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Rochester Institute of Technology

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Saunders wins Vanden Brul

Philip Saunders doesn't believe in taking the road less traveled. This forward-thinking entrepreneur became a driving force in the highway transportation industry by offering something no one else thought of—or could match: a one-stop rest area for truck drivers needing repair service and maintenance, refreshments, motel service and personal amenities.

Saunders named his business Truckstops of America (now called TravelCenters of America)—the genesis to his other companies including Econo-Car International and Travel Ports to ventures such as Griffith Energy, Sugar Creek Corp., Richardson Foods Corp. and American Rock Salt.

RIT's College of Business has named Saunders as recipient of the 2005 Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award. He will be honored April 28 at Oak Hill Country Club.

"To grow a business, it takes hard work, being persistent and not spending any money until you've earned it," says Saunders, who planned on retiring at the age of 41, but "got bored in about 50 days."

"I'm honored to be awarded the Vanden Brul for 2005 but I couldn't have succeeded in business without lots of good people that I depended on and who helped make it happen," Saunders says. "Camaraderie leads to success."

RIT's Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award goes annually to a successful individual who developed a business that improved the Rochester economy or whose innovative management skills have changed the course of an existing business. ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu



Philip Saunders

Construction begins on \$12 million biocenter

\$8 million provided by New York state, \$2 million pledged by Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield announced a multiyear grant totaling \$2 million in support of RIT's Center for Bioscience Education and Technology as an investment in the regional healthcare workforce.

The announcement was made at a groundbreaking ceremony April 8 for the \$12 million, 35,000-square-foot facility that will be built to the west of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Of the \$12 million, \$8 million was provided by the state of New York through the Gen*NY*sis and RESTORE NY programs.

The groundbreaking event was held to recognize the new corporate partnership with Excellus BCBS and to acknowledge the efforts of Sen. Jim Alesi and Assemblymembers Susan John and Joe Morelle who secured state funding. RIT has provided an additional \$4 million to build the facility. Construction will begin this spring with occupancy expected by September 2006.

CBET is a national model for comprehensive academic, community and



Left photo: Excellus BlueCross BlueShield pledged \$2 million to RIT's Center for Bioscience Education and Technology during a groundbreaking ceremony. From left to right, Douglas Merrill, associate dean, College of Science, Assemblyman Joe Morelle and Scott Ellsworth, regional president of Excellus BCBS, celebrate the announcement. Right photo: RIT President Albert Simone answers questions about the facility from local media.

career-training programs in biotechnology and the emerging life sciences. The idea for the center grew from a workforce study assessing the needs of the biotechnology industry in western New York conducted by RIT's Douglas Merrill, associate dean of the College of Science, and Gary Skuse, director of bioinformatics.

Excellus BCBS' gift is an investment in the education, training and

professional development of current and future workers in the biosciences. In recognition of its generous support, RIT will dedicate the Excellus BCBS Center for Bioscience Exploration and Discovery, one of three distinct learning divisions within CBET.

"Health care is an increasingly important part of the upstate New York economy in general and the Rochester economy in particular,"



NTID celebrates new student center

Communication Service for the Deaf Inc., a national non-profit organization dedicated to serving deaf and hard-of-hearing people, has committed the lead gift for a new student development center at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

After nearly two years of planning, NTID and CSD leaders broke ground in a recent ceremony for the two-story, 30,000-square-foot building, which was designed with input from students, faculty and staff, as well as a deaf consulting architect. The design employs particular consideration for maximum accessibility through technology, lighting, room design and seating.

The CSD Student Development Center is named to recognize CSD's contributions to the educational, social, cultural and economic development of deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

Connected to NTID's Lyndon Baines Johnson Building, the center will extend students' learning experience by fostering their potential for leadership and community service, and provide them opportunities to explore other interests through different educational and recreational activities housed there.

ational activities housed there.

The center will be home to NTID student government, student life, multicultural clubs, a study center, a communication center, commuter lockers and informal spaces.

"I want to thank NTID for thinking of students first," says Nina Campbell, a hard-of-hearing student. "Not only will this be a great place for deaf and hard-of-hearing [students], but this will also help hearing and deaf students interact more together."

"This center will serve as a gathering place where education can continue day and night in a centrally located area, with a safe, supportive atmosphere. This will be a place where students can enrich and celebrate their unique talents and skills," explains T.



