13 May 2005

Celebrating 175 R·I·T
EDUCATION EXPLORATION INNOVATION

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Honoring RIT's highest achieving students

Class of 2005 'caps off' RIT's 175th anniversary

A yearlong celebration of RIT's rich history culminates May 20-21 as thousands of parents and family members, friends and members of the university community gather on campus for the 120th annual commencement.

"This promises to be an exciting time as we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates, and RIT wraps up its celebration of 175 years of education, exploration and innovation," says RIT President Albert Simone. The 2004-2005 academic year has featured a variety of events to showcase the university's 175th anniversary.

President Simone will confer degrees on more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students during academic convocation. Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) will present the keynote address and receive an honorary degree during the convocation event at 4 p.m. on May 20. (See related story.)

Also during academic convocation, RIT recognizes the excellence of its students and professors. The ceremony hails RIT's graduating honors students and professors who won outstanding teaching awards. Each college, including the American College of Management and Technology in Croatia and the American University in Kosovo, selected an undergraduate student to represent their college as college delegate.

"Students are what the university is all about," states Simone. "Our celebration honors our graduates and offers a culminating experience for them, their families and friends. It is a capstone of their time at RIT and a fitting finale to years of hard work and sacrifice."

Members of the Class of 2004 helped kick off RIT's yearlong 175th anniversary celebration.

RIT's eight colleges celebrate commencement in individual ceremonies and receptions. The college delegates will each speak at their respective ceremonies.

"Graduation is the highlight event of the university community," states Stanley McKenzie, RIT provost. "It is time for the faculty and staff to take pride in our students' accomplishment and congratulate them on a job well done."

Adds Kit Mayberry, vice president for academic affairs: "Each graduate is a living embodiment of a successful academic career, possessing the knowledge and skills to begin the next phase of his or her career. We, the faculty and staff, appreciate the opportunity to celebrate with them and the people important to them."

Academic convocation and all degree ceremonies will be real-time captioned and interpreted for the deaf. Tickets are not necessary, and ample seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To help visitors with questions, information booths will be located around campus and volunteer ushers will be present at the convocation and each college ceremony. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Senate icon to deliver convocation address

Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), the third most senior member of the U.S. Senate, will address RIT graduates and the RIT community as the 2005 commencement speaker at 4 p.m. Friday, May 20, in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. In addition, Inouye will receive an RIT honorary degree.

Inouye, elected to the Senate in 1962, is serving his seventh consecutive term. A senior member of the Senate Commerce Committee and the ranking Democrat on the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, he has focused on defense matters that strengthen national security and enhance the quality of life for military personnel and their families. He has championed significant support for RIT's Defense Modernization and Sustainment initiative in the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies.

A World War II veteran, Inouye was presented with the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for military service, in 2000. He received a Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award for military valor, and he earned a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and 12 other medals and citations.

Graduation schedule

Friday, May 20

Academic Convocation
4 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

National Technical Institute for the Deaf
7 p.m., Ritter Ice Arena

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
7:30 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

Saturday, May 21

College of Applied Science and Technology
8:30 a.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

College of Business
9 a.m., Ritter Ice Arena

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences
12:30 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

College of Liberal Arts
1 p.m., Ritter Ice Arena

College of Science
4 p.m., Ritter Ice Arena

Kate Gleason College of Engineering
4:30 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

See Page 2 for parking and shuttle details. Additional information is available at www.rit.edu/commencement.

B&L $2.5M gift creates professorship

Additional funding for eye research expected

Bausch & Lomb enhanced its longstanding partnership with RIT by announcing that the Bausch & Lomb Foundation is committing $2.5 million to fund the Bausch & Lomb Endowed Chair in Microsystems Engineering, based in RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

In addition, the company and RIT will collaborate on the development of several research programs that could involve additional funding of $2.5 million from the eye health company over the next five years. The goal of the research being considered is to develop potential therapeutic and diagnostic technologies to address ocular diseases and conditions that impair vision.

Bausch & Lomb chairman and CEO Ronald Zarrella shared the news at the company's annual meeting on April 26 at RIT. RIT President Albert Simone and Harvey Palmer, engineering dean, joined Zarrella for the announcement.

"The endowment of the Bausch & Lomb professorship acknowledges the outstanding assets that RIT has already assembled in the field of microsystems

B&L professorship, page 12

Bausch & Lomb CEO Ronald Zarrella, far right, with RIT President Albert Simone, center, and Engineering Dean Harvey Palmer.

RIT grads to become first-ever microsystems engineering Ph.D.s

By 6:30 p.m. May 21, there will be two people in the world who hold doctorates in microsystems engineering. Each will be a stone's throw away—or, more precisely, a graduation-cap toss away—from RIT's Gordon Field House and Activities Center.

Anand Gopalan '02, left, and Mark Steinke '00, '02 will become the first-in-the-world recipients of doctoral degrees in microsystems engineering during RIT commencement ceremonies on May 21.

Anand Gopalan and Mark Steinke will have the distinction of becoming the first-ever recipients—*anywhere*—of doctoral degrees in microsystems engineering during the commencement ceremony for RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering. The day will bring to a ceremonial end years of undergraduate and graduate study that peaked when each defended his doctoral dissertation last month. And it will mark the beginning of their professional lifetimes featuring salutations starting with "Dr."

"That will be nice—it sounds good," says Gopalan. Steinke says titles don't matter much to him—even though he will be the first in his family to earn a Ph.D. Gopalan, on the other hand, is not the first in his family to earn a doctorate. His mother, Kamala, an instructor at the University of Mumbai in India, holds a doctorate in English literature.

The path to an RIT Ph.D.: Paved in hard work and determination (and bricks, of course!)

After earning RIT master's degrees in engineering, Gopalan and Steinke began doctoral studies when RIT launched the microsystems engineering Ph.D. program in December 2002.

Gopalan, who completed his M.S. in electrical engineering in 2002, researched and designed built-in, self-test circuits and techniques for high-speed communication devices such as cell phones and wireless circuits. His research, partially funded by Semiconductor Research Corp. and conducted with his advisor, P.R. Mukund, professor of electrical engineering, created new methodology for efficient and cost-effective testing of RF (radio-frequency) circuitry.

"It's an exciting project," says Gopalan of his research, which has attracted the attention of industry. Commercial applications are likely within two years, he says.

Gopalan, originally from Mumbai, India, is currently interviewing for post-graduation positions in industry. After gaining real-world experience, he doesn't rule out one day returning to academe and following in his mother's footsteps by becoming a college instructor. "I would love to," he says. "The tilt towards academics has always been there."

As for RIT's microsystems engineering Ph.D. program, Gopalan says, "It was all that I expected it to be."

Microsystems engineering Ph.D.s, page 12

2005 College Delegates

Student delegates were selected for personal achievements that demonstrate the ideals of RIT including, but not limited to, academic excellence. They will speak at their respective college commencement ceremonies.


Stacey Mahany

College of Applied Science and Technology
Stacey Mahany, from Dansville, N.Y., is receiving her bachelor's degree in civil engineering technology. The recipient of many scholarships and awards, Stacey has worked co-op positions with the Pike Co., Kiewit Constructors and A.L. Blades. She has accepted a full-time position with Pike to begin after graduation. Mahany plans to complete the requirements for a certificate in structural design and eventually pursue graduate studies.


Jonathan Bove

College of Liberal Arts
Jonathan Bove, from Rutland, Vt., is a major in the professional and technical communication program He was senior editor for RIT's student magazine, *Reporter*, and a programming assistant for students living at the RIT Inn & Conference Center. President of Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honors Fraternity, Bove also served as a peer mentor and an instructor in the First-Year Enrichment program. He plans to pursue graduate work in the field of higher education and student administration.


David Krauter

College of Business
David Krauter is a management information systems major from Cranford, N.J. He is a recipient of Madelon and Richard Rosett Merit Scholarship and completed co-ops with Siemens Hearing Instruments and Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. Krauter is considering pursuing an MBA or employment in the field of information technology management after graduation.


Stephanie Shubert

College of Science
Stephanie Shubert, from Lincoln, Neb., is receiving a bachelor's degree in imaging science. The recipient of many awards and scholarships, Shubert was an ACCESS student assistant, working with deaf students and their professors to improve access for all students in the classroom. Last summer, she was a computer intern for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Prior to that, she was an image analyst for Kresge Hearing Research Institute. Shubert plans to work as an imaging scientist in a research and development for medical imaging or remote sensing systems.


Margaret Korkor Mensah

College of Business
Margaret Korkor Mensah, originally from Ghana, is the College of Business graduate. She is pursuing an MBA in entrepreneurship. A Ford Foundation Scholar, Mensah has been a volunteer with Community Microenterprise Center, doing research and design of an incubator to provide business services to entrepreneurs. She completed an internship with ECDC Enterprise Development Group Virginia, working with a portfolio manager in disbursement of loans to micro entrepreneurs. Long term, Mensah would like to set up a micro-finance organization in Ghana to help eradicate poverty, set up incubators and train rural communities in sound business practices.


Juan Rodriguez

National Technical Institute for the Deaf
From Hoboken, N.J., Juan Rodriguez is receiving his A.A.S. in accounting technology. He has worked as a resident advisor and tutor, and he has contributed his time to work as an administrative assistant for the American Society for Training and Development. He plans to work in the accounting field and continue his education. In the future, Rodriguez would like to own a business.


Vaughn Micciche

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
From Stewartstown, Pa., Vaughn Micciche is an information technology major with concentrations in database and Web development and a minor in science, technology and environmental studies. He is co-founder of Net Impact, a partnership focusing on custom Web application and site development, managed hosting, operations, project management and customer relationship management. Micciche is a professional mountain bike stunt rider. Upon graduation, he plans to work and eventually pursue graduate studies.


Adnan Secibovic

American College of Management and Technology
Adnan Secibovic, from Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, is a hospitality and service management major with a specialization in finance at American College of Management and Technology in Dubrovnik, Croatia. He has had co-op experiences at World Bank Group-SEED in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and at Hyatt International Corp. in Colorado. Secibovic also worked on the National Environmental Action Plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a project coordinator on the support team. After graduation, he hopes to pursue a career in the financial business world and a master's degree in finance after acquiring additional work experience.


Nicole Heiges

Kate Gleason College of Engineering
Nicole Heiges is from Dillsburg, Pa., and is receiving her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. On campus, Heiges has worked as a catering services student manager. Her experience also includes an ergonomics co-op with Paychex Inc. and an industrial engineering co-op with Hershey Foods Corp., where she will be working full-time after graduation. Heiges also plans to begin work on her MBA at Penn State Harrisburg in September.


Arben Sahiti

American University in Kosovo
Arben Sahiti is a member of AUK's first graduating class, earning an associate degree in applied arts and science with a concentration in entrepreneurship and management. He has been a Dean's List student every quarter and is an active member of AUK's Charity and Business Clubs. This spring, Arben received the Madeleine Albright Scholarship for academic excellence, which allowed him to spend a quarter studying at RIT. Last summer he completed a successful internship with the Kosovo Ministry of Economics and Finance, working in the Department of International Economic Cooperation. Sahiti's plans are to continue his education at AUK this fall.


Vandna Jain

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences
From New York City, Vandna Jain is receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design with a concentration in economics, marketing and photography, and a diploma in management with a focus on marketing. Jain has had varied experiences in her field which include establishing Vane Design, a network of illustrators, photographers and designers through which she obtains freelance work, and working as designer for RIT ESPN SportsZone. She plans to work as a graphic designer or art director upon graduation.

Arriving at the RIT campus

Please use entrances off Jefferson Road. RIT Campus Safety personnel will direct you to parking areas. Shuttle service to and from the academic convocation and commencement ceremony locations will be available Friday and Saturday, as noted below. On both days, shuttles will make continuous loops throughout all parking lots and ceremony locations and will return guests to parking lots after the ceremonies.

Shuttle service and parking information

Friday, May 20
Shuttle service will be available from 12:30 to 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 21
Shuttle service will be available beginning at 7 a.m.

"People movers"
Senior citizens and individuals with special needs are invited to use carts operated by RIT staff. Carts are available at one of the many people-mover stations across campus.

Seating/special needs
Both the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and the Ritter Ice Arena have bleacher seating, which have steps. Each location will have staff on hand to assist with special needs; however, prior arrangements must be made.

