

NTID

RIT

FOCUS Magazine

Spring/Summer 2019

NTID Rededicating

Rededicating NTID

National Technical Institute for the Deaf • Rochester Institute of Technology

RIT

NTID FOCUS Magazine

Spring/Summer 2019

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From the president

Honoring the legacy



Photo by Mark Benjamin

NTID capped off its 50th anniversary year with a rededication event on April 5 in Panara Theatre (see p. 2). It was a truly momentous occasion that left us all filled

with pride and gratitude—pride in this wonderful college, our history and the outstanding accomplishments of NTID's first 50 years, and gratitude for all of the people who have contributed so much in so many ways to making NTID a success.

We were honored to be joined by Lucinda Robb, granddaughter of the late President Lyndon B. Johnson, who signed into law the legislation that created NTID and for whom NTID's main academic building is named. Also attending were a number of local, state, and federal government officials, and hundreds of members of the RIT and NTID communities. It was a joyous celebration of this remarkable institution and a wonderful way to honor NTID's legacy of educational excellence and rededicate our college and ourselves to our mission.

With our 50th anniversary year now behind us, we turn with renewed vigor toward the future. We are actively engaged in raising funds from alumni, parents, and friends, government and corporate partners, and research foundations and agencies to support our students and enhance the educational opportunities we provide. NTID has received numerous grants to support faculty research designed to enhance the lives of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing (see p. 14). We also have received support from generous donors to fund scholarships for our students, provide financial assistance for high school students to attend our summer camp programs, and improve our facilities

(see p. 8). Visit our website for more information on ways you can help support NTID: rit.edu/ntid/makeagift.

We are especially seeking support for scholarships to enable more students to attend RIT/NTID. One in four RIT/NTID students comes from a family with an annual income of less than \$30,000, and 45% of our students receive PELL grants, which means these students come from families with very limited financial means. The need is especially critical for deaf and hard-of-hearing international students, most of whom do not have access to high quality educational opportunities in their home countries.

NTID is expanding our reach through the NTID Regional STEM Center with the goal of improving access to postsecondary STEM education and employment for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing (see p. 10). This is an exciting initiative in partnership with Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, and we have offered a number of programs for students in the Southeastern region of the country. We are pleased to be able to bring our expertise to this effort and provide even more opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing students to learn, grow, and succeed.

As you look through this issue of *FOCUS*, you will notice that we have changed the design to reflect the new RIT brand. Like NTID itself, *FOCUS* continues to evolve and improve as we move ever forward, building on and honoring our legacy and history as we continue to provide the education and experiences that deaf and hard-of-hearing students need to succeed in our ever-changing world.

Thank you for your continued support.



Gerard J. Buckley, SVP '74, '78
NTID President
RIT Vice President and Dean

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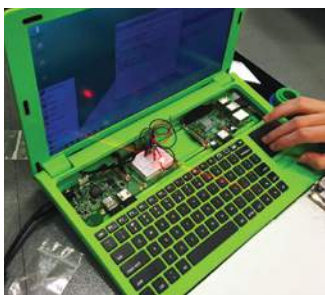
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**THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON
BUILDING**

ON JUNE 8, 1965, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, 36TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SIGNED INTO LAW A BILL DRAFTED BY CONGRESSMAN HUGH L. CAREY OF NEW YORK. PUBLIC LAW 89-56 CREATED THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF. HE SAID:

"THIS INSTITUTION WILL HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF HUNDREDS OF DEAF YOUNG PEOPLE, BOTH STUDENTS AND ADULTS, WHO WANT TO BE AND CAN BE TRAINED FOR VARIOUS TECHNICAL OPERATIONS AND PLACED IN VERY USEFUL CAREERS. DEAFNESS IS NOT AND NEED NOT BE REGARDED AS THE HANDICAP THAT MEN THOUGHT IT WAS IN THE PAST. GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND TO PREPARE THEMSELVES, THE DEAF CAN FILL A WIDE ARRAY OF USEFUL AND IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONS THROUGHOUT OUR SOCIETY."





All photos by Mark Benjamin

Lucinda Robb, granddaughter of President Lyndon B. and Lady Bird Johnson, was on hand for the rededication event, and along with NTID President Gerry Buckley unveiled a prototype of a plaque that will hang in LBJ Hall. "My grandparents would be so proud of what has been accomplished in just 50 short years at NTID, and would have loved being here today to see the tremendous success NTID has had and particularly the community they've built up."

