

$R \cdot I \cdot T$ news&events

Rochester Institute of Technology

www.rit.edu/newsevents

Inside



Gallery r opening features retrospective



RIT donor wins philanthropy award

Culhane wins service award



Barry Culhane

The second Presidents Distinguished Public Award will be awarded to Barry Culhane, executive

assistant to the president, in a ceremony set for Feb. 12.

For more than 20 years, Culhane has contributed his time to serving the Rochester community. He has played key leadership roles with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Corporation of Greater Rochester, the Al Sigl Center, Junior Achievement of Rochester, Upstate New York Multiple Sclerosis, the Rochester Rotary Club and numer-

Culhane, page 4

A day in the life ...

RIT will be the subject of the Democrat and Chronicle's "Day in the Life" series on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The newspaper will dispatch 20 reporters, photographers and editors to RIT for 24 hours. The journalists intend to capture RIT spirit on a "typical" day in classrooms, labs and recreation areas, among other areas on campus.

The special section will be published on Feb. 20. The paper's Website, www.democratandchronicle.com, will feature additional content.

For more information on the project, contact Bob Finnerty, chief communications officer, at 5-4733 or refuns@rit.edu.

New Conable chair in College of Liberal Arts \$1 million gift to support endowed chair is largest in Liberal Arts history

In honor of the late statesman and former World Bank President Barber Conable, The Starr Foundation has awarded RIT \$1 million in support of the Barber B. Conable Jr. Endowed Chair In International Studies.

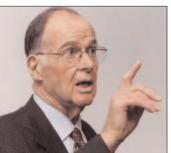
The Conable chair will be housed in RIT's College of Liberal Arts, where it will provide intellectual and academic leadership for the proposed B.S. degree program in international studies, slated to begin in fall 2004. The foundation's gift is the largest ever received by the college.

One of the largest private foundations in the United States, The

Starr Foundation makes grants in a number of areas, including education, medicine and healthcare, human needs, public policy, culture and the environment.

"We are most grateful for The Starr Foundation's generous support,"

says Andrew Moore, dean of COLA. "The Barber B. Conable Jr. Endowed Chair In International Studies will



The late Barber Conable answers ques $tions\ following\ a\ 2002\ presentation.$

ensure that his legacy of principled and innovative leadership in the national and international arenas will be preserved for all time."

Elected to the House of Representatives in 1964, Conable represented several New

York counties for 20 years, and served as World Bank president from 1986 to 1991. Conable died in 2003.

The holder of the endowed chair will promote the ideals of global citizenship and responsibility embodied in Conable's achievements.

He or she will also focus expertise on how scientific and technological advances impact societies and cultures worldwide, providing an interdisciplinary perspective on such issues as terrorism, international financial crises and the proliferation of nuclear and biological weapons. A renowned scholar will be named once the remaining funds needed are secured.

For information, call 5-7838. ■

Celebrating Black History Month



Garth Fagan Dance will give a special performance at RIT in honor of Black History Month and the 20th anniversary of RIT/NTID Dance Company, under the current direction of Thomas Warfield.

Now in its 33rd anniversary season, Garth Fagan Dance will perform one of Fagan's most critically-acclaimed-choreographed works: "Excerpts from Griot New York." The event will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 17, in the Robert F. Panara Theater, Lyndon Baines Johnson Building.

Company founder and artistic director Fagan is the Tony-Award-winning choreographer of Disney's hit Broadway musical, The Lion King.

Tickets— \$5 for students, \$12 for RIT faculty/staff and \$18 for the public—are available at the SAU candy counter or by calling 5-2239.

Young artists display creations, compete at RIT

Three weeks ago, a panel of 30 judges critiqued 1,500 works of art created by area youngsters from a 10-county region. Now it's time to find out who will walk away with top honors at the 2004 Scholastic Art Awards and Exhibition.

The award ceremony will take place on Saturday, Jan. 31, in Clark Gymnasium. Prize-winning pieces will be displayed at RIT's

Bevier Gallery through Feb. 18.

This is the fifth consecutive year RIT has hosted the awards which is made possible by a New York state grant secured by Sen. James Alesi and significant funding provided by M&T

Sen. Alesi and RIT professor Len



Area youngsters will showcase creations, like the one shown above, at the exhibit.

keynote speakers for the ceremony which begins at 11 a.m. Winners from the regional competition are eligible to compete at the national level. "Sen. Alesi's

Urso, are the

interest and support for this program are a testimony to his strong interest in arts and education," says Joan Stone, CIAS dean. "This program has a remarkable impact on the students, giving them a tremen-

dous sense of pride, self-esteem and accomplishment."

