R·I·T news&events

Rochester Institute of Technology

September 20, 2007

RIT launches Golisano Institute for Sustainability

$10 million commitment from B. Thomas Golisano spearheads initiative

Building upon its leadership in the field of sustainable production, RIT has established The Golisano Institute for Sustainability, thanks to a $10 million commitment from B. Thomas Golisano, founder and chairman of Paychex Inc. and RIT trustee.

The announcement of Golisano's second major gift to the university came Sept. 12 before a standing-room-only crowd inside the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences auditorium. His first large donation to RIT, which totaled $14 million, resulted in the creation of the Golisano College in 2001.

The Golisano Institute for Sustainability offers the premiere platform for universities, corporations and governments around the globe to collaborate in the creation of innovative education and technology development systems related to sustainable design, life-cycle engineering, remanufacturing and pollution prevention. RIT also expects to become the first technological university to provide a full spectrum of career-focused, integrated and interdisciplinary programs that embody the principles of sustainability in product development.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT Trustee B. Thomas Golisano was on hand for the announcement of The Golisano Institute for Sustainability and his $10 million commitment to the university, his second major gift to RIT.

"The Golisano Institute for Sustainability is a natural extension for us," states RIT President Bill Destler. "It expands our initiatives in education, research and technology transfer that build upon some of RIT's strongest academic programs and the internationally respected research of the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies."

Destler adds, "RIT is proud to take a lead role in the sustainability movement, and we are extremely grateful to Tom Golisano for his unwavering support of this university."

"It is imperative that we accelerate strategies to promote a sustainable society and ensure future generations the opportunity to address their own needs," explains Golisano. "For that reason, it is my desire for The Golisano Institute for Sustainability

Sustainability Institute, page 4

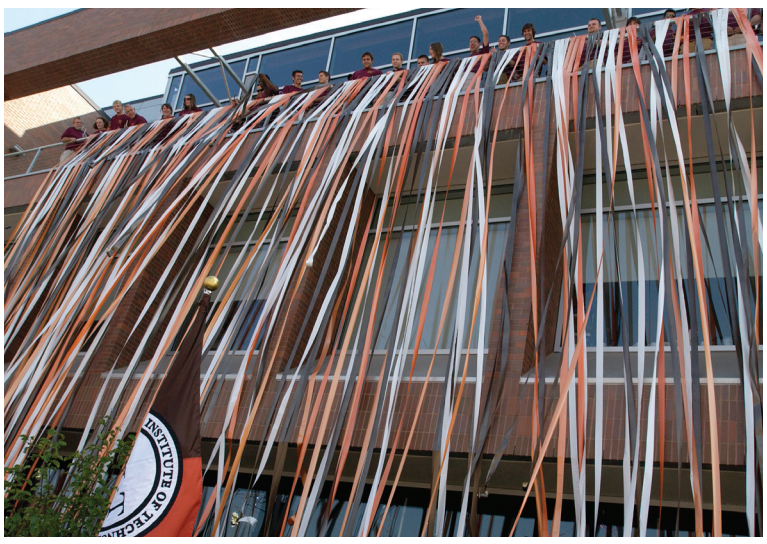
Engineering college dedicates new research wing

RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering dedicated its new, multi-million dollar research wing of the James E. Gleason Building during a Sept. 7 ceremony. The facility houses the Department of Computer Engineering, the Brinkman Machine Tools and Manufacturing Laboratory and space for student projects through the college's multidisciplinary senior design program. The construction was funded through the efforts of several donors including the Gleason Foundation, the Brinkman Family Foundation and Harris Corp.

"I am grateful to all of the people and organizations that helped make this possible and am confident this addition will enhance the Kate Gleason College of Engineering's efforts to provide cutting-edge engineering research and education," notes Harvey Palmer, dean of the college.

"The Gleason family has long believed that RIT's combination of real-world application, education and research is a major asset to our region and the engineering community," adds James Gleason, chairman of the Gleason Foundation and trustee emeritus of the RIT Board of Trustees. "We are happy to continue our support of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering's mission through this important project."

