

$\cdot \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{T}$ news&events Rochester Institute of Technology

Inside

Newest RIT college takes pride in program offerings



Former RIT all-stars are named to Hall of Fame

Mayberry named vice president

Katherine Mayberry has been named vice president for academic affairs. She will report jointly to President Albert

Simone



Kit Mayberry

and Stanley McKenzie, who has agreed to remain provost at RIT through June 2008.

Mayberry will maintain her current responsibilities in the areas of academic advising, teaching and learning, academic program development, and academic program review. The new position will focus primarily on student success and retention.

Mayberry joined the RIT faculty in 1979 and became a leading national scholar in rhetorical argument and in women's literature. In 1997, she became associate provost for academic programs and chaired numerous institute task forces in that role, including the second Agenda for Action Committee, the Learning Assessment Task Force and two retention committees. Mayberry was named acting vice president for student retention in 2004.

"From the vantage point of this position, I will be able to oversee and coordinate the wide array of academic inputs-from program curricula to advising to teaching and learning—that so powerfully affect student success," says Mayberry. "Everything I do will relate to the academic success of students. The creation of this position is yet another mark of the importance of student learning and success to this administration. Reporting to the President and having a seat at the vice presidents' table, I will serve as constant representation of these priorities. I look forward to Mayberry, page 4

RIT celebrates move to Division I hockey

RIT is moving its nationally recognized Division III men's hockey program to Division I. The Tigers are joining the Atlantic Hockey Association, whose officials made the announcement Dec. 15 during a news conference at the Gordon Field House. The move to Atlantic Hockey will be phased in over three years, with Division I games starting next season.

Here is what is being said about RIT's hockey announcement: Albert Simone, RIT president: "The schools in Atlantic Hockey share our philosophies and values. We pride ourselves on having student-athletes who put academics first, and so do the schools in Atlantic Hockey. The top priority for our athletic program is the academic success of our students. The second priority of the athletic program is school spirit. Loyalty and traditionthat's important. The third priority is competitiveness. You like to play and win, but that's priority number three for me."

Lou Spiotti, director, intercollegiate athletics and recreation: "RIT hockey has arrived, RIT has arrived



From left, Wayne Wilson, Tim Dillon, Lou Spiotti and Bob DeGregorio congratulate one another on RIT's recent acceptance into the Atlantic Hockey Association.

and Rochester has arrived. We will now be on the map. We will now provide RIT and Rochester with its first big-time college sport. The Tigers will now give our campus and our community something that they have been crying for, for decades. A debt of gratitude goes out to all those who have helped make this happen, including our president and his leadership team, our trustees, our coaches, fans and the many hockey alumni who have contributed to our program." **Bob DeGregorio,** commissioner, the

Atlantic Hockey Association: "We are adding an institution that has an outstanding

tradition in intercolle-



www.rit.edu/newsevents

President Albert Simone announces RIT's upcoming move to Division I hockey

giate ice hockey. RIT has one of the stronger programs at the Division III level. We've made a decision at Atlantic Hockey that we want to expand and build our base to get stronger as a conference, and one of the ways to strengthen our membership is to add to it. RIT will match up with the other members of Atlantic Hockey right away, and that is in no small part due to their history, their tradition and their commitment to this program." Wayne Wilson, RIT head coach:

"It's created a buzz around our campus and it's something our players, Hockey, page 4

RIT opens first 'social computing' lab

With the onslaught of e-mail, instant messaging and weblogs, social interaction has taken on new meaning. According to a recent New York Times article, "Blogs have gone from obscurity to ubiquity in a blink. Bloggers were selected as People of the Year by ABC News, and Merriam-Webster declared 'blog' as its Word of the Year."

RIT, internationally recognized as a leader in computing education, recognizes the need for more research into cyber interaction and has established a groundbreaking lab for "social computing." RIT is the first academic institution to offer research of this kind at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The social computing lab is part of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences' new research initiative— Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure. Elizabeth Lane Lawley, associate professor of information technology, is the lab's director.

