Special Commencement Edition

R·I·T news&events

Rochester Institute of Technology

May 22, 2008

RIT celebrates Class of 2008

A celebration of RIT's newest graduates coincides with a tribute to a pair of legendary educators as the university prepares its observance of the 123rd annual commencement. Graduating students, their family and friends, and the entire campus community converge for a weekend of pomp and circumstance May 23-24.

"This promises to be an exciting time as we celebrate the accomplishments of the graduates from our eight colleges," says Bill Destler, who will preside over his first commencement as RIT president. "By recognizing the excellence of our faculty and students, we spotlight RIT tradition, university pride and community spirit."

Activities kick off with Academic Convocation, 10 a.m. Friday, May 23, in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center, where President Destler will confer degrees on more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students.

Stanley McKenzie

In recognition to 41 years of dedicated service to RIT, Provost Stanley McKenzie has been named the 2008 commencement speaker for the convocation ceremony. McKenzie, who is stepping down after 14 years as provost, has played a major role in past commencements, often behind the scenes. Delivering this address is an opportunity to highlight his dedicated service. In July, he'll resume his other passion as a faculty member in RIT's College of Liberal Arts.

"I love classroom teaching, particularly teaching literature to tech students," reflects McKenzie. "To turn them on to Shakespeare—there's really nothing better than that."

Another faculty member receiving special acknowledgment is Professor Emeritus Eugene Fram from the E. Philip Saunders College of Business. Fram is retiring after 51 years on the RIT faculty, and he will be presented with the Presidential Medallion (see related story).

Class of 2008, page 12

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT will confer degrees on more than 3,500 undergraduate and graduate students during this year's commencement activities.

Graduation schedule

Friday, May 23

Academic Convocation, 10 a.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

College of Science, 1:30 p.m., Ritter Arena

E. Philip Saunders College of Business, 2 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

College of Liberal Arts, 4:30 p.m., Ritter Arena

College of Applied Science and Technology, 5:30 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

National Technical Institute for the Deaf, 7:30 p.m., Ritter Arena

Saturday, May 24

Kate Gleason College of Engineering, 8:30 a.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, 12:30 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, 4 p.m., Gordon Field House and Activities Center

See page 2 for parking and shuttle details. Additional information is available at www.rit.edu/commencement.

RIT names new college dean

H. Fred Walker, a veteran teacher, scholar and administrator from the University of Southern Maine, has been appointed dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology at RIT.

RIT President Bill Destler formally announced the selection May 13. Walker was chosen from a field of five finalists and officially begins his new role Aug. 1.

"I am absolutely excited about this opportunity," Walker states. "There is so much potential in the College of Applied Science and Technology. It's very clear that its faculty, staff and students are of a world-class caliber. I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

Walker has served as chair of the technology department at the University of Southern Maine since 2002. He has published nine feature-length books and has secured contracts to write five additional books. Additionally, he has authored

New dean, page 12

Innovation and creativity comes alive at Imagine RIT

Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival, featuring more than 400 exhibits, was held throughout campus May 3. Between 17,000 and 20,000 visitors experienced the inaugural event. Turn to page 10 for more photos from the festival. For additional photos, visit www.rit.edu/imagine.

Ken Huth | photographer

Eugene Fram's legacy: 'You have to be responsive'

Business professor to receive Presidential Medallion at commencement

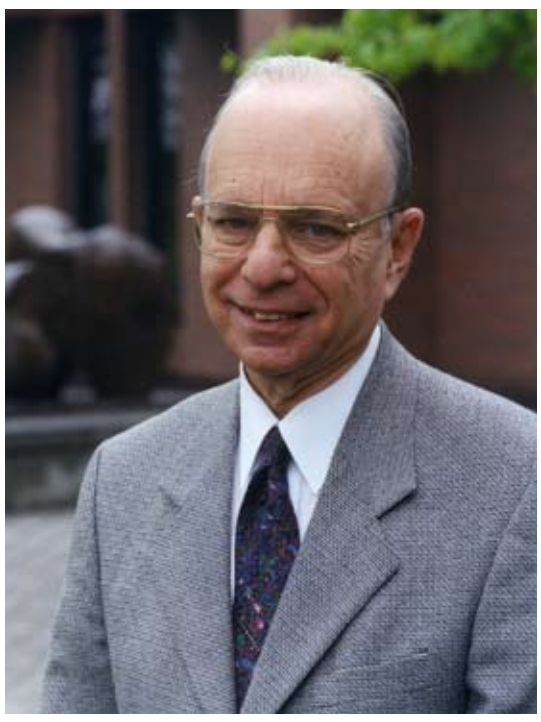
Winston Churchill's famous words—the price of greatness is responsibility—ring true for marketing professor and retail expert Eugene Fram, who retired from RIT after 51 years of teaching in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business.

This message came home when Saunders College Dean Ashok Rao first arrived on campus two years ago and met with several faculty members, hoping to learn more about the history of the college. He was told Fram was the best source.

"Talk about commitment," says Rao. "I called Gene and though he had not been feeling well, he drove in and took me to a Chinese restaurant, and over fried rice and General Gau's chicken—which he barely touched—he gave me a concise and cogent history of the college.

"I asked Gene what he did to be so successful getting his name in print and quoted across the country. He was very generous in sharing his secret: 'You have to be responsive,' he said. And Gene was responsive. If I sent him an e-mail or asked him for material, Gene responded within a day."

For his significant contributions, the J. Warren McClure Research Professor of Marketing will be awarded the Presidential Medallion during RIT's 2008 commencement ceremonies. According to Lois McClure, she and her late husband were very impressed with Fram's reign as research professor since 1989. "He has truly been the finest person to fill a chair at any university or college in my experience. He always kept us up on what was going on at the college, and his frequent contact by mail, telephone and e-mail kept us 'in the know' about all things RIT and marketing."



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Professor Emeritus Eugene Fram will receive the prestigious Presidential Medallion during an official ceremony May 23.

Responsibility for Fram also meant working closely with RIT's University News Services. Although Fram labels it as shameless self-promotion, in 2005 he beat a record for RIT with 107 media news placements during the year.

"He's always seeking the limelight," says Paul Stella '03, director of RIT University News Services and former MBA student of Fram's, with a laugh. "But Gene's willingness to share his expertise with the media has really done a great deal to heighten RIT's visibility."

A tidal wave of reporters across the U.S.—from *The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times*, Associated Press, *Boston Globe, Washington Post, St Louis Post-Dispatch* and *Sacramento Bee*, to *Money Morning* and CNN.com—have utilized Fram's marketing expertise. He has expounded on everything from mall space, eBay, scrapbooking, Black Friday tips and Christmas shopping frenzy, to corporate governance, Enron, Wal-Mart, Kmart and Rochester Fast Ferry strategies.

On April 8, Fram was awarded RIT's Professor Emeritus distinction during his farewell luncheon. Earlier in the day, the *Democrat and Chronicle* paid tribute, "RIT teaching legend retires," but on the evening newscast of WHAM-TV (Channel 13) Bright Spot, anchor Don Alhart seemed genuinely stumped at the final clip of Fram and asked, "Who are we going

Fram, page 12

2008 College Delegates

College of Applied Science and Technology
Frances Cabrera, from Virginia Beach, Va., is graduating with a B.S. in environmental management and technology and an M.S. in environmental health and safety management. Her scholarships include the Ibero/Pryd, Presidential, Bates, Nathaniel Rochester Society, Gates Foundation and Norfolk Foundation. She is a member of the Honors Program and was an RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar. She completed co-ops with Johnson & Johnson's Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Environmental Management System Assistance Program and the Rochester School District. She plans to attend Berkeley Law School after working for a few years in industry or consulting.

E. Philip Saunders College of Business
Anna Kolnik, the undergraduate delegate, is from Sharon, Wis., and is graduating with a B.S. in marketing with minors in communication and accounting. She is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, recipient of the McGowan Scholarship and A. Stephen Walls Memorial Scholarship Award, a Nathaniel Rochester Society Scholar and an RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar. She has been involved in athletics as captain of the women's varsity soccer team and co-founder and president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. She plans to pursue a career in sports marketing and continue her education at the graduate level.

E. Philip Saunders College of Business
Roxanne McElroy, from Fairport, the graduate delegate, is graduating with an MBA with a concentration in finance. She earned her B.A. in psychology from the University at Buffalo. While an undergraduate student, she was a Division I athlete and captain of the varsity swim team. She works full-time for Morgan Stanley as a senior client service associate. She enjoys marathons and half marathon road races, triathlons and travel. McElroy plans to continue her career at Morgan Stanley.

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
Robert Songer, from Pinckney, Mich., is graduating with a B.S. in software engineering and a minor in Japanese language and culture. He participated in the RIT/Kanazawa Institute of Technology Summer Exchange Program in 2006. He has completed co-ops at Microsoft Games XNA and Language Intelligence Ltd., where he will be working after graduation. Songer was an English Conversation Partner with students from Japan, China and UAE, lead organizer of Japanese Conversation Table; and a member of the Society of Software Engineers. Songer hopes to take his engineering skills into the world market and develop software for international collaboration. He plans to pursue an international MBA.

Kate Gleason College of Engineering
Susan Bieck, a native of Rochester, is graduating with a B.S. in mechanical engineering with an aerospace option. Bieck is a student member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a recipient of several scholarships and awards, including RIT Presidential and Merit scholarships and the Thermal Systems Prize. She completed co-ops with Nationwide Precision Products and Northrup Grumman: Aerospace Model Design. She also enjoys motorcycles and astronomy. Bieck has accepted a position with Northrup Grumman in El Segundo, Calif., as an aerospace model design engineer.

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences
Maria de la O Costa Navajas is from La Paz, Bolivia, and is graduating with an A.A.S. in graphic design and a B.F.A. in industrial design with a concentration in art history. She participated in an exchange program in integrated design at HS Anhalt FB Design in Dessau, Germany, and completed a design internship with Wolverine World Wide Inc.—Patagonia Outdoor Program. A member of the IDSA Student Chapter, she also worked as a staff designer for *Reporter* magazine. She is a recipient of the Sil Hall Design Merit Scholarship and earned an honorable mention at the Industrial Design Competition hosted by Gerdau Aza Steel Company in Santiago, Chile. She plans to return to Bolivia, travel and eventually work in the United States.

College of Liberal Arts
Adam Botzenhart, from Owego, is graduating with a B.S. in public policy. An RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar, Botzenhart is also a recipient of Nathaniel Rochester Society, Sigma Alpha Epsilon True Gentleman and College of Liberal Arts Alumni and Friends scholarships. He is also a member of the Honors Program. His many activities include serving as managing editor of *Reporter* magazine, a student justice, a resident adviser, a webmaster for Students for Liberty, and a research and teaching assistant. Also, he was chosen as a Charles G. Koch Fellow at the Washington (D.C.) Legal Foundation. He plans to attend law school.