The new edition includes a number of state-of-the-art laboratories that will assist in advancing the colleges collaborative efforts with area companies, promote expansion of research initiatives and provide additional facilities for undergraduate and graduate student work, including senior design. The college requires all bachelor's degree students to complete a design project in their field during the fifth and final year of the program. Many of these design efforts have ultimately been transferred to research and commercial applications in partnership with area companies.



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Streamers are released by RIT engineering students as part of the Sept. 7 dedication ceremony for the James E. Gleason Building's new research wing.

"Having grown up in the machine tool industry, I have a better appreciation than most of how important the industry is to the well being of the

Engineering dedication, page 4

Innovation, creativity festival May 3

Bill Destler

Imagine 30,000 visitors swarming to RIT on May 3 to see the best of RIT innovation and creativity. That's the vision of President Bill Destler for what he sees as the inaugural RIT Innovation and Creativity Festival.

"We want to show off this extraordinary place," says Destler. "Everywhere you look on campus will be people who are intrigued and excited about what they see on the RIT campus. It will be an extravaganza to see. The world will be invited."

Destler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff packing the campus at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to showcase the best of RIT work.

"RIT's unique program mix of the traditional institute of technology programs in science, engineering and business combined with its strong programs in the liberal, design and creative arts and the unique diversity provided by NTID give the institute the potential to become a national center of creativity and innovation unlike any other," says Destler. "The festival is in line with our goal of establishing RIT as a national leader in these areas."

Barry Culhane, executive assistant to the president, is chair of the festival. A Web site will be created later this fall. For now, contact Culhane at 475-7202 or Barry.Culhane@rit.edu. ■

Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

Presidential inauguration

The inauguration of Bill Destler as RIT's ninth president will take place 3-4:30 p.m. Nov. 9 in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. Destler's vision is to take RIT to the next level by transforming it into the nation's first innovation university.

"The Inauguration Committee is committed to making this a unique ceremony that reflects Dr. Destler's interests, the community's great pleasure in having him on board, and RIT's unique qualities," says Katherine Mayberry, vice president of academic affairs.

David Skorton, president of Cornell University, will be the inauguration's keynote speaker.

For information, visit www.rit.edu/inauguration.

Student Spotlight

Orientation volunteer brings spirit of community to campus

Stephen Baker enjoys the spirit that comes with being part of a community. For him, it all begins with family.

"My mother is actually one of eight kids," he explains, "and she made sure I knew my family—all my family—from when I was born."

Regular interaction with grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins—including vacations and a yearly family reunion—became an important part of his upbringing.

"Having that sense of community, and looking back on it, makes me really want to express it and show other people that same sense of community."

Soon after arriving at RIT from Butler, Pa., Baker looked for opportunities to engage the campus community. Through a roommate, he became acquainted with RIT's New-Student Orientation team.

"They're really a great group of people, and it inspired me to work for them and see what I could do."

Baker, a physics major in the College of Science, just completed his third year as an orientation assistant, serving the past two years in a leadership role. More than 100 upperclassmen are chosen annually to serve as OAs through a competitive recruitment process. They help staff members plan, implement and evaluate aspects of the orientation

Student Spotlight, page 4

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

For three years, Stephen Baker has been a welcome face to incoming students and their families as a member of the New-Student Orientation team.

News briefs

Fall ethics lectures begin

The social movement of A2K—or Access to Knowledge—will be the topic of the first Ezra A. Hale Ethics Lecture Series this fall. Scholar Eddan Katz will explore the collective critique of property, ownership and control over information in prominent industries of the knowledge economy that characterize this movement. A2K reframes discussions about intellectual property, telecommunications and the information society within the context of social justice and the public interest. He will give his talk at 4 p.m. Sept. 20 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science.

John Capps, associate dean of COLA and associate professor of philosophy at RIT, will present "Ethics and Truth" at 4 p.m. Oct. 4 in the Chester F. Carlson auditorium. Capps will examine the concept of truth and its connection to facts in his argument that moral claims can be true or false.

The free lectures are sponsored by the Hale Chair in Applied Ethics Wade Robison. For information, contact Cassandra Shellman at cls3740@rit.edu.

Data management talks

This year's theme for the ITS Technology Seminars is Data Management: Managing and Securing Data: 21st Century Challenges and Solutions. Rodney Petersen, EDUCAUSE government relations officer, opens the series with a presentation about the peer-to-peer file sharing trends on college campuses. His session will be 1-3 p.m. Sept. 25 in the Golisano College auditorium. This seminar is co-sponsored by Vice President Mary-Beth Cooper and the Student Affairs Division team.

