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# News & Events

Volume 35, Number 8 December 12, 2002  
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Happy Holidays

## ITS launches new internal e-mail feature—ALLSTAFF

Now you have a choice when communicating with RIT faculty and staff. RIT employees will automatically receive critical e-mail announcements via "ALLSTAFF." They may also opt to select "RITSTAFF" to receive other communications and e-mail discussions associated with the campus community.

RITSTAFF will begin its new role on Monday, Dec. 16. Once the sole mechanism for sending communication to all faculty and staff, RITSTAFF will be a mail list that employees can subscribe to or unsubscribe from by visiting <http://www.rit.edu/lists>. Initially, all faculty and staff are on the RITSTAFF list. Communications of a non-critical nature and campus discussions are the intended content for RITSTAFF. The ability to join or leave the list gives you the power to control this portion of your e-mail, says Diane Barbour, chief information officer.

"You can join the list during the academic year and leave it for the summer," Barbour says. "You can leave the list dur-

ing your busiest times and rejoin when you have the time to join a discussion." All faculty and staff can send to this list.

ALLSTAFF, the new e-mail feature, joins the RIT communications toolbox. ALLSTAFF is a list for important campus announcements. All faculty and staff are on this list. Announcements of a critical

nature (i.e. Institute closings, benefits enrollment, system downtime, construction, etc.) will be sent to this list.

Communications sent to this list have a high probability of impacting faculty and staff, Barbour says. A few key offices on campus will have access to the ALLSTAFF

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## MLK celebration features Tutu's daughter

RIT's plans for its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration are well underway.

The commemoration, set for Wednesday, Jan. 15, will feature a performance by RIT's Gospel Ensemble and a special guest dancer along with a keynote address from Naomi Tutu, activist and race relations expert. The programs begins at 4 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. Tutu will also host an invitation-only student rap session from 2 to 3 p.m. Tutu's talk is called "Our Right and Responsibility to Continue Dreaming."

Tutu, daughter of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, is program coordinator for the Race Relations Institute at Fisk University and is charged with focusing on the problem of racism in the global community. Tutu also founded and was the chairperson of the Tutu Foundation, which from 1985 until 1990 helped South African refugees in African countries.

She also served as a consulting associate for Equator Advisory Service Ltd., a private consulting firm in sub-Saharan Africa, and carried out consulting work in South Africa looking into educational and professional opportunities for black women. Since then, she has taught courses on development issues and education in Africa at the Universities of Hartford and Connecticut and Brevard College in North Carolina. Tutu has also worked at the University of Cape Town where she was a program coordinator at

the African Gender Institute in charge of programs on race and gender and the gender-based violence in education.

She has received numerous awards and honors from organizations such as the California State Legislature, the Kentucky state branches of the NAACP, the Boston City Council, Outstanding Women of America, Who's Who of Africans in America and *Dollars and Sense* magazine.

The afternoon will conclude with a reception at 5:30 p.m. in Fireside Lounge, SAU. ■



Naomi Tutu



**YOU "CAN" HELP . . .** Valerie Pope and Susan Shanks join other College of Business students and recent alumni to organize Quarter-and-a-Can. This effort encourages everyone to donate non-perishable items with a quarter taped to each can. Contributions can be left in a collection box located in the Student Services office of the Max Lowenthal Building. Proceeds benefit Foodlink, a clearinghouse of food products for area needy. Quarter-and-a-Can is sponsored by the Lowenthal Group and COBRA (College of Business Recent Alumni).



**ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF RIT ART . . .** Bevier Gallery hosted an artists reception Dec. 6 for one of the School of Art's centennial exhibitions, *Looking Back to the Future*. The show runs through Jan. 10.

## NTID gets million dollar grant

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded more than \$1 million to RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf to promote access and inclusion for deaf and hard-of-hearing students in postsecondary education.

