

RIT celebrates groundbreaking for Vignelli Center for Design Studies

The iconic designs of Massimo and Lella Vignelli resonate around the world from their furniture and products to their corporate identity programs for such companies as Ford Motor Company, Bloomingdales, Xerox and American Airlines.

The archive collection of these design pioneers will be the centerpiece of the Vignelli Center for Design Studies at RIT. The Vignellis were the guests of honor at a groundbreaking ceremony on Oct. 7.

The Vignellis, longtime friends and supporters of RIT’s School of Design, are the visionaries behind such timeless classics as the

Vignelli, page 8



A.Sue Weisler | photographer

Lella and Massimo Vignelli at Oct. 7 groundbreaking ceremony.

Sustainability Ph.D. gets state approval

RIT has received New York state approval for its doctoral degree in sustainability. The Ph.D. program is the first in the world focused on sustainable production and seeks to advance research and education in alternative-energy development, sustainable design, green product development, industrial ecology and pollution prevention.

The program is being offered through RIT’s Golisano Institute for Sustainability, a comprehensive academic, training and technology-transfer center devoted to enhancing the development of sustainable systems in all aspects of society.

“The sustainability Ph.D. program will enhance RIT’s continued efforts to create cutting edge academic research and innovation that has real world impact,” says RIT President Bill Destler. “In addition, the combined training and education initiatives provided by the Golisano Institute will prepare our next generation of scientists and engineers to meet the sustainability challenges of the 21st century.”

“The Golisano Institute for Sustain-

“The creation of this doctoral degree will allow us to take the next step in developing research, technologies and education that make the twin goals of economic competitiveness and environmental quality a reality.”
—Nabil Nasr

ability is dedicated to developing and implementing technologies that enhance environmental quality while also promoting economic efficiency and productivity,” notes Nabil Nasr, director of the Golisano Institute. “The creation of this doctoral degree will allow us to take the next step in developing research, technologies and education that make the twin goals of economic competitiveness and environmental quality a reality.”

RIT plans to admit students into the program immediately and is also recruiting additional faculty and research associates. Development of

the program is made possible through an initial grant from the Henry Luce Foundation.

The Golisano Institute for Sustainability was founded in 2007 thanks to a \$10 million gift from B. Thomas Golisano, founder and chairman of Paychex Inc. and an RIT trustee. The center has received additional funding from the Chester & Dorris Carlson Charitable Fund, Xerox Corp., the New York State Assembly and the New York State Senate. RIT is developing plans for the construction of a new facility that will house the Golisano Institute and Ph.D. program.

“I am confident that this Ph.D. program will combine with our additional initiatives to make the Golisano Institute for Sustainability one of the leading institutes of its kind in our nation and throughout the world,” adds Jeremy Haefner, RIT’s provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. “RIT hopes to be at the forefront of the effort to make our society and our planet more sustainable for today and for generations to come.” ■

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The Brick City celebrates Homecoming 2008



Ken Huth | photographer

RIT’s Brick City Homecoming celebration was held on campus Oct. 8-12. Turn to pages 4-5 for more photos from this year’s celebration weekend.



Faculty, staff and students are ready to turn up the volume on RIT’s annual fundraising effort.

ROAR Day, the third annual Raise Our Annual Responses initiative, takes place on Thursday, Oct. 23. A kickoff ceremony, hosted by RIT President Bill Destler and Jeremy Haefner, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, begins at 9:45 a.m. in front of the Student Alumni Union.

Stations will be set up across campus to encourage annual gifts to RIT. Contributions from the more than 1,200 RIT alumni employees are especially encouraged. This group will play a key role in helping the Fund for RIT achieve this year’s goal of 10 percent overall alumni participation.

Students are encouraged to support their particular areas of interest at RIT. In addition, President Destler and Rebecca Johnson are offering a dollar-for-dollar match to student gifts totalling up to \$10,000.

Volunteers will be available to assist with gift giving from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. along the walkway in front of the SAU; from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the SAU Café, Shumway Commons, Student Life Center, and the main entrance to Wallace Library; from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Crossroads and the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences atrium; from 3 to 6 p.m. inside Barnes and Noble @ RIT; from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Grace Watson Hall lobby; from 8 to 10 p.m. in the SAU lobby; and at the Corner Store from 10 to 11 p.m. Cash, checks, credit cards, payroll deduction pledges and Tiger Bucks will be accepted at all locations. Gifts can also be made online at rit.edu/makeagift.

Last year, nearly 800 ROAR Day participants helped raise more than \$22,500 for RIT students, programs and facilities. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

The great glass pumpkin



Students and faculty in the School for American Crafts’ glass program are making one-of-a-kind hand blown pumpkins to sell. The annual Glass Pumpkin Patch sale is 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 18 in the Red Barn on the west side of campus. Prices range from \$15 to \$150. The proceeds will benefit the Visiting Artist Series in the school’s glass program and RIT Women’s Council scholarships.

A.Sue Weisler | photographer

Student Spotlight

Throughout his high school and college years, Michael Lawson excelled on the soccer field. He was offered college scholarships and has traveled the world playing and being team captain of the U.S. Deaf Soccer team.

Now Lawson has other goals. He plans to finish his master’s degree in secondary education this spring and start a career as a math teacher.

“I’ve always wanted to be a teacher,” Lawson says. “My mom and my sister are both teachers. I visited them in their classrooms, and I loved it.”

He has even found a way to combine his love of soccer and

Athletics opens doors for NTID student

teaching. He is in his second year as an assistant coach on the RIT men’s soccer team.

A native of Howell, N.J., Lawson was born deaf to a hearing family. Hearing aids enable him to hear some sounds, but he relied on interpreters through much of his schooling and on the playing field.

Although he enjoys many sports, soccer always appealed to him. He began to play when he was 6 years old.

“I was never a big-sized player, so soccer was for me,” he says. “I have a lot of speed.”

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Michael Lawson

Awards, honors

Annual recognition awards honor outstanding staff, page 2

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Essay explores the power of philanthropy, page 3

Research and Scholarship

Research project studies marine gas emissions, environmental impact, page 6



Upcoming events

Campus Week of Dialogue forums set, page 7

Administration open forum

The first forum of the “Open Administration” series, Progress and Prospects by RIT President Bill Destler, will be held 3:30-4:30 p.m. Oct. 30 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union. The forums are designed to share progress reports on plans of work, seek feedback on emerging initiatives and solicit suggestions and questions related to divisional missions. Questions may be e-mailed in advance to Kit Mayberry at kjmgpt@rit.edu by Oct. 27.

College of Science talk

The College of Science’s Distinguished Speaker Series will present a guest lecture by physicist and author Ronald Mallett based on his book *Time Traveler: A Scientist’s Personal Mission to Make Time Travel a Reality*.

He will give his talk, Science of Time Travel: Possibility and Promise, at 4 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Gosnell Building, room 1250. A book signing will follow at 5 p.m. in the Bruce and Nora James Atrium.

