

GCCIS launches new networking, systems department

Students and faculty in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences are “wired” about their future “networking” opportunities with the college adding a fourth department, networking, security, and systems administration. NSSA joins the existing computer science, software engineering and information technology departments. The department consists of 16 faculty members including Luther Troell, professor and chair of the new department.

“The number of incoming freshman accepted for the undergraduate degree in networking and systems administration was approximately the same as the number of students accepted in the information technology program,” says Luther Troell, chair of NSSA. “The need for networking and computer security expertise has been increasing over the past several years. This in turn has triggered a need for networking and system administrators who have studied security at the network, computer systems and application levels and are knowledgeable in protecting computer systems. The creation of the NSSA department coupled with this increase in demand for people with the skills of our graduates should bode well for the continued growth of this program.”

Networking department, page 4



Luther Troell

Exhibit hopes to connect children with parents



This photograph of Ashley, taken by RIT photojournalism student Ali McKee, is just one showcased in the Gallery r exhibit.

RIT’s Gallery r and Children Awaiting Parents are participating in the national Heart Gallery movement—an exhibition showcasing artistic images of children currently in foster care and available for adoption in Monroe County and surrounding areas.

The Rochester premiere of the “RIT Children Awaiting Parents Photojournalism Exhibition” opens with a public reception from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9, at Gallery r, 775 Park Ave. The show runs through Jan. 7, 2006.

Zerbe Sodervick, Gallery r coordinator and director of extended studies at RIT, says, “Art galleries around

the country are holding openings to exhibit photographs of children in need of adoption. We’re especially delighted that RIT photojournalism students and alumni are participating in this important exhibition, which makes its Rochester debut at Gallery r.”

RIT alumni and photojournalism students, under the direction of Lorel Steinberg, associate professor, School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, have volunteered their time and skill to capture the spirit and personality of 45 children.

“These artistic portraits reflect the personality and the ‘heart’ of a child,” Steinberg explains. “Part of a photo-

journalists experience is to spend time with a child so they feel important. This project is much more than just photography.”

Ellen Scalzo, executive director of CAP, believes people will be moved by what they see. “The purpose of the exhibition is to increase awareness about adoption and to educate the public about the thousands of children who wait for families to call their own. We are very optimistic about the results.”

For more information, call Gallery r at 242-9470 or visit www.galleryr.org. ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Donation to aid in tool lab research

Davenport Machine has donated equipment worth more than \$200,000 for use in research and development in the Earl W. Brinkman Machine Tool Lab at RIT. The gift and a new collaboration between Davenport and RIT’s Kate Gleason College of Engineering were announced Nov. 17 at the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies.

Davenport Machine, a division of the Brinkman International Group, is an international leader in small parts manufacturing, offering service and products worldwide. The Brinkman Lab, in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, focuses on state-of-the-art education and training in machine tools and works to develop new tech-



Jackie Mozrall, professor and chair of industrial and systems engineering, Nabil Nasr, Earl W. Brinkman Professor of Engineering and director of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, center, and Robert Brinkman, CEO of Brinkman International Group and Davenport Machine, announce the latest collaboration of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering and Davenport Machine. Davenport has donated equipment worth more than \$200,000 for use in RIT’s Brinkman Lab.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Student spotlight

College of Business student hopes to hit the ‘big time’

Christopher Adams knows where and for whom he’d like to work—at the State Department in Washington for Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

“It’s a dream of mine to work for the federal government and eventually I’d love to be a politician,” Adams says. “Since I’m majoring in marketing with international relations as a minor, I would like to market my country by helping to craft foreign policy.”

Lofty dreams often become reality when you work hard to make it happen. And Adams, a third-year student in the College of Business, has been doing just that. He is an honors student, a new member of Triangle Fraternity and president of the Lowenthal Group, a service and leadership organization in the College of Business. He has recently completed his prerequisite 22-week co-op job at Complemar—a fulfillment and contract packaging business in Rochester.

“At Complemar, I acted as a marketing director, worked on language for their Web site, developed one tri-fold brochure, and implemented personal marketing programs for individual sales reps,” Adams explains. “Now I’m preparing to come back to RIT and prepare for the ‘beast’—a

capstone course about middle- and upper-management-level marketing problems and processes.”