A list of all participating students and winning artists will be available after Feb. 1 at www.rit.edu/ ~artshow. For more information, call Dale Boris-Kane at 5-2968. ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

RIT leadership adjusts focus on new retention efforts Mayberry assumes new role as acting vice president for student retention



Katherine Mayberry, associate provost for academic programs, has been named acting vice president for student retention. In this role, Mayberry will have full authority over all deans and other academic personnel in the Division of Academic Affairs in matters directly related to student retention.

Mayberry will retain direct supervision of the registrar and the assistant provost for teaching and learning services. Other areas directly

reporting to Mayberry, namely as tant provost and director of the library, director of the Office of Academic Enhancement, and director of K-12 Programs, will be temporarily reassigned within the Division of Academic Affairs.

"This new position will exist until the challenge of student retention at RIT is adequately met," stated President Albert Simone in a letter to

the RIT community. "I expect that to be no later than June 30, 2005. At that time, it is

expected that Dr. Mayberry will return to her current position of associate provost for academic programs. Action is called for and that is the purpose of this new administrative appointment."

Mayberry was chair of the 1999 Retention Task Force and co-chairs, with Barry Culhane, executive assistant to the president, the current

Retention Committee appointed by the president.

"Obviously, no single person can 'fix' our retention problem, but I think it will be useful to provide the colleges with a consistent point of reference for the development and implementation of retention-enhancing strategies," says Mayberry.

"While we have grappled with this problem for years, one thing

campus has to become actively engaged."

"To improve our student retention results, it is clear that the entire

about retention has changed: there is

research is virtually unanimous in its

conclusion that the classroom expe-

rience is a critical determinant of

success and persistence. So we will

be paying a good deal of attention

to the nature of that experience at

RIT, as well as on the activities and

now a wealth of research about suc-

cessful retention programs. That

relationships that support and emerge from it."

As a basis for this appointment, Simone mentioned the ongoing concern of strengthening RIT's student retention numbers.

Simone stated, "Two years ago, the provost and deans developed a plan in which student retention would be increased incrementally year by year, college by college (with

different expectations for different colleges, depending on the circumstances) with the

view of reaching a 75 percent graduation rate by the year 2006. After two years, it is clear that we are not meeting the milestones established by that

According to Simone, a solid retention rate will facilitate the establishment of school spirit while the students are at RIT and create loyalty

Student retention, page 4

–Albert Simone, RIT president

The voice of wisdom The voice of wisdom

Alvin Poussaint, physician and technical advisor to The Cosby Show and Little Bill on Nickelodeon, addressed the RIT community in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 15. Prior to his presentation, Poussaint spent time with students discussing their thoughts on race relations and attitudes on campus.

Book studies energy resources

Alternate Energy cover technologies

Winebrake's book discusses the

technical, economic and policy issues

that will affect the successful integra-

tion of energy efficient and renewable

"Energy security and environ-

technologies into global markets.

mental quality are two of the most

important concerns for the 21st cen-

tury," Winebrake notes. "Sustainable

into renewable resources and that we

Implementation Reference Book was

published by The Fairmont Press, a

publishing arm of the Association of

Alternate Energy: Assessment and

development requires that we tap

use energy more wisely."

Energy Engineers.

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

as diverse as solar power, window

technology and hydrogen fuel."



James Winebrake

shift from fossil fuels to alternative energies? A road map. The new book, Alternate

What does

it take to

Energy: Assessment and Implementation Reference Book, explores sustainable energy technologies and barriers hindering their commercialization. Future energy possibilities are outlined using a planning strategy called "roadmapping" developed by government and industry.

"Technology road maps represent a technique to help identify technology trends, market barriers and strategies to overcome those barriers," says author James Winebrake, professor and chair of public policy at RIT. "The road maps used in

Gannett lecture series

Citizen activism will be explored from multiple perspectives during the next Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 5, in Webb Auditorium in the James E. Booth Building.

The presentation, Citizen Activists: Global and Local, will center on a panel of individuals who espouse and act upon their political concerns.