NTID rededication ceremony celebrates 50 years of deaf education

“
My grandparents would be so proud of what has been accomplished in just 50 short years at NTID.”

Lucinda Robb, granddaughter of President Lyndon B. and Lady Bird Johnson

The year 1968 forever changed the course of education of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. In September of that year, 70 young men and women arrived on the Rochester Institute of Technology campus to become the charter class of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. In the 50 years since NTID opened its doors, nearly 9,000 graduates have gone on to career success.

Over the course of the 2018-2019 academic year, NTID marked its 50 years through a year-long program of festivities—from holding alumni receptions across the country and the grand 50th anniversary alumni reunion weekend—to releasing NTID's 50th anniversary history book, "A Shining Beacon."

On Friday, April 5, 2019, NTID rounded out its 50th anniversary year with a rededication celebration. In addition to RIT/NTID students, faculty, staff, retirees, and alumni, attendees included members of the original faculty and class of NTID students from 1968; local, state, and federal government officials; and Lucinda Robb, granddaughter of the late President Lyndon B. Johnson who signed the NTID Act into law. The rededication marked the first time that a relative of President Johnson had visited the campus since Lady Bird Johnson visited in 1974 for the dedication of NTID's main academic building, Lyndon Baines Johnson Hall.

Ilene J. Avallone

NTID Rededication



1 A video greeting by U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer. “Congratulations to all of the staff and students and alumni of RIT’s National Technical Institute for the Deaf as you celebrate an amazing 50 years. I’m so proud that NTID has become one of the great American institutes educating our students for the 21st century economy. Your success is remarkable.”

2 New York State Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul stresses the value of RIT/NTID graduates. “This is an institution with its beautiful alliance, its marriage, with RIT that sends people out into the world prepared to accept life’s challenges. But not just to better their own lives, but truly to better the lives of others.”

3 Congressman Joseph Morelle displays a statement delivered to the U.S. Congressional Record alongside NTID President Gerry Buckley. “I want to congratulate everyone at NTID, as well as the greater Rochester community, for 50 years of excellence. NTID provides a transformative education that allows deaf and hard-of-hearing students to thrive and reach their full potential. I am so proud to represent a community that is home to such incredible institutions like RIT and NTID that are truly changing the world for the better.”

4 Frank Sklarsky speaks on behalf of RIT’s Board of Trustees. “We, as trustees, greatly value the national and international recognition that NTID has gained in its own right and has also brought to RIT, and are grateful for the role NTID continues to play in making our university world class. NTID is truly a brilliant jewel of the RIT family and a source of inspiration and pride for all of us.”



5 RIT Student Government President and RIT/NTID student Bobby Moakley and NTID Student Congress President Taylor Repetski speak about the next generation of NTID students. "We, the newest generation of RIT/NTID Tigers, are dedicated to honoring the legacy of the past 50 years, while at the same time blazing our own trail for the future of the college. NTID has been, and will continue to be, a place of creativity, enabling deaf students to succeed in the classroom and beyond."



6 A performance by Sunshine 2.0. Sunshine 2.0, a four-member traveling theatrical troupe from NTID that entertains and educates audiences about the deaf experience, performs at the rededication ceremony.



7 A reception for the community. Former NTID President Alan Hurwitz mingles with NTID Student Life Team director Tim Albert following the rededication ceremony.



8 The Star-Spangled Banner. A rendition of the national anthem was signed by RIT/NTID student Jacob Schwall and sung by Thomas Warfield, RIT/NTID senior lecturer.

Visit rit.edu/ntid/50rededication for videos, photos, and more.

RIT/NTID and Microsoft partner to advance access

The passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which guaranteed accommodations in education and the workplace, helped transform opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. The demands of the workplace require that new technology—and new ways to use current technology—need to be developed to help meet the demands of an expanding and diverse workforce.

