

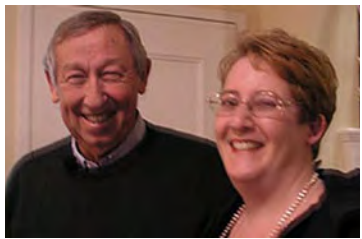
RIT honored at film festival

Students in RIT's School of Film and Animation took top honors at the 2D or Not 2D Animation Festival, held in Everett, Wash.

The animators competed against students from schools such as New York University, The School of Visual Arts, Vancouver Institute of Media Arts, Savannah College of Art and Design, and the Hamburg Institute.

Golden Pencil Awards, given to the winners in each category, were presented to seniors Joseph Daniels and Jedidiah Mitchell in the category of Best Student Film for *Way of the Mantis* and to alumna Brittney Lee for Best Animation in a Student Film for *The Musical Genius of Mozart McFiddle*. Merit Awards, presented to the runners-up, were also given to graduate student Adam Fisher for *The Ballad of the Purple Clam* and senior Wesley Storhoff for *The Infinite Monkey Theorem*. Nancy Beiman, professor in the School of Film and Animation, also received a Golden Pencil Award for her special presentation at the festival and for her role as senior project advisor.

"We work very hard on these



Awardees Roy E. Disney and Nancy Beiman



Image from *The Musical Genius of Mozart McFiddle*, produced by RIT alumna Brittney Lee

films because it is what we enjoy and love to do," says Brittney Lee, who currently works in San Francisco as artist and animator at Three Rings Inc., an online game company. "It is greatly fulfilling to find out that other people enjoy them also and appreciate the work that we have done."

The festival, in November, featured Roy E. Disney as the festival's keynote speaker. Roy E. Disney is the son of Roy O. Disney and nephew of Walt Disney, co-founders of Walt Disney Co. Disney also received the Roy E. Disney award for his contribution and advancement of the art of animation.

This is the first year for the 2D or Not 2D Animation Festival, hosted by the Animaticus Founda-

tion, an organization committed to the education and advancement of traditional, hand-drawn animation. At the festival, foundation president Tony White explained that the Animaticus Foundation aspires to provide opportunities for 2-D animation students to study in an academic environment, as well as work as apprentices to master animators on 'real' ground-breaking productions.

"Our students' success speaks volumes about the quality of work produced within the School of Film and Animation," says Nancy Beiman. "Tony White said it best when he explained RIT films 'were not favored, they were just better.'" ■

Brandon Borgna | bmbuns@rit.edu

Microsoft Research supports 'game play' in the classroom

RIT continues to capitalize on the popularity of the growing gaming industry by incorporating games in its information technology and computer science curricula. Microsoft Research recently selected RIT as one of six funded experiments, Assessing Games Across Introductory Computing Curricula, from a pool of 71 entries from universities around the world. The \$80,000 grant, secured by Jessica Bayliss, professor of computer science, and Andrew Phelps, director of game design and development in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, is the latest funding stream provided by Microsoft Research over the past several years.

In 2005, Bayliss developed a pilot program, Reality and Programming Together, integrating game concepts in introductory computer science courses. Microsoft Research was a primary funder for the launch of the program. The goal is to increase student interest and retention rates.

Phelps' collaborative virtual world, Multi-User Programming Pedagogy for Enhancing Traditional Study—known as MUPPETS—also caught the attention of Microsoft Research, winning a targeted funding

award for \$84,000 in 2005. MUPPETS educates students about programming and graphics. This virtual world is fostering collaborative relationships among students of varying class levels. Other universities such as University of California Santa Cruz and the University of Hawaii are using the MUPPETS technology in their computing curriculums.

"RIT has gained a great deal of visibility within Microsoft Research in the past several years due to the work of Jessica Bayliss and Andy Phelps," says John Nordlinger, program manager for external relations and programs at Microsoft Research. "The development of the game programming environment MUPPETS and the integrated game curriculum Reality and Programming Together has created a synergy in producing better computer scientists. And because of that, RIT is outshining other universities and generating an abundance of highly skilled graduates for hire in the game industry and beyond."

With this latest grant, Bayliss and Phelps will use various assessment tools to look at how both programs impact student retention rates. ■

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New York state has approved a bachelor of science in game design and development. The degree, offered through Golisano College, will start this fall. The degree is targeted at students wanting careers in the professional games industry or a related field such as simulation, edutainment or visualization. It's also structured for undergraduates who want to further their education and pursue RIT's master of science degree in game design and development.

