

RIT signs groundbreaking R&D agreement with PAETEC

RIT and PAETEC, the Rochester-based telecommunications company, have entered into a new research agreement that will enhance the transfer of technological innovations to industry and promote regional economic development. The partnership includes \$1 million worth of research-and-development projects over three years and will involve faculty and graduate students from RIT colleges. The first project will be initiated out of the College of Applied Science and Technology.

The collaboration is the first project created under RIT's new Corporate R&D program, which seeks to enhance cooperation and technology transfer between academia and industry by allowing businesses to retain rights to intellectual property generated during the research projects. The program has been created from concepts presented in a series of speeches, white papers and op-eds by RIT President Bill Destler, which focus on the need for new paradigms in university-industry collaboration.

"This program will work to change the way universities and companies



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT President Bill Destler, right, and Jack Baron, president of PAETEC's Advanced Solutions Group, sign an agreement kicking off the new Corporate R&D at RIT program.

do business and assist in creating enhanced opportunities for technology transfer, basic research and economic development," Destler says.

Research conducted under the project will focus on PAETEC's Advanced Solutions Group, specifically the PIN-NACLE Communication Management Suite and Allworx VoIP product

lines. The end goal of the initiative will be a decrease in costs for business customers associated with managing wireless services and mobile devices.

"Innovation and telecommunications are synonymous with each other, more so today than ever before with the advancement of Internet Protocol Corporate R&D, page 4



Park Point, a mixed-use community scheduled to be operational this fall, will be a major hub for retail businesses and RIT housing.

Campus enhancements will total \$125 million

RIT is growing by leaps and bounds overseas—the announcement of RIT Dubai and the steady partnership with Kosovo and Croatia are just a few examples—but there are also important changes happening at home.

In a recent presentation delivered to the RIT community, James Watters, RIT's Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, outlined the nearly \$125 million in campus renovations, updates and new construction that will occur over the next few years. Here is what the RIT community can look forward to:

■ **Park Point.** Wilmorite is developing this mixed-use community, a major hub for retail businesses, combined with housing opportunities for 924 individuals, opening this fall. Retail giant Barnes and Noble—the current management arm of the RIT bookstore—will anchor the project. This summer, RIT's bookstore will move from its home in the Student

Alumni Union to the 40,000-square-foot facility at Park Point.

At the end of Wilmorite's financings, the entire project is expected to be gifted back to RIT.

■ **North Forest Business Park,** located on eight acres in RIT's Business and Technology Park, will provide housing for businesses that graduate from start-up incubators. RIT currently has 16 businesses in the incubator—two graduated from the incubator this past year.

■ **Rivers Run.** This development, located on the former site of the RIT Racquet Club townhomes, will become an RIT-affiliated retirement community. Rivers Run has currently constructed approximately 25 patio homes on site, with the developer currently building an additional 82 independent living apartment units. Rivers Run will also be the permanent home for RIT's Osher Lifelong Learning Center.

Construction, page 4

RIT earns spot in U.S. News rankings

RIT is among the top colleges and universities in the nation for programs in the fine arts, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2009 edition of *America's Best Graduate Schools*.

The university tied for 21st among institutions offering graduate-level studies in fine arts. The rankings are based solely on the results of a peer assessment survey, featuring input from art school deans and other top art school academics at 220 master's of fine arts programs in art and design from across the country.

RIT's rankings among fine arts specialties are as follows:

- Glass art, tied for 2nd
- Photography, tied for 3rd
- Industrial design, tied for 8th
- Multimedia/visual communications, tied for 10th
- Graphic design, tied for 12th

RIT's fine arts programs are housed in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. "RIT and its unique programs provide one of the world's best centers for advanced study in the creative arts," states Joan Stone, dean of imaging arts and sciences. "The results of the latest *U.S. News* survey reflect the validation of our peers, and the opportunity to highlight this recognition of excellence is very gratifying."