- Panelists will include:
- Mark Camp, director of Cultural Survival, on "Indigenous Action Network"
- Marilyn Anderson, Pro Arte Maya, on "Putting My Skills as an Artist/Photographer to Use as Global Activist"
- Jonathan Garlock, labor activist, on "Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: Educating and Organizing around Workplace Issues"
- Jon Greenbaum, Metro Justice, Rochester, on "Direct Action Organizing: Defending Our Families, Our Communities, and Our Planet."

The event—free and open to the public—will be interpreted for the deaf.

For more information, call 5-2057 or visit www.rit.edu/gannettseries.

Vagina Monologues, Feb. 13-15

Performances raise violence awareness

Valentine's Day and V-Day are both celebrations of women—one with hearts and flowers, the other with words and wisdom.

The two have become synonymous since 1988 when playwright Eve Ensler debuted a benefit performance of *The Vagina Monologues*, which won an Obie Award for raising awareness to end violence against women.

V-Day returns to campus on Valentine's weekend when *The Vagina*

Monologues return—delving into the mystery, pain, humor, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement of women's experiences. Performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Feb. 13-15, in SAU's Ingle Auditorium.

RIT's production of *The Vagina*

Monologues features readings by faculty, staff and students, and is part of the national campaign to end sexual

assault against women.

Tickets—\$5
for students, \$10 for
everyone else—are
available by calling
RIT's game room at
5-2239. The play is
produced by RIT's
Women's Center,
with co-sponsorship from several
other campus
organizations, and
will be performed
simultaneously in
American Sign

Language and English.

omen's cente

All proceeds go to support RIT's CARES (Campus Advocacy, Response and Support Program), a comprehensive program for victims of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking.

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Check out this forecast



The new exhibition, "Current Conditions" at the NTID Dyer Arts Center features
Monoprints by Judith Brust and Sculpture by Bruce
Sodervick—RIT professor in CIAS School of Art. Above is Sodervick's "Habitat
Landmark" which can be seen in the opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30.

The show runs through Feb. 27, and gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday; and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 5-6855.

RIT hosts Sen. Clinton conference on alternative fuel technologies



Sen. Hillary Clinton

ogy offers some promising opportunities for the overall health of the upstate New York economy, includ-

Alternative

fuel technol-

ing the creation of new jobs.

Marshalling the human, educational and business resources to invest in this technology is the focus of Alternative Energy in New York Expo 2004.

The event is Monday, Feb. 2, at the RIT Inn & Conference Center. Sen. Hillary Clinton will offer the keynote address and serve as conference moderator. Nabil Nasr, assistant provost and director of RIT's Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, will be among the experts participating in a panel discussion on growing alternative energy companies.

Representatives from leading government and industry organizations utilizing alternative energy technologies will also be on the panels. New York State Comptroller Alan Hevesi will chair the afternoon panel. Also participating in the conference will be Roger Altman, former deputy treasury secretary in the Bill Clinton Administration.

The free conference is sponsored by New Jobs for New York, a not-forprofit organization created to retain and attract new investment and jobs to communities across the state.

For more information and to register for the conference, visit www.newjobsfornewyork.com.

A show of distinction



Mary Loomis Rickman spent a lifetime learning her art and more than 100 guests attended the Jan. 6 opening of "Retrospective," her one-woman show currently on display in the CIAS Dean's Alumni Gallery. The RIT alum received her MFA in painting in 1987 and credits her artistry to the influence of the people who taught and helped her along the way.

Master of the spoken word

Henry Rollins brings his spokenword tour to RIT on Feb. 7. His show begins at 8 p.m. in Clark Gymnasium. Tickets—\$7 for RIT students and \$15 for the public—are available



Henry Rollins

at the candy counter and game room in the Student Alumni Union. Call 5-2239 to order with a credit card.

The tour follows the recent release of his latest spoken-word album, *Nights Behind the Tree Line*. For each copy sold, \$1 will be donated to Hollygrove Children's Services in California.

Formerly the front man for 1980s punk band Black Flag, he now fronts Rollins Band.

Rollins Band.

Rollins has produced eight albums, started his own record label and is a published author. His acting career includes roles in movies such as The Chase, Johnny Mnemonic, Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker and Jackass: The Movie.

Silandara Bartlett | sjbcom @rit.edu

News briefs

Jarhead writer to speak

Author and ex-marine Anthony Swofford will visit RIT to talk about his memoir *Jarhead*, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 4, in Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building. The event—free and open to the public—is sponsored by the department of language and literature in the College of Liberal Arts. Students across campus are reading Swofford's memoir about Desert Storm as this year's "Common Novel" experience. For information, call 5-6928.

