



2 Honoring long-time employees



3 Take a seat at CIMS lab



4 A group-effort encyclopedia



4 The Big Tree comes to RIT

## Microsystems Ph.D. approved; first class enrolls this winter

Winter quarter will see the first students in RIT's just-approved microsystems engineering Ph.D. program, which gained New York State Department of Education acceptance on Oct. 18.

Eleven students have been admitted thus far to the program, the first of its kind in the nation, says Mustafa Abushagur, director of microsystems engineering research and education initiatives in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering.

Abushagur notes program strengths in expert faculty, high-quality students and strong external research support. "These, to me, are the qualities of a very successful program," he says.

Abushagur explains that microsystems engineering is an "enabling technology" that enhances biomedical diagnostics and treatment, electronics, imaging, optical and wireless communication, and other telecommunications applications.

The new program incorporates engineering studies in electrical, mechanical, optical, chemical, computer, industrial/systems, microelectronic and software disciplines, along with imaging science, materials science and product development.

Students will design and fabricate micro-, submicro- and nano-scale components and use sensors, probes, lasers and actuators to sense, analyze and communicate within independent microsystems and with external sources.

The program will emphasize "concept realization," or the real-life application of microsystems devices into fully functional products.



RIT's microsystems engineering Ph.D. program is the first of its kind in the nation.

"This is a unique program," Abushagur says. "We expect to be the leading institution in this area."

Ph.D. recipients will gain opportunities in academe, government research facilities and industry, he says. "It opens a lot of doors for them. They're capable of going out and solving real-life problems."

The program will be integral to RIT's IT Collaboratory, created with \$14 million from the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research. The

IT Collaboratory was designated by NYSTAR to be a Strategically Targeted Academic Research Center focusing research on microsystem and photonics technologies for applications in next-generation information systems such as remote systems and high-bandwidth telecommunication networks. As a STAR Center, RIT will increase the size and capability of its Semiconductor and Microsystems Fabrication Lab. IT Collaboratory partners include the University at Buffalo, the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, the new Infotonics Technology Center, and industry.

"The microsystems engineering Ph.D. program will play a vital role in the success of RIT's IT Collaboratory and **First-in-Class** initiative," says Stanley McKenzie, RIT provost and vice president of academic affairs. "I'm tremendously pleased at the rapid approval of RIT's second Ph.D. program by New York state."

Doctoral candidates will be required to complete 94 credit hours and a dissertation. Most will finish studies within three to five years, Abushagur says.

In support of the program, about 10 new courses will be created and faculty will be added to complement about 20 from the College of Engineering and College of Science now associated with the program.

The program joins RIT's imaging science doctoral program, approved in 1988. RIT awarded its first Ph.D. in 1993. ■

### Fall trustees meeting

The fall RIT Board of Trustees meeting, Nov. 14-15 in the Louise M. Slaughter Building, will herald a new chair, elect a number of new trustees, and celebrate 10 years of accomplishments with Albert Simone as president.

In addition, trustees will hear updates on diversity, student retention, facilities projects and students' perspectives on life at RIT.

## RIT, NSF team up for scholars program

Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity describes the relationship between energy, mass and velocity. A similar "equation"— $EMC^2$ —aims to intellectually and socially energize cross-curricular RIT students, en masse.

$EMC^2$  is a new, nearly \$1 million RIT scholarship program spearheaded by Edward Hensel. The scholarships were launched with \$392,000 from the National Science Foundation's Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics Scholarships Program and \$526,500 from RIT.



Edward Hensel

Each year, 62 engineering, mathematics, computer engineering and computer science students will be awarded  $EMC^2$  scholarships of \$1,000 per quarter.

Awarded to individual students for up to five years, the scholarships aim to increase retention through common activities, classes and a weekly seminar series, and to provide skills and work experience in preparation for the high-technology workforce.

"We want to focus on retention and make the students successful," says Hensel.

Co-PIs are Vinnie Gupta, professor of mechanical engineering; Darren Narayan, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics; Andreas Savakis, professor and head of computer engineering; and Paul

Tymann, associate professor of computer science. RIT's North Star Center for Academic Success and Cultural Affairs is also involved.

