

news & event

Rochester Institute of Technology

www.rit.edu/newsevents

RIT revolutionizes nanotechnology

The incredible shrinking transistor in modern computer chips has revolutionized science, technology and applications in electronics, mechanics, photonics, biology, magnetics and chemistry. And nanotechnology of the manipulation of materials at the atomic level is expanding rapidly into MEMS (microelectromechanical systems), biotechnology and optoelectronics.



Santosh Kurinec

The evolution of semiconductor technology into nanotechnology and MEMS is driving demand for graduates trained in a cross section of disciplines, leading RIT to expand a program promoting multidisciplinary education and the recruitment of women and minority students to the Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

The National Science Foundation is funding a three-year, \$1 million program, led by Santosh Kurinec, professor and department head of microelectronic engineering, that created an elective sequence for micro-e students and a new minor for non-micro-e students, allowing them to customize a concentration and access new courses in nanotechnology.

The program also offers expanded co-op and service opportunities for students, and it creates outreach programs for underrepresented minority students preparing them for the workforce in high-tech fields that are making the transition to nanoscale.

We will be able to enhance courses and laboratories, expand faculty expertise and attract bright students from multiple disciplines to gain experience in RIT's state-of-the-art semiconductor fabrication facility Kurinec says. Partnerships with Vinnie Gupta of mechanical engineering in developing nanocharacterization capabilities and with Ann Howard in the College of Liberal Arts in service learning are some of the key components of this program.

This grant will also be used to purchase a state-of-the-art nanoscope for visualization of nanoscale structures.

The program is also supported by Hewlett-Packard Co., Microsoft Corp., National Instruments Corp., Texas Instruments Inc. and the Semiconductor Industry Association.

This grant will also be used to purchase a state-of-the-art nanoscope for visualization

National Science Foundation funding is a follow-up to a \$100,000 planning grant received in 2003 that triggered an institute-wide review of engineering curricula. The study highlighted flexible curricula as the key to the larger goals of enrollment growth and expansion of job opportunities for graduates.

RIT's College of Engineering played a key leadership role more than 20 years ago when it established the nation's first B.S. program in microelectronic engineering to address the needs of the semiconductor industry says Harvey Palmer, dean. Today, RIT builds upon those roots by expanding its educational scope to include the latest advances in the field, assuring that the next generation of graduates will be equipped to develop cutting-edge technologies and products that will drive economic growth in the industry.

Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

Cruising along on the



Universities from the Northeast, Midwest and Canada will help celebrate a fall tradition on the Genesee River as RIT and the University of Rochester host the 2005 Stonehurst Capital Invitational Regatta Oct. 9. The collegiate races begin at 9 a.m. Thousands of spectators will converge on Genesee Valley Park for this free community event that offers boating, food, entertainment and children's activities. Visit www.stonehurstregatta.com for more information. A. Sue

RIT professor studies

Rumors often have serious side effects. A recent rumor of a suicide bomber at a religious ceremony in Baghdad led to a stampede that killed 950 people. Rumors can contribute to ethnic tensions, reduce product sales and sully reputations.



Nicholas DiFonzo

Although rumors have been studied by social scientists for a long time, little scientific data is available on how rumors spread within social networks.

A new study by researchers at RIT will attempt to model how rumors spread in the context of social networks and how they ultimately affect individuals and groups in society.

The project, led by Nicholas DiFonzo, associate professor of psychology, and Bernard Brooks, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, will be the first major attempt to meld psychological and social data with

mathematical modeling of rumor propagation.

Rumors play an important part in a variety of human attitudes and actions, yet we know little about how they proliferate, spread and die over time and space, DiFonzo says. In addition, researchers in the social and mathematical sciences have rarely collaborated to combine their knowledge in the field, making major breakthroughs more difficult.

Rumor is a dynamic phenomenon, with its characteristics changing rapidly and varying widely between groups, Brooks adds. By using new mathematical models, combined with a psychological framework, we can develop an entirely new system for analyzing and understanding rumors effect on society.