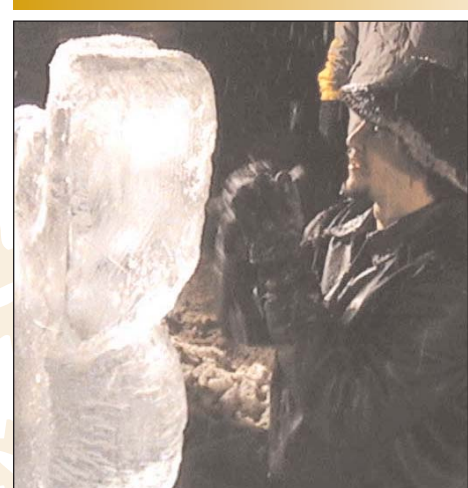
The three-year project is funded through two ED programs, the Demonstration Program to Ensure a Quality Higher Education to Students with Disabilities, and the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. These two grants will work to increase access for deaf and hard-of-hearing college students nationally by modifying teaching practices of their instructors. "Progress has been made in providing support services such as interpreters and notetakers for these students," said Susan Foster, NTID professor and principal investigator for the grants. "However, college instructors are often unaware of the subtle, yet critical ways in which their teaching styles support or hinder the academic success of deaf and hard-of-hearing students."

For example, sign language interpreters will finish signing what the instructor has said about 7-10 seconds after he has finished speaking. If the instructor asks a question of the class and calls on a

student without taking into account this lag time, deaf students will not have the opportunity to respond, Foster said.

When a deaf student is working with hearing peers, he will often have difficulty keeping up with the rapid-fire and over-

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**BREAKING THE MOLD . . .** Gallery r turned into a wonderland during the Park Avenue Winter Fest on Dec. 5. Students, faculty and alumni from the School of Art's Fine Arts Studio chiseled their way through 100-pound blocks of ice to create artistic sculptures.

## A holiday message from the president

As Carolie and I celebrate the holiday season and prepare to usher in a new year, I am reminded of how RIT continues to thrive and be a university on the move.

I would like to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication this past year. Together we have turned many dreams into realities. This year alone, we have begun construction on the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, and the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences has a new home. We have created another state-of-the-art Ph.D. program in microsystems engineering, which will enroll its first class this winter. We have helped anchor Rochester's biotechnology workforce with the creation of the Center for Biotechnology Education and Training. We have welcomed more minority and faculty, staff and students to our campus. And we have found new ways to creatively enrich our students' lives.

We make this university shine.

Carolie and I are fortunate to be surrounded by people of diverse faiths, heritage and talent who all share in RIT's vision and commitment to excellence. As we forge ahead into 2003, we wish you good health, happiness and success and the most joyous of holidays.

Albert J. Simone

## 'Tis the season: Emergency closing information

The season is upon us for those potential winter storms that can force business and school closings. If weather conditions cause cancellations of part or all of RIT's class schedule, you can find out cancellation information in the following ways:

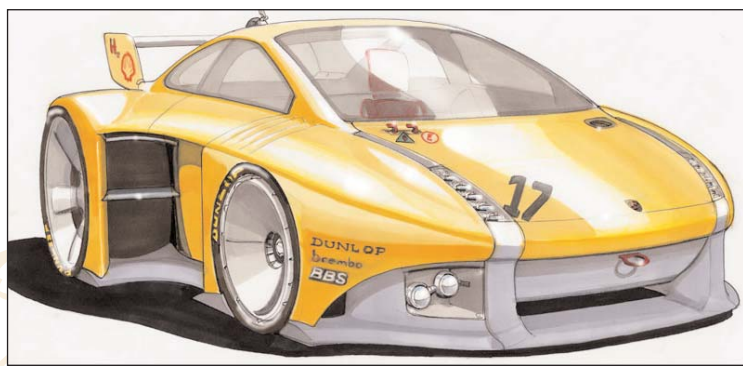
- RIT's Web page ([www.rit.edu](http://www.rit.edu)) will feature a closing notice on the home page.
- Electronic signs on campus will announce closings.
- The Institute Closing and Cancellation Hotline at 5-7075 (v) or 5-7076 (tty) will have announcements.
- Area radio and TV stations will carry announcements.

## RIT grad student wins third place in Motor Trend design contest

Even drivers on the highway who can't tell a Ford from a Chevy or a Honda from a Toyota are impressed when they see a Porsche. With German-inspired engineering, six cylinders and a trademark slogan that says, "Porsche . . . there is no substitute," these sports cars are hard to miss.

And there's no doubt you'd look twice at one model's distinctive new design. The body frame sits lower, giving it the appearance of hugging the road, the wheels are wider in diameter, the side and front windows are shaped like iridescent almonds and the rear end has an attached non-fossil-fuel burning engine.

