

Selling their wares for the holiday season



Students from the School for American Crafts are gearing up for their annual holiday sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9, and Friday, Dec. 10, in the Student Alumni Union. Handcrafted items will include glass, metals, jewelry, ceramics, woods and textiles. Above, a student enjoys last year’s SAC holiday sale.

New trustees from page 1

a bachelor’s and master’s, from Cornell University. He earned an MBA from RIT and a master’s in management as a fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management.



Michael MacDonald is president of global accounts and marketing operations at Xerox Corp. He is also a corporate senior vice president. MacDonald’s organization is responsible for Xerox’s largest global accounts, improving the customer experience, marketing, e-marketing, the Xerox Web site, advertising, marketing public relations and marketing communications. He joined Xerox in 1977. MacDonald earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Rutgers University and attended the John C. Hagen Graduate School of Business at Iona College. He completed the Columbia University Executive Program in business administration and the

advanced management program and the international senior management program at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. **Ronald Zarrella** is chairman and chief executive officer of Bausch & Lomb Inc. He was named to this post in 2001 after seven years with General Motors Corp., most recently as executive vice president and president of General Motors North America in Detroit. Zarrella was previously with Bausch & Lomb from 1985 through 1994, holding several executive positions including president of the former international division, and president, chief operating officer and a member of the company’s board of directors. Zarrella received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He also attended New York University Graduate School of Business Administration. n



Ronald Zarrella is chairman and chief executive officer of Bausch & Lomb Inc. He was named to this post in 2001 after seven years with General Motors Corp., most recently as executive vice president and president of General Motors North America in Detroit. Zarrella was previously with Bausch & Lomb from 1985 through 1994, holding several executive positions including president of the former international division, and president, chief operating officer and a member of the company’s board of directors. Zarrella received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He also attended New York University Graduate School of Business Administration. n

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Four Presidents Award nominees

Nominations are due for the 2005 Four Presidents Distinguished Public Service Award. Nominations are due Dec. 17. Nomination forms can be found at www.rit.edu/~940www/. Created by RIT Vice President Emeritus Alfred Davis, the award is presented annually to a member of the RIT faculty or staff whose public service and commitment mirrors that of the four presidents Davis has worked with in his 67-year association with RIT. The four presidents are: Mark Ellingson (who served RIT from 1936-1969), Paul Miller (1969-1979), Richard Rose (1979-1992) and Albert Simone (1992-present). Davis started a \$50,000 endowment to fund the award. Each year, the recipient will have the privilege of designating the endowment income to a beneficiary of their choice, such as a not-for-profit organization in Rochester or a group on campus. Davis said he was inspired to create the award during CIA Director George Tenet’s graduation address in 2002. Here, Tenet told the graduates: “Serve someone other than yourself, serve something bigger than yourself.” Fred Smith and Barry Culhane were the first two recipients of the award. This year’s award will be presented on March 24. n

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Sharing RIT’s faculty scholars with the community



Ryne Raffaele from the College of Science, far left, was the first speaker featured in Wallace Library’s RIT’s Faculty Scholars series, which made its debut Oct. 28. The series, co-sponsored by the Office of the Associate Provost for Outreach Programs and the director of First in Class and Wallace Library, is intended to highlight the variety of important faculty scholarship taking place on this campus. Upcoming faculty scholar speakers will include John Schott from the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science and Nabil Nasr from the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies.

Newsmakers

Varda Main, director of the Technology Licensing Office, discussed “Technology Assessment Committees—Choosing the Optimal Structure” during a workshop presentation at the Licensing Executives Society 2004 annual meeting on Oct. 20 in Boston. **Matthew Marshall**, assistant professor of industrial and systems engineering, received a faculty advisor award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers for contributions as advisor to the RIT IIE student chapter. The chapter was awarded a silver award for recent activity, including planning and hosting a three-day regional student conference.