Bryan Chattoo was one of several students who entertained the crowd during the groundbreaking of NTID's Student Development Center.

Alan Hurwitz, vice president CEO/dean for NTID. "History will be both preserved and celebrated throughout the building. Pictures and documentation of student activities, representation of classes through the years and images of alumni, past visitors and guests of the college will line the halls and rooms."

Construction will be completed by fall 2006. To contribute to the center, call 475-6836 (v/tty). ■

Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

RIT announces outstanding champions of diversity

As a highlight of the Expressions of Diversity Conference, April 25-29, RIT will present the third annual Isaac L. Jordan Faculty/Staff Pluralism Award to Keith Jenkins, assistant professor of communication, College of Liberal Arts.

At the same event, 18 people will be honored as "Diversity Trailblazers" for their efforts in making RIT a community where differences are respected and celebrated.

The celebration, which is open to everyone, takes place at noon Wednesday, April 27 in the Fireside Lounge, Student Alumni Union.

"We're pleased to be able to celebrate the contributions of these leaders during this special week of activities," says Alfreda Brown, chair, Commission for Promoting Pluralism.



Keith Jenkins

"This also marks the conclusion of RIT's anniversary, so it is a wonderful time to reflect on how the university has changed—and what we can do

to continue to build our diversity."

Named for the first chair of the Commission for Promoting Pluralism, the Isaac L. Jordan Award recognizes staff and faculty members for significant contributions to promoting diversity at RIT. The Diversity Trailblazers project is part of the commission's celebration of RIT's 175th anniversary. The "Trailblazers of Today" were nominated by the campus community and selected by the commission.

Jenkins was RIT's first assistant provost for diversity, serving from July 1999 to June 2002. He was instrumental in development of the

university's North Star Center and Partners in Pluralism initiative.

The Diversity Trailblazers of Today are: **Renee Baker**, faculty recruitment manager, Human Resources; **Eulas Boyd**, assistant provost for diversity; **James Bundy**, manager, patrol services and diversity initiatives, Campus Safety; **James DeCaro**, National Technical Institute for the Deaf professor and director of the Post-secondary Education Network International; **D. Robert Frisina**, director, International Center for Hearing and Speech Research, and first dean of Trailblazers, page 4



The College of Business celebrates RIT's 175th anniversary throughout May. Events include:

- 2005 Class Toast** May 6
- Alumni Wall of Fame Induction** May 6
- Faculty Research Symposium (John Ettlie)** May 6
- Beta Gamma Sigma/COB Awards Ceremony** May 13
- Convocation/COB Commencement** May 20-21
- COB 7th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament** May 23, Cobblestone Creek
- NAFTA: The China Factor (David Reid)** May 26-27
- MBA FastTrack Orientation** May 27

For information about these events, contact Donna Slavin at 475-2199.

Photographer to discuss ancient markings

Chris Rainier, considered one of the leading documentary photographers, makes his mark in his new book, *Ancient Marks*. Rainier will give a free lecture at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium.

Ancient Marks was a seven-year project that took Rainier to 30 different countries. His black-and-white images from modern and traditional cultures illustrate the ritual of marking the human body through



This photograph, taken by documentary photographer Chris Rainier, is featured in his new book, *Ancient Marks*. Rainier will speak at RIT April 28.

tattoos, body markings and scarifications.

His portfolio recently appeared in *National Geographic Adventure Magazine* and his work has been featured in *American Photo*, *Camera Arts*, *Photo District News* and *Outdoor Photo*.

Autographed copies of *Ancient Marks* will be given away during the lecture. Rainier's lecture is co-sponsored by Eastman Kodak Co. and the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

Bach, bop at RIT May 4

The Performing Artists Concert Series concludes its 10th season with a display of improvisation and arrangement on May 4 with *From Bach to Bop and Back* in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

The 8 p.m. concert features both a classical and a jazz trio. Performers David Brickman (violin), Diane Walsh (piano), David Ying (cello), Jeff Campbell (string bass), Bill Dobbins (piano) and Bob Sneider (guitar) will pass the melodies back and forth between the two trios via improvisation and arrangement.

The performers are all acclaimed artists, most being affiliated with either the Eastman School of Music or the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

Tickets—\$5 for students, \$12 for faculty/staff/alumni and \$18 general admission—are available at the SAU candy counter or at the door on concert night, if available. To order with a credit card, call 475-5210.