America's Best Graduate Schools is online at www.usnews.com/grad, and highlights of the rankings will be published in the April 7 print edition of *U.S. News & World Report*. ■

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IBM lab now open on campus

IBM has launched its first software Innovation and Collaboration Lab on the RIT campus to allow students to work on IBM enterprise technologies, including open collaboration products that harness Web 2.0 and social-networking features.

Students of various majors will perform design, development and technical-support roles from within IBM's lab located in the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure. This lab draws on students from the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, Kate Gleason College of Engineering and the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences.

"For RIT, the lab provides an

excellent opportunity for faculty and students who have expertise in open source to work together on real-world software engineering issues," says Jorge Díaz-Herrera, Dean of the Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. "As opposed to students who are doing co-ops away from the university, this brings industry and real work scenarios to the campus. This is a great example of how we can help companies like IBM in research and development. In return, they expose our students to real-world issues."

IBM's contribution to the development and design lab includes dedicated servers and laptops for student IBM, page 4



Photo submitted by Virginia Gross-Abbey

Robert McDonald, center, IBM vice president of technical support for Lotus and collaboration software, talks with computer science majors Joe Pecoraro, left, and Alexander Rock.

Each issue of *News & Events* will feature a project to be showcased at Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival on May 3. This week's spotlight:

■ **Walk-In Mobius Trihedral Kaleidoscope Presenters:** George Thurston, Ronald Jodoin and Bernard Brooks; College of Science, physics and mathematics departments

■ **Brief description:** Presenters will construct and display a large version of the Mobius trihedral kaleidoscope. An observer can insert a straight object, such as a stick, in alternate positions to form, together with its reflections, a cube, an octahedron or a tetrahedron. In addition to being startling, this clearly demonstrates common symmetry elements of these regular polyhedra.

■ **How is the exhibit creative and/or innovative:** This is a pedagogical innovation in that it provides a high-



ly interactive, visceral experience of the consequences of reflection symmetry in three dimensions. The lessons involved can be presented to students at levels ranging from elementary school to college.

■ **Exhibit experience for visitors:** The exhibit can appeal at a variety of levels, ranging from the pure enjoyment of the striking reflections, to the mathematics of groups of symmetries and of dualities of the regular polyhedra.

For more information on the Innovation and Creativity Festival, visit www.rit.edu/imagine. ■

In the community

One student makes a difference by building homes, page 2

Art on campus

Multimedia fest features variety of artistic endeavors, page 2

Scholarship and Research

RIT scientists study the nature of wildfires, page 3

Viewpoints

The importance of faculty-student collaborations, page 3

Historian speaks April 7

The Russian novelist and historian who exposed the evils of the Gulag—the Soviet system of forced labor camps—will be the focus of a conference at RIT in April. “Confronting Ideology: Alexander Solzhenitsyn’s Political Thought” will take place 7-9 p.m. April 7 in the Xerox Auditorium, James E. Gleason Building. The event will feature talks by scholars James Pontuso, Daniel Mahoney and Peter Lawler, followed by question-and-answer sessions. Solzhenitsyn won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1970 for his critique of Soviet totalitarianism. The conference—free and open to the public—is hosted by RIT’s Department of Political Science and College of Liberal Arts with assistance from the Departments of History and Philosophy. For more information, call Joseph Fornieri at 475-5889.

Communicators to gather

RIT will host a conference focusing on the study of visual communication with a special interest on the interconnections between visual rhetoric and visual-media technologies. This interdisciplinary theme will be the focus of the Kern Communication Conference, April 10-13. The event, held at the Strathallan Hotel in downtown Rochester, will feature speakers and panelists from around the country addressing topics related to “Visual Communication: Rhetorics and Technology.” Thomas Benson, Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Rhetoric at Pennsylvania State University, will give the keynote address, “Look! Rhetoric!”, at 8:30 a.m. April 12. For a schedule of events, or to register for this free event, visit www.rit.edu/kern.