Social computing, or social software, is a term that has emerged over the past three years to describe the

use of networked computing tools for facilitating interpersonal and organizational interactions.

"Social computing is an area of

increasing importance in the technology industry-Microsoft, IBM, PARC and FX/Palo Alto all have social computing research groups, and companies building social computing tools are among the fastest growing in the technology sector," says Lawley. "We feel that RIT brings a unique set of skills to research and development in this field, given our combination of technological and social science expertise."

Elizabeth Lane Lawley

Lawley has invited top industry experts to serve on the lab's advisory board. The board members are Stewart Butterfield, president and

founder of Ludicorp—the makers of Flickr; Elizabeth Churchill, senior research scientist at PARC; Joichi Ito, vice president of international and mobility for Technorati; Simon Phipps, chief technology evangelist at Sun Microsystems; Howard Rheingold, consultant and author of Smart Mobs, The Virtual Community, Virtual Reality and Tools for Thought; Linda Stone, former Apple and Microsoft executive; and Mena Trott, co-founder and president of Six Apart—the creators of the Typepad service and Movable Type software.

"Considering the importance of the forms of social software that are altering the way people organize political campaigns, report the news and form social networks, it is particularly important to put together a research group of experienced scholars who are versed in both the academic disciplines and personally immersed in social software practices," explains board member Rheingold.

"RIT realizes industry will benefit not only from strong research activi-Computing, page 4

175th highlights women leaders

As part of RIT's 175th anniversary celebration, a yearlong speaker series entitled Women in Leadership has been launched and features some of the



Tanya Van Court

nation's most influential women in business, government, technology and the arts, sharing their insights and experience in their respective fields.

Tanya Van Court, vice president and general manager of broadband and interactive television for ESPN, has been selected as the inaugural speaker. Her talk will be held at 3 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18, in the B. Thomas Golisano College auditorium. Van Court will also meet with RIT students and tour RIT's Women leaders, page 4

Federal support expands key imaging research program

Integrated sensing systems are the way of the future—fusion of data from satellite-, aircraft- and ground-based sensors combined into an information package will give incident managers critical data at their fingertips whether confronting a wildfire or the aftermath of a dirty bomb.

RIT's new Integrated Sensing Systems Initiative will combine sensors, wireless communication and advanced processing into a multitiered system for use in national and homeland security. Phase two of the project has allocated \$1.5 million in federal funding in the Omnibus Appropriations bill for 2005 approved by Congress in November and is slated to begin in September. This funding adds to the \$1.4 million allotted last year, which will be initiated this month. An early supporter of the project, Rep. Jim Walsh has helped secure funding for RIT's initiative from the beginning.

The integrated sensing program builds on RIT's previous work collecting information from aircraft and satellites to help with the management of wildfires

"ISSI will add another dimension to remote sensing by using a layer of sensors on or near the ground to Imaging research support, page 4



Rep. Jim Walsh, far right, explored RIT's remote sensing technology during a recent campus visit.

Student Affairs division honors dedicated employees

RIT's Division of Student Affairs honored 26 employees for length of service and presented awards for outstanding service at an annual recognition brunch in December.

Two staff members—Ann Nealon and Wick Smith—were honored for their 35 years at RIT. Nealon is the head men's and women's tennis coach and Smith is the college program chair in the Academic Support Center.

The New
Staff
Outstanding
Service
Award, for
staff with
less than five
years in
their field,
was presented to
Joyelle



Joyelle Proctor

Proctor, community enrichment coordinator in the Center for Residence Life.

In her nomination, Proctor's supervisor described her as "a solid leader and role model" who "assists, explains and mentors new staff members so they, too, can be successful" and as someone who is "to be commended for the amount of time and energy

spent getting to know students and providing ways for them to learn about themselves and the world around them."

Proctor has worked at RIT since 2002. On winning the award, she said, "It's wonderful to be recognized by my colleagues and students for a job that I enjoy so much. I'll continue to put students first in all my efforts."