The Performing Artists Concert Series is affiliated with the Center for Campus Life and is supported, in part, by a grant from the Henrietta Chamber of Commerce and a gift from Norman and Glenna Spindleman.

Visit www.davidigital.com/concert. ■

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

Spring season means fun fest on campus

Student Government revives parade tradition during spring festival

Now that spring has decided to show its face, it's time to celebrate. RIT's annual Spring Festival—April 29 and 30—marks the occasion with music of all kinds, an anniversary parade, an art show and a watermelon toss.

Music

Rapper Ludacris takes the stage as the festival headliner on April 30 in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. Virginia duo Clipse will open the 8 p.m. show sponsored by the College Activities Board. Tickets—available at the CAB office in the lower level of the Student Alumni Union (room A402)—are \$15 for students, \$20 for faculty/staff and \$30 for the public. Call 475-2509 for more information.

After the concert, the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee is sponsoring a DJ dance party in the Alfred L. Davis Room in the SAU cafeteria from 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Tickets are \$1 at the door.

Also sponsored by CAB, bands Puddle, Chasing Daylight and Tony C and the Truth with perform from 2 to 6 p.m. on April 30 outside the administration circle by the SAU. Rochester band Puddle goes on at 2 p.m. playing modern rock covers. At 3:15 p.m. it's local band Chasing Daylight blending original and cover versions of acoustic rock songs. New York City band Tony C and the Truth plays at 4:30 p.m. A national recording artist with Lava Records, their sound is a blend of funk, blues, hip-hop and rock.

Art show

For some visual arts, visit the third annual Save the Arts Festival from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 30 in the SAU.

Created in response to school budget cuts, local and student artists will display and sell their work to raise money for art programs in Rochester schools. Contact the Community Service Center at 475-6056 or svoccl@rit.edu.

Parade

In celebration of RIT's 175th anniversary, Student Government is reviving an RIT tradition—the RIT Parade, to be held annually as a Spring Festival tradition, begins at 4 p.m. on April 30. It will travel along Andrews Memorial Drive, starting by M Lot, traveling by *The Sentinel* sculpture in the administration circle and ending in H Lot.

Other weekend events:

- Carnival in D Lot, 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. April 29 and 30
- Outdoor movie showing of *The Goonies*, 10 p.m. April 29, Greek lawn
- BACC and Residence Hall Association annual barbecue, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 30, Grace Watson Hall lobby
- Spin art frisbees, sand art, dunk tank, celebrity cut-out photos and other novelties, 2 to 6 p.m., April 30, SAU lobby
- Watermelon launching competition sponsored by American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 2:30 to 6 p.m. April 30, club field next to K Lot.

- Inflatable games—jousting, sticky wall, sumo wrestling, bungee run, dual sports equalizer, adrenaline rush obstacle course, 2 to 6 p.m. April 30, Clark Gymnasium. ■

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

Launch party for Signatures

A year of firsts for RIT's student art-and-literary magazine, *Signatures*, includes international submissions, a multimedia Web magazine and a launch party at Gallery r to celebrate a job well done.

In what it hopes will be a recurring event, *Signatures* has received imaginative visual and written work from RIT's American College of Management and Technology in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The work will be featured at the opening at Gallery r, in this year's magazine and in the first edition of *Signatures'* digital magazine. A combined release party and gallery opening will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 29, and will feature additional work from student artists and writers that made it into the magazine. Gallery r is located at 775 Park Ave. The event is free and open to the public.

With the support of Nancy Doubleday, professor of information technology, *Signatures* has decided to forego an in-magazine compact disk in favor of an online version of the magazine. This digital version will be



Work like Margaret Gatautis' Apple Detail will be on display during *Signatures'* magazine launch at Gallery r on Friday, April 29.

called SignaturesOnline, and will feature a variety of videos, music and flash applications alongside student submissions that didn't make it into the magazine, but were still highly rated. The Web magazine will launch the same day as the release party and gallery opening.

Signatures is a student-run organization that produces an annual art and literary magazine that showcases student work from all over campus.