Ethics lectures on deck

The Ezra A. Hale Ethics Lecture Series will present “Responses to Vulnerability: Medicine, Politics and the Body in Descartes and Spinoza (with a dash of Hobbes),” by Amy Schmitter, professor of philosophy at the University of Alberta, 4 p.m. April 10, and “Education for ‘Sustainable Development’: A Philosophical Assessment of UNESCO’s Education for Sustainable Development,” by Randall Curren, professor of philosophy at the University of Rochester, 4 p.m. April 17. Both lectures will be held in the Xerox Auditorium of the James E. Gleason Building. The free lectures are sponsored by the Hale Chair in Applied Ethics Wade Robison. For information, e-mail cls3740@rit.edu.

Imaging science lectures

Upcoming talks hosted by the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science Seminar Series will include: “The Unicorn Tapestries and Mathematical Approaches to Imaging,” by David and Gregory Chudnovsky, directors of the Institute for Mathematics and Advanced Supercomputing at Polytechnic University, April 9; and “Tales of an Itinerant Telescope Builder,” by Thomas Sebring, project manager of the Atacama Project at Cornell University, April 16. The presentations will begin at 4 p.m. in the Carlson auditorium. For information, e-mail rosen@cis.rit.edu or call 475-7691.



Submitted photograph

RIT freshman Kaitlyn Werner from the E. Philip Saunders College of Business, front, organized an alternative spring break program in March. A total of 16 RIT students, including Steffanie Kulis, a Saunders accounting major, pictured in back, helped build a house for Habitat for Humanity in Mobile, Ala.

Life lessons found outside the classroom

Freshman Kaitlyn Werner, who hails from Averill Park just outside of Albany, doesn’t worry about handling an increased workload at RIT.

As co-leader of the Lowenthal Group—a service and leadership organization within the E. Philip Saunders College of Business—and secretary for RIT’s Habitat for Humanity club, Werner decided to hit the nail on the head and enlisted students across campus to participate in their own kind of alternative spring break program.

So, instead of relaxing on a beach and building sand castles, a total of 16 RIT students picked up hammers and tool belts and helped build a home for Habitat for Humanity’s Gulf Coast project—an area that had suffered devastation from Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

“Initially we were going to New Orleans, but I had only two months to plan,” Werner explains. “So, I contacted a Habitat affiliate in Mobile, Ala., who was thrilled to have us come down for the first week in March.”

Mobile is also one of the Gulf Coast affiliates participating in the President Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project in honor of their 25 years of dedicated service to Habitat for Humanity. Since the hurricane recovery effort, 1,300 Habitat

homes have been built.

“The Carters are planning a weeklong event in May for students and volunteers to build many new houses in the area,” Werner says. “Their idea is that we can all make a tremendous impact and help change the world—one family at a time.”

According to Werner, the RIT students were supervised by two Habitat site managers who were “incredibly helpful and inspirational.”

“Each day we joined them in prayer before we started working, and they were very upbeat, sort of like (ABC’s) *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* with Ty Pennington,” Werner says. “The cement foundation was poured when we got there, but we put up all the walls, windows and doors. It was a very basic, low-income, four-bedroom home for a big family.”

Although it only took 18 hours for the RIT students’ four-car caravan to travel to the Gulf Coast, they spent 26 hours returning home. “We used a GPS system and rerouted our trip because of the severe weather through Buffalo and Ohio,” Werner says. “But I’d do it all again. It was such a worthwhile and rewarding experience—like nothing I had ever done before. I think we all felt the same way.” ■

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Image-reproduction guidelines are the agenda for RIT researcher

It’s commonplace for cultural-heritage institutions to photograph their works of art for use in books, catalogues and online publications, but there are currently no standard guidelines for image creators, publishers and users to follow to ensure the image quality is not compromised during the capturing and transferring process.



Franziska Frey

Franziska Frey, McGhee Professor in the School of Print Media, has been awarded a \$307,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to research the benchmark of the art-image interchange cycle and to spearhead developing industry standards.