DiFonzo, Brooks and their team will attempt to use two diverse methodologies combining the expertise of both mathematicians and psychologists. First, rumor selection and belief will be mathematically modeled in spatial net-

works and will use insights and data gained from empirical research.

Second, laboratory experiments will be conducted in which groups of networked participants select and discuss rumors via e-mail. Both modeling and experiments will investigate how social space, group membership and network homogeneity affect group-level rumor selection and belief over time. Finally, an exploratory arm of the study will pilot a Web site for collection of field data related to propagation mechanisms and will search for archival repositories of rumor.

The project is funded by a \$749,546 grant awarded to DiFonzo and Brooks by the National Science Foundation's Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences.

W. I. Dube | wjduns@rit.edu



Bernard Brooks

Col'n named

Assistant Attorney General Robert Col'n has been named RIT's Frederick H. Minett Professor for 2005-2006, a part-time appointment that runs until May.



Robert Col'n

In his role with the New York State Attorney General's office, Col'n oversees all functions of the Rochester regional office including supervising attorneys and staff members. In addition, Col'n helps to establish policy in conjunction with the New York State Attorney General's office.

The Minett Professorship recognizes area minority professionals and brings them to campus to share their knowledge and experience.

Past Minett professors include Gladys Santiago, vice president of the Rochester City Council and senior vice president of the Ibero-American Action League; Essie Calhoun, vice president, Eastman Kodak Co.; and Rochester Mayor William Johnson.

Vienna Carvalho | vnccm@rit.edu

Student spotlight

Sunny outlook leads student all the way to Sesame Street

This student spotlight is a monthly feature highlighting student success stories at RIT.

Sunny day. Sweeping the clouds away. On my way to where the air is sweet. Can you tell me how to get, how to get to Sesame Street? LaToye Adams, a fourth-year film and animation student knows the way to Sesame Street. Adams spent this past summer with Grover, Big Bird, Bert, Ernie and the other characters at Sesame Workshop, the company responsible for producing Sesame Street as well as other children's television series and educational outreach programs. Adams was a production assistant for the summer, working right up until she had to return to RIT for the fall quarter. I couldn't imagine not taking advantage of every single moment

I had there, says Adams.

Soaking up every moment and opportunity is the way Adams lives her life. At RIT, Adams has served as resident advisor, senator for the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, volunteer and mentor for the Women's Center and also been involved on various committees of Student Government. She's currently a member of Delta Phi Epsilon and works part-time as a teacher's assistant at Margaret's House. It's no surprise that her leadership was recognized early on she was one of the recipients of the Freshman Leadership Scholarship. And last fall, her animated film Mother to Son was

Student spotlight, page 4



LaToye Adams plays with some of the toddlers at Margaret's House. A. Sue Wetzel | photo

Pedagogue of digital printing



Frank Romano, professor emeritus in RIT's School of Print Media, at podium, was honored with the Cary Award at Print 05 in Chicago on Sept. 11. Romano, a longtime educator, typographer and prolific digital printer, was a leading entrepreneurial force during the inception of digital printing. He wrote the first report about on-demand digital printing in 1980 and led the first conference on the subject in 1985. He was the principal researcher for the book, *Printing in the Age of the Web and Beyond*. Throughout his career, Romano has written more than 40 books, most about digital printing. RIT's School of Print Media presents the Cary Award annually to those who have distinguished them-

Howie Day to perform Sept. 28.

Howie Day, a songwriter from Maine, will perform in Clark Gymnasium at 8:30 p.m. Sept. 28.

The 24-year-old musician's newest album, *Stop All the World Now*, has received international acclaim.

Collide, the album's hit single, is currently among the top 20 songs on Billboard's adult contemporary chart.

Tickets \$5 for students, \$10 for faculty/staff/alumni, and \$20 for the general public are available at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center ticket window. Call 475-4121 for information or to buy tickets by phone. Visit www.howieday.com.

Becca Nelson | rln3821@rit.edu



Howie Day will perform Sept. 28.

