

Astrophysics degree becomes RIT’s fifth Ph.D.

Breakthroughs in astrophysics could reshape our understanding of the universe in the next decade. Observations of gravity waves could prove Einstein’s theory of general relativity, or tip physics on its head. Other missions using ground-based telescopes and space probes will pry into dark matter and dark energy—a mysterious material and a force puzzling 21st century astrophysicists.

RIT is gaining a reputation in the realm of astrophysics at this exciting time, with faculty contributing to research initiatives that blend science fiction and reality.

This fall, RIT will launch its fifth doctoral program, in astrophysical sciences and technology. The program brings together scientists from different disciplines within the College of Science to explore Einstein’s theory of relativity, young and dying stars, centers of galaxies and black holes, and the technology to make new observations.

The program will depart from traditional astrophysical studies that focus mainly on theoretical and observational aspects of the discipline by adding the characteristic RIT twist of technology and applied science. An equal emphasis on theory, observational astronomy, and sensor

and instrument development will set RIT’s program apart from others.

Students will have the opportunity to earn master’s and doctoral degrees in three distinct tracks: the emerging field of astro-informatics and computational astrophysics; astronomical instrumentation and the development of new technologies for application in astronomy and space science; and astrophysics.

The program will draw heavily upon faculty from the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, the Department of Physics and the School for Mathematical Sciences who are international experts in the areas of extragalactic astronomy—particularly the study of the centers of galaxies and stellar evolution—computational astronomy and numerical relativity, and instrumentation.

David Axon, head of the physics department, will co-direct the new program with Stefi Baum, director of the Center for Imaging Science.

“Astrophysics is a discipline where learning by doing is absolutely key,” says Ian Gatley, dean of the College of Science. “It involves building technology, using technology and modeling phenomena using computers, and all of those are really very big issues indeed for RIT and its students.” ■

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Submitted by Robert Markowitz/NASA

Greg Sharp gives a thumbs up alongside Jarret Whetstone as they experience zero gravity aboard NASA’s Weightless Wonder aircraft, also known as the “Vomit Comet.” They were members of the four-person team from RIT selected to test a scientific experiment.

Student team takes flight on NASA’s ‘Weightless Wonder’ aircraft

Three recent graduates and one student from RIT’s imaging and photographic technology program experienced human spaceflight without leaving earth’s orbit. The team of James Craven, Greg Sharp, Christopher Ubelacker and Jarret Whetstone

earned an opportunity to fly aboard NASA’s Weightless Wonder, a C-9 aircraft that climbs to a 45-degree angle over the Gulf of Mexico and then nosedives to simulate zero gravity.

RIT’s team spent a week in July at NASA’s Johnson Space Center

in Texas along with teams from University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M, University of Michigan and University of New Mexico as part of NASA’s Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. The

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Princeton Review names RIT among ‘best’

RIT is again being recognized as one of the nation’s best institutions for undergraduate education, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company features the university in the just-published 2009 edition of its annual book *The Best 368 Colleges*.

Approximately 15 percent of America’s 2,500 four-year colleges are included in the book. It has two-page profiles of each school and ranking lists based on student surveys that



highlight the top 20 colleges in more than 60 categories.

In its profile on RIT, The Princeton Review quotes extensively from the university’s students

surveyed for the book. The publication’s summary of student comments acknowledges RIT as a “serious, no-nonsense school with amazing facilities and a unique cooperative education program which is very good at preparing you to work in the real world.”

The Princeton Review is a New York-based company known for its test preparation, education and college admission services. ■

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New programs, resident parking regulations announced for fall

The Parking and Transportation Services office has been working to implement various strategic recommendations resulting from last year’s comprehensive parking and transportation strategy.

Listed below is information that you will need this fall including news about exciting programs and resident student parking regulation changes:

■ **RIT Rideshare Program**— Parking and Transportation Services

has developed this new carpooling platform for use via myCourses. For more details on how to join, visit finweb.rit.edu/grms/pats/transportation/rideshare.html and click “RIT Rideshare.”