The award to RIT is part of \$33.6 million in NSF-funded CSEMS Program projects this year. NSF reviewers lauded RIT's matching-funds investment, saying it shows commitment to help guarantee the success of the project. ■

## Student creates RIT's own hockey "blimp-cam"

What is a 12-foot, helium-filled blimp doing in the ice arena? Just ask Alvin Spivey, third-year imaging science student, and the man behind the blimp.

Spivey has managed the extracurricular project of building a blimp to fly at hockey games during intermissions. A camera attached to the blimp with strips of Velcro will provide online access to live streaming video and audio coverage of home hockey games. The project also doubles as a technical exercise and interdisciplinary group-project.

The nearly campuswide venture involves students from the Imaging Science and Technology Student Chapter, Art House, Information Technology Student Organization, K2GXT HAM Amateur Radio club, Aero Design club, WITR and



Alvin Spivey with his creation—the RIT blimp

Jeremiah Parry-Hill from the Educational Technology Center.

Spivey says, "The blimp project has brought together a diverse community in a way not often seen on campus. It's creating a platform for ideas and communication among clubs, organizations and individuals, and

avenues to be explored on and off campus with local and national groups."

The blimp debuted during intermission at the Oct. 25 hockey game. On Nov. 8 the blimp Web site will make live streaming video available online. Visit [www.blimp.rit.edu](http://www.blimp.rit.edu).

Project funding of \$8,664 came from the Imaging Science and Technology Student Chapter, Student Government, North Star Center for Academic Success and Cultural Affairs, Office of Student Affairs, and the Student Life Center. ■

## Women's Center grant reaches \$1 million

Colleges are microcosms of the real world—violence against women is no exception. As a leader in developing solutions for the national problem of violence against women, RIT has taken the problem to task, creating a model for attitude and behavior change for men and women.

RIT has received nearly \$1 million in funding since 1999 from the U.S. Department of Justice to combat violent crimes against women on campuses, including a recent \$300,000 award. RIT's program sets the bar for institutions of higher education to adopt comprehensive, coordinated responses to violence against women, including sexual assault, stalking and domestic violence.

"We know the urgency of this program's success; campuses must set the tone for cultural change in attitudes on women," says Julie White, director of the RIT Women's Center. "This continued federal funding demonstrates the recognition RIT has gained as a leader in developing effective programs and services," she adds.

The additional funding will continue the Women's Center work including developing educational curricula and media for both male and female students centered on preventing violence against women, enhancing services for victims of violence, and training Campus Safety officers. ■

## RIT grows number of minority faculty

RIT had a record year in hiring minority faculty, nearly doubling the number of under-represented professors on campus. RIT took it to the next level, exceeding the national pool of candidates by nearly five-fold.

Here are highlights of RIT's 2002 recruitment numbers:

- 26 of 84 (31 percent) new full-time faculty hires are African American, Latin American or Native American (AALANA)
- RIT now has 54 full-time AALANA faculty.
- AALANA make up 6 percent of full-time faculty; Asian Americans also make up 6 percent of the faculty.

"What we have done this past year is remarkable and unbelievably outstanding," says President Albert Simone. "Our efforts are a great beginning. However, recruitment of AALANA faculty requires an ongoing commitment to achieving diversity. Recruitment must be seen as a continuous journey, not a one-shot effort that begins and ends with the filling of a position."

Stanley McKenzie, provost and vice president of academic affairs, agrees that now is

Continued on page 4

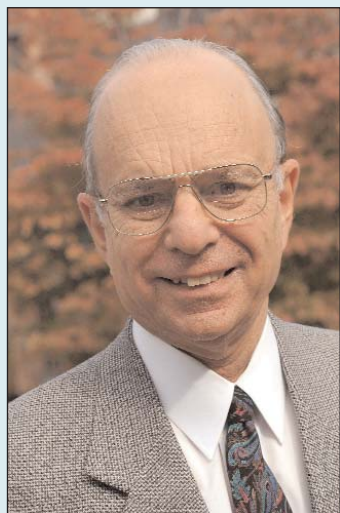
# RIT salutes employee stability and length of service

A packed audience filled RIT's Fireside Lounge for the annual Length of Service ceremony, Oct. 22, honoring the dedication and longevity of employees. RIT President Albert Simone addressed the crowd that came to salute and celebrate those employees heralded for five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 45 years of service to RIT.