Packaging science fair

The 14th annual Packaging Science Career Fair, one of RIT's largest yearly on-campus career fairs, is slated for 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the second floor conference room (rooms 2210–2220) in the Louise M. Slaughter Building. Nineteen firms and the Institute of Packaging Professionals will be represented. RIT's packaging science degree program, in the College of Applied Science and Technology, is one of only six of its kind in the United States and Canada.

GCCIS dean's lecture

What does it take to transform lofty concepts associated with information technology into practical applications? That issue will be considered during the latest installment of the Dean's Lecture Series, sponsored by the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

Members of the information technology management team at Paychex Inc. present "IT: A Real World Perspective." The panel discussion will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6, in the Golisano College auditorium. The event will be followed by a reception, and both are free and open to the public.

Reading Rapture

Student authors will read their prose and poetry at the first Reading Rapture at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10, at Java Wally's. All students who read their work will receive a free cup of coffee. Prizes will be awarded to the best reading of a poem and a fictional excerpt. The event is sponsored by RIT's writing club, Inklings, Rebecca Housel, faculty advisor, and through an RIT Interactive Learning Grant. Interpretation for the deaf will be provided upon request and availability of interpreters. For information, contact Housel at housereb@rochester.rr.com.

By the People results

More than 100 Rochester-area residents came to RIT Jan. 24 to participate in a national conversation about America's role in the world.

Participants were surveyed on a variety of questions related to American foreign policy. The results of the poll, commissioned by RIT, WXXI and the *Democrat and Chronicle*, are now available at www.rit.edu/news. The poll includes local and national results on questions related to homeland security and the global economy.

The poll was part of "By the People: America in the World." Rochester was among 10 cities across the nation that participated in the event, sponsored by the *News Hour* on PBS.

For information, visit www.pbs.org/newshour/btp.

Athenaeum offers lifelong learning for adults

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.



id you know...

- ■By the year 2005, 30 percent of the nation's workforce will be 55 or
- Someone who retires at age 60 could spend as much as a third or more of his or her life in retirement?
- One in every six residents in Monroe County is 60 or older?
- RIT has a lifelong learning center for adults over 50?

Let's face it. Everyone tells you how to prepare for financial security

It's the stuff

made of-if

digital and

radio-fre-

quency

analysis methodol-

you nor-

mally

ogy is what

dreams are

after retirement, but no one prepares you for the emotional and psychological adjustment. A familiar refrain is: "I have free time and don't know what to do with it. I volunteer in the community but want to be socially and mentally active."

Well RIT has found a place for us too-and if you haven't heard of us before, we're

just a stone's throw away from the main campus. The Athenaeum was named in 1829 after the ancient Greek center of learning by a handful of prominent people—who couldn't have known it would be resurrected a century and a half later in 1987 as an affiliate of RIT.

Maintaining the original mission, our 390 members share experience and knowledge in: Classical Music, Second Guessing the Academy, Harry Potter, Irish Literature, The

Uncivil Civil War, Democracy in the U.S. and Contemporary Events to name a few.

At The Athenaeum, there are no tests, exams, competition or grades. Non-credit courses are designed and led by peers.

What's amazing is that we attract people from all walks of life who are interested in shared learning and intellectual enjoyment.

> We come together simply for the pleasure of learning.

While the majority of RIT students are in the 20 to 30 year-oldspan, Athenaeum members range from their early 50s to 90s. That's a lifetime in itself and what's amazing is that we attract people from all walks of life who are interested in shared learning and intellectual

Former high school principal Larry Kanner says, "In addition to

continued intellectual stimulation, The Athenaeum provides an opportunity for new learning in areas not covered in my formal education."

Viewpoints

Or as Joan Charles, former chair of The Athenaeum Council, believes, "The Athenaeum easily becomes an

> important part of your life."

After retirement, you can exer-

cise your body with daily workouts and keep an eye on your diet, but toning your mind with regular invigorating workouts at The Athenaeum is best of all.

That's why we're here. RIT's Athenaeum is truly an asset to the community. It brings out the best in all of us and carries us farther than we knew we could go.

Sepos is director of The Athenaeum. She joined the RIT staff in 1971; this fall marks her 10th year at The Athenaeum.