“It is a fact that most museum imaging personnel are not color-imaging scientists with a thorough understanding of all the materials and processes involved in the digital imaging and production chain, nor do they have to be,” says Frey. “However, the complex nature of the equipment and procedures involved makes it very difficult for the staff creating the images to select and establish practices that will produce digital images which will be of the best quality and that will maintain quality throughout the art interchange cycle.”

Frey has a long-standing involvement with many cultural institutions in the United States and around the globe. She is a member of the group ImageMuse, consisting of museum and publishing professionals dedicated to defining and adopting guidelines for the use of digital files for reproduction. Some of the prestigious museums represented include The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Yale Art Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and The National

Gallery in London. Frey will work closely with the ImageMuse members to receive input on surveys, testing procedure and guidelines.

Frey will also consult with faculty and staff at RIT’s Munsell Color Science Laboratory on the scientific content of the project.

There will be various phases to the 30-month project including questionnaires, case studies, workshops experiments and a final conference to announce the findings and guidelines. The survey will target those responsible for art image interchange, for example, chief technology officers at digital-stock agencies to production managers at photography studios.

“The survey and interviews with art-image creators, publishers and printers will enable a thorough discussion of the pros and cons of the various workflow scenarios,” says Frey. “Some of our questions will focus on technical aspects such as image reproduction, image-processing procedures, color management and output devices used while others look at personnel issues.”

The guidelines that are ultimately developed will be based on the survey results and the testing procedures.

Adds Frey: “It’s our goal to develop guidelines that will help cultural institutions work together with outside content providers, publishers and printers to maintain the highest image quality throughout the cycle.”

To disseminate the results, a conference will be held at RIT in the summer of 2010, and the guidelines will also be posted through a project Web site.

Frey’s latest grant expands upon a two-year study also funded by the Mellon Foundation, “Direct Digital Image Capture of Cultural Heritage—Benchmarking American Museum Practices and Defining Future Needs,” that she conducted along with Roy Berns, RIT’s R.S. Hunter Professor in Color Science and Technology. ■

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Multimedia fest has plethora of performances

ImageMovementSound engages the imagination and the senses.



It’s a festival that provides an opportunity for Rochester-area dancers, film and video artists, musicians, and media and graphic artists to come together to collaborate and premiere new works of multimedia art.

The performance is at 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, in Ingle Auditorium. The program will consist of live and video-performance works, along with two interactive installations. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at the door. Students with ID are admitted for free.

RIT will also host an encore presentation of some of the best works from past ImageMovementSound festivals at Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival on Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m. to noon in Ingle Auditorium.

Forty-five students and faculty from RIT, University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music and the river campus, SUNY Brockport, William Smith College and Visual Studies Workshop are the creators and performers of these diverse works.

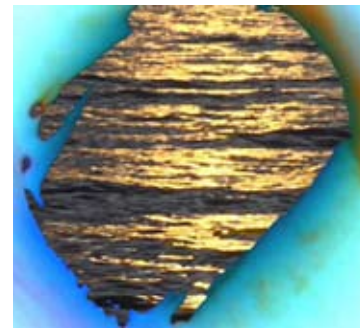
Preceding the live performance on April 6, installation works will be on display for 10 days at the Rochester Contemporary Art Center, 137 East Ave. The exhibit runs through April 4. The interactive installations employ digital imaging and audio technology and encourage active participation from viewers.

The ImageMovementSound festival, now in its 12th year, merges dance, film, music and other art forms in new and unexpected ways. Works premiered at previous festivals have won awards at hundreds of international festivals, competitions and venues.

Planned works for the April 6 premiere include:

■ *Currents*—In this abstract work, the artists create a tapestry of textures that emerge as washes of sound, color and motion. Tone and light follow changing currents in evolving variations that coalesce in alternating densities toward a final surge.