Imaging science talk

The Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science Seminar Series will host "Imaging in Drug Discovery and Development," by Raymond Gibson, senior investigator at Merck/Merck, Sharp and Dohme Research Laboratories, at 4 p.m. Sept. 26 in the Chester F. Carlson auditorium. For more information, contact coordinator Mitchell Rosen at rosen@cis.rit.edu or 475-7691.

Freedom Festival Sept. 28-30

RIT is co-sponsoring The Frederick Douglass International Underground Railroad Conference and Freedom Festival Sept. 28-30 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. RIT President Bill Destler will introduce the keynote speaker, award-winning journalist Juan Williams. For more information about the conference or to register to attend, visit www.workforcediversitynetwork.com/iur.

Hockey tickets on sale now

RIT men's 2007-2008 hockey season tickets and "hat trick" packages are on sale through Oct. 19. Season tickets and single game tickets can be purchased at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center Box Office or by phone at 475-4121.

MBA class sheds light on wine industry

Sipping a glass of Cabernet Sauvignon does more than complement a hearty steak dinner. It also helps fuel the American economy to the tune of $162 billion annually, according to a recent impact study by Napa Valley's MKF Research LLC on the wine, grape and grape-products industries.

How that translates to our region's economy is the catalyst for a new MBA-level class in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business. Wine Management, offered this quarter as a special-topics class, examines the unique characteristics of the wine industry, including cultural issues surrounding wine consumption.

Ashok Robin, professor of finance in the Saunders College, created Wine Management and serves as one of the instructors. In addition to his personal interest in wine, Robin says upstate New York's growing prominence within the industry is among the motivating factors for introducing the course.

"A lot of people in town are interested in this," he states. "The Finger Lakes are emerging as an important center for wine production and tourism, as evidenced through RIT's investment in the New York Wine and Culinary Center, which opened last year in Canandaigua."

Robin also points to the success of Constellation Brands Inc., the largest company of its kind in the world based on volume of wine produced. The Fairport-based firm has yearly net sales of more than $5 billion.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

How do marketing strategies differ between a $10 bottle of wine and a $30 bottle? It's among the questions Ashok Robin is exploring in his Wine Management class.

Donna Scheid '86, '05 (business administration, executive MBA), a manager at Hewlett-Packard, joins Robin as co-instructor. To provide students a broad focus of the wine industry, the pair integrates functions related to operations management, finance and marketing into the curriculum. Topics include evaluating the financial profile of various entities within the industry, managing a supply chain, and determining the marketing mix, particularly as it relates to promotion and pricing. There are also opportunities for students to sample various wines throughout the quarter.

"Students should come away with a good understanding of an industry affecting our region," explains Robin. "In addition, they'll explore why people have cared about wine for the last 5,000 years and why it remains a huge agricultural product today."

Karen Brugler, who is among two-dozen graduate students taking part in the inaugural Wine Management class, says the course provides value beyond its thorough analysis of the wine industry. "I believe that knowledge of wines is an integral social skill for any professional to have," she states.

An amateur wine maker, Brugler considers transferring lessons she's learning from class into her own industry venture.

"Someday I hope to fulfill my dream of starting a winery, developing my own hybrid of grape and perfecting the process of wine making." ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Deaf youth explore careers at NTID summer camps

Nearly 300 deaf and hard-of-hearing middle- and high-school students took advantage of RIT/NTID summer camps designed to help them start thinking about careers. Students in grades seven through 11 came from all over the United States and Canada to explore their futures and experience campus life.

Steps to Success, a weekend for African-American, Latino and Native American students and their parents, presented opportunities to learn about careers while parents attended workshops to learn strategies for supporting their students through the college preparation process. Eighth-grade girls interested in science joined the TechGirlz camp and built their own computers, performed DNA analysis, experimented with color science and more. Explore Your Future hosted 10th and 11th graders.

For information, visit www.rit.edu/NTID/Outreach. ■

Kathy Johncox | kajnod@rit.edu

RIT instructor Todd Pagano works with a young student during the NTID TechGirlz summer camp experience.