John Morelli, associate professor of environmental management and safety, co-wrote, with RIT alumna Dawn Collins, “Operational Controls: The Affect and Solution Approach for Environmental Managers,” published in the August 2004 edition of *EM*, the journal of the Air & Waste Management Association. He presented the paper at the Advanced Environmental Management System Workshop, Oct. 13, at Cornell University.

Karen Proctor, professor and chair of packaging science, and RIT packaging science faculty members **Daniel Goodwin**, **Deanna Jacobs**, **Tom Voss** and **Fritz Yambrach**, along with lab coordinator **Chris Robinson**, accompanied 46 packaging science majors, members of the RIT Packaging Club, to PACK EXPO International 2004, Nov. 7-11, in Chicago.

Laurence Winnie, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, led the panel, *Bourgeois Families: Social Networks, Survival Strategies and Professionalism, 1800-1945*, at the 50th annual meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, in Paris, in June.

George Zion, professor of computer engineering technology, presented “Building Ethics and Project Management into Engineering Technology Programs” at the 2004 American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference & Exposition, June 20-23, in Salt Lake City. The paper was co-written by **Ron Fulle**, associate professor of telecommunications engineering technology, and **Carol Richardson**, professor and chair of electrical, computer and telecommunications engineering technology.

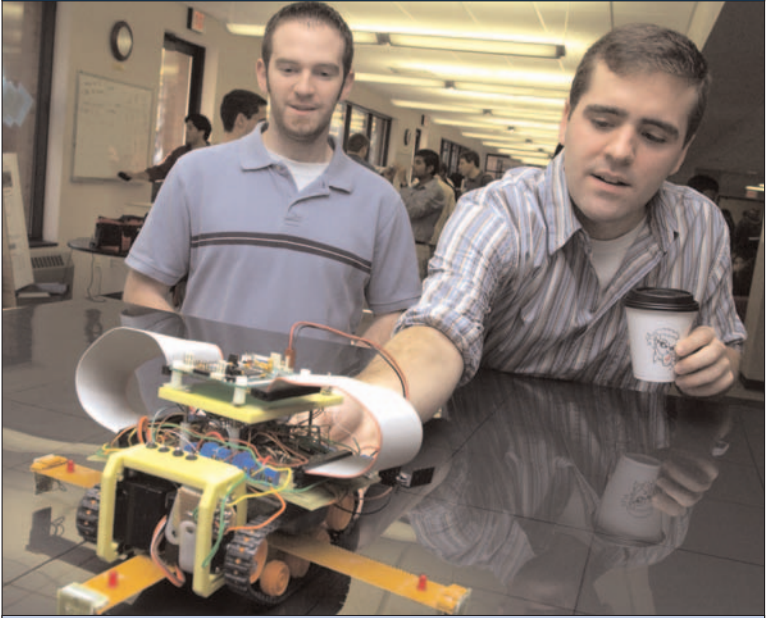
COLA degree

from page 1

Foreign language skills are a unique aspect of the international studies degree at RIT. “The international studies program is extremely heavy on foreign languages because of the fact that students can specialize in East Asia or Latin America or Europe,” Sinha says. “In order to do that they have to have a strong background in language. But language is required of every student irrespective of whatever track they pursue.” Co-op experiences in foreign countries will stretch students’ understanding and give them impressive resume bullets. “Knowing another language is a privilege and an important skill that our students can use wherever they go,” Sinha says. COLA is also launching a new bachelor’s degree in advertising and public relations. n

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu


Way cool stuff



Teams of RIT computer engineering students recently demonstrated senior design projects. Above, James Ledwith, left, and Evan Clark test their minefield-traversing robot. “Students devoted time and ingenuity to their projects, calling upon material learned in classes and from co-ops,” says Roy Czernikowski. He and Pratapa Reddy, both professors of computer engineering, were mentors to the students.

