Ideas
With Impact
How RIT students turn concepts into solutions

Tech expert Katie Linendoll ’05 names 7 must-have gadgets
Graduates bring new life to the lost art of letterpress printing
RIT healthy and growing

We had no time to slow down this summer at RIT. We simply have too much exciting work on our plate as the university continues to advance at an amazing speed.

Construction projects are the obvious sign of growth. Crews and architects are currently working on several major ones:

The Golisano Institute for Sustainability: The facility will serve as a center for sustainability research, technology transfer, education and outreach and will provide a showcase for green construction and design. The building is planned to achieve the highest levels of sustainable design and operation, LEED Platinum. Completion is slated for fall 2012.

Institute Hall: The facility will include space for biomedical engineering, chemical engineering and laboratory space for funded research projects. Completion of this academic and research building is planned for a year from now.

The Ritter Arena locker room expansion: A new facility is being built for our athletic teams, with completion expected in the spring. We are also making solid progress in our efforts to raise money for a new ice hockey arena. Please go to www.rit.edu/powerplay for more information.

Sebastian and Lenore Rosica Hall at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf: This newly named building will foster innovation, entrepreneurship and original research among deaf and hard-of-hearing students and faculty. Groundbreaking for the facility is tentatively planned for spring 2012.

But at RIT it’s more than just construction crews and brick and mortar. We have other important news. We will open the Institute of Health Sciences and Technology this September as part of our alliance with Rochester General Health System. The institute will position the alliance as a contributing player in the reform of the nation’s health-care system by educating the next generation of health-care professionals, cultivating innovative research and addressing community health needs. Three distinct prongs comprise the institute: the College of Health Sciences and Technology, the Health Sciences Research Center and the Health Sciences Outreach Center.

The College of Health Sciences and Technology will become RIT’s ninth college. Existing programs that will move to the new college include physician assistant (B.S./M.S.), diagnostic medical sonography (B.S. and certificate program), biomedical sciences (B.S.), clinical chemistry (M.S.), nutrition/management (B.S.), health systems administration (M.S.) and medical illustration (M.F.A.).

By all accounts, RIT is healthy and growing in every area. It is a wonderful time to be associated with this university. While there is much work to be done, I believe we are having fun along the way.

And speaking of fun, please join us for Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend Oct. 14-16. We will feature entertainer Michael J. Fox as our Student Government Horton Speaker. Come dance at the Presidents’ Alumni Ball. And the men’s hockey team will continue with the tradition of playing at Blue Cross Arena in downtown Rochester, where the Tigers will face-off against St. Lawrence University. For more details on the weekend, go to www.rit.edu/brickcity.

The academic year promises to be tremendous at RIT.

Go Tigers!
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"By using the Gift Matching program at Xerox, I double what I give to RIT.

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Ron Dufort ’89 (Electrical Engineering)
Design Automation Engineer
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1. Visit matchinggifts.com/mlk and search for your employer.
2. If listed, follow the link and complete your company’s matching gift form.
3. View instructions on how to get your gift matched.

RIT gives you credits for the matching gift. By taking just a few minutes to complete a form, you can double the impact of your gift—without giving an extra dime!

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October 14th through 16th, 2011

BRICK CITY
HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

Cheer on your Tigers as they take on
St. Lawrence University in their home opener
at Downtown Rochester’s Blue Cross Arena!

Horton Speaker
Michael J. Fox

Comedian
Kevin Hart

SIGN UP TO BE PART OF OUR ANNUAL TRADITION! WWW.RIT.EDU/BRICKCITY
Graduates bring new life to the lost art of letterpress printing.

The College of Liberal Arts attracts its own brand of students and offers some unique classes to all RIT students.

Other Features

3 Expert advice
Alumna Katie Linendoll highlights some cool gadgets for the fall.

8 A taste of home
Students ease homesickness with blankets, posters and cheese.

19 Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend
Highlights of activities planned for Oct. 14-16.

24 Ideas with impact
RIT’s “innovation ecosystem” nurtures student creativity.

33 Graduate celebrates decades later
David Johnson ’89 receives his degree in proper style.
My name is John Henze, class of 1974 Fine and Applied Arts. I just finished reading the stories in the spring issue of the RIT magazine, and I just have to set the record straight once and for all. While the story about the new rink was wonderful and enlightening, there is a major discrepancy that must be addressed that happens to be common to both the story on the new rink and the story about the Grim Reaper at the end of the magazine.

To put it bluntly, The Corner was not started in the ‘80s by Steve Schultz and his friends. Sure, they started something special on that crazy night back in 1982, but it was not the beginning of The Corner.

The Corner was in fact started by a number of students, myself included, back in 1969-1970. We didn’t have nearly as many followers as there are now, but I bet we were nearly as vocal. This was before glass was put in all the way around the rink, and to be frank, we really got into the game. Sometimes quite literally.

Of course, the Corner Crew of today is much more organized than we were. Their cheers are better. They are a sight to behold, and be proud of, what with the matching jerseys and all. But we were the first to have shirts. We all wore T-shirts with a logo on it and we were very proud of it. As I am sure they all are now.

John Henze ’74, Portland, Conn.