The Outstanding Support Service Award was given to Ellen Dallimore, staff assistant in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dallimore oversees the Alpha Sigma Lambda selection process and schedules Institute Appeals Board hearings and training.

In her nomination, she was credited for keeping humor in the work place with her infectious laugh and being sensitive to



Paul Bernstein

Ellen Dallimore

students and empathetic to their needs. "Her sense of professionalism and sense of ethics makes her a perfect role model for other staff," her nominators said.

"Receiving this award makes me realize that people do notice the little extras that you feel make your job worth doing—the smile that tells troubled students I'm here to help them through a difficult time, the extra something I do for graduating students that they can take with them, and the idea or suggestion that may make someone's job easier."

The
Excellence
in Service
Award was
presented to
Jo Cone,
associate
professor and
assistant
director of
the English
Language
Center.



Jo Cone

In Cone's 20 years at RIT, she has served on the Academic Senate and as the faculty sponsor of the Korean Student Association and Global Union. She has also opened her home and life to students, picking them up at the airport, taking them to the dentist and taking them shopping.

Her colleagues described her as "a trusted advisor, a sounding board and a stern mother when it is needed. Students come to rely on her honest, compassionate advice." Seen often as a mother by her students, "she nevertheless pushes her charges out into the world to explore and see for themselves."

Cone said, "Working with students has been my great pleasure for many years, so I am rewarded every day I go to work. I teach my students English, and they teach me about the world. What better job could there be?"

The Faculty Award for Promoting Learning Outside the Classroom was given to Peter Haggerty, assistant professor of English for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. The award is given to a faculty member outside the Division of Student Affairs who has contributed, in an exceptional way, to student development and success through their support or involvement in activities outside the

Haggerty, described as a person "who cares a great deal about the individual and collective success of our students," has served as a faculty in residence, is the advisor for RIT's Wednesday morning running club

and helped inspire the organization of an annual campus race each spring and a new race during Brick City Weekend.

Haggerty has also been tirelessly involved in RIT's participation in the J.P. Morgan Chase Corporate



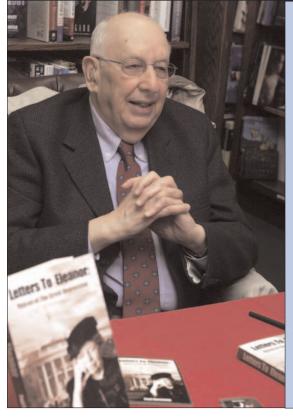
Peter Haggerty

Challenge since 1996 and most recently gave up his Thanksgiving vacation to serve as an advisor for RIT's cross-country relay run.

Haggerty, who has taught at RIT for 28 years and has spent most of his professional life in higher education, said, "It's so satisfying teaching students and working with them outside of class on many things—including academic and social issues—that is a full jug of joy in itself. Then, on top of that, to be recognized in a public way, it makes me feel pleased, proud, thrilled, excited and like I am walking on air!"

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

Letters from the past



signed copies of his new book, Letters to Eleanor: Voices of the Great Depression, at Campus Connections last month. Bernstein served as dean of the College of Liberal Artsthen called the College of General Studies—from 1966 to 1976 and dean of graduate studies from 1976 to 1992. Bernstein will have another book signing from noon to 4 p.m. on Jan. 22 at Writers & Books. For more information, visit www.letterstoeleanor.com.

'Flying Words' at RIT Jan. 29

The widely known Flying Words Project will perform a free show this month at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Robert F. Panara Theater, National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

Imagine watching a leaf floating into water, propelling

peaceful ripples across the stream.
Through ASL and pantomime, deaf artist Peter Cook brings the words of poetry to life, using only his body and hands. His counterpart, Kenny Lerner, a hearing NTID faculty member, uses words, sound effects and silence to interpret what Cook signs.