Mallett, professor of physics at University of Connecticut, will discuss the possibility of time travel via Einstein’s theories of relativity and highlight his own current research. The lecture will also consider the problems and paradoxes of time travel.

Hale ethics lectures

The Hale Ethics Series continues with Explanation and Scientific Progress: The Case of Quantum Entanglement, by Arthur Fine, professor of philosophy at University of Washington, at noon in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business, room 3215.

Scott Boylston, professor at the Savannah College of Art and Design, will also present The Struggles for Regimes of Truth: Power, Artistic Expression and Leadership, 4 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium.

Create now, sustain forever

OpenBook@RIT and Lulu.com invite RIT students and alumni to submit short stories, essays, poetry, fiction, scholarly/creative non-fiction or images on the theme of “The Promise of Sustainability.” A cash prize will be awarded to winners in three categories. Download a submission form at www.lulu.com/landing/sustainability/. Entries must be submitted by Nov. 10. Winners will be announced at a Dec. 5 awards ceremony. For more information, contact John Roche at 475-4922.

NTID research grant

NTID’s Center for Education Research Partnerships has received a three-year, \$966,430 grant to study how students with hearing loss comprehend information presented in sign language or real-time text. The research will focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The investigators expect that comprehension will vary as a function of factors such as method of presentation, students’ preferred mode of communication, the nature of the materials and several demographic variables.

Annual staff awards honor outstanding employees

The 12th annual Staff Recognition Awards were held Oct. 1. The awards are given to individuals or teams who have excelled in the performance of their duties and created a positive environment for all members of the RIT community. This year’s honorees are:

Jacob Noel-Storr, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, College of Science. Noel-Storr is the first recipient of the Rising Star Award which recognizes a staff member with three years or less of service to the university who presents progressive examples of high-quality service, has demonstrated a willingness to work collaboratively with colleagues and university constituents and shows imagination, creativity and innovation which embody the RIT spirit. According to information provided on the nomination forms: “Jake is completely devoted to the students in everything he does. When he is working with the students on one aspect, he is at the same time concerned about their success in other areas. He is part of the whole RIT community in every aspect that he gets involved with, without regard to office boundaries. His orange laces will capture your attention, his intelligence will keep you captivated, and his integrity



Jacob Noel-Storr

is what you will remember.”

Lisa Bodenstedt, first-year enrichment, Student Affairs. One nominator says: “One of Lisa’s greatest strengths is the patience and consistent support that she demonstrates for her students. She has an approachability that resonates with them, and they trust her with their significant challenges. Since Lisa came to FYE, FYE is better. RIT is better. Our students are better.”



Lisa Bodenstedt

Nicole Boulais, Academic Support Center. Comments about Nicole Boulais included: “Nicole has worked tirelessly to design innovative and creative interventions to help students succeed and to help the broader campus community understand how students perceive their university experience. Nicole is an institutional treasure, and the campus community is much richer for her exceptional and tireless devotion to helping faculty and staff better understand and improve the RIT student experience.”



Nicole Boulais

Marcia Carroll, School of Print Media, College of Imaging Arts and Sciences. “Marcia is the soul of our

department for students, and she would be the first person to drop everything for a student and always has. I can not think of anyone on campus who touched my life while I was a student more than Marcia. She was like a second mom and still is,” says one nominator.

Jeff Cox and Susan Joseph, International Student Services. One nominator states: “Jeff and Sue are honest and ethical, but also able to work without the rules and regulations getting in the way of serving the students. This team’s instincts in designing and building a strong student-centered service unit are exceptional, perhaps because they don’t perceive themselves as providing ‘a service’ but rather assisting international students and scholars achieve a life-long dream of studying in the United States. Their



Marcia Carroll



Jeff Cox and Susan Joseph

commitment to personalize an often confusing and overwhelming federal immigration system and to make a personal investment in the success and achievement of each and every student is exceptional.”

Dancy Duffus, RIT trustee emeritus, presented the third annual Dancy Duffus Outstanding Citizenship Award, which recognizes staff members who consistently demonstrate a high degree of excellence, professionalism and integrity in the performance of their duties, and who have proven a willingness to extend themselves to help other members of the RIT community.

This year’s award was presented to **Gary Gasper**, dining services. Comments included: “Gary Gasper is an extraordinary person who believes in the abilities of each student. He has motivated and encouraged us to achieve the highest level of excellence and continually sets an example for others. It is because of this that Gary has made RIT a more enjoyable place to live, work and learn, and I believe that he deserves to be honored with your award. If I had to choose one person for the top 10 student-centered staff on campus, Gary would be that person.” ■



Gary Gasper

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Performing Artists Series welcomes pianist



Submitted photograph

Concert pianist Andrey Pisarev will perform the second concert in the 2008-2009 Performing Artists Concert Series, 8 p.m. Oct. 24 in the Student Alumni Union’s Ingle Auditorium. Pisarev is a professor at the Moscow Conservatory of Music and has won top prizes at the Mozart, Pretoria and Busoni International competitions. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$15 for faculty, staff and alumni and \$20 for the general public. They can be purchased at the Student Alumni Union candy counter or the Gordon Field House and Activities Center box office.

The art of domestication



Photo submitted by Laura Letinsky

Contemporary photographer Laura Letinsky will share her fine-art images of “domestic arrangements” in the first installment of the Charles Arnold Lecture Series. Whether it’s photographing the remains of daily meals, unmade tables or the intimacy between heterosexual couples, Letinsky says she tries to give her audience an extended essay on fragility. Her free lecture is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 30, in Webb Auditorium in the James E. Booth Building. Letinsky says, “I explore formal relationships between ripeness and decay, delicacy and awkwardness, control and haphazardness, waste and plentitude, pleasure and sustenance.” She is a professor at the University of Chicago. Her works are in several permanent collections, including at Yale University Art Gallery and the Art Institute of Chicago. Her lecture is sponsored by RIT’s School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

Professor captures beauty, science in winning image

‘Spinning string’ photo intrigues judges at International Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge

An image of a rapidly spinning string, shot by Andrew Davidhazy, RIT department chair of imaging and photographic technology, won an honorable mention in the photography category of the sixth annual International Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge.

The National Science Foundation along with the journal *Science*, published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, co-sponsored the challenge. Participants were asked to submit visualizations that would intrigue, explain and educate. More than 180 entries were received from illustrators, photographers, computer programmers and graphics specialists from 21 countries.

To create the visual effect in *String*

Vibrations, Davidhazy took a cotton string and tied one end to a tiny electric motor and the other to a small weight. The camera exposure time was about two seconds.