I have read in your publication that Mr. Steve Schultz has been given credit as being the founder of the “Corner Crew” during the 1982-1983 hockey season. While I would not challenge the reported activities on Halloween weekend that year, the corner crew was already in existence over a decade prior to that season.

As a hockey alumnus from 1970-1974, I can tell you that there was a very active, boisterous and sometimes obnoxious fan club that attended every game and sat in that same corner.

As a hockey alumna from 1970-1974, I can tell you that there was a very active, boisterous and sometimes obnoxious fan club that attended every game and sat in that same corner.

Our opponents often commented on how intimidating they were. They conducted organized cheers aimed at opposing goaltenders as well as the officials. Most of their activities were just spirited vocal support for a bunch of “walk on” players that loved the game and enjoyed playing in front of the students, families and friends.

Marty Reeners ’74, Penfield, N.Y.

Peace Corps tribute

As one of 78 RIT graduates having served in the Peace Corps, I want to commend the editors and author, Kathy Lindsley, for the article in the Spring 2011 magazine on the Peace Corps and the RIT graduates that have served in this wonderful agency.

One other RIT grad and I served together as Peace Corps volunteers in India. Both of us were printing management graduates. I graduated in 1958 and Walter Haan graduated, I believe, in 1962. We were members of the second group to serve in India from 1962-1964.

My wife and I are taking our granddaughter, who is 11 years old, to Washington, D.C., to participate in the main celebration of the 50th Peace Corps anniversary, Sept. 22-25. If any RIT grads who served will be there at that time, please let me know and maybe we could arrange to get together and share stories about our experiences in both the Peace Corps and RIT.

Gary Lefkowitz ’58, Congers, N.Y.

We welcome letters on subjects covered in the magazine and of broad interest to our readers. We edit for space, clarity and style. Write to The University Magazine, University News Services, Rochester Institute of Technology, 132 Lomb Memorial Drive—Brown Hall, Rochester, NY 14623. E-mail can be sent to umagwww@rit.edu.
It’s amazing how rapidly technology has developed since I graduated from RIT six years ago. I remember running Windows Me on my painfully slow desktop, saving work on a glitchy Zip disk instead of a cloud, and thinking it was cool that I could play a primitive version of Snake on my pre-app cellphone. In other words, if you’re still doing any of those things, you’ll want to pay especially close attention to the gadgets on this list—all must-haves for the tech-savvy RIT alum.

1. **Cruizin Cooler**, $350-$1,400, CruizinCooler.com
   We’d all love to go places without having to exert any effort. But until the (obviously inevitable) invention of teleportation, this is the next best thing. Just fill it up with your favorite chilled beverage and roll away.

2. **Camera+**, $2, iTunes
   Of the thousand or so apps that dominate my existence, Camera+ is one of my faves. It makes any photo look amazing. Apply fun filters like retro ’70s, toy camera or antique and edit them on your own virtual lightbox.

3. **Darth Vader Toaster**, $50, ThinkGeek.com
   Everyone needs a good toaster, right? Wrong. Everyone needs a good *Star Wars*-themed toaster. Each piece pops out bearing the deliciously charred image of the Sith lord himself.

4. **Gelaskins.com**, prices vary
   Why blend in when you can stand out? Use this great site to find cool removable adhesives for your phone, computer, Kindle and more.

5. **11-inch MacBook Air**, from $999, Apple.com
   I’ll never forget the time I saw a friend struggle to carry his bulky desktop tower down the quarter mile in a wind storm. If only he’d had one of these. Coming in at 2.3 pounds with an Intel 1.4GHz Core Duo chip and 2GB of memory, the 11-inch Macbook Air is the ultimate hybrid of power and portability.

   A low-tech gem. The Water Bobble self-filters tap water from anywhere, so you don’t have to waste your cash on the environmentally unfriendly bottled variety. Comes in three sizes and a bunch of cool colors.

7. **Eye-Fi**, $50-$100, Best Buy
   I lose SD cards and thumb drives like crazy. That’s why I love Eye-Fi. You can just leave it in your camera and utilize the built-in Wi-Fi function to upload your pics straight to your computer, iPhone, iPad or Android-enabled phone.

**7 must-have gadgets***

*Or cool items to talk about at your next cocktail party*

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Katie Linendoll ’05 (information technology) is a technology expert for CNN and CBS. She was an Emmy-winning producer on ESPN’s *SportsCenter* and host of A&E’s *We Mean Business.*
RIT welcomes new administrators

Hector Flores will become dean of graduate studies on Sept. 1. Flores has served in previous administrative roles, most recently as dean of science at Texas State University. He is a plant biologist specializing in the biochemistry and physiology of plant roots and storage organs and in the biology and culture of plant–people interactions. Flores is replacing Andrew Moore, who is retiring.

Lorraine Justice began her duties as dean of the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences in July. Under her leadership for the past six years, the Hong Kong Polytechnic School of Design (PolyU) emerged as one of the top 30 design schools in the world, and one of the top four Asian design programs. She replaced Frank Cost, who served as interim dean.

Ryne Raffaelle started as vice president for research and associate provost July 1. Raffaelle, who was director of the National Center for Photovoltaics at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Colo., worked at RIT from 2000 to 2009 in various positions, including as the first academic director of the Golisano Institute for Sustainability. He replaced Don Boyd, who retired June 30.