Time and remembrance



Jerome Witkin, one of America's finest figurative artists, will speak about his paintings at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 29, in the Carlson Auditorium, Bldg. 76. Witkin is known for his historical narratives—especially his recent monumental work, "Taken," a memorial to the tragic events of Sept. 11.

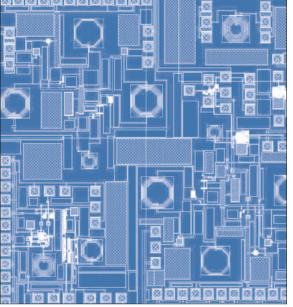
Researchers make DREAMs come true



dream about, that is.

The Digital & RF Early Analysis Methodology tool—DREAM for short-was recently created in the RF/Analog/Mixed-Signal Laboratory, or RAMLAB, in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

The software package—an RF microsystem design tool—integrates next-generation noise-reduction methodology, including low noise amplifiers, for designing analog and digital integrated circuits and computer chips for use in high-speed wireless devices such as cell phones. The methodology helps make possible creation of faster, smaller and more energy-efficient electronic devices, says P.R. Mukund, professor of electrical engineering and lab director. Mukund led a research team of faculty and graduate students from RIT, Georgia Tech and SUNY Brockport to develop DREAM.



An RF microsystem designed in RIT's RAMLAB

Grants for the project from the National Science Foundation and Semiconductor Research Corp. are among more than \$300,000 in annual outside funding of RAMLAB research. Other funding sources include Harris Corp., LSI Logic Corp. and the Microelectronics Design Center, a statewide collaboration of academic researchers and industry supported by the New York State Office of Science, Technology and

Academic Research. Other projects include:

LSI Logic recently agreed to share 90 nanometer and 65 nanometer RF-design technology with RAMLAB, an agreement valued at almost \$1 million. LSI Logic also recently gave \$27,000 to the lab for unrestricted research.

RAMLAB and TIMA Laboratory of France, a leading microsystems research lab in Europe, recently began collabora-

tive research. In addition, Mukund is working with faculty from Georgia Tech, the University of Rochester and SUNY Buffalo on other research

In the past year, RAMLAB researchers have published a dozen papers in peer-reviewed forums. The lab supports three full-time and two part-time microsystems engineering doctoral students.

Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

A lifetime of gift giving

Golisano named outstanding philanthropist



B. Thomas Golisano has been named the 2004 Outstanding Philanthropist by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the largest association of charitable fundraisers in the world. The award will be presented on March 16 in Seattle.

In 2001, Golisano donated \$14 million to RIT for the creation of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. It's the largest donation ever made to the university by a living donor.

He has also made major contributions to a variety of other local institutions over the past several

Golisano is founder and CEO of Paychex Inc. and owner of the Buffalo Sabres hockey team. He has been a member of RIT's Board of Trustees since 1994.

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

'DED' computers sent to electronics' heaven



RIT's Student Environmental Action League collected 4,164 pounds of used electronics during the first Electronic Waste Recycling Day on Jan. 16. Most of the discarded electronics consisted of old computers, monitors and other peripherals, but also turned over were cell phones, PDAs, TV sets, a microwave oven and even an electronic dart board. Recycling electronics prevents them from ending up in dumpsters and landfills. Shown at left, Brian Hoffmire, fourthyear environmental management and safety major in CAST, moves a discarded printer.

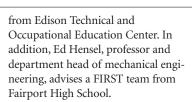
RIT hosts robotics competition kick off

Area FIRST teams ramping up for spring competition

RIT hosted a "remote kickoff," Jan. 10, for the 2004 FIRST Robotics Competition. The event featured a video simulcast from Manchester, N.H., announcing the competition's objective-which changes yearlyand unveiling of the "playing field."

Regional FIRST Robotics Competitions are slated for March 25-27 in New York City and Cleveland. The national championship will be April 15-17 in Atlanta. This year's theme is "FIRST Frenzy." For more details on the competition, visit www.usfirst.org.

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering sponsors a FIRST team



Rochester FIRST

In a visit to RIT by FIRST founder Dean Kamen last fall, RIT was named host site for a regional FIRST Robotics Competition in 2005. Supported by Rochester FIRST, a

business-educational alliance of RIT, Bausch & Lomb Inc. and Xerox Corp., the event is expected to draw thousands of visitors to the Rochester area for competition in March 2005. The event will be in RIT's new Gordon Field House and

Activities Center, now under construction.

