion about this inclusive style of campus governance as compared to a typical business model of leadership.

Representatives in the panel discussion, moderated by President Simone, were: trustees Thomas Curley and William Buckingham; Cindee Gray, chair of Staff Council; Walter McCanna, chair of the Frank D. Bertch Center for Business Ethics in the College of Business; Laura Tubbs, professor of chemistry in the College of Science; Rhoshawndra Carnes, president pro tempore of Student Government; and Linda Kuk, vice president for Student Affairs, representing RIT administration.

Curley questioned the length of time it took to make a decision within the shared governance framework. "If you have to struggle this long on these issues, you're never going to get to leadership," Curley said in a discussion of current RIT issues.

McCanna, however, characterized shared governance as "very logical." It pushes the decisions down to those "who are on top of the issues," he said. "The time these decisions take is worth it. It gives committees time to chew over proposals with 'someone at the top that keeps pushing' so the process doesn't get bogged down."

Kuk called shared governance a "participative government tool" enhancing



Janet Sansone, vice president of Human Resources, Frontier Corporation, looks at a model of the College of Science addition, part of the Design and Construction Services exhibit. Various displays were set up during the Board of Trustees meeting allowing them to view the many services of the Finance and Administration Division.

communication; it "doesn't make sense to some in business—but we are not a business." Kuk says most higher education has some sort of shared governance. "It's a way of improving the quality of decisions," she said "Unless we share information and create dialogue then we've missed the point of what shared governance is here to do."

Each presented their views of shared governance and discussed its role in three RIT issues: physical education course requirements, policy prohibiting discrimination and sexual harassment, and the search for a chief information officer. "Many universities are in turmoil," the president said in opening the discussion. "Governance is at the heart of the trouble

and also at the heart of the solution."

In another meeting, William Dempsey, vice president of Finance and Administration, gave trustees an overview of the division. He told trustees his division is a partner in providing lifelong education to students; it delivers high quality services and responsible stewardship of the university's human, financial, physical and information resources.

Dempsey highlighted the valuable work done by employees in his division, and mentioned several interesting facts:

- the Controller's division issues 60,000 checks and reviews 1,300 travel reports each year
- Food Service serves 10,000 meals per day, 3.5 million per year (50,000 pounds of chicken wings and 246,000 slices of pizza)
- Campus Connections has annual sales of \$9.7 million and is 16th in sales per student among 3,000 college stores
- Personnel is responsible for the operation and interpretation of more than 60 Institute policies and procedures
- Business Process and Audit is responsible for monitoring 400 departments, 59,000 accounts and 370,000 transactions
- Institutional Research writes approximately 150 computer programs a year with an estimated 50,000 lines of code using 6 major databases
- Physical Plant, through an Institute-wide recycling effort, has reduced waste hauling by 529 tons per year.

The trustees also completed their "Journey Through Deaf Heritage and Culture," which started at its April 1996 meeting, by focusing upon communication and language diversity among deaf students. The activity concluded with a dialogue regarding how trustees can continue to promote and foster a greater seamlessness with regard to deaf and hard-of-hearing students being served at RIT.



AND A PARTRIDGE IN A PVC TUBE . . . Well, not quite. Weaving and textile design students Jennifer Ziehl (left) and Jenny Fox chose a "Gen X Christmas" theme when asked to make an original, reproducible wreath—for under \$25—for a Rochester Democrat & Chronicle feature story. They spurned mother nature for materials, instead prowling the aisles of Chase Pitkin and Wal-Mart, where they found two sizes of clear plastic tube, ribbon, duct tape and confetti snow. "I think it's pretty cool; I'll hang it on my room door," says Ziehl.

Former President Bush to be honored

RIT's 1997 Commencement will star former President George Bush. He will be honored during the academic convocation on Friday, May 23. Look for more information on President Bush's visit in future issues of *News & Events*.