■ **RIT Bicycle Program**— In cooperation with the RIT Cycling Club, additional bicycle amenities and bike routes will be available throughout campus. This is an initial start to the first-

Parking, page 4

Award winners heralded for commitment

The Nathaniel Rochester Society has recognized two alumni and their spouses for their ongoing commitment to RIT.

Donald and Jeris Boyce were presented the 2008 NRS Award, the organization’s highest honor, during a ceremony at Locust Hill Country Club on July 24. The annual honor recognizes individuals who have contributed to the university’s advancement in an outstanding and significant manner. In addition, Kevin and Nancy Gavagan received the Whitaker Service Medallion.

The Boyces are members of RIT’s Ellingson Society, which celebrates NRS awards, *page 4*



Ken Huth | photographer

Donald and Jeris Boyce, center, with RIT President Destler, right, and NRS Awards chair Larry Lovejoy.

Welcome back events scheduled

The start of another academic year is just around the corner. Below is a list of key events that will kick off the year:

First-year Student Resource Fair, 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Aug. 24, Gordon Field House and Activities Center. An opportunity to help first-year students and their families learn about various RIT services.

Convocation for New Students, 9-11 a.m., Aug. 25, Field House. A welcome event for all first-year students and their families that is preceded by the Tiger Walk, an RIT tradition of providing a rowdy welcome to incoming students as they process into the ceremony.

President’s Address to the Community, 9-10:30 a.m., Aug. 28, Field House. RIT President Bill Destler recaps the past academic year and shares his vision for the upcoming year. The event also features remarks by the president of Academic Senate, chair of Staff Council, president of Student Government and the interim chief diversity officer.

Lighting the Way Ceremony, 8:30-10 p.m., Aug. 28. This ceremony, in its third year, is designed to welcome RIT women to the campus community. The ceremony begins in the Field House with several speeches before a candlelight procession to Clark Gymnasium.

In the community

RIT engages Edison Tech students in design contest, *page 2*

Promotions

Faculty celebrate recently announced promotions, *page 3*

Research and Scholarship

Female engineers earn distinguished honors, *page 3*

Newsmakers

Your colleagues’ latest accomplishments, *page 4*

United Way golf tourney

Tee-off RIT’s 2009 United Way Campaign at the 21st annual Rick Pettinger Memorial Golf Tournament at noon Sept. 18, at Shadow Lake Golf Club. Early bird registration ends Sept. 1, and participants can download a registration form at www.rit.edu/unitedway. For more information, contact co-chairs Lynn Rowoth at 475-7408 or Howard Ward at 475-6011.

Graduate student welcome

Orientation for all incoming graduate students is Aug. 27, in the lobby of the Student Alumni Union. College representatives from all eight colleges will be on hand to answer questions. Nearly two dozen service booths will be set up. RIT President Bill Destler will give a welcoming address at 4 p.m. during a reception in the Alfred L. Davis Room, followed by Andrew Moore, dean of graduate studies.

‘Can You Imagine’ on iTunes

Can You Imagine, the theme song for the inaugural Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival, is now available for purchase through iTunes. The song is performed by a group of faculty and staff called Together By Chance.

Pump up those bike tires

RIT faculty, staff, students and their family members are invited to join an informal bicycling club new to campus this summer. “The pace is leisurely, the routes are easy (generally flat and usually between 10 to 20 miles), and we typically make a stop for refreshments at about the half-way point (ice cream stops are most popular),” says Joe Pow, associate director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science and bicycling enthusiast.

A group of about 15 to 18 riders ranging in age from 16 to over 60 meet after work on Tuesday afternoons (or Wednesday, if it’s raining). E-mail updates provide information about when and where to meet. Destinations have included Mt. Hope Cemetery, Corn Hill, Scottsville, Lock 33, Fairport, Spencerport, Charlotte and Mendon Ponds Park. The bicycling club will likely ride into September by popular demand.

For more information, e-mail Pow at pow@cis.rit.edu.

Hockey tickets on sale

Tickets for the 2008-2009 RIT men’s hockey season go on sale Aug. 25. Group and corporate rates will also be available this season. A minimum of 15 tickets must be purchased prior to the game with the group receiving \$1.00 off each ticket price.