Adams has been a force within the Lowenthal Group and in late September he engaged 12 students to walk in the Alzheimer Association’s Memory Walk—personally raising \$1,800 for the cause. “It’s something I do every year in honor of my father, Gerard, who had a related form of Alzheimer’s,” says Adams. “I was 15 when he died.”

At RIT, Adams says no other person on campus has had a greater impact on him than Marty Burris. “I worked with her in the Lowenthal Group and I admire her drive, how much she enjoys working with others. She has been such an inspiration to me.”

“Chris and I will remain in touch for the rest of our lives,” says Burris, who served as Lowenthal advisor for four years.

“Just recently I took a new job at RIT as director of family giving in the Development Office, but wanted to ensure that Chris and the Lowenthal Group had a smooth transition,” Burris relates. “I invited Chris over to my house to chat but found he was allergic to cats, so we met at a restaurant. Instead of a table for two, it was a



Charles Braun, president of Complemar, reviews a brochure created by RIT co-op student Christopher Adams.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

table for 10 because Chris had organized a dinner with current and former Lowenthal officers. It was one of the very few surprises in my life. And I found out that Chris is not allergic to cats but figured that would get me out of the house. Pretty smooth!”

Adams has kept a journal since he was in 10th grade to help him preserve memories and gain perspective on his life. “Right now, I’m on volume two, and if I become famous, I can

look back on the steps it took to get me there,” he says with a grin.

“One of the things I’ll remember about RIT is when Troy McLain, the farm boy from *The Apprentice*, came to talk on campus,” Adams recalls. “I rode with him from the airport and Troy gave me a quick rundown about having high emotional intelligence to be a winner. But Trump fired him and that’s when I thought to myself, ‘I can do better.’” ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

niques in manufacturing technology. Machines in the lab are used to increase the competitiveness, efficiency and environmental quality of manufacturing systems.

RIT reaps obvious benefits from the new partnership with Davenport, but so do the benefactors, according to Robert Brinkman, chief executive officer of Davenport Machine.

“Through our long association with RIT, we have been able to access state-of-the-art research and innovation that has assisted us in remaining competitive in the global manufacturing marketplace,” says Brinkman. “Through this new collaboration we hope to continue to develop the latest techniques in the field, while also assisting in training America’s next generation of engineers.”

The Davenport equipment will be used in the Brinkman Lab’s ongoing research in machine tools and in its work with its industry partners to improve product manu-

Tool lab research, page 4

'Tis the season at RIT

The Center for Campus Life is reviving an old RIT tradition of holiday entertainment and food with a Holiday Music from Around the World concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, in Ingle Auditorium in the Student Alumni Union.

The RIT Concert Band, RIT Jazz Ensemble, RIT Singers, RIT Orchestra Brass, RIT World Music Ensemble, Eight Beat Measure, Surround Sound, Encore and Brick City Singers will perform. A reception follows in the Alfred L. Davis Room (SAU cafeteria). Admission is \$2 and will be donated to the Alfred L. Davis Endowed Music Fund.

The annual Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, in the Allen Chapel of the Interfaith Center. The RIT Choral Ensemble, under the direction of Professor Edward Schell, presents this annual service in conjunction with the Center for Religious Life. Based on the Christmas Eve service of King's College, Cambridge, it features Christmas music for chorus, soloists and organ.

Interspersed among the musical selections are Christmas readings telling the Nativity story. For more information, call 475-2135.

The RIT Community Service Center is coordinating the annual



Hillside Children's Center Special Santa's project. Donations of new, unwrapped gifts are being accepted at the Community Service Center office on the second floor of the RITreat until Dec. 21. The most-needed gifts are board games, arts and crafts kits, backpacks with school supplies, sports equipment, radios and Walkmans, food certificates, gift certificates to any major store, warm blankets, young adult fiction and journals to write in, and sweatshirts.

Gifts will be delivered to Hillside Children's Center's 935 youth between the ages of 11 and 18.

For more information, call 475-6056. ■

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

Hit me!

Automatic Card Dealer and Shuffler

Deals 1 card every second!

An automated playing-card shuffler/dealer was among computer-controlled senior-design inventions demonstrated by computer engineering majors Nov. 10 in Erdle Commons in the James E. Gleason Building. Justin Madigan, left, and Matt Erhard, along with Brian Cody (not shown), all fifth-year B.S./M.S. computer engineering majors, built the device for less than \$100. It includes settings for the number of players and the number of cards per player. Other projects demonstrated include an automated driver's license test monitoring system and an automated pool maintenance system, among others.