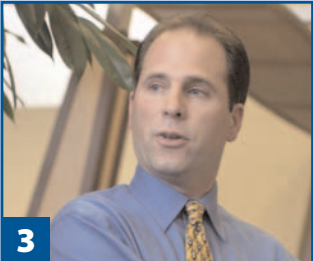


Inside



2

Photojournalist to share stunning images



3

CAST alumni exhibit business prowess

International studies degree new for COLA

RIT has launched a new, flexible bachelor’s degree in international studies. Approved earlier this year by the state, the program has already attracted transfer students. First-year students are being accepted for the fall 2005 academic term.

Housed in the College of Liberal Arts, the multi-disciplinary program will tap courses and faculty in other RIT colleges to explore global problems, focusing on issues of scientific and technological change worldwide.

Unlike traditional international studies degrees, RIT’s program allows students to specialize in either a region of the world (East Asia, Latin America or Europe); international business; or science, technology and society.

The program’s unique emphasis on foreign language proficiency and statistically driven research will further give graduates a competitive edge.

“Globalization is emerging very fast—it’s a worldwide phenomenon,” says Murli Sinha, chair of the departments of international studies and sociology and anthropology at RIT. “The international studies program at RIT will prepare students to be counted among the global experts.”

Students choosing the international business field may apply for the BS/MBA option in cooperation with the College of Business, while those pursuing the science, technology and society specialization can apply for the MS option in public policy.

Both master’s degree options can be completed in one additional year of study.

COLA degree, page 4

Three new trustees, vice chair named to board

RIT added three new members to the board of trustees as well as a chairman elect at the recent November meeting. There are now 52 active members on the board, as well as 28 emeriti and honorary board members.

Trustee **Michael Morley ‘69** (business administration) was elected vice chairman and chairman elect to the board.



Michael Morley

He will be up for election as chairman of the RIT board in November 2005.

Morley was recently named RIT’s Outstanding Alumnus for 2004. He retired in June as chief administrative officer and executive vice president at Eastman Kodak Co.

The new members are: **Charles Brown Jr.** is the chief administrative officer and senior vice president at Eastman Kodak Co.



Charles Brown Jr.

Brown began his Kodak career as a process engineer in the Synthetic Chemicals Division in 1973 and served in various technical and supervisory capacities until 1982. He was later promoted to chief operating officer, consumer imaging and vice president. In 2000, he became a senior vice president.

In June 2004, Brown was promoted to chief administrative officer. He is

responsible for such corporate functions as health, safety and environment, communications and public affairs, human resources, corporate security, information security and the legal department. He also oversees the company’s international regions.

Brown received chemical engineering degrees, both

New trustees, page 4

Coast-to-coast cross-country trek revived for 175th anniversary

In commemoration of RIT’s 175th anniversary, a group of RIT runners are trekking 2,730 miles on a continuous relay run spanning the United States. The coast-to-coast run features current members and alumni of the RIT men’s and women’s cross country team. The run kicked off on Nov. 17 near San Diego and ends on Dec. 1 in Annapolis, Md.

Eighteen runners will complete the 14-day event—each running a

two-mile interval, then resting for three-and-a-half hours before joining the relay again.

The 1979 coast-to-coast run, celebrating RIT’s 150th anniversary was completed in 14 days, four hours, and eight minutes. The team expects to improve the RIT record for such an event, which at the time was listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

The runners will travel through Phoenix, Albuquerque, N.M., Amarillo, Texas, Topeka, Kan., St. Louis and Cincinnati, to Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Capitol in Washington. The run finishes at Chesapeake Bay outside of Annapolis.

Visit www.ritcoasttocoastrun.com to stay updated on the RIT run.

Numbers behind the run:



This year’s team of cross-country runners gather days before heading off on their trek, which started near San Diego and ends Dec. 1 in Annapolis, Md. Eighteen runners will travel more than 2,700 miles over 14 days.