RIT marks Martin Luther King Jr. Day with annual celebration, Jan. 16

RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism will host its 25th annual memorial celebration of the birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. The free event will be held at 4 p.m. Jan. 16 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

The keynote address, "King's Dream, American Realities: Paradoxical Trends in the African-American Condition, 1963-2007," will be delivered by Orlando Patterson, professor of sociology, Harvard University.



Orlando Patterson

"Forty-four years after Martin Luther King delivered his celebrated address, it is useful to ask just what has been achieved in terms of advancement in the condition of African Americans and in the state of race/ethnic relations in America," says Patterson. "I argue that America today presents a great paradox: on the public level—in politics, cultural life, many areas of business and administration, and in civil rights. African Americans have made considerable progress and are a significant force in our nation's life. At the same time, in private life, especially residential communities, black and white Americans still remain very far apart; and the poorest fifth of the group, as well as a growing number of young black men, are both relatively and absolutely worse off now than in the '60s."

Patterson's presentation will attempt to explain these paradoxical trends.

The event will also feature a performance from RIT's Gospel Ensemble. ■

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Simone wins CASE award

In recognition of a distinguished career in promoting and supporting education, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education has named RIT President Albert Simone the 2007 recipient of the Chief Executive Leadership Award. Simone was selected among candidates within CASE District II, which represents institutions within the U.S. mid-Atlantic region.

"I believe that Dr. Simone may well be the best university president of his generation," said Bruce James, U.S. Public Printer and RIT trustee, in a letter of support for Simone's nomination. "He is certainly one of the most gifted leaders of all types that this country has ever produced."

Criteria for selection as the Chief Executive Leadership Award winner include active support of advancement, the ability to create a vision and inspire others, and success at increasing the stature of the executive's institution within the community.

Sandy Parker, president and CEO of the Rochester Business Alliance and RIT trustee, told members of the selection committee: "Colleges and universities nationwide are being turned to as integral drivers of their regional economies. Educators like Dr. Simone exemplify the kind of



Albert Simone

civic leadership that's needed to keep our nation prosperous and our institutions of higher learning thriving."

"Dr. Simone will be missed by the RIT campus community, our alumni body and the Rochester community when he retires this coming June," stated RIT trustee Bill Buckingham in his nomination letter. "His energy, enthusiasm, and prolific activity on behalf of this university and the community is what all who know him have come to expect and love. He challenges everyone to work hard and be mindful that student success is RIT's number one priority."

The Chief Executive Leadership Award will be presented to Simone during a reception Feb. 12 in New York City. ■

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New age for advertising



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT's Department of Communication and the Department of Management, Marketing and International Business co-sponsored Advertising in the Digital Age: The New Paradigm on Dec. 11. The symposium focused on opportunities and challenges to advertising practitioners. Above, Howie Jacobson, managing partner, Dixon Schwabl Advertising Inc., talks about new advertising outlets.

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Scholarship and Research

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On the pod

with **Mike Saffran**
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Did you hear the one about the newest University News video podcast? It's about rumors, and it's online and free.

In case you *hadn't* heard that one, here's more about it. The most recent video podcast features an interview with **Nicholas DiFonzo**, RIT professor of psychology and author of *Rumor Psychology: Social and Organizational Approaches*.

In "A Conversation with Nicholas DiFonzo on Rumor Psychology," the professor discusses origins and management of rumors, strategies to discourage their proliferation and debunk them, and differences between gossip and rumors.

The podcast is accessible at www.thetigerbeat.com/rss/podcasts/difonzo_interview.mov.

Also available are the newest episodes of "Dateline: RIT – The Podcast," a twice monthly podcast highlighting RIT news and newsmakers, and "The Coach's Corner," a weekly show featuring an interview with RIT men's hockey coach Wayne Wilson.

Plus, laugh with us—and at us—by listening to "Dateline: RIT – Bloopers & Outtakes," which presents bloopers, gaffes and stumbles since the launch of "Dateline: RIT – The Podcast." Listen to "Dateline: RIT – Bloopers & Outtakes" at www.thetigerbeat.com/rss/podcasts/Dateline_12-28-06.m4a.

All University News-produced podcasts are available for free from the University News Web site (www.rit.edu/news), via RSS subscription (www.rit.edu/news/rss/podcast.rss) and through Apple iTunes.