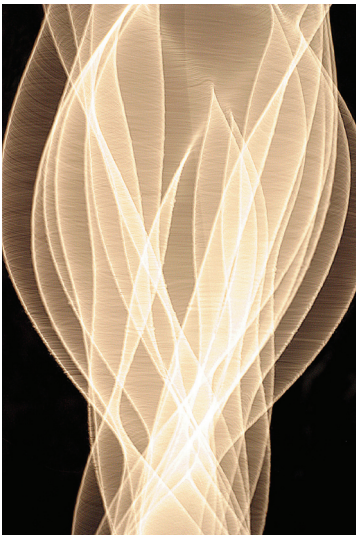
“The vibrating string appeared to have volume in the final image even though it was just a single string whirling in space,” says Davidhazy. “This was because the string delivered uneven amounts of exposure to the camera sensor as it rotated depending on whether it was traveling toward, away or across the camera’s lens. This created variations in exposure giving rise to brightness differences in the image. In effect, the moving string had become its own shutter.”

All of the winning entries can be seen on the National Science Foun-

dation Web site, the *Science* Web site and in the Sept. 26 issue of *Science* magazine. Awards were given out in photography, illustrations, informational graphics, non-interactive media and interactive media.

Jeff Nesbit, director of the National Science Foundation’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, praised the winners saying, “These visualizations are aids to understanding, keys to insight and tools for learning. They explain complex phenomena to the public, let researchers view their subjects from new perspectives and most importantly, spark the imaginations of students everywhere. We are indebted to these extraordinary individuals and very talented teams.” ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu



String Vibrations, award-winning photograph taken by Andrew Davidhazy

When people start discussions with words like “charitable trust,” “gift annuity” and “estate planning,” I get that glazed-over half smile that makes me look a little like a political candidate asked to explain the Bush Doctrine.

So it might seem odd that I would be writing about the importance of planned giving at RIT. I don’t make the big bucks and don’t have a big title. Single mothers who get their master’s degrees one class at a time while working full-time and shuttling kids to soccer and voice lessons are not the very model of modern philanthropy—but then again, maybe we are. Or maybe we should be.

Establishing a planned gift—an endowed scholarship that will go into effect when I’m, umm, gone, was part of a promise I made during those days of graduate courses. Days when I would whisper a promise to my grandmother who, though she

has passed on remains my spiritual touchstone, that when I finally got this degree I would honor her memory by establishing a scholarship in her name. A scholarship honoring a woman who did not attend school in her native Syria, yet sent any money she could back to her hometown to help support her deaf sister, who lived in a convent and was educated by nuns.

Thus the idea of the Mageeda Murad Endowed Scholarship Fund at RIT/NTID blossomed. At first, I was embarrassed to broach the subject with my colleagues—would it be possible for someone like me to do something like this? I had a ‘what if’ conversation with then-development officer Kathleen Martin, who didn’t laugh at all. In fact, she thought the idea was downright cool. Shortly thereafter, she produced the paper-work (which was easy to understand), I signed and voila! Now all I had to do was make sure this was stipulated

in my will and go about my business.

My planned gift is certainly not the biggest bequest RIT will ever receive. In fact, I figured folks here had forgotten about it. But it turns out that setting up a bequest enrolls you in the Ellingson Society – which explains why I get invited to all kinds of lovely events. No matter how small the gift, RIT wants you to know that it is appreciated and remembered.

I don’t particularly relish the concept of leaving this earth, but I am happy to know that when I do, students will benefit from a scholarship named after the tiny, yet amazing woman who did so much to help others. Those students will have what my grandmother wanted for her family—the opportunity to succeed. And that makes me very happy indeed.

Visit rit.planyourlegacy.org to learn more.

Susan Murad ’01 is marketing communications specialist at NTID.



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



Submitted photograph

Mustafa Abushagur, president of RIT Dubai, left, and Marwan Al Sawaleh, general manager of human resources at DUBAL, following completion of an agreement to create a research and education partnership between the two organizations. The memorandum of understanding was signed last month during a ceremony at the campus of RIT Dubai.

RIT Dubai sets standards for future collaborations

RIT Dubai has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Dubai Aluminum Company to create a unique partnership that will offer specialized post-graduate degrees and advanced graduate certificates to the firm’s employees, while also enhancing RIT Dubai’s research and outreach efforts.

Dubai Aluminum, also known as DUBAL, is the world’s seventh largest aluminum producer and one of largest industrial manufacturers in the United Arab Emirates.

“Over the past 180 years, RIT has successfully developed leaders in various educational and industry disciplines,” notes Mustafa Abushagur, president of RIT Dubai. “We feel honored to be able to continue these efforts through our partnership with DUBAL, which reflects our commitment to forge strategic alliances with top global performers.”

“At DUBAL, we consider our associates the nucleus of our operations and nurturing their talent is imperative to future growth,” adds Marwan Al Sawaleh, general manager of human resources at DUBAL. “The partnership with RIT Dubai

RIT Dubai hopes the partnership will serve as a model for future collaborations with industry while also enhancing the overall educational and career development of the Middle East’s growing professional class.

will endow our staff with advanced industry know-how and innovative skills and enable us to take the next step in enhancing productivity and implementing new innovations.”

The specialized programs developed through the initiative will target employees working in finance, human resources, engineering and network administration. In addition, advanced graduate certificates of international standards will also be offered in computer information assurance and project management.

RIT Dubai hopes the partnership will serve as a model for future collaborations with industry while also enhancing the overall educational and career development of the Middle East’s growing professional class.

“Our collaboration exemplifies the emphasis DUBAL places on educational development and investment in human capital, and we intend to promote these types of initiatives with additional companies throughout the region,” says Abushagur. “We are delighted to collaborate with DUBAL and transfer our applied knowledge and skill sets to their team of professionals.” ■

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Moka Lantum selected as next Minett Professor

Diversity education in business, health care is instructor’s goal

H. Moka Lantum, director of business process improvement for the medical services division of Excellus Blue-Cross BlueShield in Rochester, has been named the newest Frederick H. Minett Professor at RIT. The part-time appointment runs until May.



H. Moka Lantum

As Minett Professor, Lantum will teach The Business Case for Diversity and Equity during RIT’s spring quarter in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business. The course is designed to expose students and staff to the benefits of making diversity a “business imperative, as opposed to a moral obligation,” says Lantum. “I will be using case studies and personal experiences to provide a practitioners perspective on operationalizing diversity.”

Course content will also include information based on the four fundamental tenets of diversity—organizational culture and commitment to diversity, supplier diversity, marketing and innovation for diverse customers and retention and recruitment of diverse staff.

Lantum has been working in the health sciences since enrolling in medical school in 1991. His 16-year career is a blend of public health, clinical, laboratory and administrative experiences.

“My experience as a former president of the African-American employee network at Eastman Kodak Co., along with my experience as a practitioner of the business case of diversity at Excellus BCBS, will enhance the content of the material and my approach to teaching,” says Lantum. “It will be important for the students to appreciate how diversity and equity in processes affect businesses, notably within the healthcare industry.”

Lantum serves on the board of several community organizations such as the Community Investment Executive Team, United Way of Greater Rochester, and the Rochester Area Community Foundation, and he is the founder of The Baobob Cultural Center in Rochester.