Gannett talk, Oct. 3

Online performance artist, blogger and social critic Ze Frank will present "Acceleration Anxiety: Stories from a Worm's Eye View in the Digital Landscape" 7 p.m. Oct. 3 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Frank's online commentary, cartoons, games and videos, including *the show with ze frank*, have drawn thousands of fans. His Web site, www.zefrank.com, was included in *Time* magazine's "Top 50 Coolest Web sites 2005." The talk is free and open to the public. For information, visit the Caroline Werner Gannett Project Web site at www.rit.edu/~cwg/. ■

RIT alumni to be honored at Brick City Homecoming's President's Ball

Two notable alumni will be honored Oct. 5 at the President's Alumni Ball.

Nancy Fein '76

Nancy Fein '76 (mathematics) is RIT's Outstanding Alumna for 2007, and Robert Snyder '56 (chemistry) is Volunteer of the Year.

Fein is vice president of parts, service, customer satisfaction and training for Lexus division of Toyota Motor Sales, USA Inc. Since joining Toyota in 1982, Fein has held a number of positions, including general manager of the Toyota Kansas City Region of Toyota Motor Sales and corporate manager of New Era Business Systems. *Automotive News* recognized Fein as one of the 100 Leading Women in the Automotive Industry in 2005.

Robert Snyder '56

Fein continues a strong connection with RIT as a member of the university's Board of Trustees and a member and former president of the Alumni Network Board of Directors.

Professor Emeritus Snyder received his Ph.D. in metallurgy from Iowa State University in 1960 and joined the RIT faculty in 1967 after working for Ford Motor Co. and American Standard Inc. He taught mechanical engineering until retiring in 2001 and has received numerous awards for his contributions to engineering education. Besides serving on RIT's Alumni Network Board of Directors and the RIT United Way Steering Committee, he volunteers with the Rochester Ronald McDonald House and Habitat for Humanity.

The Outstanding Alumni Award, established by the Office of the President in 1952, is the highest honor the institute can bestow upon an alumnus/a. The award recognizes graduates who have served RIT through their dedication, loyalty and leadership.

The Volunteer of the Year award is presented to an individual who exhibits dedication to the RIT community by being active and involved in institute life while also contributing significantly to his/her community, state or nation.

For more information about the President's Alumni Ball, visit www.rit.edu/brickcity, or send e-mail to Alumni Relations Director Rob Grow at rcgrar@rit.edu. ■

Kathy Lindsley | kjlcom@rit.edu

Grab your sombreros and dancing shoes

Submitted photograph

The Performing Artists Concert Series kicks off its 13th season at 8 p.m. Sept. 28 in the Student Alumni Union's Ingle Auditorium with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra's Marimba Band. The band specializes in music written and arranged for melodic percussion instruments and features ragtime xylophone pieces and novelty music from the early decades of the 20th century, along with many south-of-the-border tunes. Tickets are $6 for students, $14 for faculty, staff and alumni and $20 for the public. They can be purchased at the Student Alumni Union Candy Counter, at the door on concert night or by calling 475-4121.

Game preservation grant helps save virtual worlds

The Library of Congress has awarded a $590,000 grant to RIT, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Stanford University, University of Maryland and Linden Lab, the creators of Second Life, to explore the issue of digital preservation of video games and virtual worlds. The Preserving Creative America Initiative will fund the Preserving Virtual Worlds project, administered by the Library of Congress under the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.

RIT's principal investigator is Andrew Phelps, director of game design and development, who is joined on the project by Christopher Egert, RIT assistant professor of information technology, and Elizabeth Lawley, director of the Laboratory for Social Computing in RIT's Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure.

The Preserving Virtual Worlds project will explore developing standards for preserving digital games and interactive fiction such as virtual worlds like Second Life. Second Life is an interactive multiplayer game in which people take on personas known as avatars.

"This is important work because the worlds we are playing with today will be gone in a flash, with no recordable way of recreating them for future generations," says Phelps. "Our students aspire to make an impact on the games of the future, but don't have an accurate archive to look back on that reflects the genesis of the games industry."