For some 20 years, Cook and Lerner have been committed to expressing poetry through American Sign Language and body movement. Both entertaining and educational, The Flying Words Project's emphasis



Peter Cook and Kenny Lerner will perform their critically acclaimed show at NTID's Robert F. Panara Theater on Jan. 29.

on imagery through hand movements has drawn extensive acclaim, earning the Critic's Choice award in the *Chicago Reader*, the *Drama-louge* magazine and the *Village Voice*.

This one-time only performance is sponsored by NTID's English department, Liberal Arts Support, Student Life Team, the cultural and creative studies department and the Office of the Vice President and Dean.

For more information on the show, e-mail mnldis@rit.edu or call 243-9413 (v/tty). ■

Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

RIT Women's Center awarded two grants

The RIT Women's Center was recently awarded two grants totaling \$375,000.

The Department of Justice awarded the Women's Center a \$300,000 grant for December 2004 to November 2006. This brings the total funding secured by Julie White, the former director of the Women's Center, to more than \$1 million from the Department of Justice over the past six years.

With this grant, the Women's Center will continue its mission to support women on the RIT campus both personally and academically while continuing to develop and deliver successful, comprehensive programming and services to prevent violence at RIT. The center does this through professional training and support for Campus Safety, the Center for Student Conduct and Conflict Management Services, student affairs personnel and local law enforcement by improving coordination among programs and people responding to crimes against women on campus and by strengthening the delivery of victim services for all students.

The Women's Center also coordinates with campus and community partners to develop and deliver programming based on social norms

and male peer-support models.

The center also received a \$75,000 grant from the Davenport-Hatch Foundation towards the expansion of the Women's Center. Davenport-Hatch, a private foundation in the Rochester area, also provided support for construction of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center in recent years.

This grant will be used for the future relocation and renovation of the center in the Student Alumni Union.

For more information about the Women's Center, call 475-7464 (v/tty). ■

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom@rit.edu

In search of...trailblazers

RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism is highlighting those who have helped RIT become a more diverse community.

Nominations are being accepted for today's "Diversity Trailblazers." If you know someone who should be nominated, send the following information to Alfreda Brown, chairperson, Commission for Promoting Pluralism, 7000 Eastman. Nominations can be faxed to 475-5700, or e-mailed to axbpro@rit.edu.

Nominee's name; nominee's title; nominee's department; nominee's telephone and e-mail; reason for nomination.

Nominations are being accepted through Feb. 11. ■

Kathy Lindsley | kjlcom@rit.edu

An exchange of students and ideas



A group of delegates from the Kanazawa Institute of Technology in Japan traveled to RIT in December to sign a renewal of a student exchange agreement. The delegation, lead by Larry Winnie, associate dean, College of Liberal Arts and Catherine Winnie, director of RIT's Academic Enhancement Programs, included KIT President Ken-ichi Ishikawa, shown above. The group toured several campus departments and labs before signing the official agreement during a dinner at Liberty Hill, home of RIT President Albert Simone. Here, students working in the Foreign Language Lab discuss their project with Ishikawa.

MBA students learn life lesson

Six RIT College of Business MBA students had the opportunity to attend a conference in San Francisco in mid-December on eradicating poverty through profits.

Their trip was made possible through a one-time scholarship funded by the Joan Rothenberg Family Foundation. MBA students—Alexandra Feng, Holly Hudson, Nirmala David, Peter Rahmer, Margaret Narh-Mensah and Marina Fyedorova—were required to submit a letter of intent and a letter of recommendation to receive the award.

The scholarship was arranged by Sandra Rothenberg, assistant professor of management in COB.

"I have found that while many students possess a desire to learn about the ways in which business can help solve these problems, they are not sure how to do this while still meeting traditional business objectives," she says. "This scholarship was a way for students to hear from business, community and academic leaders on how business can contribute to the alleviation of one of the most critical global problems, poverty."