- 18 runners will participate (16 men, two women)
- Runners will spend Thanksgiving on the road, somewhere west of St. Louis
- Each runner will cover two miles at a time
- The runners will average 14 minutes for their two-mile segment
- Rest time between runs will be about three-and-a-half hours

- Each runner will complete about six runs and 12 miles per day
- The distance for each runner will be 85 miles per week, 170 miles total for the trip
- The team will travel through 13 states and the District of Columbia
- The runners will sleep in two recreational vehicles that will travel along the route. ▫

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Donald Campbell ’81(B.S. mechanical engineering) in the 1979 cross country run

Paley to design project for St. Louis Zoo

It’s a jungle out there, but internationally renowned sculptor Albert Paley is capturing its appeal in a remarkable new project for the St. Louis Zoo. Paley, the Charlotte Fredericks Mowris Distinguished Professor in the School for American Crafts, has been commissioned to design the zoo’s Ceremonial Gateway.

The sculpture will be 40-feet high, 120-feet wide and 12-feet deep and made of CorTen steel. The work, featuring various ecosystems and related fauna, will be installed in the summer of 2006.

“The Ceremonial Gateway by Albert Paley represents a unique way to

enhance the St. Louis Zoo, Forest Park and the entire region we serve,” says Jeffrey Bonner, president and CEO of the St. Louis Zoo. “The gateway will serve as a magnificent landmark to millions of visitors who arrive at the zoo. We believe the gateway will be a destination for those who seek the most memorable art of our time and for those who love animals.”

Just last year, Paley completed The Sentinel, which is the centerpiece of RIT’s administration circle and the largest sculpture on any college campus across the United States.

His other works include the Portal Gates for the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian, AT&T plaza sculpture in Atlanta and a ceremonial archway in Philadelphia. ▫

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St. Louis Zoo has commissioned sculptor Albert Paley to design Ceremonial Gateway. The sculpture is scheduled to be installed in summer of 2006.

In the name of a film star



Fourth-year film student Jesse Borkowski received a film honoraria from the Princess Grace Foundation-USA for his film, Test Yy. The Princess Grace Foundation, named in honor of Princess Grace of Monaco, salutes aspiring artists in theater, dance and film. Borkowski receives a grant to finance his senior thesis production.

News briefs

Book signing, Dec. 2

Paul Bernstein, retired RIT dean, will be at Campus Connections 12:30-1:30 p.m. Dec. 2, for a book signing of his recently published, *Letters to Eleanor: Voices of the Great Depression*. Copies of the book can be purchased at Campus Connections or online at www.letterstoeleanor.com.

GCCIS dean's lecture

Software risk management is the topic of the next installment of the Dean's Lecture Series, sponsored by the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

Tim Lister, principal of Atlantic Systems Guild Inc., will speak at 1 p.m. Dec. 3, in the Golisano College auditorium.

He is co-author of *Waltzing With Bears: Managing Software Project Risk* and *Peopeware: Productive Projects and Teams*.

Computers and stats

William Notz, a statistics professor at Ohio State University, will discuss "Computer Experiments and the Role of Statistics," 1-1:50 p.m. Dec. 9 in Xerox Auditorium in the James E. Gleason Building. The talk, free and open to the public, is part of the Kate Gleason College of Engineering's 2004-2005 Distinguished Speaker Series. For more information, contact Mary Jane Frind at 475-2146 or e-mail mjseen@rit.edu.

Gannett lecture series

Simon Ortiz, Native American poet, will present, "Memory, History and the Present: An Indigenous American View," as part of the College of Liberal Arts' Caroline Werner Gannett Lecture Series. The talk—free and open to the public—will be at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 in Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building.

A discussion led by Maurice Kenny, writer in residence at State University of New York at Potsdam, and Penelope Kelsey, professor of literature at RIT, will follow the talk.

Call 475-2057 or visit www.rit.edu/gannettseries to view the lecture online.

Urso hailed for artistry

The Arts and Cultural Council for Greater Rochester recently honored Leonard Urso, professor of metals in the School for American Crafts. Urso was presented with the 2004 Visual Artist Award for his artistic achievements during the past 20 years in Rochester.

"I feel honored for receiving the award from the Rochester community as both an artist and educator," says Urso.