A holiday message from the President

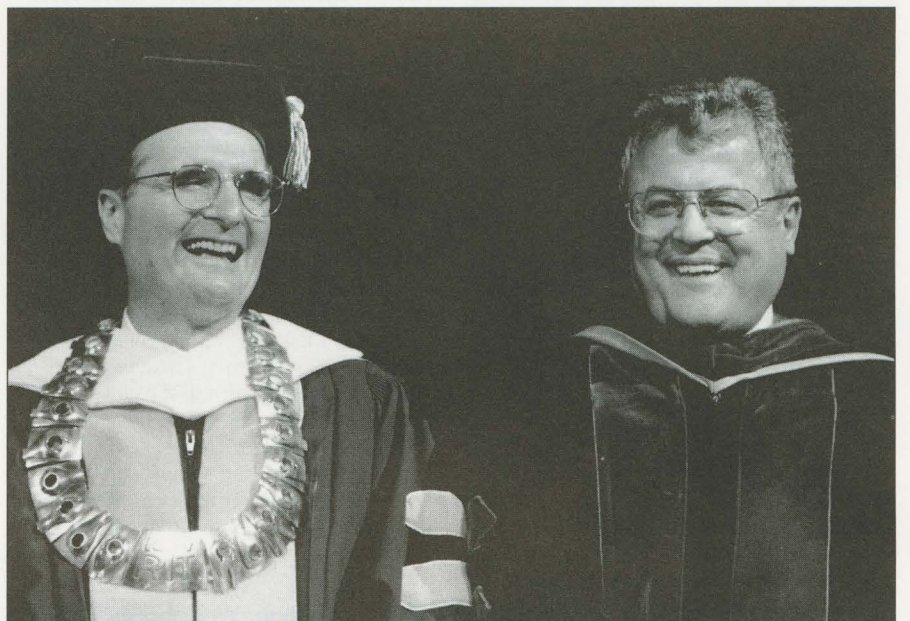
During this holiday season, Carolie and I send you our best wishes and hopes for a happy and healthy 1997.

I am proud of the RIT family and thankful for all we have accomplished in the past year. We are boldly moving forward into a new year and a bright future for our students, based on the solid foundation we are now building for their success.

The RIT spirit is driving this campus to new heights and the holiday time provides us each with the space to reflect on our accomplishments, renew and recharge during the holiday break, and return to campus revitalized and ready to put our hopes for the future into action!

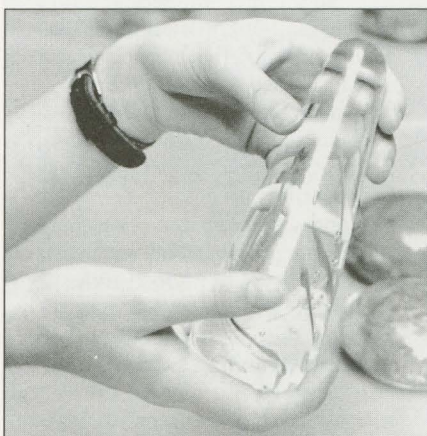
Enjoy your holiday break and time spent with friends and loved ones. I look forward to 1997!

Albert J. Simone



ENJOYING THE MOMENT . . . President Simone (left) and Robert Davila, vice president for NTID, laugh at remarks made by I. King Jordan, president of Gallaudet University, during Davila's installation as vice president Nov. 8.

Escape the malls Students offer crafts for holiday gift-giving



Unique glass paperweights are among crafts available at the annual student sale, Dec. 12-13.

If Aunt Bess or Grampa Bob "have everything," holiday shoppers should forget the malls and check out the annual School for American Crafts student sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thurs., Dec. 12, and Fri., Dec. 13, in the Student Alumni Union. They'll undoubtedly find one-of-a-kind gifts—like silver-wrought earrings, handknit hats and woven scarves, clever wood creations, ceramic wares and sparkling blown-glass ornaments.

Prices, based on student experience, materials and time invested, typically range from \$10 to \$50. Many of the SAC students, from first-year to graduate level, rely on the sale to defray expenses throughout the school year.

Check cancellations on weather hotline

Worried about how you'll know if RIT closes due to inclement weather? RIT's Office of Telecommunications Services announces a new way to check the impact of snowfall on class schedules. It set up two telephone hotlines—one for voice and one for TTY—that will report any weather-related cancellations.

The Institute Closing and Cancellation Hotline can be reached at 475-7075 (voice) and 475-7076 (TTY). RIT will update hotline messages as necessary. You can also find the same information on RIT's web page, by clicking the "News" button on the home page and then checking "Closings and Cancellations." Area radio stations will also carry announcements about any class or event cancellations.

Library distributing survey to users

Wallace Library's staff wants to hear from you. They invite faculty, staff and students to fill out a user services survey which will assess patron's satisfaction and needs for overall library resources and services. The survey will be distributed throughout winter and spring quarters.