■ *Moving Parts, Emotive Fantasy*—*Emotive Fantasy* creates a choreography of gesture and parts of the body to express the inherent tension between the body as machine (set in motion with the advent of the Industrial Revolution and refers to Maslow’s Theory of Coping) and the



Submitted image

Image from *Currents* to be featured at ImageMovementSound. This collaborative piece features projected video with a live performance from Eastman School of Music students.

body as a sentient whole (refers to Maslow’s Theory of Feeling). ■ *Concealed Fusion*—Features live dance, live music and animation. It focuses on using found objects to create a “being” in the projected imagery and the sound score. A live dancer explores the space she feels confined to and the space outside of her realm. The final result is a dialogical duet between the “being” and the live dancer about finding the self through a spiritual exploration of past and present experiences.

For more information about the festival, visit www.imsfestival.org. ■

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Young pianist to perform



Photo courtesy of Soojin Ahn

Concert pianist Soojin Ahn will perform at RIT April 4 as part of the Performing Artists Concert Series. Ahn has won prizes in many international competitions, including the Gilmore Young Artist Award and the audience prize at the International Chopin Competition.

Tickets—\$6 for students, \$14 for faculty, staff and alumni and \$20 for the public—can be purchased at the Student Alumni Union candy counter or by calling the Gordon Field House box office at 475-4121.

On March 26, the College of Liberal Arts held its 2008 Forum on Faculty-Student Research. At this daylong event, panels of faculty and students presented research on related topics. These panels made clear the close connection between faculty and student research in the college.

Whether it is through class projects, term papers or collaborative research projects, student research builds on, responds to or contributes to faculty research. This is true across all College of Liberal Arts disciplines and departments, from students in our degree-granting programs to students taking courses to fulfill RIT's liberal arts requirements.

At this year's forum, students and faculty discussed a wide range of topics including research into anti-

gang strategies, the policy implication of biotechnology, understanding French culture through film and current issues in engineering psychology, among others.

Despite this variety, the papers also displayed a common theme: While our modern age poses unique problems, it also provides the tools (both conceptual and technical) for solving these problems. In fact, this combination of realism and optimism emerged as the main theme of the forum.

In addition, we also produced a book that contains the students' papers as well as introductions written by their faculty mentors. This volume—275 pages long—is physical proof of how faculty-student research in liberal arts enriches the educational experience for both students and faculty.

However, the forum is just the tip of the iceberg. Because of limitations on space and time, each department was constrained to a single panel consisting of a faculty mentor and two to three students.

The College of Liberal Arts has long been committed to both outstanding teaching and scholarship, and the forum highlights these commitments. Not only are liberal arts faculty active researchers, and not only do we expose students to research in the classroom, but we also encourage students to participate in the research process, either on their own or with a faculty mentor. The result is a unique combination of research and teaching that benefits both faculty and students.

Capps is associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts.



This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail newsevents@rit.edu.

RIT scientists 'feel the burn' of wildfire research

Scientists from RIT recently helped the U.S. Forest Service collect information about wildfire behavior, atmospheric dynamics and fire effects in controlled burns in Florida and Georgia as part of an exercise called Rx-CADRE—Prescribed Fire Combustion-Atmospheric Dynamics Research Experiments.

Robert Kremens, research professor, and Jason Faulring, systems integration engineer, in RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, joined wild land fire managers and researchers from the around the country during the first week of March for wildfire experiments at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida and at the Jones Ecological Research Center near Newton, Ga.

Researchers used a variety of ground-based and airborne instruments to observe the controlled fires. Data collected from the experiments will help fire managers model and predict the behavior of fires influenced by fuel type, fuel loading, local weather and other variables.

"Over 40 of the nation's best fire scientists participated in what I believe is the most instrumented wild land fires ever," Kremens says. "Five fires were flown in one week, collecting what I believe to be the best data set ever obtained from any wild land fire experiment. I have no doubt we will be studying these events for a long time."

RIT participation included the development and deployment of several critical ground-based sensor systems and an airborne fire-mapping camera system. Pre-positioned ground-based sensors monitored various fire parameters as the fire progressed, says Donald McKeown, distinguished researcher in RIT's



Photo submitted by Robert Kremens

Robert Kremens, RIT research professor, right, and Sean Michealitz, a graduate student from University of Alberta, prepare equipment for wildfire experiments at the Jones Ecological Research Center.

