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## NTID to Get First President

*Chalonda Roberts, 13 WHAM-TV - April 25, 2008*

(Rochester, N.Y.) - The new president of NTID is already making his mark with a hand print.

Alan Hurwitz's print will be part of the Hall of Leaders for an upcoming student banquet celebrating the institute's 40th anniversary. His new position is regarded as a huge accomplishment within the deaf community.

"We look at this with great pride, recognizing a deaf president of a university is tremendous," said Nancy Bloch, CEO of the National Association of the Deaf. "It puts him more on par not just with Gallaudet University (in Washington), but with other institutes of higher education."

Hurwitz said there will be no changes between NTID and RIT; the schools will still have the same partnership.

The new president said his leadership will allow him to focus on the school's mission and strategic objectives.

"First is to focus on our academic progress," said Hurwitz. "To make sure they are current and up to date and will prepare students for employment."

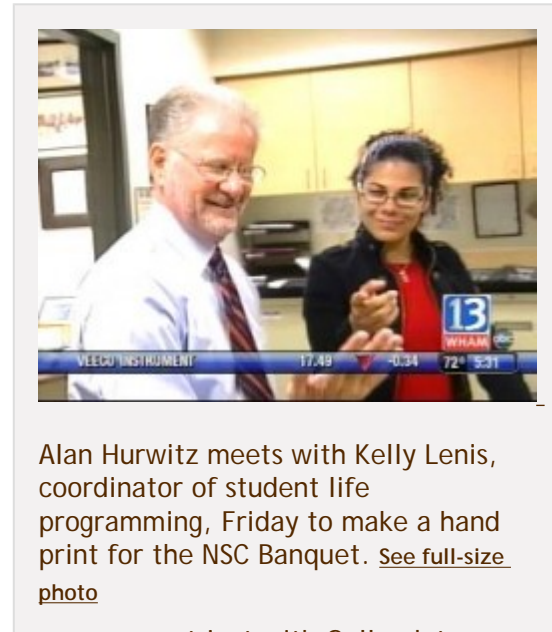
Strategies also include improving access to services like interpreting and closed captioning.

Administrators and students of NTID say having a president will hopefully elevate the institute to a new level promoting it nationally and internationally.

"I think it's a big change for us," said NTID student Nicole Utley. "It will give us more opportunities, better opportunities for the future. I think that's better opportunities than we have now. It's wonderful."

Hurwitz said he's honored to have the job. He feels a sense of responsibility to carry out duties that will hopefully put NTID on the map.

Hurwitz officially becomes president on July 1st.



Alan Hurwitz meets with Kelly Lenis, coordinator of student life programming, Friday to make a hand print for the NSC Banquet. [See full-size photo](#)

**Rochester Institute of Technology**

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