Launched by Kamen in 1989, FIRST aims to inspire youths to pursue studies and careers in science, technology and engineering. Working with adult mentors, students design, build and program robotic creations for friendly, team-based, sports-style competitions. ■

Michael Saffran | mjsuns@rit.edu

The Silvanus G. Hall Collection

NTID recently received a collection of hand-carved and hand-painted birds from the estate of Mildred F. Hall, a longtime friend of RIT and NTID. The birds were created by Mrs. Hall's husband, Sylvanis G. Hall, who studied graduate-level art at RIT in the 1970s. He became a member of the National Wood Carvers Association and, for four years, his birds won awards at the International Wood Carvers Congress. The collection is on permanent exhibit across from the Dyer Arts Center in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Building.

news&events

29 January 2004 | Volume 36 | Number 10

News & Events is produced biweekly by University News Services. Please send comments to News & Events, University News Services, Building 86, or call 475-5064 or fax 475-5097.

Managing Editors:
Bob Finnerty, Paul Stella
Editor: Vienna Carvalho-McGrain
Assistant Editor: Michael Saffran
Layout: Laurel Masur
Contributing writers: Silandara Bartlett,
Karen Black, Steve Jaynes, Marcia Morphy,
Susan Gawlowicz, Michael Saffran

When calling any campus number referred to in *News & Events* articles from off campus, use the 475-prefix.

Look for *News & Events* at RIT online: www.rit.edu/NewsEvents

Send e-mail to **newsevents@rit.edu.** For more news, visit **www.rit.edu/news.**

$R \cdot I \cdot T$

Rochester Institute of Technology

One Lomb Memorial Drive Rochester, NY 14623-5603 Non-profit Org. U.S. Postage **PAID** Rochester, N.Y. Permit 626

Culhane continued from page 1

ous other organizations.

"The Award Committee believes that Dr. Culhane truly exemplifies the spirit of public service demonstrated by Presidents Mark Ellingson, Paul Miller, Richard Rose and Albert Simone," says Andrew Moore, dean, College of Liberal Arts, and committee chairman.

The award was created by Alfred Davis, vice president emeritus, on the occasion of his 65th year of association with RIT. The award's purpose is

to honor RIT's four presidents and to recognize a current member of the faculty or staff who, through public service, mirrors the lives of the four presidents who have been outstanding professionals and caring members of the community.

The inaugural award was presented to Fred Smith, secretary to the Institute, last spring.

Each award recipient receives \$2,500 to disperse to charitable organizations of his or her choice.

Culhane will donate his award to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Corporation of Greater Rochester, The Al Sigl Center, Junior Achievement of Rochester and Rochester Rotary Club.

The Four Presidents Distinguished Public Service Award ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. The RIT community is invited to attend. ■

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Student retention continued from page 1

to their alma mater when they become alumni; provide stability and predictability in the budget process; enhance selectivity among freshman and transfer students thereby increasing the quality of the overall student body classes; and increase the reputational ranking and rating of RIT by outside bodies which helps to further attract the best students.

RIT's graduation rate was 60 percent 20 years ago and it has remained at similar levels since that time.

"The quality of the student body, faculty, curricula and physical infrastructure has increased markedly over these years. Everything has changed for the good except student persistence—it has not moved," explained Simone.

"A 60 percent graduation rate is what we have been getting, and that is absolutely unacceptable," he adds. "Many of our peer universities, a number of them with fewer resources and students who are not as accomplished on average, are at the 75 percent mark or higher. We have to undertake bold moves now to reach the 75 percent projected graduation rate as soon as possible. Clearly, 75 percent is not all that is possible, and I want us to aim much higher."

Mayberry will continue to work

with the Retention Committee, appointed a year ago, using it as a resource and sounding board for the strategies to be implemented within academic affairs. "This is a high-powered committee with a broad university perspective," she adds. "The input of its members will be invaluable."

Simone says, "Each of us, working together and serving as role models for our colleagues and peers, can assure that RIT remains a university 'For the students."

To view the entire white paper on RIT retention, log onto www.rit.edu/president. ■

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom @rit.edu

Newsmakers

Abi Aghayere, associate professor of civil engineering technology, and **Wiley McKinzie**, dean, College of Applied Science and Technology, received a Best Paper Award from the American Society for Engineering Education for "The Scholarship Horizons in Engineering Technology: Choosing the Best Path."