Riding across America



Howard Woolridge of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition speaks to students and faculty before his presentation at RIT last week. Woolridge, a former police officer and longtime advocate for the legalization of drugs, is nearing completion of a 3,400-mile tour from Los Angeles to New York City on horseback to raise awareness concerning needed reforms of national drug control policies. RIT's department of criminal justice sponsored his speech. Howard's

Distance learning exposes rural community to RIT

Two educators have created a unique distance-learning program to expose rural schools to high-tech science education.

Joseph Pow, associate director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, and Chris Bond, science teacher at Dickerson High School in Trumansburg, N.Y., are utilizing the Internet to connect interested students with RIT's state-of-the-art research facilities and instructional opportunities.

Trumansburg is a small, rural community 1.5 hours from Rochester.

Pow and Bond's class, a one-week mini-course in digital image

processing, was offered to advanced-placement physics students last spring.

The course included three hours of in-class instruction and three hours of live online work with Pow teaching from RIT.

The technology also enabled Pow to provide power point presentations and interactive assignments.

The program was Web based and required no additional software at the high school, keeping costs to a minimum. The course was well received by students and Pow and Bond are planning to offer a similar program this fall and hope to expand it to other classes in the

Winters to host portfolio review

RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences kicks off its Charles Arnold Lecture Series with a presentation by Dan Winters, one of the top commercial photographers in the country. Winters will give a free lecture at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium.

Winters is also will hold a portfolio review session from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, in the Neblette Conference Room in the Frank E. Gannett Building.

Winters is known for his wide range of photography including celebrity portraiture, scientific photography, still life photography and photojournalism.

His photographs have appeared in such magazines as *The New York Times Magazine*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *Vanity Fair* and *Entertainment Weekly*. Winters has won more than

100 national and international awards from American Photography, Communication Arts, The Society of Publication Designers, and *Life* magazine. Winters received a World Press Photo Award for a portrait of actor Leonardo DiCaprio.

Winters' photographs are in the permanent collection at the Houston Museum of Fine Art and in the Harry Ransom Center in Austin, Texas.

Kelly Downs |



Well known photographer Dan Winters' image of fellow photographer Leon Kuballa. Winters will lecture at RIT.

Scholarship helps break cultural barriers

On Sept. 11, 2001, America experienced one of the greatest tragedies in its history. However, in the aftermath many citizens came together to work hand in hand to help our community and our nation rebuild. One of those people was Rhona Genzel.



Rhona Genzel

The longtime director of the English Language Center at RIT saw the attacks as a horrible outgrowth of ethnic rivalry and the lack of understanding between peoples, religions and cultures. To address the problem, Genzel worked to create the Scholarship for Global Understanding, an RIT fund designed to assist foreign students in coming to America to study at the English Language Center and learn more about our culture. The scholarship specifically targets students who, due to monetary concerns, would otherwise not have the opportunity to come to America.

This scholarship was my own effort to make the world a better place, Genzel says. Through creating a better understanding of different cultures we can reduce the fear and stereotyping that can often overwhelm all of us. It is my hope this program will help our foreign students and the American students they encounter develop more open views of culture, race and ethnicity.

The program is currently hosting three students from Tibet with assistance from the Tibet Fund. Dechen Wangmo, Tsering Thargye and Thupten Thargye arrived in America a week ago and are still adjusting to the vast cultural differences and language barriers they face on a daily

basis. Despite this, they are all happy to be in America and hope to help fellow Tibetans at home.

I want to teach Tibetans English and provide them with a quality education, something most people in my country can not currently receive, Wangmo says.

Thargye adds, Tibet is an exceptionally poor country and most people spend their days simply trying to survive. Coming to RIT has been a dream come true for me, and I want to ultimately help other Tibetans follow their dreams and better themselves.