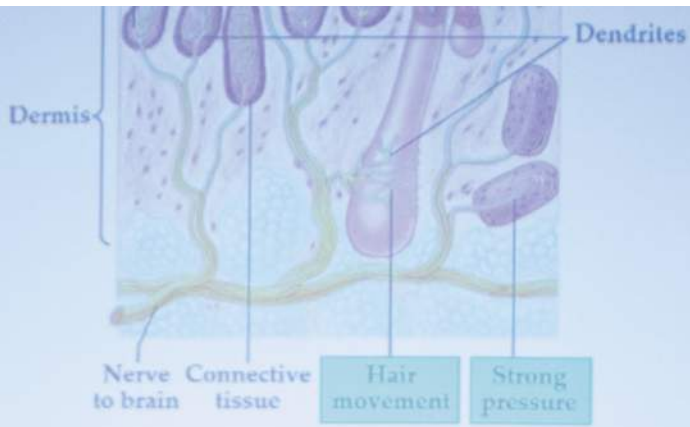
RIT/NTID faculty and staff realized they were in the best position to take a lead role in developing accessibility solutions that would affect not only the college environment, but also the workplace to make the transition from college to employment smoother. To make accessibility research and development a strategic priority, RIT/NTID established the Center on Access Technology, or CAT, where faculty and students investigate, evaluate, and report on the most effective and efficient use of access technologies and train

individuals in their use to accelerate widespread implementation within deaf education. The center relies on a collaborative network of individuals from RIT and other universities, as well as from industry and professional organizations, to promote research and development of access technologies that will positively affect postsecondary educational experiences for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. One such collaboration that is showing great promise is with the Microsoft Artificial Intelligence team and their Microsoft

Translator, a cloud-based automatic translation service used by businesses worldwide to reach a global audience.

For the past three years, the Translator team has worked closely with CAT on a pilot program to provide automatic speech recognition services in classrooms with students who are hearing, deaf, and hard of hearing. Pilot classrooms are equipped with Microsoft's Presentation Translator, and the faculty member's lecture appears on the screen below PowerPoint slides via the professor speaking into a headset. Students can download the Translator app





Sandra J. Connelly, left, principal lecturer in RIT's College of Science, is piloting the use of the Microsoft Translator and presentation software in her General Biology class, while Andrea Whittemore, interprets for the class.

www.translate.it/ZIJAY Mute

u know, that because you've got all these nerve wrapped



Photo by John Brecher/Microsoft

to their laptop, phone or tablet, receive the captions in real time in the language of their choice, then save and download the lecture for future study.

The Microsoft/CAT collaboration continues to expand, with both teams meeting through regular videoconferences, RIT/NTID faculty travelling to Microsoft's Seattle headquarters and Translator team members visiting RIT's campus. Last November Jenny Lay Flurrie, Microsoft's Chief Accessibility Officer, came to Rochester to get a first-hand look at CAT

and meet with faculty, students, and administrators. She left inspired and excited for what is to come.

"Our partnership with RIT/NTID allows us to accelerate the progress of Translator and its presentation software, and has positively impacted all of us who are involved in the project," Flurrie says. "This work is all about connection—our connection to the development team will ultimately lead to connections in and out of the classroom for students around the world."

CAT Director Gary Behm agrees.

"Innovations such as these positively impact not only the college learning environment, but prepare students to go into the world of work with solutions to meet any barriers to accessibility," he says. "Our students learn that they do not need to passively stand by and settle for doors being closed to them. They can become active participants in overcoming barriers to access that benefits all aspects of the work environment."

Susan L. Murad

Advancing NTID's mission

RIT/NTID's Office of Development and Alumni Relations is in the process of closing out another successful year. Boosted by the 50th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Weekend in June 2018, D&AR met their fundraising goal of \$1.4 million for the current fiscal year in January, well ahead of schedule. But the amount of money isn't as important as how it's being spent. Below are some highlights of D&AR's activity for the year.



Maguire Foundation renewal

The Maguire Foundation committed \$100,000 to scholarships for up to five students starting in fall 2018. Now that the first year has successfully concluded, the Foundation and D&AR have agreed to continue funding, adding another five students in fall 2019 for a total of 10 students.

"We're pleased to see that our longstanding productive relationship with the Maguire Foundation is continuing," says Nisha Cerame, RIT/NTID's director of development. "RIT/NTID students are directly benefiting from this relationship, and we're looking forward to seeing it continue for a long time to come."

Black History Month Celebration Endowment Fund announced

The Black History Month Potluck Luncheon, founded and organized annually at RIT/NTID for nearly three

decades by Johnnie "JB" Brown, a member of Facilities Management Services based at RIT/NTID, provides a place for RIT/NTID faculty, staff and students to meet, eat, and learn more about contemporary issues relevant to Black History Month.

In order to ensure that the tradition continues, D&AR staff worked with the NTID Diversity Group and Sydney Long, assistant to RIT/NTID's associate vice president for academic affairs, to establish an endowment fund to cover the luncheon's operating costs in perpetuity. With a lead gift from the William G. McGowan Charitable Trust, the endowment is more than 50% funded. Those interested in giving can visit: rit.edu/giving/JB-endowment.



MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION

Motorola helps fund camps, establish 3D printing lab

RIT/NTID's Outreach Consortium is the beneficiary of \$30,000 in grants from the Motorola Solutions Foundation, intended to help fund Outreach's TechBoyz and TechGirlz summer camps for middle-schoolers interested in exploring STEM-related careers.

An additional \$20,000 from the foundation will help establish a 3D printing lab under the direction of Kurt Stoskopf, associate professor in the Visual Communications Studies department.



Photo by Joel Beckwith

Johnnie "JB" Brown at the reception celebrating the establishment of the Black History Month Celebration Endowment Fund.

HEARST foundations

Hearst Foundation funds major 1510 Theatre renovation

Fundraising for facilities upgrades for NTID's Performing Arts Program is continuing, with one major gift by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation contributing to the installation of cutting-edge technology in the 1510 Theatre.

Developed in coordination with Brian Trager of the Center on Access Technology, the new technology will involve a large LED array installed at the back of the stage. This array will work as a high-definition video screen that will allow the Performing Arts Program to test new staging technologies and advanced special effects.

"We're very excited about this opportunity," says Aaron Kelstone, faculty member in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies. "This upgrade will allow us to try different ways to ensure that deaf and hard-of-hearing theatergoers have full access to some of our society's most cherished cultural treasures."



Students bring a musical number to a spectacular finish in NTID's 2018 production of "Cabaret," staged in the Panara Theatre.

Photo by Mark Benjamin

NTID Alumni Museum funding reaches halfway point

The fundraising campaign for the new NTID Alumni Museum has continued, successfully raising more than \$100,000 toward its goal of \$200,000. This campaign will help install displays and create museum space that will include six to eight exhibit areas, some of which will be electronic and employ new technologies that allow attendees to interact with NTID's history.

Displays are anticipated to be placed by late 2020. "This museum space has been a long time coming," says Loriann

Macko, director of alumni and constituent relations. "I'm so thrilled with the progress that has been made, and I can't wait to see how it turns out. I think our alumni will be incredibly pleased by the result."

Sigma Nu Endowed Scholarship established

Thanks to a fundraising drive by the RIT chapter of Sigma Nu, including both current students and alumni, a new

endowed scholarship has been established for members of Sigma Nu at RIT/NTID. With \$25,000 in the fund, the first award will be given in fall 2020. The number of supported students is anticipated to increase as the fund grows in the coming years.

James McCarthy

Building a future

Two 2016 TechGirlz attendees assemble a small remote-controlled vehicle.

Photo by Mark Benjamin



Expanding NTID's reach

Showcasing the work of NRSC— Southeast

NTID established its first NTID Regional Stem Center (NRSC) in the Southeast in November 2016 in partnership with Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB) to expand the geographic reach of activities and services supported by NTID, with the goal of improving access to postsecondary STEM education and employment for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. NRSC has successfully run a variety of programs throughout the region over the past two years.

The center's activities focus on providing professional development for middle and high school teachers, developing relationships with business and industry to promote employment opportunities, and preparing NTID postsecondary students to be successful in STEM.

Here are some examples of their programs.

Dylan Panarra



Tiger Sharks

November 6 – 9, 2018

In partnership with the Marinelab organization in Florida, NRSC hosted a week-long deep sea diving expedition and a lab-based exploration program for middle school deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

All photos provided by AIDB



Vex Robotics

March 1 – 3, 2019

The first-ever student robotics tournament in the Southeast region with robotics teams composed of all deaf and hard-of-hearing students, hosted by the Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation in partnership with NRSC was held at the North Carolina School for the Deaf.

An all-girls team named "Girl Power" won the competition and earned the Excellence Award and Robot Skills Champion Award.



Marine Biology

June 28 – July 3, 2019

In partnership with the Marinelab organization in Florida, NRSC/AIDB hosted a week-long deep sea diving expedition and a lab-based exploration program for deaf and hard-of-hearing high school students.



GenCyber Camp

July 7–12, 2019 (AL) & July 21–26, 2019 (TX)

In partnership with the GenCyber organization, NRSC provided training for deaf and hard-of-hearing students and teachers to increase interest in cybersecurity careers, promote safe digital behaviors, and improve methods for cybersecurity.