Wallace just completed its customer assessment survey, which measures the effectiveness of the library's direct service desk areas, in November. Survey results from previous years have led Wallace to add a number of significant improvements to the library (see Nov. 7 *News & Events*), including lengthening library hours and revamping signage.

Dual degree program offered in Printing

A new dual degree program makes it easier and faster for students to earn a bachelor's degree in printing management and an MBA in business management. Under the dual degree program, qualifying students from RIT's School of Printing Management and Sciences can complete both degrees in five years rather than the usual six.

Anyone interested in the program can attend an information session at 5 p.m. on Thurs., Dec. 12, in room 1104 of the Frank E. Gannett Building. For more information, call Professor Len Leger at -6026 or e-mail at LWLPPR@rit.edu.

Paine works on NTID Dodge Grant

Robert Paine, professor of chemistry, wants to make distance learning videotapes more efficient for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. As this year's recipient of NTID's Ronald D. Dodge Memorial Grant, Paine hopes to modify existing voice translation software and equipment to enable instantaneous, "real-time" closed captioning. Currently, NTID students must wait for videotapes to be transcribed and captioned or work with an interpreter when viewing non-transcribed tapes.

Beginning with his Chemistry I courses this fall, Paine collaborated with the Education Technology Center to test captioning methods on course videotapes throughout the year. NTID students will evaluate the effectiveness of the captioning. If successful, Paine believes the software could be modified to translate lectures into other languages.

The Ronald D. Dodge Memorial Endowment Fund supports projects by RIT faculty members to improve the effectiveness of teaching deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

Annual Review of Faculty begins this month

Starting this month, the Institute Policy on Annual Review of Faculty goes into effect following its recommendation by Academic Senate and approval by President Simone and Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. The annual review is the first policy gener-

ated by Academic Senate on an academic matter.

The policy—beginning with the Dec. 1, 1996, through Nov. 30, 1997, review period—"establishes guidelines to evaluate the performance of each faculty member against established Institute criteria and in

accordance with the mission and goals of the department, college and Institute."

"The most important aspect of this policy is the institutional recognition of the intrinsic relationship between faculty evaluation and faculty development," McKenzie says.

The policy mandates each college to establish a committee to distribute faculty development funds provided annually by the Institute. Faculty members must submit an approved plan of work, identifying areas of development meeting Institute educational goals, or department, college or Institute strategic plans, to be eligible to apply for assistance, that can include collegial mentoring, opportunities to take courses, release time, financial assistance, tutoring or supplies.



CLAY: A GIFT IN HER HANDS . . . Ceramist Vesta E. Adu-Gyamfi, M.F.A. 1988, *School for American Crafts*, presented "Celebrating Womanhood Through Pottery" on Oct. 24, a part of RIT's Distinguished Alumni Colloquia Series. A native of Ghana, Adu-Gyamfi draws her work from the mystique of women in her world, in matrilineal societies. "I try to project the great responsibilities of being female, from birth to death. How the earth, the sea, everything, is related to woman." A 1995-96 J. William Fulbright Senior Scholar, she has exhibited her work around the world.

Tiger teams score winning season

RIT sent three varsity teams to postseason play, in one of the most successful autumns in the university's sports history.

The men's cross country team placed 13th in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III championships at Rock Island, Ill. Senior captain Tony Fraij led the way by finishing third among the 173 runners entered in the 8,000-meter race.

The women's volleyball team placed in the top 16 before losing to SUNY Cortland in the NCAA Division III New York Region final. Under first-year coach Tim Cowie, the Tigers finished 26-14 for their first winning season since 1993. All 12 players are expected back next season. The young Tiger team placed three women on the all-region team—sophomores Krissy Caton and Tracy Wilt, and freshman Ushi Patel.

The first-year men's and women's varsity crews featured several highlights. At Rochester's first Stonehurst regatta, co-hosted by RIT, the men's heavyweight eight crew placed third in the college division. The Tigers went on and tied for seventh place overall in the Head of the Fish Regatta; the men's novice eight crew won its race. The women's crew placed first in the Wiley Chase Novice Regatta.

The women's soccer team had its first winning regular season since 1990 (6-5-3), winning a berth in the New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association tournament. The Tigers lost in the opening round to Nazareth. Senior-year goalie, Allison St. Amand, led the defense-minded RIT team. She set Institute records for saves in a game (26), season (221), career (659) and for fewest goals allowed in a season (16).