Over on The Tiger Beat Blog (www.thetigerbeat.com), get the inside scoop on Sam McQuade's opinion essay appearing in the Jan. 5 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. McQuade, graduate program coordinator in RIT's Center for Multidisciplinary Studies and author of *Understanding and Managing Cybercrime*, proposes steps to help implement cybersafety, cybersecurity and cyberethics instruction in K-12 curricula. Find the essay at www.thetigerbeat.com/utilities/newsclip/pdf/2007/2007-01-05_chronicle_cybercrime.pdf.

See you on the blog and pod!

Ancient Hindu book returns home

RIT scientists digitally restore weathered text

Professor P.R. Mukund and alumnus Ajay Pasupuleti traveled to India in November with precious cargo: two bound copies of the digitally restored Sarvamoola Grantha, a 700-year-old sacred Hindu text inscribed on palm leaves.

Mukund, the Gleason Professor of Electrical Engineering, presented the books in hand-carved teak boxes to his spiritual teacher and to the head of the Udupi monastery in an emotional public ceremony covered by *The Times of India*.

The books were printed at RIT with the help of John Eldridge, digital printing technologist, and his colleagues in the School of Print Media in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. "They went out of their way to help," Mukund says.

This phase of the project culminates months of work by the imaging team led by Mukund and Roger Easton, professor of imaging science, Keith Knox, an imaging senior scientist at Boeing LTS, and Pasupuleti, then a microsystems engineering doctoral candidate. Their goal was to digitize the decaying manuscript that contains commentaries on scriptures and analysis of holy texts attributed to philosopher-saint Shri Madhvacharya and to provide the monastery in Udupi, where it is housed, with a bound copy. The next phase of the project will be to etch the manuscript on silicon wafers, a clever use of a robust material as an archival medium.

News of RIT's efforts to digitally restore the Sarvamoola Grantha has led serendipitously to two developments. The first opportunity came from Charles White, professor emeritus at American University, who had traveled extensively throughout India



Submitted by P.R. Mukund

P.R. Mukund, the Gleason Professor of Electrical Engineering at RIT, left, presents a digitally restored copy of a sacred Hindu manuscript to his spiritual teacher Shri Bannanje Govindacharya, a Vedic scholar, center, and Shri Vidyadheesha Tirtha Swamiji, head of the Palimath math, in a ceremony in November in India. Roger Easton, professor of imaging science in RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, Keith Knox, an imaging senior scientist at Boeing LTS, and alumnus Ajay Pasupuleti worked on the project.

in the 1980s on behalf of the Smithsonian Institute and microfilmed more than 1,000 Hindu manuscripts, including palm leaves and printed works.

Impressed by the Sarvamoola Grantha project, White offered Mukund his own microfilm collection to digitally restore. The American University gifted Mukund a copy of White's 76 reels of microfilm containing more than 20,000 pages of Vaishnava literature. The collection contains Hindu sacred literature dating from 100 to 1000 years ago, including hymns and prayers, as well as extensive commentaries on

the Sarvamoola Grantha by various scholars.

Mukund is stunned by the overture. "It would be as if all the Catholic literature was handed to someone," he says. "It's that big."

The collection is in poor condition due to the quality of the original works and aging microfilm. The imaging team will scan and digitalize each reel, then process and enhance the images. The digital documents will be printed on archival paper and bound into books. Mukund anticipates the microfilms will yield approximately 1,000 books that

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Revamped message center gives users more options

E-mail is both a convenience and a burden. Information Technology Services has created a solution to manage RIT communications with a new product—the Message Center.

For years, RIT administrators have heard complaints from campus constituents about getting too much irrelevant information. "The RIT Message Center is a long-term solution meant to address those complaints," says Jeremy Trumble, Web services manager. "It's a tool that will allow users to let us know what you want to hear about and how you would like to hear about it."

The initial phase of the project, expected to launch this month, is part of a larger vision to provide the RIT community control over

communications they receive, says Brenda Lunham, senior project manager. "The primary objective of the project is to be a trusted source of communication."

Message Center will replace the current ALLSTAFF and ALLSTUDENT e-mail distribution lists. RITSTAFF will remain intact.

Information formerly sent through ALLSTAFF and ALLSTUDENT will be sent through Message Center. Each message will be assigned a category. Some categories will be mandatory for all to receive, such as Institute emergency notifications. Other categories will be optional, for example, a notification about an event at the Gordon Field House. Users have the ability to

select which optional categories of messages they wish to receive. Users will also have the choice to receive each message category either by e-mail or via personal message board in the myRIT portal.