Droids and Drones

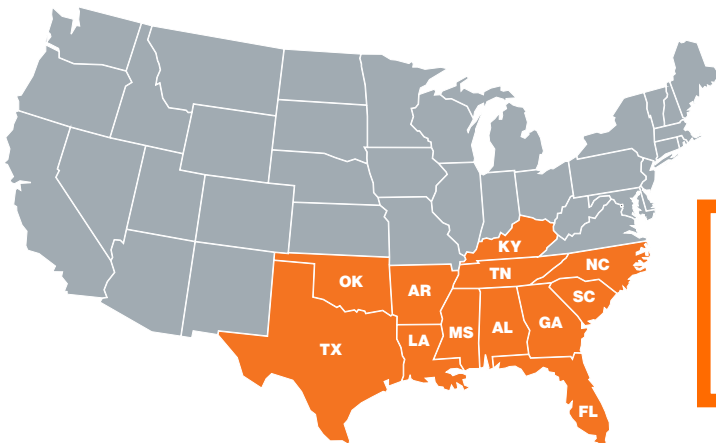
June 16 – 21, 2019

In partnership with AIDB, NRSC hosted high school students in Alabama to educate them how to code, build and operate robots and drones that they then took home.



DeafKidsCODE

DKC travels throughout the country, exposing middle school students to computer science skills. Seeing no opportunities for deaf and hard-of-hearing students to learn these skills, Shireen Hafeez founded DKC to give her deaf son and other students exposure to these skills. NRSC has recently partnered with DKC to expand their reach.