Michael Saffran | photographer

Rozanski named interim assoc. dean

Evelyn Rozanski has been named the interim associate dean of graduate studies and research in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. She is heading up the new Ph.D. program in computing and information sciences and will also coordinate the college's graduate programs.

The Ph.D. is awaiting state approval and is expected to launch next fall. "We will begin actively recruiting students in the winter and spring," says Rozanski. "We are already getting a lot of interest from



Evelyn Rozanski

students and industry. The program is intradisciplinary in computing and information sciences, and interdisciplinary with a focus on use-driven domain computing. The Ph.D. program aligns well with the National Science Foundation research initiatives in cyberinfrastructure, which incorporates hardware and software solutions to domain-specific environments."

Rozanski began teaching at RIT in 1970. She is an information technology professor in the Golisano College and is also the director of the Laboratory for Computer-Human Interaction and Performance Support in the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure. ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

ELC opens its doors to deaf, international students

RIT's English Language Center was founded on the principles of inclusion and diversity. By teaching students from diverse backgrounds and cultures English language and American customs, the center assists people in adapting to American society while also increasing the diversity of RIT's campus and culture. Currently, the ELC has 89 students from 24 countries studying English, reports Rhona Genzel, center director.

In the last few years, the center has also assisted a number of students from RIT's deaf community in improving their English language proficiency, particularly in grammar and writing. Students attend classes at the center and participate in cultural and social activities. Some are eligible for support under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998, which is administered by the New York State Education Department. Eight NTID students were enrolled in the ELC program during the summer and four more started this fall.

For Romulus Opris, the classes at the ELC have opened up a whole new world. Born deaf in Timisoara, Romania, Opris used Romanian sign language and was learning to read and write in Romanian when his family came to America in 1988. While he has grown to be proficient in American Sign Language, he realized after coming to RIT that he needed assistance improving his English language proficiency.



Deaf Romanian student Romulus Opris with ELC director Rhona Genzel Will Dube | photographer

"One of my professors at NTID saw that I was struggling and suggested I look into studying at the English Language Center," Opris says. "I focused on English for a year and with the help of the professors and staff members at the ELC have learned a tremendous amount and feel much more comfortable and knowledgeable in the language."

As a result of his studies at the ELC, Opris returned to NTID, passed his writing classes and completed his associate degree. He began classes in the College of Business in winter quarter to work toward his bachelor's degree.

"My work in the center not only provided me with help when I really needed it, but also opened me up to so many different people and cultures," Opris adds. "I truly value the experiences I had and am grateful to

everyone at the center for all they provided academically, socially and personally."

The center also assists English-speaking deaf students in improving their reading, grammar and writing skills.

"Having deaf students in our program has been rewarding for everyone. The deaf students improve their language skills and make friends with students from all over the world," Genzel says. "In addition, the hearing international students are able to interact with deaf students, some for the first time. We see Turkish, Spanish, Korean, Saudi Arabian and Japanese students learning sign language from their deaf classmates. It's a great experience for everyone, and isn't that a first step to being competent in a global society?" ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

Security Week series

The third annual Security Week technology seminars, sponsored by RIT's Information and Technology Services, are set for Dec. 12-16. The series features talks about network and personal security for the online community and includes topics such as identity crime, online file-sharing issues, security over wireless technology and incident response management.

The keynote address will be given by Ariel Silverstone, director of strategic consulting with Symantec, a



Information & Technology Services

leader in the field of online security. He was the former chief information security officer for Temple University. His talk will be from 3 to 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 12, in the Golisano College auditorium. Silverstone will discuss challenges in securing personal data, the trends in security breaches and the solutions that organizations, especially higher education, have integrated to secure networks.

For a detailed schedule of seminar sessions, log onto www.rit.edu/its or call Michelle Cometa at 475-7155. ■

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Singing in the holiday spirit

The RIT Brick City Singers provided holiday entertainment at a tree decorating party on Dec. 1 in Fireside Lounge, Student Alumni Union. Students, faculty and staff got creative making dozens of ornaments and nibbled on cookies, hot cider and cocoa at the event sponsored by the Center for Campus Life.