Season tickets are \$132 for adults; \$105 for faculty/staff/alumni; and \$65 for students. Single game tickets are \$10 for adults; \$8 for faculty/staff/alumni; and \$5 for students. Season ticket packages and single game tickets can be purchased at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center Box Office or by phone at 475-4121.

For a complete schedule of this season’s games, visit www.ritathletics.com.



Submitted photograph

James Lee, senior staff engineer at the Golisano Institute for Sustainability, describes the propulsion system utilized by a Toyota Prius as part of the Design a Hybrid contest sponsored by the Golisano Institute and the Edison Complex.

Edison students rise to technology challenge

In an effort to expand the understanding of sustainability concepts, RIT’s Golisano Institute for Sustainability and the Green Schools Team at the Edison Complex in Rochester developed and held a “Design A Hybrid” Contest for Edison students in grades 9 through 12. The project sought to provide contestants with education and training in the area of alternative energy while also allowing students the opportunity to creatively expound on their ideas

regarding the cars of the future. Participants were given two weeks to work on and complete their designs and winners were announced during an awards ceremony at Edison on June 13. The contest also included presentations on hybrid vehicles by James Lee, manager of the Golisano Institute’s Center for Sustainable Energy Systems, and Charles Mackintosh, senior project engineer at General Motors, and

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Essay collection studies environmental policies of developing countries

Weighty issues of sustainability have troubled economist Amit Batabyal for more than a decade: how to provide safe drinking water to flood victims in developing countries, how to grow crops without depleting the soil of nutrients, how tariffs might reduce the illegal trade of elephant tusks and rhino horns.

In his new book, *Dynamic and Stochastic Approaches to the Environment and Economic Development*, Batabyal, the Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts, explores the implementation of environmental policy of developing countries in previously published and unpublished essays.

The body of work is Batabyal’s response to the 1987 Brundtland Report commissioned by the United Nations and led by former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland. The report, conducted by the World Commission on Environment and Development, introduced the idea of sustainable development as a means of mitigating the impact of human activity on the planet and ensuring the availability of natural

resources for future generations.

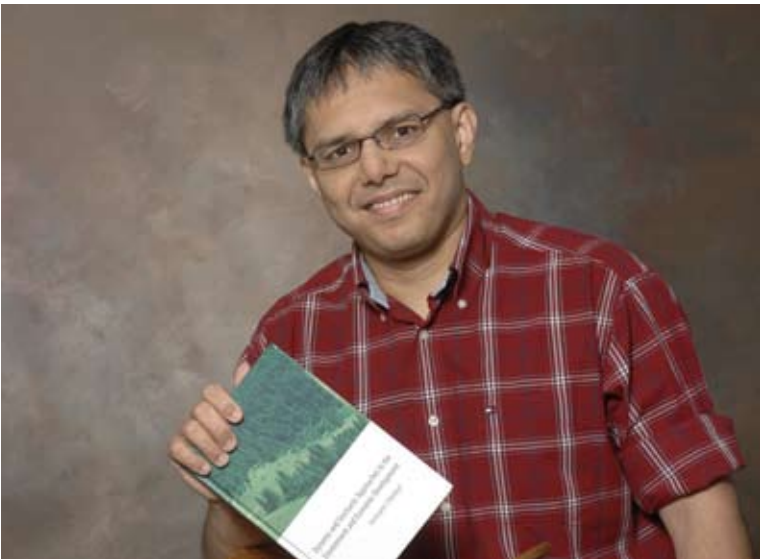
Batabyal applies theoretical modeling tools involving decision-making under uncertainty to problems facing developing nations in the management of their renewable resources, and he addresses the potential conflict between environmental and trade policies.

“Poverty is a big disincentive in managing resources in a sustainable manner,” says Batabyal.

Batabyal’s essays cover controversial and humanitarian aspects of environmental and economic development, such as swidden agriculture (also known as “slash-and-burn”) and providing fresh drinking water to flood victims in the flood-prone regions of South and South East Asia. He dedicates a chapter to agriculture as a renewable resource since the economies of most developing nations are agrarian.