For more information, log on to www.signaturesmag.com or contact John Roche at jfrgla@rit.edu. ■

Pete Karl | pjkl398@rit.edu

Revering Gravure

Experts in the gravure industry celebrated the grand opening of RIT's Gravure Research Library in the School of Print Media. Pictured from left to right are Walter Vail, president of the Gravure Education Foundation, Walter Siegenthaler, executive vice president of Max Daetwyler Corp., Laura Hatch, GEF executive director, and Robert Chung, Gravure Research Professor. GEF and Gravure Association of America donated their library collections to RIT. The library's opening was one of the highlights of Gravure Day, which promotes understanding of gravure technology and explores research and career opportunities with students.

Women's magazines explored

It's been said, "You've come a long way, baby!" But how are contemporary women's magazines keeping pace with the audience they serve?

Magazines for Women: The Legacy of Cipe Pineles, a symposium at RIT, turns the pages on the transformation of this medium. The daylong event begins at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 5, in Ingle Auditorium, SAU. Morning sessions on the history of women's magazines focus on Cipe Pineles, the first woman art director of long standing. Her work at *Seventeen*, *Glamour*, *Charm* and *Mademoiselle* in the 1940s and 1950s set the standard for the appearance of women's magazines in ensuing decades. RIT Libraries holds the Cipe



Pineles design archive. During the afternoon, discussion turns to the contemporary scene, featuring a panel of experts that represent publications such as *Glamour*, *Essence* and *Real Simple*.

The day concludes at 5 p.m. with a launch celebration for *Cipe Pineles: Two Remembrances*, a book of her work published by RIT Cary Graphic Arts Press. This reception coincides with an exhibition of Pineles' designs in RIT Libraries and includes a book signing with author Estelle Ellis Rubinstein.

Magazines for Women: The Legacy of Cipe Pineles is free and open to the public. For more information, visit <http://wally.rit.edu/cary/magazines>. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

News briefs

Cleaning for a cause

Need help with spring cleaning or any other chore? The RIT women's basketball team is ready to help. The Tigers have been invited to the Bahamas Sunshine Shootout but they need to raise nearly \$20,000. The Tigers will be available for work every weekend through May 15. For information and rates, call 475-5666 or e-mail HelpAHooper@yahoo.com.

Fundraisers galore

On May 1, the RIT running club and Greek community are sponsoring The Hustle for Habitat 5K run/walk for tsunami relief. The run will be held on campus in the morning with a barbecue and live music in the afternoon.

The event costs \$5 for RIT students, \$10 for faculty/staff and \$15 for the public. The barbecue and afternoon events are \$5. For information, visit www.rit.edu/~wxcwww or call 475-6274.

Also on May 1, Delta Phi Epsilon is sponsoring their Rollerblade to Geneseo fundraiser in support of cystic fibrosis. The 23-mile roll kicks off in the Student Alumni Union lobby at 9 a.m. Registration fee is \$15. Visit www.rit.edu/~dphiewww/.

On Saturday, May 7, the Christopher Dudek Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at Genesee Valley Golf Course. For more information, contact Chris Mabry at cmm7474@rit.edu or 610-246-9612.

On May 15, the 2005 Walk to Cure Diabetes will be held at RIT. The 2.5-mile walk begins at 10 a.m. with registration at 9 a.m. For more information and to register, visit www.jdrf.org and register under RIT Tigers team.

Speaker analyzes CIA

Anna Nelson, professor of history at George Washington University, will present 9/11, the CIA, and the Effect of Intelligence Failures, at 4 p.m. April 27 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 475-6095.

Country artists to perform



Alison Krauss and Union Station

Country artists Alison Krauss and Union Station perform in concert at 8 p.m. on May 15 in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Alison Krauss has released 10 studio albums with her band, Union Station, including their most recent release, *Lonely Runs Both Ways*. All seating is reserved. Tickets—\$32 for RIT students and \$42 for others—are available at the Student Alumni Union candy counter and Ticketmaster outlets. To order by phone, call 232-1900. Wheelchair bound, deaf and hard-of-hearing guests should purchase tickets by calling 475-2367.

Visit www.alisonkrauss.com. ■

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

RIT alumnus Robert Rice expects the company he founded just three years ago to double in size by the year's end.

With 16 full-time staffers, BayFirst Solutions LLC is a management and technology consulting firm serving primarily the U.S. federal government.

"For one project, we provide technical expertise and program support to a research and development division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that is focused on developing and deploying technology to protect the homeland from radiological, chemical and nuclear attacks," Rice explains. "And with a different project, we help the Office of the Secretary of Defense by providing technical training to a group of senior defense leaders and flag officers in support of thousands of database-driven Web sites to ensure understanding and conformity with design standards and principles."