All three students are also amazed at the freedoms Americans enjoy and often take for granted. Tibet is currently under Chinese rule and human rights and civil liberties are greatly restricted to the point that Tibetans are unable to visit certain Web sites and must use the Chinese pronunciation of their names. The students will soon be taking a trip to New York City to hear the Dalai

Lama, something that is impossible in Tibet due to the Chinese occupation.

Seeing the Dalai Lama will be the chance of a lifetime, Thargye notes. I hope one day all Tibetans will be able to hear him speak in our homeland. I also hope his message of peace and nonviolence inspires governments and organizations throughout the world.

Genzel sees the experiences of the Tibet students and the other members of the English Language Center as the first steps toward creating greater cultural understanding and knowledge.

Watching my students grow and change over their time here is incredibly uplifting, Genzel says. Their transformation and the positive impact they have on everyone they encounter gives me hope that we can move beyond our prejudices and become a more tolerant society.

Will Dube | wjdubs@rit.edu



Tibetan students Dechen Wangmo, Tsering Thargye and Thupten Thargye in RIT's English Language Center.

Will Dube | photographer

Pole position



Alan Mikolajczuk greets fellow students from atop his perch during the 11th annual RIT Pole Sit. Members of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity, who took turns at hanging out 40 feet above campus on a utility pole, raised money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The four-day event

Will Dube | wjdubs@rit.edu

Xerox VP is next series

The next installment of the Women in Leadership Speaker Series will feature Ursula Burns, senior vice president of Xerox Corp. Burns will present her free talk at 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, in the Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building.



Ursula Burns

In her presentation, Burns will share the lessons Xerox Corp. learned as it reinvented itself from the copier company into a \$16 billion technology and services enterprise that helps businesses find better ways to work. President of Xerox Business Group Operations since 2002, Burns worked her way up the corporate ladder after starting at Xerox as an engineering intern 25 years ago.

As the leader of Business Group Operations, a \$14 billion division with 12,000 employees, Burns has a significant impact on the company's productivity, innovation and bottom line. Her contributions to Xerox have earned her accolades from publications like *Fortune*, which named her one of the 150 Most Powerful

Women in America, and Time, which recognized her as one of the most influential figures in global business.

Burns serves on a number of professional and community boards including American Express, Boston Scientific Corp., National Association of Manufacturers and the University of Rochester.

In January 2005, as part of RIT's 175th anniversary celebration, the Women in Leadership speaker series was launched featuring some of the nation's most influential women in business, government, technology and the arts, sharing their insights and experience in their respective fields.

The series highlights the professional accomplishments of its featured speakers in disciplines that are part of the RIT program portfolio, and is intended to inform students,



Joanne Isham, left, deputy director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, was the featured speaker for the series on Sept. 15.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

faculty and other members of the campus community of new and emerging developments in key fields.

A series goal is also to inspire students, and RIT's women students in particular, to excel in their professions and to set high career aspirations for themselves. Past speakers include Joanne Isham, deputy director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, NASA space shuttle pilot Col. Pamela Melroy and ESPN Vice President Tanya Van Court.

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Bevier Gallery 2005-2006 shows

Interspersed between contemporary metal artists, children's book illustrators and award-winning art by students from western New York, RIT faculty and students will showcase their own artistry during the 2005-2006 season at Bevier Gallery.

Faculty Exhibition: through Oct. 12. An annual exhibition showcasing recent work by full- and part-time RIT faculty from the School of Art, School of Design, School for American Crafts and Foundations Department.

Made in America: Oct. 21-Nov. 16; opening reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21. An invitational showcase of contemporary metal artists in the U.S. including David Freida, Cappy Counard, Jack and Marilyn DaSilva, Jeff Wise and Steve Midgett.

The Original Art 2005: Dec. 9-Jan. 10; opening reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9. This traveling exhibition of original children's book illustrations is sponsored by the Society of Illustrators. Note: The gallery will be closed Dec. 24 to Jan. 1.

Bevier Gallery hours are

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 1-4:30 p.m. Saturday, 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 475-7680 or 475-2646.