If you or any member of your family uses a wheelchair, contact RIT Campus Safety at http://finweb.rit.edu/CampusSafety, then click on "Forms" followed by "Parking and Seating Requests;" or call 475-2074 (v/tty) for accessibility arrangements.

Wheelchairs are not available on campus. To rent a wheelchair, contact Monroe Wheelchair at 546-8595 or www.monroewheelchair.com or Fonte Surgical Supply at 338-1000 or 800-836-2130.

Special parking and transportation needs
If you need special parking or mobility van transportation, call Campus Safety at 475-5879 (voice) or 475-2074 (TTY), even if your vehicle already has a disabled parking permit.

Support powers RIT's present and future

by Lisa Cauda

Viewpoints

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

There is a new spirit on campus. You see it in the exploding attendance at campus events. It is apparent in the growth in tiger-related attire traversing the quarter mile.

This renewed spirit is especially evident through conversations with enthusiastic students, faculty and staff about the positive changes made across campus over the past several years. Fortunately, this spirit is being displayed in another, significant way: there is a growing spirit of giving at RIT.

Nearly four years ago, the university officially embarked on the most ambitious fundraising endeavor in its history. Through Powered by the Future: The Campaign for RIT, the university is committed to raising $300 million for the continued growth and support of the campus and its students. The largest campaign in the university's 175 year history, this was, and still is, an ambitious goal. But RIT doesn't start something it can't finish.

Thanks to the generosity of over 30,000 alumni, parents, faculty, staff, corporations, foundations and other friends, the campaign has already raised $232 million for hundreds of projects across campus.

Let's look at some of the accomplishments of these gifts to date. We launched a new college, the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, which opened its doors in 2001 as the most comprehensive computing college in the nation. We built a new signature, 160,000-square-foot student facility, the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, which has, in just a few short months, become the center of student activity across campus.

With the most recent gift of $2.5 million from Bausch & Lomb, the Campaign for RIT now stands at $232 million. RIT plans to raise $300 million.

In a less visible but no less important way, we established 145 new student scholarships and awards and four new endowed professorships. RIT added over $25 million to its endowment. These funds are supporting thousands of deserving students and quality faculty each year and are helping to build a stronger RIT.

Reaching this level of support is a remarkable achievement for RIT, and the campus community has played a big part in this success. Nearly 60 percent of RIT faculty and staff have made a commitment to Powered by the Future. In addition, parents of our current students have committed more than $2.3 million since the campaign began in 2002. Our alumni are reaching out as volunteers and donors, increasing alumni participation in giving from eight to 11 percent in the past four years. This response illustrates one of the greatest achievements—the renewed campus spirit is encouraging people to engage with the university and support it like never before.

With 13 months to go and $68 million yet to raise, there is still work to be done. Fortunately, this high level of support will clearly not end with the campaign in 2006. Rather, thanks to the renewed campus spirit, RIT friends will undoubtedly continue the growing momentum of giving throughout the current strategic plan and beyond.

This is a testament to a new spirit at RIT—a spirit of support and giving to the university.

Cauda is RIT's interim vice president for development and alumni relations.

Student filmmakers present their best at show

RIT student filmmakers in the School of Film and Animation work all year to produce films with that "it" factor. The best undergraduate and graduate student productions will be featured in the annual Honors Show on Sunday, May 22.

First-year students through graduate students all submit films for consideration for the Honors Show. A committee comprised of SOFA faculty and students select about 20 films from more than 400 entries. The students' films include narratives, experimental productions, animations (2-D and 3-D) and documentaries.

"The Honors Show provides professional-quality projection at a nice theatre and a public screening of the students' works," says Jack Beck, SOFA associate professor. "For those participating, it is an opportunity for them to celebrate a significant achievement with their family and friends."

Krystal Lord, a fourth-year student graduating this May, is the executive creative producer of the film, *A Thing or Two About Old People*. The comedy is about a young couple getting married and the events that unravel when the groom learns his grandmother is running an "unorthodox" business out of her home.

Derek Deems, director (foreground), Krystal Lord, executive creative producer, and Josh Kesner, cinematographer, are shown on location in Brockport shooting their film, A Thing or Two About Old People. *It's one of the films under consideration for SOFA's annual Honors Show.*

"The process of working on the film over the past year has been very demanding in time, energy and creativity," says Lord. "Our film has been in development since last May. I spent the summer working with another student writing the film. From there we went into production in the fall."

Derek Deems, director, and Josh Kesner, cinematographer are also fourth-year students. "This film was the most professional one I've worked on so far," says Deems. "It would mean a lot to me to have the film chosen for the Honors Show. I'm my own worst critic, and I sometimes have a hard time seeing anything but my own mistakes when I watch my films. It certainly helps my opinion of my work when other people appreciate or like it."

"The film/video program within the School of Film and Animation is extremely challenging, but equally rewarding," adds Lord. "I can't explain how gratifying it is to spend a year on a project and have a well-executed film to show for it." ■

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SOFA Honors Show is at 3 p.m. May 22 at the Little Theatre, 240 East Ave., Rochester. Admission is $5 (free for RIT students with ID). For more information, call 475-6175.

Academy Award hopefuls

Three animated films produced by students in the School of Film and Animation are among the finalists in our region for Student Academy Awards. The filmmakers are Brittney Lee, Kimberly Miner, Bill Robinson and Jacquie White. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will announce the winners next month.

Miner received a gold medal in the animation category of the Student Academy Awards in 2003 for her film, *Perpetual Motion*.

NTID gets

A $1.5 million bequest from the benefactors of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's Dyer Arts Center will ensure that the center be secured as an exhibition space for perpetuity. The Joseph F. and Helen C. Dyer Arts Center Endowment Fund was created by Joseph Dyer, a retired mechanical engineer, who is deaf. The Dyers donated $2.5 million to NTID to create the center, which opened in 2001.

"This generous bequest will allow NTID to take the Dyer Arts Center to a new level of exhibition excellence," says T. Alan Hurwitz, RIT vice president and NTID dean. "The gift will be used to fund additional curatorial and support staff, special exhibitions, expansion of the college's permanent collection, marketing campaigns and regular maintenance."

Located in NTID's Lyndon Baines Johnson Building, the 7,000-square-foot exhibition space is one of the world's few art galleries devoted to exhibiting significant works by deaf artists. It includes seven exhibition areas in which visitors can view NTID's permanent collection, student work, sculptures, paintings, photography and visiting exhibits.

■ $1.25M PEN grant

The Nippon Foundation of Japan awarded the Postsecondary Education Network-International, a grant program housed at NTID, $1.25 million to fund its fifth year of programming to improve education and career opportunities for college-age deaf students worldwide. To date, The Nippon Foundation of Japan has awarded PEN-International more than $5.8 million.

Students in Japan, China, Russia, the Czech Republic, Thailand and the Philippines will continue to benefit from PEN-International's expertise in the areas of curriculum development, access, technology and teacher training.

"We're especially pleased this year to see so many faculty members at our partner institutions moving from being importers of knowledge and technological skills to self-sufficient users of this technology to the final step-becoming true exporters, sharing their expertise at other universities within their respective countries," says James DeCaro, director of PEN-International.

For more information about PEN-International and its global partners visit www.pen.ntid.rit.edu. ■

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Tending to the Earth

RIT students Lindsay Tendler, second-year photo major, and Jim Harding, second-year biology major, pick up trash and debris along RIT's nature trail during the Earth Day campus cleanup on April 22. Sponsored by the Student Environmental Action League, the event was among several activities celebrating Earth Day, including a sapling sale and photo contest.

Time capsule captures special RIT moment in time

Future generations of RIT students, faculty and staff will be able to reflect on the university's 175th anniversary when they crack open a time capsule decades or perhaps centuries from now.

Inside the time capsule are treasures commemorating RIT's history. These include an RIT hockey uniform, RIT decals, a spiRIT bracelet, the RIT documentary DVD, copies of *Reporter* and *The University Magazine*, a student's blog burned on a CD, examples of industrial design projects, and letters from current RIT students expounding on the future.

The time capsule was buried at a ceremony on May 12. The buried treasure is located in a garden area outside the Student Alumni Union, near the RIT tiger sculpture. An inscribed granite stone marker is located at the site.

A time capsule buried in 1969 to commemorate the new Henrietta campus was dug up in 2003 during construction of *The Sentinel* sculpture. Unfortunately, since the capsule was not weather-tight, its contents were not intact. ■

Some of the items that were placed inside a time capsule and buried in a garden near the Student Alumni Union on May 12.

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Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching honorees

Since 1965, RIT's Eisenhart Awards for Outstanding Teaching have honored and celebrated faculty excellence. Up to four awards are given each year to recipients in various RIT programs. Winners are chosen through rigorous peer review of student nominations. This year, three professors will receive the awards during the academic convocation on Friday, May 20.

The Eisenhart family, for whom the awards are named, has a long history with RIT. The late M. Herbert Eisenhart, president and board chairman of Bausch & Lomb, was an RIT trustee for more than 50 years. Richard Eisenhart continues the RIT connection, serving on the board since 1972, as chairman for six years and now as trustee emeritus.

Abi Aghayere, College of Applied Science and Technology

Sound knowledge of his subject area. Enthusiasm. Patience. These are but a few of the qualities Abi Aghayere brings to his RIT classroom. Alone, they might make for a good teacher. Aghayere, however, is one of RIT's outstanding teachers.

"Yes! Praise the Lord . . . I won it . . . I won it!" That was Aghayere's reaction upon learning he would be one of this year's recipients of the Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching. He and other recipients will receive the award, in recognition of faculty excellence, during Academic Convocation on May 20.

"Dr. Abi is extremely deserving of this award," says Maureen Valentine, associate professor and chair of civil engineering technology/environmental management and safety in the College of Applied Science and Technology, where Aghayere is an associate professor (he will be promoted to full professor this September). "He is an excellent, passionate teacher, respected by his students and colleagues alike. We are thrilled that his talents have been recognized by others at the university."

In the classroom, Aghayere stresses interactive learning and the integration of theory and practice using real-world examples—many stemming from his active outside consulting work. He provides students with timely and frequent feedback, and he sets high standards for them and for himself.

"I consistently reflect on my teaching and on student learning, and I have developed a continuous course-assessment mechanism to gauge my students' level of understanding throughout the quarter," says Aghayere, referring to a tool he created to measure and improve student learning using ongoing assessment of "intended learning outcomes." As a result, students derive immediate benefit from ongoing feedback while a course is still in session.

"I believe in a holistic teaching-learning approach and believe that students should be given the opportunity to develop non-technical skills—including teamwork, leadership and oral communication skills—even in technical courses," he continues.

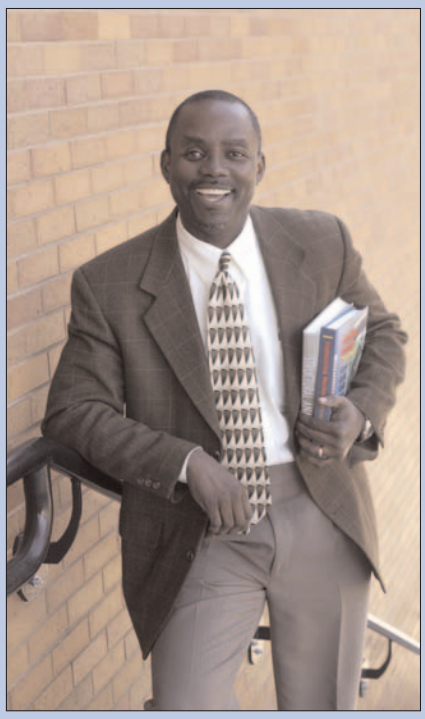
Both inside and outside the classroom, Aghayere aims to be available, approachable, helpful and caring while serving as a mentor and positive role model. He strives to develop rapport with his students as he motivates and challenges them to learn and succeed in college and beyond.

"I view my students and myself as working towards the same goal of student success and excellence," Aghayere says. "I view the success of my students as my success and see our alumni as ambassadors of my department and RIT. This motivates me to be the best teacher, mentor and coach that I can be. I believe my professional relationship with my students does not end when they graduate.

"Because my field deals with life-safety issues, I set high standards for my students and challenge them to work hard while helping them in every way I can," Aghayere continues. "In and out of class, I let my knowledge of and enthusiasm for the subject flow through to the students, creating in them intellectual excitement and the motivation to learn."