The goal of the project is to develop standards for metadata and content

Video games, page 4

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Members of the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation include, from left to right, Manuela Campanelli, Carlos Lousto, Hiroyuki Nakano, Hans-Peter Bischoff and Yosef Zlochower.

Advanced computer cluster powers RIT astrophysics research

When black holes crash into each other at the center of a galaxy, the safest place to be is on the other side of the computer simulating the drama.

Scientists who study black holes simulate cataclysmic collisions on supercomputers that work around the clock churning out computations that would sizzle the latest desktop model.

RIT's Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation recently won $330,000 from the National Science Foundation to build a new computer cluster that will maintain the center's competitive level of research in computational astrophysics and numerical relativity, a research field dedicated to proving Einstein's theory of general relativity.

RIT scientist Manuela Campanelli leads the research center and the team that, in 2005, solved the 10 equations in Einstein's theory of general relativity for strong field gravity—a discovery made possible through advances in computer technology and the team's fresh approach to the problem.

Now, Campanelli's team is building a computer cluster to remain at the forefront of their field. The computer, named "newHorizons," will make the Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation host to one of the largest computing facilities in the region.

"The new cluster will be the main work horse of the center," says Campanelli, associate professor in the School for Mathematical Sciences. "It will give us the ability to do more refined simulations. It will also allow students to be able to work with us on projects."

The computer cluster is a special-purpose machine designed with the best technology available, says Carlos Lousto, associate professor in RIT's School for Mathematical Sciences.

"The kinds of computations we do are different, new," he says. "Before simulations can advance to the next level, all components of the computer must communicate."

Lousto designed and built the computer using hardware from California-based Western Scientific. The 85 nodes that make this computer "super" each has its own dual processor, or four amounts of computing units per node. Direct communication between the nodes is made possible by AMD processors, allowing for high-speed interconnections called HTX or hyper thread connections.

Another unusual characteristic is that each node has 16 gigabytes of memory or a total of 1.4 terabytes of memory. In addition, infinite band technology makes the RIT supercomputer especially fast, moving "packages" of information with a lag time or latency of 2.9-microseconds—the fastest rate possible.

Node-by-node, the new supercomputer at RIT outperforms the computers at the national labs, Lousto says. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Enhancing technology transfer education

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Michael Tierney, president of Morris TriState, left, and Kirk Kitagawa, chief executive officer of Okuma America Corp., tour the Brinkman Machine Tools and Manufacturing Laboratory prior to the dedication ceremony on Sept. 6. Both Okuma and Morris TriState consigned equipment to the Brinkman lab for use in their technology transfer and educational programs.

New degree yields information security, forensics experts

In this age of cyber crime, corporations and businesses must do all they can to safeguard their computer infrastructures against malicious viral attacks. According to a recent FBI computer crime survey, the cost to businesses for these types of attacks is more than $67 billion annually.

To meet businesses' needs for computer security experts, RIT is offering a new bachelor of science degree in information security and forensics.

The degree will be offered through the networking, security and systems administration department in the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Graduates of this specialized degree program will be able to identify security vulnerabilities and prevent attacks. The students' courses will also give them an understanding of the forensic requirements to determine the origin of an attack and how it occurred. Furthermore, students will have the knowledge to assess the extent of damage and lost information. Students will be prepared for such hands-on technical careers as security analysts, security auditors, network architects and Web security managers.

"In researching what other universities were offering, I didn't find any undergraduate degree programs in existence that focus on preparing students to secure and maintain information infrastructures," says Luther Troell, chair of RIT's networking, security and systems administration department. "With the growing demand for computer security experts, RIT felt it needed to design a specialized curriculum. It's a win-win for our students and for industry."

Students will be required to take a series of core courses including programming, networking, system administration, security, forensics and ethics. The curriculum is augmented with other courses specific to security and forensics such as computer malware, cyber self defense and cryptographic authentication.

"If a hacker hits a corporation's computer network, ultimately it's the corporation that will be held responsible," says Troell. "The corporation will not only lose money, but also the trust and goodwill of its customers and suppliers. Our graduates will be prepared to prevent these kinds of malicious attacks against a company's information infrastructure."

The forensics component of the degree program is also of equal importance. In the event a corporation's network has been compromised, experts must have the knowledge to prove an attack occurred and its origin.