States served by NRSC

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas

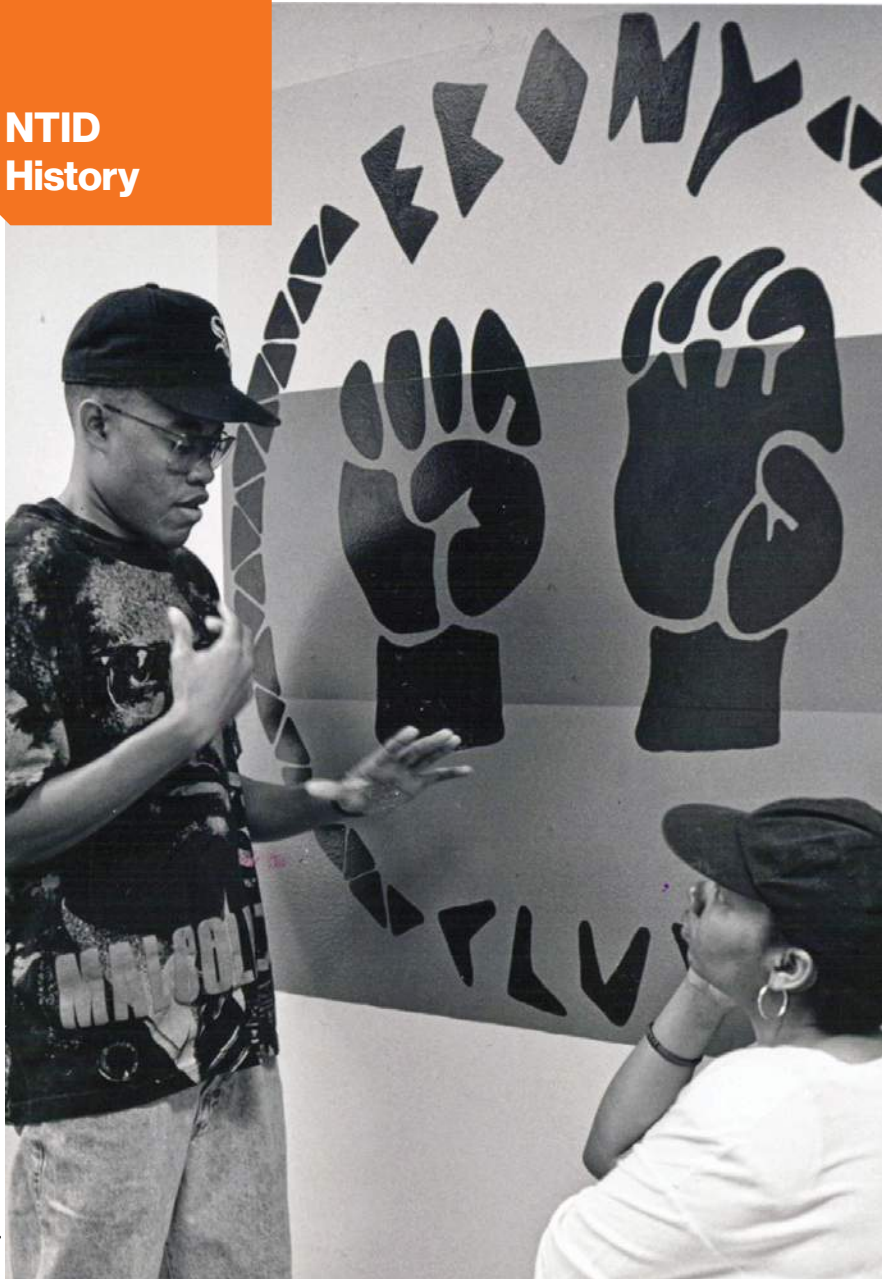


Photo by Kellie McCann

Stefan Middleton (standing) and Tracy Ivy (seated) chat in front of the Ebony Club mural in the residential tunnels in this photo, taken in 1992.

Ebony Club Founded, 1985

In 1985, four students—Fred Beam (SVP '81, '85), Eva Faison ('92), Larry Smith and Jeff Pecot (SVP '82, '93)—came together and founded an organization that would provide a space for black deaf and hard-of-hearing students on campus. That organization, named Ebony Club, has stood as the oldest cultural student organization at RIT/NTID, celebrating its 34th anniversary this year. Through the years, Ebony Club has evolved from a social group to an organization that focuses on providing its membership with opportunities for leadership. Members are able to lead annual events like Phatsgiving and Sweetheart Day, or work with advocates for the black Deaf community nationwide. After graduation, many have gone on to become prominent figures in National Black Deaf Advocates and the National Association of the Deaf, among other organizations.

James McCarthy

Trivia Tidbit

with Sam Holcomb

QUESTION

Why does RIT/NTID have so many student organizations of its own?

ANSWER

These organizations provide unique opportunities for students to learn about leadership, support their education, and network with other students who have the same skills and background.



Photo by Mark Benjamin

Finding a college that fits

When it comes to choosing a college, many parents focus on factors such as academics, career preparation and outcomes, and affordability. For parents of deaf and hard-of-hearing students, these same considerations hold true. But other factors also are important, because not all colleges are equal when it comes to finding the best fit for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

So how do parents of deaf or hard-of-hearing students decide?

FOCUS interviewed several parents of current RIT/NTID students to learn what was important to them, and why their family chose RIT.

"When we looked at other colleges, we were told they could make accommodations for Leah, but when we visited RIT we saw those accommodations were already in place, and Leah and I both knew immediately RIT was the right place," says Rachel Coleman, mother of fourth-year RIT/NTID student Leah Coleman. "What we like about RIT is that it is set up for Leah to participate fully in anything Leah wants to do—whether that be participating in clubs and activities, joining an RIT program, or becoming a resident advisor. All are completely available, without Leah having to explain about being deaf."

"Safety also is important to me," adds Rachel. "The academic buildings and residence halls at RIT accommodate deaf students with strobe fire alarm systems, and public safety officials know how to communicate in sign language. These are factors we didn't find at other colleges."

The White family from Littleton, Colorado, didn't know much about RIT when they were looking at colleges for their daughter Mia, who wanted to continue playing varsity soccer in college.

When they learned about the access and support services available to deaf and hard-of-hearing students and the large deaf community on campus, RIT quickly rose to the top of their college list.

"We didn't want Mia to have to fight for services as one of a few deaf students, so it was very clear to us at the end of our college search that RIT was the right fit for her," says Mia's father Gragg White.

Kevin and Grace Trani from Huntington Beach, California, had similar concerns for their daughter Baylee, a second-year RIT/NTID student and a member of the RIT women's hockey team.

"When we were looking at colleges, our hope for Baylee was that she would find a place where she could succeed academically and as a student-athlete," says Kevin. After their visit to campus they knew they didn't need to look any further.

"The benefits she gets at RIT as a hard-of-hearing student are great. Here she is on an equal playing field with her hearing peers," says Kevin. "The growth and maturity that we see in Baylee today and her happiness here, makes RIT a great investment, and the return on this investment is going to be huge!"

"We were concerned initially about sending Baylee across the country," adds Grace, "but the support and unparalleled education that she is receiving is just amazing, and we're so glad she is here. RIT feels like an extension of our family."

Ilene J. Avallone



See the videos

Watch the full videos of the Coleman, Trani, and White families at the links below, and share the videos with friends and family who might benefit from viewing them.