Aghayere, originally from Benin-City, Nigeria, in West Africa, came to RIT in 1996. Previously, he was a structural engineer with Halsall Associates Ltd. in Toronto, a research associate in civil engineering at the University of Alberta in Canada, a teaching and research assistant at the University of Alberta, and a lecturer in civil engineering at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria.

At RIT, Aghayere developed the Structural Loads and Systems course and the structural design certificate program, and he pioneered the development of online courses in civil engineering technology. He serves as the faculty associate for scholarship in CAST—mentoring faculty by developing strategies to facilitate scholarship—and he chaired the CAST scholarship committee.



Aghayere: Holistic approach

His own scholarship activity sets a positive example. Aghayere has written or co-written numerous papers, one of which earned him and co-author Wiley McKinzie, CAST dean, the Best Paper Award from the American Society for Engineering Education in 2003. He is co-author of a revised edition of *Reinforced Concrete Design,* slated to be published next year. Aghayere also serves as faculty advisor to RIT's steel bridge and big-beam competition teams.

"For me, teaching is not what I have to do, it's what I love to do and, by the grace of God, I will continue to seek ways to enhance my students' learning experiences," Aghayere says. ■

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Robert Barbato, College Business

"Ehhh, What's up doc?"

Bugs Bunny, the "wascally wabbit" star of Looney Tunes—along with his memorable friends including Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd and Pepe Le Pew (the amorous skunk who turns off Parisian lovers with his scent)—grace one entire wall of Robert Barbato's office in the College of Business.

This RIT professor has a sense of humor and good business sense as well.

"I started collecting these Warner Brother animation cels a long time ago and they still make me smile," says Barbato, associate professor of management and director of the Small Business Institute in the College of Business. "And they are probably worth a lot more than I paid for them in the 1980s," says the 26-year teaching veteran, who, true to form, always remains a businessman.

Barbato—the former owner of USA Baby (a baby furniture retail store) and Don's Original (a local fast food restaurant)—is honored to be a recipient of the Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching.

"No one is successful by himself," says Barbato, whose teaching expertise runs from business ethics and entrepreneurship to organizational behavior. "At RIT, I've had great students to teach and an environment that brings out the best in me, both professionally and personally."

One touching example is his relationship with a young student named Abel, whom he met while teaching as a Fulbright lecturer in Ethiopia. "He wanted an MBA but had no money, no visa, no sponsor to bring him to the United States," Barbato recalls.

Barbato: Big ideas on small business

"Thanks to the generosity of RIT, he came here, earned his MBA and even lived with my family for awhile," Barbato says. "Abel is now an accountant and lives in Virginia with his wife, Yenewud, and their two children. My wife, Linda, and our two daughters, Lauren and Lisa, think of them as part of our family."

Barbato believes he has changed as a teacher through the years—"less focused on the breadth, more focused on the depth of issues."

"Covering textbook comprehension is necessary, but in our business ethics class we dig deep to understand the dynamics of moral behavior and corporate integrity," Barbato notes. "With today's headlines, we never run out of things to talk about."

One guest speaker who made a huge impact on Barbato's students was a bond trader who broke the law while working for the state of Oklahoma. He worked deals, inflated prices, gave kickbacks and fraudulently earned millions of dollars. Trying to escape sentencing, he fled to Mexico—only to be chased by bounty hunters.

"He lost his family, his career and his country," said Barbato, "so he returned home and served time in federal prison. He knew he made the wrong kind of headlines when he received a call from Mike Wallace of 60 Minutes."

Barbato says this was a great lesson for students. "More importantly, I emphasize that ethical business leaders are not the ones who are so frightened that they never do anything wrong. Rather, they are the ones who have the strength and courage to do what's right."

Could that also be a lesson for Bugs Bunny?

"Maybe," says Barbato, "because my favorite cel is 'The Rabbit of Seville' based on the opera, Barber of Seville. The picture shows Bugs playing barber to an already-bald Elmer Fudd. There's got to be a moral issue in there somewhere!" ■

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Doug Manchee, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

Manchee: Mutual admiration

Holiday cards with illustrations of road signs hang on a wall in Doug Manchee's office. The cards, from his students, symbolize what may be considered a Manchee mantra of teaching: providing guidance.

"I think that your job is to point them in directions that might influence them," says Manchee. "There is so much out there."

Manchee, a recipient of an Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching, credits a handful of professors at San Francisco State University as the beacons on his road of learning. "They were inspiring. The one thing about all of them was they had this astonishing energy. I think what I try to emulate is this wonderment of what the kids do. With my teachers, there was no bitterness or anger. There was no, 'I'm right and you're wrong.' There was this dialogue and it was the greatest way to learn."

And Manchee encourages open dialogue in his classes. "I love to be challenged and told 'that isn't quite the right way to see it.' That encourages debate and also helps the student advocate for his way of looking at things."

Manchee, a native of Pittsford, N.Y., moved back to the area with his wife and two sons in 1989. While working as a freelance photographer, he started teaching part-time in the School of Design in 1991. Manchee says he "wandered" over to the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences in 1993 curious to learn more about it. Soon he began teaching advertising photography—a path he continues to follow. At the start of the 2004-05 academic year, he was appointed chair of the advertising photography department.

Manchee uses outlines in his classes, but his lectures sometimes go off on tangents. "I think that in what I do it's often good to veer off course a little bit and talk about something that's different, but relevant. It could be film, it could be fiction, it could be fine art, it could be anything. What we [advertising photographers] do is inclusive of many other things so I have to be flexible and keep my options open."

Having a sense of humor is another of Manchee's teaching recommendations. "You have to be serious about what you do, but you can't take yourself too seriously." A poster of three guys who don't take themselves too seriously—The Three Stooges—hangs on Manchee's wall.

Among the displayed holiday cards is a Valentine's Day card signed by dozens of students. The admiration is mutual. "The kids here are great. They always have been. I love their curiosity and their willingness to learn. Far and away the best thing I love about my job is to walk into a classroom." ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching honorees

The Richard and Virginia Eisenhart Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching recognizes faculty members who have taught three years or less and who pursue excellence in teaching and leadership, nurture the academic climate that fosters teaching at its best, and enhance teaching as a profession. There are two award winners this year.

Peter Hauser, College of Liberal Arts

Hauser: Integrated approach

Winning a Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching is the kind of feedback that can make a great teacher even better. It lets professors like Peter Hauser, a 2005 award recipient, know they're on the right track.

"To have a group of administrators, faculty, staff and students evaluate me and tell me that they are pleased with my teaching is very reinforcing," Hauser says. "The award provides me with some verification that I must be doing something right."

And by all accounts he is.

Hauser, a clinical neuropsychologist and assistant professor of psychology, joined RIT's College of Liberal Arts in 2002. Prior to his appointment, he had completed a clinical neuropsychology post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Rochester School of Medicine.

Since arriving at RIT, Hauser has wasted no time. With several publications to his name—at least three in press—and a lengthy list of presentations, he actively pursues his passion: American Sign Language neurolinguistics.

To excite and involve students in his research, Hauser created his own laboratory on campus, the Deaf Studies Laboratory. DSL is an interdisciplinary student-oriented lab that brings together COLA students and their peers from the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Together, they collaborate on projects that combine Internet-based programs and software to collect and analyze data for behavioral studies. The lab also collaborates with the Bavelier Laboratory in the UR's brain and cognitive science program.

Students working at DSL are involved in such studies as the impact of sign language experience and auditory deprivation on visual perception, attention and memory; identity, culture, prejudice and mental health; the validity of psychological assessment instruments given to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals; and an assessment of American Sign Language.

"DSL members present their work at weekly lab meetings," Hauser says. "This helps students develop a better understanding of various research methods, data analyses and how to formally present research findings."

Hauser, who became profoundly deaf at age five, appreciates "the differences as well as the similarities of peoples' lives and identities." He credits that awareness with his ease in relating to and learning from others.

He brings this perspective to the classroom where most of his classes are a combination of deaf, hard-of-hearing and hearing students. Two interpreters voice what he says in class while he signs in ASL.

"I work closely with my interpreters to ensure that communication is effective," he says. "I hope that this teaches the deaf, hard-of-hearing and hearing students how to communicate with each other effectively. We have great discussions in class, which provides some experiential learning of pluralism."

Hauser emphasizes diversity, innovation and experiential learning in his classroom teaching. "When I teach, I usually give both deaf and hearing examples," he says. "I try to include everyone. This causes some dialogue among the students. I believe this assists them in learning about diversity, various perspectives and real applications of the principles and theories discussed in class."

Hauser lives in Rochester with his wife, three dogs and two cats. The Hausers are expecting their first child this summer. ■

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Todd Pagano, National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Pagano: Confronting science phobia

Todd Pagano, winner of the Richard and Virginia Eisenhart Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching, is passionate—no, make that hyperkinetic—about science. The 30-year-old professor in the National Technical Institute for the Deaf's Laboratory Science Technology program is well known for doing just about anything to get a point across, including dancing on tables to show "electronic transition states" and sprawling on counters to demonstrate "molecular vibration schemes."

"You never know what he's going to do in class," says student Ahmed Ibrahim. "That's what makes every day exciting."

Pagano, who has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the State University of New York at Oswego and a master's in the same field from Tufts University, has been teaching in the LST program, which prepares students for careers in environment, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, food analysis and forensics, for three years.

The program has been growing steadily in popularity, in large part due to Pagano's tireless teaching efforts.

He loves to confront "science phobia" in students by challenging them to participate in his class before declaring any disdain for the field.

"I met Professor Pagano during summer orientation, and he asked me if I liked science," recalls Anita Kurian. "He said if I came to his class, he guaranteed I would. We did DNA electrophoresis, and I fell in love with the program."

Pagano, a native of Rochester whose parents are both teachers, explains his perspective on education by relating to one of his favorite interdisciplinary thinkers.

"Buckminster Fuller once depicted humanity's reliance on non-renewable energy resources as an unborn chick in an egg," Pagano explains. "Fuller warns that humanity must view the use of earth's finite resources as the nutriment in an egg that is relied upon in order to provide the necessary time and energy required for mankind to establish alternative energy sources for a sustainable future."

Pagano believes that the role of the educator is that of a facilitator, or the provider of the "egg." He says"At the end of the educational process, the student emerges from the shell with the necessary skills to be a renewable source of learning unto him or herself."

Given the proper nutriment, Pagano says, a chick hatches to become a chicken and a student develops into a knowledgeable lifelong learner.

To facilitate that process, Pagano, who is active in the American Chemical Society and a past advisor to the NTID/RIT College Bowl team, uses an inquiry-based teaching approach, which allows him to detour occasionally from the planned curriculum to address current events and real-life issues.

When a student questioned a newspaper article about mercury levels in fish, Pagano went to a local butcher, "begged for samples of several types of fish," and brought them in for students to analyze.

"I couldn't pass up the opportunity to grab onto this student's innate curiosity and make a lesson out of it that the entire class could enjoy," he says.

"Professor Pagano has a way of teaching information that is more conceptual and easier for me to learn," says Ibrahim. "Every day I leave class saying, 'Thank you, Professor Pagano.'"

By putting his philosophies into practice, Pagano suggests a change in perspective on the age-old question: Which came first, the teacher or the student?

"I strongly believe that teaching is reciprocal," Pagano states. "In the context of the shared mission of student success by the teacher and the student, instructors should be willing to learn, not only by keeping current in their field, but also by learning from their students." ■

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Public policy grad student explores Kosovo

Lyndsey Fisher's curiosity led her to war-torn Kosovo to see for herself the issues facing the U.N. protectorate. She traveled to the region for a week last fall on a visit to the American University in Kosovo, one of RIT's partner universities, with Jim Myers, director of the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies at RIT, and Clare Lagiewski, AUK Program Coordinator at CMS in RIT's College of Applied Science and Technology.

Having Myers as a professor for one of her classes and hearing about his involvement in Kosovo initially sparked Fisher's interest in the region and her desire to get involved. From this grew the topic of the public policy major's senior thesis, a student job as a research assistant to Lagiewski and a chance to travel to a part of the world Fisher had never seen.

Fisher, who will graduate this year with her bachelor's degree, has already begun work on her master's degree in public policy at RIT. Her graduate work will continue to explore issues facing Kosovo.

"Because I knew my senior project was going to be rolling into my graduate thesis, it was a good way for me to gain first-hand experience and get a general understanding of Kosovo," Fisher says of her trip.