“My role as the Minett Professor is ambassadorial first and foremost

for my company and for RIT,” adds Lantum. “It will be important to use this opportunity to expose students to minority business professionals, urban issues that determine perceptions of corporate citizenship, and expose minority professionals at Excellus and RIT to each other. I am also looking forward to learning from the students and the faculty. I anticipate significant exposure to very bright business minds, and I hope to learn a lot from the diversity initiatives in place at RIT that can be shared with colleagues at Excellus BCBS. This is about building relationships and connecting people through shared experiences.”

“We are very happy to have Dr. Lantum join the distinguished group of Minett Professors for this academic year,” adds Alfreda Brown, RIT interim chief diversity officer. “Moka brings a broad array of experience to include business development, health care, research and a rich multicultural background. Our students, faculty and staff will be enriched by his contributions.”

The Minett professorship is designed to bring distinguished Rochester-area minority professionals to RIT to share their professional knowledge and experience with students and faculty for one academic year. Past Minett professors include G. Peter Jemison, curator of the Fenimore Art Museum; Augustin Melendez, director and vice president of human resources, Eastman Kodak Co.; Robert Colón, director, RIT Office of Legal Affairs; Michael Finney, former president and CEO of Greater Rochester Enterprise; and Gladys Santiago, president of Rochester City Council. ■

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Social networking expert speaks at conference



Ross Mayfield, Socialtext wiki co-founder of the Palo Alto-based social software company, was the keynote speaker at the 2008 RIT Entrepreneurs Conference, which kicked off Brick City homecoming weekend on Oct. 10.

A.Sue Weisler | photographer

News media panel

The Internet, blogs and podcasts have changed the way the news is delivered to the world. Gone are the days of relying on the evening news for the most up-to-date information. The evolution of news media will be the topic of the next Paul and Louise Miller Lecture, 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 21, in Webb Auditorium, James E. Booth Building.

The panel discussion will feature Traci Bauer, managing editor for multimedia and innovation at the *Democrat and Chronicle*; Stephen Dawe, news director at 13WHAM-TV; Peter Iglinski, executive producer of public affairs at WXXI; Andrew Lucyszyn, director of digital media at 13WHAM-TV; and Laura Mandanas, editor in chief, *Reporter* magazine. Twyla Cummings, Paul and Louise Miller Distinguished Professor in RIT’s School of Print Media, will serve as moderator.

Panelists will debate issues such as who is the current news audience, how people will get their news in the future, and increasing readership/viewership utilizing various multimedia platforms.

The lecture is sponsored by RIT’s School of Print Media.

Scholarship program

RIT has been awarded a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to create a scholarship program designed to increase the number of high technology workers and develop high-caliber engineering and engineering technology professionals. The Engineering and Technology Transfer Scholars Program has been established to provide financial support to students who transfer into the following departments: mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology and packaging science, electrical, computer and telecommunications engineering technology and civil engineering technology.

‘Digging’ for a cure

The RIT Student Athlete Advisory Committee in conjunction with the RIT Athletics department and Tiger Den sponsored a Real Tigers Dig Pink night for breast cancer awareness, Oct. 1. The event raised \$1,500 in donations to the Side-Out Foundation, which supports breast cancer research.

Larissa Harasymiak, second-year biology major and women’s lacrosse player, spearheaded the Strands for Hope movement with her women’s lacrosse teammates. “Our goal is to spread the word around campus and get as many women involved,” says Harasymiak. “We want to get people aware of how serious breast cancer is. It seems like everyone has someone they know who has been affected by breast cancer in some way.”

Brick City Homecoming 2008



A Alumni and friends danced to the music of Gary Lewis and the Playboys at the President's Alumni Ball, which took place at Rochester's Riverside Convention Center.
Ken Huth | photographer

B College of Applied Science and Technology alumnus Dave DiCaro works to navigate a programmable ladybug through a three-dimensional version of campus. The "IQ Bug" was built by freshmen in the Department of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering Technology.

C Jimmy Fallon, former *Saturday Night Live* star and future host of NBC's *Late Night*, entertained the Gordon Field House and Activities Center crowd Oct. 11, capping off a weekend of big-name entertainment.

D Construction of RIT's new Campus Center kicked off Oct. 10 during a ceremony in the Fireside Lounge. Student Government President Ed Wolf and RIT President Bill Destler unveiled plans for the new center, which will be built in the old Woodward Pool area.

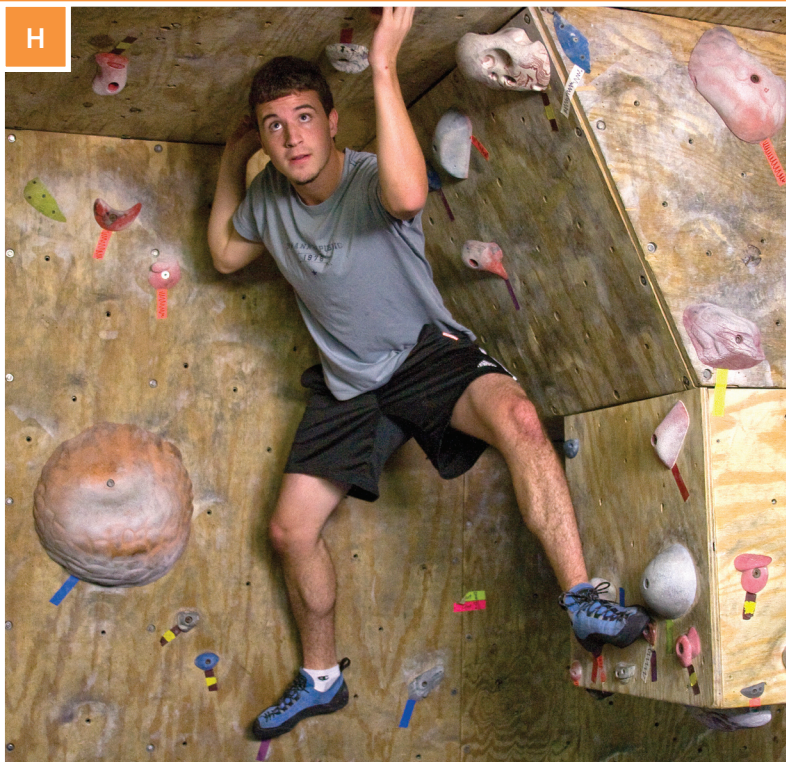
E Courtney Schwarting, a first-year student in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, left, takes time out from the busy weekend to visit with her mother, Sue, and father, Nelson.

F The Capitol Steps, a comedy troupe made up of current and former Congressional staffers, kicked off RIT's Brick City Homecoming with two shows Oct. 8 in Ingle Auditorium.

Photographs submitted by A.Sue Weisler



Brick City Homecoming 2008



G Wellness instructor Joe Showers teaches second-year College of Science student Nadine Morrison how to juggle.

H RIT's Red Barn, home to Interactive Adventures, celebrated its centennial anniversary. Free rock climbing and live music helped to mark the occasion.

Charles Neumann | photographer

I Bill Nye, star of the Emmy Award-winning PBS series *Bill Nye the Science Guy*, spoke before a sold-out crowd of 4,800 as part of the Horton Distinguished Speaker Series.