Andrew Sears became dean of the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences on Aug. 1. He was the Constellation Professor of Information Technology and Engineering, professor and chair of information systems, and director of the Interactive Systems Research Center at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Sears succeeds Jorge Diaz-Herrera, who became president of Keuka College in July.
Big Shot still going strong

Beams of playful light danced around the campus of The Strong in Rochester for the making of RIT’s 26th Big Shot photography project.

About 1,000 volunteers, armed with flashlights and camera flash units, bathed the exterior of the museum and portions of the interior with light to provide the primary light source for a nighttime photograph.

The volunteers were tasked with continuously painting their assigned area with light while RIT photographers, perched on the terrace rooftop of the ESL Federal Credit Union, shot an extended exposure. To provide perspective in the photo, families were posed in the front of the children’s museum along with a Radio Flyer wagon, one of the toys inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame.

“We made four exposures and after each one we made some lighting adjustments,” says Michael Peres, chairman of RIT’s biomedical photographic communications program and one of the Big Shot organizers. “It was truly Big Shot magic how it all came together with the volunteers, even the beautiful weather.”

The final image is a 15-second exposure at f11. RIT’s Big Shot project began in 1987 as way to teach students about flash photography. To view the nighttime images of all 26 Big Shot subjects, go to www.rit.edu/bigshot.

Kelly Downs

IN THE NEWS

“We think that our research work highlights how a systems approach can provide opportunities that will benefit the buyers and the producers and will result in more incentives to improve vaccine availability.”

(Medical News Today, May 17, 2011)

Rubén Proaño, assistant professor in industrial and systems engineering, has developed a mathematical model that could make complex combination vaccines more affordable for developing countries and financially attractive to vaccine producers.

For more, go to rit.edu/news
First sustainability grads get degrees
Annick Anctil, right, became RIT’s first-ever doctoral-degree recipient in sustainability during commencement May 20. She joins Rosa Mitsumasu Heredia, left, who is making her own mark on sustainability by becoming RIT’s first master’s degree recipient in sustainable systems.

Anctil, who is originally from Québec City, also has a master’s degree in materials science from RIT. She is working at Brookhaven National Lab for the National Photovoltaics Environmental Research Center in Long Island. Mitsumasu Heredia, who is from Lima, Peru, received both her undergraduate degree in industrial engineering and her master’s degree in engineering management at RIT. She is working for the Nature Conservancy in Seattle.

Photo student honored by White House
Chris Langer, a fourth-year photojournalism major, was named the White House News Photographers Association Student Photographer of the Year. He is the first RIT student to win the award.

Langer was honored at the annual “Eyes of History” gala on May 14 in Washington, D.C. The competition recognizes photographic excellence and visual artistry in the still, video, new media and student categories. He submitted eight single pictures and a photo story about his father, who lost his job two years ago.

New world record a hit
More than 2,000 RIT students can now say they have broken a Guinness World Record. RIT held the world’s largest dodgeball game May 1 with 2,136 players, beating the previous record of 2,012 set by the University of Alberta, Canada, earlier this year.

Thousands of world record hopefuls filled the Gordon Field House, along with more than 500 dodgeballs, 50 official world-record witnesses and hundreds of onlookers. RIT’s Dodgeball Club, in conjunction with the university’s Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, spent nine months planning the event.

“When I heard about University of Alberta breaking the world record for the larg-
FALL 2011 | 7

59

1,825

179

golf carts rented during commencement weekend.

volunteers who helped make sure ceremonies ran smoothly.

graduate and Ph.D. candidates receiving degrees.

est dodgeball game, I knew that this was something RIT could beat,” says Michael Piggott, president of the RIT Dodgeball Club.

Players were separated into two teams, orange and brown, all receiving a free headband and T-shirt for their corresponding team. An hour of play later, the orange team came out with the win.

“I don’t know if we have ever broken a record before, but it was a great way for all of us to give back to RIT,” says Piggott.

Competition to hold the title of world’s largest dodgeball game lives on. On May 19, about 3,600 cadets at the Air Force Academy smashed the RIT record, giving students a new goal for the future.

Chairs attract international attention

Less than a half hour into the start of the International Contemporary Furniture Fair in New York City in May, student Dan Fritz received an offer from a Norwegian art collector to buy the chair prototype he designed, at left.

Fritz and five of his industrial design classmates exhibited their prototypes following an RIT student design competition sponsored by Wilsonart. The students created prototypes using Wilsonart laminate surfacing material. Wilsonart required that each prototype be able to hold up to 400 pounds, function as a seat and incorporate the company’s sample chip logo. Fritz plans to keep his prototype until he can build several more. The art collector says he is willing to wait for the original until Fritz is done.

IN THE CLASSROOM

A hashtag worth thousands of tweets

Five students developed a Twitter hashtag that in less than six hours surfaced in 17 states and the United Kingdom and reached 36 hits a minute.

The hashtag, #theraj, was started as a way to follow their marketing professor, Rajendran Murthy, on Twitter. The students were testing the power of social media to see if they could get the hashtag trending in the United States before April Fools’ Day.