While in Kosovo, Fisher conducted surveys of AUK students and interviews with representatives from the International Crisis Group, the Regional Environmental Center and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe: Mission in Kosovo. She came away from the country with a sense of the lack of local power given to this region marred by centuries of ethnic conflict, self-segregation and insecurity.

Lyndsey Fisher: The public policy grad student spent a week in war-torn Kosovo

Fisher also notes that urbanization has happened quickly in Kosovo. Air and water pollution is unregulated, and the electricity goes out several times a day, she adds.

Her senior thesis recommends increased discussions between the local residents of Kosovo and members of the international organizations based there. She also suggests education about environmental, economic and social issues, and ways to initiate sustainable development-methods that improve the economy without hindering the rest of society or destroying the environment.

When Fisher returns to Kosovo next year as a graduate student, she will be looking more closely at policies to help create an educated workforce and economic development.

Fisher is hopeful for the future of Kosovo.

"It's unstable and uncertain, but I was blown away by how friendly and motivated the people are," Fisher says. "The people really impressed me, especially the AUK students who are ready to improve Kosovo and make a difference." ■

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Diplomas for RIT twins, dilemma for their family

Twin brothers Brian, left, and Kevin Gonzales graduate from RIT in separate ceremonies.

In 1982, Brian Gonzales entered the world 10 minutes ahead of his twin brother. Not to be outdone, on May 21, Kevin Gonzales will beat his "older" brother to a college diploma by a full half hour.

Not to say that either had input on the timing of these milestones. Kevin, a math major, will join fellow College of Science graduates for commencement in the Ritter Ice Arena at 4 p.m. Brian, an electrical engineering student, will walk the stage of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center during the Kate Gleason College of Engineering ceremony at 4:30 p.m.

For the Gonzales family, from Pennsville, N.J., that presents a problem. Two brothers, separate but almost simultaneous ceremonies, different locations—how does one family be in two places at the same time?

"I went to the dean's office to see if there was any way to work things out," recalls Kevin. "They were very positive about coming up with a plan so that everyone could attend both ceremonies."

After Kevin receives his diploma, the Gonzales family—including four younger siblings—will be escorted out of the arena. From there, they will be transported on golf carts to share Brian's big moment. Both graduates are receiving combined bachelor's and master's degrees.

"There's definitely a sense of achievement," states Brian. "It's the end of one phase of our lives, but it's also the start of another."

For both, the next phase includes doctoral studies. Kevin has accepted a fellowship at Duke University and Brian is weighing his Ph.D. options. But these twins, roommates and best friends know that, for the first time, life is about to send them in separate directions.

"It will be different," says Brian, "but I'm not worried."

Adds Kevin, "Yeah, we'll keep in touch." ■

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Celebrating 175

SPOTLIGHT ON

College of Business

From accreditation to new initiatives, this college is 'on the move'

During the past 30-plus years, the College of Business has graduated from small to big business for RIT. The college is ranked in the top 4 percent of undergraduate business schools (*U.S. News & World Report*) with 16,500 alumni worldwide in 50 states and 38 countries. Alumni include 750 presidents, CEOs, chairmen, vice presidents and owners/entrepreneurs.

The college marked a major milestone, in 1969, when it launched an MBA program. COB subsequently received accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, opened the U.S. Business School in Prague, founded the *USA Today* Quality Cup Award (1992 to 2000) and earned the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings in 1996 and from 2001 to 2004.

More change is on the way with the appointment of Brian O'Neil (currently associate dean at Clarkson University School of Business), who will begin June 1 as COB associate dean and director of graduate business programs. Upon his arrival, Wayne Morse will become senior associate dean and chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance, and Donald Wilson will return to a full-time faculty position in the Department of Management and Marketing.

Additionally, Dean Thomas Hopkins recently announced plans to step down from his post on June 30, 2006, after eight years as dean. In September 2007, he will become a professor of economics in RIT's College of Liberal Arts, where he taught from 1988 to 1998.

"I'm ready for a change, and after taking a 12-month sabbatical leave, I look forward to resuming what I most enjoy—teaching economics and scholarship in regulatory policy and benefit-cost analysis," Hopkins explains.

Indeed, 2005 has been a stellar year for Hopkins, who has presided over the successful reaffirmation of RIT's College of Business AACSB accreditation (which now extends through 2011), and was instrumental in launching new initiatives such as the Fast-Track MBA to be completed by full-time students in one year, and a 15-month Executive MBA degree program in which classes meet on alternate weekends.

The Max Lowenthal Building, home of RIT's College of Business

The Fast Track one-year MBA advantage, making its debut this summer, is an accelerated, intensive and fast-paced program for students interested in pursuing a concentration in finance, management and leadership. The 18-course curriculum begins with six two-week modules covering core courses, followed by RIT's traditional MBA schedule where students complete four courses per quarter in fall, winter and spring.

The new 15-month Executive MBA degree program also gets underway this August and offers busy professionals the chance to earn their degrees in a reduced time frame. In addition, RIT will underwrite one-time only scholarships, valued at $12,900, to the first 30 accepted applicants to the new Executive MBA program.

"We are a college on the move, yet very aware of the interpersonal and career goals of our students, faculty and alumni," Hopkins says. "If the College of Business was competing in a business school triathlon, we would have all the right components. We recognize our strengths, have confidence in our overall performance and thrive on change." ■

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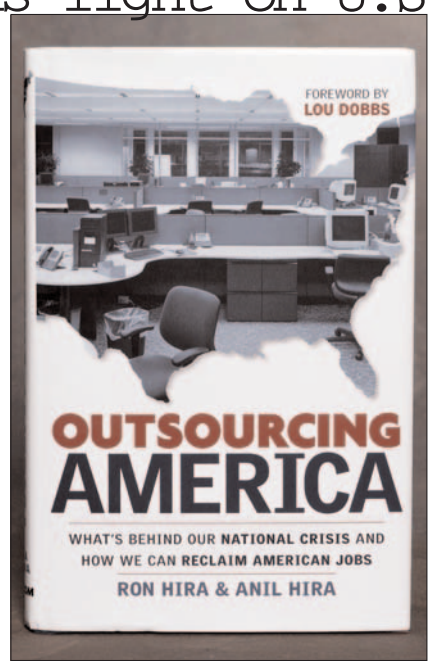
New book sheds light on U.S. job outsourcing crisis

Offshore outsourcing of American jobs is reshaping the future of the United States workforce. In his new book, *Outsourcing America: What's Behind Our National Crisis and How We Can Reclaim American Jobs*, Ron Hira seeks to give readers a clear understanding of the phenomena that are exporting highly skilled jobs to other countries.

"One of the reasons we wrote the book is because there is a real hunger for objective information on outsourcing," says Hira, assistant professor of public policy at RIT, who co-wrote the book with brother, Anil Hira, a professor of political science and Latin American studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Colombia.

A national expert on the issue, Ron Hira has twice testified before Congress on the implications of outsourcing and has given more than 60 invited talks on the topic. Anil Hira provides insights into the larger trends of globalization and how developing countries attract high-technology industries and high-skill jobs.



Public policy Professor Ron Hira's new book

The authors see the phenomena increasing, with more types of jobs moving overseas and lowered wages for Americans with "tradable" occupations. They note that higher education does not inoculate workers from their jobs being outsourced. Still, they regard outsourcing as neither entirely good nor bad, rejecting the simplistic black-and-white argument espoused by corporate lobbyists that divides proponents and critics into two camps. Corporations are acting rationally by trying to lower costs, the authors explain, but so are workers who know that if their jobs are outsourced they cannot find equivalent work.

RIT's Professor Hira is critical of corporate America for not being "more open and honest about what jobs they are moving and how many" and the government for being slow to respond.

"This veil of secrecy creates all kinds of practical problems for educators and workers," he says. "If you knew what kinds of jobs were going to stay, then you'd train for them. Right now, no one except the corporate leaders know what kind of jobs are staying, and they aren't talking."

"There has been no policy response in large part because corporations have a disproportionate influence on the policy process," Hira adds.

Exporting research and development may threaten national security in the future, he warns.

"Our ace in the hole is supposed to be innovation," he says. "The reality is that research and development is being outsourced. That undercuts assumptions being made that outsourcing is all good."

The authors recommend a number of policy changes that the government needs to do "to emphasize the positive about outsourcing and mitigate the negative," such as:

- Acknowledge the problems of outsourcing and encourage a national dialogue
- Collect reliable and objective data about the numbers and types of outsourced jobs and the reemployment outcomes for displaced workers
- Fix the tax code and extend trade adjustment assistance to people who lose jobs to outsourcing in the computer software and other services fields. Right now only manufacturing workers qualify for assistance. ■

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News briefs

Annual thesis show

Graduate students earning masters of fine arts in computer graphics design will showcase their work in a thesis show. The 20th annual show, featuring multimedia, animation, 3-D and dynamic typography projects is 6-8 p.m. May 20 in the James E. Booth Building, room 1315. Students will have booths set up and be available to answer questions. The show is free and open to the public.

Buggy team competes

RIT's Human-Powered Vehicle team finished with the second fastest time and earned sixth place overall in NASA's 12th Annual Great Moonbuggy Race last month in Huntsville, Ala. RIT and 28 other college teams from 14 states, Germany and Puerto Rico traversed a half-mile obstacle course of simulated moonscape terrain at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

"We improved upon last year's time by about nine minutes and deemed it extremely successful from an engineering standpoint," says Andrew Streett, a fourth-year mechanical engineering major and team co-captain.

RIT's concrete canoe team placed fourth overall in the 18th annual National Concrete Canoe regional competition last month. RIT's steel bridge team also competed at the event, hosted by Clarkson University. RIT will host next year's regional concrete canoe and steel bridge contests.

New security standards

The RIT Information Security Office has issued a new security standard for desktop and portable computers. Effective June 1, all users of RIT-owned or leased computers are required to keep operating system patches up to date and run up-to-date anti-virus software, a personal firewall, computer memory protection and an anti-spyware product. Information on how to comply with the new standard may be found on at www.security.rit.edu.

You get to do this in college? Cool—I'm going to RIT!

Some of the hundreds of Rochester-area middle school students who attended the 15th annual E³ Engineering and Technology Fair on April 28 at RIT check out RoboSapien, a toy robot created by members of RIT's Multidisciplinary Robotics Club. The fair, sponsored by the Rochester Engineering Society, featured more than two-dozen hands-on exhibits emphasizing engineering, exploration and experimentation. Club members Steve Pomeroy, top right, and Iheanyi Umez-Eronini explain their group's project. For more information about the RIT student robotics club, visit http://mdrc.rit.edu.

Researchers study age-related hearing loss

New discoveries coming from a National Technical Institute for the Deaf-based research program are grabbing the attention of media and people suffering from age-related hearing loss.

Since 1991, NTID's founding director, D. Robert Frisina, has been leading the nation's largest National Institutes of Health-funded research program on age-related hearing loss. Under the umbrella program, International Center on Hearing Research, Frisina is working with scientists from NTID, as well as his son and fellow scientist, Robert Frisina, adjunct professor at RIT's College of Science and professor of otolaryngology at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

They've learned that age-related hearing loss is accelerated by other age-dependent conditions like Type II diabetes and thyroid problems. Using both human and animal subjects they've discovered:

- Age-related hearing changes begin earlier than originally thought. They now believe less noticeable first stages start as early as 40 years of age.
- With aging, the brain begins to process sound in new ways—which may be corrected with medication or a dietary supplement.
- Age-related hearing loss is passed on through families, with a mother's hearing most influential on the children's hearing.

Robert Frisina Jr. is interviewed by media.

"Traditionally, scientists studying hearing problems started looking at the ear," says Robert Frisina. "But we are finding patients with essentially normal ears who still have trouble understanding a conversation. There are many people who have good inner ears who just don't hear well. That's because the auditory parts of their brains are aging."

The number one hearing complaint among the elderly is that they have trouble hearing speech because of background noise. Someone might hear fine in a quiet environment like their home, but when they go to a restaurant or a meeting or a party, it sounds like chaos to them, D. Robert Frisina says. "That's partly because the feedback system is failing."

The difficulties can isolate people from friends and family, beginning when people first have noticeable difficulty with age-related hearing loss in their 50s and 60s. This problem is especially tragic because just when people have time to spend with their children and grandchildren, they can't understand what's going on.

While there is not yet a cure for age-related hearing loss, some simple steps can lessen its effects. Speaking loudly is an instinctual reaction when talking to a person who is hard of hearing. But that won't help when talking to someone with age-related hearing loss.