Urso is Distinguished Professor and Ann Mowris Mulligan Endowed Chair in the School for American Crafts. His art is on exhibit both nationally and internationally and represented in museums as well as corporate and private collections, including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Memorial Art Gallery of Rochester, Bausch & Lomb World Headquarters, Shanghai University of China and Gyeongnam Art Museum, South Korea. ⁿ

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Gospel legend to perform Dec. 11

The Prince of Praise will sing aloud at RIT.

Byron Cage, a leading praise and worship minister, will bring his gospel to the Clark Gymnasium at 8 p.m. on Dec. 11. The RIT Gospel Ensemble opens the program.

His debut self-titled CD won five Stellar Awards in 2004 including song of the year for his song, *Presence of the Lord*. A gospel-influenced album of praise and worship choruses, it appeals to fans of Fred Hammond, Alvin Slaughter and Ron Kenoly, integrating the best elements of traditional gospel music and praise choruses.

"I don't like to think of myself and these songs as being in one box, for only one culture of people," Cage says. "I know that when we get to heaven there isn't going to be



Byron Cage

separate sections for Asians, Latinos, Caucasians and African-Americans. We're all going to come together to worship. I hope this album will be a major step in that direction."

Cage sang his first church solo as a 4-year-old in a small town in Michigan. Cage is now the senior minister of church worship and music administration at Ebenezer A.M.E.

Tickets—\$5 for students, \$15 for faculty/staff/alumni, \$20 general admission and \$15 group rate for 10 or more people—are available at the Student Alumni Union candy counter or by phone at 475-5210.

The concert is sponsored by the Center for Campus Life, North Star Center and RIT Gospel Ensemble. ⁿ

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Kodak gets hint of NTID's deaf world

NTID's Center on Employment recently gathered students, faculty and staff together to host a hands-on, no-voices workshop for approximately 60 Eastman Kodak Co. employees in an effort to enlighten them about communication challenges in and out of the workplace.

Participants spent five to 10 minutes at seven different stations, each representing a different place, like a restaurant, bank and hospital, where only deaf people work. Without using their voices, they needed to communicate with the deaf workers about what food they wanted to order or how much money to withdraw or to describe their injuries.

"Until today, I never appreciated how important it is to communicate with your voice," says Sherry Gearing,



National Technical Institute for the Deaf assistant professor Leslie Greer communicates with a Kodak employee during an awareness workshop held recently.

a manager in Kodak's Global Capture Flow Department. "I can see why you'd want to give up trying. It's very frustrating."

"Our goal is to show participants that deafness is not the disability," explained NTID professor and

workshop leader Barbara Ray Holcomb, "but that the communication system is the disabling factor."

Holcomb has led the workshop, called It's a Deaf, Deaf World, at other organizations within the RIT and Rochester communities.

For Gearing, it was time well spent.

"Sometimes you become impatient, or you tend to want to shy away from deaf people because they're different," she said. "Now I think I understand what they're going through. This was a really good experience." ⁿ


Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

SPAS lecture features Joe McNally

Renowned photojournalist to also host lighting workshops

Photographer Joe McNally will give a free lecture at RIT at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 7, in the Golisano College auditorium. McNally is described by *American Photo* magazine as "perhaps the most versatile photojournalist working today." His clients include *National Geographic*, *Newsweek*, Nikon Inc., *Sports Illustrated* and *Time* magazine.

Following the Sept. 11 terrorist



Photograph, titled "Shadow," taken by Joe McNally of an X-47A Pegasus Experimental U.S. Navy Drone. The photo was taken at China Lake Naval Air Station in California. McNally will give a free lecture at RIT on Dec. 7 and host lighting workshops on Dec. 8.

attacks, McNally created an exhibition, "Faces of Ground Zero—Giant Polaroid Collection," documenting the heroes and survivors of the tragedy.

