

## Destler uses global-warming forum to make 'green' RIT a campus priority

Taking a formal stance on increasing the quality and volume of sustainable programs and practices at RIT, President Bill Destler will sign the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. Destler made the announcement Feb. 5 during an address to the campus community, which concluded a daylong observance of the National Teach-In on Global Warming.

The Presidents Climate Commitment, which has been signed by hundreds of college and university presidents nationwide, provides support and a framework for America's colleges and universities to go climate neutral. Particular emphasis is placed on neutralizing greenhouse gas emissions while accelerating research and educational programs.

"As part of this commitment, we will need to come up with an institutional strategic plan for reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas production, and provide institutional structures and support that can move the campus toward the goals set in the plan," explains Destler. "This plan



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Sergio Rodriguez, right, first-year chemistry student, takes part in the Taste Test Challenge during RIT's National Teach-In on Global Warming. Nevin Byrd, left, and Summer Naugle, members of the Student Environmental Action League, gauged preferences between bottled and tap water. Group members claim four out of five participants prefer tap.

will include a green building policy, an energy-star procurement policy, encouragement of public transportation, green power production and purchasing, climate friendly investing and waste minimization."

In addition, he pledged to make RIT a national center of excellence in the areas of environmental science and sustainability.

Destler also used his address to *Global Teach-In*, page 4

## Public service award winners announced

M. Ann Howard, professor in the science, technology & society/public policy department in the College of Liberal Arts, is this year's recipient of the RIT Four Presidents Distinguished Public Service Award. Howard joined RIT 16 years ago and according to her nomination form, has a long record of community service. She has served in an official capacity on no less than six community organizations, including NeighborWorks Rochester (former board chairperson and current chair of the governance committee), Greater Rochester Urban Bounty, Downtown Community Forum, Center for Dispute Settlement, Cornell Cooperative Extension's environmental advisory committee and the Kodak Park Citizens Advisory Council.



M. Ann Howard

"When it comes to community service, Ann exhibits a no-nonsense, grassroots, service-leadership

philosophy," says James Winebrake, chair of the science, technology & society/public policy department. "She is not the type of leader who just 'talks the talk,' she 'walks the walk.' What is really spectacular is how Ann has brought her commitment to community service into the classroom. Through her efforts, projects like the Greater Rochester Urban Bounty and the Northeast Neighborhood Alliance have positively affected hundreds of RIT faculty, staff and students. Ann teaches by example, and she is the epitome of what grassroots community service is all about."



Kaitlyn Werner

RIT vice president emeritus Alfred Davis started a \$50,000 endowment to fund the award. Each recipient will have the privilege of designating the endowment income to a beneficiary of their choice, such as a not-for-profit organization in

*Four Presidents*, page 4

## RIT animators help bring 'Coraline' to life

The adventures of a little girl come to life on the big screen as the stop-motion animated feature film, *Coraline*, is now playing nationwide in theaters. Viewers will witness the work of RIT professor and character animator Tom Gasek '79 (design), stop-motion animator Teresa Drilling '83 (art and design) and master of fine arts student Adam Fisher.

Gasek, an assistant professor in RIT's School of Film and Animation, spent four weeks last summer working on the film. Directed by Henry Selick, the director of *Nightmare Before Christmas*, *Coraline* is the story

of a little girl who stumbles upon a passageway in her home where she discovers an eerie fantasy world, known as the "Other World."

The Other World is where you'll see Gasek's creative talents. Called upon as an additional animator for the film, he worked on some of the quicker action shots like animating the snapdragons that attack Coraline's feet or animating Coraline as she jumps out of the way, in horror, from the claw of a preying mantis.

Gasek says some of the top stop-motion animators in the industry *Animation*, page 4



Tom Gasek | photographer

RIT professor Tom Gasek animates Coraline's body as she jumps up from being bitten by snapdragon flowers. The digital camera is frame left and the puppet of Coraline is frame right with a reflector board behind her.