Rice earned a bachelor's degree in business management and an MBA from RIT's College of Business, both with support from the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.



Robert Rice '94, '97

"My RIT experience contributed significantly to my present success," Rice says. "I left RIT realizing that I was someone who was able to innately take risks, and that risk can be harnessed. Harnessing risk allows me to make business decisions that are more calculated while yet still intuitive."

After leaving RIT in 1997, Rice moved to Southern California, joining PricewaterhouseCoopers as an

information technology and instructional systems design consultant supporting the implementation of large-scale, enterprise-wide technologies at Fortune 500 companies around the country.

In 2000, Rice moved to Washington to work for Booz Allen Hamilton, another prestigious consulting firm.

"At Booz Allen, I did more of the same work I did at PwC but was able to take on greater managerial responsibility," Rice says. "I was also able to dabble within other IT areas and learn the ropes within the U.S. government."

Rice decided to start his own company when a client told him how much they liked and appreciated his work. They later approached him and asked to work directly with him on a new project.

After pulling together the necessary resources, BayFirst Solutions became a reality. After three years, BayFirst is experiencing rapid growth as it receives several new contract awards from the federal government. Rice, as BayFirst's president, expects

this trend to continue, as he believes that he has strategically positioned BayFirst as a reputable small business that clients can trust to deliver.

Rice says his deafness only becomes a barrier when dealing with those who are ignorant.

"It becomes a non-issue when dealing with those who expect only my best effort," Rice says. "And, my deafness allows me to shine when working with those who welcome diversity and opportunities to work with uniquely talented individuals."

Rice, 32, never sets his goals in stone. Instead, he keeps them open-ended and always makes sure he maintains a level of fun, like traveling internationally. Recently, he went to Costa Rica and met locals who introduced him to a makeshift school for the deaf serving five Tico schoolchildren in the middle of a rainforest.

"Business—and life—inherently involve risk, but the outcome, regardless of whether it's a federal contract or an unexpected delight in a foreign country, can be quite rewarding." ■

Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

RIT to host Mini Baja East competition May 5-7

Goggles—check. Gloves—check. Mud flaps—check. It's everything you need just to *watch* the 2005 Mini Baja East competition. (Did we mention it tends to get a little muddy?)

For the first time in more than 20 years, western New Yorkers will be able to catch the excitement of a mini-Baja contest up close when RIT hosts the 30th annual Mini Baja East May 5-7. Events will be at RIT and Hogback Hill Motocross track in Palmyra, Wayne County.

Teams from 65 schools in the United States, Canada and South America will compete in the three-day collegiate driving challenge featuring all-terrain, dune-buggy-like cars. This year's 71 registered vehicles make the event the largest-ever Mini Baja East competition.

The contest features challenges for



Photo by Marty Gordon

RIT mini-Baja driver Gabe Marciano puts some air between the ground and himself during the 2004 Midwest Mini Baja competition last June in Milwaukee. For the first time since 1982, RIT will host the 2005 Mini Baja East next month.

best hill climbing, acceleration, top speed, maneuverability, traction, pulling and braking. A grueling four-hour endurance race climaxes the competition.

"Mini-baja races are intensely competitive and incredibly fun to watch—it'll be a blast!" promises

Marty Gordon, event organizer, RIT team advisor, and associate professor of mechanical engineering technology in RIT's College of Applied Science and Technology.

Hundreds of spectators are anticipated on May 5 in Gordon Field House and Activities Center and May 6-7 in Palmyra. All events are free

and open to the public.

The race coincides with the centennial celebration of event sponsor, SAE International, and RIT's yearlong 175th anniversary commemoration. RIT last hosted the Mini Baja East in 1982.

Earlier this month, RIT captured 14th place among 71 teams in the

2005 Mini Baja East

8 a.m.-6 p.m. May 5: Static events (design and cost report presentations), Gordon Field House and Activities Center, RIT

9 a.m.-6 p.m. May 6 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 7: Dynamic ("action") events, Hogback Hill Motocross track, Hogback Hill Road, Palmyra, Wayne County

10 a.m.-2 p.m. May 7: Four-hour endurance race

6 p.m. May 7: Awards banquet, Holiday Inn Henrietta, 1111 Jefferson Road.