All of the Tiger teams boasted winning records during the fall season. The men's soccer team, under first-year coach Bill Garo, finished 7-7-1. In Ann Nealon's 26th season, the women's tennis team went 4-4 and placed 15th in the NYSWCAA tournament.

Based on preseason rankings, the Tigers' winter teams might surpass fall season's success. The men's basketball, hockey and wrestling teams all received rankings among the top 20 in the nation. The women's hockey team, last season's runner-up in the Eastern College Hockey Alliance, is out to challenge Middlebury for this year's title. The men's hockey team—led by junior Steve Toll, who scored at least three goals in each of the first four games—is off to a 4-0 start.

Menorah lighting celebrates Hanukkah

RIT Hillel invites the campus community to celebrate the beginning of Hanukkah at the Menorah lighting at 4 p.m., Fri., Dec. 6, in the Student Alumni Union lobby. Later that evening at 6 p.m. there will be a Shabbat dinner in the Skalny Room; to make reservations, call Kip Lombardo, campus minister and coordinator of RIT's Hillel program, at -2135.

'A Christmas Carol' comes to Ingle

A classic Christmas story will come to life at RIT. Brimming with the songs and sight of an old-fashioned Christmas, the Nebraska Theatre Caravan will perform "A Christmas Carol," at 7:30 p.m. on Fri., Dec. 13, in Ingle Auditorium, presented by the Center for Campus Life's 1996-97 Cultural Spotlight Series.

The Caravan's Carol features elegant costumes and authentic sets to recreate London of the 1800s. The Caravan has been touring Charles Jones' original adaptation of the Dickens fable since 1979. It performs the play annually to more than 120,000 people in more than 60 cities across the United States.

Tickets—\$5 for students, \$7 for faculty and staff, and \$3 for children under the age of 12—are available at the CAB office, room A-402, Student Alumni Union. For more information, call -2509.

Campus Connections to host Appreciation Day

Campus Connections will hold its annual Student, Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 12.

During the event, student, faculty and staff shoppers will receive a 10 percent discount on most items (for faculty and staff, that's in addition to their usual discount). Excluded from the sale are computer hardware and software, textbooks, photography equipment, special orders and Institute purchases.

Along with the special prices there will be door prizes, and holiday treats, compliments of RIT Food Service.

Also on Dec. 12, just down the hall from the bookstore in the Student Alumni Union cafeteria, Food Service will offer a special entree in celebration of the holidays.

Student honored for animated film with coveted Princess Grace Award

A School of Photographic Arts and Sciences' film/video graduate student received one of the highly regarded Princess Grace Awards at the national ceremony held Oct. 8 at Chanel's in New York City. George Nadeau received the "Graduate Film Honorarium"—the only one given for an animated film—from the hands of Isabella Rossellini.

His winning movie, *Nightlight*, also won a second place for animation at the 19th annual New York State Student Film and Video Festival, sponsored by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers and the Rochester Audiovisual Association, on Sept. 10. In 1995, he won film honors in four competitions.

The Princess Grace Awards—begun in 1984 in memory of Princess Grace of

Monaco who avidly supported "emerging young artists"—grants awards in film, theatre and dance.

"It was an incredible experience being there with all those famous people," says

Nadeau, who fell speechless when asked to describe getting his award from Rossellini.

"She's unbelievable." Other notables at the ceremony included presenters Tony

Randall, Edward Villella, Jennifer Grant, Anton Katz and Prince Albert and Princess Caroline of Monaco. Among the awards patrons were Neil Simon, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Cappola and Arthur Loeb. Hillary Rodham Clinton served as honorary chair of the awards, and the Arts Advisory Board included Placido Domingo, Gregory Peck and Frank Sinatra.


FOR ASPIRING YOUNG THEATER, DANCE AND FILM ARTISTS IN AMERICA

Cornerstone ceremony: CIMS 'making a difference' to industry

"RIT should stand for 'really in touch' with the real world," says Carl Kohrt, executive vice president, Eastman Kodak Company. He praised the Institute's leadership in making a difference in the manufacturing community, during the installation of the cornerstone for the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies. The 1996 stone was installed during ceremonies held Nov. 14, in conjunction with RIT's Board of Trustees meeting.

Kohrt delivered the keynote address at an event attended by trustees, state legislators, and representatives from some of the key corporations who have supported CIMS. Introducing Kohrt, President Simone noted that, "One of the very first companies to come to the support of the CIMS proposal was Eastman Kodak Company. They have contributed more than \$5 million to this project, including

the funding of an endowed professorship. They are the largest private supporter of this initiative."