College of Science
Heather Moe, from Mount Vernon, Ind., is graduating with a B.S. in biology and a minor in psychology. She is an RIT Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar and a member of the Honors Program, Golden Key International Honor Society and the women's varsity soccer team. Moe has performed field research in Australia with the School of Field Studies which led to her participation in the University of Rhode Island Research Experience last summer. She spent spring quarter doing marine research and sailing a tall ship through the Sea Education Association Semester Program. Moe plans to pursue oceanographic research and hopes to become a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps Officer.

National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Kyle Edenzon is from Northridge, Calif., and is graduating with an A.A.S. in laboratory science technology. He is a recipient of NTID Vice President and Dean's, Max Factor Family Foundation, Milton H. and Ray B. Ohringer scholarships, the American Chemical Society's Chemical Technician Recognition Award and the RIT Undergraduate Research Symposium's Best Research Presentation Award. He is a student researcher on a project involving energy transfer between molecules and he completed a co-op with the U.S. Navy. Edenzon plans to complete his degree requirements for a B.S. next May and then pursue graduate studies after gaining corporate experience.

American College of Management and Technology
Katarina Rak is the delegate from RIT's American College of Management and Technology in Dubrovnik, Croatia. She earned an A.A.S. in hotel and resort management and will graduate with a B.S. in hospitality and service management. She is a recipient of the ACMT and Nathaniel Rochester Society scholarships. Her volunteer work includes organizing events for Our Children, Children Winter Festival and Charitable Theater Play. After graduation, she would like to gain international experience in sustainable tourism, further her education about nature conservation and tourism, and organize events that encourage young people to volunteer in their community.

American University in Kosovo
Erëblina Elezaj earned an A.A.S. with highest honors in business management at American University in Kosovo and is pursuing a B.S. in business management. She was a 2005-2006 AUK Scholar and has been on the dean's list every quarter since 2004. Elezaj organized and participated in Youth Week of the Youth Center-Prishtina; Seeds of Peace International Camp, Maine; Our Future—EU Integration project; and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Adolescent Rights workshops. She is currently working as an account manager at Insoft, a recruiting agency in London. After graduation, Elezaj plans to pursue a master's degree in human resources and organizational behavior in Europe.

Student delegates are selected for personal achievements that demonstrate the ideals of RIT including, but not limited to, academic excellence. They will speak at their respective college commencement ceremonies.

Shuttle service and parking information

Shuttle Bus Service
To enter campus, use the entrances on Jefferson Road. RIT Public Safety personnel will direct you to parking areas. Shuttle service will be available Friday and Saturday to reach the Academic Convocation and the Commencement ceremony locations. On Friday, shuttle service will be available 8 a.m.-9:30 p.m. On Saturday, shuttle service will be available beginning at 7 a.m. On both days, shuttles will make continuous loops throughout all the major parking lots (D, E, F, G, H, J, S, T and U) and will return guests to the parking lots after the ceremonies.

"People Movers"
Senior citizens and individuals with special mobility needs are invited to use special carts operated by RIT staff. Carts are available at one of the many people-mover stations across campus.

Seating/Special Needs
Both the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and the Ritter Arena have bleacher seating, which have steps. If you or any member of your family uses a wheelchair, contact Parking and Transportation Services for accessibility arrangements at http://finweb.rit.edu/rmss/pats, click on "Forms." Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Accessible Parking and Seating Requests," or call 475-2074. Both ceremony locations will have staff on hand to assist you with special needs; however, prior arrangements must be made. Please note that seating is not guaranteed.

RIT does not have wheelchairs available on campus. If you would like to rent a wheelchair, you may contact Monroe Wheelchair at 546-8595 or www.monroewheelchair.com or Fonte Surgical Supply at 338-1000 or (800) 836-2130.

Special Parking/Transportation Needs
If you need special parking or mobility van transportation, contact Parking and Transportation Services at http://finweb.rit.edu/rmss/pats, click on "Forms." Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Accessible Parking and Seating Requests," or call 475-2074, even if your vehicle already has a disabled parking permit.

Viewpoints

Reflections on student leadership

by Jason Preisner

At the beginning of my junior year at RIT, I was elected president of RIT's American Society of Civil Engineers chapter. As a four-year member of ASCE, I had a good idea of the responsibilities I would have but little experience in acutely accomplishing these tasks.

Needless to say, it was a learning experience in regards to leadership. At a speech recently given by RIT President Bill Destler at a leadership dinner on campus, he listed a few of his lifelong observations about what it means to be a leader.

A point that stuck with me was, "The higher you go in your career, the more people you work for." This, to me, is the epitome of what it means to be a student leader.

The reason I accepted the nomination as president of ASCE for my senior year was I wanted to ensure the club continued to operate with the same purpose it had in previous years, providing opportunities for students to learn technical and interpersonal skills outside the classroom.

It was a great experience being a chapter officer. No longer was I someone on the outside looking in. I was now looking out at the big picture and responsible for the chapter members.

Being chapter president was a lot of work and sometimes stressful, but it was well worth it. In the eyes of my chapter's faculty advisor, Dr. Harry Cooke, the work I did warranted my nomination for the 2008 ASCE Outstanding Student Leadership award.

I consider it a great honor to be nominated by Dr. Cooke and the faculty in the civil engineering technology department, as their students regard them as some of the best educators and hardest working professors on campus.

Winning the leadership award for ASCE-Region 1, which includes New England, New York and New Jersey, was the cherry on top of four years of fun, friendship and hard work as an ASCE member and RIT student.

The lesson I took from my experiences at RIT was that being a leader often has little to do with one's personal agenda, and a lot to do with your responsibility to others.

Jason Preisner is a civil engineering technology major in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

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 archeologist uses satellites to uncover ancient history

Satellite imagery obtained from NASA will help RIT archeologist Bill Middleton peer into the ancient Mexican past. In a novel archeological application, multi- and hyperspectral data will help build the most accurate and most detailed landscape map that exists of the southern state of Oaxaca, where the Zapotec people formed the first state-level and urban society in Mexico.

"If you ask someone off the street about Mexican archeology, they'll say Aztec, Maya. Sometimes they'll also say Inca, which is the wrong continent, but you'll almost never hear anyone talk about the Zapotecs," says Middleton, acting chair of the Department of Material Culture Sciences and professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. "They had the first writing system, the first state society, the first cities. And they controlled a fairly large territory at their Zenith—250 B.C. to 750 A.D."

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Bill Middleton displays replicas of Zapotec funerary urns. His study will explore the Oaxacan economy and environment in Mexico.

Middleton's study will explore how the Oaxacan economy and environment changed as the Zapotec state grew and then collapsed into smaller city-states. Funding from NASA and *National Geographic* will also help Middleton build a picture of how climate and vegetation patterns have changed over time.

Middleton will focus on two sites in the Chichicapam Valley located in between two of the major arms of the central valleys of Zapotec. The *National Geographic*-funded portion of the study began last summer when he documented important archeological sites and selected candidates for excavation.

Imagery from Earth Observing 1 and Landsat satellites obtained over three years will help Middleton identify the natural resources found at archeological sites. He will work with colleagues John Kerekes and David Messinger along with graduate student Justin Kwon in RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science to analyze the large amounts of data taken at different wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum—a new approach to analyzing archeological landscapes. Their research uses similar techniques to analyze urban landscapes and inspired Middleton to apply the technology to archeology.

Satellite imagery covering more than 30,000 square kilometers will help Middleton identify different plant species, environments and ecosystems, and acres of arable land or mineral resources surrounding particular sites.

The new landscape map will also show how development has changed the region since the last survey conducted 30 years ago.

Another aspect of the NASA-funded project will focus on environmental change. This part of the study, done in conjunction with colleagues at the University of Colorado at Boulder will analyze plant microfossils in sediment samples collected from a variety of locations, including areas where streams expose sediment layers 10,000 years old. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Technology pilot program to graduate first participants

While many freshmen know little more about college than what they see on television or a movie screen, seniors and soon-to-be graduates Priscila Ilarraza and Philip Zenkel knew exactly what they were getting into when they chose to come to RIT four years ago.

As juniors at Wilson Magnet High School, Ilarraza and Zenkel were chosen to be part of a pilot project with the Rochester Business Education Alliance, RIT's Office of the President and RIT's Information Technology Services. They spent 1,200 hours learning a variety of customer service and technical skills related to RIT's computing needs.

"Spending two years working at ITS before entering RIT made it very easy to adjust to college," says Ilarraza, a biomedical science major and president of the Latin American Student Association. "My experiences also encouraged me to get involved and be more vocal."

The Youth Apprenticeship program at the Rochester Business Alliance continues to place hundreds of local Rochester high school students with area employers, providing training in skilled professional careers.

"The opportunity to work at ITS provided us with knowledge we wouldn't have gotten elsewhere," says Zenkel, who's majoring in information technology with a focus on criminal justice. "It was a great opportunity to find out what college is about and gain exposure to a professional setting." ■

Brandon Borgna | bmb9935@rit.edu

Toasting a new partnership

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Andreas Kaufmann, left, CEO of Leica Camera, and Bill DuBois, administrative chair of photographic arts in RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences, celebrated at RIT on May 6 as part of the Leica Day events. Kaufmann donated 20 Leica M4 cameras and 20 Leica Summarit-M lenses to the photo school. The cameras were completely refurbished and restored to their original aptitudes at the Leica Factory in Germany.

On the Web

with ***Mike Saffran***
mjsuns@rit.edu

Whether or not you were one of the thousands on campus May 3 for the first-ever Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival, you can now experience the excitement in sound and photographs (if you *were* there, you might even hear yourself on a podcast or see yourself in pictures).

A special two-part "Studio 86 'On the Road': Imagine RIT" podcast features fun "roving reporter" coverage with **Vienna Carvalho** and me as we roamed the campus from east to west and back again. Highlights include:

- Interviews with RIT Formula and Baja team members
- Festival visitors' opinions about the Mobilized Robotic Hotdog Assembler
- A performance by the band Em Dash, with RIT's **Babak Elahi**
- Lessons about Second Life from RIT communication professor **Susan Barnes** and saving trees from RIT University Publications

Plus, you'll hear a poetry reading, interviews with festival-goers, and on-the-spot reaction from President **Bill Destler**, festival chairman **Barry Culhane** and others.

The special two-part "Studio 86" and all RIT University News-produced podcasts are free and available on the University News Web site (see "Latest Podcasts" at www.rit.edu/news), via RSS feed (www.thetigerbeat.com/rss/podcast.rss), and through Apple iTunes, Facebook (at the Dateline: RIT Group) and The Tiger Beat Blog (www.thetigerbeat.com/blog).

Check out sights from the festival at www.rit.edu/news, www.rit.edu/imagine and www.huthphoto.com/ImagineRIT2008.

New 'Dateline: RIT' Web site

Here's a convenient way for new RIT graduates and anyone interested in RIT news to stay informed: Bookmark the new Dateline: RIT Web site at www.rit.edu/news/dateline.