All competitive events are free and open to the public.

first race of the season, the Mini Baja Brazil.

For directions to Hogback Hill Motocross track, visit <http://www.palmyramx.com>. ■

Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

State budget restores TAP, HEOP

New capital facilities program approved

The State Legislature and Governor Pataki recently approved a 2005-2006 state budget that includes a historic new capital facilities program for independent colleges and universities, and fully restores funding for the Tuition Assistance Program and the Higher Education Opportunity Program.

The Capital Facilities Program, first proposed last year by Governor Pataki, provides for a \$150 million allocation, distributed among New York's 100-plus independent colleges and universities by formula, that can be used to support construction, renovation or equipping of academic facilities, high technology/economic development projects, or facilities that enhance student life. The program requires such projects to be matched with \$3 in private funds for every \$1 received from New York state. Based on the formula included in the final legislation, RIT could receive up to \$4 million in state funding for eligible projects.

The restorations of TAP and HEOP will ensure that RIT students will continue to receive student financial aid support through these important programs. Along with other

independent colleges throughout the state, members of the RIT campus community participated in a grass roots effort to urge the Legislature to restore proposed cuts in these programs that were included in the Governor's proposed budget for this year. These e-mail messages again made a key difference in the end results.

"The final state budget contains great news for RIT and for our students," says Deborah Standardi, vice president for government and community relations. "Once again, our state senators and assemblymembers held steadfast in their support for these programs, and they deserve the highest praise for their efforts."

"We applaud the Governor and the Legislature for approving the new Capital Facilities Program," Standardi adds, which takes the historic partnership between New York state and its independent sector of higher education to a new level. "With RIT's capital campaign moving into the final stages, this funding will be tremendously helpful in enabling us to leverage private support for key campaign priorities." ■

New York state Assemblymember Susan John has secured an additional \$100,000 to continue a Community Interpreter Professional Development Program through RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf. The new funding brings the total amount that John has obtained for this program to \$950,000.

The funding enables NTID to provide on-going, specialized professional development opportunities for interpreters working in the western and central New York regions. These interpreters work in a variety of community settings. Grant monies are used to provide interpreters with educational opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge base with the aim of improving the quality of interpreting services to deaf individuals. Since its inception, the program has provided educational support and training to almost 2,000 interpreters.



Assemblymember Susan John

"This program has been instrumental in developing curricula and educational materials for community-based interpreters, as well as supporting mentoring programs, events, professional discussion and support groups and a variety of other interpreting related activities," says T. Alan Hurwitz, vice president and dean of NTID.

"The positive response that we receive from the recipients attests to the need of this program."

"This program has addressed a variety of training issues that have improved the quality of services for deaf people in the region," says Steven DeBottis, president of the Rochester Recreation Club for the Deaf. "It supports a spirit of reciprocity that benefits the deaf community and has improved the relationships between deaf people and interpreters."

"This program is a vital link for our deaf community and the services they need to access," says John. "It is my pleasure to assist this program and I will continue to fight for educational programs for our community." ■

News briefs

Isaiah Thomas ceremony

Thomas Curley, president and chief executive officer of The Associated Press will receive the 2005 RIT Isaiah Thomas Award for his outstanding contributions to the publishing industry. The award ceremony is at 3:30 p.m. April 26 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Curley will also take part in a panel discussion, "Is there freedom of information in America?" at 10:30 a.m. April 26 in Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building. Both events are open to the public.

IT symposium May 4

What are the latest accomplishments in cutting-edge technologies? What research challenges still lie ahead? The answers will unfold during the first IT Collaboratory Research Symposium on May 4 at RIT. The IT Collaboratory, sponsored by the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research, is an RIT-led collaboration with the University at Buffalo and Alfred University. The symposium takes place 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Louise M. Slaughter Building. For information, visit www.rit.edu/ITColl.

E³ Engineering Fair

RIT will host the 15th annual E³ Engineering and Technology Fair 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. April 28 in Clark Gymnasium. The fair features hands-on exhibits, emphasizing engineering, exploration and experimentation, created by middle school students. Free and open to the public, the fair is sponsored by the Rochester Engineering Society. For information, visit www.e3fair.org.

28th annual Juggle-In

One of the largest and longest-running juggling festivals comes to RIT May 6-8.