### Student Spotlight

### On track to earning RIT's first computing Ph.D.

Erik Golen is looking at the needs of his fellow graduate students from a different perspective than he did while attending RIT as an undergraduate. Golen '03 (computer engineering) is nearly finished with his doctorate in computing and information sciences. He will be the first student to complete the doctoral program offered through the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

Golen has found it both rewarding and challenging to be among the first to go through the program.

"Requirements and expectations are now different than when I started the program two-and-a-half years ago, and this is for the better since the program is moving towards a culture of research instead of coursework," says Golen. "It's rewarding to have the opportunity to give advice to the other Ph.D. computing candidates. I also think I've made things a bit easier for them in terms of setting a precedent for the dissertation proposal defense process since I was the first one to go through it."

His thesis research is in underwater sensor networks and their deployment for military surveillance. It's research he began while working as an engineer at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport. Golen took part in a sea trial aboard the U.S.S. Cushing to examine different systems to detect submarines, a test he says he knew would fail.

"The sensors we were testing were meant to operate in hundreds of feet of water, not thousands, so there was no



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Erik Golen happily encourages those computing Ph.D. candidates coming after him. He also suggests they pursue opportunities for collaborative research.

way they could have worked," he says.

Adds Nirmala Shenoy, RIT professor of networking, security and systems administration and Golen's adviser, "Erik's research covers a very strategic study of the deployment of underwater sensors and networking such sensors to collect target data. His research takes into account all details that are significant for such deployment, which is very unique and would be an asset to military underwater operations."

When not writing his thesis or spending time with his wife and 21-month-old son, Golen is among those trying to create a greater sense of community among the graduate students, now 16 percent of the

RIT student body. He is a member of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee, with eight members, one representing each college. They plan social events for graduate students and hope to host a research symposium this summer. As of this academic year, there is a Student Government senate seat held by a graduate student.

"My advice to other graduate students is to not think that only their research or area of interest is important," adds Golen. "By doing this, they'll miss out on many opportunities for collaboration that exist. Interdisciplinary and collaborative research are what I believe will ultimately lead to the newest discoveries in the years to come." ■

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### Grants, awards

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### Research and Scholarship

**Corporate Research Web site helps others engage in business alliances,** page 3



### Viewpoints

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# NTID grad to appear on 'Amazing Race'

A million bucks would be nice, but RIT/NTID graduate Luke Adams wanted other rewards when he applied to be on *The Amazing Race*.

"Money was a nice perk if it happened, but I really wanted to experience it. I just love the games," he says.

Adams, 23, of Monument, Colo., is the first deaf contestant on the popular CBS reality show. He and his mother, Margie, are one of 11 teams to race on the show's next season, starting Feb. 15.

Adams and his mother began the race with the other teams on Oct. 31 in California. The contestants are not allowed to discuss the race or the outcome, but taping

continued through Nov. 21. The winners traveled 40,000 miles and visited nine countries.

Margie Adams admits she really hadn't watched much of the show before she was selected as a contestant.

"When Luke started to apply, he started begging me to go on," she says. "The more and more I watched it, the more I liked it. We went on the show for the experience. Luke had been away at college for five years and we hadn't spent much time together."

During a pre-race interview, mother and son said using sign language may be an advantage so they could communicate and strategize privately.

Born deaf, Adams received a cochlear implant but doesn't use it. He communicates using American Sign Language.

Adams graduated from the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind in Colorado Springs. He says the decision to attend RIT/NTID was easy after he visited several colleges.

"As soon as I saw RIT/NTID, it was hands down where I wanted to go," he says. "I love that school. I wanted to go to a mainstreamed school, get a good education and I wanted to be exposed to both deaf and hearing people. RIT was perfect."

Adams, who received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2008, learned he was selected to be a contestant last summer. He and his mother have already gotten many e-mails from friends, strangers and former *The Amazing Race* cast members who told them to enjoy their 15 minutes of fame.