Laboratory for Imaging Algorithms and Systems.

Faulring operated the fire-mapping camera system from the back of a light aircraft flying over the fires and continuously photographed the progress of the burn. The camera is a lightweight version of the wildfire airborne sensor program RIT developed for the U.S. Forest Service, and is dubbed "WASP-Lite." It is equipped with color and thermal infrared cameras and an inertial navigation system to precisely map fire location. The WASP-Lite sensor is installed in an aircraft provided by Kucera International, an aerial mapping company, McKeown says.

RIT joined several other organizations who participated in this testing operation. ■

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Enlightening our future engineers



Submitted photograph

Shannon O'Hurley, a first-year computer engineering major and volunteer for WE @ RIT, the university's women in engineering program, demonstrates basic science concepts using a Traveling Engineering Activity Kit to students at the Urban Choice Charter School in Rochester. The kits are a component of WE @ RIT's K-12 outreach efforts and use simple experiments and visual guides to teach engineering concepts to middle-school children. The kits' hardware and educational curriculum were designed by RIT engineering students and are funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation. An expanded version of the kit was unveiled during an educator networking session held last month on the RIT campus.

Best of the best in photojournalism



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Ken Spencer, '64 (photo illustration) a veteran photographer at Newsday, demonstrates the use of a hair light on a model bust during a studio-lighting workshop at the National Press Photographers Association's Northern Short Course. RIT was the official host and one of the sponsors of the premier photojournalism conference held in downtown Rochester, March 13-15. The conference featured keynote speakers, portfolio reviews and hands-on workshops in multimedia, lighting, ethics, business practices, audio, video and marketing.

Another record RIT career fair



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Kristina Sylvester, third-year biomedical sciences major, joined more than 2,200 other RIT students and recent alumni for the Spring Career Fair on March 26. Representatives from about 230 employers filled the Gordon Field House and Activities Center to capacity. Students, alumni and employers combined to make it the largest-ever career fair on campus.

News brief

Encryption expert to speak

Philip Zimmermann, the renowned cryptographer at the center of a criminal federal investigation in the '90s for his invention of Pretty Good Privacy, an e-mail encryption software, will give a free lecture at RIT. The lecture is at 2 p.m. on April 18 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. Pretty Good Privacy became the most widely used e-mail encryption software in the world. The federal government alleged the cryptographic software violated arms trafficking export regulations, but eventually dropped its case against Zimmermann. He went on to launch PGP Inc. in 1996. He now serves as a cryptographic consultant for numerous companies and organizations. His latest project is called Zfone, a type of encryption software that allows people to make secure phone calls over the Internet.

Conference to help launch master's degree

RIT will host a daylong symposium on the current and future state of clinical research for practitioners and experts in the field.

The conference, sponsored by the Center for Bioscience Education and Technology, will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 10, on the RIT campus, and will feature guest speakers from industry, academia and the FDA. Topics will include:

- "Current and Future Trends in Clinical Research," presented by Kenneth Getz, senior research fellow, Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development
- "Changes in the FDA's Approach to Clinical Research," speaker to be announced
- "What You Don't Know Can Hurt You in Clinical Product Development," by Lorraine Ellis, president and CEO, Research Dynamics Consulting Group Ltd.
- "Clinical Research Ethics," presented by Adil Shamoo, Center for Biomedical Ethics, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- "Career Opportunities in Clinical Research," by Laurie Halloran, president and CEO, Halloran Consulting Group
- "Clinical and Translational Research in Rochester," presented by Thomas Fogg, Clinical and Translational Science Institute, University of Rochester Medical Center
- "RIT's New Master of Science Program in Clinical Research Management," by Douglas Merrill, director, RIT's CBET

"We see this as a real opportunity for the whole clinical-research community to come together at least once a year," Merrill says. "We're hoping to provide that opportunity."