Following the length-of-service campus reception, the 25-, 30-, 35- and 45-year employees attended a lunch at the RIT Inn & Conference Center. The 25-year employees received prints by artist and retired RIT professor Eric Bellman; the 30-year employees received plaques; the 35-year employees received \$100 gift certificates to Gallery 1, RIT's Park Avenue art-students' venue; and the 45-year employee received a maple RIT chair.

## 45 years

Eugene Fram



Eugene Fram, RIT's 45-year employee

## 35 years

John Buckholtz Jr., David Crystal, David Dembroski, D. Robert Frisina, Marvin Gruber, Stanley McKenzie, Terence Morrill

## 30 years

Allen Austin, William Bianchi, Thomas Dingman, Linda Hoke, Mary Jo Ingraham, Michael Krembel, Grace Law, Sidney McQuay, Bonnie Meath-Lang, Robert Merrill, Marie Raman, Sharon Rasmussen, Donald Sims, Thomas Young, William Yust

## 25 years

James Aumer, Karen Beach, Marcia Birken, Marie Buckley, Gunther Cartwright, Daniel Clark, Patricia Clark, Susan Clark, Katrina Evringham, Elaine Fields, Aaron Gorelick, Linda Gottermeier, Irene Hawryschuk, Mark Hillengas, Delphine Hoak, Edwin Hofer, Thomas Hyzen, Maureen Isaac, Charles Johnstone, Sara Kersting, Donald Larock, William Larsen, Dominique Lepoutre, Charleen McMahon, Marilyn Mitchell, M. Lynne Morley, Jane Mullins, Alan Nye, James Orr, Robert Paradowski, James Pressey, Meredith Ray, Kenneth Reek, K. Dean Santos, Anthony Spiecker, David Suits, Peggy Tirrell, Rose Marie Toscano, Michael Voelkl, Clinton Wallington, John Weas, Widrick, Gladys Winkworth, Walter Wolf

## 20 years

Betsy Baxter, Mary Ann Begland, Robert Bowen, Mary Breemes, O. Terry Bruce, Peter Cardegna, Anne Coon, Thomas Cornell, Frank Cost, Stephanie Couch, Gail Courmettes, Michael D'Arcangelo, Victoria



RIT's 35-year employees

Darcy, Pamela Davis, Charles Dickinson, Florene Dinapoli, Georgeanne Donnelly, William Drum, Carole Fici, Pamela Francis, Linda Georgakis, Margaret Glitch, Gail Gucker, Surendra Gupta, Joyce Hertzson, Nancy Heuer, Kenneth Hoffmann, Diane Hope, Jon Hromi, Joeann Humbert, E. Cassandra Jordan, Linda Kanaley, Linda Kellogg, Baldev Khalsa, Steven Lipson, Steven Loar, Judith MacDonald, James Mallory, Mary Anne McQuay, Mary Menard, Sara Miller, Robert Morgan, Jane Munt, Margaret Murray, Charles Myers III, Mary Elizabeth Nally, John Neenan, Steven O'Flynn, Elizabeth Paciorek, Roslyn Palmesano, John-Allen Payne, Linda Perry, Susan Quinn, Nancy Raco, Edward Schell III, Paul Smarsh, Diane Sommers, Ellen Spoto, Catherine Stappenbeck, Guy Stappenbeck, Mary Ellen Tait, Karen Thireos, Laura Tubbs, Jayanti Venkataraman, Daniel Vilenski, Jacqueline Wittman, Elsie Wood, Jeanne Yamonaco, Elmer Young