The site serves as "RIT news central," offering on-demand access to RIT news and "one-stop shopping" for:

- News and sports "tickers" featuring the latest RIT news headlines from outside news media (plus links to full stories and "RIT In the News" and RSS feed for additional news)
- Links to and summaries about the most recent "Dateline: RIT – The Podcast" and "Studio 86" podcasts
- Links to the *Dateline: RIT* e-newsletter and archive (Subscribe to the twice-monthly e-mailed newsletter for regular *News & Events*, podcast and "RIT In the News" updates.)
- Links to the Dateline: RIT Facebook Group, *News & Events*, *RIT: The University Magazine*, NTID news, The Tiger Beat Blog, RSS feeds and more

Congratulations and warm wishes, graduates!

Ken Huth | photographer

Mike and Vienna speak with Imagine RIT festival-goers May 3 in Gordon Field House and Activities Center for a "Studio 86" podcast.

Eisenhart Award for Outstanding Teaching honorees

Tim Engström, College of Liberal Arts

Professor Timothy Engström sometimes drives his vintage 1939 Indian motorcycle (a precursor to Harley-Davidson) to work at RIT because he likes to give it some "exercise."

It's sort of the same attitude Engström has about teaching core Philosophy 210 or a graduate course in Philosophy of Art/Aesthetics in the College of Liberal Arts: to exercise and open students' minds in ways they never thought possible.

Although Engström won RIT's Eisenhart Award for teaching excellence in 1994, the honor of receiving it in 2008 is even more meaningful. "It was a way to see for myself—am I still any good at it?"

Prior to RIT, Engström studied abroad at universities in Scotland, Britain, Germany and Sweden—then took a teaching post at the University of Hawaii. A native of small town U.S.A.—Barneveld, N.Y., population 400— Engström returned to his upstate Adirondack roots to be closer to family.

RIT was the perfect fit, and after teaching for nearly two decades in the Department of Philosophy, Engström remains motivated to "turn these students on."

"In bringing students into the realm of philosophy, we give them tools for thinking about themselves and their academic pursuits in new ways. Teaching isn't about teaching. Teaching is really about engagement, and some of the students at RIT have stopped us in our tracks with their insights—with their ability to connect philosophy to their other academic pursuits."

Engström speaks other languages besides "philosophy"—Swedish, French, German, and a smattering of Greek/Hebrew—all of which are a boon to his travels abroad. He enjoys everything from reading and movies to skiing, mountain climbing and tinkering with his vintage vehicles (a '57 Triumph and '60 four-cylinder diesel Mercedes-Benz).

In 2006, he co-authored a book

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Engström: Giving students the tools to think about themselves in new ways

on health-care reform with Wade Robison, and in the works is *Rethinking Theories and Practice of Imaging*, co-authored with Evan Selinger.

"It's about the philosophy of vision," Engström explains, "about how technologies of sight can transform and reshape how we see the world."

Engström believes one of the biggest challenges in teaching today is a direct result of living in a networked-driven society.

"If a good computer scientist, artist, engineer or environmental science student is in class, they should and do see things differently. But sustaining their focus can be difficult because their cognitive habits are increasingly distributed; electronic networks are provoking different styles of thought—more associative and less systematic."

"My job is to reach out to these students from across the silos and fiefdoms of programs at RIT and help them explore and articulate the relationship between their aptitudes in these disciplines and philosophy, so we become a real working intellectual community." ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Jeff Kozak, Kate Gleason College of Engineering

Jeff Kozak first fell in love with engineering as a preschooler.

"My father was in the Air Force, and I used to stand in our backyard on base and watch the F-16's take off," says Kozak, assistant professor of mechanical engineering. "I must have been all of 5, but I remember thinking, 'I want to know how that works.'"

His fascination with the inner workings of airplanes would lead Kozak to aerospace engineering in college, where he found a second passion—teaching.

"I worked as a laboratory manager and really came to enjoy helping my fellow students with their projects and seeing how my ability to assist others could make a real difference," he adds.

When looking for a university to begin his teaching career, following completion of his doctorate at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Kozak wanted to find an institution that would allow him to practice his twin passions of engineering and teaching. Luckily, he had to look no farther for ideas than his own family.

"My sister was attending the biological sciences program at RIT and mentioned the university's emphasis on teaching and its strong engineering programs," Kozak reflects. "After doing some research, I found that the school fit perfectly with my professional goals, and I was very pleased when I had the opportunity to begin my professional career here."

Kozak teaches a number of courses in the Department of Mechanical Engineering's aerospace option, including introduction to aerospace engineering and aerodynamics, and he is also a faculty advisor to the METEOR project, a student-led team that is attempting to build and launch a space satellite.

"RIT's combination of experiential learning, undergraduate research and focus on teaching provides our engineering students with the skills and abilities they will need to succeed in their professional careers after college," says Kozak.

Through all of his endeavors, Kozak tries to remember how hard his family worked to put him and his siblings through college and works to provide his students with a first-class education.

"My parents put great value in a college education and I attempt to honor their efforts on my behalf by providing the best education I can to my students," Kozak notes. "Given this, I am incredibly honored to be selected for the Eisenhart Award because it is given by students and shows I am making an impact." ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Kozak: A thirst for knowledge began at home

Scott Williams, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

Scott Williams is a professor, a chemist, an inventor and a philosopher. At the heart of it all for this pedagogue is the premise that critical thinking and communication are not best shared via e-mail or PowerPoint. Relics of the past—a chalkboard and books—are still the most effective tools to connect with students.

Williams, professor in RIT's School of Print Media, won the Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1996. He says his teaching style has come full circle with Eisenhart Award honors more than a decade later.

"When I won the Provost's Award, I was using chalkboard and chalk," says Williams. "There were no electronics. In 2003, I got caught up in the electronic modalities of teaching. I had the computer, the video clips, the PowerPoint slides and was getting nowhere with it. I decided last year to do a set of experiments to find out what was the most effective way to present the course content."

Williams' 'Aha!' moment came after he gave an examination, and one of his students inquired as to why he took off points for her answer.

"She said to me, 'I put on the exam exactly what you had on your Powerpoint slide.' And sure enough she had. I realized at that point I was training parrots. That incident combined with the number of students who were constantly multitasking on their laptops during class, doing e-mail, checking their Facebook pages, led me to scrap the entire electronic method. I went back to writing on the board. I completely banned anything that had a battery in it in my classroom."

Williams says his changes have resulted in near perfect classroom attendance and lively classroom discussions.

"My students are engaged. Now we are having a conversation."

Andrew Henry, a first-year new media publishing student in Williams' materials science course, Materials and Processes II, appreciates the way Williams structures his course.

"I like how Professor Williams conducts his class, the way it's laid out with its quizzes, tests and labs," says Henry. "They all flow and build off each other. He uses interesting correlations—for example, food, to describe some topics that we may not understand. He encourages us to ask questions that help us engage and better understand a topic. His way of lecturing makes the material he teaches easy and interesting to learn."

In addition to teaching material science and chemistry courses, Williams' background in patents (he holds 30 patents) led to an opportunity to teach a media law course.

"One of the areas I love to study on my own is critical philosophy. John Locke is my favorite philosopher, hands down. This media law course allows me to be a philosopher for a while. I try to impart to the students that they have a very special and responsible position in this country in that they are the sovereign power, not the government."

Williams says a political philosophy professor at Purdue University was one of his most influential.

"You've heard the saying, 'You stand on the shoulders of giants.' A lot of what I've learned over the years, I learned from modeling professors I've had in the past." ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Williams: Believes he reaches students best with 'old school' methods

Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Tony Harkin, College of Science

Mathematics runs in the extended family for Professor Anthony "Tony" Harkin, whose father, father-in-law and brother-in-law are all mathematicians.

Harkin absorbed his father's enthusiasm for mathematics as a young boy. He saw how his father, then a professor at State University of New York at Brockport, enjoyed teaching and doing math.

"Mathematicians really love what they do, and I saw it in my father," Harkin says.

The winner of this year's Richard and Virginia Eisenhart Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Harkin conveys some of that same enthusiasm and sense of curiosity to his own students.

"What I like about RIT students is that they have the same attitude as I do," says Harkin, an assistant professor in the School for Mathematical Sciences in the College of Science. "They just enjoy being immersed in science and technology, and when they take classes they know that mathematics is important."

Harkin joined RIT three years ago after completing a post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard University. He earned his doctorate in mathematics at Boston University, a master's in scientific computing at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and bachelor's in mathematics and physics at SUNY Brockport.

"What's unique about RIT is that it's an institute of technology, and everyday we get to work on the sorts of things that we saw at the Imagine RIT Festival," Harkin says. "I try to convey to students the fun of exploring the frontiers of math and science and being able to work on the kinds of projects they're surrounded by at a place like this."

Harkin has many research interests, including applied mathematics, and directs the Center for Applied and Computational Mathematics. This branch of math tries to solve real-world problems using mathematical modeling, numerical analysis and other mathematical tools for analyzing equations and assumptions. Applied mathematics is often a collaborative effort, tapping multiple disciplines to model, for instance, meteorological phenomena, such as cyclones and tsunamis (using partial differential equations) or to solve problems in analyzing networks like electrical grids or scheduling problems of an airline (using tools of optimization theory).

The Consortium for Mathematical Methods in Counterterrorism is also one of Harkin's interests. He and colleague Bernard Brooks co-organize an annual conference with Harkin's longtime friend, Jonathan Farley, a mathematician at Caltech. Harkin created a Web site clearinghouse on mathematics and counterterrorism (www.cmmc.rit.edu). Harkin and Brooks' long-term goal is to secure funding for the consortium to bring speakers to RIT and to support student research.

"I enjoy the balance at RIT of doing high-quality teaching and high-quality research and, for me, you can't separate them. As professors we want to show by example that we're using mathematics. We're showing students that by following our curiosity they can do the same."

Harkin adds: "And there's a sense of obligation to the next generation. My professors passed along their knowledge to me, and I feel a duty to the next generation to help them reach their potential." ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Harkin: Inspires students by bringing enthusiasm and curiousity to the classroom

Ingalls wins prestigious community-service grant

Allison Ingalls

Allison Ingalls, a fourth-year honors international business student in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business received a CASE—The Carter Academic Service Entrepreneur—grant. Each year the Jimmy and Roselyn Carter Foundation awards CASE grants to students who propose innovative and promising ways to serve the community while applying what they've learned in the classroom to these projects.

The $1,000 grant will go directly to materials associated with the technical assistance Ingalls provides the Greater Rochester Urban Bounty, a non-profit organization that works with residents of Sector 10, the poorest neighborhood in the city of Rochester.

Since 2005, Ingalls has been a student researcher, volunteering for the organization to assist in furthering their efforts to provide Sector 10 residents with access to affordable, pesticide-free fresh fruits and vegetables from a 2.7-acre urban farm known as The Vineyard. Based on her experiences, Ingalls focused her honors thesis on demonstrating the impact of social entrepreneurship and community-based participatory research on building a profitable and successful organization.