“They wanted an A in my class, Search Engine Marketing and Analytics, which is a very specialized course and taught in very few locations around the U.S.,” says Murthy, who teaches in the E. Philip Saunders College of Business. “But in return they had to demonstrate their social media expertise and their ability to prove that a small group of five people could actually get a major trend going.”

The students started their tweets at 4 p.m. March 31, and within a few hours, #theraj hit a majority of states on the East Coast, from Maine to Florida, trickled from Illinois down to Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana, and tapped into Colorado, Utah, Washington and California.
When Holly O’Neill has a bad day, she slips into her RIT sweatpants, NTID hoodie and slipper socks and snuggles with her fuzzy blankets and pillows in her dorm room.

Lori Karker, who will be starting her fourth year this fall as an international studies major, nibbles on Wisconsin cheese when she needs a taste of home.

A few weeks before starting classes at RIT last year, Quinté Osborne created a collage of pictures from high school to remind him of friends and family he would leave behind.

O’Neill, who is starting her fourth year as an interpreting student and is also a resident advisor, says it is “hugely important” for students to
bring comfort items with them to school.
Along with blankets and pillows, O’Neill hangs her own artwork on the dorm walls, keeps trinkets in her room and even decorates the hallways during the holidays.

“It can get stressful,” says O’Neill, who grew up in Penfield and Port Gibson, N.Y. “It’s nice to know you still have a place that is yours even though you aren’t at home. You can connect to something that feels secure.”

Jennifer Lukomski, an associate professor of school psychology and a practicing psychologist, says comfort items can act like a bridge while students are making the transition from living at home to living at school.

In today’s world, students may not even need such tangible items as fuzzy blankets and pillows. A cell phone is a way for students to instantly reach out to their parents. Lukomski compared it to an infant first learning to separate from her mother. After taking a few steps, the child might look back to make sure mom is still there. For young adults, that look back can be accomplished with a telephone call, by watching a family-related YouTube video or clicking through Facebook photos.

Jeffrey Kaiser of Albany, N.Y, who just finished his first year in computer engineering, Skypes with his parents. Kaiser also has a poster from Once Upon a Mattress, the musical he was in during high school, to remind him of less-stressful high school days.

Unlike Kaiser, Karker didn’t bring a special item with her to school. But three years ago, her mother asked the Eau Claire, Wis., native if New York had any good cheese. “I told her it wasn’t the same as Wisconsin cheese,” she says. “On my birthday I got a package from her and when I opened it, I couldn’t believe my eyes.

It was full of Wisconsin cheese, from smoked cheese strings to horseradish cheese to chocolate fudge cheese.”

Now it’s a tradition for her mom to send the care package.
Osborne, an electrical engineering technology major from Buffalo, keeps the framed collage of photos on his dresser in his dorm room.

In it are pictures from graduation, prom and the last day of school.

In a couple of years, Osborne says, he’ll make another collage with photos from RIT. “I look at this one every day,” he says. “It brings back memories.”

Karen Jones-Johnson ’68 (business administration) “A small bottle of sand from the ocean.”

Julie LeMaster Gould ’80 (biology) “My grandmother crocheted a ‘ripple afghan’ for me to take to college—I was the first grandchild to go. That and my stuffed monkey and a lucky cowrie shell I found on the beach in Pakistan when I was 4 did it. I flew up to school from Texas, so I had two suitcases and a dress bag—I still travel light!”

Jeremiah Parry-Hill ’02 (information technology) “I brought my PS/2, but it was an IBM PS/2 Model 60.”

Christine Plachko ’94 (interior design) “Since I moved right into Racquet Club for my first year at RIT, I had to furnish my room, so everything reminded me of home. I was always comforted.”

Mindy Mozer

We asked the almost 15,000 people who like Rochester Institute of Technology on Facebook and the more than 4,300 who like the RIT Alumni Association what comfort items from home they brought with them to school. Here’s what some of them said.

Photos by A. Sue Weisler

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Photos by A. Sue Weisler

Wendy Gutcher, Fairfax Station, Va.
Interpreting
Cactus

Jeffrey Kaiser, Albany, N.Y.
Computer engineering
Poster
GRADUATES bring new life to LETTERPRESS
Tony Zanni ’07 (graphic design) opens a drawer from a cabinet built at the turn of the 20th century and pulls out a piece of wood type. “That looks good, let’s use that,” says Zanni, who has more than 150 wood typefaces and more than 600 cases of lead type to pick from.

The graphic designer starts assembling, sometimes copying a drawing and other times just using a type size and style that fits. The result is a card, an invitation, a flier or a poster—each with its own look and feel. The images and fonts may seem straight out of the early 1900s, but the designs are strikingly current.

And that, says David Eckler ’83 (printing management), is one reason for the resurgence of letterpress printing—putting ink on raised characters or images and pressing it into paper. Eckler is the owner of Dock 2 Letterpress, a commercial letterpress business in Webster, N.Y. Zanni is his creative partner.

They share a passion for letterpress printing with other RIT graduates and former professors, including Bill Dexter ’76 (printing), Mitch Cohen ’76 (printing) and professor emeritus Joe Brown, who have been collecting antique presses and type for decades. Dexter, Cohen and Brown teach letterpress and papermaking at a nonprofit arts center in Rochester.

They have the same goal: Keep the craft—which uses equipment that only years ago was considered outdated and worthless—alive.