J JoAnn Marowski and daughter Taylor make party hats in the Student Alumni Union lobby. Loren, back left, is a first-year student in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

K Michael Morley '69 (business administration), left, is RIT's Volunteer of the Year and Kenneth Reed '71 (chemistry) is RIT's Outstanding Alumnus. The awards were presented Oct. 10 at the President's Alumni Ball, part of Brick City Homecoming.

Ken Huth | photographer



L Triangle Fraternity members used Brick City Homecoming weekend as an opportunity to raise money for charity and had pies thrown at them in the process.



Scientists peer through frozen ‘cooling lake’ to gauge energy production

Once a week, starting in November and running through April, a small plane will fly overhead in Midland, Mich., taking images of a frozen lake attached to a power plant. RIT graduate student May Arsenovic will travel to Midland throughout the winter to verify the ground data.

Arsenovic, a doctoral candidate in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, is working with CIS professor Carl Salvaggio, and a team of research faculty to study the frozen cooling lake for the U.S. Department of Energy’s Savannah River National Laboratory.

The DOE-funded project, worth \$949,971, will develop technology to monitor energy production at power plants in some foreign countries.

The cooling lake in Midland was picked because it is the only one in the United States that freezes. It is much bigger than it needs to be to cool the power plant and, as a result, the amount of hot water discharged into the lake cannot warm the entire body of water in the winter. The overcapacity of the cooling lake harkens to discarded plans to build a nuclear facility at the site. Public outcry led to the construction of a smaller gas-powered plant instead.

Studying the frozen cooling lake poses many challenges for Salvaggio’s team as it seeks to remotely gather information obscured by a layer of ice and snow. The scientists are interested in the thermal turbulence that takes place when the hot-water



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Imaging science graduate student May Arsenovic is working with professor Carl Salvaggio and a team of research scientists to study the power production at a plant in Midland, Mich., using an airborne sensor similar to the one shown above. Arsenovic and senior scientist Bob Kremens will collect ground data in Midland throughout the winter.

discharge mixes with the cold water in the lake. The melt hole created as the hot water pours into the lake is their main source for deducing the power levels produced at the site.

“The research aspect of this project will investigate how ice acts as an insulator and determine how much energy is kept inside the lake because there’s an ice layer over it,” Salvaggio says.

His team will measure the temperature of the hot water with thermal infrared imagery. The scien-

tists will also calculate the thickness and insulating capacity of the snow and ice with passive microwave remote sensing—which has a longer wavelength than infrared.

Salvaggio and Arsenovic will double check the accuracy of their remote measurements by measuring the ice thickness on the ground using a combination of ultrasound techniques and temperature profiles of the ice, water and air column at fine spatial increments. ■

Susan Gawlowicz | smguns@rit.edu

Administrators to assist sponsored research team

More than a dozen RIT administrators have signed on to enhance the university’s sponsored research initiatives.

The group recently completed Sponsored Programs Accounting and Regulatory Certification, allowing these individuals to assist principal investigators in managing externally funded projects. Forty hours of training, along with completion of an online assessment, is required for certification.

“This new initiative directly supports President Destler’s strategic mission to grow scholarship activity at the university through increased sponsored research,” says Jim Watters, senior vice president for finance and administration. “There are no other certification programs on campus requiring this level of training as well as the completion of a comprehensive assessment.”

Certification has been granted to Patricia Bullis, Deborah Calendine, Angela Dolliver, Susan Langschwager, Yancey Moore, Tammy Sharpstene and Jacqueline Taylor from the Controller’s Office; Kerry Hughes and Ricki Wensel from Student Affairs; Venessa Mitchell and Kathryn Stefanik from the Kate Gleason College of Engineering; Meredith Curran from the College of Science; and Debra Steene from the College of Liberal Arts.

For information, visit <http://finweb.rit.edu/controller/sponsored>. ■

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu

News brief

Liberty Hill lecture Oct. 22
The next Liberty Hill Breakfast lecture will be held 7:15-9 a.m. Oct. 22 at Liberty Hill and features columnist David Cay Johnston who presents “Taxes You Pay That Never Get to the Government and Other Financial Follies.”
Reserve a spot by contacting Heather Dry at 475-7500 or e-mail hadpro@rit.edu.

Research looks at environmental impact of marine gas emissions

Marine vessels are no longer resting in safe harbor.

The forecast for clear skies and smooth sailing for oceanic vessels has been impeded by worldwide concerns of their significant contributions to air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions that impact the Earth’s climate.

A new study by professors James Winebrake and James Corbett examines “Emission Tradeoffs among Alternative Marine Fuels: Total Fuel Cycle Analysis of Residual Oil, Marine Gas Oil, and Marine Diesel Oil,” in a recent issue of *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association*.

According to Winebrake, professor and chair of RIT’s Department of Science, Technology and Society/Public Policy, and Corbett, associate professor at the University of Delaware, reducing fuel sulfur content is an essential component of any strategy aimed at reducing sulfur oxide emissions from marine vessels—especially since global concerns have caused policy makers to accelerate the introduction of emission control technologies and cleaner fuels into the international marine sector. These tactics aim to improve air quality and human health and mitigate climate change.

“Cleaner fuels are expected to reduce sulfur and particulate emissions, however, greenhouse gas emissions, or GHG, may increase because of the additional refining energy required to produce these fuels—residual oil, marine gas oil and marine diesel oil,” Winebrake explains. “Our study provides a total fuel cycle emissions analysis to help



James Winebrake

quantify these emissions tradeoffs.”

In the study, Winebrake and Corbett applied a jointly developed model called the Total Energy and Emissions Analysis for Marine Systems model, which was developed to explore what are called “upstream” emissions associated with fuel production and distribution. Using the model, the authors demonstrated that although cleaner fuels increase GHG emissions during their production, they reduce greenhouse gas emissions during vessel operation, creating almost a net zero GHG impact.

“Our study provides a total fuel cycle emissions analysis to help quantify emissions tradeoffs.”

—James Winebrake, professor and department chairperson

This result was counter to claims by the petroleum industry—which suggested that the use of cleaner fuels in the marine sector would exacerbate green house GHG problems.

“Given that the GHG impacts associated with cleaner fuels are almost nil, and given the tremendous advantages of these fuels with respect to other pollutants, policies that encourage cleaner fuels seem warranted,” explains Winebrake.

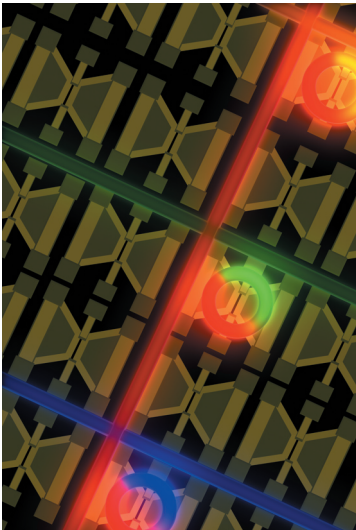
“The global shipping sector is one of the last unregulated emissions sources, and our study will provide useful information to the ongoing international debate surrounding cleaner marine fuels.” ■

Marcia Morphy | mpmuns@rit.edu

RIT helps create the next step in the information revolution—quantum optics

The advancement of computer and electronics technology is inhibited in part by the methods used to transmit information in these systems. Currently, data transfer in a computer, for example, is accomplished through the transmission of electrons over a conductive wire such as copper.