Jonathan Eziqiel-Shriro, a second-year graduate student in RIT's School of Design, went back to the future when his Porsche illustration passed a final road test and took third place in the 2002 *Motor Trend* International Design Contest.



Jonathan Eziqiel-Shriro's winning Porsche design

"I redesigned a retro-1976 Porsche classic and converted it to a futuristic, avant-garde 2020 model," explains Eziqiel-Shriro, who plans on a career in the auto or transportation field after graduation. "I'm a car kind of guy and I thought it would be cool to apply an old shape of an existing race car and turn it into future technology."

The only real problem was making sure the Porsche still looked like a Porsche. "It had to be practical, the body

framework had to be fairly recognizable and the engine had to still be in the back, so any enthusiast would say, 'Hey, there's a Porsche,'" says Eziqiel-Shriro.

As one of the top five finalists, Eziqiel-Shriro flew to Anaheim in mid-October to meet with other students and design professionals at the California International Auto Show.

"I've been designing my whole life and the highlight of winning a place in this contest was to share ideas by spending a few days with the best of the best," says Eziqiel-Shriro. "When I was a kid I designed bridges with Lego's, then graduated to designs for hand-held Palm Pilots and now it's car designs. This is where I want to be." ■

## RIT Inn provides "on the job" training

RIT courses in hotel operations and in hotel marketing and sales are literally that—in a hotel.

For the first time since RIT took ownership of the RIT Inn & Conference Center last year, 30 students in the course, Hotel Operations, convened there during fall quarter. Students analyzed real-life case studies, offered solutions



David Crumb, second from left, with students in the Hotel Operations course that met at the RIT Inn & Conference Center during fall quarter.

and learned the actual decisions made by inn management.

Students benefit from the real-world exposure, says David Crumb, assistant professor of hospitality and service management and course instructor. Sarah Smith, second-year business major and a student in the class, agrees. "One of the best ways for students to learn is in application—in real-world experiences—which is what learning at the RIT Inn did," she says.

"Used as a 'hotel laboratory,' the RIT Inn & Conference Center offers students a unique learning environment," says Francis Domoy, professor and department chair of hospitality and service management.

Crumb will instruct Service Management and Hotel Marketing and Sales at the inn during winter quarter. Domoy says courses in facilities management and meeting planning will be taught there in the future. ■

## Estes returns to campus as Athenaeum librarian

Like a typical librarian, Ruth Estes browses through a resource book. But she is looking for information about the year she left RIT's downtown campus library to "move up the hill" and work at Wallace Library.

"It was 1968," says Estes, with a smile, "and I continued working at Wallace until 1972. I'm a social sciences librarian, but since the College of Business was growing so quickly, by default I became the business librarian."

Staying true to her profession, Estes is now managing the paperback library at the Athenaeum. She was on hand for a special ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the library's relocation in mid-November.

"The books in here are strictly for reading pleasure," says Estes. "We decided to house paperbacks because they are easier to take while traveling and if someone loses it, it's no big deal."

The shelves are filled with all literary genres supplied by Athenaeum members: fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, short stories, biography, poetry and drama. Estes files the books alphabetically and reserves the right to arbitrarily sort and select them. She's read most of them and can easily recite the top authors and their books from the *New York Times* bestseller list.

"I read five books a week and always have two or three going at a time," says Estes, who turned 89 years old on Dec. 4. "I keep up to date as much as I can."

Although Estes was both a high school English teacher/librarian and a town

librarian, she didn't earn her master's degree in library sciences until the age of 50. As part of her curriculum at State University of New York at Geneseo, she

interned at RIT's downtown library and was told by the grateful staff—"when you graduate, come back and you've got a job."

"I was thrilled and very happy at RIT," says Estes. "I believe that books bring personal satisfaction and

keep you mentally alert and open to new ideas. I'll keep on being a librarian as long as I can. It's my lifetime achievement." ■

## Certificate encourages healthy living, thinking

Healthy students make active and enthusiastic employees of the future.

That's the idea behind the Center for Human Performance's new student Certificate of Excellence in Human Performance program.

The program is designed to motivate and guide students to embrace a lifestyle of physical activity and overall well-being, says Dugan Davies, RIT's associate director of wellness.