Ingalls also was a member of the RIT varsity for four seasons, playing in 131 games, starting 129 at second base. In 2007, she was awarded the RIT Athletics Ellingson Award for Academic Excellence. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Faculty earn distinguished provost's grants and trustees scholarships

This year's recipients of the Trustees Scholarship Awards have clearly demonstrated records of excellent scholarship at RIT over at least a three-year period.

David Axon

David Axon, professor and chairperson of the physics department, College of Science. Axon joined RIT in 2002, and his research interests include the physics of active galactic nuclei, black holes and the structure of galaxies. He is a member of the issues and program committee for the University Space Research Association and was the first chairperson from the United Kingdom on the Gemini Time Assignment Panel.

Rick Hirsch

Rick Hirsch, professor, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. Hirsch has received a National Endowment for the Arts grant and New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship. His work is displayed prominently across the United States and Asia in many collections including the George R. Gardner Museum of Ceramic Art in Toronto and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Santosh Kurinec

Santosh Kurinec, professor and department head of microelectronic engineering, Kate Gleason College of Engineering. Kurinec began her career at RIT in 1988 with expertise in electronic materials. Her experience on polysilicon solar cells was helpful in developing a thin film polysilicon transistor process that employed grain-size enhancement using seed selection by ion channeling.

She instituted a new combined B.S./ M.S. (microelectronic engineering)/(materials science and engineering) degree program.

She is a member of the core faculty of RIT's doctorate program in microsystems engineering. Currently she is working on building nanotechnology educational initiatives. She is the recipient of the Texas Instruments Douglas Harvey Award twice. She has authored or co-authored over 50 publications and holds a U.S. patent. Kurinec is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a member the Materials Research Society.

The 2008-2009 Provost's Learning and Innovations Grant Program encourages faculty-initiated projects that directly target learning outcomes and student success.

The committee, whose membership includes a representative from each RIT college, finalized the award winners.

Award recipients are: **Hiroko Yamashita** and **Yukiko Maru,** foreign languages; **Stephen Aldersley,** NTID/liberal studies; **Bernadette Lanciaux** and **Yolande Tra,** School of Mathematical Sciences; **Irene Evans,** School of Life Sciences/biological sciences; **Zack Butler** and **Minseok Kwon,** computer science; **Joe Geigel,** computer science; **Stephen Jacobs** and **Erik Vick,** information technology; **Keith Whittington,** information technology; **David Neumann,** communication; **Yin Pan, Nirmala Shenoy** and **Sumita Mishra,** networking, security and systems administration. ■

A champion of diversity

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

E. Cassandra Jordan, director of RIT's Student Health Center, congratulates Howard Ward, assistant vice president of housing operations, on winning this year's Isaac L. Jordan Sr. Faculty/Staff Pluralism Award. The award recognizes faculty and staff for their contributions to enhancing diversity at RIT. As RIT's first chair of the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion, Isaac Jordan provided outstanding leadership in advancing pluralism at the university.

RIT honors the latest Vanden Brul honoree

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business honored James Hammer, president and CEO of Hammer Packaging Corp., center, as the 2008 recipient of the Herbert W. Vanden Brul Entrepreneurial Award. Saunders Dean Ashok Rao, right, and RIT President Bill Destler, second from right, offered remarks on Hammer's contributions to the greater Rochester community during a luncheon at Oak Hill Country Club on April 24. Honoring their father's memorial award were siblings Bill and Kristin Vanden Brul, left, Destler and Rao.

News briefs

Corporate run, May 29
Dust off those sneakers and lace up for the 18th annual JPMorgan Chase Corporate Challenge.

Registration is now open for the event, which takes place May 29 at RIT. The 3.5-mile run/walk and post-race party has a 7 p.m. race start. There is also strong competition at the front of the pack and 15 companies will earn an invitation to the JPMorgan Chase Corporate Challenge Championship in New York, to be held Oct. 4. The top five men's, women's and mixed teams will be invited.

Lambert is top local athlete
Simon Lambert, a four-year member of the men's hockey team from 2004 to 2008, will be honored as the 2007 Paychex Male College Athlete of the Year at the Rochester Press Radio Club's 59th Annual Day of Champions on June 4 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. He is the seventh RIT male athlete to receive this honor. Lambert, a 2008 Hobey Baker Award finalist, graduated a quarter early with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering technology. He was named to the Empire 8 President's List in both 2006 and 2007. Lambert has volunteered for several community service projects in the area.

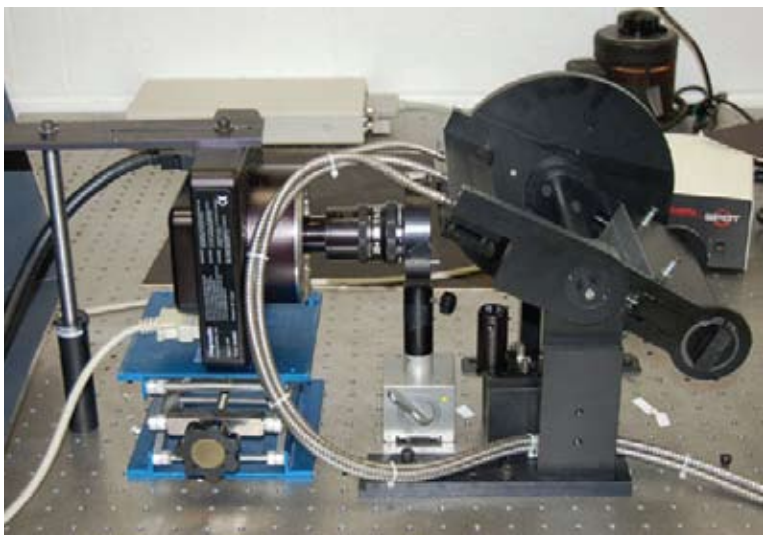
Device measures, enhances image quality

When looking at an image, either digital or printed, most people first decide whether it looks good. However, that decision is obviously arbitrary and based on opinion. So, how do specialists decide what looks good when creating printed documents or digital images? In other words how do you quantify quality?

Researchers in RIT's Print Research and Imaging Systems Modeling Lab are trying to answer these questions through the development of a device that greatly enhances the measurement of image quality. The micro-goniophotometer, designed and built by laboratory staff, measures the optical phenomenon known as gloss, which is used in the print industry to measure material appearance. The device specifically relates instrumental measurements to the characteristics of gloss and gloss variation.

"Since the invention of the printing press, researchers have been trying to combine the 'left-brain' need to measure and analyze performance with the 'right-brain' understanding of what looks good," notes Jon Arney, an associate professor of imaging science and member of the research team. "The characterization of gloss is one technique that has been developed to address this challenge, but traditional gloss meters have provided insufficient information to fully characterize the phenomenon."

According to Arney, the micro-goniophotometer improves upon previous measurement techniques by providing a 180-degree range, which



Submitted photograph

The micro-goniophotometer was developed by RIT researchers to enhance the measurement of the specular effect known as gloss.

is double that of normal gloss meters. The increased trajectory allows for the measurement of specular light over a number of angles and spatial dimensions, greatly improving the accuracy of the results. An analysis of the device's performance is provided in the July/August issue of the *Journal of Imaging Science and Technology* and includes a comparison to traditional measurement techniques.

The research team has also worked with a number of imaging companies, including Hewlett Packard, to implement the device in manufacturing operations and is currently investigating further commercialization opportunities. In addition, the International Standards Organization, a global body that provides industry standards for the printing and imaging sectors, is looking to implement the micro-goniophotometer as one of its chief methods for gloss measurement. The team also hopes to ultimately design a portable version of the device, which will enhance its usability and reduce costs.

"The measurement of gloss is a key component in the development of printed images and it is my hope that the dissemination of the micro-goniophotometer will enhance both research in the field as well as the overall quality of printing," adds Arney. ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

Hurwitz named NTID president

Alan Hurwitz

RIT President Bill Destler and RIT's Board of Trustees have named Alan Hurwitz president of RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf, effective July 1.

It is the first time a president has been named for NTID in its more than 40-year history. Hurwitz, who has headed NTID since 2003 as vice president of RIT for NTID and CEO and dean of NTID, will retain the title of vice president and dean of RIT for NTID. He was appointed dean in 1998.

As president, Hurwitz will continue his comprehensive role with NTID's external relations, such as working with the U.S. Department of Education and members of Congress and their staffs; development and alumni relations; and maintaining an active connection with national and international organizations serving deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

In addition, Hurwitz will continue his internal NTID responsibilities including academic affairs, student affairs, access services, enrollment management, outreach and facilities management.

Hurwitz has been associated with NTID since 1970 in numerous roles including deanship since 1998. ■

Greg Livadas | greg.livadas@rit.edu

Collaboration blends Web design and passion for extreme recreation

While much of the United States shivers at the thought of frigid winter weather, extreme winter sports enthusiasts throughout western New York get excited. This passion for embracing the harsh elements through outdoor activities is the subject of FrostbiteSports.com, an innovative multimedia Web site produced by nine senior photojournalism students in the School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

"Through our Web site, viewers can find out why winter athletes participate in extreme sports," says senior Jeff Conner, managing editor of FrostbiteSports.com. "We hope that Frostbite Sports motivates people in colder climates to explore some of the extreme sports featured on the Web site, many of which they may be exposed to for the first time."

From the polar plunge to ice climbing, the student photojournalists chronicled vastly different sports linked by one common thread—an extreme element. Through a blend of photography, audio and video, FrostbiteSports.com delves into the world of extreme winter sports, looking deep into the motivations and passions that turn an 'average Joe' into an extreme winter athlete.

"There is an increasingly strong need for interaction between visuals and design—it's the visual that draws users to a site and the pleasing, easy navigation keeps them there," says Marianne O'Loughlin, program chair for new media design and imaging. "More and more collaboration will result in developing future projects to showcase the talents of photography and new media design and imaging students."

Throughout the Frostbite Sports project, the seniors worked with Professor Doug Rea, photojournalism chair in RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences. Together, the nine students collaborated in a group setting, simulating a realistic production environment.

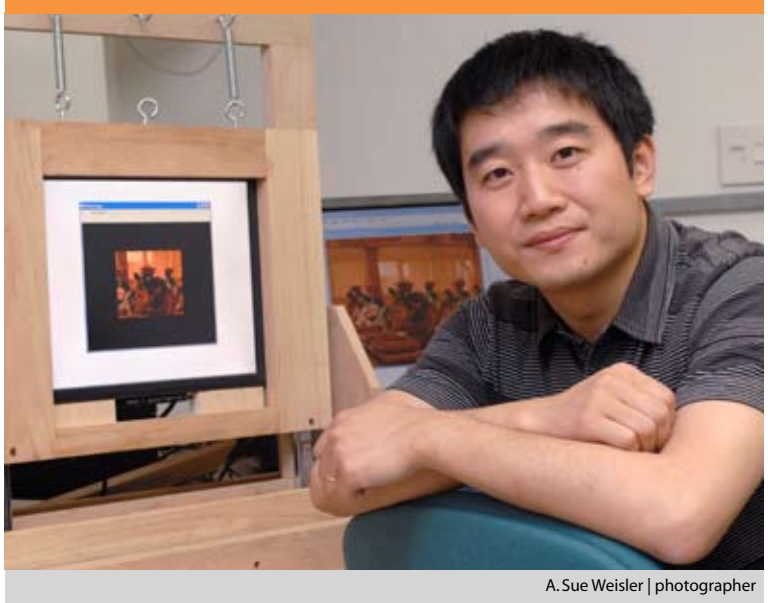
"FrostbiteSports.com is one great example of what teaching college seniors in photojournalism is all about," says Rea. "Teaching, at this level, is like professional coaching. At times it's very challenging, but the learning that takes place makes all the difference." ■

Brandon Borgna | bmb9935@rit.edu

Photo submitted by Dave Londres

Nine photojournalism students share their love of extreme sports at FrostbiteSports.com.