"We're both really looking forward to seeing the show," Margie Adams says. "When you're doing it, you only know what you're doing. It will be fun to see what the other teams were doing. We're really excited and looking forward to it."

Adams says he'd do the show again, perhaps if they had another season with former cast members competing.

But regardless of his finish, he says he accomplished what he wanted: "I'm very proud to be the first deaf contestant on *The Amazing Race*. It was a very, very cool experience. I just hope I make the deaf community proud." ■

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Courtesy of CBS

Luke Adams, an NTID graduate, and his mom, Margie, appear on CBS' *The Amazing Race*.



Erik Kandefer | photographer

Lauren Tracy, left, and Marlee Coulter, RIT film students, on location at Sonnenberg Gardens for the making of Tracy's thesis film.

## New award will aid female filmmakers

At this year's High Falls International Film Festival in Rochester, one young female director hopes to draw attention to not just her films, but to the future of women in filmmaking.

Lauren Tracy, a fourth-year student in RIT's School of Film and Animation, whose work has been shown three times at the international film venue, has created a national filmmakers award for female film students called "The X-Factor Filmmakers Fund."

There are not enough financial resources available for film students, says Tracy, who has struggled with the demands of making high-quality films on top of tuition costs.

"My creative goal is to make great films, but my professional goal is to help young women who have enormous talent, but not the financial resources to make headway in the film industry," says Tracy.

X-Factor Filmmakers will fund an award for a female student attending RIT. It will be handed out at a reception to be held during the annual Rochester High Falls International Film Festival, May 13-18.

Tracy started the X-Factor Fund with her father, Rick Tracy, a Boston-area graphic designer. They've launched the X-Factor Filmmakers Web site, [www.xfactorfilm.com](http://www.xfactorfilm.com), which is selling T-shirts created by Tracy's dad especially for the X-Factor Fund. Twenty-five percent of the sale of each shirt goes to the

award fund. The goal for sales is \$5,000.

Rosie Taravella, executive director of the Rochester High Falls International Film Festival says: "While showcasing talented independent female filmmakers, we have discovered that women are still less likely than men to land lucrative studio contracts. We believe that if more women enroll in film school, this gender gap will one day close. The X-Factor Filmmakers Fund is one more step toward making this goal a reality, and we are proud to support it."

"The X-Factor Fund is putting the spotlight on a very worthwhile cause: how can we encourage more women to enter the world of film?" says Jeffrey Blitz, film and television director. "We never know where the next unique voice in American film will come from, and if this fund helps even in a modest way then it's much deserving of our support. And the shirts are pretty nifty, too."

Despite notable talents like Kasi Lemmons, Julie Taymor and Sarah Polley, only 7 percent of directors in the Directors Guild of America are female. No woman has ever won an Academy Award for Best Director and only three have ever been nominated. There is also a dearth of women in just about every area of filmmaking, most notably cinematography and directing. ■

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## Study examines impact of media consolidation on radio

Along with many forms of traditional media, radio has suffered a loss in listener-ship and relevance, according to some experts, over the last two decades—a scenario which has often been attributed to the rise in new forms of media and technology, including the Internet and the iPod.



Michael Saffran

Now, an RIT study is shedding new light on listener perceptions of radio programming and the impact that ownership consolidation might

be having on the media.

The findings could assist the industry in addressing audience erosion and help policymakers arrive at more informed decisions related to serving the public interest in local communities.

"The banking and financial sectors aren't the only areas in American society witnessing adverse effects from more than two decades of deregulation," argues study author Michael Saffran, adjunct professor of communication and associate director for new media for RIT's University News Services. "As the nation grapples with the mortgage crisis, U.S. citizens also face a growing 'media crisis' wrought

by excessive ownership deregulation and consolidation."