But what if a faster method that used less power and memory capacity was implemented? Many experts believe that the use of quantum optics, where light particles are used to transmit information faster and with less energy requirements than electrons, may hold the key for creating our next generation of electronics and computers.



In a quantum optic device, illustrated above, light, in the form of photons, is used to transfer information on a microchip, as opposed to the use of electrons in a traditional electronics device.

Now, a team of researchers from RIT and the University of Washington is attempting to build the first active quantum optic device for use on traditional electronic chips. The technology has the potential to greatly increase the functionality of quantum communication and information processing systems.

“Quantum optics deals with the manipulation of light at the particle level and the use of these particles, known as photons, to dramatically improve information processing capabilities,” explains Stefan Preble, assistant professor of microsystems engineering at RIT.

Preble notes that, historically, quantum optic devices have been implemented using large-scale, power hungry, bulk components. However, to become commercially viable, quantum technologies will need to be miniaturized in order to dramatically improve reliability and reduce power requirements.

A functionality that will be required on a quantum information chip to accomplish miniaturization is a single photon wavelength converter. Typically hundreds of

millions of light particles, using a tremendous amount of energy, are needed to change the wavelength of just a single photon.

Preble’s team will utilize a newly discovered method that can change a single photon’s wavelength through the use of a very low power electric signal. Preble’s article detailing the first demonstration of this method was featured on the May 2007 cover of *Nature Photonics*.

“Low power wavelength conversion allows us to build workable quantum optic chips that can be tested and assessed both by our research team and the larger scientific community,” adds Preble. “The potential for the process and its impact on the development of quantum optics applications is considerable.”

The project is being funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation. ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu

RIT, Harris Corp. team up to enhance communication security

RIT and Harris Corp. have entered into a collaborative agreement to further the development of encrypted Bluetooth communication technology for use in tactical military radio applications.

“Bluetooth technology allows for the communication of various devices on a wireless network,” notes Marcin Lukowiak, RIT assistant professor of computer engineering and principle investigator on the project. “Our research with Harris will improve the use of Bluetooth communications between wireless peripherals without compromising security requirements necessary for encrypted communication.”

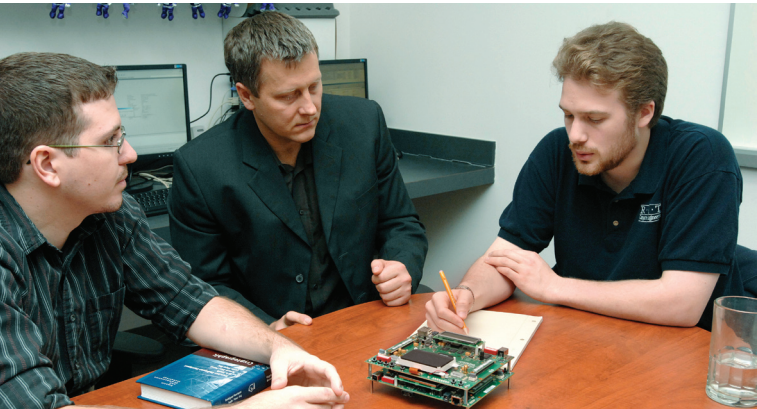
“We are excited by the prospects for this technology, and RIT’s Corporate R&D Program provides an ideal collaborative relationship between the institute and Harris

Corporation,” adds Mike Kurdziel, senior engineering manager for the Harris RF Secure Communications Development group.

The project will expand the use of secure Bluetooth communication with multiple devices that can be modified in the field, enhancing the flexibility and efficiency of communication systems. Researchers will then be able to integrate these platforms with communication networks used by the military and national security organizations.

The year-long project also includes Andreas Savakis, head of RIT’s department of computer engineering, and graduate computer engineering students Ken Smith and Jacob Czapeczka. The collaboration is a component of RIT’s Corporate R&D program. ■

Will Dube | wjduns@rit.edu



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Marcin Lukowiak, assistant professor of computer engineering, center, discusses the Bluetooth communications project with students Ken Smith, right, and Jacob Czapeczka. The team is partnering with Harris Corp. to enhance the use of Bluetooth communications in military applications.

Clearly the retention of students beyond the first year of college through graduation has become a nationwide problem for many colleges and universities.

Indeed, this is not a new problem, but it is currently at the forefront of concern.

Students entering higher-education institutions are faced with demanding transitions. Each individual reacts to these transitions in a unique manner based on his or her life experiences, family and educational backgrounds, personality, psychosocial status, aspirations, career goals, kinds of peers, interactions with faculty and staff, and organizational skills, to name a few. Undoubtedly, higher-education institutions find it difficult to fully prepare for these unique reactions. Consequently, institutions should not only develop and implement interventional strategies that meet and respond to only the students' needs, but also to facilitate their college transition and enhance faculty-student interaction to lead to student involvement, integration and a sense of belonging.

Students who have positive expe-

riences and are satisfied with those experiences are more likely to stay in college. Addressing retention issues means much more than simply shelved and forgotten intermittent reports. It does not mean just providing quality programs with knowledgeable instructors, needed equipment and efficient facilities. It means cultivating an institutional environment and commitment which values, promotes and develops the richest and most integrative learning communities.

The internal and external financial challenges, the strong trend toward accountability, access, affordability, efficiency, outcomes, quality, accreditation agencies and national ranking systems should not be the only driving forces behind the emphasis on retention and, consequently, the mobilization of institutional communities and constituents. It should be a moral and ethical obligation and responsibility towards the student, the community and the nation.

Colleges and universities need to explore innovative approaches to ensure academic preparedness. If they do not focus on this issue, the country may have difficulty surviv-

ing in the competitive worldwide economy and worldwide technological markets. Since higher education institutions must prepare to meet the future needs of its diverse population, redesigning and restructuring existing programs and/or processes to retain and graduate students are needed.

Colleges and universities should focus their efforts on increasing the diversity of their student bodies. Increasing the demographic diversity of the student body would allow students to feel that they "fit" within the institution. A student may feel that he or she fits within the institution if he or she shares values with other students. In other words, colleges and universities should focus their efforts to create environments where students feel that they belong at their institutions. In return, this will boost and enhance retention and graduation efforts and rates.

It is important that colleges and universities recognize the potential for influencing, retaining and graduating students. Colleges and universities must be prepared to declare student retention as institutional priorities. Commitment



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

and continued vigilance from every constituent at higher-education institutions are essential.

Ghazle is director of RIT's diagnostic medical sonography program.