When the Message Center goes live, no action will be required by users. An e-mail will give instructions on how to personalize preferences. Users who decide not to set up preferences will continue to receive all communication categories via e-mail. Users will be able to set preferences using the myRIT portal.

Lunham says ITS will use community feedback to help build additional future features and functions to the Message Center. ■

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Gravure Library named



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT's School of Print Media formally dedicated the H. Howard Flint II Gravure Research Library during a naming ceremony. Patricia Sorce, left, School of Print Media administrative chair, and Michael Green '87, vice president, Flint Group North America Publication and News Ink Divisions, took part in the ceremony. The library is named in honor of H. Howard Flint II, former chairman of Flint Ink.

Search for the RIT President

Presidential search committee reviewing field of candidate applications

The RIT Presidential Search Committee is reviewing applications and narrowing the field of more than 100 candidates in the search for the university's ninth president.

"We will follow up with candidates that have the necessary background and experience and will soon narrow the pool to select individuals to be interviewed," says Donald Boyce, trustee and chair of the committee. "It is expected that confidential first-round interviews will be conducted over the next 30 to 60 days. During this stage, it is necessary to keep names and affiliations of candidates confidential."

Meanwhile, Boyce stressed that it is not too late to receive new

applications or nominations for outstanding candidates. This may be done via e-mail to ritbot@rit.edu or 3257@imsearch.com (consulting firm Isaacson Miller), or by visiting the search Web site at www.rit.edu/presidentialsearch.

The Search Committee is currently meeting its timetable, says Boyce. Finalists will visit the campus in late winter. The panel expects to make a recommendation of up to three candidates to the Board of Trustees in early spring. The board will select the university's new president, considering the position profile that was developed by the entire RIT community earlier this year. ■

Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

Wall-to-wall motivation



Kyle Beck | photographer

Andrea Larko '06 (illustration), assistant coordinator of Telefund, provides inspiration for the 50 student callers who work for the Division of Development and Alumni Relations. Larko painted a mural depicting each of RIT's colleges that covers the walls of the Telefund office in Grace Watson Hall. Telefund students play a critical role in increasing annual alumni support. More than 6,300 alumni have been contacted so far this academic year, of which half have either made a gift or extended a pledge. Coordinators call it a record-breaking start to the annual Fund for RIT.

News briefs

Charles Arnold lecture

Six alumni from RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences return to their alma mater for the next installment of the Charles Arnold Lecture Series on Jan. 18. Rich Becker-Leckrone '90, Celeste Holt-Walters '03, Tricia Scott Sahler '91, Derek Snape '92, Derek Scott Torrey '94 and Stacy Vogwell '98 will be part of a panel discussion at 6 p.m. on Jan. 18 in Webb Auditorium in the James E. Booth Building. The free talk will focus on how these graduates successfully transitioned from jobs behind the camera to careers in the photographic industry as art directors, art buyers, CEOs, photographers' agents and executive producers.

Evolution on deck

Evolutionary biologist David Wilson will present a free talk, "Evolutionary Social Constructivism," 8 p.m. Jan. 16 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. His talk is part of the Caroline Werner Gannett Project Speaker Series, "Consilience: The Cognitive Revolution."

Wilson is professor of biology and anthropology at Binghamton University and the author of several articles and books. His first book for a general audience, *Evolution for Everyone: How Darwin's Theory Can Change the Way We Think about Our Lives*, is due out this spring.

For more information, call 475-2057.

Sign up for OLLI classes

Join a class act at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, formerly The Athenaeum—located near campus at 150 Research Blvd. New participants as well as members—ages 50 and over—are invited to attend a "variety pack" of intellectually stimulating classes during a preview of winter courses and a weeklong open house.

A weeklong open house will be held 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Jan. 15-18. Participants are invited to stay the day—attend classes, bring a brown-bag lunch and socialize with current members.

For more information about the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, call 292-8989 or visit www.rit.edu/osher.

When a task force chaired by RIT President Albert Simone called for 10,000 volunteers to advise Rochester City School District students, teachers and administrators, some said it couldn't be done.

But others, including social worker Robert Mendel '77 (social work) of the School of Business, Finance and Entrepreneurship at Edison Technical and Occupational Center, embraced the challenge and looked to the community for help in addressing a dropout problem and graduation rate of four in 10.