"Speaking slightly slower than usual will help," says the elder Frisina, "as if you were talking to someone from abroad whose native language is not English." ■

Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

A lot of young mothers wouldn't have chosen to do what I did—leave their baby daughter in her husband's care back in the States while she traveled back and forth for two years on a company's joint venture in China. But it was one of the best things I've ever done and proved to be an amazing life experience for all of us.

—Susan Riley '81

Susan Riley '81 could easily play a starring role in a Donald Trump-like reality-television series about a self-reliant businesswoman who rides the elevator to the top of the corporate world and never comes down.

"I encourage women to be independent and not be afraid to take risks because there's no limit to what women can accomplish today," says the RIT business-accounting alumna. "A career is the best life insurance policy a woman can have."

Riley knows "what women want" and it's much more than the satisfaction of watching corporations change their top executive's pronouns from

Susan Riley '81

he to she: It's about achieving a rewarding and satisfying career.

In the early stages, Riley performed double duty—attending classes at RIT and working as a co-op with local accountants Goldstein and Viele. She took her first job with the Rochester office of the national CPA accounting firm Arthur Andersen, then decided to move to New York City and work as an accountant while attending night classes to earn an MBA from Pace University.

"I chose to work at Bristol Myers because they wanted me to do international audits and I couldn't pass it up," says Riley, who grew up in Europe and attended grade school in Paris and high school in London. "When I returned to New York, I got married and pregnant, and took a job with Tambrands Inc., which offered me opportunities to work in China, then Latin America."

While serving as chief financial officer for Tambrands, Riley faced the heartbreaking news that her husband, Clive, was diagnosed with leukemia. He died in 1994.

"Clive was a lawyer and an incredible father to his two children and our daughter," Riley recalls. "He had to deal with such pain and still made the best of his situation; he was very supportive of all of us."

Now a single parent, Riley moved her family to Arizona to become CFO for Dial Corp., then decided to move back east to assume the CFO position of Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City.

She joined Abercrombie & Fitch in February 2004 to serve as senior vice president and chief financial officer. Riley recently left the position due to commuting problems between working at Abercrombie headquarters in Ohio and returning weekends to spend time with her daughter at their home in New York. She is in the process of starting her own financial practice.

"My advice to the graduating class of 2005 at RIT is to try to be as flexible as you can be with regard to the position that you take and the location thereof," Riley says. "This world is a big place and the more flexible you are, the higher the likelihood that you will find a position that you really like."

Riley also believes in being very upfront about career goals when interviewing for a job. "It has always been my long-term intention to work and live in New York City and I was quite honest about it when I interviewed with Abercrombie, but it was a very seductive job," Riley says.

"The culture of the company is like the store: you wear the clothes, walk the talk and wear the brand. It was exciting to pour myself into the jeans, the work and the controversy about our image," Riley explains.

"Abercrombie's magazine now contains celebrity interviews and beautiful pictures of beautiful places with beautiful people in them," says Riley.

She hopes graduating students will feel good about working for a company and stand behind it 100 percent during their employment. While at Abercrombie, Riley wore the jeans!

"By taking risks, being open to new opportunities and embracing change, you enhance your experience-base professionally and grow and become more well-rounded personally. It's the combination to open all the right doors," says Riley. ■

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Ettlie earns distinctions

John Ettlie has been "granted" two wishes.

He was recently awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to work on a joint project, Collaborative Research: Service Innovation, with Professor Stephen Rosenthal of Boston University.

John Ettlie

Ettlie is also the recipient of a Fulbright grant to teach in Portugal from May through August.

"I will teach a version of the course I teach here, and although it is offered under their MIS track, it is a two-part course on managing innovation," explains Ettlie, who is director of technology management and Madelon L. and Richard N. Rosett chair in the College of Business.

"This is how you learn about a culture, you live it," Ettlie recalls about his teaching experience in Lisbon, at his host institution, Catolica, where he taught in 2003. "You speak only the native language, go where the natives go, ride the bus, the subway, the tram, eat in local restaurants, and when you get back to the U.S., you understand the true meaning of diversity: tolerance, tolerance, tolerance."

When he returns to RIT, Ettlie will embark on a five-year study of service innovation, the first two years funded by the NSF division of Innovation and Organizational Change. The project is funded jointly between RIT and Boston University, together exceeding $200,000.

"Our focus is on service innovation extensions of manufacturing firms," Ettlie explains, "and partner firms include Kodak, Flextronics and several other leading companies in manufacturing services."

The NSF grant, says Ettlie, represents a major new applied research thrust by the technology management center in the College of Business. ■

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'Jamming'

In an effort to fight hunger in Rochester, the RIT community made 2,000 peanut butter and jelly bagels that were delivered to local food kitchens and community centers on May 3. Food donations for the fifth annual PB Jam were provided by Genesee Valley Foodlink and Wegmans. Originally a program sponsored by the Hillel Jewish student organization, all members of the Interfaith Center joined in PB Jam along with faculty, staff and alumni. In addition, special interest groups, fraternities, sororities and other clubs took turns making and delivering sandwiches.

RPO, WXXI to hold fundraiser at RIT

WXXI Public Broadcasting Council and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra are collaborating on a springtime fundraising event at RIT, A Renaissance Ball: Dancing, da Vinci and the RPO.

On May 14, the Gordon Field House and Activities Center will be transformed into a Renaissance-style grand ballroom. Guests will dine and dance to jazz and swing music performed live by the RPO under the direction of Jeff Tyzik.

Proceeds benefit the programs of WXXI and the RPO. The gala includes a gourmet dinner with dessert, silent and live auctions and live entertainment. Ticket information available at wxxi.org or the RPO box office at 454-2100. ■

Silandara Bartlett-Gustina | sjbcom@rit.edu

Documenting the birth of a university

David Parish, second from right, president of the Livingston County Historical Society, presents a copy of the 1830 published proceedings of the New York State Assembly to RIT's Cary Graphic Arts Collection. The book, which documents the charter of one of RIT's forerunners, the Rochester Athenaeum, has been donated to the collection in recognition of the university's 175th anniversary. Among those attending the presentation were, from left, Scott Canaan, information and technology services senior database administrator and a member of the Livingston County Historical Society, David Pankow, Cary Collection curator, and Dane Gordon, College of Liberal Arts professor emeritus.

RIT prof heads back to on-the-job training

Whether it's a photograph of a homeless person or a portrait of Mrs. Smith and her prize-winning bundt cake, Loret Steinberg says photographers have to focus on more than taking a good picture.

"It's not enough for the photographer to show up and just begin recording," says Steinberg, associate professor in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. "The photographer needs to connect on a human level with his subject and that's when he will truly get a meaningful image." She hopes her idea of alternative story framing catches on among her new co-workers.

Steinberg will join the photography staff at *The Record*, a daily metropolitan newspaper covering northern New Jersey and Manhattan. The paper has hired Steinberg as a photographer/editor for the summer. Steinberg will be going out in the field and shooting photographs, as well as editing and developing story assignments for others.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors awarded a fellowship to Steinberg, along with 19 faculty members from other universities, to work at various newspapers around the country. She will also conduct research.

Steinberg joins a staff of six photographers. She will have at least two assignments a day and when she's not shooting, she will edit photographs. She says the staff is interested in learning more about her ideas of alternative story framing.

"Some of these ideas I think contribute not only to more meaningful photographs but better stories in terms of what the reader needs to understand about a situation. I think that's one of the reasons why people are so confused about world and local events because mainstream media covers them so superficially."

While taking photographs for The Associated Press last summer in New York City during the Republican National Convention, Steinberg says she found herself having "intense, intimate conversations with total strangers." Six of those images are currently on exhibition in the RIT School of Photography Faculty Show.

The AP assignment led to her current work with Poor People United, an organization of homeless and formerly homeless people with volunteers working to organize and help the poor.

Loret Steinberg

Steinberg works overnight shifts on its emergency hypothermia bus in Rochester, documenting people's personal stories of life on the streets.

Once she settles in to her new surroundings, she'll be photographing with homeless and poverty activists in New Jersey, Brooklyn and Manhattan. "If I can make any kind of contribution to society, it would be civic engagement through my photographs," she says. ■

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Two earn Goldwater Scholarships

Two RIT science majors have won the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the premier undergraduate award for students interested in pursuing careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering.

Russell Scott of Sunderland, Mass., and Julia Bethel of Cape May, N.J., are RIT's first Goldwater scholars. The national award, based on academic merit, consists of a $7,500 scholarship. This year, 320 undergraduate awardees were selected from 1,091 nominees.

Scott, a third-year biotechnology major, has been involved in undergraduate research involving plant-associated bacteria. He has presented his research and has won summer fellowships for his work from the American Society of Plant Biologists and the American Society of Microbiology. Scott plans to earn his doctorate and pursue a career in biochemical genetics. He is in the RIT Honors Program and holds a Nathaniel Rochester Society Scholarship. He is also a member of the College of Science Student Advisory Board and the RIT Concert Band.

Bethel, a third-year applied mathematics major, has conducted undergraduate research pertaining to the 2001 meningococcal disease epidemic in Africa. She plans to obtain her doctorate and pursue a career in mathematical biology. Bethel is in the RIT Honors Program and holds a National Science Foundation Scholarship and an RIT Presidential Scholarship. She is also a math tutor and a member of the mathematics association of RIT.

Second-year students Sarah Denial, a biochemistry major from Erie, Pa., and Brad Loesch, a chemistry major from Xenia, Ohio, were also RIT Goldwater nominees.

Prize-winning portfolios

Kayce Baker, center, special accounts manager for Fuji Photo Film U.S.A. Inc., views the winning portfolios from this year's Fuji Scholarship competition. Sean McGlincy, right, from Atlanta, earned $2,000 as the first-prize winner, and Sarah Weeden from Canandaigua, N.Y., was awarded $1,000 for second prize. Both students are third-year advertising photography majors in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. Judging for the scholarship was based on visual quality, craft, presentation and creativity.

Davis Scholars

The annual Davis Scholarship Awards luncheon gave special recognition to student leaders who significantly contribute to campus life. Alfred Davis, RIT vice president emeritus (shown in the front row), joined the winning scholars. They are Michele Avolio, Aisosa Ayela-Uwangue, Faviana Campbell, Jessica Campbell, Nathan Holland, James Macchiano, Jennifer Mack, Jessica Mills, Adam Peck, Matthew Pittorf, Evelyn Plazas, Daniela Ribinski, Jonathan Romanowski, Amethyst Rule, Heidi Schille, Elizabeth Sorkin and Amruta Sudhalkar. Also pictured are Brunhilde Knapp (front row), Betsy Clark (second row, from left), Mary Lu Clark, Mary Birx, Nancy Burke (third row, from left), Joseph Burke, Peter Bourne and Peggy Birx.

Winning wordsmiths

The Institute Writing Committee recognized the winners of this year's Student Writing Contest at a luncheon last month. In the front row with Andrew Moore, College of Liberal Arts dean, is Shannon Pytlak, a fourth-year film and animation student who won an honorable mention in the nonfiction category. In the second row, from left, are Erin Snyder, a second-year new media design major, who won a creative writing honorable mention; Terry Men Chun Fung Ching, a second-year computational mathematics major, who won a nonfiction honorable mention; Ren Meinhart, a fourth-year visual media major, who took the creative writing grand prize; Jennifer Treuting, a fourth-year film and video major, who the nonfiction grand prize; Katherine Mayberry, RIT vice president for academic affairs; and Jennifer Loomis, a second-year software engineering major, who won a nonfiction honorable mention.

Essay earns award for PTC student

Brandon Borgna, a third-year professional and technical communication major in the College of Liberal Arts, won the 2005 Ethics and Communication Award. The prize, made possible through a donation from a PTC alumnus, was established in 2004 by RIT's Department of Communication to recognize outstanding work in the study of ethics and communication by an undergraduate student enrolled in the PTC program. Borgna is being recognized for his essay on the ethics of visual representations of RIT in its promotional literature.

Bennett Scholars recognized

The TRIO Support Services program in RIT's Learning Development Center honored recipients of the Bennett Scholarship in a recent ceremony. The 2005 Bennett Scholars are Justine Paoletti, Gina DiCaprio, Jonathan LeJeune, William Atkinson, Nicholas Pennise and Christina Bryce.