## 15 years

Karen Ayres, Carol Barcomb, Keith Barr, Carl Battaglia, Betsy Berry, John Bopp, Alfreda Brown, Virginia Costenbader, George Crowley, Denis Defibaugh, William Degroote, Joni Dowling-Kell, Cynthia Drake, Paul Drozdziel, David Edborg, Dolores Fidoruko, Ann Hager, Kathleen Hall, Cheryl Herbert, Diane Heyden, Richard Hirsch, Wendy Hutchurson, Gail Hyde, Robert Johns, Kathleen Kane-Buckholtz, Fereydown Kazemian, Linda Kenville-Hill, Gustav Kovalik, Lucille Larocca, Jill Lewis, Ti-Lin Liu, Jeffrey Lodge, Gerald Mahns, David Neumann, Thomas O'Connor, Doney Oatman,



RIT's 25-year employees

Janet Ortolani, Kathryn Ostrosky, Dominic Peroni, Rudolph Pugliese, June Reeves, Jeffrey Roberts, James Scudder, Betty Sheridan, Melody Shust, John Smeenk, Mary Tanksley, Joseph Voelkel, Loretta Wall, Cathie Whaley, Donald Wilson, Anne Zachmeyer



RIT's 30-year employees

## 10 years

Peter Adelstein, Maureen Arquette, Michael Asbie, Sharon Auble, Gail Battaglia, Gilbert Beverly, Gail Brown, Adrienne Carageorge, Linda Chalmers, A. Gary DiFrancesco, G. Todd Dunn, John Eldridge, Kathleen Estabrooks, David Faas, Sandra Ferrara, Stephanie Ferris, Susan Fuentes, Cynthia Hept, Susan Herzberg, Wanda Hill, David Hillman, Jane Hutchinson, Jill Jablonski, Jane Jackson, Wayne Jenerson, Keith Jenkins, Nancy Johnson, Cynthia Johnston, Diana La Grou, Kenneth Lerner, Marilyn Lockwood, Bernadette Lynch, Faye Modeste, Romea Montanaro, Elizabeth Murkett, Rohan Palma,

DeAnn Pettinelli, Akhom Phetphanh, Sisounthone Phommahaxay, Alice Pochulsky, Colleen Pouliot, Susan Powell, Mary Risio, Patricia Sapere, Sarah Schiffeler, Albert Simone, Donna Slavin, Sheila Smokey, Maureen Stokoe, Lori Taylor, Simon Ting, Nereida Vargas, James Watrous

## 5 years

Elizabeth Abdallah, LaTonya Adams, Penny Arndt, David Ballard, Diane Barbour, Richard Battaglia, Carl Belawske Jr, Reid Blondell, Kirsten Borkowski, Belinda Bryce, Matt Campbell, Kathleen Cannarozzo, Vienna Carvalho, Robert Chandler, Frances Chinnock, Charles Ciriello, Timothy Conley, Deborah Cooper, Kristi Davis, Vanessa Davis, Judith DeCoursey, Michael Eastman, Lisa Elliot, Debra Freeman, Todd Freeman, Kenneth Garland, Kathleen Garlinghouse, Ian Gatley, Robert German, Susan Gioia, Maureen Glegg, Vincent Golphin, Karen Griffith, Virginia Gross-Abbey, Elizabeth Hillman,

Mary Ann Hinz, Chun-keung Hoi, Kari Horowicz, Robert Howie, Francisco Imai, Kimberly Jackson, Linda Jones, Rebecca Kiely, Mark Koehler, Ann Marie Kuntz, Elizabeth Lawley, Eddie Leonard, Rodney Lezette Jr, Kathy Lindsley, Jennifer Lukomski, Patricia Maillet, Carol Marchetti, Anousone Marlin, Sharon Mason, Joseph Mathe, Paul McCabe, Ellen McCracken, Linda Meichle, Eriko Miyahara, Sonya Lehnis Munier, Jennifer Mura, Andrea Napoli, Susan Northrup, Tina Odinsky, Younghae Park, Margaret Pence, Leah Perlman, Victor Perotti, Alison Putney, Todd Raethka, Polly Reeder, Herbert Renke, Karen Reynolds, Michael Richmond, Tara Rosa, Mary Beth Russo-Stade, Katherine Schumacher, Kristine Seewagen, Muhammad Shaaban, Linda Shoats, Jeremy Sieminski, Christye Sisson, Mark Stamer, Kristine Stehler, Tynelle Stewart, Steven Suffoletto, Kathleen Thomas, Paul Tymann, Robert Van Winkle, Madalana Verschage, Pamela Viggiani, Jennifer Wadhams, Valerie Wall, J. Ian Webber, Thomas Weymann, Andrew Wheeland, Alan Will, Tina Williams, Karen Wilson, Judy Winn, Donna Winter, Terrie Wireman, David Wyble, Shelley Yehl, Lisa Zanders, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Rhea Zweifler