Mendel's call to RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business would lead to a partnership between a college of business and a high school of business—a partnership that could not seem more natural today.

In September, the Saunders College of Business began spearheading a community alliance with Edison. RIT students and alumni make weekly visits to two pilot classes: business ownership and marketing, and virtual enterprise.

In the marketing class, Edison students have worked one-on-one and in small groups with RIT mentors to create a real school store. In the virtual enterprise class, the students decided to create a virtual electronics company, and they are supported in all functions of the business by their

RIT mentors.

Among the Edison students' goals is to showcase their businesses in competitions against students from other high schools, at the local, regional and national levels.

Early on, in moving from program concept to implementation, social worker Mendel and Edison business teacher Teresa Root determined a critical success factor was to ensure teachers, and not solely administrators, created and shaped the mentorship initiative. Thus, Andrew Mendola and Rhonda Neal, who teach the pilot classes and each have significant industry experience, were heavily involved, along with Principal Joseph Baldino and others from Edison.

While teachers Mendola and Neal use the prospect of high-school competition as a motivator for their Edison students, some of the RIT students anticipate participating in American Marketing Association and Students in Free Enterprise collegiate competitions.

In the marketing class, there is a three-person, mentor team from the AMA of RIT: third-year finance major Chafic Chahine, third-year marketing major Robert McCook and third-year management major Kyle Shearer, as well as a three-person team representing SIFE: MBA student Nicolas Germain '05

(statistics), third-year information technology major (and Edison graduate) Sean Hayes and third-year management information systems major Daniel Orth.

The SIFE team is focused on the project management aspects of developing the school store and has tapped into additional RIT student resources. Management Professor Marty Lawlor has also served as a consultant.

Whereas the mentors in the marketing class are team-based, the mentors in the virtual enterprise class work individually. They are fourth-year graphic media marketing major Lomax Campbell, Brett Daly '03 (marketing), '05 (MBA) of BCC Software, and third-year marketing major Michelle Franchi.

While all current volunteers are associated with RIT, the intent is to involve the business community and other colleges in the future, contingent on this year's results.

I welcome the opportunity to share more information on mentoring and tutoring needs and opportunities with anyone who is interested.

Peter Rosenthal oversees marketing, recruitment and community outreach at RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business, and he is an adjunct professor in the communication department in the College of Liberal Arts.



This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

Graham leads policy studies

Joan Graham has been named director of RIT's Office of Institutional Research and Policy Studies. She comes to RIT from the Greece



Joan Graham

District, where she served as executive director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation. Her expertise includes data analysis, registration information gathering and management, grant writing and school census gathering.

RIT's Office of Institutional Research and Policy Studies provides individuals with timely, accurate and relevant information to guide data-driven decision making and promote student learning and success, both at RIT and in the community.

"I look forward to continuing the work underway and exploring new ways to collaborate and to meet the evolving data and information needs of the university," says Graham.

"I believe Joan has exceptional interpersonal skills to complement her technical proficiencies. These skills will serve us well as she begins the process of building needed enterprise data management repositories and an updated record-retention program," says Jim Watters, senior vice president of finance and administration, who oversees the department. ■

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Web site helps regional development

Rochester Area Colleges, RAC, a consortium of 18 colleges and universities, has launched a new Web site to assist the region's economic development efforts. The Web site, www.biz2edu.com, provides economic development organizations, site selectors, corporations and individuals a Web-based gateway to the multitude of resources provided by Rochester's academic institutions.

The Web site was made possible with a \$50,000 state grant secured by New York state Sen. Joseph Robach and a similar amount from fellow Assemblymembers Joe Errigo, Bill Reilich, Bob Oaks, Brian Kolb and Gary Finch. In addition, the County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency provided \$5,000 to support marketing efforts for the new site.

"On the heels of our recent College Presidents Summit, this is a great example of the collaboration that exists between government and our region's colleges and universi-



ties," says Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks. "It is this type of cooperation that will enable us to build a more vibrant and sustainable economy as we move forward."

With more than 84,000 college students in the area, the Web site features enrollment information as well as data on the number of graduates generated by the area colleges. Popular search terms on the site include workforce development, internships, product testing, venture funding, and faculty and student research.