Brown’s blue eyes smile when he talks about his papermaking classes at the Genesee Center for the Arts and Education the same way they do when he talks about RIT’s School of Printing in the 1970s and ’80s.

In the early 1980s, there were more than 800 undergraduates in the School of Printing and the top-notch program was known all over the United States, he says. Many of those students came from families that ran small printing plants.

But as technology changed the printing industry and pre-press work could be done on a computer, many of those printing presses went out of business and enrollment declined. In the early 1990s, Brown retired and he thought his days of teaching printing technology and papermaking were over. He salvaged some papermaking equipment and a Vandercook 4 antique press, thinking he could continue his craft as hobby. But it sat in his garage collecting dust—until Dexter called in 2005.

“I said, ‘This is Bill Dexter, your first lab assistant,’ ” Dexter remembers. “ ‘Here’s what we are doing.’ He said, ‘Don’t buy anything.’ ”

By that time, Dexter and Cohen had already connected with the Genesee Center, which had space available and was interested in adding a printing and book arts program to its pottery and photography classes. Cohen, who had owned a printing business and had worked as an estimator, had always wanted to open a printing center or a museum and make letterpress equipment he had in his garage and basement available to the public.

He had stayed in touch with Dexter, who had his own press stashed away, since graduation. They opened the printing and book arts program in November 2005. “Our mission is to promote and preserve the art of letterpress,” Cohen says.

Brown and Dexter, who is a self-employed graphic artist, teach papermaking courses. Cohen, now a job developer, specializes in...
letterpress printing. They teach a papermaking class once a month along with weekly letterpress classes. Others teach bookbinding and calligraphy classes at the center.

Cohen, who is director of the printing and book arts component at the Genesee Center, says along with classes, the program also rents space to about 14 artists.

Brown, who is 85 years old and a board member at the Genesee Center, says both papermaking and letterpress attract people who want to work with their hands and get away from constant technology. The craft allows them to make something personal.

He uses the example of a woman who stopped by the center to make her daughter’s wedding invitations. First she made the paper. Then she set the type and printed them on the letterpress.

“I just love teaching again,” Brown says. “I have found a home.”

MAKING A BUSINESS

Eckler first got interested in letterpress in his ninth-grade shop class. He started collecting type and presses and worked out of his grandmother’s garage on weekends.

After high school, Eckler worked as a pressman while attending night classes at RIT. He continued collecting letterpress equipment and type, mainly from men who were a generation older than him and who were given the equipment after local companies switched to offset printing.

“From 1970 to 1990, I’m going to houses and taking grandpa’s print shop out of the basement,” Eckler says. “They knew I was the next generation of letterpress.”

Meanwhile, Zanni had never thought about letterpress printing until 2001. He met a friend of Eckler’s with a barn full of letterpress type and presses. Realizing the creative possibilities, he bought some equipment from Eckler.

The two joined forces in 2008 when they learned that Linda and Robert Bretz wanted to sell their letterpress collection. Robert Bretz was the first librarian for the Cary Collection. They bought it and a year later opened Dock 2 Letterpress.

Now the business has 11 working presses, including a hand press from the 1900s. Ray Czapkowski, who attended classes at RIT in the early 1960s and worked as an adjunct professor in the communications department in the early 1980s, is their resident expert and teaches letterpress classes on the weekends. Czapkowski says RIT design students often enroll in his classes.

“I love sharing my knowledge,” says Czapkowski, who worked as a type compositor before owning a printing business in Rochester. “I thought this was all dead in the 1950s and suddenly I’ve become a guru.”

Adds Eckert: “It is great for me to know all of the stuff sitting in a barn for all those years is being used.”

TO LEARN MORE

To get more information about the Genesee Center for the Arts and Education in Rochester, go to www.geneseearts.org.

For more on Dock 2 Letterpress in Webster, N.Y., go to www.dock2letterpress.com.
David Pankow had only planned to stay at RIT for a few years when he came in 1979 to be the Cary librarian.

Then the position was restructured in 1983 and Pankow added the job of curator of the Melbert B. Cary Jr. Graphic Arts Collection to his librarian responsibilities.

“It seemed as though at every point I thought I had done as much as I could here, some new opportunity came along,” Pankow says.

Pankow grew the collection from 5,000 books to 40,000 books. He assembled antique printing presses and type that help tell the story of printing. He helped acquire the Bernard C. Middleton collection of books on bookbinding, the most important collection in the United States on the history and practice of bookbinding. And he started the Cary Graphic Arts Press, which opened in 2001.

Now, more than 30 years later, Pankow is ready to pass the next set of challenges to others. He will retire Aug. 31.

“What I’ll miss the most is that sense that every new day brings another potential project to work on or another group of students to teach,” he says.

Pankow, 63, wants to do his own writing and scholarship work. His position is being split into two jobs, a curator for the Cary Collection and director of the Cary Graphic Arts Press.

Pankow came to RIT after working at the New York Public Library for seven years. At that time, the Cary Collection, which was originally established in 1969 as a small library based on Cary’s personal collection of books on printing history and graphic arts, was in the School of Printing. In 1991, the collection moved to the second floor of Wallace Library. The Cary Graphic Arts Press is adjacent to the collection.