The study found that less than 15 percent of respondents described their satisfaction with local radio programming as "To A Great Extent." In contrast, more than twice the number—nearly four out of every 10 listeners—expressed "Very Little" or zero satisfaction with local radio programming. In addition, young people (those under the age of 25) indicated listening to radio the least among all age groups.

Findings will be presented at the 100th annual convention of the Eastern Communication Association, *Radio*, page 4

## Nominations now underway for Isaac Jordan diversity honors

Nominations are now being accepted through Feb. 16 for the 2009 Isaac L. Jordan Faculty/Staff Diversity Award.

The annual award recognizes individuals who are strong advocates for, and contributors to, campus diversity efforts.

The award is named for the late Isaac L. Jordan, the first president of the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion. He was known among campus peers as a leader in addressing inclusion of under-represented populations and working with all constituencies to remove barriers to intolerance.

Eligible faculty and staff are full-time employees, serving at RIT for more than three years. The nominee for the award may be an individual whose position responsibilities are not focused on diversity, but who routinely and voluntarily makes diversity a priority in much of what he or she does; or the candidate may be one whose major responsibilities are implementing diversity initiatives, but who also consistently explores unique ways to

go above and beyond the expectations. Complete requirements can be found at [www.diversity.rit.edu](http://www.diversity.rit.edu).

"In the years since this award was first presented, RIT has made great strides in its diversity efforts," says Peggy Tirrell, chairperson of the award committee and member of the President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion. "The award is a way to recognize the people that have worked to ensure that those diversity efforts continue. Each of the past awardees has made their mark on campus. They honor diversity and show great respect for their peers here at RIT."

The award is also co-sponsored by the chief diversity officer.

Letters of nomination can be sent to Michelle Cometa at [macuns@rit.edu](mailto:macuns@rit.edu) or by interoffice mail to Sandra Whitmore, The President's Commission on Pluralism and Inclusion, 2152 Eastman Building. ■

### Documenting Cuba



Ernesto Bazan | photographer

International photographer Ernesto Bazan will present his documentary work in the next installment of the Charles Arnold Lecture Series. His presentation is 6:30 p.m. Feb. 16 in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science auditorium. Bazan has released a new book, *BazanCuba*, chronicling 14 years of life in Cuba. His lecture is free and open to the public. Bazan will hold a book signing immediately following. The lecture is sponsored by RIT's School of Photographic Arts and Sciences.

### news & events

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In case you missed it in *News & Events Daily*:

- RIT News YouTube channel: **Reaching out via Facebook**
- The Tiger Beat Blog: **Balancing activism with academics**
- RIT In the News: **Democrat and Chronicle—Goalie tandem is RIT's net gain**
- **Democrat and Chronicle—Park Point starting to pick up steam**
- **CNN.com—He brings joy of music to deaf people**

For these stories and more, visit [www.rit.edu/news/daily](http://www.rit.edu/news/daily).

As the program for the Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival starts to take shape, I wanted to take this opportunity to update the RIT community on how we plan to build upon the success of our inaugural effort.

Students I speak with have been happy to learn that Spring Fest will no longer coincide with Imagine RIT. Instead, they'll now have two consecutive weekends of excitement in May, with Spring Fest slated to take place the weekend after the festival. Based on visitor feedback we received last year, we've also decided to extend the festival's hours. Visitors will now be able to roam campus from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Many smaller changes have also been made to ensure a positive experience for visitors and exhibitors alike. Allow me to paint a picture of what we envision the 2009 Imagine RIT Festival to look like:

It's a sunny spring day with temperatures in the mid-60's. Service providers have been on campus since early in the morning to prepare for at least 20,000 visitors. President Destler's Green Vehicle Challenge kicks things off at 9 a.m., as an assortment of teams attempt to top the energy efficiency of Destler's electric bicycle as they navigate a three-mile loop around campus. As the public begins to swarm campus in time for the festival's 10 a.m. opening ceremony, they'll be greeted by volunteers (wearing orange T-shirts) at one of six welcome tents that have been sprinkled across campus.