Batabyal considers renewable resources in general and environmental policies encompassing sectors at different stages of development. He also studies the impact of corruption in the implementation of environmental policies by developing countries. ■

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A.Sue Weisler | photographer

Amit Batabyal’s collection of essays explores the environmental policies of developing countries.

RIT makes list of ‘great colleges to work for’

RIT has been recognized on *The Chronicle of Higher Education’s* inaugural Great Colleges to Work For list. RIT was cited in six different categories: Professional/Career Development Program, Compensation and Benefits, Tuition Reimbursement, 403b or 401k (retirement plan), Disability Insurance and Life Insurance.

“We are proud to be a university that attracts the best and brightest employees in higher education,” says Patty Spinelli, assistant vice president of human resources. “This honor is a testament to our employees. They make RIT a great place to work.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education modeled its list after *Fortune’s* popular 100 Best Companies to Work For issue. However, it opted not to rank institutions on one list. Instead, it chose to recognize small groups of colleges (arranged by the size of their work forces) for specific best

practices and policies. The results were based on responses from more than 15,000 administrators, faculty members and staff members at 89 colleges and universities. Survey participants were selected randomly.

The recognition appears in the July 18 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, in a special section entitled, “The Academic Workplace.”

RIT’s Tuition Exchange program received special mention in the issue, commending RIT for not only participating in the Tuition Exchange program, but for offering complete tuition waivers to employees’ spouses and domestic partners for undergraduate and, in some cases, graduate courses at RIT.

RIT was also commended for having a scholarship program that helps employees cover up to \$1,500 each year in other costs, such as books or tuition at community colleges. ■

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RIT Library event invites guests to ‘picture their future’

RIT Libraries will welcome new and returning students at its annual fall open house Aug. 28. This free event, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Wallace Library, is open to all members of the RIT community and is designed to extend a friendly hand to those new to campus.

This year’s theme is Picture Your Future at RIT. Activities are planned in collaboration with RIT Libraries, the Education Technology Center and Online Learning, which are all housed in the Wallace Library building. ETC photographers will take students’ pictures to help create a unique community photomosaic using digital portraits of open house guests. Different backdrops, various props and even tiger face-paint make-up kits will be provided.

Staff from Online Learning will be on hand in The Idea Factory to help RIT Libraries’ staff demonstrate “Second Life.” Staff will also

offer one-on-one instruction with myCourses software.

The primary intention of the event is to celebrate the start of a new school year and provide a glimpse of the resources found in the Wallace Library building. Students will have an opportunity to meet the library liaison dedicated to their area of study and to have an informal mini-tour featuring library “hot spots.” Eligible students can even apply for jobs in the library during the open house. Refreshments will be served and interpreting services will be provided. ■



Bioinformatics the RIT way



A.Sue Weisler | photographer

High-school teachers Deirdre Bonnell and Dawn Hohmann learned how to sequence their own DNA during the workshop Biotechnology Institute: Human Evolution and the Genetics of Race held at RIT’s Center for Bioscience Education and Technology held July 21-25. Sponsored by the Rochester Area Colleges Center of Excellence in Math and Science, the workshop introduced 14 science and technology teachers from school districts in Monroe County to biotechnology laboratory procedures and bioinformatics and computational applications that have revolutionized modern biomedical research.

Female engineers earn network awards

Margaret Bailey wins Women in Science honors

Kate Gleason was a pioneering engineer and business executive who was the first female member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the first female U.S. bank president. She was also a major Rochester activist and prominent benefactor of RIT whose legacy of giving has been continued by the Gleason family up to the present day.

RIT has worked to honor Gleason's accomplishments in a number of ways but none more important than its continued efforts to expand opportunities for women and minorities in science and engineering, efforts that have recently won national recognition.

The Women in Engineering Program, also known as WE@RIT, received the 2008 Women in Engineering Program Award from the Women in Engineering Proactive Network, or WEPAN, which recognizes college and university programs that are working to enhance the entrance of women in engineering fields as well as expanding educational opportunities in

science and math for women of all ages. The award was presented to WE@RIT at the network's national conference in July in St. Louis.

In addition, Margaret Bailey, director of the We@RIT program received the Women in Science Award from the Maria Mitchell Association, a national engineering and science education center and museum named for America's first professional woman astronomer.