Hosted by the RIT Juggling Club, the Spring Juggle-In offers workshops and competitions. Tickets are \$8 for students, \$10 for faculty/staff and \$12 for the public.

Proceeds go to the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation. For a detailed schedule, visit www.rit.edu/~jugwww/.

Sociology lecture

Prominent legal theorist and author Charles Ogletree Jr. will present All Deliberate Speed: From Brown to Tulsa at 7:15 p.m. April 27 in Ingle Auditorium of the Student Alumni Union. Ogletree is professor of law at Harvard Law School and founding and executive director of the new Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. The free event is sponsored by the sociology and anthropology departments.

Circuits discussion

World-renowned circuit designer Barrie Gilbert will present Analog Functions in the Coming Nanoworld at 1 p.m. April 29 in Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. Gilbert, manager of Northwest Labs for Analog Devices Inc., designed the first integrated circuits for Tektronix Inc. in the 1950s. His free talk will be followed by a question-and-answer session at 1:50 p.m. The event is sponsored by RIT's electrical engineering department in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering.



NASA astronaut Col. Pamela Melroy paid a visit to RIT as part of the Women in Leadership Distinguished Speaker Series, sponsored by the Office of Government and Community Relations. During her visit, Melroy addressed a large crowd in Ingle Auditorium, toured the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science building and spoke with female honors students and ROTC students.

COB to host local entrepreneurs

The myriad of successful companies in the global marketplace all have something in common—creative, energetic and aggressive leaders who are willing to go the extra mile to turn their visionary plans into powerhouse businesses.

These entrepreneurs are also willing to partner with academia and share their expertise during the second annual 2005 RIT Entrepreneurs Conference April 28-29.

Sponsored by the College of Business, the event includes the Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Awards luncheon, 11 interactive concurrent sessions, and keynote addresses featuring Arunas Chesonis, chairman and CEO, PAETEC Communications Inc., and Mick Stadler, executive director, RIT High Tech Incubator.

“The conference will continue to focus on various aspects of commercializing technology, as well as to showcase the entrepreneurial activities and successes of our students, faculty and alumni,” says Mark Boylan, COB director of development.

The Entrepreneurs Conference will be an eye-opener for RIT students and industry-wide professionals who can exchange ideas on the rapid

changes in businesses and its economic impact in Rochester and beyond.

Conference sessions will be held on Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Park Plaza Hotel on Jefferson Road.

The all-day Friday conference begins at 7:30 a.m. with introductions and opening keynote address in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Concurrent sessions will be held from 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Louise M. Slaughter Building, with a luncheon and keynote address scheduled for noon.

Discussions will focus on an array of topics, including entrepreneurial characteristics, teamwork, financing and marketing, and balancing the demands of business and personal life.

The cost for the conference and invitation-only Vanden Brul award luncheon is \$100. The cost for the conference/keynote lunch is \$75. Conferences are free for RIT faculty and staff, excluding luncheons and keynote address, which range from \$10 to \$35. Visit www.rit.edu/~ent-conf/ or call 475-2199. ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Three new trustees join RIT board at April meeting
Board now has 53 active members, 29 honorary members

A familiar face and two RIT alumni have joined the RIT Board of Trustees. After the recent April meeting, there are now 53 active members on the board, of which 20 are alumni. There are also 29 emeriti and honorary board members.

The new members are:

Robert Davila served as CEO and vice president of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf from 1996 to 2004. He is now an honorary trustee. His retirement from RIT only lasted a short time. Today he is the senior vice president for national programs with Communication Service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay



Robert Davila

programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons in 31 states under contract with Sprint Corp. As a member of the National Council on Disability, he also advises President George W. Bush on matters related to disability issues.

Andrew Brenneman is a senior government account executive with Sprint Business Solutions. He is responsible for nationwide sales efforts for Sprint Relay, including acquisitions and retention through competitive bid procurements of state, federal and national offerings. He is a past member of the advisory board for Visual Language Interpret-



Andrew Brenneman '88

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Bob Finnerty, Paul Stella '03
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Susan Gawlowicz '95

Contributing writers: Silandara Bartlett-Gustina, Karen Black, Kelly Downs, Susan Gawlowicz, Steve Jaynes, Kathy Lindsley, Marcia Morphy
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Trailblazers from page 1