Award-winning writing



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

The Society for Imaging Science and Technology recognized Feng Li, an imaging science doctoral candidate, for his outstanding original student publication in the field of imaging science and engineering this year.

The IS&T named Li as the recipient of the Itek Award for his paper "Deriving LED Driving Signal for Area-Adaptive LED Backlight in High Dynamic Range LCD Displays," which appeared in the SID Symposium Digest of Technical Papers, *Volume 38, issue 1. Li works with Professor Jeff Pelz in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science.*

Scholarships aid doctoral students

RIT has been awarded funding by the U.S. Department of Education to help students from underrepresented populations reach the pinnacle of success in higher education.

The university will receive $220,000 annually over the next four years to support the RIT McNair Scholarships Program. This initiative will provide services to low-income, first-generation college students—specifically African American, Latino and Native American—who are pursuing doctoral studies. Its focus is on the development of personal and educational skills, including effective communication and academic skills necessary for success in doctoral programs.

Providing high-quality research and scholarly activities will be the program's capstone. Under the mentorship and guidance of committed faculty, students will participate in a rigorous experience that will develop their research, presentation and publication skills. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

A tasty event helps the United Way

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

The 16th annual Taste of RIT, sponsored by RIT Food Service, continues to be a blockbuster event—this year raising $18,600 to benefit RIT's 2008 United Way Campaign. Ron Von Perlstein, with samples of Geulah's spreads and chocolate sauce, was one of the participating vendors.

Student managers create legacy through WITR renovation project

When Craig Ceremuga and Jarret Whetstone receive their diplomas, they will know that they have left the RIT campus in better shape than they found it.

Ceremuga and Whetstone are two leaders of WITR-FM (89.7), RIT's student-run radio station. Both have been involved with the station throughout most of their tenure at RIT, logging countless hours in the station's studio on the lower level of the Student Alumni Union.

"I don't know what I'd be doing if I wasn't doing this," says Whetstone, WITR's engineering director and an imaging and photographic technology major. "Working at the station has been great, and I found it very satisfying."

But it was a project that Whetstone and Ceremuga tackled this past year that has left them most satisfied. The two spearheaded an effort to renovate the station, converting all of its technology from analog to digital. It was the first time the station has been renovated since 1993.

"It was a mess," says Ceremuga, WITR's general manager and an information technology major. "We wanted to do something about it so that future students wouldn't have to deal with it."

Ceremuga and Whetstone started thinking about pushing for the transformation to digital last year. They wrote a proposal and began soliciting quotes. The proposal went before a number of people and organizations, including vice president for student affairs Mary-Beth Cooper and senior vice president of finance and administration Jim Watters.

"We didn't run into any opposition from anyone at RIT at all," Ceremuga says. "Once they saw what we were doing, it sailed."

Once their new equipment arrived, Ceremuga and Whetstone teamed with incoming WITR engineering director Justin Morse to install it. In addition to classes, each student logged close to 30 hours a week, for two weeks, to complete the installation.

"The renovation makes it a whole lot easier to run the station," Whetstone says. "We went from thousands of wires to about 20. Everyone after us, who would have had to deal with the terrible old system, can now get more enjoyment out of it."

Ceremuga agrees: "The station is much nicer now, it's great. Now we have one of the most sophisticated stations in Rochester when it comes to technology. We feel that this is kind of something special that we're able to leave behind for RIT." ■

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Craig Ceremuga, right, and Jarret Whetstone have spent much of their final year at RIT building a legacy. The two led an effort to renovate the studio of WITR, RIT's student-run radio station.

John Follaco | jpfuns@rit.edu

Study of new process will impact semiconductor industry

Research will lead to advanced use of plasma applications for microelectronics

In a lab in the James E. Gleason Building, Andrew Wagner, a senior microelectronic engineering major, is conducting an experiment that could come right out of *Star Wars*. Wagner throws a switch on his testing device and a beam that looks eerily like a light saber can be seen through a small window as it is applied to a silicon chip.

The process, known as atmospheric plasma application, utilizes low temperature beams of plasma, the ionized gas state of an element, in applying different materials to silicon chips for use in microprocessor production, energy applications and nanofabrication. The technique is more efficient than other types of materials processing and could have a major impact on the development of the semiconductor industry, new-energy development and nanoelectronics.

"Low-temperature plasma application is currently used in a number of areas within microelectronics, but this process requires operation in a vacuum which is very expensive to set up and maintain," notes Wagner. "By enhancing the use of atmospheric plasma, we hope to reduce the cost and enhance the uses for this technology."

Submitted photograph

A purple "light saber" of plasma is applied to a silicon chip as part of research using low temperature plasma application. The process is seen as a major method for reducing the cost and increasing the quality of materials application in silicon electronics production.

To conduct the experiment a gas is "excited" using electromagnetic fields, creating a reaction that is similar to what occurs when lightning forms. Researchers then vary the energy, geometry and elements of the plasma beam to produce different properties in the material.

Davide Mariotti, visiting assistant professor of microelectronic engineering, who is conducting the research with Wagner, notes that the project is not only adding to the overall understanding of the technique, but also providing an excellent training and education vehicle for RIT students.

"We strive to provide hands-on, real-world training and access to cutting-edge technologies that allow our students to be engaged in leading research activities," Mariotti adds.

Mariotti and Wagner hope to soon publish their findings and will submit their work for presentation at several national science and engineering conferences. Mariotti also plans to utilize the technique developed in the project in additional research involving the growth of carbon nanotubes. The project is being funded by Applied Materials Inc. ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

Three new Wall of Fame inductees selected

William Buckingham

Graduating seniors studying business at RIT have continued a legacy to inspire other students for many years to come.

The Class of 2008 at E. Philip Saunders College of Business adds three new members to the Alumni Wall of Fame, located in the Max Lowenthal Building.

Selection to the Wall of Fame is based on several factors including professional success, community involvement and sustained support to the vitality of RIT. The 2008 Wall of Fame honorees are:

William Buckingham '64, RIT Board of Trustee member who forged a 30-year career in the banking industry, culminating at M&T Bank as executive vice president of the retail banking division.

Susan Holliday

Susan Holliday '85, president and publisher of *Rochester Business Journal*, with board-member involvement in local organizations such as RIT, Rochester Business Alliance, University of Rochester Medical Center and Rochester Museum and Science Center.

David Della Penta '70, recently retired president and chief operating officer of Fisher Scientific International Inc., and past board chairman for Laboratory Products Association and Scientific Apparatus Manufacturers Association. In 2004, he served as distinguished speaker for the Saunders College's William D. Gasser Distinguished Lecture Series in Business.

Established by the Saunders Class of 2002, the Wall of Fame includes six honored alumni members: Laura Backus Scott '91; Peter Brown '64; Thomas Curley '77; Kevin Gavagan '79; Joe Lobozzo '95; and Donald H. Naylor '61. ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

Unveiling a 'Tiger-rific' vehicle

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Jon Pickard, chief engineer for RIT's Formula SAE racing team, drives the 2008 Tiger-themed vehicle into the Simone Circle for its ceremonial unveiling during the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival May 3.

In the Formula SAE competition May 14-18 at Michigan International Speedway, RIT took top-five spots in acceleration, autocross, cost and skid-pad categories, tied for 15th in design, and finished 27th overall among 104 teams.

'Food for Thought' event satisfies appetite for workshops, June 10

RIT Libraries will host the second annual Food For Thought event June 10 at Wallace Library.

Designed specifically for RIT staff, but free and open to all members of the RIT community, 24 "techie and non-techie" workshops have been scheduled throughout the day.

Sessions range from application-specific workshops to an exploration of technology trends like Facebook, to RIT-specific topics like Understanding the RIT Student and RIT Women.

New this year is the "Extra Helpings" area, where walk-ins can ask general or technology-related questions of our team of experts composed of staff from ITS Desktop Support, Online Leaning, RIT Libraries Technology Services and other Library staff.

Online reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis through June 9 at library.rit.edu/foodforthought.

Most session sizes are limited, so attendees should place online reservations as soon as possible.

Check the Web site for session schedules and descriptions along with presenter profiles. ■

Transforming news media

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Michael Kane, president and publisher of the Democrat and Chronicle, *was the inaugural speaker of the Paul and Louise Miller Lecture Series hosted by RIT's School of Print Media on April 30. Kane told the audience that the news media are at a crossroads and need to adapt because of new generations of consumers, more options for advertisers and evolving business models. Kane's lecture was a highlight among the activities of the School of Print Media's sixth annual Industry Day.*

Youngsters put their love of technology to music—and collect a grand prize

RIT's B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences is already recruiting some headlining students from Canandaigua Primary School to be members of the university's class of 2023.

The first-grade class of teacher Richard Colosi received VIP treatment at the college during a May 5 visit to acknowledge their grand-prize win in an international music-video contest in which they demonstrated the importance of computing and technology, particularly the need for young girls to pursue careers in the field.

Golisano College Dean Jorge Díaz-Herrera honored their achievement with a surprise announcement that if any of the 20 students attend RIT's computing college, each would be awarded a $2,500 scholarship upon acceptance.

"We wanted to recognize their amazing success in promoting computing and their message that girls can do anything with technology," says Díaz-Herrera. "Nationally, only 14 out of 100 girls pursue a career in the computing field. The Golisano College has taken a serious charge to help young minds like these students to really understand how exciting studying computing can be."

During their visit, the students wore honorary "Golisano College Kid of 2023" T-shirts. Díaz-Herrera also presented each with a commemorative trophy and certificate before a special screening of their video called *Ain't Gonna Hold Us Back.* The day was rounded out with some hands-on activities and lunch.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Canandaigua Primary School first-graders, from left to right, Jennifer Rosato, Cody Hall and Emma O'Neill work with Brian Renzenbrink, an RIT computer science student, during a hands-on lesson about binary numbering.

"I think all of my students and parents know how special it was to be invited to RIT," says Colosi. "The $2,500 scholarship gift was a great surprise and very generous. These kids have grown up with technology, from the electronics in their toys, to the various technology I'm using in my classroom. I'm trying to take their interest in electronics and show them the kinds of career possibilities available in computing."

The video won a $15,000 grand prize in a contest sponsored by Interwrite Learning, in partnership with TeacherTube. The grand-prize package included an interactive white board, an interactive clicker, a wireless pad, a projector and $1,000 cash prize.