"We are extremely honored to receive these two prestigious awards, and I would like to personally thank WEPAN and the Maria Mitchell Association for their recognition of our efforts," notes Bailey, who also serves as the Kate Gleason Endowed Chair and associate professor of mechanical engineering at RIT.

WE@RIT was founded in 2003 within RIT's Kate Gleason College of Engineering, the only engineering college in the country named for a



Margaret Bailey

woman, to recruit and retain women in engineering disciplines and promote enthusiasm and understanding of engineering concepts among elementary and secondary students and educators.

The program focuses on comprehensive college and pre-college outreach, recruitment, and community building initiatives—offering numerous training sessions, on campus events and camps throughout the year. Presently, the program reaches over 2,300 engineering students, K-12 students and educators.

"It is our hope that the continued efforts of RIT and organizations such as WEPAN and the Maria Mitchell Association will enhance Kate Gleason's legacy and promote the continued advancement of women and minorities in science and engineering," adds Bailey. "All of us involved in the WE@RIT program hope we soon are able to say that the Kate Gleason College of Engineering is one of several engineering colleges recognizing the accomplishments of America's women engineers." ■

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RIT faculty celebrate recent promotions

Select members of the RIT faculty are rising up the ranks as a new school year gets underway. Promotions have been granted to 49 faculty members effective Sept. 1. Recognition for high standards in enhancing student learning is the primary factor determining promotion. Academic and professional qualifications, scholarship, special contributions to RIT and community activities may also factor into the decision to grant a promotion.

Faculty promotions for the 2008-2009 academic year are as follows:

College of Applied Science and Technology

Thomas Dingman, professor emeritus; Michael Eastman, professor; Samuel McQuade, associate professor; Thomas Moran, professor; James Myers, professor; and Scott Wolcott, professor

E. Philip Saunders College of Business

Eugene Fram, professor emeritus; Clyde Hull, associate professor; and Philip Tyler, associate professor emeritus

B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences

Daniel Bogaard, associate professor; Charles Border, associate professor; Yin Pan, associate professor; Rajendra Raj, professor; James Vallino, professor; and Steve Zilora, associate professor

Kate Gleason College of Engineering

Robert Desmond, professor emeritus; Hu Fei, associate professor; Sudhakar Paidy, professor emeritus;

Sean Rommel, associate professor; Benjamin Varela, associate professor; Joseph Voelkel, professor; and Shanchieh Yang, associate professor

College of Imaging Arts and Sciences

Jason Arena, associate professor; and Stan Rickel, associate professor

College of Liberal Arts

Deborah Blizzard, associate professor; Anne Coon, professor emeritus; Lisa Hermesen, associate professor; M. Ann Howard, professor; Christine Keiner, associate professor; Uli Linke, professor; Jennifer Lukomski, associate professor; Stanley McKenzie, provost emeritus; Laverne McQuiller-Williams, associate professor; Scott Merydith, professor; Richard Santana, associate professor; and Vincent Seravallo, associate professor

College of Science

Jonathan Arney, professor; Matthew Coppenbarger, associate professor; David Crystal, professor emeritus; Rebecca Hill, professor emeritus; Terrence Morrill, professor emeritus; Gary Skuse, professor; and Tamas Wiandt, associate professor

National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Sidney Barefoot, professor; Paula Grcevic, professor; Christine Licata, professor; and Linda Rubel, professor

Educational Development Faculty

Lisa Fraser, assistant professor; and Latty Goodwin, professor ■

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New roles for NTID staff members

A familiar face at NTID will be more visible throughout the RIT campus as Christine Licata, associate vice president for academic affairs for NTID, moves to RIT central administration as interim senior associate provost serving Jeremy Haefner, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs.

In her new role, Licata will oversee the Learning Communities, the Registrar, the Honors Program, Study Abroad and Fellowships, Institute Advising Office, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Office and K-12 Partnerships. She will also be responsible for accreditations, including from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and work as a liaison with the New York State Education Department for Undergraduate and Graduate Curriculum.