"The demand for individuals with forensics training far exceeds the supply," says Bill Stackpole, RIT professor of networking, security and systems administration. "In talking with representatives from the FBI and the New York State Police, both law enforcement agencies indicated that they can't find enough people with security and forensics training to fill their open positions. This is just another reason for launching this type of specialized degree program."

For more information about the degree program, visit www.nssa.rit.edu. ■

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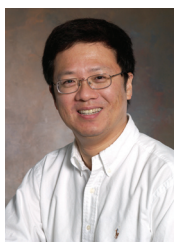
Golisano College faculty appointments



Pengcheng Shi

Two new research faculty members have joined the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences to spearhead its Ph.D. program and research center.

Pengcheng Shi, has been named the director of the Ph.D. program in computing and information sciences. His research is in the area of visual information processing and its applications in biomedicine, particularly medical imaging. He comes to RIT from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology's department of electrical and computer engineering. Shi received his M.S. and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Yale University.

Gregor von Laszewski has been named the director of the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure. Von Laszewski comes from the Argon Laboratory in Chicago where he is a computer scientist in the mathematics and computer science division. He is also a fellow in the Computation Institute of the University of Chicago. His research interests focus on cyberinfrastructure.

Gregor von Laszewski

"It is an exciting time for our Ph.D. program and the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure," says Jorge Díaz-Herrera, dean of the Golisano College. "Both Pengcheng and Gregor bring a wealth of experience and international recognition to their new roles. We are extremely fortunate to have them here." ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

New professorship created in engineering college

James Taylor

James Taylor, associate professor of industrial and systems engineering in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering, has been appointed to a three-year term as the JML Optical Industries Chair.

In the position, Taylor will research and work on applied-design and manufacturing engineering projects for JML Optical and teach courses with project elements that can be integrated with work at the Penfield-based firm.

"I am confident that Dr. Taylor will make significant contributions to both the college and JML Optical in the years ahead," says Jacqueline Mozrall, associate professor and department head of industrial and systems engineering. ■

Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

On the Pod

with ***Mike Saffran***
mjsuns@rit.edu

Last time, I explained that you *don't* need an iPod to listen to podcasts (even though the term "podcast" is a derivative of "iPod"). Rather, all that's required is a computer and an Internet connection.

To further lift the mystery surrounding podcasting, here's more about podcasts, who creates them and who listens to them:

■ Edison Media Research defines podcasting as "the concept of downloading various types of longer-form online audio [shows] in the form of digital files you can listen to at any time you choose" (not including songs). Podcasts are often distinguished as digital files available via RSS (really simple syndication) feeds.

■ A key benefit of podcasts is the ability to "time shift" shows—that is, to listen to programs on demand, whenever you want to (just as the VCR, DVD players and TiVo enable "time shifting" of TV shows). Another benefit of podcasts over traditional radio programming: many podcasts are commercial-free.

■ According to Edison, more than a third of consumers have heard of podcasting, but only 13 percent have listened to a podcast. Among those who listen, the largest segment is 35-to-44-year-olds (22 percent), followed closely by 25-to-34-year-olds (21 percent). Hard to believe, but even 12-to-17-year-olds (18 percent) and 45-to-54-year-olds (16 percent) outnumber typical college-aged students—18-to-24-year-olds (11 percent)—among podcast listeners, reports Edison. Surprised?

■ Podcast listeners are almost evenly split between males and females, and nearly two-thirds also regularly read blogs, according to Edison.

■ As for those doing the podcasting, it's a different story. Researchers at Jacobs University Bremen and University of Technology Berlin, found that podcast creators are overwhelmingly male (more than eight in 10) and educated.

■ Forecasts vary, but U.S. podcast listenership is expected to grow to more than 20 million by the year 2010.

Join the 20 million by visiting www.rit.edu/news and checking out "Latest Podcasts." See you on the pod!

News brief

Poetry contest submissions
Members of the RIT community are invited to participate in an inaugural poetry contest celebrating RIT's new president. Winners of the competition will read their poems at President Bill Destler's inauguration Nov. 9. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 8. Cover sheets—available at the Wallace Library Reference Desk—must accompany all submissions. ASL and performance poetry videos are eligible. Winners will receive a framed copy of their selected poems printed by the Cary Graphic Arts Press. For more information, contact John Roche at jfrgla@rit.edu.