Here is a sampling of some of the lyrics in the music video:

I heard about the lack of girls in classes like computer science. That kind of crazy talk gets all the girls FIRED UP!

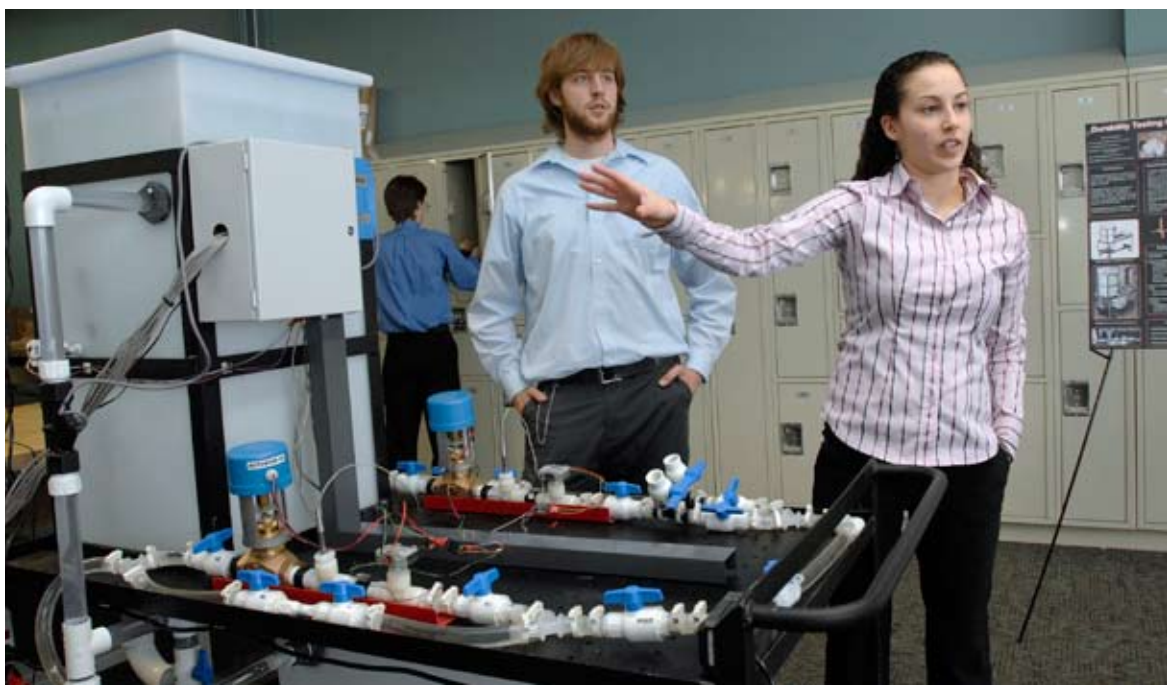
So listen all you girls around the world, we're just as smart as all the boys are.

Let's use technology and show 'em how we get down!

Bridget Wagner, a first-grader who narrates part of the video, described her visit to RIT: "We are visiting a college to celebrate the success of our video. And that girls can do technology just as good as boys."

To watch *Ain't Gonna Hold Us Back,* visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfTA5huDxvY. ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Jim Cezo and Jackie Sergi explain their team's machine for testing a magnetically levitated axial-flow left ventricular assist device, an innovative heart pump that could reduce the need for heart transplants.

Students design innovative heart pumps

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering's multidisciplinary senior design program provides a unique opportunity for students to gain hands-on expertise and participate in top-level research while still in college. In addition, a number of the designs created through the program ultimately have significant real-world impacts, enhancing the development of numerous innovations and even saving lives.

For example, a 2008 student design team formulated, developed and constructed a test stand which is being used to measure the performance of a new type of heart pump called a magnetically levitated axial flow left ventricular assist device. The pump, developed by a team led by Steven Day, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is more gentle and durable than other types of devices, improves overall performance of the heart in people with various forms of heart disease and could ultimately reduce the number of patients requiring heart transplants.

"This project has been incredibly gratifying both in allowing all members of the team to work on high-level research and in giving us an opportunity to help make a real difference in people's lives," notes Jim Cezo, a fifth-year mechanical engineering major and member of the design team.

"The work of the student team has been tremendous and the device they have developed will be extremely useful in furthering the development of this technology," adds Day. "I have one other team working on a different aspect of the pump and hope to involve additional multidisciplinary design teams on different aspects of this project as we move forward."

The test stand simulates the flow of blood in the body, and researchers can vary the pressure of fluids passed through the system to test the heart pump's performance under a variety of conditions. The device is completely automated and communicates data to computers both on and off campus. Day is using the device to evaluate a prototype version of the pump by running several pumps for two straight years and hopes to begin the process of seeking approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2010.

"This project has been a very rewarding way to engage students through senior design projects, co-op and graduate theses," says Day. "We hope that the pump developed at RIT might someday be used to save lives and that helps keep everyone motivated." ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Student Government President Ed Wolf, left, has been elected to serve another term. Wolf and his new vice president, Matt Danna, have set an ambitious agenda for the 2008-2009 school year.

Student leaders hope to 'continue momentum'

Student Government President Ed Wolf will return next academic year for another term—this time, with a new vice president, second-year information technology major Matt Danna. Their goal is to sustain Student Government's current momentum.

"There is still work to be done," says Wolf, a fourth-year computer engineering major. "We have a lot of great initiatives in progress that we want to see through."

Wolf cites three major achievements from the past year:

■ An earlier release of final exam schedules: Student Government worked with RIT administration to have final exam schedules released upon registration, instead of having to wait until later in the quarter. Wolf says this enables students to make travel plans earlier, which often makes travel more affordable.

■ Collaborating on the Student Alumni Union renovation plans: Student Government pushed for more club space and conference rooms for student-related activities in the renovation plans for the Student Alumni Union. Ground will be broken on the project in the coming weeks.

■ Expanding Student Government's representation: Student Government has expanded to open senator positions to the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and, effective next academic year, the graduate student body.

Danna served as a cabinet member representative at-large this past year, and collaborated with Wolf on a number of projects. When Wolf approached Danna about running together, Danna didn't hesitate.

"It was the logical next step," Danna says. "We both want to make changes on campus and make sure student voices are heard. We have a lot of new ideas."

Wolf and Danna want to push for more sustainable practices on campus, and pledge to set an example for doing so. Student Government will coordinate with the Student Environmental Action League to develop a set of sustainable best practices. They also hope to change the student debit policy in order to allow debit dollars to roll over between quarters in the same academic year.

Other initiatives include pushing for an earlier residence hall move-in date following breaks and creating more events that offer safe and responsible consumption of alcohol for those students who are over the legal drinking age. ■

John Follaco | jpfuns@rit.edu

Good business skills start early

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Nadia Pasicznyk, a first-year accounting major at E. Philip Saunders College of Business, was among 52 RIT students, alumni and other business professionals who recently spent a day teaching business and economics to kindergarten through sixth-grade students at Kodak Park School No. 41. This is the third year RIT has teamed with the school using curriculum provided by Junior Achievement of Rochester.

Kearse recipients recognized for liberal arts scholarship

The College of Liberal Arts 28th annual Kearse Student Honors Awards recognize students from across the university for their excellence in liberal arts coursework. The winning scholars are shown here at the award ceremony in April with Glenn Kist, College of Liberal Arts Interim Dean. This year's recipients are Jessica Bryant, Stephen Byers, Muhammed Hassan Chaudhary, Lori Craig, Allison Crane, Claire Franz, Eric Goldman, Jenny Hung, Catherine Leonard, Robert LiVolsi, Smita Menon, Katie Salvaggio, Jessica Sica-Lieber, Kathleen Steinkirchner, Daniel Sydney, Joseph Torrillo, Andrew Tschorke and Jonathan Winkle.

International scholars

This year, 24 students from countries around the world were honored by RIT's International Student Scholarship program. The scholars are Anton Fernandez, Spain; Poulami Barman, India; Ken-Yu Chien, Taiwan; Bhargava Chinni, India; Carlos Cornejo, Peru; Adey Gebregiorgis, Ethiopia; Duk Gyu Hwang, Korea; Gabriela Jaramillo, Ecuador; Sayali Kadam, India; Kiran Lad, Canada; Min Kyu Lee, Korea; Sunwoo Lee, Korea; Lin, Tsai-wei, Taiwan; Ivanka Markov, Serbia; Pooja Nanda, Singapore; Jeff Neable, Canada; Abdul H. Syed, India; Minh Quang Vo, Vietnam; Seong Yup Yoo, Korea; Dmitri Yudanov, Russia; Amardeep Sekhri, India; Sreeneth Vantaram, India; Vishal Thorvarai, India; and Qing Quan, China (not pictured).

Writing from the heart

The Institute Writing Committee recognized the winners of this year's Student Writing Contest at a luncheon last month. Standing with Lisa Hermsen, director of Institute Writing, center, are, from left, Allison Crane, a physician assistant major who won the grand-prize in creative writing; Amy D'Amico, a criminal justice major who earned an honorable mention in creative writing; and Daniel Carter, a computer science major who won honorable mention in creative writing.

Davis Scholarship winners

The annual Davis Scholarships give special recognition to student leaders who significantly contribute to campus life. The 2008 Davis Scholarship winners, shown with Mary Lu Clark, whose family funds the scholarships, are Nyshma Abreu-Mercado, Eno Akpovwa, Laura Arscott, Juliet Bernstein, Darryle Brown Jr., David Burke, Yenory Garcia, Sayali Kadam, Elizabeth Kiewiet, Christine Longo, Aditya Manjrekar, Rob Mizelle, Christie Ong, Luisa Ortiz, Kailtlyn Parenti, Victoria Petko, Elizabeth Ransey, Jacqueline Robinson, Davina Romansky, Ana Soler, Paul Solt, Ed Wolf and David Yip.

Celebrating our outstanding undergraduate students

RIT honored students as Outstanding Undergraduate Scholars in a ceremony held in April. The scholars are Margaret Allas, Agon Bejta, Ereblina Elezaj, Dafina Gashi,Thomas Hall, Gentina Jusufi, Hekuran Murati, Lidija Nasif, Vatra Qehaja, Katarina Rak, Lura Rexhepi, Darijo Tavric, Michelle Franchi, Anna Kolnik, Robert LaFleur, Brian Mendick, Kevin Murphy, Michael Percia, Ryan Tryt, Zachary Busser, Mark Christoforetti, Adam Friedlander, Philippe Laurendeau Johnson, Andrés Espinoza Masìas, John Neff, Joseph Pecoraro, Paul Solt, Daniel Woodruff, Matthew Benedict, Ian Frank, Matthew Greco, Jonathan Guerrette, Jesse Harvey, Natasha Kholgade, Ryan Korczykowski, Kyle Mininni, Mia Mujezinovic, Pooja Nanda, Mauricio Pommier, Stuart Sieg, Andrew Slippey, Alan Smith, Stephen Sweet, Abdul Syed, Dmitri Yudanov, Lindsey Davis, Alexandra Fuller, Whitney Gratton, Audrey Hardenburg, Joshua Harmony, Gillian Kovalcik, Maureen Lester, Mandy Madigan, Stephen Miller, Sara Pancoast, Diane Roth, Joseph Schember, Carly Schonberg, Mary Alice Sedlak, Rose Shulman, Pamela Tham, Lauren Thomas, Brendon Trombley, Adam Botzenhart, Helen Syme, John Ursel, Juliet Bernstein, Ryan Eberhart, Ankit Katyal, Jillian Lund, Heather Moe, Sara Montgomery, Melanie Naumenko, Marc O'Donnell, Jennifer Rowlinson, Jessica Smith, Matthew Woodruff, Holly DeGloma and Rachel Woods.