In order to earn the certificate, full-time students enrolled during the 2001-2002 year or later must complete their First Year Enrichment or Wellness for Life core courses in addition to four different wellness activity courses—two more than RIT requires for graduation.

Students are assigned an individual wellness coach. A complementary five-year alumni membership to the Student Life Center, a season pass to men's ice hockey home games and recognition in SLC showcases and awards ceremonies are among the incentives for completing the certificate requirements.

With obesity surpassing smoking as the nation's health priority and the continual increase in healthcare costs, staying well through a healthy lifestyle that includes exercise is in everyone's best interest, Davies says.

"RIT prepares students for the workforce of tomorrow. This is one more way we can give our students an edge in the quest for employment and also prepare them for a lifetime of healthy wellness practices," she adds.

For more information about the Certificate of Excellence in Human Performance, contact Davies at 5-6232 or dndhd@rit.edu. ■

## Christmas concert

The RIT Choral Ensemble under the direction of Professor Edward T. Schell presents RIT's Annual Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols in the Allen Chapel of the Interfaith Center, 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 15.

The Service of Lessons and Carols, presented in conjunction with the Center for Religious Life, is based on the Christmas Eve service of King's College, Cambridge.

It features Christmas music for chorus, soloists and organ. Interspersed among the musical selections are Christmas readings telling the Nativity story. A reception follows the program.

For more information, call 5-2135.

## Multicultural holiday

RIT students, faculty and staff will be able to celebrate more than 13 different holidays during Once Upon A Holiday, 5-8 p.m., Dec. 17 in Grace Watson hall lobby. The free multicultural celebration is sponsored by the Center for Residence Life, BCG90 and the Diversity Network.

For more information, call 5-7864.

## SPAS holiday gathering

Christmas comes a few days early for RIT photo students. From 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 19, the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences will hold its 10th annual holiday party.

During that event, students become eligible to win assorted prizes from Kodak, Fuji, Polaroid, Epson and other manufacturers. Free food and entertainment are also on tap.

The party, held in the first floor lobby of the Frank E. Gannett Building, is open to all SPAS students, faculty and staff.

For more information, call 5-2716.

## South African expert

One of the world's leading scholars on South Africa, Martin Murray, will give his talk, *Post-Apartheid South Africa: Globalization and the Racial Politics of Place and Space*, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 16, in Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building.

Murray, professor of sociology at State University of New York at Binghamton, will publish *Vision of the New South Africa* next year. The lecture, free and open to the public, will be interpreted for the deaf.

For more information, visit [www.rit.edu/gannettseries](http://www.rit.edu/gannettseries).

## New e-mail feature

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list and will determine what is sent.

"We have had some discussion on this for some time and now we are going forward," Barbour says. "The key here is that it will give people a choice." ■

## Homecoming Week

Start the New Year off with RIT Spirit. Homecoming Week, sponsored by Student Government, is Jan. 7-12, 2003. Here's the lineup:

- Jan. 7 Women's basketball game vs. University of Rochester at UR, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 8 Tiger Idol Finals, Ingle Auditorium, 8 p.m., SAU.
- Jan. 10 Tailgate in the Breezeway—Student Government will provide free food before each game and hockey game raffles, 5-8 p.m.  
Drag Show sponsored by the RIT Gay Alliance, 8 p.m., SAU cafeteria.
- Jan. 11 Women's hockey game vs. St. Michaels, 3 p.m.  
Women's basketball vs. St. John Fisher College, 6 p.m.  
Men's exhibition hockey game, 7 p.m.  
Men's basketball vs. St. John Fisher College, 8 p.m.  
BACC Fashion Show, 8 p.m., SAU cafeteria.
- Jan. 12 Flag Football Tournament, noon, fields behind Grace Watson.  
Student vs. Administration Flag Football Game, 3 p.m., rugby fields. The winning college team and others will play against administrators, faculty and staff in this second annual battle.  
CAB Battle of the Bands, 6-10 p.m., SAU cafeteria.  
Homecoming Dinner/Dance, Fireside Lounge, 6 p.m., SAU.



**SMALL-FRY LITERATURE . . .** The kindergarten class from Margaret's House enjoyed a morning of reading as Wallace library staff members Jodi Sidlauskas and Joan Naturale read stories to them, Nov. 19, in *The Idea Factory* on the library's first floor.