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A closer look at a masterpiece

Submitted by Roy Berns

Color scientists from RIT visited the Museum of Modern Art in New York City last month to work with paintings by Vincent Van Gogh and Edward Hopper. "It was amazing to see The Starry Night *out of its frame and up close and in person," says Roy Berns, the R.S. Hunter Professor in Color Science, Appearance and Technology in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. Berns and his team performed spectral imaging and multi-angle imaging using several of their camera systems. The goal is to capture images that can be manipulated using computer graphics to reflect specifically lit environments and viewed on display or in print. Shown above with* The Starry Night *are, from left, Berns, Lawrence Taplin, staff color scientist, Philipp Urban, a post-doctoral fellow, and "Iris" Yonghui Zhao, a doctoral candidate.*

RIT to assist Kosovo in coal-energy harvesting

Dafina Gashi

In the coming months, Kosovo will have its constitutional status determined by the United Nations. Most experts believe Kosovo will be granted its permanent sovereignty. The bigger question hovering over the former war-torn region is its ability to sustain a strong economy.

That's where RIT, American University in Kosovo and its Center for Energy and Natural Resources hope to make an impact.

"The biggest single challenge after Kosovo's independence is its economy," says Jim Myers, director of RIT's Center for Multidisciplinary Studies, which collaborates with the American University in Kosovo Foundation to operate AUK. "The biggest opportunity Kosovo has is the development of its energy resources."

The RIT/AUK Center for Energy and Natural Resources was established this spring after RIT received a $400,000 grant from the United States Agency for International Development's Higher Education Collaborative Partnership Program. It hopes to take advantage of Kosovo's abundant supply of lignite coal, which is one of the largest deposits in all of Europe, and position it to play a role in supplying energy to the rest of its region.

The other advantage Myers and the energy center hope to benefit from is Kosovo's youthful population. Sixty-percent of its population is under the age of 25.

Dafina Gashi, an AUK student who spent this past summer conducting energy research with the New York state energy industry and RIT, says she feels compelled to assist in the development of Kosovo's economy.

"It's really important work," Gashi says. "I want to contribute to Kosovo and see it prosper. Energy supply is a huge problem. We have power cuts all the time. The power will just suddenly go off."

Gashi spent the summer in New York conducting research that will lead to a white paper on current carbon dioxide trading emissions programs and lessons learned for Kosovo's energy development, which will ultimately need to meet European union standards. Before returning home, Gashi presented her research at the International Energy Program Evaluation Conference in Chicago.

"This co-op provided Dafina with the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge in energy policy and alternative technologies so that she can return home and share that knowledge," says Lyndsey McGrath, the project coordinator for AUK's Center for Energy and Natural Resources. "Dafina's knowledge will help Kosovo's energy sector development and technology transfer." ■

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The RIT-AUK Center for Energy and Natural Resources will annually host one doctoral or master's degree candidate for one quarter of research in Kosovo. Preference will be given to students who have identified theses or dissertation subjects related to energy and natural resource development in transitional or emerging economies. To apply, e-mail Lyndsey McGrath, lmfcms@rit.edu.

Video games *from page 2*

representation and investigate preservation issues through archiving case studies representing early video games, electronic literature and Second Life.

"Part of the research we are undertaking in this grant is to try and develop some sense of exactly what needs to be stored in order to recreate some semblance of the experience of these worlds for future generations," adds Phelps.

The project will explore the methods, infrastructure, standards and technology for preserving the software, content and interactivity in computer games and electronic literature.

It's one of eight projects that are part of the Library of Congress' new Preserving Creative America Initiative to preserve creative content in digital form. In addition to video games and interactive fiction, the other projects will target digital photographs, cartoons, motion pictures and sound recordings. For information, visit www.digitalpreservation.gov. ■

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Sustainability Institute *from page 1*

to produce the first generation of professionals with the vision and know-how to deliver on the promise of sustainability, and I am very proud to be associated with this exciting endeavor."

Golisano's investment will fund new academic programs and additional faculty as the university works toward creating one of the world's first doctorates in sustainability. Formation of this interdisciplinary degree program is supported by a $465,000 development grant from the Henry Luce Foundation and a $500,000 gift from the Chester & Dorris Carlson Charitable Fund.