Like last year, the festival will stretch from the Louise M. Slaughter Building to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf—with exhibitors (wearing yellow T-shirts) showcasing their interactive presentations, hands-on demonstrations,

exhibitions and research projects almost everywhere in between. As visitors explore campus, they'll come across four performance stages that will feature live entertainment throughout the day. They'll also have the opportunity to purchase a wide selection of food at a number of different locations.

By the time the festival concludes, we hope visitors will feel the need to return next year to further explore all of the innovative and creative things we do at RIT.

Festival day is quickly approaching. One exhibit deadline has already passed and another looms on the horizon. Feb. 16 marks the deadline to be included in the festival's print program, which will be circulated to visitors on the day of the festival.

Plan to spend May 2 at RIT, and please don't keep this event a secret; tell your colleagues at other universities, your associates in professional organizations, your neighbors and your friends. Don't forget to bring your family!

While some things have changed from last year, this remains the same:



*This column presents opinions and ideas on issues relevant to higher education. To suggest an idea for the column, e-mail [newsevents@rit.edu](mailto:newsevents@rit.edu).*

Imagine RIT is free, open to the public and will take place rain or shine.

Quagliata is chair of the Imagine RIT Program Committee.

## Liberal Arts opens new Mac computer lab

*Facility includes enhanced video editing, publishing, design capabilities*

RIT has partnered with four Rochester-area advertising firms to enhance educational and research facilities for students in the fields of advertising, public relations and journalism.

Partners + Napier, Catalyst Direct, Martino Flynn, and Mason Selkowitz McDermott provided funds to RIT's College of Liberal Arts to assist with the creation of a new Mac computer lab. The facility includes enhanced video editing, publishing and design capabilities and will be used for classes and research work in the college's advertising and public relations program and its newly created journalism degree.

"I'd like to thank all four firms for their assistance in the creation of this lab and in enhancing opportunities for RIT students," notes Robert Ulin, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. "In the college we make use of both sides of the brain in that we have programs

that range from the humanities to those that emphasize the research methods of the natural sciences. Therefore, we have a need for facilities that enable teaching and research in both the creative arts and science and technology."

"The fields of advertising and journalism are increasingly tied to new digital technologies, and students studying in these fields need a comprehensive understanding of and access to these technologies to succeed," adds Rudy Pugliese, professor and graduate coordinator in the Department of Communication.

The new Mac lab is available to additional RIT students in a host of majors, including printing, photography and graphic design, and it will be utilized to design and edit professional publications for RIT-hosted conferences and symposia.

The Department of Communication and College of Liberal Arts



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Carlina Fucarino, a second-year psychology major, utilizes the newly upgraded Mac lab in the College of Liberal Arts building.

also hope to increase cooperative education opportunities for students through the partnership as well as

explore additional educational and research projects in the future. ■  
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## Web site links RIT research with corporate partners

Since the introduction of the Corporate R&D program in 2008, RIT has expanded its corporate research to encompass a broad range of research activities. To provide companies with an easy connection to RIT and present the range of project approaches, a new Web site has been created.

The Corporate Research Web site, [www.rit.edu/research/corporate](http://www.rit.edu/research/corporate), provides an overview of the types of research, faculty involvement, student involvement and intellectual property ownership.

"RIT offers multiple vehicles to promote research partnerships and our new Web site provides information on how to best utilize these programs to enhance scholarship and technology transfer," notes Donald Boyd, vice president of research.

Three key research programs are offered by RIT—research services, corporate research and development and sponsored research.

The Research Services program includes short-term research projects involving evaluation or analysis, conducted by undergraduates with supervision of faculty or staff. Intellectual property in these projects is not anticipated. The Printing

Applications Laboratory in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences is working with substrate suppliers, under Research Services agreements, to evaluate the performance of different types of media on HP Indigo printing technology.