Scholarship salutes math, science, engineering students

Four students have been named 2008 winners of the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the premier award for undergraduate students interested in pursuing careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering.

This year's winners—juniors Jillian Lund, Nicholas Battista and Nathan Haseley and sophomore Joshua Thomson—are among 321 students selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,035 undergraduates, nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. Each will receive a yearly $7,500 scholarship covering tuition, fees, books and room and board. In receiving the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, this year's recipients join an elite group of young scholars. Many previous Goldwater winners have gone on to win Rhodes Scholarships and Marshall Awards as graduate students.

Each year universities may nominate up to four students in their sophomore or junior year for the Goldwater Scholarship. In addition to RIT, only seven other universities—Vanderbilt University, Ohio State University, Penn State University, Creighton University, Louisiana State University, Virginia Commonwealth University and Washington University in St. Louis—had all four scholarship nominees elected as 2008 Goldwater Scholars. ■

Goldwater Scholarship winners are, left to right, Nicholas Battista, Jillian Lund and Nathan Haseley. Missing from the photo is Joshua Thomson.

Brandon Borgna | bmb9935@rit.edu

For more scholarships and awards coverage, visit *News & Events* online at **www.rit.edu/newsevents**

Alpha Sigma Lambda inductees

Julie Kang | photographer

This year's inductees into the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society include Adam Botzenhart, Chafic Chanine, Mohamed Diane, Roberta DiLeo, Lori Duprey, Cayla Ferari, Whitney Gratton, Rahul Gupta, Shea Haney, Joshua Harmony, Robert Horgan, Allison Ingalls, Anna Kolnik, Kristina Leh, Sasha Malinchoc, Marc O'Donnell, Joseph Panzik, Christopher Rowoth, Allison Sable, Sarah Sarchet, Sarah Shea, Kyle Shradel, Kathrine Springate and Ryan Tryt. The society recognizes students who excel in scholarship, participate in activities and practice responsible leadership.

Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival

A Ritchie the Tiger, RIT's mascot, poses with some Imagine festival visitors.

B The public wasn't able to try every exhibit, but RIT students, faculty and staff gave demonstrations on highly skilled techniques such as glass blowing.

C There were plenty of activities for children at the festival, including this rock climbing wall set up by RIT's ROTC programs.

D The Imagine RIT Festival was hands-on fun for all ages. Children were even able to experience the art of making pottery.

E RIT President Bill Destler made his way throughout the campus on May 3, examining the more than 400 examples of RIT student, faculty and staff innovation and creativity. Destler called the festival "a success beyond my wildest expectations."

F The Mobilized Robotic Hotdog Assembler drew long lines of spectators throughout the day. Students in the College of Applied Science and Technology built a robot that cooks a hot dog, prepares it to order and serves it on a tray, complete with pudding and a juice box.

G An estimated 17,000 to 20,000 people attended the inaugural Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival. Next year's festival will take place May 2, 2009.

- A photograph by Frank Tantalo
- B, C, E, F and G photographs by A. Sue Weisler
- D photograph by Sarah White

The 'right brain' and 'left brain' collided at RIT May 3, and an estimated 17,000 to 20,000 people turned out to see it happen.

RIT President Bill Destler has deemed the inaugural Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival a rousing achievement.

"The festival was a success beyond my wildest expectations," Destler says. "I was so proud of both the great turnout for the event and of the quality of creative and innovative work displayed by our faculty, staff and students. It was, indeed, a great day for RIT."

Student Government President Ed Wolf, who was also an exhibitor at the festival, agrees: "There was definitely an electricity in the air. You could tell that a lot of people just didn't know about all of these cool things that exist at RIT. The festival was a huge success."

Visitors witnessed a robot that served hot dogs, a concrete canoe that floats and dozens of musical and theatrical performances. Children made freeze-dried ice cream, test drove Roomba Robots and took a spin on a Ferris wheel.

And it's all happening again next year. The second Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival will be held May 2, 2009, on the RIT campus.

To relive the event through a photo slideshow, visit www.rit.edu/imagine. Visitors are encouraged to add their own photos from the festival to the collection. ■

John Follaco | jpfuns@rit.edu

Light research used to plot celestial bodies

'Super roadmaps' will give planetary details

Donald Figer

Technology that could someday "MapQuest" Mars and other bodies in the solar system is under development at RIT's Rochester Imaging Detector Laboratory in collaboration with Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Lincoln Laboratory.

These "super roadmaps" would give 3-D information about planetary and lunar surfaces layered with details about atmospheric composition, biohazards, wind speed and temperature.

RIT scientist Donald Figer and his team are developing a new type of detector that uses LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), a technique similar to radar, but which uses light instead of radio waves to measure distances. The project will deliver a new generation of optical/ultraviolet imaging LIDAR detectors that will significantly extend NASA science capabilities for planetary applications by providing 3-D location information for planetary surfaces and a wider range of coverage than the single-pixel detectors currently combined with LIDAR.

The project will deliver a new generation of optical/ultraviolet imaging detectors that will significantly extend NASA science capabilities for planetary applications

The device will consist of a 2-D continuous array of light sensing elements connected to high-speed circuits. The $547,000 NASA-funded program also includes a potential $589,000 phase for fabrication and testing."The imaging LIDAR detector could become a workhorse for a wide range of NASA missions," says Figer, professor in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science and laboratory director.

LIDAR works by measuring the time it takes for light to travel from a laser beam to an object and back into a light detector. The new detector can be used to measure distance, speed and rotation. It will provide high-spatial resolution topography as well as measurements of planetary atmospheric properties. The device can also be used to probe the environments of comets, asteroids and moons.

Figer's team includes Zoran Ninkov, professor of imaging science, and Stefi Baum, center director. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Aspiring engineering explore the field

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

An aspiring engineer reviews his creation during the 2008 Engineering, Exploration and Experimentation Technology Fair held at RIT April 24. The event, co-sponsored by RIT and the Rochester Engineering Society, included a series of interactive exhibits and hands-on presentations related to engineering and science geared towards middle-school students. The fair, founded in 1991, currently attracts more than 1,000 attendees from across the region.

RIT honors distinguished alumni for leadership and community service

RIT's Distinguished Alumni for 2008 were honored at a dinner in April at Oak Hill Country Club.

The awards are presented to a graduate of each of RIT's eight colleges who has brought distinction to the college and to the university through professional and/or community achievement. Recipients are selected by a committee of faculty and administrators from each college.

The 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are:

Paul Carr '75 (College of Applied Science and Technology). Carr, a graduate of RIT's first class in civil engineering technology, went on to receive a master's (Cornell) and a Ph.D. (Virginia Polytechnic Institute) in civil engineering. After working for construction contractors for several years, he founded a professional engineering consulting company, Bernier-Carr and Associates, in 1980 and served as chief executive until retiring in 1998. He continues his work as a forensic engineering consultant, and also teaches at Cornell.

Karen Benjamin '93 (College of Liberal Arts). Benjamin, a graduate of the professional and technical communications program, is the co-founder and co-owner of Worldleaders, a search firm focused on hiring executives and leadership talent across human resources, sales, marketing, information technology and finance. Prior to launching Worldleaders, she was a vice president at Ciber, an international information technology consulting firm. She was recognized as an up-and-coming executive in 2003 by the Rochester Women's Network and was named IT Woman of the Year by the Association for Women in Computing in 2004. She received an M.S. in management from Roberts Wesleyan College.

Kathryn "Kathy" Hill '78 (College of Science). Hill, who majored in mathematics at RIT, is senior vice president of the Access Networking and Services Group at Cisco Systems. She oversees the access routing, ethernet switching, security and wireless technology groups that deliver over $10 billion of Cisco's annual revenues. She is also a member of the company's Development Council, which provides collaborative leadership to drive the delivery of integrated products and solutions to customers, and co-leads Cisco's Commercial Business Council, among other duties. Prior to joining Cisco, Hill was vice president at Ascend. She also held senior management positions at Newbridge Networks and Hughes Network Systems. Hill lives in Palo Alto, Calif.

David Wagner '86 (B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences). Wagner, who earned a bachelor of technology degree in operating systems software, has served as president and chief executive officer of Vanteon Corp. since 2002 and co-owner since 2003. He started with Vanteon in 2000 as director of the Rochester Development Center. From 1989 to 2000, David worked for Analysts International Corporation. From 1982 to 1989, he served in various capacities of software engineering for Tropel Inc.'s research lab in Fairport, N.Y. He is a member of RIT's Computer Science Industrial Advisory Board and the Executive Advisory Board at Roberts Wesleyan College. In addition, David is an active member of the Rochester Business Alliance, Small Business Council and Digital Rochester.

Britta MacIntosh '89 (Kate Gleason College of Engineering). Following graduation from RIT, MacIntosh moved to Boston to work for Syska and Hennessy as a design engineer. She also attended Northeastern University and received her M.S. in mechanical dngineering in 1992. She joined Select Energy Services in 1991 as a project engineer, where she developed and implemented energy efficiency projects for clients such as the U.S. Navy and the Boston Red Sox. She advanced to become manager of engineering and construction before becoming director of business development. In 2004, MacIntosh joined Sempra Energy as vice president of government programs. She is currently vice president of business development for NORESCO LLC in Westborough, Mass., a leading energy services company that has developed, engineered, financed, installed and maintained more than $2 billion in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects worldwide.

Barbara Fallon '89

Barbara M. "Bobbie" Fallon '89 (National Technical Institute for the Deaf). The Distinguished Alumnus Award for NTID is being awarded posthumously to Fallon, who died unexpectedly in February shortly after learning of her selection. Fallon enrolled in the accounting program at RIT/NTID at the age of 32, after working as a bookkeeper and accounting clerk for 14 years. Despite being the oldest in her classes, Fallon quickly became one of NTID's most recognized and admired students. A cooperative work experience at KPMG turned into a permanent job, beginning as an auditor and eventually becoming a supervising senior tax specialist in the Montvale, N.J., office. She was active in community outreach and received the KPMG Montvale Area Chairman's Award for Volunteerism in 2001. Fallon lived in Yonkers, N.Y.