Coleman Family

bit.ly/ColemanFamily

Trani Family

bit.ly/TraniFamily

White Family

bit.ly/WhiteFamilyVideo

College Search Checklist

RIT/NTID also has developed a checklist for deaf and hard-of-hearing students and their parents to use on college visits to help them determine which college offers the best opportunities for success. Download a copy or to share the checklist with others.

rit.edu/ntid/checklist



2019: The Year in Research Grants

RIT/NTID faculty, staff, and researchers began or continued work on more than 30 grants this year, covering topics as diverse as language, substance abuse, teaching, and more. While not a complete list, here are some of the many research activities that took place in 2019.

Research highlights

Public Service



Languages of Interactive Flexible Technology: World Around You (LIFT-WAY)

Christopher Kurz, Mel Chua, Stephen Jacobs, Kim Kurz, Thomastine Sarchet

Initial \$25,000 and subsequent \$150,000 – United States Agency for International Development

For the development of open-source software that will include interactive literacy instruction materials in the form of interactive books and games.

ntid.rit.edu/news/ritntid-one-three-finalists-global-literacy-competition

Substance and Alcohol Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD)

Keven Poore

\$185,000 – U.S. Department of Health and Human Service and Monroe County Office of Mental Health

To provide alcohol, tobacco, and other drug information/referral, prevention/education, intervention, cross-disability professional consultation, and training. SAISD serves deaf and hard-of-hearing students at RIT/NTID, and deaf individuals in Monroe County and the 15 surrounding counties in Upstate New York.

rit.edu/ntid/saisd

Curriculum Development



RoadMAPPs to Careers: A New Approach to Mobile Apps Education featuring a Mapp for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students

Brian Trager, David Lawrence, Elissa Olsen

\$820,000 – National Science Foundation

For the development and implementation of an associate degree program designed to increase the number of deaf and hard-of-hearing students in the mobile apps workforce.

www.ntid.rit.edu/ics/mobile-application-development

Educational Outreach



Renewal of DeafTEC: Technological Education Center for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students

Donna Lange, Denise Kavin
\$4 million – National Science Foundation

DeafTEC continues to expand partnerships in targeted regions of the country among high schools, community colleges, and industry to improve access to technological education and employment for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. New curricula for national dissemination related to science, technology, engineering, and math careers for middle and high school students was added, as was job readiness training for community college students.

deaftec.org

DeafTEC Resource Center for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students

Donna Lange, Denise Kavin, Keith Mousley
\$1.6 million – National Science Foundation

DeafTEC will transition to become a national resource center to increase the number of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in highly skilled technician jobs. The DeafTEC Resource Center will continue with the goals of DeafTEC and runs through 2022.

deaftec.org/news/deaftec-resource-center-funded

Research highlights

Accessibility Research



Augmented Reality: Accessible Dynamic Informal STEM Learning for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

Wendy Dannels, Sara Schley,
Brian Trager
\$259,000 – *National Science Foundation*

A pilot study through the Center on Access Technology, this project is designed to demonstrate the feasibility of using augmented reality technology to make STEM content that is presented in science center and museum settings accessible to deaf and hard-of-hearing learners.

rit.edu/news/ntid-explore-augmented-reality-technology

Mechanism of Health Literacy and Information Accessibility

Peter Hauser
\$600,000 – *National Institutes of Health*

In partnership with the University of Michigan, this is the first time the origins of inadequate health literacy among people who are deaf has been studied, and explores the characteristics of health information (i.e., accessibility, acquisition, and attitudes) that influence health literacy among deaf individuals. It also examines the role of an individual's culture, cognition, and resiliency.

rit.edu/news/ntid-professor-addresses-united-nations

Student Research Support



RIT-RISE Scientists-in-Training Program for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Undergraduates

Vincent Samar, Paul Craig
\$366,000 – *National Institutes of Health*

RIT-RISE is designed to increase the number of deaf and hard-of-hearing RIT students who enter doctoral programs in science fields by providing research-related courses, co-curricular offerings that focus on areas of need for the target population, mentored research experiences, and specialized academic advising.

ntid.rit.edu/rise

Rochester Bridges to the Doctorate for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students

Peter Hauser
\$1.62 million – *National Institutes of Health*

In cooperation with the University of Rochester, this award continues to develop, implement, and evaluate a model program that integrates individual and institutional activities to improve deaf and hard-of-hearing students' preparation and skills as they advance academically toward completion of doctoral degrees in biomedical and behavioral sciences.

deafscientists.com

Summer Undergraduate Research for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in Applying Mathematical and Statistical Methods to Problems from the Sciences

Bonnie Jacob, Jason Nordhaus
\$303,000 – *National Science Foundation*

This is the first all-deaf cohort of NSF's Research Experiences for Undergraduates. The goal of the program is to improve the persistence of deaf and hard-of-hearing undergraduate students in science and math, to introduce mathematical and statistical tools that will strengthen students' research skills, and to prepare them for careers in science and math research.

people.rit.edu/bcjntm/REU

Susan L. Murad

So much more...