Kohrt urged those in attendance to walk around the labs and bays at CIMS, and talk with students and staff. "You will find what good colleges and universities produce: bright minds that are fully engaged," says Kohrt. "There is no place like CIMS in this country. As far as I know there is no place like it in the world. This is one more way that



Eastman Kodak's Carl Kohrt, CIMS Director Judith Gustinis and President Simone were joined by a number of state legislators in placing the cornerstone in its permanent location.

RIT is leading the way."

The center's director, Judith Gustinis, agreed that "there is nothing quite like CIMS anywhere in the U.S.: a 157,000-square-foot building located on a university campus dedicated to industry." Gustinis says that by the first of the year, the first manufacturing bay—

CIMSprint—will be fully operational and that in the next two years CIMS will offer world class facilities for remanufacturing, advanced integrated manufacturing,

robust design and integrated electronics manufacturing.

Both Simone and William Whiteside, chairman of RIT's Board of Trustees, praised the partnerships that helped create CIMS, including the collaboration between the colleges of Engineering and Applied Science and Technology and the federal and state governments. Funding for the \$21 million facility was provided almost equally between the two—\$9.5 million came from the State of New York. Another \$11.25 million was provided by the Federal Government.

The formal dedication for CIMS is planned for May 1997.

Film pieces together defining six weeks in China's history

In 1989, The People's Republic of China rocked under student protests and political unrest. The media gleaned some live footage, but couldn't tell the whole story behind the complex political and cultural process that led to the Beijing massacre on June 4.

Independent filmmaker Richard Gordon, alumnus of RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, has spent the past six years with director Carma Hinton and a team of international scholars, pouring over 250 hours of historical and contemporary archival footage. Their



Chinese students protest during the 1989 Beijing crisis. Taken from filmmaker Richard Gordon's documentary, *The Gate of Heavenly Peace*.



RIT alumnus Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton, producers of the documentary, *The Gate of Heavenly Peace*.

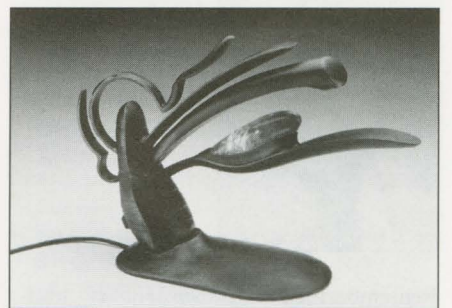
goal: "to construct the most complete and accurate picture to date of the 1989 events and their historical context." Ultimately, they produced *The Gate of Heavenly Peace*, a three-hour documentary film about those historic six weeks.

Gordon brings the film—co-directed and co-produced with Hinton who was born in China to American parents, and raised and educated there—to RIT on Tues., Dec. 17, in the auditorium of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. After a 4:30 p.m. public reception, Gordon briefly talks at 5 p.m. The film runs 5:30–8 (a 2½-hour version). The evening is free and is part of RIT's Distinguished Alumni Colloquia Series.

The film drew reviews from many major media including *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *The Boston Globe*,

Time and *Newsweek*, which said "... a deep, powerful and rivetingly complex study of Tiananmen ... *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* will prove controversial in the West as well, for it shows that the student movement was divided against itself, with some of its most influential leaders hoping for carnage." *Time* described it as "a compelling new documentary film that is the most objective study so far of the political storms that swept across China six years ago..."

Gordon and Hinton have made six other films on China, including *One Village in China* (1987), broadcast on A&E, BBC and PBS. "We work to get close to the people," writes Gordon, versus the dehumanizing "masses" perception the West has of China.



Sean Calyer's "Lamp One"

RIT's Bevier Gallery presents "One-of-a-Kind" from Dec. 13 to Jan. 22—an exhibit of metal and wood sculpture and furniture by crafts artists Sean Calyer, Eck Follen, Paul Knoblauch and Charles Swanson. Their exhibit exemplifies "a rising second generation of artists in the tradition of Wendell Castle and Albert Paley (both artists-in-residence in the School for American Crafts)," say the exhibitors in their show materials. The opening public reception is set for 5–7 p.m. on Fri., Dec. 13.

The artists, all with strong links to Rochester, work mainly in metal, creating both fanciful and functional furniture. Calyer and Knoblauch work at Albert Paley's Rochester studio and also maintain individual studios. Swanson and Follen, husband and wife, teach at Rhode Island School of Design and Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, respectively, as well as design and produce their art. Swanson studied with Wendell Castle, renowned Scottsville wood sculptor.