Amelia Hugill-Fontanel, assistant curator and the first employee for Cary Graphic Arts Press, says Pankow has diverse talents that go beyond being a teacher and scholar. He can typeset a broadside, bind a book, mat a poster or edit a manuscript.

“Because he is so knowledgeable about many aspects of history, he has a wonderful vision of the big picture,” says Hugill-Fontanel, who has become Pankow’s apprentice of sorts in letterpress printing.

Pankow says although he feels conflicted about retirement, he is happy there are people who will continue his interest in the Cary Collection and letterpress printing.

“I think I have had the greatest job at RIT,” Pankow says. “I work in a beautiful setting surrounded by beautiful books. If Mr. Cary came back today he would walk around the collection and feel we had honored his spirit.”

Mindy Mozer
If the walls of the tunnels underneath the residence halls could talk, they would tell you a story—a story that connects generations of RIT students to each other and to the social issues of the time.

For nearly 30 years, the brick and mortar walls of the expansive underground tunnel system have provided students with a canvas to not only chronicle RIT’s history, but the important social, cultural and historical moments that have shaped each generation that has traveled these pathways.

The genesis of painting murals in the tunnels began in 1980, when a contest encouraged some 20 students to create original artwork along the tunnel walls, which connect the university’s residence halls.

Susan Robison Zulauf ’83 (graphic design) was among the first group of student-artists to lend its imagination to the tunnel walls.

“The tunnels were all blank and the contest gave us the opportunity to be creative and to brighten up the walls,” says Zulauf, who hand-painted an image of J.R.R. Tolkien’s literary classic *The Hobbit*. “It was kind of a big deal. There were maybe 20 to 25 students involved in the contest every year.”

Over the years, students have painted murals that have captured the culturally relevant (U2, The Who), the creatively evocative (*The Simpsons*, *Calvin and Hobbes*) and the historically significant (the 50th anniversary of World War II, the Challenger explosion).

Some murals have lasted the test of time with many from the ‘70s and ‘80s still standing today. Zulauf’s mural is among them.

“I came back to campus with my children and I couldn’t believe it was still there. I was amazed that after all these years no one ever painted over it,” says Zulauf, who began her career as an artist with Hallmark.

These days she works out of her studio in Ridgewood, N.J., licensing original paintings to more than 50 manufacturers through her company, Zulauf Designs. Clients, including Hallmark and Macy’s, use her designs for china patterns, holiday collectibles, fine art prints, and paper products. *The Hobbit* was one of Zulauf’s original works of art.

Under the residence halls there are spaces of all kinds: eateries, laundry facilities, game rooms, stores and student organization offices—all of which are spread over 17 buildings and connected by an intricate web of tunnels. The murals were originally painted at random. They were, and still are, a way for students to express themselves.
Brittany Wooten ’07 (advertising photography) recalls working with her fellow resident advisors in 2005 on a mural representing the Ellingson, Peterson and Bell residence halls, an area known for its multicultural hearing, deaf and hard of hearing residents.

“Unique to our area, we were bringing cultures together,” she says of the diverse population of the three residence halls. The EPB mural was painted to reflect the spirit and diversity of the halls’ residents. “There was a lot of pride, culture and enthusiasm around our area, what we represented and what we brought together.”

Today, the addition of new murals is a well-organized activity run by the Residence Halls Association, a student-run council. Any individual student or student group can propose a mural to a student-led mural committee, which reviews an artist sketch of the proposed design and renders a decision.

Once approved, RHA assigns wall space and provides paint and materials. To ensure a sense of legacy, older murals are maintained as is, unless they have been defaced with graffiti or damaged by water or age. In those cases, murals are either retouched or painted over if they are beyond restoration. About a dozen new murals are painted each year.

“If you look at the different murals, there’s a whole history. It’s interesting to see how the times have changed, but also the things that have stayed constant throughout the years,” says Chelsea Metzger, a third-year advertising and public relations major who serves as the public relations chairman for Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority. ASA members recently painted their insignia in the tunnels. “We really wanted to put a mural together to represent (our sorority).”

Brendan Larrabee, a fifth-year engineering major and former president of the Sigma Chi Omega fraternity, agrees. He and his fraternity brothers painted a mural of their crest.

“To be a part of the history in these tunnels, to have that kind of impact and long-lasting effect is something that we really want to have as a fraternity,” says Larrabee. “We hope to be around for decades and to have a mural still standing is a nice legacy for our members to share in.”

Wooten, who is completing a graduate degree in student administration at Seattle University, echoes this sentiment.

“I love traditions and legacies and the history of those that have been there before you,” she says. “The murals just bring that sense of community and ownership for RIT students.”

Laura La Bella Cummings
Making liberal arts matter
That’s how you teach humanities at RIT
Samir Nazir ’10 was working as a mechanical engineer in the oil industry in Texas when he decided he wanted to get a master’s degree in interdisciplinary studies so he could have an impact on how energy is consumed by transportation.

He Googled transportation, public policy and graduate degrees and came across the master’s degree in science, technology and policy offered through RIT’s College of Liberal Arts.

“It was interesting to me that an institute of technology would have such a strong niche program in public policy and government,” says Nazir, who has a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas. “But the degree program at RIT really fit my needs both because of the actual coursework and research opportunities it offered.”