Nabil Nasr

Nabil Nasr, RIT assistant provost and CIMS director, will lead The Golisano Institute for Sustainability. Nasr is a world-renowned expert in the field of sustainability and environmental issues, and he has been the catalyst in building RIT's expertise in sustainable product design and environmentally conscious manufacturing.

"Here at RIT, we have focused on projects that reduce the use of hazardous materials in production, expand the quality and implementation of remanufacturing processes and have worked to design production systems that are completely closed loop with no waste product and feature the complete reuse of all materials," notes Nasr. "Through our partnerships with industry, government, non-governmental agencies and other universities, we will seek to develop new technologies and processes that will assist in implementing sustainable processes in industry while also disseminating knowledge, education and training in the field."

Albert Simone, RIT president emeritus and chair of Greater Rochester Enterprise, emphasizes the importance that the new institute brings to enhancing RIT's student research opportunities while advancing local economic development initiatives.

"The Golisano Institute for Sustainability will be vital to developing and maintaining competitive advantages for existing Rochester businesses," says Simone. "Those who aren't part of the sustainability movement may well be left behind in the global economy, and having this institute here at RIT provides invaluable knowledge and assistance to this region."

Establishing this institute is consistent with Golisano's ongoing support of the William J. Clinton Foundation. Golisano is a sponsor of the Clinton Global Initiative.

"For the past few years, I have been very proud to have Tom's support for the Clinton Global Initiative, which works to inspire innovative solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges," remarks President Clinton. "One of our most significant ones is the threat of climate change, and I'm very glad Tom is continuing to look for a solution through the creation of this institute for sustainability."

Funding for the construction of a "green" facility to house The Golisano Institute for Sustainability will be incorporated within the next phase of RIT-sponsored activity designed to further this initiative. ■

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Engineering dedication *from page 1*

country," adds Robert Brinkman, chairman of Brinkman International Group. "Defense, home building, electronics, plastics, transportation and medicine would all be impossible without machine tools to build the necessary tools, components and equipment. RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering has long provided highly competent graduates and applied research to this industry, and I am proud to support the continued expansion of these efforts."

"Harris has always been committed to investing in the Rochester community," says Dana Mehnert, president, Harris RF Communications. "The outstanding engineering talent that stems from RIT graduates provides Harris with a great opportunity to strengthen its workforce. We are pleased to contribute to their engineering research and education." ■

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Obituary

Jim Forman, retired mechanical engineering technology department chair and professor, Sept. 4.

Student Spotlight *from page 1*

program. Most importantly, OAs help new students transition into life at RIT. Baker says the opportunity that offers to serve as a mentor is particularly rewarding.

"We get to see incoming students before anyone else is here," he states. "We get to meet them all—start to associate names and faces. It's really a great experience to meet them and interact with them."

Baker's favorite part of orientation is move-in day, which he calls "ridiculous, yet unbelievably rewarding." Orientation assistants work up to 12 hours that day. While their primary focus is helping new students get settled, there is also a chance to lend some reassurance to parents.

"They are overwhelmed with information, but I think they get a sense of relief when they see a smiling face and see someone who's there not necessarily to take care of their students, but to help them out so that it's a smooth transition into college."

As the school year gets underway, Baker transitions to activities related to academics and other aspects of college life. He serves as vice president of the College of Science Student Advisory Board, treasurer of the Society of Physics Students, and teaching assistant. In addition, Baker is active in undergraduate research, previously working with associate professor George Thurston to study the physics of eye lens proteins in relation to cataract disease.

"Steve's been a great asset to our laboratory," states Thurston. "He is well-organized and gets things done, and he learned a lot of techniques and physics very quickly."

That experience helped Baker secure a summer job with NASA. Last month, he returned from Pasadena, Calif., where he worked at the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory studying the impact of atmospheric aerosols on climate changes.

Now, with graduation in sight for next May, Baker's focus turns to graduate school. His long-term plan is to pursue a doctorate in physics in hopes of one day teaching at a university—no doubt resuming a familiar role as mentor and community builder.

"I think it comes from having that influence at home with my mother, not necessarily pounding it into me, but helping me to know how important that is." ■

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