David Bradstreet and **Dan Swab,** Information and Technology Services, attended the 2003 ResNet Symposium at Ferris State University in Michigan.

Richard Fasse and **Marybeth Martin** of online learning presented "Providing an Extended Student Community Online" at the Sloan-Consortium International Conference on Online Learning.

Hamad Ghazle, chair, diagnostic medical sonography, wrote "Liver Ultrasound" in *Ultrasound Secrets*. He was also elected to the educators committee of the National Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

Frank Lamas, associate vice president for student affairs, graduated from United Way's Hispanic Leadership Development program. Lamas has also been selected to on the Ibero-American Action League's Board of Directors.

William Leonard, visiting instructor, manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology, was elected chair of the St. Lawrence Section of the American Society for Engineering Education. The following papers were presented at the meeting: Michael Kuhl and Andres Carrano, assistant professors, industrial and systems engineering, "Collaborative Development and Integration of Laboratory Material Utilizing a Flexible Manufacturing Cell"; Greg Semeraro, assistant professor, computer engineering, "The Future of Literacy for Electrical and Computer Engineers"; and Anthony Trippe, assistant professor, computer engineering technology, "Comparison of Classroom and Online Course Environments."

Dianne Mau, assistant professor and graduate program chair, human resource development, was inducted into the Gates Chili Central School District Hall of Fame.

P.R. Mukund, professor of electrical engineering and director of the RF/Analog/Mixed-Signal Laboratory, presented a paper on future research in mixed-signal technology at the National Science Foundation/ Semiconductor Research Corp. mixed-signal workshop. He and RIT electrical engineering graduate students working in RAMLAB presented four papers at the International Conference on VLSI Design in India.

Ali Ogut, professor of mechanical engineering, was named chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Fluids Engineering Division.

Albert Paley, sculptor and Charlotte Frederick Mowris Chair in the School for American Crafts, delivered a lecture in Missouri on his steel artwork, *Cypher*, located at the entrance to Columbia Public Library.

Roman Press, College of Science, and **Marianne Buehler**, Wallace Library, co-authored "Plug Beebee Station into producing hydrogen power," in the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*.

Maria Rubino, assistant professor of packaging science, presented, "Multidisciplinary Approach to Plastic Packaging Research," at the Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting & Food Expo in Chicago.

Andreas Savakis, associate professor and department head of computer engineering, co-wrote the paper, "Automated Event Clustering and Quality Screening of Consumer Pictures for Digital Albuming," which appeared in the September issue of *IEEE Transactions on Multimedia*.

Ramesh Shah, research professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Advanced Fuel Cell Research Laboratory in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering, was named a Distinguished Lecturer on fuel-cell technology by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He was awarded an Honorary Professorship at Xi'an Jiaotong University and a Guest Professorship at Tsinghua University, both in China, where he recently lectured on Fuel Cell Technology and Compact Heat Exchangers. He presented a similar lecture at Beijing University of Technology.

Obituaries

Marjorie Jacobs

Marjorie Jacobs, former associate professor of speech reading at NTID, passed away Jan. 9.

Jacobs studied and worked at Northwestern University and was a pediatric audiologist. She also served as supervisor of audiology at the Hearing and Speech Center of Rochester. She joined NTID's faculty in 1972. In 1985, NTID presented her with an Outstanding Services Award. She retired in 1986.

Bob Pearse

Bob Pearse, distinguished lecturer emeritus, College of Business, passed away Dec. 24. Pearse was an Oxford

University Rhodes Scholar and served in the Army Air Force. In the 1960s, he became a professor at Boston University and chaired the behavioral sciences department. He was chairperson of RIT's management department and taught at RIT until his retirement at age 82.

RIT alum, student are calendar pin-ups



A former and a current RIT student are calendar pin-ups—but not the kind you might typically imagine. Alison Lamb '01 (business administration-accounting) and Jeremy Swerdlow, fourth-year mechanical engineering technology major, (shown above), are featured in two of four photos of mini-Baja races taken by Marty Gordon, assistant professor of mechanical engineering technology in CAST and RIT mini-Baja team advisor. The photos are featured in a 2004 calendar distributed by small-engine manufacturer Briggs & Stratton Corp., a supporter of Society of Automotive Engineers-sponsored collegiate design series competitions, including Aero Design, Formula SAE and Mini Baja.