Nazir’s experience shows how the College of Liberal Arts has developed into a world-class center for the study of humanities, social sciences and technology. Through its cutting-edge research programs and unique degree offerings, the college now attracts its own brand of students and has a central role on campus.

In addition, the college ensures students in all majors don’t leave RIT without experiencing the social sciences and humanities. The goal is to make liberal arts matter for engineers and scientists and in the process create more engaged thinkers.

“Some might question why a technical university would focus on developing strong programs in subjects such as public policy, philosophy, fine arts, communication and modern languages and culture,” says James Winebrake, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. “But it has been proven that these disciplines assist scientists and engineers in becoming better managers, writers and critical thinkers.”

Samir Nazir
Growing a college

Winebrake, dean of the college. “But it has been proven that these disciplines assist scientists and engineers in becoming better managers, writers and critical thinkers.”

Winebrake hopes to strengthen and potentially expand degree offerings in the college.

Today, the college consists of 15 departments with 635 undergraduates, 107 graduate students and 150 faculty members. It offers 12 undergraduate programs and five graduate degrees. The model of combining a technical education with the social sciences and humanities extends beyond RIT.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Georgia Tech have strong liberal arts colleges that offer similar programs, says Winebrake, who became dean earlier this year.

Winebrake hopes to strengthen and potentially expand degree offerings in the college. He also wants to increase research, internships and co-op opportunities for students both in liberal arts disciplines and in multidisciplinary programs.

Nazir, who graduated in 2010 with a degree in science, technology and public policy, was able to gain real-world policy analysis experience through an internship with the U.S. Department of State.

He is serving as a Fulbright fellow and energy analyst with the National University of Singapore to assess the potential impact of electric vehicles on Singapore’s transportation system. (While at RIT, Nazir took Chinese courses also offered through the College of Liberal Arts, hoping he would land a job in Singapore.)

“Many organizations around the world are looking for problem solvers that have technical and social science competencies,” he says. “I feel the social science training I received at RIT makes me uniquely qualified to excel in a world of challenges that are technical, market-based, and may require policy interventions.”

Popular courses

At RIT, even computer scientists and mechanical engineers have to experience social sciences and humanities. In fact, on average, the college teaches about 25 percent of all student credit hours on campus and all undergraduates are required to take at least one liberal arts course.

In Deborah Blizzard’s cyborg theory class, students from a variety of majors discuss the meaning of the word cyborg (a machine-enhanced human), how cyborg theory has transformed technology, as well as why robots are cool.

In a typical class, students get to interact with multiple robots, from an automated light-emitting dragon to Rosie the robot maid from the animated television show The Jetsons. Blizzard discusses how robots affect everything from economics to politics.

“A class like cyborg theory allows students to develop a deeper understanding of the often negative impacts of technological development,” says Blizzard, chair of the Department of Science, Technology and Society/Public Policy.

Cyborg theory is one of the most popular courses in the college with a long waiting list each spring. Other popular courses include slavery and race in America, deaf cultural studies and the RIT Orchestra, which participating students can take for credit.

“My education at RIT was grounded in science and technology but I also learned the violin-bowing nuances of a Beethoven symphony,” says Paul Melnychuck, who was the orchestra’s first concertmaster and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 1983 and a master’s degree in imaging science in 1984.

“I would say the music program had a profound effect on me that not only helped me pursue a dual path in the arts and technology, but enabled cross-pollination of ideas that led to inventions.”

Melnychuck has a 30-year career in digital imaging, audio and music technology that included 12 years as a senior research scientist at Kodak Research Laboratories. He recently released his debut album, Reaching Out Looking In, and is advising start-up companies in digital publishing and social media.

Winebrake says this shows the importance of liberal arts in all majors.

“The social sciences, arts and humanities are not just subjects students learn in a class,” he says. “They are tools that make life more interesting.”

What liberal arts alumni are doing

Educator: Debra Heath-Thornton ’81 (criminal justice) of Drexel Hill, Pa., is the dean of the Campolo College of Graduate and Professional Studies at Eastern University. “RIT’s program has always sought to combine the technical aspects of criminal justice with the necessary social and cultural components needed to create well-rounded graduates.”

EPA analyst: Kate Kimmel-Robinson ’07 (science technology and policy) of Glenmoore, Pa., is a program analyst at the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of the Inspector General. “The science, technology and policy program taught me the importance of factual, unbiased analysis. It has been refreshing to use so much of what I learned in the real world.”

Company president: Mike Ramsager ’89 (economics) of Pittsford, N.Y., is president of Internet applications for SchoolWorld, a division of Edline, one of the nation’s largest online education providers. “The economics program at RIT helped me understand the business aspects of the world and planted seeds that gave me the determination and ambition to start my own company. All you need is an idea or a dream.”

Editor: Sophie Schillaci ’10 (advertising and public relations) of Los Angeles, Calif., is a contributing editor for Zap2it.com, an entertainment news site produced by the Tribune Co. “Being at RIT forced me to learn basic skills involving Web design, coding and Photoshop. I use these skills each day.”