Or as Martin Rothenberg, the scholarship founder further explains, "It is important that more students entering the world of business participate in the debate on how the system can be altered or adapted so that the benefits of capitalism can be more widespread."

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

SPOTLIGHT ON

Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences

An influx of new programs helps newest college gain success

Blogging. Gigabytes. Wi-Fi. These are the newest buzzwords in the age of computers. Here's something else in the computer world that's abuzz—the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. As RIT celebrates its 175th anniversary, GCCIS—the largest college of its kind in the nation—has a lot of milestones to celebrate from its three-year history.

One of the main reasons, according to Jorge Díaz-Herrera, dean of GCCIS, is that RIT is leading computing education reform—something that other universities are noticing.

"This college is making a serious attempt to tell the world that computing is a lot more than computer science," he says.

Díaz-Herrera indicates that, for the first time in 10 years, the National Academy of Sciences has changed the definition of computer science to mean computing and information sciences.

"This, of course, happens to be the name of our college, and when I saw this I thought it was fantastic. This is giving credence to what we are doing here."

The breadth of programs offered in GCCIS is another reason the college is getting noticed.

"There was a vision for the cre-



Students work on projects in one of 21 information technology labs within GCCIS.

ation of this college, bringing together a mosaic of programs that all complement each other. And the programs all center around the idea of computing and information sciences," says Díaz-Herrera.

The three departments within GCCIS are information technology, software engineering and computer science, with a total of 92 faculty members—a number that Díaz-Herrera says is unprecedented. Their

expertise allows the college to offer four undergraduate and four graduate programs. And several more master's degree programs are in development, including learning and knowledge management, game design and development, human-computer interaction, networking and systems administration, and software engineering.

Research is also a draw for students. In the fall, the college created the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure. The center aims to foster interdisciplinary research, using state-of-the-art computing to make studies more productive in engineering and scientific fields, including social sciences and the humanities. Several of RIT's colleges are participating in the center's research. One area is social computing—making RIT the first academic institution to offer research about social interaction at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The center will be the research arm of a doctoral program that GCCIS is developing. The program will mirror the constitution of the college, offering a broad base with specializations in infrastructure, interaction and informatics. Once it receives approval, the doctoral program will accept eight to 10 students each year.

In January, GCCIS will commemorate RIT's 175 years with a series of lectures, a computing trade show and the college's first-ever conference on computing and information sciences. And this is sure to get some buzz—faculty, staff and students will showcase not their computer skills, but acting skills. They will act in a stage production, Computer Security.

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

News briefs

Exploring Boeing

Bruce Chesley, director of systems architecture at Boeing Co., will discuss "The New Generation of Boeing Aerospace Technology" 1-1:50 p.m. Jan. 20 in Xerox Auditorium in the James E. Gleason Building. Free and open to the public, the talk is part of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering's Distinguished Speaker Series. Call 475-2146 or e-mail mjseen@rit.edu.

Construction discussions

Facilities Management Services has arranged for two open forums with the New York State Department of Transportation on the Jefferson Road construction project. The sessions are scheduled noon-1 p.m. Jan. 18 in the 1829 Room, Student Alumni Union, and Jan. 26 in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering Xerox Auditorium.

Seeking nominations

Do you know a student with a spirit for public service?

Nominate them for the Bruce R. James '64 Distinguished Public Service Award: A Student Public Service Award.

The award was created by Alfred Davis in celebration of RIT's 175th anniversary.

Visit www.rit.edu/~300www/documents/StudentAwardApplic ation.doc for nomination forms.

The deadline for nominations

Snowball celebration

The RIT Habitat for Humanity will sponsor the eighth annual Snowball 8 p.m.-midnight, Jan. 21 in the Student Alumni Union Cafeteria. The Snowball is open to all RIT students.

Half of all proceeds are donated to local Habitat for Humanity chapters. Tickets are \$8 pre-sale at the Student Alumni Union candy counter and \$10 at the door. E-mail habitat@mail.rit.edu.