Alpha Sigma Lambda Scholars

The Alpha Sigma Lambda Honorary Society inducted 22 new students this year. The students were honored at a dinner in April at Liberty Hill along with their chosen mentors. The honorary society annual inducts new members based on scholarship, participation in activities and leadership in academic and co-curricular student activities. This year's honorees are Tricia Andrew, Mary Kate Bloemker, David Branca, Heather Brazeau, Genevieve Deguire, Thomas DiPietro, Gloria Farr, Emma Fulton, Sumeet Gupta, Nicole Heiges, Vandna Jain, Chelsea Johnson, Amy Kennicutt, David Krauter, Catherine Krupa, Dayou Lu, Michael Maeder, Rachel McGinnis, Sarah Moyer, Dawn Pepin, Kasie Strong and Ashley Waltz.

Online learning awards given

RIT Provost Stanley McKenzie and Online Learning hosted the 2005 Exemplary Online Teaching Awards and 2004/2005 Distance Learning Scholarship Awards.

At the ceremony, the 2005 Exemplary Online Teaching Award was presented to Roberta Klein, accounting lecturer, College of Business; the 2005 Exemplary Distance Learning Faculty Award was presented to John Roche, assistance professor, language and literature department, College of Liberal Arts; the Excellence In Online Teaching and Learning Department Award was presented to the Department of Communication, College of Liberal Arts; the Distance Learning Student Scholarship Award was presented to David Goen, master's candidate in print media, School of Print Media; and the Lifetime Achievement Award in Distance Education was awarded to Thomas Barker, professor, the John D. Hromi Center for Quality and Applied Statistics, Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

Honoring dream-makers

Charles Volpe '59 accepts the recognition of guests at the Celebration of Scholarship dinner. In 2002, Volpe and his wife, Andrea, established a scholarship that provides full tuition to selected students in RIT's engineering or computing programs who graduated from his alma mater, Red Jacket High School. Liz Kesel, left, is among the students receiving assistance from the Volpes. Celebration of Scholarship annually salutes the donors to a growing number of tuition assistance programs. There are more than 500 scholarships available at RIT, with 31 created last year.

The sweet rewards of success

RIT's College Panhellenic Association honored 70 Greek women for their academic achievement at their second annual Sweet Rewards Dessert Reception and ceremony in April. Kate Motter, second-year new media publishing major, was honored for having a cumulative GPA of 4.0. Motter is a member of Alpha Xi Delta and is in the RIT Honors Program.

International student scholars

This year, 35 students from countries around the world were honored by RIT's International Student Scholarship program. The scholars are Titiksha Agarwal, Aisosa Ayela-Uwangue, Nagaraj Bijjala, Roman Blagovirnyy, Somi-Ruw Budhagoda Arachchige, Paulo Choi, Moonsik Chung, Rohan Dang, Pari Dukovic, Daniel Fava, Nirav Gala, Alethia Jimenez Garcia, Lucas Habegger, Timucin Karaca, Yaniv Koter, Kiran Lad, Kapil Lakhani, Mian Sheng (Leon) Lim, Sanjay Manglam, Itzel Morales, Marcos Mota, Pooja Munim, Tran Nguyen, Haida Ni, Franz Orban, Ankur Anil Pandhe, Ashish Rathour, Mayank Rathour, Gabriel Wiethorn Rinaldi, Marcos Daniel Romero-Lay, Arjun Sachdeva, Yeuk Kei See, Amardeep Sekhri, Rashmi Shah and Abdul Haleem Syed.

Outstanding undergraduates

RIT honored students as Outstanding Undergraduate Scholars in a ceremony and reception held in April. Joined by Stanley McKenzie, RIT Provost, top row, the scholars are Naser Almohri, Amy Alquist, Jonathon Donaldson, Teresa Hartford, Robin Hoffman, Patti Humphrey, Iva Jozic, Maja Korica, John McVaigh, Sandra Miletic, Sarah Morgan and Iva Zaja from the College of Applied Science and Technology; Jon Ferguson, Carol Ferrera, Raina Foge, Sarah Foote and Minh Luong from the College of Business; Brian Ballsun-Stanton, Robert Brackett, Brian Castka, Christopher Connett, Brian Dagan, Adrienne Dahler, Arpit Desai, Thomas Guzewich, Sean Hannan, Joseph Kardamis, Jonathan New, Josh Rosenberg, Yeuk Kei See, Mehak Sujan, Brian Tajuddin, Ritu Thaker, Gregory Von Pless, Benjamin Wise and Brian Ziegler from the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences; Jonathan Arbogast, Lance Barron, Dmitriy Bekker, Jamie Boeheim, Douglas Brown, Alexey Chernyakov, Evan Clark, Erin Colquitt, Josh Dennie, Eric Ernst, Daniel Fava, Gilbert Hendry, Cory Hoffman, David Kann, Lindsay LaRocca, Bhushan Mehendale, Anna Murray, Ross Strebig and Geoffrey Watson from the Kate Gleason College of Engineering; Vladlena Belozerova, Andrew Bigelow, Mary Bonaparte-Krogh, Jesse Borkowski, Kristine Dunham, Rose Figliomeni, Brigid Gloekler, Justin Kissida, Peter Lazarski, Jonathan Lesser, Amy Livings, Krystal Lord, Ryan Pancoast, Jennifer Plevy, Shannon Pytlak, Rebecca Ruby, Daniel Sax, Frank Solome, Courtney Thibaudeau, Mary Titus and Ashley Waltz from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences; Gregory DeAngelo, Jacqueline Licht and Vanessa Mazza from the College of Liberal Arts; Vandana Chakravartty, Marissa Clopper, John DeLisio, Kevin Galens, Lukas Habegger, Zackery Knowlden, Matthew Montanaro, Christopher Plymire, Brad Tebbets, Megan Varner, Nicole Waxmonsky and Maureen Wood from the College of Science.

Student Government awards

RIT's Student Government handed out a slew of awards at its seventh annual awards banquet in April. They included:

■ The SG Extra Mile Award, which was presented to student services employees in the electrical, computer and telecommunications engineering technology department in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

■ The SG President's Awards were given to Campus Safety and Karen Barrows, assistant to the RIT president.

Campus Safety was awarded for its diligence to keep students informed about changing bus routes and making sure that these services were not cut and students were not left stranded.

Barrows received the award for her help in making sure that student leaders and students alike are always able to voice their opinions and concerns to RIT President Albert Simone. This past year, she also played a large role in helping to organize activities including the Frank Horton Distinguished Speaker Series event that featured Robert Redford, says Shiela Sarratore, outgoing Student Government president.

Other award recipients were Hayley Fisch—RHA Member of the Year; Jennifer Seamans—OCASA Director of the Year; Charles Sterling—NSC Dr. Robert Frisina's Past President Award; RIT Anime and RIT Players—SG Outstanding Club Programming; Hillel—SG Outstanding Community Service; William Scarborough—SG Outstanding Club Advisor; Deaf International Students Club—Global Union Club of the Year; Qing Quan, Stephen Sudirgo and Daniela Ribinski—Outstanding International Student; Adrienne Morgan of Ebony Club—BACC Appreciation Awards; Russ Zumwalt, Triangle fraternity—Greek Council Outstanding Greek Man; Sheila Sarratore, Alpha Sigma Alpha—Greek Council Outstanding Greek Woman; Andrea Napoli, Alpha Sigma Alpha—Outstanding Greek Advisor; Mehak Sujan and Ashish Rathour—PERDA Outstanding Student Award; Faviana Campbell and Steve Brownlee—Isaac L. Jordan Sr. Memorial Scholarship for Diversity; Evelyn Plazas—the Cheryl Bulls, Lanette Moore and Susan Willoughby Memorial Scholarship; Amy Cruz, Abenaa Addei, Lonnie Parker and Osa Aghayere—Frederick Douglass Scholarship; Anne-Marie Naumann—Student Government Member of the Year; Evelyn Plazas—Kathleen Keyes Memorial Scholarship; Tau Kappa Epsilon—President's Cup for Outstanding Greek Chapter; Michelle Lipchick—Eric Scott Senna Spirit Award.

Speaking with persuasion

Winners of the Institute Public Speaking Contest persuaded their audience with topics of national importance. Visiting with contest coordinator Grant Cos, far left, are Laurel Haydock, second-place winner and a fifth-year microelectronics major, who talked about the importance of mentoring children (second from left); Adrienne Dahler, first-place winner and a fourth-year information technology major, who spoke about the obesity myth; and Jason Botterill, third-place winner and a fourth-year mechanical engineering major, who talked about critical thinking. The contest is sponsored by RIT's Department of Communication and the College of Liberal Arts.

Recognizing excellence

The College of Liberal Arts' annual Kearse Student Honor Awards recognizes students from across the university for their excellence in liberal arts coursework. Dean Andrew Moore, second from right in the front row, joined the winning scholars, Brenna Cammeron, Thomas Connelly, Edward Corridon III, Luiz Freitas, Erin Green, Inga Mareike Grote, Jonathan Howard, Caitlin Jones, Joe Lacagnina, Brian Mahoney, Tiffany Miller, Julianne Muszynski, Alexandra Popa, Jennifer Lynn Seaman, David Sly and Greg Smith. Missing from the photograph are Matthew Doll, Vidda Serrato, Erin Skirment and Azeez Waheed.

True school spirit starts with students

by Shahab Al-Awadhi

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

'There's nothing to do—it's boring here." And my favorite, "There's no school spirit."

In my few years on campus, I've heard it all. Students complain that RIT is simply not a fun place to be. They say there are limited entertainment options and that RIT has few social opportunities.

So I list the events that occurred during the past week, and I ask them if they attended any. They remain silent. They have no rebuttal.

The problem with these students is a lack of perspective. Thankfully, I had the pleasure of transferring here from Vanderbilt University, which frequently ranks high among America's top universities. I can say, without a doubt, that RIT is as worthy of praise as these top schools. What RIT lacks in comparison to bigger schools, it replaces with a heart of gold and an unwavering spirit to please its students.

There is no reason to be bored at RIT. There are events occurring almost every day. There are pool tournaments, cinema showings, plays, various contests for prizes, comedy and music acts, poetry readings, wall-climbing events, hockey games, 160 unique clubs, Greek life, and the list goes on.

By putting even the most miniscule amount of effort into finding out what's happening, we open up an immediate world of opportunities and entertainment. Go ahead, add "EventsatRIT" to your AIM list. It will take you about seven seconds to do it. Step one of becoming fully entertained on campus is complete. I bet you can figure out the rest.

While we are not always considered a big school, we certainly act like one. We're often blessed with entertainers like the great comedian Dane Cook, and musical artists Ludacris and Kanye West, among other big-name acts who have performed here.

And we complain of boredom? Please!

While a school must entertain its students, its primary focus is academics. Any school can have strong curricula to drive students toward completing their degree. RIT is no exception, seeing as how it developed the first information technology curriculum in the nation in 1992, which it continuously fine-tunes and improves. What interests me is the underlying foundation behind this academic experience, the human quality that is its faculty and staff.

Never have I met such selfless people who try their very best to aid students, and my academic experience has been enhanced because of it. For example, Heather Roth is my academic advisor in the IT department. I have often asked her to write letters of support to send to my sponsors, usually to seek approval for my academic schedule. Not once have I sensed any hesitation on her part. Within 24 hours, my letters are either waiting in my mail folder or available for pick-up. No questions asked, and always with a smile.

I have made friendships with various professors, taking my academic experience to another level, something I rarely noticed with professors at Vanderbilt. I actually feel comfortable with most of my professors, and conversations with them outside class have always been entertaining and fruitful. Professors like Bogaard, Hartpence, Hill, Holden, Jenkins, Mazanec and Stella have changed my views about academia. They have earned my respect and have made my experience here more memorable.

RIT may not be for everyone, but when it comes to its efforts in entertaining students and the quality of the faculty and staff, it can't be beat. Students should realize how lucky they are to attend this great school and learn to appreciate its many facets. Once this is accomplished, it's only a matter of time before they start praising it.

"It's exciting here."

"There's plenty to do."

And my personal favorite, "School spirit starts with me."

Shahab Al-Awadhi is a graduating information technology major from Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Largest career fair guides students to the workplace

It's a job seeker's oasis. Imagine dozens of potential employers, all gathered in one location waiting to meet you.

Paradise arrived for RIT students last month at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. The Spring 2005 Career Fair featured representatives from 85 companies and government agencies—making it the university's largest career fair ever.