RIT music director wins prestigious fellowship

Sabbatical will focus on research of 18th-century music, history

Music has the ability to communicate without words and to re-create moments from past eras.

RIT music professor and orchestra conductor Michael Ruhling discovers hidden musical nuggets of the past. He and other musicologists are immersed in the spirit of uniting contemporary audiences with centuries old ideas conveyed between musicians and audiences in the 18th century.

The Handel and Haydn Society appointed Ruhling as the Christopher Hogwood Research Fellow for the 2008-2009 season because of his passion for historically informed performances. Ruhling is taking sabbatical this fall quarter in order to complete the main research and writing tasks.

The Boston-based Handel and Haydn Society will use Ruhling's vision, passion and scholarly research to support the performance of its 18th-century repertoire. He describes this research as "the coming together of scientific observation and research, acoustics, psychology of sound, understanding of manufacturing methods, cultural context, human reaction, and artistic creativity in order to communicate concepts musically in a way that is understandable."

"The Handel and Haydn Society," Ruhling explains, "is a period orchestra, begun in 1815, that today uses instruments modeled after those played during the time period of Haydn, Mozart, Handel and Bach." Historically informed performance uses period instruments, same number of players to approximate the orchestras of the day, duplicate room conditions and other factors.

As the Historically Informed Performance Research Fellow, Ruhling will write program notes for each concert, give lectures at various functions, and organize symposia for the purpose of education and promotion. He will prepare in-depth online essays for patrons



RIT music professor Michael Ruhling is taking a sabbatical this fall to pursue research related to his fellowship.

intended to deepen their awareness of performances and to develop new perspectives. He will also advise on performance practice issues and future repertoire.

Ruhling believes it is also important for research to uncover what the 18th-century composers intended to say with the music. Historically informed performance is not based on modern tastes and expectations but rather on the time it was actually performed.

"We want to find what it was that made Haydn's, Handel's or Bach's music unique, yet able to 'say something' to the audiences of the day," Ruhling says, "Then we bring that lively interaction to present-day audiences and reproduce what was a unique and lively musical communication between musicians and audiences."

The Handel and Haydn Society will celebrate the 200 and 250-year anniversary deaths of Haydn and Handel respectively in 2009.

Ruhling also presides over the newly formed continental organization Haydn Society of North America as its first president. He has written a book and delivered several papers on the symphonies of Joseph and Michael Haydn. ■

Sherry Hoag | slhuns@rit.edu

Campus Week of Dialogue, Oct. 27-31

RIT's Commission for Promoting Pluralism is hosting the 11th annual Campus Week of Dialogue, Oct. 27-31. The annual event offers campus members an opportunity to build relationships, acknowledge and understand the needs of the RIT campus community, and engage in conversation geared towards increasing the comfort level when talking about diversity-related issues.

The keynote address, 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 27 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union, will be delivered by Martina Bienvenu, professor, Gallaudet University, and educator, author and deaf advocate. Bienvenu will present Deaf Culture and Deafhood, and will touch upon the concept of audism, defined as bias toward deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals. Audism is often based



Martina Bienvenu

on judgment about one's intelligence, language capabilities and competencies in educational and work settings. A question-and-answer session immediately follows the talk.

Free dialogue sessions include:

■ Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 28—Diversity within the Deaf Community and Deaf Culture: A Panel Discussion by Patricia Durr, professor, NTID

■ 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 29—Audism Unveiled, moderated by professors Barbara Ray Holcomb and J. Matt Searls

■ Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 30—Signing in Public Spaces by Peter Hauser

■ 11 a.m. -1 p.m. Oct. 31—Hearing Professors, Deaf Students, Interpreters, Note-takers and C-Print Staff: Building a Team for Academic Success, presented by Rebecca Edwards

All sessions will be held in the NTID Student Development Center.

For a complete list of scheduled talks and activities, visit www.diversity.rit.edu. ■

Vienna Carvalho | vnccom@rit.edu

Another record career fair



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Patricia Pena Berges, an MBA student in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business, joined about 2,500 other RIT students and alumni at the annual Fall Career Fair. Representatives from nearly 250 companies and agencies were on campus Sept. 24, making this RIT's largest-ever career fair. According to Manny Contomanolis, associate vice president of enrollment management and career services and RIT's director of co-op and career services, "Just more than half of the employers attending the fair represented companies based outside New York state, reaffirming RIT's growing national prominence."

On the Web

with Mike Saffran
mjsuns@rit.edu



RIT University News has introduced a new daily e-newsletter: *News & Events Daily*.

Arriving in e-mail inboxes, via Message Center, at 11:30 a.m. weekdays during the academic year (excluding breaks), *News & Events Daily* features:

- Top RIT news stories
- Overnight and morning news placements from "RIT in the news" (headlines and links to stories about RIT in outside news media)
- "Campus Spotlight" photo of the day
- Links to RIT news podcasts
- News for and about alumni
- Upcoming events
- RIT sports results

News & Events Daily will also be available online at www.rit.edu/news.

Share your comments by sending them to news@rit.edu. We hope you enjoy *News & Events Daily*!

News briefs

Photo lecture, Oct. 20

The western New York chapter of the American Society of Media Photographers presents Karen D'Silva, owner of Spark Visual Research, 7 p.m. Oct. 20. D'Silva will give a free lecture Creating an Authentic Image for the Advertising and Editorial Market in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science Auditorium. The lecture is open to the public. For more information, call 475-2770.

Benefits Fair, Oct. 28-29

Mark your calendar for the Human Resources department's annual Benefits Fair, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 28-29, in the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies, rooms 2210-2240. Representatives from benefits vendors will be on hand to answer questions. Also available are giveaways, raffle prizes and free chair massages and acupuncture treatments. The employee benefits open enrollment period is scheduled for Oct. 23 through Nov. 19.

Flu shot clinics scheduled

RIT will again sponsor flu shot clinics for employees, courtesy of Sibley Nursing. The clinics will be held 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 13 in the Student Development Center, room 1310, and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 3 in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center reception room. Employees should bring your RIT identification card and medical plan card. Payment may be required depending on your medical plan.

Robots invade RIT

Rochester-area students created their own robots as part of RIT's Robowebweekend, an interactive science camp open to students in sixth through 10th grades held last month. The event included instruction on design and programming as well as a team-based competition and demonstration for parents. The event is sponsored by RIT's Multi Agent Bio-robotics Laboratory. For more information on future RoboWeekend camps, visit <http://mabl.rit.edu/robowebweekend>.

An eye in the sky above RIT



Photo submitted by Craig Shaw

RIT alumnus Craig Shaw '99 (electrical engineering) took this aerial photograph looking south across the RIT campus from 300 feet using a Canon EOS 20D camera with a 19 mm lens, ISO 400, aperture f 11, shutter speed 1/500 second. Shaw specializes in low-altitude aerial photography using a blimp and remote controls. To learn more, visit www.stratus-imaging.com.

Vignelli from page 1

Handkerchief chair and Paper Clip table for Knoll, and Stendig calendar. The couple recently designed a new map for the New York City subway system.