# New MBA class examines ethics of accounting

Is corrupt accounting to blame for recent bankruptcies at firms like Enron and Global Crossing, or do the rules of accounting open the door to questionable practices? That's up for debate during a new course in RIT's College of Business.

Crisis in Accounting: Myth or Reality debuts winter quarter. Daniel Tesson, assistant professor of accounting, developed the course and will serve as the instructor.

"This course emphasizes a more topical approach to understanding how the rules of accounting are formulated," explains Tesson.

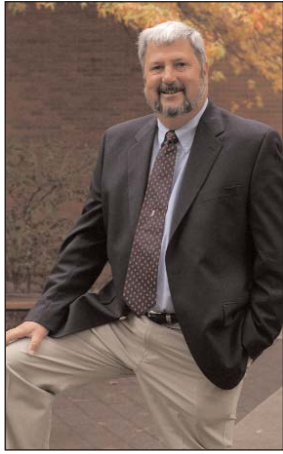
Discussion around water coolers and across America has focused on whether these rules are frequently broken. Many experts maintain that loopholes within

generally accepted accounting principles allow for financial reporting that is not illegal but may be unethical. The issue then becomes whether the problem lies with the accounting procedures or the rules that facilitate them. Either way, blame for the recent corporate failures is still being assessed.

"It's argued that accurate financial statements could have prevented this crisis," says Tesson. "Would companies like Enron and WorldCom be viable, vibrant businesses today if their financial statements had been more accurate? Would fewer people have lost their money in the end? There's a lot here that needs to be examined."

Guest speakers such as corporate executives, board members, auditors and attorneys will offer their insights during presentations to the class.

"This emphasizes our commitment to making business education relevant to the



Daniel Tesson

## Math professor makes "theatrical" debut

What goes on inside the mind and psyche of mathematicians? What makes them tick?

Geva Theatre wanted to know for its current production, *Proof*, David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize- and Tony award-winning drama about the mysteries of a mathematical genius.



David Hart

Enter math consultant David Hart, RIT professor of mathematics and statistics, who shared insights of his profession to the Geva Theatre cast and crew.

Hart was invited to brief the actors on the mind, psyche and methodology of a mathematician and the mathematical underpinnings of the play. His initial one-hour lecture turned into several sessions to help develop the characters, and to convey the role of proof in mathematics. In the play, the characters seek to determine the

correct authorship of a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem, a mindbender that took over 350 years to solve.

He walked the cast and crew through an actual proof, and shared with them his passion for mathematics.

"When something is proved, it's finished, it's proved for all time," he says. "That's one of the glories of math; you have a complete certainty."

Hart memorized the play and attended rehearsals, passing comments to the director.

Opening night gave Hart a unique perspective of the theatre. While the audience experienced the play for the first time, "no line was a surprise" for Hart.

"I feel like the dad of the cast, even though these actors are accomplished professionals," he says. "I'm humbled by it. It's been one of the most remarkable experiences I've ever had."

"How many plays have a math theme?" Hart asks. "This is an opportunity that's not likely to come again. This is a once-in-a-lifetime thing."

*Proof* runs through Nov. 17 at Geva. ■

issues that, for better or worse, are receiving extensive national and international attention," states Thomas Hopkins, COB dean. "Crisis in Accounting complements traditional academics by giving students the necessary framework to form their own conclusions."