## Center for Religious Life welcomes several new campus ministers

The Center for Religious Life has welcomed several new ministers recently. Here's who they are and what denominations they are affiliated with:

Rev. Ghislaine Cotnoir, the Lutheran Campus pastor, started at RIT in August. Ordained in 1988, she has served in parish and hospital ministry in Rochester, and is also the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church.

Michelle Jacobs, the Baptist campus minister, has been involved in campus ministry since she was a student at the University of Kentucky and has worked as a missionary in Manhattan for two years. She is also the church and community ministries director at the Finger Lakes Baptist Association in Rochester.

Deirdre McKiernan Hetzler, director of Catholic Campus Ministry, was appointed in August to serve the Newman Roman Catholic community. She has been in ministry in the Diocese of Rochester for



New ministers in the Center for Religious Life are, clockwise from left, Michelle Jacobs, Chaun Richardson, Deirdre McKiernan Hetzler, Ron Von Perlstein and Ghislaine Cotnoir.

17 years, at St. Bernard's Institute, St. Mary's in Scottsville and, most recently, at St. John Fisher College.

Chaun Richardson, campus minister of Gospel Fellowship (a non-denominational Christian ministry), has been in ministry since 1995, serving at Clear View Baptist Church and Goodwill Home and Missions in Newark, N.J., Memorial A.M.E. Zion

Church and New Bethel C.M.E. Church in Rochester. He also currently is the assistant pastor at New Bethel C.M.E.

Deacon John Rushton, of Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf, conducts Bible classes for deaf students as well as occasional Protestant worship services.

Ron Von Perlstein, the Special Projects and Community Service director, is in charge of Hillel and Jewish Programming and Interfaith Programming. Perlstein also works at SUNY Geneseo and the University of Rochester. ■

## NanoPower lab has successful first year

The NanoPower Research Laboratory turns a year old this month amidst a whirlwind of projects, grant proposals and pilot research.

The NPRL has exceeded its first-year goals, say co-directors Ryne Raffaele and Thomas Gennett. The lab has won grants from a variety of government agencies including the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense and NASA. The projects concentrate on the generation and storage of energy using nanostructured materials, especially photovoltaic, waste-heat recovery and battery- and fuel-cell research.

Staff has grown to include over a dozen undergraduates majoring in physics, chemistry, microelectronics engineering and biology, several graduate students, including doctoral candidates and two postdoctoral research associates. The added expertise of new associate director William Grande, assistant professor in microelectronics engineering, will enable end-to-end device design and manufacture.

In keeping with the mission of First in Class, Raffaele and Gennett have established collaborative research programs with such outside industrial partners as Eastman Kodak Co., Viatronix Inc. and Phoenix Innovation Inc.

Gennett and Raffaele are cautiously optimistic about the future, noting that there remains much to do.

"The Institute gave us the opportunity to succeed," says Raffaele. "We are ecstatic about what has been accomplished by everyone in the laboratory to date."

A sampling of the lab's ongoing funded research projects include:

- A \$200,000 grant from NSF to develop nanomaterials for space solar power;
- A \$212,000 grant from NASA to develop wide bandgap photovoltaic solar cells;
- A \$200,000 grant from DOD to develop micropower fuel cells;
- A \$285,000 grant from NASA to develop thermionic devices for waste-heat recovery from jet engines;
- A \$2.3 million collaborative grant from the New York State Infotonics Center for Excellence for a Compact Photonic Explorer; and
- A \$335,000 grant from NASA to develop a scanning tunneling optical resonance microscope. ■

## New program trains senior living managers

- One in eight Americans is age 65 or older.
- The total number of 65+ seniors—about 35 million—is 12 percent larger than a decade ago.
- By 2050, the group will grow in size to an estimated 82 million, and 1.1 million will live until the age of at least 100.