McNally's lecture is co-sponsored by Nikon and the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

On Wednesday, Dec. 8, McNally will lead lighting workshops on campus. The times and locations will be announced at the lecture. ⁿ

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RIT Army ROTC Rangers prove they are tough as nails



For the second consecutive year, RIT's Army ROTC Tiger Battalion, 1st Brigade, won the annual Ranger Challenge Competition, Eastern Region, which was held Oct. 15-17, in Fort Devens, Mass. RIT beat 19 other teams in the three-day competition consisting of eight events. Cadets trained six days a week in preparation for the grueling competition.

"Ranger Challenge is the varsity sport of Army ROTC," says Lt. Col. Paul Hansen, RIT Army ROTC admissions officer. "It stresses individual fitness, soldier skills and teamwork. RIT was so far ahead of the competition after the first day that it was almost impossible for any other team to win the competition."

News briefs

Gosnell lecture, Nov. 30

The next Gosnell lecture will feature economics scholar John List from the University of Maryland. List will present, "Field Experiments," 3-4 p.m. Nov. 30 in the B. Thomas Golisano auditorium. His talk is free and open to the public. The lecture series, sponsored by Amit Batabyal, Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts, brings prominent scholars to campus throughout the year for talks that typically pertain to the environment.

For information, contact Cassandra Shellman at 475-2057.

Bookstore sale, Dec. 2

Campus Connections bookstore is hosting the 20th annual Student, Faculty, Staff Appreciation Day, 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Dec. 2. The event features 10 percent off almost everything in the store, in addition to the regular faculty/staff discount. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day, with gourmet candy tasting noon-1 p.m. and book signings 12:30-1:30 p.m. The Student Alumni Union cafeteria will host a holiday luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Gallery r invitational

Gallery r is offering a wintry indoor-outdoor mix of illuminating artwork this December.

RIT's student-run gallery is hosting the School of Art Illustration Alumni Invitational through Dec. 11. This exhibition, arranged by guest curator Robert Dorsey, showcases a variety of subjects and media that professional illustrators employ in their art. A reception will be held 7-9:30 p.m. Dec. 10.

Gallery r will also take part in the Park Avenue Holiday Open House Dec. 2. RIT alumni and students from the School of Art will create an ice sculpture and host a silent auction in the gallery, 5-9 p.m. Call 242-9470 or visit www.galleryr.org.

ITS Security Week

Information and Technology Services invites the campus community to learn more about securing individual and department computers. Security Week, Dec. 6-10, features a series of workshops highlighting techniques designed to secure network places.

Sarah Gordon, senior research associate for Symantec, will offer the keynote address at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 7 in Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. For information, call 475-2246.

Biotech lecture series

The challenges and promises of the biotechnology revolution will continue to be explored in the lecture series, Biotechnology: Our Future as Human Beings and Citizens, on Dec. 9 with a talk by Francis Fukuyama, dean of Johns Hopkins University Center for International Studies in Washington, D.C. Fukuyama will present, "Future Biotechnologies: The Governance Challenge," at 7:30 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. The lecture series is co-sponsored by RIT and the New York Council for the Humanities. The talk is free and open to the public. For information, contact John Murley at 475-2064 or jamgcj@rit.edu.

Sam Chebeir '96 (M.S. packaging science/executive leader program) describes everyday life as an RIT student as “one great brainstorming session after another.” And he has put his brainpower to good use ever since.



Sam Chebeir '96

Chebeir is chief executive officer of Dell Corning Corp. in Spartanburg, S.C., and Taizhou, China—where he visits for an average of five months every year. The firm was created through the merger of Dell Corning, which he purchased in 2002, and Plastical Industries Inc., a company he founded in 1978 and reacquired in 2003.

Already a successful businessman, along the way he became attracted to RIT’s packaging science program—one of only six in the nation—in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

“I gravitated to RIT because it has one of the best packaging science programs,” Chebeir says. “After the first week on campus, I knew I made an excellent decision. I enjoyed the campus environment, the method of teaching and the student-faculty relationships. It was a great experience.”

After graduating, Chebeir maintained close ties to the university as

a member of the packaging science industrial advisory board, the Nathaniel Rochester Society and the President’s Circle. He was honored with a Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2002.