RIT will announce the launch of its new graduate program in clinical research management during the conference. The master's program will be offered through RIT's Center for Multidisciplinary Studies in the College of Applied Science and Technology and CBET in the College of Science. The degree program is the only one of its kind in upstate New York.

Visit the CBET Web site at www.cbet.org to register for the Current and Future State of Clinical Research conference. ■

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A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Organic food selections, local cheeses and wines and slow food were featured at the 23rd annual 'Puttin' on the RITz' dinner, March 29, held at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. The feast was organized, prepared and served by students in RIT's School of Hospitality and Service Management. Proceeds from the dinner benefited the RIT Hospitality Education Fund. Here, Yarley Parker, a third-year student, prepares chocolate for dipping fresh strawberries.



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IBM from page 1

co-ops, plus on-site staff and mentors who will be working together with students in person and virtually to train students on gaining new business skills combined with technology expertise. Students will initially be working on Lotus and collaboration tools, such as Lotus Symphony and Lotus Connections.

Joe Pecoraro, a fourth-year RIT computer science major involved in Web development, would like to spend his co-op learning how to apply enterprise social networking to improve productivity.

"I want to have a personal impact on the IBM technologies I'm working with. The lab is really trying to do just that—let the students make a difference in future innovation," says Pecoraro. "I hope that working with IBM will give me an opportunity to clarify what I want to do in the future. I anticipate this may turn into a future career or open doors to more opportunities with IBM."

"The lab allows the best and brightest at RIT to apply their skills to innovative solutions through collaboration with IBM and maintain our linkage with the university's top talent," states Robert McDonald, IBM vice president of technical support for Lotus and collaboration software. "We hope to leverage students' extensive experience with the new age of collaborative technologies such as social networking, mashups, wikis and blogs."

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RIT athletes heat up winter season

A total of 43 RIT athletes earned post-season honors during the 2007-2008 winter sports season. Every RIT team played in the post-season or enjoyed a winning season.

In the pool, both men and women enjoyed considerable success. On the men's side, divers Quinn Donahoe and Matt Joseph earned dual All-American honors in both the 1- and 3-meter diving events. On the women's side, sophomores Caitlyn Burr and Ellen McCooe, along with junior Kristen Curtze, combined to rewrite the RIT record books.

Senior Nate Bachmann, junior Luke Baum and sophomore Mike McNally competed in the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships.

The senior duo of Simon Lambert and Matt Smith helped lead the men's hockey team to the Blue Cross Arena for the Atlantic Hockey Championships. Smith scored two hat-tricks in the Tigers first two Division I post-season contests. Lambert and sophomore defenseman Dan Ringwald earned All-League first team honors.

In other men's hockey news,

Lambert, an RIT senior and forward, was selected as a finalist for the 2008 Hobey Baker Award, college hockey's most prestigious honor. Lambert is the first RIT men's



Simon Lambert

hockey player to become an award finalist. He is RIT's all-time leading Division I scorer with 55 goals and 77 assists in the last three seasons.

Lambert completed his bachelor's degree in civil engineering a quarter early, with a 3.48 cumulative grade-point average. Lambert also volunteers for several community-service organizations in the area. The award winner will be announced April 11.

The women's hockey team enjoyed a successful season, moving to the ECAC West conference. Four Tigers earned All-Conference honors, while senior Isabelle Richard concluded her career as the third-highest scorer in the program's history.

Several school records were broken on both the men's and women's track and field teams. Senior LaKeisha Perez and the men's distance relay team of Mike Hardbarger, Ryan Warner, Andrew Varble and Marc O'Donnell were selected to compete in the NCAA Championships.

The men's basketball team finished with at least a .500 record for the 17th straight season.

Freshman Brianna O'Dell broke the RIT scoring record for first-year players, as the women's basketball team competed in the postseason for the second straight year. O'Dell and senior Joanna Dobeck earned All-Empire 8 second team honors. Dobeck finished her RIT career in the top-10 in several categories.