This graduate-level seminar class is open to all MBA students. ■

## CIMS lab focuses on workplace ergonomics

Getting a stiff neck sitting at your desk? Perhaps your workstation isn't set up correctly.

Effective, ergonomically designed workstations and offices greatly contribute to productivity, performance and comfort.

The Workplace Ergonomics Lab at the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies is a resource for employees to get ergonomic training, assessments and recommendations at no cost to individual departments.

The lab, originally established as part of the industrial engineering department, offers several ergonomic services. Training is available and ergonomic specialists can



Tracy Freas, left, fifth-year industrial engineering intern, discusses ergonomic benefits of a chair with Kate Marshall, center, and Sue Quinn.

answer specific questions and do general office assessments. They can also recommend changes and suggest products.

"We are delighted to be able to help RIT with our expertise in the ergonomics field," says Nabil Nasr, CIMS director. "This lab represents wonderful collaboration with the industrial and systems engineering department."

In the lab, employees have a try-before-you-buy resource with a variety of styles of workstations, chairs, wrist rests, mice and other office equipment.

"We should be adjusting our workstations to fit the person, rather than making a person adjust to fit their work environment," says Kate Marshall, a CIMS senior engineer who heads up the lab.

## "Healthy" Web site

Information from flu vaccinations to quitting smoking to preventative and urgent medical care can be found on the Student Health Center Web site, along with more health-related information.

Log onto [www.rit.edu/~333www](http://www.rit.edu/~333www).

## Information session

The Office of Part-time and Graduate Enrollment Studies is sponsoring an information forum for adults interested in starting or continuing their education on a part-time, evening basis.

The session will be held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, in the Chester F. Carlson Building. For more information, call 5-2229.

## New IT program

The information technology department in the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences now offers a B.S. degree in applied networking and system administration. The program focuses on the design, construction and operation of computer networks using available components, along with managing the servers that keep users interconnected. Previously, these areas were handled as part of a broader curriculum within information technology.

For more information, call 5-6179.

## Recent accreditation

Margaret's House, RIT's on-campus childcare facility for faculty and student families, was recently granted accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Programs seeking accreditation undergo an intensive self-study, are visited on-site, and are independently reviewed by national experts. When awarded, accreditation is valid for three years.

The ergonomics lab is a partnership between CIMS and RIT Human Resources. Like many other employers, in the past few years RIT has seen an increase in repetitive motion injuries, says Sue Quinn, workers compensation manager in HR.

"The ergonomics lab is an essential part of our work-related injury program to keep our employees safe and healthy at work," she says. "RIT would much rather prevent injuries before they occur by providing the resources for education and prevention."

For an appointment, call the lab at 5-5807 or Kate Marshall at 5-5390. ■

## Film student wins Princess Grace Award

While most teenagers learned about animation through Nintendo video games, David Chontos was busy at the computer creating his own.

"When I was 13, I knew a kid who had access to his father's cool stuff," he recalls. "That's how I got my start at researching 3-D animation."

Years later, that research is paying off. Chontos is among this year's winners of the Princess Grace Awards, which honors excellence among aspiring artists. The fourth-year student in RIT's School of Film and Animation has been singled out among undergraduate students for his entry in the category of experimental animation.

Chontos received his award during a lavish ceremony last month at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City.

"It was an incredible experience," he says. "I had the chance to meet the other award winners and to get a look at their amazing work. That really helped me to

realize that this is a big achievement."

Chontos's success continues an impressive winning streak for SOFA. It's the third consecutive year that an RIT student filmmaker has won a Princess Grace Award, and it's the fourth such honor overall.

"In addition to highlighting David's remarkable talent, this is an exciting affirmation to the quality of our student

body and the opportunity we're providing them," states Howard Lester, SOFA chair.

The annual awards are provided by the Princess Grace Foundation-USA. During her lifetime, Princess Grace of Monaco helped many aspiring artists pursue their career goals. That inspired her family to create the foundation in her memory.

As part of this honor, Chontos will receive a grant to help finance his senior project. His long-term goals include graduate school, and he hopes to pursue a career in animatronics. ■



David Chontos won the prestigious film award.