A.SueWeisler | photographer

News briefs

Dean's lecture continue

Ernest Prabhakar, product manager of Mac OS X Operating System at Apple Computer Inc., will be the featured speaker in the next installment of the Dean's Lecture Series, sponsored by RIT's B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Prabhakar will present "Mac OS X, Open Source and the Future of Unix" at 2 p.m. Dec. 9, in the Golisano College auditorium. The free, public event will be followed by a reception.

Nominations wanted

Nominations are due by Dec. 22 for the 2006 Four Presidents' Distinguished Public Service Award. Nomination forms can be found at www.rit.edu/~940www/. Created by RIT Vice President Emeritus Alfred Davis, the award is presented annually to a member of the RIT faculty or staff whose public service and commitment mirrors that of the four presidents with whom Davis has worked with in his 68-year association with RIT. This year's award will be presented March 23.

Wilsie Drive closing

Due to construction to upgrade a water pumping station at the northwest corner of Wilsie Drive and John Street, the Witsie Drive entrance to campus, across from Colony Manor apartments, is closed until next spring.

Detour signs are posted directing vehicular traffic to use Perkins Road as an alternate route. A temporary traffic signal has been installed at Perkins and John Street. Pedestrians can use a newly installed walkway south of Wilsie Drive. The Wilsie Drive entrance is expected to reopen by late May.

Construction updates are available at <http://facilities.rit.edu>.

A new boot camp experience: grant writing

by Marjorie Zack

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.

Why do you pursue grants?” Ron Kelly, NTID professor of research and teaching, was asked after his presentation at RIT’s first Grant Writers’ Boot Camp, held on campus Nov. 21-23. His responses included, “As part of my 30-year career, I hope to make a breakthrough; I want to contribute new knowledge; I can travel without asking for department funds.” The last reason drew laughter from the 33 “campers,” but his point was well taken. He counseled the participants, “to know why you want to seek external funding, because doing so is more work.”

Knowing what you want funded was a major theme of this intensive grant-writing workshop. Seventeen principal investigators talked about what they want to achieve, how they develop their projects, how they approach sponsors, and the ins-and-outs of successful proposal writing.

Provost Stanley McKenzie sponsored the camp, which was organized by Teaching and Learning

Services and Sponsored Research Services. “This boot camp is an excellent example of collaboration and a concerted effort among faculty and staff to address a need, support and mentor each other, and build community,” explains Assistant Provost Lynn Wild. “We were thrilled by the response—especially since it happened during break week—which is evidence of the commitment of the participants. The enrollment was double what we had initially intended and we were delighted by that and the support from the provost.”

The intent of the boot camp was to teach novice grant writers elements of successful submissions, learned from the experiences of others. Sam McQuade, graduate program coordinator for the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies and formerly a program officer at the U.S. Department of Justice, provided the sponsors’ perspective. David Borkholder (electrical engineering), Ag Crassidis (mechanical engineer-

ing), and Gary Skuse (biology) talked about their experiences in reviewing proposals. Principal investigators who discussed various aspects of grant writing included Margaret Bailey and Vinnie Gupta (mechanical engineering), Jennifer Schneider (civil engineering technology, environmental management and safety), Amit Batabyal (economics), John Schott (imaging science), Santosh Kurinec (microelectronic engineering), Paul Tymann (computer science) and Sue Foster (research and teacher education). In addition, three young faculty members described their success at securing outside funding. Nick DiFonzo (psychology), Sara Schley (research and teacher education) and Keith Whittington (information technology) have each received National Science Foundation awards.

The planners will bring this first group of campers together several times before the academic year concludes. “It is important to keep up the momentum,” offers David Bond,

Viewpoints



associate director of Sponsored Research Services, who, along with Lynn Wild and myself, coordinated the camp. “Now that 33 people have started down the grant pathway, we want to encourage their progress. SRS is here to help them keep on track and meet sponsors’ deadlines.”

Many of the charter campers expressed interest in nominating colleagues for future boot camps. Anyone interested in participating

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New study will target sensory networks

Most people have five senses, but a human with a “WSN” could have at least 15.

Fei Hu, an RIT assistant professor of computer engineering, has received three grants totaling \$300,000 to research potential capabilities of WSNs, or wireless sensor networks. The computer networks are composed of numerous small devices using sensors to monitor the environment at various locations. The ability to measure humidity, speed, pressure and other conditions has applications in fields such as environmental management, health care and security.

Hu’s research aims to make data transfer between sensors more reliable. Data transmission assurance is important in fields such as disaster



Fei Hu

recovery, earthquake and fire rescue, airport anti-terror security, battlefield monitoring and national security.