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Construction from page 1

■ **Electrical infrastructure.** A \$7 million project will enhance RIT's outdated electrical infrastructure in order to reassure uninterrupted service to the campus. University officials are also moving forward with a \$38 million program to replace heating and cooling plants at the university over the next 18 months.

According to Watters, the project's goal is to become more efficient and environmentally friendly while finding centralized solutions to RIT's heating and cooling needs.

■ **Student Alumni Union pool area.** This \$10 million project will create a new student-service center for Student Affairs including a consolidation of programs and Student Government and student-activity space. RIT trustee John "Dutch" Summers has donated \$2 million to this project along with design services. Renderings for the space are in their final phase and the project is expected to be complete in 12 to 14 months.

■ **Kiln facility.** On the west side of the Booth Building, RIT will be building a facility to replace the existing kilns. The first phase of this project will relocate the School for American Crafts. The newly created Vignelli Design Center will feature first-floor gallery space with a separate space housing permanent artistic collections.

■ **Student/Administrative Services Center and Innovation Center.** This \$15.6 million project will feature a 10,000-square-foot ground-level facility to complement President Destler's vision for innovation at RIT. Windows will provide passersby with the opportunity to see first-hand

the projects that RIT faculty and students are working on.

"This facility will be high-tech, functional and flexible," adds Watters. The building will also be home to the new centralized administrative and student-service building.

"We are bringing everything together in one place and revolutionizing our service delivery model for students," says Watters.

■ **Global Village.** As of May, 20 percent of Riverknoll apartments will be torn down and Global Village will be built in its place. The project is modeled after Santana Row in San Jose, Calif., and will feature lively spaces, an Entrepreneur House, wellness center, a bank and a late-night venue. It will ultimately house 1,200 to 1,400 students. The first phase of this project will cost approximately \$42 million and will feature a leading-edge global-village concept. Housing will reflect the motif of countries where RIT students go for study abroad and international co-ops.

"Part of this Global Village concept deals with our international aspirations. It's part of our strategic plan going forward that 10 percent of our students will enroll in co-ops overseas," says Watters.

Watters adds: "Within the first eight months of his tenure, President Destler has so demonstrated his competency in running this university that the trustees believe in him, understand his vision and are fully supportive of moving forward with these major capital programs. This is just a tremendous vote of confidence."

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Corporate R&D from page 1

and data management technologies," says Jack Baron, president of PAETEC's Advanced Solutions Group. "More than 100 RIT graduates are currently members of the PAETEC family, and many are responsible for developing the solutions we offer for enterprise telephony that no other provider can emulate. The pipeline to local talent has always been strong. We see this as an opportunity to strengthen these ties while benefiting our business in the near-term."

RIT's Corporate R&D program seeks to develop targeted, applied research projects between RIT faculty and graduate students with companies in a wide variety of fields. For research projects that fit this model, the company will retain intellectual property developed during the project in exchange for a fee, which is part of the fixed-pricing structure for these projects. Under this agreement, RIT will retain the right to publish and

conduct further research that builds off of the work. The program seeks to streamline negotiations that often slow collaboration between universities and industry and provide added value to all partners.

"Our institutions of higher education in the U.S. are still without question the finest in the world, and they possess a reservoir of intellectual talent and creativity unmatched anywhere else," Destler adds.

"But in order to properly utilize these resources, a new relationship is needed between business and academia in which hundreds of companies discover that they can once again afford to do new-product research and development, while identifying future employees at the same time. We see the Corporate R&D program as the first step in this transformation."

For more information, visit www.rit.edu/research/corporate.

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RITz wares go green



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT Food Service began offering bioplastic cups and other compostable plates and food containers in the Ritz Sport Zone on March 10. This is a pilot program in the Ritz only.



The concept of RIT's Global Village community is based on Santana Row in San Jose, Calif., pictured above.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to a production error, the photo of CAST student Becca Nelson in the March 13 issue appeared skewed. Visit www.rit.edu/~930www/NewsEvents/2008/Mar01/t4.html to see how the photo should have appeared.