**STUDENT SPEAKERS COMPETE...** Students from across campus competed last month in the Institute Speaking Contest, delivering informative speeches on a range of topics from *The Pledge of Allegiance* to subliminal images in films, to the newspaper industry and impromptu speaking. Contest director Grant Cos, professor of communication, standing at far right, organized the event, which attracted 38 students in the preliminary round. Standing with Cos above, from left to right, are Justin Peterson, information technology major and third-place winner; David Marion, professional and technical communication major and second-place winner; Andrew Morehouse, computer engineering technology major and winner of honorable mention; and Anthony Tanbakuchi, imaging and photographic technology major, and first-place winner.

## Scholarships named in honor of Lopiano family

Philanthropic "timing" on behalf of an RIT board member will benefit some deserving scholars.

While trustee John Lopiano was establishing a fund to assist students in RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, a local company was creating another scholarship in his honor.

The Maureen and John Lopiano Endowed Scholarship at RIT will be awarded each year to an imaging science student who demonstrates financial need and achieves academic success.

This effort coincides with another program established in Lopiano's honor.

Andy and Julie Plata, owners of OutputLink Inc. and COPI (Computer Output Print & Internet), funded the John A. Lopiano Scholarship, open to any qualified college student. Lopiano serves as a member of COPI's advisory board. This year's scholarship winner happens to be an RIT student, Bethany Kaplan, who is enrolled in an accelerated program within the School of Print Media.

Lopiano is a retired senior vice president from Xerox Corp. He has served on RIT's Board of Trustees since 1995 and is also a member of the Carlson Imaging Science Advisory Board. ■

# The wonder of imaging science in two volumes

By all accounts, imaging science has arrived.

The relatively new field is the focus of a two-volume encyclopedia published by John Wiley and Sons. RIT helped make it happen.

The publisher tapped Joseph Hornak, professor of imaging science and chemistry, as editor-in-chief of the project. Hornak had written for Wiley and Sons in the past and was a likely candidate with an expertise in magnetic resonance imaging.

"RIT is known as a center of excellence for the field of imaging science," says Hornak. "I do think that RIT's reputation is what really helped."

Imaging science got its start at RIT in 1930 with a curriculum in photographic science.



The newly published encyclopedia

Since then, the curriculum has evolved into B.S. and M.S. degrees, and the nation's only Ph.D. in imaging science.

Hornak had to work with an editorial board to determine appropriate entries and topical areas. The next task was to find imaging-science experts who would write about their specialties for the project.

At RIT, Hornak did not have to look far; 15 percent of the entries were authored by RIT faculty.

"It's one thing to find people and convince

them to write, but it's another thing to be an expert such as Michael Kotlarchyk, professor of physics, and give up professional activities to write a 50-page entry," says Hornak.

RIT faculty involved with the project include Jonathan and Laura Arney (imaging science in art conservation); Andrew Davidhazy (high-speed photographic imaging); Mark Fairchild (human visual system color visual processing); Richard Hailstone (silver halide detector technology); Hornak (image formation, magnetic field mapping); Bruce Kahn (imaging and photographic technology, photographic color display technology); Joel Kastner (imaging science in astronomy); Kotlarchyk (electromagnetic radiation and interactions with matter); Russell Kraus (still photography); Barry Lee (gravure multi-copy printing); Navalgund Rao (ultrasound imaging) and Raghuvier Rao (wavelet transforms).

Other Rochester scientists from Kodak, Xerox and the Hope Reports contributed another 10 percent to the encyclopedia entries.

"That says something about Rochester still being the imaging capital," Hornak notes. ■



**ONE SWEET RIDE...** RIT's mini-Baja team successfully defended its championship by capturing first place in the seventh annual South African Mini Baja, Oct. 25-26 near Pretoria. RIT earned first place in endurance, acceleration, design, originality, structural integrity, and ride and comfort. For the second consecutive year, RIT represented the United States as the only U.S. team in the contest. Shown above, Sam Rogers, second-year mechanical engineering technology major, takes a practice run on Oct. 18.