Marclia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

News briefs

SPAS gallery show
SPAS Gallery, located in the Frank E. Gannett Building, inaugurates the new academic year with Graduate 1+2+3, an exhibition of new work by MFA graduate students. The exhibition includes both still and moving imagery, with prints of various contemporary and historical processes, and video. Graduate 1+2+3 will be on display until Sept. 25. For more information, call 475-2770.

Fuel research event
The skyrocketing cost of fossil fuel emphasizes the importance of alternative fuel research. Find out more about the latest breakthroughs at the RENEW NY open house, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 4, in the Louise Slaughter Building. The event, featuring exhibits that highlight the work of early-stage renewable energy companies from across western New York, is free and open to the public.

Hospitality alum panel
Theresa Nicklas (79) (general dietetics and nutrition care), professor of pediatrics in the Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, will be among alumni featured in the School of Hospitality and Service Management's alumni panel, 3:30-5 p.m. Oct. 6 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science building, room 1125. The panel will be followed by the Hospitality Alumni Awards Dinner, 6-10 p.m. at the RIT Inn & Conference Center.

National venture fund conference at RIT in

An entrepreneur with a great idea still needs cash to successfully launch a product from lab to market.



Michael Finney

With that in mind, the National Association of Seed and Venture Funds, the premiere network of private, public and non-profit organizations committed to investment in local entrepreneurs, has selected Rochester as the host city for the conference.

RIT will co-host the conference with Greater Rochester Enterprise and the University of Rochester. The

event will take place in September 2006.

The conference attracts approximately 300 to 350 of the top national and international investment and development leaders, representatives from venture capital and seed funds, technology commercialization organizations and legal and financial firms. The primary focus of the association is on innovation capital—the funding, knowledge, relationships and influence needed to develop and commercialize innovative technologies and ventures.

This is a wonderful honor for the Rochester region, says Michael Finney, president and CEO of Greater Rochester Enterprise and a

past RIT Minett professor. We in Rochester are proud to be chosen as the host city for what is sure to be an important event not only for our venture-capital and angel-investment partners, but for the entire business community as well.

Sue Strommer, CEO of the association, said her organization selected Rochester for a number of reasons, including a history of innovation, an exceptional entrepreneurial talent base, active seed and venture funds, and a robust international economy. While Kodak, Xerox and Bausch & Lomb drove the region's economic engine over the past century, it is new startup companies, technological innovation at local universities and strong educational assets that

predominate now, Strommer says. She also noted RIT's High Technology Incubator. It is very clear Rochester's entrepreneurial spirit shines.

The 2006 conference holds tremendous promise for our region, says RIT President Albert Simone. Getting this conference of some 300 to 350 of the top national and international venture capitalists and seed fund investors to come to Rochester is great, but it is not the end game. The end game is to ensure that these investors, when they come to Rochester next year, find a community that is rife with opportunities for their investments and for a continuing relationship

Conference, page 4

RIT welcomes

Survivors adjust to new life

When Hurricane Katrina slammed the Gulf Coast in August, RIT was one of the many colleges nationwide that opened its doors to students displaced by the now infamous storm. More than 100,000 college students in the Gulf Coast scrambled to find ways to continue their education.

RIT enrolled about a dozen students in the fall quarter and waived tuition for full-time undergraduate students. RIT's mission: Help affected students maintain their progress toward completing their college degrees at their colleges in the Gulf region.

Here are some of the survivor stories of students now studying at RIT:

Diego Padron, a native of Ecuador, spent his summer in New Orleans studying as a first-year MBA student at Tulane University. Padron quickly heeded the call to evacuate the city and began looking for airline flights two days before Katrina struck.

I tried to reserve a flight to California to visit some friends, but the price of a ticket went from \$200 to \$1,000 within a matter of hours, says Padron.

Instead, Padron and seven other classmates car-pooled and drove to Houston the night before the storm. Most of my friends just packed for a few days. I packed quite a bit more because I had a bad feeling. After three days in

Houston, Padron flew off to California.