"Higher education is increasingly a key economic driver in the Rochester area," says RIT President Albert Simone. "Placed under one umbrella, this Web site shows the force our local colleges and universities bring to the table in an increasingly global economy." ■

"The Greater Rochester area has some of the best college institutions in the country for higher learning, which is critically important in providing a highly skilled workforce for our local employers," says Robach. "The directory will share information about the resources and programs available at our area colleges. When local schools, businesses and government partner together, it is a win-win for our entire community."

The Web site was produced with software and technology support provided by Technology Consulting Network, based in Henrietta. "TCN has been a great partner in the effort to develop this site," says Deborah Stendardi, RIT's vice president for government and community relations, who has been spearheading the project. "Its software and technology support has been critical to our success in getting the site launched." ■

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NTID gets \$6.1 million for deaf education

Three national grants, totaling \$6.1 million, were recently awarded to RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

The largest of these—a five-year, \$5 million grant—has been assigned to NTID's Northeast Regional Center by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. The grant will allow the center—formerly the Northeast Technical Assistance Center, or NETAC—to help secondary and postsecondary programs expand access and support options for students with hearing loss through technology.

"Building on NETAC's successful 10-year track record, this grant will now allow us to be even more effective by exploring technological advancements and professional development options for those we serve," says Alan Hurwitz, RIT vice president and NTID dean.

Another \$1.1 million has been awarded to NTID's newly established

Center for Education Research Partnerships by the National Science Foundation to foster links between research and practice in deaf education. The funds will help examine learning through sign language interpreting and real-time captioning, as well as understanding how deaf students handle multimedia instruction in today's high-technology classrooms.

The award includes a three-year, \$1 million grant aimed at understanding and optimizing deaf students' learning strategies and a \$149,000 grant for the center to host an international conference on the cognitive underpinnings of science learning among deaf students.

"Are deaf children just hearing children who cannot hear?" asked Marc Marschark, center director. "If so, educating deaf children would be a lot easier than it is. If one removes the communication barriers in the classroom, deaf and hearing students should be performing similarly.

But the two groups have different backgrounds, experiences, and knowledge. It is not that simple."

External funding allows the center to work with schools, parent and educational organizations, and other agencies in the United States and abroad, as well as RIT students. Among other objectives, the center seeks to improve academic achievement of deaf students in mainstream classrooms.

"We are at a threshold in deaf education," Marschark says. "New findings suggest that we have not made as much progress as we expected because we have been looking in the wrong places for some of the answers."

"The results of this research will be beneficial to educators worldwide, and can be applied to not just educating those with hearing loss, but those learning a second language," Hurwitz adds. ■

John-Michael Stern | jds1306@rit.edu

Printing industry revealed

RIT professor Franziska Frey will present "New Skills: Is the Printing Industry Prepared?" at 4 p.m. Jan. 24 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium.

Frey holds the James E. McGhee Professorship in Photographic Management in the School of Print Media. The free talk is part of CIS Seminar Series.

For more information about the seminar series, call 475-5944.

KGCOE speaker series

"Multi-disciplined Career Paths and Program Management" is the topic of an upcoming talk by RIT alumnus Stephen Marschlok '84 (M.S. electrical engineering), vice president and general manager of international government defense communications systems with Harris Corp. RF Communications Division in Rochester.

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering Dean's Alumni Speaker Series talk, free and open to the public, is 1-2 p.m. Jan. 18 in Xerox Auditorium in the James E. Gleason Building. For more information, contact Mary Jane Frind at 475-2146 or mjseen@rit.edu, or visit www.rit.edu/coe/news.

Harris Corp. recently gave \$400,000 to RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering for construction of the Harris Corp. Computer Engineering Design Center.

The firm, based in Melbourne, Fla., employs 350 RIT alumni and is the largest employer of RIT engineering co-op students.

War and globalization

Scholar Maurizio Pagano will discuss how war underpins the Western experience and philosophical reflection, with a brief analysis of the contemporary situation, in his talk, "The Question of Violence in the Epoch of Globalization," at 4 p.m. Jan. 18 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. Pagano is a professor of philosophy at the University of Trieste in Italy.

The free talk is part of the Ezra A. Hale Lecture Series in the College of Liberal Arts. For information about the lecture, call Cassandra Shellman at 475-2057.

Meeting of the minds



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Nabil Nasr, Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies director, discusses research being conducted during a tour for participants of the New York Fuel Cell Network's annual workshop held at RIT last month. The event brought together fuel cell experts from government, industry and academia to discuss next steps for promoting further commercialization in the field and continued expansion of the industry in New York state. The New York Fuel Cell Network is a sub group of New Energy New York, a consortium of energy organizations created to advance energy technology excellence in New York state.



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Trevon Jeffries, left, and Island Hoyte were among a group of delighted second graders at Rochester's Henry W. Longfellow School 36 to receive holiday gifts from RIT's computer science department. Faculty and staff collected brand new hats, gloves, socks, personal hygiene items and school supplies. They delivered the goodie bags to the students last month. The computer science department's SOAR Committee (Student Scholarship, Outreach, Retention and Recruitment) spearheaded the collection drive.

News briefs

Supporting a good cause

The RIT Student Athlete Advisory Committee raised \$4,500 for Livestrong—the Lance Armstrong Cancer Foundation—by sponsoring a sports formal Dec. 9 at the Student Alumni Union for RIT athletes, support staff and guests. Christine Worsley, head athletic trainer and committee administrator, says that the original goal of the group was to raise \$2,000.

“The student-athlete involvement was tremendous and was better than expected,” says Amanda Morehouse, third-year softball pitcher. “It gave student-athletes from different sports a chance to hang out with other athletes they wouldn't normally hang out with.”

Scholarly achievement

The Center for Multidisciplinary Studies, in the College of Applied Science and Technology, has awarded its first \$1,000 scholarship from the Henry and Pippy Cooke Endowed Scholarship Fund to applied arts and science major Susanne Clair. The scholarship fund was created to honor the contributions of Henry Cooke, an RIT professor for nearly 20 years, and Pippy Cooke, a former state assemblywoman, to the RIT community. Both passed away in 2004.

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scholars lack access to today.

The larger aspect of the project will include creating a detailed catalog of the hard copy and digital documents according to schools of thought. The digital documents will remain at RIT. The hard copy documents will be housed at the Sri Venkateswara Central Library and Research Centre in the town of Tirupati, an ancient pilgrimage destination in southern India.

A senior government official who had learned of White's gift to Mukund offered to dedicate a wing of the library as a repository for the collection. This second unexpected development has pushed the project forward and given it a tight deadline coinciding with the inauguration of the dedicated library space in August. To complete the project, Mukund and Easton will establish a lab at RIT and hire two full-time post-doctoral fellows.

The realization of both projects—transferring the Sarvamoola Grantha to silicon wafers and digitally preserving the vast collection of Vaishnava literature—depends on adequate funding. Mukund is currently accepting donations for both efforts. Mukund, his students and Easton have personally donated more than \$25,000 to the project and seek another \$75,000 to cover expenses. Interested donors can contact Mukund at prmeec@rit.edu or at 475-2174. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

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Newsmakers

Abi Aghayere, professor of civil engineering technology, was the lead author of “A Benchmark Study of Scholarship-Related Activities in Engineering Technology,” which was published in the fall 2006 edition of the *Journal of Engineering Technology*. He has also joined the editorial board of that publication.

Michael Amy, associate professor of art history, was awarded the 2006 Gitner Family Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Graphic Communication.

Scott Anson, assistant professor of manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology, presented “Analysis of Lead Free Tin-Silver-Copper and Tin-Lead Solder Wedding Reactions” at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers International Congress and Exposition in November.

Amit Batabyal, the Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics, presented “A Dynamic Bertrand Game Model of Trade, Threats, and Export Certification in Alien Species Management” and “Two Aspects of Waste Management from the Viewpoints of a Waste Generator and a Recipient” at the annual conference of the Japan Section of the Regional Science Association International, in October, in Ichikawa City, Japan. He also published “A Complete Characterization of Mean Wait Times for Citizens in the Non-preemptive Corruption Regime” in *Applied Economics Letters*, volume 13, 2006.

Alex Bitterman, assistant professor of design in the School of Design, was among 15 professors from across the country selected to participate in the 2006 Visiting Professor Program sponsored by the Advertising Educational Foundation. The goal of the program is to bridge the gap between the advertising industry and academia. Arnold Worldwide hosted Bitterman, who observed the advertising agency's inner workings and worked with the various departments.

Dick Budynas, professor emeritus, Kate Gleason College of Engineering, co-wrote *Shigley's Mechanical Engineering Design*, 8th edition (McGraw-Hill, 2008).