Hours for the Bevier Gallery, James E. Booth Building, are: Dec. 13–Jan. 22 (gallery closed Dec. 21–Jan. 5); Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Mon.–Thurs. 7–9 p.m., Sat. 1–4:30 p.m., and Sun. 2–4:30 p.m. The gallery is free; call -7680 or -2646 for more information.

Prosser looks at impact of values on technology in Kern winter lecture

As "progress" thrusts us into the new millennium, do we see rampant technology conflict with cultural values, at home and globally?

Michael Prosser, Kern Professor in Communications, author of *The Cultural*

Dialogue and the forthcoming *Diplomatic Discourse* (Ablex), opens the winter section of the 1996–97 William A. Kern Lecture/Roundtable series with "Values—the Deepest Aspect of Culture—and Technology" at 7:30 p.m. on Thurs.,

Dec. 12, in the Skalny Room of RIT's Interfaith Center, Student Alumni Union. An open reception and discussion will follow his speech.

Prosser will address basic human, cultural and individualistic values and their interaction with technology. "Since values represent desirable, conceptual and selective positive attributes (which are usually invisible), they stand as the cultural grounding for behavior, both symbolically

and ritualistically," says Prosser.

The free, public lecture is handicapped accessible and sign interpreted. Call the Kern office at -2804 for more information on the lectures.

The United Nations Association of Rochester, the Rochester International Friendship Council and the newly formed Rochester Area Fulbright Association co-sponsor the lectures with the Kern Professorship.

Photo students take top honors nationally

Three students from the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences took top awards in the national "New Views" photography contest, sponsored by *American Photo* magazine, Nikon, Inc. and Miles, Inc. Agfa Division. *American Photo's* January/February issue will devote a special section to the students' winning work.

Third-year student Zachary Serafin walked away with the gold—and a Nikon N90 camera. John Convey, a fourth-year student, won the silver and Karina Serna, also fourth-year, earned a finalist position, receiving Nikon N6006 cameras.

"This is the seventh year in a row we've placed," says Nancy Stuart, associate director of the school; RIT took first-place five consecutive years, with last year a hiatus. Staged at RIT, School of the Visual Arts in New York and Brooks Institute, the annual contest required three faculty-selected students from each school to meet five assignments in a three-week period. The final prints and slides, black-and-white and color, went to a panel of four judges, all professionals in the photography industry, for winner selection.

Student spreads holiday cheer with orchids

Holiday cheer was spread throughout the College of Science a little early this year. J.B. Tay, a fifth-year biotechnology major, donated 135 colorful, fully bloomed orchids to the department of biology last month. When not in their temporary home at the Highland Conservatory, the orchids can be seen adorning many desktops in the college.

Tay, who will be completing his degree at RIT during winter quarter, made the gift in appreciation for the biology department's support over the years. He served as the college's greenhouse attendant until last spring, when the greenhouse was torn down to accommodate construction of the college's new building addition. Once that project is completed, Tay's orchids will reside permanently in the new greenhouse.

Students lose lives in tragic weather-related Thruway accident



Susan Willoughby

In a tragic Thanksgiving-week accident, three RIT students lost their lives as their car slid across a snow- and ice-slicked Thruway into the path of a tractor-trailer



Lanette Moore

truck near Batavia.

Susan Willoughby, the driver, and passengers Lanette Moore and Cheryl Bulls died at about 11:20 p.m. on Nov. 25. The



Cheryl Bulls

three, all 21 years old and long-time friends, were traveling home to Buffalo for the holiday.

Willoughby, a third-year manufacturing

engineering technology student, and Moore, a fourth-year business student, were roommates in the Racquet Club Apartments and worked at the Student Life Center. Bulls, a second-year social work major, lived nearby in the complex. All were active in the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee.

Counseling is being made available to the campus community. At press time, a campus memorial service was being planned by students and members of the interfaith community. Details will be announced as they become available.

Martin Luther King celebration features civil rights activist



Mary Frances Berry

Remembering his message of liberty, leadership and legacy, RIT honors Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with featured speaker and famous civil rights activist Mary Frances Berry. RIT's 15th annual

"Beyond the Dream" Martin Luther King celebration kicks off at 4 p.m., Fri., Jan. 10, in Ingle Auditorium. Sponsored by RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism, the event is free.