While in California, Padron contacted the Fulbright Program, where he is an exchange student. Established in 1946, the Fulbright program is an exchange of students, scholars and professionals between the United States and other nations.

When I was applying with the Fulbright Program, RIT was one of my top choices along with Tulane, says Padron. I like what RIT has to offer in terms of technology at the MBA level. So the Fulbright people suggested RIT and the College of Business, and this made sense to me.

Padron arrived in Rochester just in time for the first week of class and is now an MBA student, concentrating in e-commerce. RIT has been very great, he says. Everyone has been very helpful and the facilities are very, very nice.

Padron is hoping to return to Tulane in January.



First-year student Mark Stump pledges his support to Hurricane Katrina victims during a remembrance ceremony at RIT's Interfaith Chapel. After several readings sponsored by the Center for Religious Life, President Albert Simone addressed the whys and hows of the Gulf Coast devastation. Each of us passes through life just one time; sometimes it's short, sometimes it's long. We as individuals at RIT must do whatever we can to help ease the pain even contributing just a dollar or two and then collectively, we can make a

Kara Brown is a native of Rochester but has quickly become a veteran of hurricane evacuations. In 2004, Brown evacuated New Orleans for a week as a freshman at Dillard University as Hurricane Ivan hit the region. For Katrina, Brown escaped with her friends by driving to Dallas.

It's a good thing we left because my school was right in the middle of it, says Brown. Brown called up a Web site of New Orleans showing a

Hurricane Katrina, page 4

Fired up



Ceramic pieces similar to this one, created by Richard Hirsch, professor in the School for American Crafts will be among the RIT talent showcased in a gallery exhibition at Mill Art Center and Gallery in Honeye Falls. The exhibition, Fired Up, features ceramics sculpture, vessels and pottery by SAC faculty and graduate students. The show runs through Saturday,

Getting an oil change



French fries prepared by Oscar O Flynn and other staff members at the RITz Sports Zone are a little healthier these days, thanks to a new cooking oil with zero trans fat. RIT Food Service recently introduced the sunflower oil at all of its food preparation centers across campus. RIT is believed to be among the first colleges and universities to make the switch, which is earning favorable reviews from customers.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Student spotlight from page 1

among those featured in Rochester's High Falls Film Festival.

Her dream job is to run a children's television network. She got a taste of what it would be like while at Sesame Workshop where she worked on promotions, commercials, brand videos and script writing. The experience combined her love of production and working with people.

I like calling people up and hearing about their day and then seeing how we can work together to build

something into a production. People are human beings. Even though they may be a company CEO or a vice-president, they still have a husband that gets on their nerves or a child that kept them up all night. They are real people.

It's the kindness and dedication of real people here at RIT that have made her college experience a memorable one.

I started participating in committees and meeting staff members on campus. As a student sometimes

you don't realize what goes on outside your own environment. In spending time in meetings with faculty, staff and President Simone, I began to respect all the work they do. I began to appreciate RIT that much more and worked that much harder to stay here.

Adams has worked at Margaret's House since day one of her freshman year to help pay her tuition. And her mother took on a second job. Adams recalls how her family couldn't afford to make the drive from their home in Paterson, N.J. to visit the campus after she learned she had been accepted. A handwritten letter from an admissions counselor in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences changed their minds.

It was in a nice little card and I showed it to my mom and she said, 'We are going to go!' My mom saw the attention that RIT gave and no other university had ever even returned a phone call, let alone a hand-written letter. And we were so amazed at the first-class treatment we received during our visit. My mom said, 'We are going to do what we need to do to get you here, even though we'll be scraping by.'

In May, Adams will be the first in her family to graduate from college. She hopes there will be a job waiting for her at Sesame Workshop. She's not worried though. 'They gave me a wonderful confidence that I could contribute to something greater than myself.' Adams adds, 'Life just figures itself out.'