In the Corporate R&D program, research projects address a specific company problem and typically involve master's students working directly with the company with mentoring from faculty. Under these agreements the company owns the intellectual property, but RIT retains the right to publish and present the research findings. For example, Kathleen Lamkin-Kennard, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, and two mechanical engineering students are working with Johnson & Johnson Ortho Clinical Diagnostics on a Corporate R&D project to develop a modular simulation platform to better simulate antibody/antigen reactions.

Sponsored Research addresses long-term research goals, which advance a specific field or technology and usually involve Ph.D. students working with faculty. All intellectual property developed through the re-



John Myers | photographer

Allison Ucci, a student in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, runs an evaluation on an HP Indigo digital color press in the Printing Applications Laboratory.

search is owned by RIT and licensed to the sponsor. For the past five years, Karl Hirschman, Micron Professor of Microelectronic Engineering, and a team of graduate students have been conducting a sponsored research project with Corning Inc. to advance the development of silicon-on-glass

technology for use in flat-panel displays.

For additional information about Corporate Research opportunities or to discuss a possible corporate partnership, contact the Office of Research Relations at 475-2698. ■

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## Program educates high schoolers about business, accounting

RIT and the accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers have formed a pilot program in order to help retention rates and offer ninth-grade Jefferson High students a first-hand look at the college experience. The program will continue through the end of the academic year.

"If we catch them now before they get disenchanted with high school, we have a better chance to increase the graduation rate and help students set realistic goals," says Loretta Hollomon, vice principal at Thomas Jefferson High School in the Rochester City School District. "For many of our students, they see only what's in their backyards and what they see doesn't equal success."

A total of 25 Jefferson High students will be offered opportunities to attend a leadership conference, tours of the campus, and meet RIT students and faculty from the E. Philip Saunders College of Business and business professionals who will lead several workshops in the fields of business and accounting.

"RIT has had a relationship with Jefferson Middle School for the past 15 years with a career counseling program for seventh and eighth graders, and when it became a high school in 2007, we began working with older students," says Alfreda Brown, interim chief diversity officer at RIT. "With this new program I have three goals: The first is to increase the percentage of these ninth-grade students to graduate from high school; it mirrors the goal we have for freshman students at RIT—to persist and graduate.

"The second is to introduce ninth graders to life on the college campus and helping to make academic areas like math, science, business and leadership skills something they want to pursue; make it fun so that they stay motivated. And the third goal is to assess, monitor and track these students when they graduate from Jefferson High—whether they get a job, go to a vocational school, or decide to enter college.

"We want to know what happens to them. If they come to RIT, that's wonderful—it's what we would really like to have happen."

Jefferson partnership, page 4

### Leap of faith



Charles Neumann | photographer

The campus morphed into a ski and snowboarding course Feb. 6 as RIT's Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club hosted its annual Winter Rail Jam fundraiser. Several different rails and a jump were set up for participants.



A. Sue Weisler | photographer

An invitational exhibit featuring work from students and faculty in middle and high schools in the Rochester and Finger Lakes region is in the Bevier Gallery, James E. Booth Building, through Feb. 25.

## Animation from page 1

collaborated on *Coraline*. Many of them Gasek has known for years, having worked with them in the '80s and '90s during his career at studios like Will Vinton Productions and Aardman Animations. RIT alumna Teresa Drilling is one of the film's animators. Fans have seen Drilling's work previously in the hit feature films like *Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* and *Chicken Run*.

"It was very impressive," says Gasek. "The stop-motion animators on *Coraline* were the best of the best. It was a little intimidating at first, but I rose to the occasion and really enjoyed the work."

Stop-motion animation is a labor-intensive process: the animator poses the model, shoots a frame, changes the pose, shoots the next frame, and on and on.

*Coraline* is produced by Laika, an animation studio based out of Portland, Ore. It's the first stop-motion animation feature film to be shot in stereoscopic 3-D.