Data from the Census Bureau show senior citizens comprise one of the fastest growing segments of the U.S. population, largely attributable to the aging "Baby Boomer" generation. To no surprise, the number of job opportunities relating to seniors' care is rising alongside the graying population, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

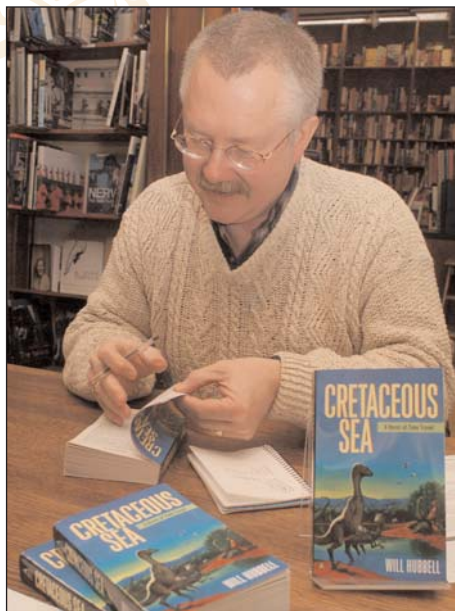
Preparing to meet the demand for senior-living facility managers, RIT's hospitality and service management department in the College of Applied Science and Technology is offering a new advanced master's-level certificate in senior living management, one of few such programs in the nation. The four-course certificate targets those with backgrounds in business, healthcare and service management.

"The new senior living management master's certificate addresses the growing demand for general managers responsible for senior-living developments locally and across the U.S.," says Francis Domoy, professor and department chair of hospitality and service management. "Major hotel corporations are expanding their developments to include facilities meeting the needs of seniors."

Certificate studies focus on service-management issues relating to caring for seniors including finance, health systems administration, human resources development, technology management, and mar-

keting and communications. Required courses, some available online, include Senior Living Management, Integrated Health Systems, Finance for Operations, and Human Resources Management. Course credits can be applied toward master's degrees in Service Management, Health Systems Administration or Cross-Disciplinary Professional Studies.

For more information on the certificate, contact [certificate@cast-fc.rit.edu](mailto:certificate@cast-fc.rit.edu). ■



**SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE . . .** RIT alum Will Hubbell returned to campus Dec. 5 to sign copies of his latest science-fiction book, *Cretaceous Sea: A Novel of Time Travel*, at Campus Connections' general book department. Hubbell is a 1995 graduate of RIT's professional and technical communication program.

## It's all fun and games for COB's Pray



Thomas Pray

Playing games can have unexpected rewards. For an RIT business professor, it's earned him the admiration of his peers.

Thomas Pray, decision science and management information systems chair in the College of Business, received

the Lifetime Achievement Award from the North American Simulation Gaming Association. He's recognized for efforts to advance business simulation through his internationally acclaimed programs DECIDE and DECIDE II.

"Tom's programs provide a perfect balance of qualitative and quantitative rigor, which I find quite rare," says Matt Ritcher, past president of NASAGA.

"It's not too difficult for people to grasp, and they walk away from the experience with practical ideas on changing the way they manage their business."

DECIDE and DECIDE II have been used by nearly two dozen companies, including Eastman Kodak Co., Xerox Corp. and Harris Corp. RF Communications Division.

Through his research and writing, Pray has focused on the design and development of computerized business simulation for the past 20 years. He has conducted numerous training seminars all over the world.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented last month during a meeting of NASAGA in San Diego, Calif. ■

## The spirit of giving

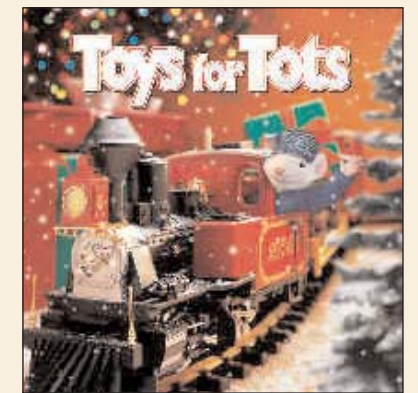
Used clothes, extra food, new toys—whatever you're in the mood for giving this holiday season can benefit someone a little less fortunate. RIT's Student Volunteer Center is coordinating several giving programs this year. Here's what each of the programs need:

### Hillside Special Santas

- Look for the Special Santa displays in the SAU lobby. Take a gift tag and shop for the child you selected or
- Pick a needed gift item such as board games, arts and crafts supplies, backpacks, school supplies, sports equipment, radios, walkmans, clock radios, warm blankets and sweatshirts.
- Drop items off at the Student Volunteer Center, SAU RITreat, second floor, by Dec. 17.

### Toys for Tots

- Donate new, unwrapped toys by Dec. 20. Drop boxes are in the SAU lobby and Eastman building lobby.