Let the 'spirit' move you

Students from the College of Business have scheduled a diversion from the hectic pace of RIT life during Spirit Week, Jan. 17-21. Events are scheduled inside the Max Lowenthal Building, including games, raffles, a baked goods sale, silent auction, icecream social and coffee hour.

Charlie Brown, senior vice president and chief administrative officer at Kodak, will be the keynote speaker. His lecture takes place at 4 p.m. on Jan. 20. Call 475-2199 or e-mail dlsbbu@rit.edu.

Happy 20th Birthday

Campus Connection bookstore is turning 20! As a thank you, the store will host special events each day until Jan. 25. For example, every day until Jan. 25, the first 100 customers will receive money-saving coupons.

As part of this promotion, the 20th customer each day will receive a 20 percent-off coupon, and a drawing will be held on Jan. 25 for a mini iPod. For information, call 475-6033.

Gallery r showcase

"Exalting the Mundane" is underway through Jan. 22 at Gallery r, 775 Park Ave., RIT's student-run metro showcase. The free show hosts work by artists, designers, filmmakers and photographers who capture the usual in uncommon visual statements. Call 242-9470, or visit www.galleryr.org.

Annual MLK celebration, Jan. 19

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, RIT will host a program featuring a guest speaker, musical performances and



Robert Colón

a reception following the event.

RIT's celebration will be held at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 19, in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union.

The program will feature welcome remarks from RIT President Albert Simone, and a musical selection from Professor Carl Atkins, and the RIT Gospel Ensemble.

The keynote address, "More Than 40 Years Later, Has the Dream Become a Reality?" will be presented by Robert Colón, assistant attorney general, Rochester Regional Office. In his role with the New York State Attorney General's office, Colón oversees all functions of the Rochester regional office including supervising attorneys and staff members.

A question-and-answer session will follow Colón's talk, and a reception will be held in the Fireside Lounge, SAU, after the ceremony.

The program is sponsored by RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism.

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

A trophy of thanks



Two local unions, Unions and Businesses United in Construction and the Rochester Building and Construction Trades Council, were recently honored at RIT. The labor unions donated \$10,000 for the building of two permanent trophy cases in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. Four RIT students in the woodworking program designed and built them. Two of the students, Dave Adams, back row left, and John Kim, second from right, were on hand for the ceremony. James Watters, RIT vice president of finance and administration, far right, thanked the hundreds of local labor workers who built the field house.

Student earns IBM intern spot

Jared Stehler, a fifth-year computer science student, writes in code. This past summer he worked for IBM's Extreme Blue—a premier intern program that draws students from around the world.

Stehler was one of 175 students selected from 4,500 applicants. He spent the summer at IBM's Almaden Lab in San Jose, Calif. His four-person team had to create a way for the banking industry to track and monitor risk for its corporate clients.

The solution the team came up with uses a Web page portal and works in real time. Stehler designed the graphical elements of the program.

Stehler continues to work on the project part-time while finishing up his degree.

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

CIMS plays a part in naval fleet support



RIT has signed a collaborative agreement to enhance the military's in-service engineering efforts and fleet support. Stan McKenzie, left, RIT provost, joined Capt. Charles Behrle, commander of the Naval Surface Warfare Center's Carderock Division, to formally announce the new relationship. Research conducted at RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies will focus on the design of hull, mechanical and electrical systems, as well as life-cycle support.

Emphasis placed on advising

Additional support has arrived for RIT students contemplating a program transfer: the Institute Advising Office officially opened this month.



Joli Blaha

According to Katherine Mayberry, vice president for academic affairs, the new office enhances counseling services already available on campus. Its goal is to provide general academic advising and referrals for students seeking a university-wide perspective.

Joli Blaha has been appointed director of the Institute Advising Office. Blaha joined RIT in 2001 as assistant director of the Center for Student Conduct and Conflict Management Services and as an instructor for First Year Enrichment. Since accepting this new role, she has focused her energy on learning vari-

ous aspects of RIT's eight colleges. "It's the research project of a lifetime," says Blaha.