"Stereoscopic 3-D gives the film the kind of effect you would see looking through a toy Viewmaster," says Gasek. "During filming, each camera had a motion control machine, which controls the camera point of view, so you get a shot from a left and right angle creating the 3-D effect."

Gasek says a 10-second frame

could take up to three weeks to animate.

The story is darker than others that Gasek has worked on. *Coraline*, written by Neil Gaiman with the screenplay of Henry Selick, draws inspiration from some Eastern European stories that reflect a certain macabre sensibility.

"Henry Selick is concerned with craft and the way the animation is executed," adds Gasek. "He has a keen sense of the characters. It's a spooky story, but the film has a good message to it that applies to all cultures. I'm interested to see how American audiences respond to it."

Gasek's other film credits include the Oscar-winning *Wallace and Gromit* film, *The Wrong Trousers* and *Chicken Run*. Gasek also directed and animated the Penny Cartoon for the CBS Show, *Pee Wee's Playhouse*. He is currently completing his own independent animated short, *Off-Line*.

Adam Fisher, a master of fine arts graduate student in the School of Film and Animation, contributed to the pre-visualization of the lip sync on the *Coraline* characters, essentially helping to make sure their mouths looked correct when they spoke.

RIT's School of Film and Animation has been developing a strong relationship with Laika as a potential employer for its graduates. ■

Kelly Downs | kaduns@rit.edu

## Global Teach-In from page 1

outline green initiatives the university has already undertaken. He highlighted the new College of Applied Science and Technology Building, which earned Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, commonly known as LEED, Gold certification and serves as a model of energy efficiency for current and future construction projects on campus.

Destler also acknowledged updates to the heating and cooling infrastructure, campus participation in the national Recyclemania program, and new academic programs in environmental science and sustainable engineering, and the nation's first doctorate focused on sustainable manufacturing and production.

"These are impressive and many in number," he says, "but they are not enough. Nevertheless, they demonstrate what we can accomplish if we work together on these goals, and they serve as good models for what we can do in the future."

Earlier in the day, additional

activities were held across campus in conjunction with the National Teach-In on Global Warming. Participating faculty members incorporated discussions on climate change into regularly scheduled lesson plans, and the Student Alumni Union served as the epicenter for a variety of presentations and instructional demonstrations. Nevin Byrd, a third-year public policy student and a member of RIT's National Teach-In organizing committee, hopes the event promotes widespread awareness to this cause.

"There's so much we do in our daily lifestyles that people don't really stop and think about—using water bottles, how much energy we use," states Byrd. "So there are things happening across campus to remind people about how they're impacting global climate change."

Highlights from RIT's observance of the National Teach-In on Global Warming will be posted online at [www.rit.edu/gwteachin](http://www.rit.edu/gwteachin). ■

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## Four Presidents from page 1

Rochester or a group on campus. Howard plans to divide the \$2,500 award among the following groups: NeighborWorks Rochester, Greater Rochester Urban Bounty and the Anthony L. Jordan Health Center.

Kaitlyn Werner '10 (business administration/marketing) has been selected to receive the Bruce R. James '64 Distinguished Public Service Award. Since fall 2007, she has been involved with RIT's Habitat for Humanity club, having served as secretary and club fundraiser/event coordinator. She works weekends on the local Rochester Habitat for Humanity house, and has organized RIT's alternative spring break leading students across the country to assist in the construction of Habitat for Humanity homes. She is also the student leader for a project to build a "green" Habitat for Humanity house sponsored by RIT.

Werner is a member of the RIT Honors Program and serves as a learning advisor, assisting her peers in brainstorming ideas for their annual service-learning requirement. She is a co-leader of the Lowenthal Service Group, a volunteer-based community service organization.

According to Werner's nominators: "Through her involvement in community service projects, Kaity has learned to appreciate what she has and understands that volunteering in the community adds great benefit to society. She believes in giving back to her campus and community and is willing to learn from every situation she faces. She is thoughtful, dedicated, creative, and most importantly, possesses a sincere desire to enhance the lives of those around her."

