

Dateline: RIT – The Podcast (May 8, 2008) (Season 2, Episode 13)

ANNCR: Welcome to Dateline: RIT with Mike Saffran.

HOST: Dateline: RIT (May 8, 2008)

RIT hosted its first-ever Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival at locations across campus on May 3rd. Featuring more than 400 exhibits spotlighting RIT ingenuity of all kinds, the festival attracted thousands to #1 Lomb Memorial Drive for what's now an annual event showcasing innovative and creative projects—each born at RIT.

The “celebration of the sciences, technology and the arts,” as it has been described, was pleasing to RIT President Bill Destler, who I caught up with in the festival's Xerox “Wow Center.”

ACTUALITY [BILL DESTLER]: We have an extraordinary number of people just wandering around the campus, finding out what happens here. It's been a tremendous day for RIT and I think a great one for the Rochester community.

HOST: I also had the chance to speak with festival chairman Barry Culhane.

ACTUALITY [BARRY CULHANE]: This RIT community is impressive—we know because we're there every day, but when I went through this campus and I saw the faculty, staff and students just roll out everything innovative and creative that they do, all at one time . . . you know, we get bits and pieces, but this day rocked! It was great.

HOST: To hear more from RIT President Destler, along with Imagine RIT festival chairman Barry Culhane and others who Vienna Carvalho and I visited with as we roamed the festival from east to west and back again, check out special editions of our sister podcast, “Studio 86 ‘On the Road: Imagine RIT,’” parts one and two, available at your usual source for RIT news podcasts.

On the RIT campus this week . . . Chief Communications Officer Bob Finnerty has more on the success of this spring's Imagine RIT festival . . . and News & Events managing editor Vienna Carvalho has highlights from a special Imagine RIT edition of News & Events.

SEGMENT [BOB FINNERTY]: This is Bob Finnerty. After eight months of planning, after countless pieces of detail, RIT pulled it off May 3rd at the inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival, Imagine RIT. By all accounts, the festival was a home run. Conservatively, the university estimates having between 17,000 and 20,000 visitors. President Destler deemed the festival a success beyond his “wildest expectations.” Now the Festival Planning Committee is doing a post-event survey as RIT seeks ideas to make next year's festival even better. Imagine RIT will be an annual event. Go to rit.edu/imagine/win to take the survey and win prizes. And mark your calendars for the second annual Imagine RIT: May 2, 2009. . . . This is Bob Finnerty on the RIT campus.

SEGMENT [VIENNA CARVALHO]: This is News & Events Managing Editor Vienna Carvalho. In the current issue of News & Events . . . Xerox Corp. is committing \$2 million to RIT to serve as a founding partner of the Golisano Institute for Sustainability. Anne Mulcahy, Xerox chairman and CEO, made the announcement April 24th during a presentation on campus. This latest investment in RIT by Xerox focuses on developing talent and fostering new sustainable technologies through research. . . . Also in the current issue of News & Events, RIT professors Anne Coon and Marcia Birken have teamed up to write a book that's been 25 years in the making. After more than two decades of research, Coon and Birken have published Patterns in Mathematics and Poetry, which enlightens general audiences about the dynamic relationship between these two areas. . . . And, an RIT student team has claimed victory at the Software Design Invitational at Microsoft's U.S. Imagine Cup finals. The team competed against 154 teams from throughout the United States and will represent the nation in the world finals this July in Paris. . . . Read more about these stories and other RIT news in the May 1st issue of News & Events. This is Vienna Carvalho on the RIT campus.

HOST: This has been Dateline: RIT (May 8, 2008). I'm Mike Saffran on the RIT campus.

ANNCR: For more on these stories and other RIT news, visit www.rit.edu/news.

Dateline: RIT is produced by RIT University News Services.

NOTE: Dateline: RIT (May 8, 2008) audio podcast available at:
http://www.thetigerbeat.com/rss/podcasts/Dateline_05-08-08.m4a and
<http://www.rit.edu/news> (see "Latest Podcasts")

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