To facilitate the process, Blaha is working with the Office of the Registrar to conduct a degree audit that will standardize the university's curricula. Completion of that audit is expected in spring.

"That way students can see what happens if, for example, a person transfers from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences to the College of Business. It should go a long way in helping them make better decisions."

Blaha says the Institute Advising Office becomes a key component of RIT's new strategic plan—broadening the university's student focus. By helping undecided students find their niche on campus, it may keep many of them from looking elsewhere.

"That's my vision," she states,
"allowing them to remain here if it
fits their career and academic focus. If
we have a mechanism in place to
make that seamless, RIT should
remain their first choice."

To learn more, contact Blaha at 475-7024 or joli.blaha@rit.edu. ■
Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Girl power Ratio

Bloomfield School District students, above, were among two dozen sixth- and seventh-grade girls from Rochester-area schools at RIT Dec. 10-12 for the interactive workshop, "Park & Ride: Amusement Park Ride Design—An Engineering Program for Middle School Girls." Organized by RIT's Women In Engineering Center in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering and the university's student section of the Society of Women Engineers, the two-and-a-half-day workshop featured LEGO robotic projects aimed at sparking the girls' interest in engineering. "I think it's fun to build things," observed one of the future engineers.

news&events

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Mayberry

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collaborating with the other vice presidents and to continued productive partnerships with the deans and provost."

McKenzie became provost and vice president for academic affairs in 1994. As provost, McKenzie will remain chief academic officer. The deans, associate provost for outreach programs, assistant provost and director of CIMS, and assistant provost for diversity will continue to report directly to the provost.

"Student success is what RIT is all about," says President Simone.
"Student success means that students graduate from RIT, feel good about their experience here and move on to successful lives and careers. With regard to extracurricular activities, Vice President for Student Affairs Mary-Beth Cooper thinks of our students every day. I want the same emphasis on the academic side of the house."

"Accordingly, Kit Mayberry will be thinking about the academic progress and success of every student every day. Stan McKenzie, in his role as provost and chief academic officer, will continue to work closely every day with the deans, faculty, and associate/assistant provosts. He and Kit will interact on issues of curriculum, academic advising, teaching/learning and other issues which relate directly to student academic success. Most universities do not focus on student academic success, as Kit will be doing. This approach is a new paradigm, one for which I have great expectations.

"I want to congratulate Kit on her new and unique role. I want to thank Stan, especially, for agreeing to postpone his retirement for several years so that we can finish what we started together more than 10 years ago." ■ Bob Finnerty | refuns@rit.edu

Computing

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ties in this field, but also from our commitment to preparing our students to work in this field," adds Lawley.

Faculty from GCCIS and the College of Liberal Arts will work together on research projects for the lab. And the lab will offer students the opportunity to work on research and development projects related to social computing. In addition to providing graduate students with relevant research projects, the lab will also fund several undergraduate research assistant positions and will work closely with the new student social computing club.

"Social computing is resonating more with the public than the printed press because information can be disseminated quickly to a wide audience," says Jorge Díaz-Herrera, dean of GCCIS. "Because of its national impact, we believe this lab will foster research and tools, utilizing RIT students, faculty members, and industry experts."

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

Women leaders

from page

telecommunications lab. A reception in the Golisano College lobby will follow her presentation. Van Court is also a member of RIT President Albert Simone's round-table advisory panel.

The series highlights the professional accomplishments of its featured speakers in disciplines that are part of the RIT program portfolio, and is intended to inform students, faculty and other members of the campus community of new and emerging developments in key fields. A series goal is also to inspire students, and RIT's women students in particular, to excel in their professions and to set high career aspirations for themselves.

For more information about the series, call 475-5173. ■

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Obituaries

James "JT" Thomas, RIT retiree and former custodian for Facilities Management Services, Nov. 30.

Watson "Jim" Walker, professor emeritus and former department head of electrical engineering, Dec. 7.