“Currently, sensory networks are attracting interest throughout the country due to their low-cost, no-care setup, and wireless and mobile connections with large-scale coverage,” says Hu.

However, the networks cannot fully withstand attacks to security. Hu’s research will explore low-cost, low-energy networks that can resist security breaches.

The grants—from the National Science Foundation and Cisco Systems Inc.—will also go toward building a new wireless networking lab to be completed by June 2007. Computer engineering and computer science students will use the new resources to explore networking in an integrated hardware/software environment. ■

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Previewing CBET



Assemblyman Joe Morelle, right, examines the progress of construction on RIT’s Center for Bioscience Education and Technology. Morelle, who helped to secure funding for the \$12 million project, joined representatives from the local building trade associations during a recent tour of the site. At left, Jim Yarrington, RIT’s director of campus planning and design services, discusses features of the facility, which is scheduled to open next summer.

Deborah Stendardi | photographer

RIT transfers electron technology research to Rochester-based firm

Building upon a strategy to facilitate the transfer of technology for the use and benefit of society, RIT has reached an agreement that grants specific licensing rights to Rochester-based Elecsi Corp.

As part of the arrangement, Elecsi has licensed from the university its patent portfolio relating to embedded electron charge, or EEC, consisting of four issued patents and six patents pending. This technology is the invention of Michael Potter, founder, president and chief science officer for Elecsi and a former distinguished researcher in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering. The agreement completes transfer of this platform technology, which included five other issued patents and two patents pending that were previously assigned from RIT to Potter’s intellectual property holding company, Nth Tech Corp.

“Laboratory work has proven the underlying EEC science,” explains Potter. “Elecsi is positioned to use the technology in novel devices to meet market needs. We’ve established manufacturing methods for embedding very large amounts of charge to enable new design possibilities in a diversity of applications.”

During his time at RIT, Potter demonstrated that a high density of EEC could be established at the interface of silicon dioxide and silicon nitride. He further proved that the charge is stored at the interface and not in the bulk materials. Elecsi now exploits this phenomenon for “energy harvesting” at micro, intermediate and macro scales.

Under the terms of the license agreement, RIT has been granted an equity interest in Elecsi and will receive royalties based on company sales arising from the RIT licensed technology.

“RIT is strongly committed to helping Elecsi succeed,” says Varda Main, RIT’s director of technology licensing. “The bundle of Elecsi technologies was initially developed under the university’s First in Class program, a strategic initiative to invest in emerging technologies, and we’re delighted by this level of entrepreneurial commitment.”

Development of the EEC technology was also made possible by grants provided by Infotonics Technology Center in Canandaigua, a not-for-profit Center of Excellence in photonics and microsystems.■

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News briefs

All about Six Sigma

“Six Sigma: What’s Beyond the Hype?” is the focus of a lecture by Roger Hoerl, manager of the Applied Statistics Lab at GE Global Research, 1-1:50 p.m. Dec. 8 in Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. Hoerl will discuss the history of Six Sigma, advantages and limitations of the quality-management initiative, current trends and future directions. Hoerl is co-author of *Six Sigma Beyond the Factory Floor: Deployment Strategies for Financial Services, Health Care, and the Rest of the Real Economy*. The free lecture, part of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering’s 2005-2006 Distinguished Speaker Series, is open to the public.

Women, technology series

To encourage more women to pursue careers in computing, RIT and IBM have teamed up to present a series of lectures featuring IBM women executives, managers and technical professionals. Sheila Harnett, distinguished engineer in IBM’s Systems and Technology Group, will give a free lecture at noon on Dec. 9 in the Golisano College Auditorium in the IBM Women in Technology Speaker series. Since 1992, Harnett has devoted her career to operating system design and development, Internet and object-based technologies, products and initiatives.

Kodak exec speaks Dec. 9

Kazuko Mayahara, chief information security officer at Eastman Kodak Co., will speak at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 9 in room 1620 of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Mayahara will talk about Kodak’s transformation from an analog to a digital company and information security governance and how Kodak manages its information security and internal control standards. Mayahara’s lecture is part of the Computer Security and Information Assurance Lecture series.

Illustration show at Bevier

Bevier Gallery, James E. Booth Building, will be showcasing The Original Art 2005 exhibition from Dec. 9 through Jan. 10, with an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 9. Sponsored by the Society of Illustrators, this traveling exhibition of original children’s book illustrations will come to RIT in time for the holidays. For more information, call 475-7680 or 475-2646.