## Big Tree Music comes to RIT's Ingle Auditorium

Big Tree Music (formerly known as 12 Corners Coffeehouse) brings local, national and international music to RIT's Ingle Auditorium, every other Saturday now through mid-May.

In collaboration with RIT's Student Music Association, the music series has a new name in honor of the Seneca nation meeting place on the east bank of the Genesee River.

Performances for the year include:

- Nov. 16: Nerissa and Katryna Niels—\$5 students, \$12 public;
- Dec. 7: David Wilcox—\$8 students, \$16 public in advance, \$18 at the door;
- Dec. 21: Christine Lavin—\$8 students, \$16 public in advance, \$18 at the door.



Nerissa and Katryna Niels perform Nov. 16 as part of the Big Tree musical line-up.

All shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets can be reserved at the Big Tree Web site, [www.big-tree.org](http://www.big-tree.org), or by calling 637-5246. ■

## RIT Financial Aid office debuts updated user-friendly Web site

RIT's Office of Financial Aid announces the recent launch of its updated Web site.

"We're very excited about the new design and the additional services we can provide to students and families," says Verna Hazen, director of financial aid programs and services.

"We spent a great deal of time working with University Publications to construct a design that provides accurate information and is easy for students and families to use," Hazen adds. "We wanted to take the mystery out of the financial aid application process and put information where students can easily find it when they want it."

The new services include diagrams that demonstrate each step of the application process and financial aid application forms that can be downloaded or completed online. In addition, students can directly e-mail their financial aid counselor. "We added a number of links," notes Hazen, making it easier to locate



A screenshot from the new Financial Aid Web site

scholarships and loan information, as well as other resources both in and outside RIT. One of the helpful features is a link to RIT's Student Information System where students can monitor status of their financial aid application and view their awards.

The new user-friendly site, [www.rit.edu/financialaid](http://www.rit.edu/financialaid), was created by University Web

Partnership, a team of professional Web designers, programmers, content editors and software engineers from FAST, RIT's

Educational Technology Center and University Publications. E-mail the team at [uwp@rit.edu](mailto:uwp@rit.edu). ■



**ALL DRESSED UP FOR HALLOWEEN...** Youngsters from Margaret's House, including this little pumpkin and lion, donned Halloween costumes for their annual trick-or-treat outing throughout campus, Oct. 31.

## Minority faculty hiring (from page 1)

not the time to rest on any laurels. "Despite the terrific success we had last year in hiring AALANA faculty, our percentages of AALANA faculty remain below national averages in nearly all of our departments. We need to continue the efforts begun last year with equal commitment this current year."

In the next five years, 50 percent of RIT's faculty will be eligible for retirement. This is a window of opportunity, RIT leaders say, to increase future AALANA hires as the campus strives to mirror shifting U.S. demographics.

"The future will depend upon our ability to reinforce the great work of the deans and search committees by expanding our networks and pipelines to identify AALANA candidates and create a relationship that makes RIT an attractive place for all faculty, staff and students," says Patty Spinelli, director of human resources.

Simone says a diverse faculty will clearly

lead to a better education for all students. "RIT graduates are going to have to know how to interact with people from different cultures and backgrounds to succeed in life. Our graduates are going to work with, report to, sell to, buy from people from minority groups. It is a multi-cultural world."

RIT is also making strides in terms of minority enrollment with 243 AALANA freshmen, or 10 percent of the class (an RIT record). Another record: 15 percent of transfers were also AALANA.

Diversity initiatives at RIT will continue through 2003. A climate survey will gauge whether the campus offers an inclusive environment for students, faculty and staff. RIT has also opened the North Star Center for Academic Success and Cultural Affairs. The center was created as a source of guidance for the recruitment, retention and graduation of RIT's AALANA student population. ■

## Obituary

### Deseray Briggs

Deseray Briggs, a fifth-year biotechnology student from Carthage, N.Y., passed away Nov. 1 after an accident on campus.

"Our deepest sympathy goes out to Deseray's family and friends," says Mary-Beth Cooper, RIT vice president for student affairs. "We are saddened by the loss of this RIT family member."

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