“As an alumnus, I enjoy being involved and being part of such an excellent institution,” Chebeir says. “RIT gave me some of the key tools to excel in my career. In appreciation, staying involved is only appropriate.”

Chebeir resides in Corona, Calif., where he works with several charities, including the American Red Cross. He is also a senior member of the Society of Plastic Engineers and the American Chemical Society.

He attributes his business success to basic customer focus and hard work.

“I believe the best way to succeed in business is to be honest, listen very well to the customers and make what they want at the right price,” Chebeir says. “That’s where the hard work is.”

Michael Murphy '84 (B.S. hotel and resort management) credits his RIT education for many of his business achievements.

“RIT was exceptional,”

says Murphy, vice president for sales and marketing at Renaissance Hotels and Resorts North America in Washington, D.C. (which employs five RIT alumni). He specifically points to practical education in hotel and tourism management under the guidance of Francis Domoy, professor and chair of RIT’s School of Hospitality and Service Management in CAST; communication studies taught by Bruce Austin, professor and



Michael Murphy '84 speaks at a hospitality alumni society-sponsored workshop at RIT last March.

chair of communication in the College of Liberal Arts; and rewarding work experience under the direction of Gary Gasper, director of food service for the Student Alumni Union.

Thanks to RIT, he also gained a life-long gift of immeasurable value beyond education and work experience.

“Most importantly, I met my best friend at RIT who, shortly after graduation, became my wife,” says Murphy about his wife Lisa '83 (B.F.A. graphic design), whom he met while both worked at the Ritzskeller. The couple celebrated their 20th anniversary this year.

Staying connected with the university, Murphy serves on the School of Hospitality and Service Management national advisory board. He was the honorary chair for last spring’s Puttin’ on the RITz dinner-dance.

“The professionalism and energy were a treat to witness,” says Murphy about the RITz gala. “I hope to give back in the years ahead while assisting Dr. Domoy wherever possible with the school’s growth plans.”

His keys to business success include: keeping energy levels high, working for great people, never losing sight of your roots and having fun.

Murphy, his wife and their daughter, Shannon, reside in Reston, Va. [n](#)

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RIT selects Al Davis Room

Vice president emeritus Al Davis has certainly left his mark on RIT through the years. In fact, he is commonly referred to as “Mr. RIT,” due to his 67-year association with the university. As a gesture of sincere thanks to his dedication to RIT, the Student Alumni Union cafeteria has been renamed the Alfred L. Davis Room.



Al Davis

Throughout his career, he has served four presidents, and has witnessed the relocation of RIT from downtown to the Henrietta campus. He played a leading role in the establishment of the Nathaniel Rochester Society and provided a heartfelt gift that helped create Margaret’s House, RIT’s on campus child care facility, named for Davis’ late wife Margaret Welcher Davis. Davis also helped bring the Cary Library to RIT, and had a significant hand in creating numerous scholarships, professorships and academic programs.

As an active retiree, he has helped shape RIT by establishing the Four Presidents Distinguished Public Service Award in 2003 to recognize the outstanding community service work of RIT’s faculty and staff. [n](#)

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COS hosts astrophysics lecture

The College of Science will celebrate RIT’s 175th anniversary in December with a visit from astrophysicist Mario Livio, author of the popular book, *The Golden Ratio*. Livio will give a talk at 7 p.m. on Dec. 8, in the B. Thomas Golisano auditorium, as part of the Wiley-Jones/Science Exploration Speaker

Series. Livio, who is this year’s John Wiley Jones Distinguished Lecturer, is a senior astrophysicist and former head of the science division at the Space Telescope Science Institute, which conducts the scientific program of the Hubble Space Telescope. The event is free and open to the public.

RIT hosts alternative energy conference for NY

The Renewable Energy Network of Entrepreneurs in Western New York, a clean-energy virtual incubator sponsored by New York State Energy Research and Development Authority hosted an open house Oct. 14 at the RIT High Technology Incubator. More than 250 businesses, government and community leaders, RIT faculty and students and the public attended the event.