NTID; **Rhona Genzel**, director, English Language Center; **M. Ann Howard**, associate professor, public policy and science, technology and society; **Keith Jenkins**, assistant professor, department of communication; **Frank Lamas**, associate vice president, Student Affairs Division; **Dominique Lepoutre**, assistant professor, sign language and interpreter education; **Mark Mason**, community enrichment coordinator, Center for Residence Life; **Douglas Merrill**, associate dean, College of Science; **James Miller**, vice president, Enrollment Management and Career Services Division; **Sarah Reynolds**, senior reference librarian, Wallace Library; **Albert Simone**, RIT president; **Thomas Warfield**, faculty, cultural and creative studies, NTID; **James Watters**, vice president, Finance and Administration Division; **Julie White**, senior research administrator, Sponsored Research Services, and former director of RIT's Women's Center.

The Diversity Trailblazers display will hang in the Student Alumni Union through May.

For information about conference activities, visit <http://diversity.rit.edu/expressions2005/>. ■

Kathy Lindsley | kjlcom@rit.edu

CBET from page 1

economic development opportunity. In order to realize that opportunity, however, we need a workforce that has the skills industry needs. Thanks to the foresight and persistence of our state delegation members, and the generous investment of Excellus Blue-Cross BlueShield, RIT's Center for Bioscience Education and Technology will play a key role in meeting this need."

"CBET will provide students and faculty at RIT yet another exquisite facility in which to further studies and conduct research in bioscience education," says Sen. Alesi. "The opening of CBET is the result of a collaborative effort between elected officials and corporate sponsors, and the center will undoubtedly become an invaluable educational tool to future generations of students, as well as a great addition to the Greater Rochester community."

"Producing a highly educated workforce is key to revitalizing the Rochester region's economy, and this center is helping to achieve this goal," says Assemblyman Morelle. "I am proud to be a part of this project and commend RIT and Excellus Blue-Cross BlueShield for their excellent work towards creating the most highly skilled workforce in the state."

Adds Assemblymember John: "I applaud Excellus BlueCross BlueShield for their commitment to RIT. CBET adds to RIT's educational and workforce development programs that are the hallmark of the institution since its inception. RIT's commitment to our community will ensure that we will continue to provide a highly trained workforce for a healthy economic future."

CBET will introduce new academic programs like forensic medicine and expand workforce-training classes. It will offer specialized certificate programs, customized workshops and seminars for the bioscience and healthcare industries, promote applied research initiatives and support community education programs, encouraging students to pursue careers in science and technology.

"Our state delegation who championed this effort recognized that New York state must have a state-of-the-art facility like CBET to provide the workforce needed to promote real economic growth in the region," says Merrill. "Excellus BlueCross BlueShield's significant investment in CBET will ensure that RIT remains a national leader in bioscience education." ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

The future of CBET

The Excellus BCBS Center for Bioscience Exploration and Discovery will be one division within CBET. It will include:

- High-Tech Bioscience Classroom—a 1,050-square-foot "smart classroom" with wireless access and a podium equipped for multimedia presentations that will accommodate approximately 40 students.
- High-Tech Bioscience Teaching Laboratory—a 1,650-square-foot multipurpose teaching laboratory that will accommodate 20 students. It will support instruction in the certificate program in bio-processing operations for displaced workers seeking employment in the healthcare or biotechnology industries, new courses in the expanding bioscience curriculum, K-12 summer and weekend bioscience camps and summer academies for high school teachers.
- Anatomical Studies Laboratory—a 1,450-square-foot laboratory that will be dedicated to teaching human anatomy through cadaver dissection to 24 students at a time enrolled in biomedical science, premedical/pre dental studies, diagnostic medical sonography, echocardiography, biomedical engineering, medical illustration and physician assistant programs.

The lab will include wall-mounted monitors for display of computer-based images or video sequences to assist dissection. The lab also will be used to conduct continuing medical-education workshops in anatomy for allied health professionals.

- Histopathology and Forensic Medicine Laboratory—a 968-square-foot laboratory that will support a variety of bioscience curricula pertaining to cell and tissue structure. New upper-division classes in forensic medicine will teach students how to investigate and evaluate physical evidence of crime-scene samples.
- Medical Videoconferencing and Distance Learning Studio—a 700-square-foot studio will support online courses and continuing education workshops and seminars. It will be wired to the anatomical sciences laboratory for remote demonstrations of human anatomy.