The Vignelli Center for Design Studies will serve as a resource for students and scholars from around the world and provide space for the teaching of design including classrooms, archival storage, offices, and critique and exhibition space. The center will be connected to the west side of the James E. Booth Building.

“The creativity that is at the heart of a designer’s work is also invaluable to driving true innovation in other fields,” says RIT President Bill Destler. “The ability to envision what does not yet exist and develop a way to bring it to life is the designer’s craft. At RIT, we are seeking ways to bring that creative thinking and process to all our areas of study. The Vignelli Center for Design Studies is a welcome addition to our continued progress in becoming the country’s ‘Innovation University,’ and we thank Massimo and Lella Vignelli for helping to elevate RIT to this post.”

“The Vignelli Center for Design Studies will house our comprehensive archive of graphic design, furniture and objects,” says Massimo Vignelli, co-founder of Vignelli Associates. “Under the direction of R. Roger Remington, the Massimo and Lella Vignelli Distinguished Professor of Design at RIT, the center will foster studies



Architectural sketch of Vignelli Center for Design Studies, which is scheduled to open in 2010.

related to Modernist design with programs and exhibitions on our work as well as other related subjects. The first one of its kind and size, The Vignelli Center will position RIT on the international forefront of design studies. Lella and I are delighted to see our dream taking shape.”

The Vignelli collection will complement RIT’s 30 existing graphic design collections of Modernist American graphic design pioneers such as Lester Beall, Will Burtin, Cipe Pineles, William Golden and Alvin Lustig among others.

“Because RIT has been a steward

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Newsmakers

Michael Amy, associate professor of art history, wrote *Michael Borremans: Whistling a Happy Tune*.

Scott Anson, chair of manufacturing engineering technology, presented “REAL-Reliability Education and Analysis Laboratory” at the Academy for Advancement of Science conference in August. Anson also co-chaired an electronics manufacturing technical session titled “Advanced Environmental Product Compliance Issues” at Surface Mount Technology Association’s International Conference in August.

Jeffrey Baker, adjunct psychology professor, had his research on college students with learning disabilities published. “Extended Testing Time for College Students with Learning Disabilities” compares the grades of post-secondary students who used the extended testing time accommodation as opposed to students entitled to the accommodation who did not use it.

Susan Barnes, professor of communication, was one of five panelists invited to discuss “Emerging Privacy Challenges and Social Networking” at the 16th National Healthcare Privacy and Security Training Summit at Harvard University in August.

Steven Day, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, Kate Gleason College of Engineering, co-wrote “The forces exerted by aquatic suction feeders on their prey,” which appeared in the June 2008 edition of the *Journal of the Royal Society: Interface*.

Shatakshee Dhongde, assistant professor, economics, was invited to present her paper on “Analyzing Changes in the Distribution of the Poor” at the Frontiers of Poverty Analysis conference organized by United Nations University’s World Institute for Development Economics Research. The conference was held in September in Helsinki. Dhongde’s research focuses on measuring poverty, segregation and inequality.

Brian Duddy, senior program manager at the Golisano Institute for Sustainability, wrote “To boldly go...into defense acquisition,” which appeared in the September-October issue of *Defense AT&L Magazine*.

Miriam Jurado, senior staff engineer, Golisano Institute for Sustainability, was selected as one of Five Rochester Women to Watch by the *Democrat and Chronicle*. Jurado was chosen both for her professional accomplishments and her work as a community activist.

Ryne Raffaele, director of the NanoPower Research Labs in the Golisano Institute for Sustainability, presented the Dermot O’Sullivan Plenary Address at the eighth European Space Power Conference in Konstanz, Germany in September. The talk, “Nanomaterials for Space Power,” highlighted the work that the labs have been doing in collaboration with NASA on next-generation space power systems.

Michael Ruhling, associate professor, fine arts, gave a guest lecture on Haydn’s oratorio *The Creation* and participated in the Eastman Summer Choral Conducting Seminar in July at the Eastman School of Music.

Nabil Nasr, director of the Golisano Institute for Sustainability, has been selected to serve as co-chair of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s Expert Advisory Group on Sustainable Production. The organization is an international body that works to enhance economic and environmental development between nations, and is based in Paris. Nasr was also recently named to the editorial board of the *International Journal of Sustainable Manufacturing*.

James Winebrake, professor and chair of science technology and society/public policy, was a member of the panel “Energy Choices and Consequences: Individuals, Institutions and Society” at the conference, SUNY and Sustainability: Transformational Opportunities, in Saratoga Springs.

Chris Wahle, assistant professor, School of Mathematical Sciences, co-authored “A Study of Detonation Evolution and Structure for a Model of Compressible Two-Phase Reactive Flow” in *Combustion Theory and Modeling*.

Joel Zablow, assistant professor, School of Mathematical Sciences, published “Relations and Homology in the Dehn Twist Quandle” in *Algebraic and Geometric Topology*, vol. 8. He also spoke on this topic at the AMS sectional meeting in Baton Rouge.

Yosef Zlochowier, assistant professor, School of Mathematical Sciences, co-authored with Carlos Lousto, “Further insight into gravitational recoil” in *Physical Review D* 77:044028,2008 and “Foundations of multiple black hole evolutions” in *Physical Review D* 77:024034,2008.

Student Spotlight from page 1

In high school, he was a star player and team captain on the varsity team. And he attended the Olympic Development Program, which prepares athletes to try out for the Olympics. But a broken foot sidelined him and dashed those hopes.

“That’s why education comes first,” he says.

Despite his injury, Lawson received scholarship offers to play for colleges in New Jersey, but turned them down because he wanted to go to school at RIT/NTID, which has the access services in the classroom he wanted. As a good student, he was offered academic scholarships to help pay the way.

For four years, Lawson played center midfield on the RIT soccer team—which took the Empire

8 Athletic Conference title in his junior year, when he was named “Player of the Year” in the conference. And he served as team captain for three years. Eleven of his 13 goals scored on the RIT team were game winners.

With the U.S. Deaf Soccer team, Lawson participated in the Deaflympics and traveled to Italy, Australia, Belgium and England. The U.S. team finished fourth out of 16 countries in competition this summer in Greece. It was the team’s highest finish ever.

But soccer wasn’t the only thing on his mind this summer. In March, he completed a 10-week co-op with the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Conn.

“I was nervous a lot at first about making a mistake and having the kids give me a hard time, but it was

great,” he says.

Lawson says he’s not sure where he’ll be teaching, but knows he wants to stay in the Northeast, to be close to his family and friends.

He says his years at RIT/NTID have “been a wonderful experience. I was able to be in the hearing world and the deaf world.” He has consistently made the dean’s list and was selected as one of the first NTID student ambassadors as a positive role model to others.

He credits Cristin Gallin, a teacher of the deaf he had for six years while growing up, for making a positive impression on him. He hopes he, too, can help mold the lives of other deaf or hard-of-hearing students.

“That’s what I want to do,” he says. ■

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