“This event showcased early-stage renewable energy companies sprouting in Western New York,” says Larry Simpson, director of RENEW NY.

A dozen companies from Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse and the Southern Tier involved in solar, wind, biomass and fuel cell energy demonstrated their technologies, along with RIT representatives, who demonstrated some activities in alternative energy with a micro-scale alternative energy system, incorporating materials and research from the RIT NanoPower Research Lab.

“RIT has had a long involvement in alternative energy at many level

beginning with the RIT Energy House in 1977 featuring then new technologies of passive solar energy, re-circulated water heating and cooling, and triple pane, inert-gas filled windows,” says Michael Dwyer, director of research relations at RIT. “Today’s demonstrations of Western New York alternative energy technologies take this idea significantly further in addressing both the need for renewable, clean and efficient energy technologies while also creating the opportunity for economic development in Western New York.”

Launched in May 2004, the Renewable Energy Network of Entrepreneurs in western New York supports and helps create young companies and new jobs in the renewable energy industry. Funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, RENEW NY is a collaborative effort led by High Tech Rochester, Greater Rochester Enterprise and RIT. To learn more, visit www.renew-ny.org. [n](#)

COB revises MIS curriculum

RIT really means business when it comes to the advancing field of management information systems.

The MIS department in the College of Business has announced a major revision in its undergraduate degree program. In keeping with its strong business core curriculum, the college has created an MIS curriculum that integrates business management studies into its technically robust MIS program.

“Our rigorous program represents a departure from traditional MIS programs,” says Thomas Hopkins, dean of COB. “We at the College of Business recognize that technology is no longer a tool; it is the business environment. That understanding is reflected in the architecture of this program.”

MIS majors will have a choice between enterprise systems or systems analysis and design—learning viable computer information skills to increase their knowledge of business processes and programming, networking technologies, database management systems and systems analysis and design.

MIS majors have unlimited options with business employers ranging from business analyst, technical consultants, Web-application developer and solution architect to network designer and administrator.

As David Spaker, vice president of Innovations Solutions, explains, “We have been hiring RIT graduates for years, preferring those with an MIS degree. We can always teach people technical skills, but it is difficult to teach new hires the business skills that are required in today’s demanding business world.”

Thomas Pray, chairman of RIT’s MIS and decisions science departments, believes the new curriculum will be a highly attractive program for both students and employers.

“Graduates will add value to their enterprises immediately because of their knowledge of business processes, business systems and modern large-scale enterprise systems. They will hit the ground running and guide their companies to exciting achievements.” [n](#)

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Meeting potential RIT faculty members

Prospective RIT faculty members visited campus recently for the Future Faculty Career Exploration Program. The exploratory weekend hosted ALAANA Ph.D. candidates from across the country. Here, William Richards, far right, from Ohio State University, participates in a discussion at one of the conference sessions.

RIT student wins science fellowship

An RIT student has been selected as one of only 13 college students in the nation to receive a six-year fellowship this year from the National Physical Science Consortium.

Jonathon Donaldson, a fourth-year B.S./M.S. student majoring in computer engineering technology and computer science, began his fellowship in September by serving as a senior student research associate in RIT’s Laboratory for Advanced Communication Technology.



Jonathon Donaldson

The lab is directed by Chance Glenn, associate professor of telecommunications engineering technology in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

Donaldson’s fellowship is one of only five sponsored this year by Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., where he completed a six-month cooperative education position in systems analysis and trouble resolution in August and where he will return on co-op next June.

“I’m very grateful for this honor,” Donaldson says. “I know that it will take me above and beyond all my previous aspirations.”

The National Physical Science Consortium is a partnership between industry, higher education and government agencies and laboratories. Established in 1987 and based in Los Angeles, the consortium aims to increase the number of qualified U.S. citizens holding Ph.D. degrees in the physical sciences and related engineering fields. [n](#)

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