Athletes leave their mark

The RIT Inn & Conference Center was the site for the 2004 RIT Athletics Hall of Fame Induction ceremony in November. Former RIT athletes and staff are selected based upon their athletic excellence and distinguished service. This year's inductees are, from left, Rob Grow, baseball; Len Williams, hockey; Paul Schojan, soccer; Ushi Patel, volleyball; Meredith Ray, athletics interpreter; Kevin Collins, cross country and track; and Jeff Molisani, basketball.

Imaging research support

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generate information products," says Don McKeown, project manager and distinguished researcher in RIT's Laboratory for Imaging Algorithms and Systems in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science. "People are doing work on sensors and networks of sensors, but integrating a multi-tier system of systems including satellite, aircraft and ground sensors is relatively new territory. That's where the strength of RIT comes in—we have a strong system engineering approach."

Radio links will transmit data measured by small ground sensors (weathertight and fireproof) to aircraft collecting additional data. The two sets of information will be processed together along with data from NASA's Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer or MODIS satellite to generate tools to help incident managers make decisions.

For instance, ground sensors will measure weather parameters of a wild-fire—including humidity, temperature, wind direction and wind speed—or characterize toxic materials released into the air by a dirty bomb. The integrated system would combine those details with an instantaneous picture taken from an airplane.

McKeown and his team will design the integrated sensing system as a flexible tool for addressing wildfires and other major incidents ranging from hurricanes to terrorist attacks, when situational awareness is critical. The RIT team also has initiated discussions with the Monroe County Office of Emergency Preparedness for potential use on a local level.

"Jim Walsh has been a constant friend of RIT's imaging science program," says McKeown. "He's seen the value of what we do, recognized it and, through all these tight budget battles, he's stood by us."

Adds RIT President Albert Simone:
"Congressman Walsh has been an
extraordinary champion on behalf of our
imaging research program. We appreciate this continued support and are committed to ensuring the greatest possible
return on this investment in RIT."

Since 2000, Congressman Walsh has secured nearly \$9.5 million in research funding for remote sensing programs at RIT's CIS—the Wildfire Airborne Sensor Program and it precursor program, FIRES, which links the RIT to NASA and applies remote sensing strategies to facilitate the early detection of forest fires. This federal investment focused on dramatically increasing the effectiveness of remote sensing in the production of image-based information for global environmental monitoring, homeland and national security.

"The recent tsunami in Southeast Asia demonstrates the devastating impact natural disasters can have in terms of the loss of life and property," says Walsh. "RIT's ISSI project has implications to improve situational awareness for disasters and security threats of all forms around the world. This continued investment validates the progress already made by university researchers."

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Learning bioscience skills



RIT's Center for Bioscience Education and Technology is retraining members of the Rochester workforce in basic biotechnology skills. In the fall, Eastman Kodak Co. allocated up to \$280,000 from its Rochester Economic Development Fund to provide free tuition for 35 people to study at CBET. The 10-week certificate program, Basic Biotechnology Skills for Bioprocessing Operations, provides fundamental skills needed for people seeking entry-level positions at local biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies and medical research centers. Students, shown from left, Seema Thomas, Siva Sugunan, Yauneek Jackson and Richard Schmanke study enzyme kinetics. The next session begins Jan. 19 and runs through March 29.

Hockey from page 1

student body and community have wanted for a long time. It's a perfect partnership for us to be affiliated with Atlantic Hockey. We accept this challenge. We do expect to win hockey games. We do expect our players to graduate and be contributing members of society."

Sheila Sarratore, president, Student Government: "This is a point of pride and spirit. I think that this move will be a great chance for our spirit to build at RIT."

Brian Riley, head coach, Army:

"We, here at West Point, are very excited to be adding RIT to the league. During a time when expansion is inevitable, RIT is a perfect fit for Atlantic Hockey. It is an institution with high academic standards and an excellent hockey tradition."

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