### Coalition for a Better World donation drive

- Warm clothing for needy children at Jefferson Middle School and homeless people in our area
- Non-perishable food for local shelters and food cupboards
- New toys
- Donated items should be left in the drop boxes located in the SAU lobby, Wallace Library, Crossroads lobby and Gracie's lobby by Dec. 20.
- For more information, call the North Star Center at 5-4704.

For more information about the Student Volunteer Center's holiday events, log onto [svc.rit.edu/service.php](http://svc.rit.edu/service.php) or contact Tracey Karl at 5-6056 (v/tty).



**CELEBRATING HANUKKAH . . .** RIT celebrated the eight nights of Hanukkah with lighting the menorah, dining on traditional foods and a Shabbat service.



**SELLING WARES ON THE SIDE . . .** Julie White, left, and Lucinda Koessler organize the knitted hats they created for sale at the annual RIT faculty/staff "On The Side" sale, Dec. 4 in the Student Alumni Union lobby.

Vendors sold a variety of homemade items including jewelry, stained glass, ornaments, oil lamps, baskets, silk scarves, candles and more.

## Health and safety grows; reaches online community

RIT's environmental health and safety team, within Campus Safety, welcomes new member Kelly Henry. Henry joins the staff as environmental health specialist after graduating in May from RIT's environmental health and safety graduate program.

Henry oversees RIT's compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. "Having a new member on the team has really helped distribute our workload more evenly," says Helen Revelas, manager of environmental health and safety. "We can now take on more responsibilities in keeping RIT a safe place to work and live."

The team works to ensure proper handling and care of materials that pose possible threats to the campus environment and the community. Depending on the individual circumstances, the team works out a detailed



Members of the environmental health and safety team include, from left to right, Gary Zinsmeister, Jody Nolan, Kelly Henry, Jeff Meredith and Helen Revelas.

guideline of handling materials in a safe and controlled manner.

Henry's experience includes work at a private environmental consulting agency while earning her degree through distance learning courses. As a new RIT employee she says, "I love it already."

**Health and safety—online**  
Local online-learning management com-

pany Element K has partnered with RIT's human resources and campus safety departments to deliver an online environmental, health and safety learning program for faculty and staff.

The program mirrors the instructional layout of a distance-learning course, and is designed to ensure the safety of RIT employees at work as well as the university's compliance with state and federal EHS laws and regulations.

"We are concerned with reaching all affected staff and faculty of the RIT community with consistent and up-to-date safety information and training. We believe that online learning is the best method of delivery," says Kathleen Martin, associate director for RIT's human resources.

To learn more about the program, contact Henry at 5-6270 or kahcps@rit.edu. ■

## NTID grant (from page 1)

lapping nature of group discussions, Foster added. "NTID/RIT have a wealth of experience in identifying and working to resolve these and other barriers to access for deaf and hard-of-hearing students enrolled in mainstream classes."

"Another example involves the hard-of-hearing student who depends on speech reading to understand his or her instructor," explained Foster. "The student will miss information when the instructor speaks while writing on the board, or stands near a window where glare or shadows interfere with the student's vision."

"These examples may seem obvious," said Gary Long, associate professor at NTID and co-principal investigator. "But often, faculty have never had the opportunity to see things from the perspective of the deaf or hard-of-hearing student, and changing longstanding teaching behaviors is often quite difficult."

This project, he said, creates an opportunity to look at the college classroom through the eyes of these students, and offer specific, simple and practical strategies to adjust teaching styles without sacrificing the quality of instruction or demanding huge amounts of their time or energy.

"Many faculty may question the value of investing time and energy in changing their pedagogy for a relatively small number of students," said Rosemary Saur, NTID associate professor and project coordinator, "especially when they only have a deaf or hard-of-hearing student in their courses occasionally."

"But we have found when faculty do modify their teaching, the result is usually increased access for all students, including other non-traditional students such as those with learning disabilities, and students for whom English is a second language."

Summer Institutes, which will be held in 2003 and 2004, are being developed to provide attendees with a range of experiential workshops, small-group discussions and individualized tutorials focused on access to instruction and learning for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

Follow-up visits by project personnel starting in September 2003 will provide support to Summer Institute participants as they implement the ideas from workshops in their classes and on their campuses.