Appointed by President Clinton, Berry serves as chairperson of the United States Civil Rights Commission. She also serves as the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to these appointments, Berry had also worked on President Reagan's Commission on Civil Rights. She also served as assistant secretary for education in the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1977-80.

Berry has received more than 20 honorary degrees and several awards for her public service and academic achievements. Her most recent book, *The Politics of Parenthood*, challenges mothers, fathers, employers and legislators to take responsibility for delivering quality child care to every child in America.

The event will be interpreted for all audiences and followed by a reception in Fireside Lounge. For more information, call Alfreda Brooks at -4993.

RIT is a family affair for the Gasts: daughters follow dad to alma mater



RIT alumnus Bill Gast (second from left) and his wife, Mardy (far right), enjoyed Family Weekend with daughters Gretchen, Christa and Erika (left to right), all students at RIT.

From his northern Michigan home, RIT alumnus Bill Gast has a "lengthy" commute to his Columbus, Ohio, printing company. So traveling to just one university to visit his three daughters is one of the many advantages of having each of his children enrolled at dad's alma mater.

"I make the trip to the office, either eight hours by car or two hours in the air, once a month," says Gast. "The convenience of having to make just one trip to see all of my kids certainly is an added benefit of our RIT clean sweep. What's most important, though, is I know from experience that they're getting an excellent education."

The Gasts got their start as a genuine RIT family 30 years ago when Bill enrolled in the School of Printing Management and Sciences. There was little question about where he'd go to college, says Gast, who is president of Pfeifer Printing, a 100-year old general printing company.

"Coming from the business, I always knew of RIT's reputation of having the best printing program in the country," says Gast, a 1969 graduate of SPMS. "For my daughters, though, it wasn't as easy a decision. After looking at—and even attending—other universities, they chose RIT because its programs were much more career-oriented."

Indeed, Gast cites RIT's co-op program as one of the features that convinced his daughters to follow in dad's footsteps. His oldest daughter, Erika, was employed

aboard the QE2 at its in-plant printing operation for her co-op job and calls it a "once-in-a-lifetime experience." A 1996 graduate of SPMS, she started in a printing master's program this fall.

The career preparation Erika was getting at RIT caught the attention of her siblings. Gretchen, the middle daughter, transferred to RIT from Ohio State and is a second-year imaging and photographic technology major. Christa, the youngest, who was seriously considering the University of Rochester, is a freshman in the imaging science program.

Whichever career paths his daughters choose, Gast is confident the combination of a technology and business education at RIT will provide them with the same sense of entrepreneurship it instilled in him.

Following graduation, he worked for his cousin's printing company, then started a prepress subsidiary of Pfeifer Printing. After selling the business to his father, Gast moved to Elk Rapids, Mich., to open a new venture in 1984. It wasn't long after that when his father became ill and Bill took over as president of the family-run company. Despite the distance between home and the office, Bill and his wife of 24 years, Mardy, decided to stay in their new community.

"We had fallen in love with the area and weren't interested in moving, so we decided to make the arrangement work," Gast says. "And I can always use the frequent flyer miles to visit Rochester."

CALENDAR

Dec. 6—Open House: prospective students and their families will be on campus for the day. They will visit and tour academic departments, the campus and residence halls, eat at Gracie's and hear a financial aid presentation, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 11—Holiday Desserts Party: "Just Desserts With a Twist," HEOP introduces a new COMMUNITY tradition to its annual holiday dessert party, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Skalny Room, Schmitt Interfaith Center.

NEWSMAKERS

- Paul Ferber, associate professor and chair, Social Science Division, and Rudy Pugliese, assistant professor, Professional and Technical Communication program, both in the College of Liberal Arts, presented their paper "Don't Waste Your Breath: The Limited Influence of Communication on Voting in State Legislatures," in San Francisco at the August meeting of the American Political Science Association.
- William Daniels, dean, College of Liberal Arts, chaired a round table discussion on "Teaching as if Diversity and Equality Mattered," one of three panels at the August

meeting of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco.

- Paul Grebinger, professor of anthropology, College of Liberal Arts, co-organized an invited session on "Reinventing the Intro. Course: Cultural Anthropology for the Post-modern Generation" at the 94th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Washington, D.C. He also presented his paper, "Beyond the Exotic 'Other': Interactive Techniques for Teaching Gender Role Enculturation in Introductory Cultural Anthropology."

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