"I am honored and delighted to be part of our new provost's team and I look forward to working with Dr. Haefner, the faculty, the deans and other academic support staff as we make this important leadership transition within academic affairs," Licata says. "RIT is at an exciting point

in its history. I can think of no better way for me to contribute to RIT's future than to apply the wonderful leadership experience that I have gained over these many years for the benefit of faculty and students within the greater university."

Licata has served in a number of academic leadership roles at RIT/NTID for nearly 30 years.

"Her advocacy for students, for faculty and staff and for department chairs within NTID has been consistent and exceptional," says NTID President Alan Hurwitz. "She has consistently exercised her leadership in other areas of RIT as well, and is indeed known for her contributions throughout the entire higher education community."

Haefner says he looks forward to working with Licata because of her experience, skills and outlook. "Her years on campus mean that she will bring to the office of the



Christine Licata



Laurie Brewer

provost great institutional knowledge and experience," says Haefner. "She's a great thinker and has demonstrated superb leadership acumen.

Finally, she's got a great outlook—wanting to add positive value to what we do here at RIT. She will shine in this new role."

Laurie Brewer, who has been serving as NTID's associate dean for academic administration, will assume Licata's responsibilities as interim associate vice president for academic affairs at NTID for up to two years.

"I'm looking forward to working with an outstanding group of department chairs and the inspired senior leadership of the college to complete our current strategic plan in 2010," Brewer says. "The faculty and the students at RIT/NTID deserve the absolute best academic leadership and service possible." ■

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Market kicks off Aug. 28

The RIT Farmers' Market opens for the first time Aug. 28 outside the east end of Gordon Field House and Activities Center.

The market, featuring fruits, vegetables and breads, along with a variety of live noontime entertainment, will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 9. The RIT Farmers' Market is sponsored by the RIT Better Me/Employee Wellness Committee.

For more information, contact betterme@rit.edu or visit the "RIT Farmers Market" Facebook group. ■

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Manning gives first-year students lessons in debt management

Consumer debt among American college students is at an all time high but it's not an issue that's being ignored.

How and why are credit card companies targeting incoming college students? What steps are we taking at RIT to address the issue?

To the rescue is Robert Manning, author of *Credit Card Nation*, and research professor of consumer financial services at RIT's E. Philip Saunders College of Business.

During orientation on Monday, Aug. 25, Manning will offer two interactive sessions with first-year



Bob Manning

students and their families about "Reality ByTES: The Perils of Plastic in the Credit Card Nation." The first session runs from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and the second from 3:45 to 6 p.m., at NTID's Robert F. Panara Theatre.

According to Manning, "American attitudes toward credit and debt have experienced a profound transformation over the last three decades of the deregulation of the U. S. banking industry, with America witnessing a historically unprecedented rise in household debt levels and record low consumer savings rates."

Manning will focus on budgeting, debt management and credit reports, with an emphasis on applications for college students. Worksheets will be made available to the audience. ■

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A new kind of television series



Susan Lakin, RIT professor of photography and digital imaging, has her photographs on view at the Rochester Biennial, an exhibition at the Memorial Art Gallery showcasing artists who live and work in the region. Lakin says: "These photographs examine two alternate dimensions, one in the television screen and the other of the room containing the television. I photograph my subject's reflection on their inactive television set by enhancing the screen's mirror image with artificial light and later removing the camera digitally." The Biennial is an invitational that runs through Sept. 14. Lakin was selected based on the caliber of her work in last year's Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition.

Bronze medalists say 'bon appetit'



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

The American Culinary Federation held a week long conference for college chefs at the University of Massachusetts June 16-20. RIT chefs who attended, left to right, were Tom Savidge, Dale Courtright, Adam Soucy and Herlan Manurung. The group was awarded with a bronze medal at the American Culinary Federation Sanctioned Team Culinary Competition that was held the last day of the conference.



A.Sue Weisler | photographer

The images shown here are a small portion of the more than 100 paintings by Clifford M. Ulp, a Mechanics Institute professor and director of the School of Art and Design, 1913-1952, and Milton E. Bond, another Mechanics Institute professor. These works, along with others by Walter Sacks, are on exhibition at the Antiques Mall of Rochester, 400 West Commercial St., East Rochester, through Aug. 30.