Portable versions of workshop materials such as CDs, videotapes and a Web site that can be used independently by faculty and administrators at their home institutions will be developed, tested and distributed nationally in 2004. ■

## Grants specialists offer "how-to" courses

"Idea people" at RIT can take advantage of expertise offered through a new yearly series on how to get grants. RIT's Department of Grants, Contracts, and Intellectual Property has developed the Principle Investigator Institute seminars for faculty and staff interested in acquiring research grants for their field of interest.

PIs lead the research grant investigation working with co-investigators, faculty and staff members who assist in the long complicated process.

The six-part series opened on Sept. 19 with the topic of Securing External Funding for Your Ideas, focusing on tips to simplify the proposal process.

With three of the seminars behind them, Director of Grants, Contracts and Intellectual Property Marjorie Zack says, "Our goal throughout the seminar sequence is to have 150 people actively involved in acquiring their own grant. As of now I think we will exceed our expectations."

The first two seminars, coordinated by senior research administrators Ann Dickinson, David Bond, Cindy Gary and Gayle Hyde counted over 50 attendees at each lecture. "We've received nothing but encouraging feedback," adds Zack.

The next seminar, *Intellectual Property*, will take place on Jan. 16 in the Louise M.

Slaughter Building.

Coordinated by Varda Main, director, technology licensing office, the session will examine the policies of intellectual property, patents, copyrights and trademarks, as well as licensing and business start-ups.

*Our goal throughout the seminar sequence is to have 150 people actively involved in acquiring their own grant. As of now I think we will exceed our expectations.*

—Marjorie Zack, director, Grants, Contracts and Intellectual Property

Future seminars will take place in the Louise M. Slaughter Building, rooms TBA:

- Human Subjects Research and Other Compliance Issues, Feb. 20
  - Managing Your Funded Project, March 20
- For more information about the seminar series, log onto [www.research.rit.edu](http://www.research.rit.edu), or contact Zack at 5-7525 or mkzgcip@rit.edu.

## myRIT portal update

Have you been using my.rit.edu, the Internet portal for all things RIT? On average, 1,800 people do every day. The customizable portal offers more than 70 portlets with information on everything from weather and news to class discussions and streaming audio.

The top four most popular portlets to add to the default layout are:

- Virus warnings
- Dictionary.com word of the day
- Top Internet news stories
- U.S. education news

## Formula car results

RIT's Formula car team earned third place in the annual Formula SAE Australasia, Dec. 5-8, in Australia.

Marking the third consecutive year for RIT participation in the event, eight students and advisor Alan Nye, professor of mechanical engineering, made the trip. The contest was RIT's second international competition this year—in July, the team placed third in the annual Formula Student Competition in England.

## RIT's Patent Portfolio Grows

Four patents have been issued to RIT in fiscal year 2002, bringing RIT's patent portfolio to eight U.S. patents. Issued patents are the result of intense scientific and/or engineering research and a lengthy process to obtain patent protection.

RIT's ambitious inventors include: Kevin Kochersberger for "Apparatus for Testing a Constant Velocity Joint and a Method Thereof" and Bruce Smith, whose newest patents address masks in lithography.

Waiting in the wings are another 33 RIT inventions for which patent applications have been submitted and are in the process of being reviewed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

For more information on intellectual property and licensing contact Main at 5-2986 or vnmgcip@rit.edu.

The patents can be viewed in full-text at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov). ■

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**HALL OF FAMERS . . .** Six former athletes have been selected for induction into the RIT Sports Hall of Fame this fall. With this year's induction, membership increases to 129. This year's inductees are, from left to right, Karen Provinski Conlan ('96, women's basketball), Tim Turner ('87, lacrosse), Jamie Glydon ('97, cross country, track), Kathy Vangeli (women's swim coach, 1980-1996), Don Richards ('83, swimming—pictured are his parents, Donna Rae and J. Allen), and Arnold "Skip" White ('70 wrestling).

## Obituary

### Robert Kushner

Robert Kushner, professor emeritus, School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, passed away Nov. 6. He was 77 years old.

Kushner taught in the photo school for 20 years. Since retiring from RIT in 1991, he worked as a trustee and photography professor at Kyoto Computer Gakuin, the first computer technical school in Japan.

He is survived by his 10 children and his wife, Yoshiko.

"Robert was an excellent photographer, teacher and friend," says Robert Johnston, RIT professor emeritus. "He will always live in my memory."

R.I.T.

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