Kelly Downs | kadowns@rit.edu

Rolling out the welcome mat



RIT's Wallace Library welcomed back the campus community during its annual fall open house Sept. 1. Student, faculty and staff visitors enjoyed library tours, refreshments and informational sessions on library services. Here, some students show off their creativity by painting ceramic pots that afternoon.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Max Factor gives \$100K to

The Max Factor Family Foundation has awarded \$100,000 to RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf for an information technology training and career development workshop series for deaf and hard-of-hearing Latino American adults in the greater Los Angeles region.

This gift will allow us to combine our expertise in education and technology with the foundation's strong presence and community influence in the Los Angeles area to improve this population's career preparation and successful integration into the workplace, says T. Alan Hurwitz, vice president of RIT and CEO/dean for NTID.

NTID professors will customize and deliver the established Deaf Initiative in Information Technology

program, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Through the initiative, more than 300 deaf professionals nationwide who work in business, government, and non-profit organizations have successfully completed a variety of skill-enhancing workshops presented in sign language.

An instructor familiar with deafness is provided so the students can see what the instructor is signing and also have ample time to view the examples, says Hurwitz. Communicating in sign language allows people to participate fully in the workshop through group discussions, problem solving and networking with other attendees.

NTID's successful track record is a perfect match for our philan-

thropic focus, says Max Factor III, which, in part, is to encourage human development among needy populations in the Greater Los Angeles area.

In addition, NTID will deliver its Working Together workshop, which teaches employers ways to integrate a deaf worker into the predominantly hearing workplace.

The Max Factor Family Foundation has a long history with RIT, having established an endowed scholarship at NTID in 1991 that has served 88 students from the Greater Los Angeles area, and another gift in 1996 to purchase computer equipment for a network linking NTID to key organizations in California allied to deafness.

Karen Black | kblack@rit.edu

Let the games begin



In a Sept. 15 announcement in RIT's Gordon Field House and Activities Center, Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, far right, announced that the Empire State Games will be held July 26-30, 2006, at area college campuses including RIT. Over the next several months, Brooks will announce volunteer opportunities for the public. A Web site is under development at www.rochesterempirestategames.org.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Hurricane Katrina from page 3

satellite view of Dillard. She zooms in and finds her campus deluged with water. Dillard is near Lake Pontchartrain where the levees broke. It is just unbelievable.

Brown is now studying criminal justice at RIT. RIT is showing me so much love. I am blessed to be at a prestigious university. My mom and dad really wanted me to come home to Rochester, but they wanted me to live on campus and get the college experience. I am very lucky to be safe and at home.

Laura Sanchez was just setting up her new apartment at Loyola University in New Orleans when news came to evacuate. She fled to Texas with friends and a week later she found herself getting oriented to RIT on the first day of classes.

It's been a crazy week and I'm going to have to get some new clothes... and some warmer clothes, jokes Sanchez, a native of the Dominican Republic.

Family members advised Sanchez on attending RIT. The graphic design major says RIT is the perfect fit while she awaits word on the status of Loyola.

I feel very welcome at RIT, says Sanchez. I look forward to getting into the classroom... And I look forward to ice skating.

Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

Conference from page

with our entrepreneurs. What that means is that we need to use this announcement as our impetus to implement such a climate of investment opportunity in the region. It's an opportunity for further commercialization of university-based research, an opportunity for university spinoffs and startups to access additional funding, and an opportunity for established small and mid-size firms to meet potential investors who can help their businesses grow.

Simone joined Finney, Strommer and UR President Joel Seligman in announcing the 2006 event at a press conference held Sept. 20 at the GRE offices in Rochester.

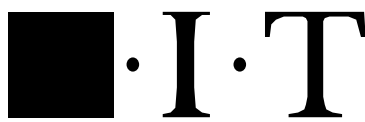
Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

Correction

An editing error to Belinda Bryce's Sept. 8 Viewpoints article inaccurately represented the author's comments. RIT has two Ph.D. programs. State approval is pending for a third program, in the B.

Obituary

Brian Jenerson, freelance interpreter and NTID alumnus,



Rochester Institute of Technology

One Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5603

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, N.Y.
Permit 626