Weightless Wonder from page 1

program allows undergraduate students to propose, build and fly a reduced gravity scientific experiment. RIT was one of 40 selected from more than 80 submissions.

“I am really excited I got to go,” says Sharp ’08. “It was a lot of fun. You did end up floating off the floor. I found I had to keep grabbing on to things to keep myself from floating all over uncontrollably.”

The aircraft, more popularly known as the “Vomit Comet” follows a parabolic flight path, providing short periods of free fall in which people experience reduced gravity or weightlessness, similar to a ride on a rollercoaster. During the 90-minute flight, participants experience more than 30 free falls, each lasting between 18 and 25 seconds.

The team’s experiment looked at the feasibility of inkjet printing in a microgravity environment, focusing on print heads, ink drop characteristics, ink drop flight and printing accuracy.

“We tested thermal and piezo electric methods of inkjet printing in microgravity, consisting of two different tests, printing out standard targets to see if there were any changes in print quality,” says Craven ’08. “We also used a high-speed camera to image an inkjet droplet to

see if there was a difference in size, shape, speed and amount.”

The data is being examined and the team will submit its research findings to NASA.

“The creation of circuit boards could be one potential application used in space by utilizing modified inkjet technology,” says Ubelacker, a fourth-year student. “The technology requires placing small volumes of liquid into a very accurate location so our data from the printers could be helpful.”

The team met many RIT alumni who work at Johnson Space Center and had the chance to present their experiment to astronaut Barbara Morgan. They also toured mission control for the International Space Station.

This is the second time NASA has selected a student team from RIT to be part of this program. In 1997, four undergraduate students in the imaging and photographic technology program flew aboard the Vomit Comet.

So did the Vomit Comet live up to its reputation? For some, but not all.

“Weightlessness is quite an interesting experience along with the nausea that comes with it,” says Whetstone ’08. “Luckily for me, I did not expel anything.” ■

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Parking from page 1

ever bicycle program at RIT. A Web site for this program is under development and will be functional in September.

■ Enhanced Shuttle Service— Barnes & Noble and Park Point Shuttle Stops—The on-campus shuttle now has a stop at the new bookstore and Park Point residential areas.

Fall Transit Service Enhancements—The number of buses providing on-campus service will double this fall. Buses will now run every 10 minutes throughout the day. The Green Line and late-evening shuttle routes are also being modified. New fall bus schedules will be posted soon.

■ Resident Student Parking Changes—Resident Student parking

restrictions in academic lots (D, E, F, G, H, J, M, L, R, S, T and U) and all reserved lots (including Grace Watson Circle, Kate Gleason Circle, Sol Heuman Circle and CIMS West) will be effective from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Resident Students include anyone living in Park Point, Colony Manor, Perkins Apartments, University Commons, Riverknoll and all residence halls.

■ Reserved Parking Permits and Multi-Lot Permits—Resident Students are not eligible for reserved parking permits. Reserved parking permits are valid only for RIT’s student commuters and employees. Multi-lot permits are only valid in Lots J, F, E and M.

For information, visit www.rit.edu/parking. ■

news&events

www.rit.edu/newsevents



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Edison from page 2

demonstrations of a Toyota Prius and a Chevy Equinox.

“The contest was a great success for all involved,” notes Ethan Ketterer, who led the project for Edison. “Students were able to get a hands-on education in alternative energy, see their ideas come to light, while having an opportunity to interact with professionals currently working in the field. We are looking forward to working with RIT to expand our efforts in sustainability in the future.”

The Edison Complex and the Golisano Institute are now developing a sustainability conference, Eco Fest, to be held during the 2008-2009 school year, that will seek to engage students, teachers and staff in demonstrations and discussions related to alternative energy, pollution prevention, recycling and sustainable design.

The partnership with Edison is a component of the Golisano Institute’s K-12 outreach initiative, which seeks to promote the enhancement of education in sustainability in elementary and secondary settings, while also providing training to teachers on how the discipline can be incorporated into current curricula. ■

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NRS awards from page 1



Ken Huth | photographer

Kevin and Nancy Gavagan

individuals who create a legacy through planned giving to the university. They established the Donald N. and Jeris J. Boyce Endowed Scholarship and have supported a variety of other campus projects. They are also members of the NRS Trustee’s Circle, which recognizes their extraordinary support of RIT.