Werner will divide her \$1,000 award between Foodlink and Livingston County Habitat for Humanity.

Howard and Werner will be recognized at a ceremony March 17.

The Four Presidents Distinguished Public Service Award Fund was created by Davis on the occasion of the 65th year of his association with RIT to commemorate the dedication of the last four RIT presidents in their service to the Rochester community. The award is presented annually to a member of the RIT faculty or staff whose public service and commitment mirrors that of the four presidents who worked with Davis. The Bruce R. James '64 Distinguished Public Service Award is presented to an RIT student and commemorates the public service of Bruce James, chairman emeritus of the RIT Board of Trustees. ■  
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## Newsmakers

**Michael Amy**, associate professor of the history of art, published "Jan Fabre at the Louvre" in the January-February 2009 issue of *Sculpture*.

**Margaret Bailey**, the Kate Gleason Endowed Chair and associate professor of mechanical engineering, was named a co-author of the textbook *Fundamentals of Engineering and Thermodynamics*.

**Krysta Banke**, program instructor, First Year Enrichment, had her article, "How to Survive Freshman Year," published in *Next Step Magazine*.

**Amit Batabyal**, the Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics, presented two papers at the annual meeting of the Japan Section of the Regional Science Association International, in October in Hakodate, Japan. In addition, he published "The Impact of Innovation on a Polluting Firm's Regulation Driven Decision to Upgrade its Capital Stock" in the October 2008 issue of *International Regional Science Review*.

**William A. Johnson Jr.**, distinguished professor of urban and community studies, moderated a panel discussion on the relevancy of race, race relations and community action as part of a two-day conference on race hosted by Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in November.

**Gurcharan Khanna**, director of research computing at RIT, served as moderator of the 10th meeting of the Collaboration Special Interest Group at the Fall 2008 Internet2 Member Meeting Oct. 22 in New Orleans. The group seeks to enhance user access to advanced real-time collaboration tools in the Internet2 environment.

**Jacqueline Mozrall**, professor and head of the department of industrial and systems engineering, co-authored "Assessment of Cooperative Education Experiences as Part of an Overall Program Assessment Plan," in *Assessment in Engineering Programs: Evolving Best Practices, Assessment in the Disciplines*, Vol. 3, published by the Association for Institutional Research.

## Jefferson partnership from page 3

According to Chandra Wilson, manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers, the firm sponsored the program as a means of "giving back" and getting more involved with the community.

"The number of minorities going into the accounting profession is low; we wanted to increase the awareness and opportunities within the profession as well as help develop potential future candidates," Wilson says. "We want to be positive role models—build leadership skills of youths participating in the program

and increase their awareness of who we are and what we do."

Hollomon agrees with Wilson's assessment that minorities are misrepresented and believes the pilot program will offer Jefferson students more opportunities beyond high school graduation.

"They need hope, they need to feel a sense of self esteem, they need to know there are opportunities out there for everyone. This effort offers them a better outlook on the whole college experience." ■

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## Radio from page 2

April 22–26, in Philadelphia.

To address the current radio environment, Saffran offers several policy recommendations, including reversing the federal ban on newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership—a proposal that could seem at first counterproductive, he concedes. However, Saffran supports tying the policy to stricter local and national radio ownership caps. He believes tighter ownership limits could be imminent under a new chairman of the Federal Communications Commission to be appointed by President Obama.

Saffran adds: "Stricter radio owner-

ship limits—potentially benefiting local radio audiences through enhanced news, public-service and live-local programming and station responsiveness—realistically stand a greater chance for enactment with tradeoffs agreeable to all stakeholders." ■

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**Web extra:** Will Dube interviews study author Michael Saffran about his research exploring listener perceptions of local radio on the RIT news podcast "Studio 86: The State of Radio." Visit [www.rit.edu/news/podcasts](http://www.rit.edu/news/podcasts).