Susan J. Riley '80, '81 (E. Philip Saunders College of Business). Since 2006, Riley has served as executive vice president of The Children's, headquartered in Secaucus, N.J. Previously, she was chief financial officer of Klinger Advanced Aesthetics. Prior to that, she served as senior vice president, chief financial officer of Abercrombie & Fitch. Earlier in her career, Riley served as chief financial officer of The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York and as chief financial officer at both the Dial Corp. and at Tambrands Inc. She currently sits on the board of directors for PJM Interconnection LLC and is a member of the board of trustees of RIT. A certified public accountant, she holds an MBA from Pace University.

William Snyder '81 with Dean Joan Stone

The College of Imaging Arts and Sciences elected to honor two graduates, **Jacolyn J. "Jackie" Bucksbaum '84** and **William Snyder '81**.

Bucksbaum, who received a B.F.A. in photographic arts and sciences, worked as a location manager and unit production manager in the motion picture industry for 12 years prior to starting her family life in Chicago, where she currently resides. She serves on the board of trustees for the Ounce of Prevention Fund and also is on the board of the Latin School of Chicago and is involved with the arts, philanthropy, and early childhood education.

Snyder, a four-time Pulitzer Prize winner, began working for *The Miami News* after graduating from RIT, covering varied assignments including riots, Miami Dolphins in the Super Bowl, Haitian boat people and space shuttle launches. In 1983, he joined *The Dallas Morning News*, and over the next 15 years covered the first democratic elections in Haiti and Romania, the explosion of the shuttle Challenger, the '91 coup attempt in the Soviet Union, the re-unification of Germany, healthcare in the U.S. prison system, AIDS in Uganda and Thailand, seal hunting in Newfoundland, five Olympics, two NCAA Final Fours, two Super Bowls, two Republican Conventions and numerous other stories. He became photo director for the newspaper in 2005. The *News* won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in Breaking News Photography for coverage of Hurricane Katrina. Snyder, who has won numerous other awards for his work, is serving as a visiting professor in RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences for the spring 2008 quarter. ■

Kathy Lindsley | kjlcom@rit.edu

Ken Huth | photographer

Distinguished Alumni for 2008 are, from left: David Wagner '86 (GCCIS), Britta MacIntosh '89 (KGCOE), Susan Riley '80, '91 (SCB), Paul Carr '75 (CAST) and Karen Benjamin '93 (COLA). Missing are Kathryn "Kathy" Hill '78 (COS), Barbara M. "Bobbie" Fallon '89 (NTID), Jacolyn J. "Jackie" Bucksbaum '84 and William Snyder, '81.

news&events www.rit.edu/newsevents

May 22, 2008 | Volume 40 | Number 16

Produced by University News Services, Building 86,
132 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623
(585) 475-5064 | 475-5097 (fax) | news&events@mail.rit.edu
Dateline: RIT www.rit.edu/news/dateline
Podcasts www.rit.edu/news/podcasts
The Tiger Beat Blog www.thetigerbeat.com/blog
Photo Gallery www.rit.edu/news/gallery
RSS feeds www.rit.edu/news/lib/rss

Executive Editors
Bob Finnerty, Paul Stella '03
Managing Editor
Vienna Carvalho-McGrain
Deputy Managing Editor
Michael Saffran
Manager of Photography
A. Sue Weisler

Layout Design
Peter Bella '03
Contributing writers
Brandon Borgna, Kelly Downs, Will Dube, John Follaco, Susan Gawlowicz, Steve Jaynes, Kathy Lindsley, Greg Livadas, Marcia Morphy, Joe Venniro

R·I·T
Rochester Institute of Technology
One Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, N.Y. 14623-5603

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, N.Y.
Permit 626

'Flashback' to life along Erie Canal

Schoen Place in Pittsford, along the world famous Erie Canal, went up in lights for RIT's 24th Big Shot photo project on May 8. More than 600 volunteers came out with flashlights and camera flash units to help faculty from RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences and the National Technical Institute for the Deaf make a nighttime image, often described as a "painting with light" photograph. The Sam Patch, a replica of a 19th century packet boat, is positioned in the foreground with models dressed in period costume posed on the deck and inside the craft. Various businesses in Schoen Place, housed in converted barns, mills and canal-side structures, fill the background of the photograph. The final image is a 30-second exposure at F16.

University News survey

As a *News & Events* reader, you're interested in RIT news and have special insight into how you want to receive it. RIT University News needs your opinions about *News & Events*, the University News Web site (www.rit.edu/news), RIT news podcasts and other communication tools. Share your opinions about RIT news content and the format, length and frequency you prefer—they will be crucial in helping shape how University News delivers RIT news to you.

An invitation to complete a brief online survey was recently sent via e-mail (including a link to the survey) to members of the RIT community. If you did not receive the invitation and wish to take the survey, visit www.rit.edu/news for a link to the survey. If you do not have Internet access, contact University News at (585) 475-5064 or univnews@rit.edu to request a printed copy.

Thanks, in advance, for sharing your opinions about RIT University News.

Class of 2008 *from page 1*

Other highlights of Academic Convocation include recognition of students graduating with honors and faculty members who won this year's outstanding teaching awards. In addition, each college, including the American College of Management and Technology in Dubrovnik, Croatia, and the American University in Kosovo, has chosen an undergraduate student to serve as college delegate. These delegates represent their colleges on stage during the official conferral of degrees by President Destler.

"Our celebration is a culminating experience for graduates, their families and friends, a capstone of their time at RIT and a fitting finale to years of hard work and sacrifice," states Destler.

Each RIT college celebrates commencement with individual ceremonies and receptions (see accompanying schedule). During these ceremonies, graduating students are recognized individually and respective delegates address those in attendance.

"Each graduate is a living embodiment of a successful academic career, possessing the knowledge and skills to begin the next phase of his or her career," says Kit Mayberry, vice president for academic affairs. "We, the faculty and staff, appreciate the opportunity to celebrate with them and the people important to them."

Academic Convocation and all degree ceremonies will be sign-language interpreted and real-time captioned. Tickets are not necessary, and ample seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

To help visitors with questions, information booths will be located around campus and volunteer ushers will be present at the convocation and each college ceremony. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

Sunday matinee of student films

Enjoy a Sunday at the movies watching the best student films at RIT's School of Film and Animation's annual Student Honors Show. The animation, Out of Phase*, by fourth-year student Christos Tzeremes, will be among the works shown from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 25 at George Eastman House's Dryden Theatre, 900 East Ave., Rochester. First-year students through graduate students in the film school submitted works for consideration. A committee comprised of faculty and students selected 20 films from more than 500 entries. The students' films are of various genres including narrative, documentary, experimental and animation. The public is invited to attend. Admission is $5, and students with ID are admitted for free.*

Fram *from page 1*

to call on now about retail?"

Good question. One that could only be answered by Saunders College alumni Mike McCarthy '79, '88 (business administration, MBA), who has collaborated with Fram on a number of research studies as assistant professor of marketing at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. "Gene is the Cal Ripken of the academic world," McCarthy says.

Fram was also responsible for McCarthy's shift from advertising and marketing executive to academia. And it isn't the first time Fram has run career interference. According to RIT alumni Frank Sklarsky '78 (accounting), Eastman Kodak chief financial officer: "Fram talked me out of an engineering degree at RIT. He told me the up and coming profession was accounting, and I ended up with a 3.96 GPA and a solid career."

Speaking of GPA's, alumni Paul Comstock '71 (retail management), chairman of Paul L. Comstock Co. Wealth Advisory Services of Houston, recalls the "best one-liner for excellence I received from Dr. Fram, and that I have referred to repeatedly in my work . . . on his expectations for my last course, Marketing Research.

"I remember his comments at the beginning of the course, that there will only be three marks, A, B or F. And then the one-liner, 'business does not pay for Cs and Ds.'"

Fram circa 1960

As Mark Boylan, Saunders director of development says: "When I speak with alums—which is all the time—the teacher they most often ask for is Gene. And when I relay this to Gene, he has never failed to recall the student—even the ancient ones—including where they sat in class, their first job upon graduating and all the subsequent career moves. Clearly, Gene became for me a great source of intelligence, a fact he was always quick to remind me of."

Although Fram maintained a strong allegiance to his students and received RIT's Eisenhart Award for outstanding teaching in 1997, one of his special events was preparing for the biennial McClure lecture, which was open to the Rochester community.

"He started to worry about planning and organizing the event nine months before it would take place," says Donna Slavin, assistant director of special events and programs at Saunders College. "He would grace my door, asking me for 'numbers'—wanting to know how many people were coming to the McClure lecture. Of course I had no way of knowing because there was no pre-registration. He seemed to think I had a crystal ball."

And Nancy Heuer, administrative assistant to the dean, says after working with Fram for 23 years, she knew his persistence. "He loved doughnuts and for health reasons, his wife, Elinore, would make sure he stayed away from them. But he always managed to sneak a half donut while he thought no one was looking, and I would always tease him about it."

Clues to his "sweet tooth" also permeated his interviews with local media, especially when asked about the rising cost of food prices. "I used to buy my favorite muffin at Wegmans for 99 cents, and it's now $1.25; that's a 25 percent jump in just a few weeks," Fram would say.

Fram will soon be missing Wegmans superstores as he moves to the west coast to be with his family in Palo Alto, Calif. But he'll be back at RIT to receive accolades on May 23.

"I'm going to be presented with the Presidential Medallion by Dr. Destler and 3,000 miles couldn't stop me from coming," says Fram, who will be the 63rd recipient of this prestigious award that was first issued in 1979.

"This will be a highlight to a 51-year-run that I will sadly miss. But when I look back over my career, its challenges and its rewards, I can honestly say I've enjoyed going to work every day. Not many people can say that." ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

New dean *from page 1*

32 refereed journal articles and papers in conference proceedings. He has secured in excess of $2.6 million in external funding via grants and contracts.

"Dr. Walker has contagious energy," says Destler. "He is a wonderful match to both the current needs and aspirations of the College of Applied Science and Technology."

In his role as chair of the technology department at the University of Southern Maine, Walker oversaw programs that were offered on campus as well as at numerous regional satellite locations and at selected military and industrial sites located throughout the state of Maine through face-to-face delivery, instructional television and compressed video.

Walker also led department faculty in the development and implementation of a department-level strategic plan, in addition to the development and implementation of student recruitment and retention plans.

"Dr. Walker's experience with shared governance and administrative leadership will serve him very well," says Jeremy Haefner, RIT's incoming senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "He understands innovation and creativity, and this insight will be a solid asset to the College of Applied Science and Technology."

Walker began his academic career as an assistant professor at the University of Southern Maine in 1995. He earned a bachelor's degree in industrial technology and a master's degree in business administration from California State University and a master's degree in systems engineering and a doctoral degree in industrial education and technology from Iowa State University.

Additionally, Walker served nine years in the U.S. Navy, where he received "Secret Security Clearance" from the U.S. National Security Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Defense. Walker served in a number of technological capacities, concluding his Naval career as a program manager in information systems administration before being honorably discharged in 1992. ■

John Follaco | jpfuns@rit.edu