Caitlyn Young, a fourth-year illustration major, took notice of the many companies on hand. She says the energy generated between the recruiters and students made for an impressive, interactive environment. "Overall, it had a really good vibe," she states.

Nearly 1,700 students seeking full-time and co-op positions attended the event. Emanuel Contomanolis, assistant vice president of co-op and career services, says the opportunities available to this year's job seekers are more plentiful than they were a year ago.

A student speaks with a recruiter from ESPN, one of 85 companies and government agencies represented at the Spring 2005 Career Fair.

"The number of jobs that recruiters are looking to fill through the career fair program has more than doubled," he explains. "It's as good a reflection as any of increased activity and strength in the labor market."

It also reflects well on RIT. The university's reputation and strength of academic programs, its ties to industry through co-ops and the hard work of RIT's co-op and career services staff all make the campus an attractive site for recruiting.

Companies such as Anheuser-Busch, Bausch & Lomb, Boeing, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Delphi Corp., ESPN, Harris Corp., Lockheed Martin, Microsoft and Paychex were among those attending the fair.

And what are their recruiters seeking? In terms of career skills, Contomanolis says software engineering is particularly hot. Students with backgrounds in science, computer science, engineering and financial services are also in demand.

There's a need for artists, too. Caitlyn Young connected with a representative from one of the top companies on her list, *Highlights for Children* magazine.

"I felt very hopeful about our meeting," she says. "We agreed that my experiences in internships and classes at RIT might be the right fit for one of their full-time positions."

An oasis! Who needs sunshine and palm trees anyway? ■

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Annual SAC walk-through

Pieces like Revenant *will be showcased at the SAC Spring Walkthrough.*

Combine student creativity with such tangible tools as a pottery wheel, blowtorch or kiln, and the end results are one-of-a-kind pieces produced in the School for American Crafts. The students' pieces, representing their work throughout the year, will be showcased during a special one-day event. Spring Walkthrough is from 4 to 7 p.m. on Monday, May 16, in the James E. Booth Building.

This is an annual tradition for the School for American Crafts. Anyone is welcome to tour the school's metals, wood, ceramics and glass studios. There will be demonstrations highlighting each of the four programs. For information, call 475-6114. ■

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State funds CIMS outreach

The 2005-2006 state budget includes additional funding for two key initiatives of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies. CIMS will receive $400,000 to continue and expand its Remanufacturing Outreach program with industry.

Through this program, CIMS works with regional manufacturing companies to enable them to incorporate environmentally friendly remanufacturing strategies into their production lines and new product development.

An additional $250,000 was appropriated for the "Roadmap Project," in which the CIMS team is analyzing the state of the manufacturing climate in 10 industry clusters, and developing recommendations for strengthening companies' competitiveness. The cluster approach has proven to be a successful economic development strategy, enabling companies in like industries to share non-proprietary information that enables all companies in the cluster to be more competitive.

The CIMS funding was supported by the members of the assembly delegation from Rochester, including Assemblymembers Joe Morelle, David Gantt, Susan John and David Koon. CIMS' remanufacturing efforts have been a priority of the state assembly's economic development plans for several years through the efforts of Morelle who chairs the subcommittee on manufacturing.

Assemblyman Joe Morelle speaks with a reporter in RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies last year. Morelle met with Nabil Nasr, CIMS director (background, left), and RIT President Albert Simone.

"I am pleased to support the work of the remanufacturing team at the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, as the center is essential to providing assistance to manufacturing companies across New York state," says Morelle. "CIMS helps to improve our economy and our environment, and I will continue to advocate for their successful work."

"We are tremendously grateful for this continued investment in our work," says Nabil Nasr, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs and director of CIMS. "This funding will enable us to further extend CIMS' reach into the regional manufacturing industry and provide a positive return in terms of economic development that will benefit the entire community." ■

An insider's view of Mammoth Cave

If you took a bowl of spaghetti and tipped it upside down, you might create a scene that resembles Mammoth Cave. More than two million people visit Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky each year for a glimpse of this winding 365-mile long underground maze.

Raymond Klass, a fourth-year advertising photography major in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, spent three months documenting Mother Nature's impressive span of nooks and crannies. Klass earned an artist-in-residence position at the park as part of an independent study. The residency gave him unprecedented access to the caves that would otherwise be allowed only with a personal tour guide.

In fall 2003, he lived at the park with the initial idea of compiling a book of photographs for display in the park's visitors center. Two years later, he landed a book deal, a feature in a PBS documentary and an interview on National Public Radio.

Klass' daily photography sessions in the cave were arduous. He hauled 90 pounds of equipment including lanterns, power cords and flashlights. On average, he would spend two hours setting up the lights to illuminate a small section of the cave.

"As soon a tour would come by, the lights the tourists were using would interfere with my exposure, and I would have to start the whole process again. You might think of the exposures as literally 'painting with light', where it might take a minute or two to paint a small section, and 30 minutes to paint all the sections I was going to illuminate in the image."

Mammoth Cave National Park: Reflections features images shot by Raymond Klass, fourth-year advertising photography major. Klass, pictured within Mammoth Cave, appears in some of the photographs to give readers a better perspective of the cave's girth and depth.

In his book, *Mammoth Cave National Park: Reflections,* which was released in March, Klass outlines his experiences and provides detailed descriptions of each photograph. His parents and several professors helped edit the book.

Klass graduates this year with a B.A. in advertising photography and a minor in science, technology and environmental studies. He hopes to work full-time at a public garden. For now, he's enjoying his status as a published author. "It's really quite unbelievable the attention I've received from magazines, newsletters, and individuals. It's nice to see people really analyzing and exploring the park through my experiences." ■

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Hospitality major spends final quarter studying in Croatia

A week after RIT commencement ceremonies in Henrietta, RIT will reprise the occasion in Dubrovnik, Croatia—the home of RIT's branch campus, the American College of Management and Technology.

Commencement ceremonies, in Sports Hall in Dubrovnik on May 28, will be unique this year. Sarah Knapp, a hotel and resort management major and communication minor, will become the first American-born graduate of ACMT when she joins 294 fellow graduates.

"The experience is one I will never forget," says Knapp, who spent her final quarter studying in Croatia. "Getting to see a new culture and learning environment was very rewarding for me. We toured almost every weekend—Bosnia, all of the coast of Croatia and possibly Italy before I leave. The memories and friends I've made here are going to be with me for life."

RIT School of Hospitality and Service Management students Sarah Knapp and Luke Stephens sit beside the Adriatic Sea in Dubrovnik, Croatia, home of RIT's American College of Management and Technology.

Originally from Tully, N.Y., outside Syracuse, Knapp plans to return to Rochester following graduation to pursue a sales position with a hotel or convention center. She may also pursue a master's degree.

Knapp's parents are planning to be with her for graduation ceremonies in Dubrovnik, but they and Knapp will miss commencement weekend in Henrietta. RIT dignitaries who will be on hand for ACMT graduation include Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president for academic affairs, Wiley McKinzie, dean of RIT's College of Applied Science and Technology, Francis Domoy, professor and chair of RIT's School of Hospitality and Service Management, and Kenneth Reed, trustee and chair of the RIT Alumni Network Board of Directors.

Established in 1997, ACMT currently enrolls 630 students in two- and four-year degree programs in hospitality and service management.

Under the direction of CAST, enrollment has grown from 175 students in its first year. ACMT's first-ever commencement was in 2001. Faculty from RIT's School of Hospitality and Service Management regularly spend full quarters teaching in Croatia. ■

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New technology 'sums up' page design and style

The job of an art critic or music critic is to express an opinion about an artist's style. Xerox Corp., along with RIT faculty and students, has created its own kind of style critic—technology that checks the aesthetics of documents, such as print advertisements or Web sites. Xerox has filed seven patent applications for the technology in the United States and Europe.

Steve Harrington, research fellow in Xerox's Imaging and Services Technology Center in Webster, collaborated on the technology with Fernando Naveda, chair of software engineering in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, Rhys Price Jones, RIT professor of computing and bioinformatics, and Nishant Thakkar, a computer science graduate now employed at IBM. Paul Roetling, a retired fellow from Xerox, served as a consultant on the project.

The technology uses mathematics to identify more than 150 measurable value functions such as color harmony, text size, white space, color balance and alignment to generate metrics. These metrics can be used to automate the document design process.

"With this technology, Xerox has developed systems an author can use to evaluate his document's style that will tell him of possible violations of graphic arts design rules," says Harrington.

A grant from New York state and Xerox funded the research. Nishant Thakkar was one of several co-op students who spent summers working on the project at Xerox's offices in Webster.

"The fact that these co-ops were all undergraduates speaks to both the caliber of RIT's undergraduate students and academic formula," says Naveda.

Computer graphic design students from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences volunteered their time to work on the project.

People working with document-creation software could benefit from this technology. Other potential applications could be to use it as a filtering mechanism on Internet search engines.

Price Jones says the patent applications cover a method of criticism that tries to appreciate the beauty of current works. "There is no way that what we've done is anything original like Picasso did, but now that Picasso exists and is well studied, we have functions that can measure what makes Picasso's work appealing," he says. ■

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Remote sensing used to study otters

Remote sensing techniques may help an RIT biology professor and her students observe the elusive otters that live in Black Creek.

Lei Lani Stelle, assistant professor of biological sciences, and a group of 11 students are studying the success of the New York River Otter Project that reintroduced 279 otters from the Adirondack and Catskill mountains to 15 sites, including local creeks. The relocation was completed by 2000. Since then, state organizations, such as the Department of Environmental Conservation, have lacked funding to track the project's success.

Otters, which once lived naturally in this area, were wiped out about 100 years ago due to water pollution, habitat loss, hunting and trapping.

Stelle couldn't pass up a chance to revive the project. Her concurrent work studying marine mammals in British Columbia led to an opportunity to expand the otter project there to compare the animals and their different habits.

Locally, the otter project gives her students an opportunity to study animal behavior, ecology, physiology and the role of the otter in an ecosystem. By conducting fieldwork, students hope to monitor how well the population has established itself through breeding, dispersing and setting up a home range.

The project, which started in January 2004, has been hindered by one glitch: No one on the team has yet to see an otter.

"I have a strong hunch that the otters are around, but hiding," Stelle says.

What Stelle and her students are finding instead is evidence of the otters' healthy appetite and plentiful food supply. According to Stelle, otters establish latrine or toilet sites where they leave their fecal matter and the coded information it contains. Biologists debate the function of these sites, which may communicate territory boundaries or reproductive status or both. Nevertheless, the sites are helpful to the researchers, who can learn a lot from what is left behind.

Fecal samples are collected and later analyzed in the lab for information about the otters' diet and energy needs. Stelle's students are also working to extract DNA material that could genetically fingerprint individual animals.

Hearing of the project, Bob Kremens, researcher in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, suggested a remote sensing solution.

Kremens' research uses small cameras and sensors to detect and monitor wildfires. He realized the same basic technology could be extended to other applications and recommended setting up cameras at the otters' toilet sites to document behavioral data.

Problems deriving reliable power from the solar panels connected to the camera and accessing the wireless data have temporarily delayed implementation of this part of the project. While those details are being ironed out, the team has looked to the Seneca Park Zoo for ways to study otter behavior and to test the camera system with an available power supply.

Student project leader Marigold Bethany, a junior and a biology research scholar at RIT, will analyze the data acquired from the zoo.

In the interim, Stelle's team has borrowed a camera and VCR unit from a student at State University of New York at Brockport who studied minks. This more cumbersome system requires batteries, tapes and regular monitoring.

Stelle is also exploring a possible collaboration with biologists at Finger Lakes Community College.

"Collaborations help with this kind of research," Stelle says. "It's hard to do solo." ■

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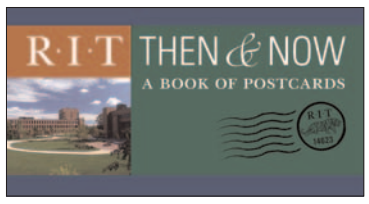
Postcards show 'then and now'



Interested in sharing a piece of RIT with a friend?

Then and Now is a new a book of 23 postcards that will be available at Campus Connections during Commencement weekend.

The postcards illustrate a slice of RIT's 175-year history. Photos include a mix of historic photographs from the original downtown Rochester campus and contemporary views of today's sprawling 1,350-acre university.

The book is flexible in that it will allow users to keep the photos intact, or tear away pages to use as postcards. The book will be sold for $8 during Commencement weekend and $10 after.