Service technology talk

Terrence Matthews, co-founder and chairman of Mitel Networks Corp., a Canadian telecommunications firm, kicks off the College of Applied Science and Technology’s lecture series, Service and Technology in a Global Economy, 11 a.m. Dec. 13, in the B. Thomas Golisano College auditorium. Matthews, founder of over 50 companies and developer of numerous hotels and golf courses in the UK and Canada, will discuss the role that service has played in the success of his business ventures. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Poster volunteers needed

Volunteers who have benefited from services provided by a United Way-funded agency are needed to share their stories for the annual United Way campaign posters, which illustrate how contributions raised through the United Way of Greater Rochester help members of the RIT community. Contact Michelle Seger at 475-4968 by Dec. 22 if you are interested in sharing your story.

A ‘great’ talk



Irene Brooks, commissioner of the International Joint Commission, chats with James Quick, of Wolcott, who visited RIT on Nov. 10 to hear Brooks’ talk, “The Great Lakes: The Challenge Is Yours.” In her talk, Brooks addressed the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the regulation of Lake Ontario outflows and levels, and the International Joint Commission watershed initiative. The commission is an independent advisor to the United States and Canada on boundary and transboundary issues. Brooks’ visit was sponsored by the mechanical engineering department in RIT’s Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Happy holidays from President Albert Simone

Predictably, the change in seasons has begun to change the landscape of our beautiful campus. Falling leaves have given way to falling snow, a sure sign that the holidays are upon us.

As we celebrate this joyful season, I hope that you will take a moment to reflect upon the vitality of the RIT community. We are blessed to work, study and interact with each other in a vibrant and stimulating environment. Your day-to-day contributions go a long way toward sustaining that.

And just think about what lies ahead of us. In 2006, we will celebrate the opening of two new facilities-the IT Collaboratory and the Center for Bioscience Education and Technology. (Talk about changing the campus landscape!) And we will bring to a close our \$300 million Campaign for RIT, which has played such a critical role in enhancing our place among the nation's leading institutions of higher education.

Carolie and I extend our warmest wishes to you and your families for peace and happiness this holiday season. The year ahead is certain to be a memorable one, and we look forward to sharing it with you.

Best wishes!

Albert J. Simone

Networking department from page 1

Troell says RIT is the first university in the country to have a networking and security department. “It’s generated a lot of excitement among our students and faculty because everyone realizes they are part of something that’s a first,” adds Troell. “The students are also excited because they now have a department they can call their own. The additional exposure of being a department will also help foster the faculty’s relationships with industry to generate new co-op and employment opportunities for our students.”

Graduate students are also part of the plan with a master’s degree in networking and system administration currently in the works.

The degree would be offered online with students also having an option to take some classes on campus. Initially, 80 to 100 graduate students would be accepted into the master’s program. Troell expects the proposal for the new MS degree will go to the state for approval in the spring.

“The Golisano College continues to lead the way in offering students the most innovative computing programs available anywhere in the country,” says Jorge Diaz-Herrera, dean of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. “And this new department gives us increased visibility in what we are trying to accomplish.” ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

Journalism in the Digital Age explored at RIT conference

The impact of our rapidly changing society on the practice and profession of journalism can be a lot to get your arms around. Experts like Thomas Curley, president and CEO of The Associated Press, and J. Ford Huffman, managing editor of *USA Today*, came to campus to help make sense of it all.

The pair was among 19 panelists who took part in Journalism in the Digital Age, a one-day symposium held Dec. 5 in the Student Alumni Union and sponsored by RIT’s Department of Communication.

“We are living in a much more critical age where news and rumors tend to blur, so the search for the truth becomes very difficult,” stated Andrew Moore, College of Liberal Arts dean, during his welcoming remarks. “It’s a new age indeed and a very confusing one.”

The conference investigated the impact of technology in four important areas of communication: mass media, photojournalism, niche journalism and blogging. Panelists pointed out that digital media has revamped and revolutionized journalism—and therefore, traditional reporting methods have changed dramatically.