Daniele Conners and **Dan Hickey**, First-Year Enrichment instructors, presented, “The Ultimate Collaboration: Coaching as a Powerful Tool” for the New York College Learning Skills Association 29th Annual Symposium in Saratoga Springs. Also at the symposium, Donna Sevensma, Mina Suchak, Eve White, Laurie Snyder and Robert Spinelli, adjunct First-Year Enrichment instructors, presented “Whose Agenda is it Anyway?”

Anne Coon, professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts, participated in “Writers Respond to O’Keeffe,” Dec. 10, at the Memorial Art Gallery. Poets read their own poetry and prose written in response to the work in the exhibition “Georgia O’Keeffe: Color and Conservation.” The gallery and Writers & Books co-sponsored the event. Coon also wrote *Via del Paradiso*, a collection of poetry released by FootHills Publishing. The book chronicles her experiences living alone, learning a new language and navigating through Siena, Italy, where she lived in spring 2002. *Via del Paradiso* is the inaugural book in FootHills Publishing's Away series.

Mary-Beth Cooper, vice president for student affairs, has been selected as the 2006-2007 regional recipient of the Outstanding Contribution to Higher Education Award for the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Region II. She will be honored at the organization's conference in March 2007.

Twyla Cummings, associate professor and graduate program coordinator in the School of Print Media, has been inducted into the NAPL Soderstrom Society. NAPL is a not-for-profit trade association that recognizes excellence in graphic communications management. Cummings was one of eight industry leaders to be honored at the society's annual meeting in Chicago.

Andrew Davidhazy, chair of imaging technology in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, wrote a three-part article on the topic of “Stroboscopic Photography with Analog and Digital Cameras.” The articles appeared in the March, April and May issues of *Digitalis Foto*, the premier photography magazine of Hungary.

Kelly Downs, senior news specialist, University News Services, and **Cynthia Gary**, assistant director for research programs, Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, were honored by the Rochester Business Network with the 2006 Up & Coming Businesswomen's Award.

Don Figer, professor of imaging science, presented “Seeing into the Dark Side: Detectors for Astrophysics,” in September, at the University of Rochester.

Eugene Fram, J. Warren McClure Research Professor in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business, presented a session on “The Corporate Board” at a CEO conference for the National Council of Private Agencies for Blind and Visually Impaired.

Maria Helguera, professor of imaging science, had her article “Medical Imaging and What Lies Ahead” featured as the cover story in the September issue of the online *Advanced Imaging Pro*.

Glen Hintz, associate professor of medical illustration, co-presented the Dermatology Lexicon Project at the annual Association of Medical Illustrators, Aug. 6, in Boston. The project's Web site represents four years of work with Hintz as the sites' animator, illustrator and designer.

Fernando Naveda, chair of software engineering, recently published a first-of-its-kind reference book in the software engineering field. *IEEE Computer Society Real-World Software Engineering Problems: A Self Study Guide for Today's Software* offers solutions to common problems faced by software professionals. The book also serves as a guide for those preparing for the IEEE Computer Society Certified Software Development Professional Certification Program. Naveda co-edited the book.

Caroline Snyder, professor emeritus, College of Liberal Arts, wrote “The Dirty Work of Promoting ‘Recycling’ of America's Sewage Sludge” in the October-December 2005 issue of the *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*.

Loret Gnivecki Steinberg, associate professor in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, has been named head of the Visual Communication Division for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, an international academic association for professors in journalism, broadcasting, advertising, public relations and theory of communications. She had previously served as professional freedom and responsibility chair as well as vice head and program chair.

Yolande Tra, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, reviewed the third edition of *Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis* by Roxy Peck, Chris Olsen and Jay Devore for Thomson Higher Education. She also reviewed *Even You Can Learn Statistics: A Guide for Everyone Who Has Ever Been Afraid of Statistics* by David Levine and David Stephan for the *Journal of The American Statistical Association/The American Statistician*.

Ian Webber and **Jeremiah Parry-Hill**, of online learning, delivered a talk, “Retooling the Captioning Workflow for Mobile Learning,” on new methods of automating the closed captioning process and providing full-text video search, at the New Media Consortium's summer conference, in June, at Case Western Reserve University.

Your Staff Council leadership team



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

This year's Staff Council representatives are, front row, Nicole Boulais, Fran Chinnock (treasurer), Jan DiCaro and Julia Lisuzzo (communications officer). Back row, Cheryl Williams, Kurt Ingerick (chair), Paul Smarsh and Sandra Woodruff Whitmore (vice chair).