The commemorative 175th anniversary publication is a production of RIT's Cary Graphic Arts Press, University News Services and RIT Archives at Wallace Library. ■

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Homecoming for publishing patriarch

RIT's School of Print Media honored Thomas Curley, president and chief executive officer of The Associated Press, April 26, with the Isaiah Thomas Award, which recognizes an individual for outstanding contributions to the publishing industry. Curley, left, and Karen Magnuson, editor of the Democrat and Chronicle, *were also part of a panel discussion about freedom of information. Curley, a vice chairman of RIT's Board of Trustees, began his career in Rochester more than 30 years ago at* The Times-Union. *Before joining The Associated Press in 2003, Curley was publisher and president of* USA Today.

RIT supercomputer studies black holes

RIT is home to one of the fastest computers in the world. The gravitySimulator is a special-purpose computer designed to simulate the evolution of galaxies.

Built by RIT physics professor David Merritt, the computer sits in the dedicated Laboratory for Astrophysical Dynamics in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, forming an impressive wall of computational power.

The cluster contains 32 nodes. Each node houses a special-purpose accelerator board called a GRAPE, or GRAvity PipEline. The GRAPEs, imported from Tokyo, are specially designed to carry out gravitational force calculations.

"The GRAPE boards compute the inverse-square force for large numbers of particles simultaneously at speeds greatly in excess of a general-purpose supercomputer," Merritt says.

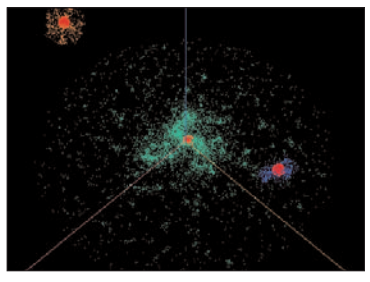
Adds Hans-Peter Bischof, associate professor of computer science and member of Merritt's team: "The gravitySimulator is 1,000 times faster than a Mac G5 single processor desktop machine. The machine can handle four million particles—each representing a star. And for this kind of problem, that's enormous."

The GrapeCluster project began in the fall as a prototype with eight nodes built with $100,000 from RIT's First in Class program. An additional $500,000 came from grants from NASA and the National Science Foundation, enabling the cluster upgrade.

Merritt is the first to create a supercomputer to study how gravitational forces cause black holes to form in the densest regions in the universe. He is driven to learn how black holes evolve and interact with stars and how they continue to change after colliding with other black holes. He is also engaged in a long-term project called the Virtual Galaxy, the goal of which is to simulate the entire Milky Way galaxy, star by star.

Bischof's role in the project is to animate the data Merritt collects from the gravitySimulator. His team of 10 students writes visualization systems illustrating Merritt's data. This marks the first time anyone has tried to visualize gravity-force calculations of such a large size, combining particles and depicting them as mini-movies.

"One of the tricky issues has been working with so many particles," Bischof says. "A one gigabyte machine was running out of memory."



An image taken from an animated depiction of three black holes shows three galaxies starting to merge. The black holes, shown in red, are surrounded by stars.

In the future, Merritt hopes to double the size of the cluster and use the gravitySimulator to visualize other components of galaxies, such as gas clouds. He sees the machine as an important part of the development of an astrophysical sciences and technology program at RIT.

Merritt's team also includes Stefan Harfst and Andras Szell, both postdoctoral research associates at RIT, and Rainer Spurzem, a professor at the University of Heidelberg.

To learn more, visit www.cs.rit.edu/~grapecluster\. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Scoring another one for Hunter's team

Former Buffalo Bills quarterback Jim Kelly, far left, is bringing the Hunter's Hope Candlelight Ball back to RIT for a second consecutive year. At a recent news conference, RIT President Albert Simone, far right, who served as last year's honorary event chair, introduced Tom Richards, RIT trustee and former CEO of Rochester Gas & Electric, as this year's event chair. The gala, a fundraiser to fight leukodystrophies, takes place on July 29 at the RIT Inn & Conference Center. The Hunter's Hope Foundation was established in 1997 after Kelly's son, Hunter, was diagnosed with Krabbe Leukodystrophy.

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B&L professorship *from page 1*

engineering," states Zarrella, "and recognizes RIT's potential to take these capabilities and resources to national —even global—preeminence in the field of nanotechnology, particularly as it relates to the eye."

RIT, with its renowned capabilities in photonics, optics, microfabrication of devices and engineering, and Bausch & Lomb, a world leader in eye health, will partner in the development of product innovations in vision care and correction.

Research projects under consideration include advanced microsystems and technologies to diagnose, monitor and treat eye disease, the development of biodegradable devices for sustained drug delivery to the eye, and accommodating intraocular lenses to provide presbyopic vision correction for cataract surgery patients.

"I am particularly excited about the major impact this partnership will have in creating a key focus area within our Ph.D. program in microsystems engineering," explains Palmer. "It will aid the development of microsystems technologies for biomedical applications to enhance the quality of life for future generations."

The relationship between Bausch & Lomb and RIT dates back to 1885 when company co-founder Henry Lomb helped establish one of RIT's predecessors—the Mechanics Institute—to provide technical training for local workers, replacing the apprentice system. Lomb later became the first president of the institute's Board of Trustees.

"Bausch & Lomb has a history of coming through for RIT when the opportunity is presented," says Simone. "We are grateful for this gift and for the company's steadfast support."

"The university is committed to attracting top-notch researchers who love to teach," the RIT president added. "This gift is a launching pad for discovery in an exciting new field because the funding will enable RIT to draw candidates to Rochester who would otherwise be at MIT, Johns Hopkins or any of several other leading research facilities."

With the counsel of scientists and researchers from Bausch & Lomb, RIT will begin recruiting a scholar to assume the Bausch & Lomb Chair in Microsystems Engineering. This individual will lead an interdisciplinary team of RIT faculty and students to develop initiatives consistent with the company's research interests. ■

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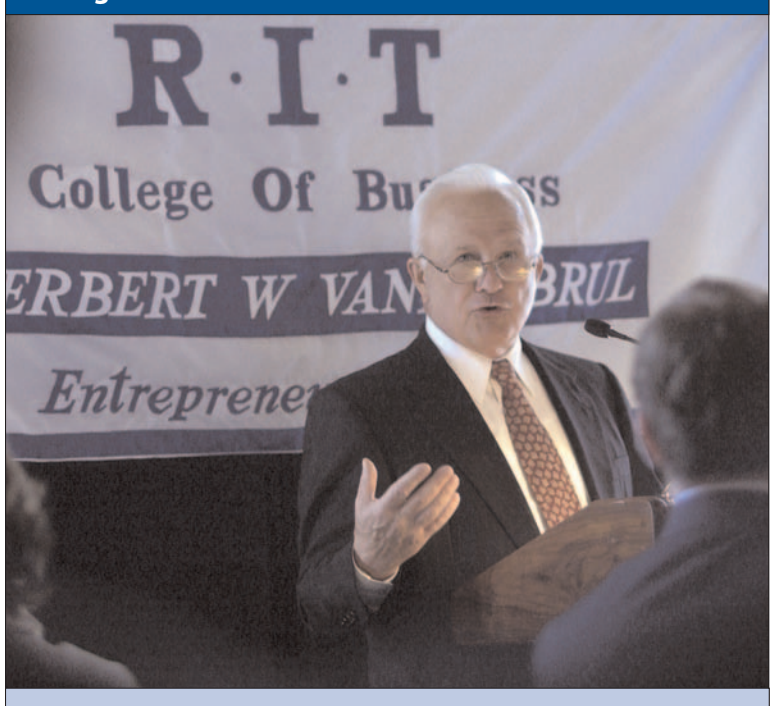
Taking the road less traveled



Philip Saunders 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 called Truckstops of America, now called TravelCenters of America. In recognition of his contributions, RIT's College of Business named Saunders as recipient of the 2005 Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award.

'Gateway to RIT' getting new look

Joe Errigo

Along with the ongoing reconstruction of the main campus entrance to RIT, Jefferson Road is also undergoing a "facelift" with significant improvements underway by the New York State Department of Transportation.

Part of that reconstruction will include additional enhancements to the stretch of Jefferson Road from Lomb Memorial Drive to John Street, including new lighting fixtures and other improvements, thanks to a $250,000 state grant secured through the efforts of Assemblymen David Gantt, chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee and Joseph Errigo, representing the 130th Assembly district that includes the RIT campus.

"Jefferson Road is not only the gateway to RIT, but it is also the gateway to the town of Henrietta," says Deborah Stendardi, vice president for government and community relations. "We felt that it was important to ensure that this part of the Jefferson Road project provides a welcoming feeling that also reflects the prominent role of RIT within the Henrietta community and compliments the new campus entrance. We appreciate the support of Assemblymen Gantt and Errigo in securing these funds."

"I am pleased to have worked with my colleague, Assemblyman Gantt, who helped secure this funding. This grant will serve the RIT campus and the community by facilitating needed improvements and promoting easier accessibility to the academic, commercial and residential community," said Errigo.

David Gantt

Photo courtesy *Democrat and Chronicle*

The Jefferson Road reconstruction project is being done in three phases, with the first phase from Scottsville Road to Lomb Memorial Drive currently underway. Final completion of the project will take several years, but some of the improvements adjacent to the campus will be completed in phase one. ■

Microsystems engineering Ph.D.s *from page 1*

Ph.D. candidates are from Mars (Pennsylvania, that is)

Steinke came to RIT from Mars (Mars, Pa., outside Pittsburgh, that is). After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from RIT, in 2000 and 2002 respectively, the timing was ideal for him to enter the microsystems engineering doctoral program.

Steinke researched advanced liquid cooling methods for microprocessors—an area of critical importance, he says, due to anticipated advancements in computer-chip processing capabilities over the next few years. Faster and more powerful microprocessors generate additional heat that needs to be dissipated. Conventional cooling methods, such as the use of fans, may prove inadequate, he says. "We can make it, but can we cool it?" Steinke asks, depicting the conundrum.

His microprocessor cooling method, developed with his advisor, Satish Kandlikar, the James E. Gleason Professor of Mechanical Engineering, uses a drop or less of liquid (water, water-glycol mixtures or refrigerants) in microchannels. Liquid offers enhanced cooling efficiency compared with air, Steinke says, and a "smaller footprint" required for microchannels translates to increased space for more powerful computer components. The result: smaller, faster and more powerful electronic devices.

After graduation, Steinke will join IBM Corp. in Research Triangle Park, N.C., as a thermal engineer working on next-generation microprocessor cooling for mid-size servers and personal and laptop computers. IBM has used liquid cooling for large servers since 1964, Steinke says, and the process is viable for an array of portable devices with integrated microsystems, including so-called "labs on a chip." (Apple Computer Inc. currently utilizes liquid cooling—but not microchannels—in some personal computers, Steinke adds.)

Like Gopalan, Steinke doesn't rule out a future return to academe. "I've very much enjoyed the experience of teaching," Steinke says of his experience as an RIT instructor while pursuing his Ph.D.

Steinke will leave RIT with more than his three degrees. While here, he met his future wife, Kate Prescott '01 (mechanical engineering). The couple, wed in 1999, celebrate their anniversary during commencement weekend. "It's an action-packed weekend," Steinke understates.

Pioneers in a growing RIT family

Gopalan and Steinke will always have the distinction of being pioneers: the first to earn microsystems engineering doctorates. By this time next year, however, they won't be alone—three more RIT graduates will join them. Currently, 26 other students are enrolled in RIT's microsystems engineering Ph.D. program.

"This year's commencement is a landmark in the history of RIT and defines the university's role as a leader and innovator of leading-edge technology education," says Mustafa Abushagur, RIT professor and director of microsystems engineering.

For the next 12 months, however, Gopalan and Steinke will be unique among 6.3 trillion people on Planet Earth. Now *that's* something they can tell their grandchildren one day. ■

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Simone chosen as Rochester 'power player'

There are 20 individuals who drive or wield influence over significant local issues in the Greater Rochester area, according to *Rochester Business Journal.* RIT President Albert Simone is among these influential "power players," says the weekly business newspaper in a recent special report.

Simone was cited for boosting enrollment, academic programs, community outreach and capital improvements in his 13-year tenure as RIT president. Key measures to those selected as power players were what roles the nominee played in Rochester and on the state, national and global stages. The president was selected from more than 100 nominations. ■

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