Donald Boyce graduated from RIT in 1967 with a bachelor’s

Newsmakers

Amit Batabyal, the Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics, wrote *Dynamic and Stochastic Approaches to the Environment and Economic Development*. In addition, he presented “The Impact of Innovation on a Polluting Firm’s Regulation Driven Decision to Upgrade its Capital Stock” at the conference of the Western Regional Science Association in Hawaii.

Stefi Baum, director of the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, wrote a chapter, “The Accidental Astronomer,” in *Motherhood, the Elephant in the Laboratory: Women Scientists Speak Out*, edited by Emily Monosson.

Bernard Brooks, assistant head of research programs in the School of Mathematical Sciences, was invited by the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory to present his talk, “Spreading Rumors on Facebook” at the Science on Saturday Lecture Series in March.

Robert Manning, research professor and director of the Center for Consumer Financial Services at RIT’s E. Philip Saunders College of Business, was featured in a segment on credit card debt on NPR’s “All Things Considered” morning program on July 1, followed by a guest appearance on CNN’s *Lou Dobbs* evening news program on July 3.

Cyril Reade, assistant professor of fine arts, wrote *Mendelssohn to Mendelsohn: Visual Case Studies of Jewish Life in Berlin*. The work is the eighth volume in the *Studies in German Jewish History* series published by Peter Lang Publishing Group.

Carol Romanowski, assistant professor in the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies, presented research in data clustering and cluster assignments using the CUSUM method to signal significant changes in density, shape and content of spatial data clusters at the annual Conference for the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science.

Sandra Rothenberg and **Clyde Eirikur Hull**, business professors in management, published their research results on the corporate social responsibility debate in an article in the *Strategic Management Journal*.

David Schwartz, professor of information technology, has been named the chair of the ACM SIGGRAPH Sandbox Symposium 2008. The conference focuses on innovations in video game theory and practice.

Alan Singer, professor of art, showcased some of his limited edition prints at the exhibition *The Very Good Show* at IndexG in Toronto. Singer was one of 100 international artists whose work was on display.

degree in business administration, and he has served on the RIT Board of Trustees since 1999. He served as chair of RIT’s Presidential Search Committee, a member of the Hospitality and Service Management National Advisory Board, and he assumed a leadership role in the Campaign for RIT, which concluded successfully in 2006. Boyce has been the recipient of RIT’s Outstanding Alumnus Award as well as the Distinguished Alumni Award in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

Prior to retiring in 2000, Boyce served as chair and CEO of IDEX Corp., a diversified manufacturing firm. He has been a board member of numerous publicly traded companies and is currently director of Muller Water Products in Atlanta.

The Gavagans have been members of NRS since 1991. Their service to the organization has included serving on its executive committee, the awards committee, the membership/alumni outreach committee, the scholarship committee, and the NRS committee

supporting the Campaign for RIT, which was successfully completed in 2006.

Kevin Gavagan is a certified financial analyst and principal and portfolio manager at QCI Asset Management Inc., and he is a 1979 MBA graduate of the E. Philip Saunders College of Business. He serves on the board of directors for Venture Creations, RIT’s high technology business incubator. A former member of the Saunders College alumni advisory council, he was honored by the college in 2004 with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Nancy Gavagan has served as a member of RIT’s Women’s Council since 2006. Together, the Gavagans have supported RIT’s general scholarship fund, the NRS scholarship fund, the Saunders College of Business and several other campus initiatives.

The Nathaniel Rochester Society celebrated its 40th anniversary at this year’s gala. Its mission through the years has been to develop friends and ambassadors to promote and support RIT. ■

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Obituaries

Robert Howie, 2007 retiree from Campus Connections bookstore, Aug. 6.

Harold Kentner, former professor emeritus and assistant dean, July 15.

Sue Wilshaw, 2003 retiree from the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences dean’s office, June 28.