The morning session, “Mainstream Media in the Digital Age,” gave media practitioners and consumers a chance to discuss the state of today’s news. Joining Curley



Panelists for Journalism in the Digital Age included, from left to right, J. Ford Huffman, Thomas Curley, Michael Kane and Chuck Samuels.

and Huffman as panelists were Michael Kane, president and publisher of Rochester’s *Democrat and Chronicle*, and Chuck Samuels, news director at WHAM-TV (Channel 13). According to Huffman, Web logs (or “blogs”) provide opportunities for anyone to share information and even play the role of journalist, but he acknowledged the importance of every writer having an editor.

“Nobody is editing these blogs, and that worries me,” he said. “One reason is credibility.”

Each of the panelists expressed concern that the credibility of traditional journalists could be tarnished during the digital age as the public struggles to differentiate between the mainstream media—which maintains more rigorous standards of reporting—and blogs.

More than 100 registered guests took part in the day’s activities. ■

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Viewpoints

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should contact Susan DeWoody at skdetc@rit.edu.

Throughout their presentations, RIT’s successful PIs kept coming back to the “rules” for successful grant writing. I share these for anyone considering outside funding:

- Mesh your vision with the mission of the sponsor.
- Grab reviewers’ attention early in your proposal.
- Write proposals in plain English.
- Involve students and increase participation of underrepresented groups.
- Write specific and measurable goals that will be implemented in activities described in the proposal.
- For each goal, have a clear measure for evaluation and consider using an outside evaluator.
- Involve partners to strengthen the project’s plan.
- Make the budget consistent with the project’s plan.
- Create a unique plan for dissemination.
- Volunteer to be a “peer reviewer” of grants so that you too can learn the process of grant writing.

Zack is director of RIT’s Sponsored Research Services.

Tool lab research

from page 1

facturing. RIT students and faculty will also utilize the technology through classroom experiences, co-op assignments and graduate and undergraduate research projects.

“I am very pleased to see this collaboration with one of our region’s leading manufacturers and employers,” adds Nabil Nasr, Earl W. Brinkman Professor of Engineering and director of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies. “Our work with Davenport has assisted our efforts in providing state-of-the-art research and training to industry and this new partnership will only enhance the work of the Brinkman Lab and RIT.”

The Brinkman Laboratory was founded in 1996 in honor of Earl W. Brinkman, a giant in the small parts industry and longtime CEO of Davenport Machine. The Brinkman family and Brinkman International have contributed greatly to RIT’s engineering programs. ■

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Newsmakers

Susan Barnes, associate professor of communication, has been named to the editorial board of *Visual Communication Quarterly*, an international academic journal focusing on visual communication issues and research.

Mary-Beth Cooper, vice president of student affairs, was the keynote speaker at the Association of College & University Housing Officers conference in July. Her presentation, “Social Implications of Technology in a Residential Setting,” was the second of two keynotes.

Luane Davis, assistant professor in NTID’s cultural and creative studies department, was profiled for her Del-sign work in a recent issue of *Mime Journal 2004/2005*. Del-sign combines American Sign Language with Delsarte’s codified movement system to create a theater performance putting deaf and hearing performers on stage and promotes a physical approach to acting.

Steven Morse, director of internal audit, compliance and advisement, has been elected president of the board of the Rochester School for the Deaf.

Nancy Simonds, senior programmer/analyst, Information and Technology Services, was recently awarded the Ruberta Foster Leadership Award from the Genesee Valley Region PTA. Simonds was instrumental in developing and coordinating an extensive training model, called the Leadership Academy, for new PTA members across a six-county region.

Zerbe and Bruce Sodervick, professors in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, are business partners in Gallery Blue, art space on Alexander Street in Rochester.

Marjorie Zack, director of Sponsored Research Services, co-hosted a presentation at the National Council of University Research Administrators on Oct. 31 in Washington. The session explored how offices of government relations and sponsored programs can work together to advance the goals of an institution.

Janet Zandy, professor of language and literature, has been awarded an honorable mention for her book, *Hands*, by the American Studies Association’s John Hope Franklin Prize committee.

Spotlighting Israeli innovations



A traveling exhibit showcasing Israel’s technological innovations in the telecommunications, computer and medical fields came to RIT earlier this month. The first cellular telephone, voicemail and instant messaging are just some of the inventions developed in Israel that many of us use every day. This unique exhibit, *Israel: Technology for the Next Generation*, has traveled to universities across the country including Harvard, Yale, Columbia and NYU. The exhibit was sponsored by the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, RIT Hillel and the Israeli Consulate.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer