RIT is again recognized in "America's Best Colleges" category. RIT received a top score in the "Best Universities-Master's (North region)" category. RIT also received the second highest peer assessment score, which is a survey of presidents, provosts and deans from other universities judging a school's academic excellence.

The Bernard Osher Foundation has awarded $2 million to RIT for endowments to be equally shared by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT and the Osher Scholars Program at RIT's Center for Multidisciplinary Studies. "RIT is enormously grateful to the Bernard Osher Foundation for this wonderful endowment," says RIT President Bill Destler. "Two years ago, we received operating support to establish the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, previously known as the Athenaum, and the Osher Reentry Scholarship Program for older students returning to full-time undergraduate study. "This endowment, totaling $2 million, provides the financial foundation essential for both of these programs to flourish for years to come."

"The Bernard Osher Foundation was founded in 1977 by businessman Bernard Osher. His wife, the Honorable Barbara Osher, Consul General of Sweden in San Francisco, chairs the foundation’s Board of Directors. The foundation seeks to improve quality of life through the support of post-secondary scholars and lifelong learning programs at institutions of higher education across the country as well as arts and culture initiatives in the San Francisco Bay area and in the state of Maine. The foundation also funds integrative medicine centers at Harvard University, the University of California, San Francisco, and the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT—an affiliate of RIT since 1987—is an academic-based and membership-led organization that stimulates minds and forges friendships among people ages 50 and older who live in Greater Rochester. "The Osher endowment will provide support to help us grow and enhance our lifelong learning program at RIT," says Julie Blomer, program director.

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News briefs

Osher course previews
If you’re age 50 or over—and appreciate learning about the arts, literature, sciences, history and government—then Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT is the place for you. Free course previews of fall sessions will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. Sept. 8 and 10 at Osher’s Ath- ensium Building, 153 Research Blvd.

On tap for Monday’s class-room activities are: Eight Great Theories of Personality; The Death Culture, Peer Group Semi-nar; Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail, Succeed, and The Women of World War II. Wednesday’s highlights include: Guy Clancy: The Man and His Movie: Do Box Office Receipts Really Matter; Women Jazz Vocalists; Sing the American Songbook; Birding, and In Pursuit of the Dream: Paths to the Pacific.

New members are welcome. For more information, call 292-8989 or visit www.rit.edu/osher.

Motorola donation
The Motorola Foundation has donated $38,000 to help support TechGirlz, a week-long summer program at RIT/NTID that shows girls who have had a hearing loss and are entering the seventh, eighth or ninth grades to explore career options in math, science and engineering. The program completed its third year at the end of July, when 20 girls from around the country participated. They used their own computers to keep, designed Web sites, studied the DNA of a banana (followed by banana smoothies) and studied rollercoaster engineering at a local amusement park.

Mentors needed
Faculty and staff are needed to serve as mentors for students participating in RIT’s Global Leadership Certificate Program. Mentors will be paired up with students and will be required to attend a kick-off event, training seminars and individual mentor meetings. For details or to submit an application to become a mentor, call 475-5453 or e-mail swsproject@rit.edu. The application deadline is Sept. 10.

The program is sponsored by the Chief Diversity Officer and the Rochester Institute and Community Service Center.

RIT Press unveils RIT’s new Brick City Café
Welcome to the Brick City Café. You might know it better as “the SAC cafeteria”—but somehow that more pedestrian-sounding name seems inadequate following a summer makeover that has transformed the popular eatery from its previous late-1980s décor to its new 21st century pizazz. (President Reagon was in office, all the way back in 1988, the last time RIT’s centrally located dining facility underwent large-scale renovations—not that’s a lot of flyin’ hamburgers ago!)

Improving foot-traffic flow was a primary reason for this year’s redo, says Gary Gusper ’93 (B.T. food management), director of student union dining services. That has been achieved by relocating a “food island” away from the center of the floor.

Among other noticeable enhancements are the additions of five electronic menus giving patrons color photos and pricing information for daily entree specials. (The modified digital picture frames were custom-programmed and programmed in-house at a fraction of the cost charged by a vendor, says Gusper.) Each station also has new permanent signage. Plus, new countertops and illuminated glass-queue guards improve the appearance of the café and food service.

Rosenbaum, page 4

Gusper says a Wegmans Food Market lighting specialist was consulted on enhancing food presentation. Other changes include the expansion and relocation of coffees and teas, which have been combined with a self-serve bagel/English muffin/toast station. Bakery items, such as cookies and scones, which formerly occupied the space, have been moved to the checkout area (new displays will be installed soon, Gusper says). Total cost of the renovations was $150,000.

But not everything is different. The fruits of photography

The Student Alliance Union cafeteria re-opened Aug. 18 revealing renovations, enhancements such as electronic menus, and a new name: Brick City Café.

SPAS Gallery opens new season with ‘Witness’

In the 1980s, the U.S. government carried out experiments in “Remote Viewing” the tactical use of extrasensory perception to gather intelligence information. Known by the code name “Stargate Project,” this telepathic spy network endeavor became the basis for a long-distance collaborative project by photo-based artists Nate Larson and Marni Shindelman. Probing their own telepathic abilities, Larson and Shindelman conducted experiments of psychic perception and surveillance by attempting to remotely “observe” each other’s actions.

The exhibition Witness—on view from Sept. 12-28 at SPAS Gallery—comprises the images, drawings and writing documenting the course of the artists’ collaborative experiments. An artist reception is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 12.

With wit and irony, Larson and Shindelman playfully explore the concept of the “power of the mind” and extraordinary experiences, both real and imagined.

Larson is a Chicago-based artist and photographer. He is professor of photography at Elgin Community College in Illinois and is currently in residence at RIT’s School of Photographic Arts and Sciences as a visiting professor.

Shindelman is assistant professor of art and an associate of the Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Rochester. She recently co-organized the 2007 exhibition absence/excess, a show with international artists, at Rochester Contemporary Gallery, a contemporary art installation involving both physical objects and musing.

For more information about Witness, call Therese Mulligan at 475-2884.

No Room for Democracy

Democracy walks readers through Rosenbaum’s unique life—which started in 1931 as a Jewish boy growing up in a predominantly gentile community and suffering from the rare disease alopecia (the premature loss of hair). The book takes readers through Rosenbaum’s time as a college boxing star to Nelson Rockefeller’s right-hand man and an integral part of the Republican Party nationally.

No Room For Democracy puts readers front and center of key events in our nation’s modern political history—events that Rosenbaum both witnessed and affected.

• The campaign he successfully orchestrated leading to Nelson Rocke feller being named Gerald Ford’s vice president.

• When Ford replaced Nixon as president and had to appoint a new vice president, George W. Bush was actively pursuing the job. Many insiders were surprised when he did not get it—all credited Rosenbaum for the coup.

• Behind-the-scenes campaign to deny Ronald Reagan the Republican presidential nomination in 1976 and gain the nomination for Gerald Ford.

• His dominance of the state Republican Party and alliance with Rockefeller launched him into a political career.

Right-hand man and an integral part of the Republican Party nationally.

Kurzweil kicks off Gannett series

Ray Kurzweil, inventor, entrepreneur and futurist who is a key innovator in the development of artificial intelligence and radical life extension, kicks off the 2008-2009 Caroline Werner Gannett Project at RIT on Sept. 17. Kurzweil will present "The Singularity is Near: When Humans Transcend Biology," an adaptation of his best-selling book of the same name, which is also being made into a motion picture. According to Mary Lynn Brot, Gannett Professor of Humanities and director of the Gannett Project: “Ray Kurzweil is a revolutionary, one of the leading voices in predicting the impact of accelerating technological progress on health, longevity, invention and business in our 21st century. We are delighted to have this ‘futurist genius’ speak at RIT.”

Kurzweil is a pioneer in the fields of optical character recognition, text-to-speech synthesis and speech recognition technology. He invented the CCD flatbed scanner and the OCR, page 4

The Triangles of Ignorance Contemporary Exhibit Ray M. Koperski, editor

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RIT, New York focus on pollution research at new center

RIT’s efforts to enhance the development of sustainability research and education took the next step forward with the unveiling of the New York State Pollution Institute during a ceremony last month on campus.

Pete Grannis, commissioner of New York’s Department of Environmental Conservation, hosted the event, which officially opened the statewide center focused on reducing pollution generation and improving the environmental quality of New York state industries.

"With the launch of this cutting-edge research center, we will combine state investment, academic innovation and business leadership to transform manufacturing processes and propel New York businesses to the forefront of the global green economy," Grannis says. "And by doing so, we will ensure a better environment and a greener bottom line."

The open house included technology demonstrations of pollution prevention methods being developed by the institute as well as an information session on current testing, technology transfer and tools, and resources available to New York state businesses.

The open house was preceded by the first meeting of the institute’s advisory board, which includes industry, government and environmental leaders from across the state.

This is truly a unique and unprecedented opportunity for statewide collaboration around a common purpose, and I know that I speak for all of our partners in our commitment to our resounding success," adds RIT President Bill Destler. "The competition for the institute was intense, and the track record of success that we were able to demonstrate, including the outstanding responses of experts within RIT and our partner universities, were key factors in our selection."

"RIT was named host of the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute in February and is partnering with the University at Buffalo, Clarkson University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and New York’s ten Regional Technology Development Centers to create a statewide network for technology development and information dissemination in the areas of pollution prevention and sustainable design and manufacturing."

This network will utilize 16 research and development test beds, or technological laboratories, across the state. Capabilities of these test beds will include environmental engineering of nanomaterials and printing applications at RIT, green processing and biosurfactants testing at Clarkson, polymer processing and testing at Rensselaer and sustainable chemical processes at the University at Buffalo.

"As sustainability grows in importance, the greener New York businesses become, the better they will be able to maintain a strong position in the global economy," says Clarkson University President Tony Collins.

"The University at Buffalo is proud to be able to bring to the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute its many, interdisciplinary assets in green chemistry, sustainable water use, conservation and toxicology and risk reduction," says Harvey Stenger Jr., dean of the university’s Pollution Prevention Center.

Conference encourages deaf students to discuss issues

College students with hearing loss from around the world met Aug. 9-16, in East Syracuse, England for PEN International’s Summer Leadership Institute, a week-long event offering presentations, discussions and hands-on activities. RIT/NTID sent a delegation of four students plus faculty and staff to the conference.

It was the second biennial conference to develop leadership and advocacy skills among student leaders in community service, general access, support services and employment.

Having participants from across the world helped them understand the world the students will face upon graduating in a global economy.

"What struck me the most is that each student has a culture and intellectual profile that is flexible with various learning strategies," says NTID President Alan Hurwitz, who served as a faculty member at the conference. "All of them displayed their sensitivity and caring for one another. They were always eager to sit down with each other to discuss issues and ideas for leadership development."

Dr. Spadaqo, a professional and technical communications student at RIT/NTID, called his experience "unforgettable."

"It was an amazing time, one where I was able to expose myself to cultures other than my own," he said. "The people I met were amazing and so full of character. It was interesting to learn some Japanese, Russian and Chinese as well as their traditions."

The other students who attended were Kate McGinn, majoring in advertising and photography; Elena Islandakova, majoring in accounting; and Christie Ong, an advertising and public relations major.

Trip expenses were paid by PEN International, a multinational partnership of colleges intended to improve and expand post-secondary education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students by sharing educational technology and conducting faculty development. PEN International, based at NTID, is funded by grants from The Nippon Foundation of Japan. Generous gifts from Isabel, Alfred and RIT Trustee Daniel Rader also supported the U.S. students.

Glenn named associate dean of grad studies

Chance Glenn has accepted associate dean of graduate studies. In his new position, Glenn will have special responsibilities for enhancing academic, research, and social opportunities for graduate students, communications and outreach, recruitment and special projects.

He will also advise on planning and policy matters. "I’m delighted to welcome Chance Glenn to the Office of Graduate Studies," says Andrew Moore, dean of graduate studies. "This will greatly strengthen our efforts to enhance the educational experience of all graduate students. Chance will help members of the graduate studies community to build RIT’s reputation in research.

Glenn came to RIT in 2003 as an associate professor in the Department of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering Technology in the College of Applied Science and Technology. He is the director of the McGowan Center for Telecommunications Innovation and Collaborative Research.

"I’m very excited to take on this new role and look forward to improving the lives of our graduate students," says Glenn. "With graduate studies an important mission here at RIT, it’s my goal to create an environment that allows students and faculty to grow in this area.

Fill ‘er up for a ‘green’ future

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School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. "Here at Rensselaer, we will be focused on educating businesses around the state on how to improve their current processes and to develop new processes to ensure minimal environmental impact," says Piwko, professor of chemical and biological engineering and lead researcher for the project at Rensselaer.

In 2005, the Federal Toxics Release Inventory reported that New York State companies generated 312 million pounds of toxic-chemical waste, indicative of the type of materials used in products and manufacturing processes. The initiative will help industry address these issues by applying best practices and targeted research, development, and diffusion to make technology and manufacturable processes more safe and efficient. Pollution Prevention is the first of its kind in the nation.

In 2005, RIT was purchased by Xerox, and has started 10 optical character recognition (OCR) companies that generate $312 million in revenue. The first OCR company was purchased by Xerox, and has started 10 optical character recognition (OCR) companies that generate $312 million in revenue. The first OCR company was purchased by Xerox, and has started 10 optical character recognition (OCR) companies that generate $312 million in revenue.

Kurzweil Reading Machine for the blind, the first on-site font, optical character recognition system. It was purchased by Xerox, and has written five books.

As a futurist, Kurzweil correctly predicted the explosion of the Internet and the use of computerized, intelligent weapons systems. He is a member of the National Inventors Hall of Fame and received the National Medal of Technology from President Bill Clinton in 1999.

The Caroline W. Gannett Project was created in 2006 to explore new intersections of the sciences, technologies, social sciences and humanities for the educational and cultural enhancement of RIT students and the broader Rochester community. The project brings in noted scholars, authors and artists for a series of lectures, colloquia and workshops related to innovations across different disciplines. An elec-
tyce course, "Visionaries in Motion," will be offered in 2008-2009 in conjunction with the series through RIT's College of Liberal Arts and the Honors Program.

The new course, open to students at all levels, is a rare opportunity to learn more about and interview a slate of world-renowned scholars and artists who will visit RIT this year as part of Gannett's "Visionaries in Motion" series," adds Broe. For more information, visit www.cwg.org. All Gannett events are free and open to the public.

RIT, explains: "At this time, we are among 121 university-based Osher lifelong learning institutes nationwide which together provide educa-
tional programming for over 70,000 people. The Osher endowment award is a major national recognition of the value of our program. We are pleased and proud of that recognition." The Osher Renesty Scholarship program offers scholarships totaling over $100,000. "It is a major national recognition of the value of our program. We are pleased and proud of that recognition."

Walking into sports history

Submitted by Jan Weinstock

Members of the National Champion 1982-1983 RIT men's hockey team were inducted into the 2008 Frontier Field Walk of Fame in conjunction with the Greater Rochester Sports Authority Aug. 10. The squad was honored in the "Team of the Ages" category. The 15-member group was honored before the Greater Rochester Sports Authority Aug. 10. The squad was honored in the "Team of the Ages" category.

"We must begin a more organized effort to tell the world about what is happening at RIT," added Destler. Now this year, the administration will try to open up "open administration initiative" in which Destler and the vice presidents will go to reports to the campus community on issues such as strategic, budgeting, new academic programs, new enrollment, fundraising, facility planning, research programs, diversity efforts, student affairs and community and government relations.

"In this manner I hope to keep the RIT community informed of important new initiatives and obtain broader campus input before significant decisions are made."