

Fram Focus volume 6:3 – October 2020

In this issue:

➤ Fram Events:

“Critical Thinking as a professional skill for disruption & innovation”,
Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 8:30-9:30 am (EDT) guest lecture for RIT
Croatia Students **by Dr. Jennifer L. Schneider**.

➤ Cosponsored Events:

- Mathematics Colloquium: October 7, 2020. **“Inferring Distributions of COVID-Positive Individuals from Wastewater Tests on a College Campus”**, Dr. Nathan Cahill, Director, Mathematical Modeling Ph.D. Program, Associate Professor, School of Mathematical Science.
- Gray Matters: October 16, 2020, **“Does the Presidential Election Matter?”**
- International Alumni Webinar Series: October 27, 2020, **“Thinking through Business Continuity for the event industry during Covid-19: Networking for Success”**, presented by Ms. Ines Nanic, BS’04, Hotel & Resort Management.

➤ A Few Thoughts:

- Dr. Thomas Hanney, School of Individualized Study, and College Course Advancement Team (CATs).
- Dr. Mark Indovina, Electrical and Microelectronic Engineering, KGCOE; and College Course Advancement Team (CATs).

➤ From Gene Fram:

- **“Is Social Media Creating Humanoids?”**, Forbes, Sept. 25, 2020, by Wayne Lonstein, CEO, VFT Solutions, Inc.

- **“Ten Ways to Spot Online Misinformation”**, The Conversation, Updated September 17, 2020, by H. Colleen Sinclair.
- **“The Baloney Detection Kit”**, by Maria Popova.

Fram Events:

“Critical Thinking as a professional skill for disruption & innovation”, Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 8:30-9:30 am (EDT). Guest lecture for RIT Croatia Students by **Dr. Jennifer L. Schneider**. This time is full of uncertainty. This seminar will explore the process of Applied Critical Thinking, and how it can make you more prepared to not only survive but thrive and use disruption as an advantage in your life and your career. This ACT initiative is an RIT-wide effort to make ourselves more present and future ready

Cosponsored Events

- **“Inferring Distributions of COVID-Positive Individuals from Wastewater Tests on a College Campus”**. Wednesday, October 7, 2020 from 1:25-2:15 pm. Dr. Nathan Cahill, Director, Mathematical Modeling Ph.D. Program, Associate Professor, School of Mathematical Science. [Abstract](#). We will show, in the case of RIT’s current 16 wastewater sampling sites, how this Bayesian Network inference strategy can yield important information that could help health officials decide on further coronavirus testing and mitigation strategies. Register [HERE](#).
- **“Does the Presidential Election Matter?”** Gray Matters Event. Video conference on Friday, October 16, 2020 from 12:00-1:00 pm. Register [HERE](#). **Note:** If you need help with registration, please contact Chris Hinesley at chhgsm@rit.edu.
- **“Thinking through Business Continuity for the Event Industry during Covid-19: Networking for Success”**. Co-sponsored Event – Alumni Relations – Webinar on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 from 12:00-1:00 pm. Presented by Ines Nanic, BS 04—Hotel & Resort Management, RIT Croatia. In the heart of the devastated industries during the world pandemic in 2020, tourism is surely at the top of the list. Within tourism, the event industry is by far the one that has suffered the most. Unable to hold events, its recovery will take years. Not only must event companies have the funds to survive during this downtime, they must also be well connected and innovative with their survival plans. Register [HERE](#).

A Few Thoughts

In this issue we meet two of RIT's notable members of the College Course Advancement Team (CATs): Thomas Hanney, SOIS and Mark Indovina, KGCOE.

- **Thomas Hanney** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Individualized Study. This month, he shares with us how important critical thinking is in all parts of our lives. Read his answers to a few critical thinking questions [HERE](#).
- **Mark Indovina** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Electrical & Microelectronic Engineering, Kate Gleason College of Engineering. In this issue, he discusses the importance bringing critical thinking into the courses he teaches. Read his answers to a few critical thinking questions [HERE](#).

From Gene Fram

"Is Social Media Creating Humanoids?", Forbes, Sept. 25, 2020, by Wayne Lonstein, CEO, VFT Solutions, Inc. The question that will confront all of us in the very near future is what will differentiate the human, which is organic in terms of its ability to make subjective judgments, from the humanoid, which is not organic, nor is it capable of subjective thought. Read more [HERE](#).

"Ten Ways to Spot Online Misinformation", The Conversation, Updated September 17, 2020, by H. Colleen Sinclair, Associate Professor of Social Psychology, Mississippi State University. As a psychological scientist who studies propaganda, here is what Dr. Sinclair tells friends, students and colleagues about what to watch out for. That way, they can protect themselves – and each other – from lies, half-truths and misleading spins on current events. Read more [HERE](#).

"The Baloney Detection Kit", by Maria Popova, creator behind Brain Pickings which is included in the Library of Congress's permanent digital archive of culturally valuable materials. Carl Sagan's rules for critical thinking offer cognitive fortification against propaganda pseudoscience, and general falsehood. Read more [HERE](#).