These are just a sampling of the many research projects happening at RIT/NTID that benefit current and prospective students and the world around them. To learn more about RIT/NTID research centers' activities, visit rit.edu/ntid/research-overview.

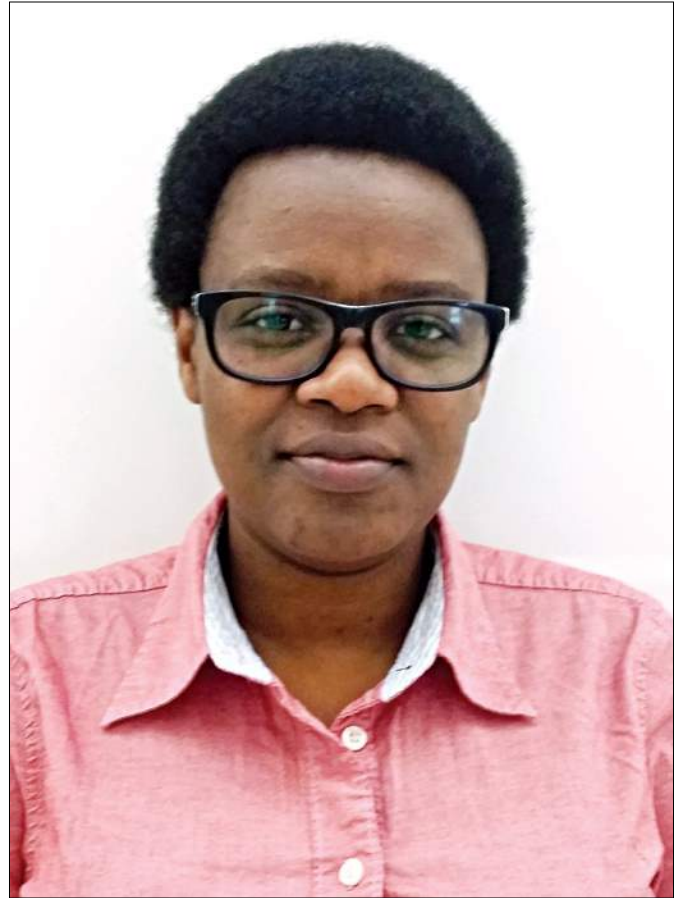
Congratulations to the **Class of 2019!**



Photo by A. Sue Webster

Israelle Johnson, Undergraduate delegate

From Baltimore, Ohio, Israelle graduated with an AAS in laboratory science technology. In addition to receiving RIT's Merit and Presidential Scholarships, Israelle received an award for her outstanding achievements from an Ohio state senator and assemblywoman. In 2018, Israelle completed a co-op at MASI Environmental Laboratory in Columbus, Ohio. Since she arrived at RIT, Israelle has been a member of the RIT orchestra, where she plays the viola. Israelle plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in medical sonography.



Provided photo

Jeanne d'Arc Ntigulirwa, Graduate delegate

From Rwanda, Jeanne d'Arc graduated with an MS in secondary education. She also holds a BS in business administration from the University of Rwanda. At RIT, Jeanne d'Arc has served as an English peer tutor and graduate assistant. Her professional experience includes interning at Federation Handicap International in Rwanda, where she taught Rwandan Sign Language to educators within the country. After serving in that role for six months, Jeanne d'Arc became the federation's advocacy and communication officer. She also served as the executive director of Rwanda National Union of the Deaf. Jeanne d'Arc plans to pursue a career as a bilingual teacher to deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

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Visual Communications Studies

April 5th, 2019 8:38pm 45° – LBJ Re-Dedication Day

Lights: 180 people with flashlights & (2) Profoto B1 strobes

Camera: Nikon D850 Camera, 20mm/f2

Exposure: 1/16 @35" ISO 400

Photo by Eric Kunsman

A photograph of NTID's LBJ Hall made with the RIT Big Shot team on April 5, 2019, in recognition of NTID's 50th anniversary rededication event. RIT Big Shot coordinators Eric Kunsman and Dan Hughes helped facilitate the photograph with members of the NTID community.