Brain researcher: Jonathan Winkle ’09 (psychology) of Cambridge, Mass., is a research assistant with the McGovern Institute for Brain Research at MIT. “Allow me to make a suggestion to my RIT comrades: Don’t settle for anything. Whether it is your major, your job, or your girlfriend. Happiness comes through discovering and pursuing your passions.”
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Kathleen Anderson

Kathleen Anderson ’94 (professional and technical communication) is starting her second two-year term as president of the RIT Alumni Association and is a member of the RIT Board of Trustees. Anderson works as a media director for Travers Collins & Co., a Buffalo-based advertising agency. Anderson says she is a ferocious reader who has a passion for New Orleans. Here are Anderson’s thoughts on the Alumni Association, the future of RIT and her goals for her next term.

I came to RIT for biotechnology, and at the time, RIT was one of the few colleges in the country that had a biotechnology program. And literally, within hours, I realized I didn’t want to spend the rest of my life in a lab so I knew I wasn’t long for the biotechnology world.

I had a short list of majors and I got in the elevator to go see my academic advisor and I hadn’t made a decision and I looked at the gentleman who was in the elevator with me and I said, ‘What is your major?’ And he said, ‘Communication.’ I said, ‘Do you like it?’ And he said, ‘It is fabulous,’ and went on for the entire elevator ride to tell me how amazing the classes were, how attentive the professors were, how he had just gotten back from a co-op and what a valuable experience it was. And in a three-minute elevator ride I became a communication major.

When I was a student here, I was the executive editor for Reporter. And at that time, President Simone was just coming to RIT and one of things he wanted to do was make RIT more of a traditional university. And it was very much like your family—you can say that your sister looks horrible in that dress but nobody else can say it. RIT was a very sterile environment, admittedly. And he came and said he was going to change that and bring some tradition, pride, a true sense of university community, which were all wonderful. However, I did not necessarily agree with him. He was going to have an inauguration and I thought that was a waste of money. And I wrote some very scathing editorials about President Simone.

What ends up happening is, many years later, the president and I start a correspondence. He brought me back and he appointed me as a presidential appointment to the Alumni Board after I less-than-warmly welcomed him to RIT.

Every time I am meeting with alumni, they naturally think of the RIT of their collegiate experience. So regardless of when they graduated, their picture of RIT is 10 years old, 20 years old, 30 years old. And it’s exciting for them to hear about things like the Golisano Institute for Sustainability and Global Village and Park Point and then when they get here, they are amazed. They are proud.

A personal philosophy of mine is that you have an obligation to give back to that which you have benefitted from. So giving back to RIT, to me, morally makes sense. But from a more self-centered perspective, the better that RIT does, the more valuable your degree is. So if there is any way that alumni can contribute to the institute that would help advance RIT, their degree only becomes more valuable. The brand that is RIT only becomes stronger.

There are times when I look back at the editorials I wrote about Dr. Simone and I recognize how harsh they were. And I recognize how myopic they were in their view. But I wouldn’t change it because if I had changed it and never written it, I likely wouldn’t be sitting here today as president of the Alumni Association.

I think if when I’m done that alumni know that the door to the Brick City is always open to them, and that they are always welcome here, and they take advantage of that, then I have succeeded.
Ideas wit

Photos by A. Sue Weisler
Sean Petterson and Justin Hillery noticed that construction workers building Global Village on campus last fall were struggling to lift large stones. And they had an idea.

“We were looking for problems we could fix,” says Petterson, a third-year industrial design major from Long Island who had met Hillery hours earlier in the gym. “That’s what we do for fun.”

By the end of the school year, the students had not only invented Strong Arm—a vest that helps workers lift objects while lowering the risk of back injury—but were working on a patent.

Pettersen and Hillery, a third-year multidisciplinary studies student from the Rochester area, have thrived in RIT’s multipart support system to foster entrepreneurship and new ideas—an innovation ecosystem so to speak—that in the last few years has matured into a booming network of resources.

The ecosystem includes the 2-year-old Center for Student Innovation, a hands-on place for students to tinker with ideas; a new rapid prototyping laboratory, where students can create physical models of their product; the Simone Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which since 2007 has overseen entrepreneurial projects, programs and events on campus; and Venture Creations, a business incubator formed in 2003.

The days of vertically focused disciplines and job training for a certain job are over, says Lesa Mitchell, vice president of advancing innovation at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the largest American foundation to focus on education and entrepreneurship.

“Universities must find new modes of teaching that will engage students, allow experiential learning and enable cross-disciplinary learning if they want to become and remain relevant,” says Mitchell, who spoke at RIT in May.

RIT President Bill Destler says RIT is establishing a national reputation for innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

“We now have the assets in place to be as good, if not better, than any university in the country,” he says. The next step is maximizing those assets.

Producing a product

Once they had an idea, Pettersen and Hillery were eager to make a prototype. They visited a hardware store, purchased supplies and began tinkering. A week later, Pettersen walked into the Center for Student Innovation wearing a lifting vest made from tow straps for cars. He was carrying two 5-gallon water jugs weighing a total of 90 pounds.

“He said, ‘I’ve invented something,’” remembers Jon Schull, interim director of the center. “‘Now what do I do?’”
The Center for Student Innovation brings students from different disciplines together to work on projects they wouldn’t be able to do individually.

“Projects cut across colleges, courses and quarters,” Schull says. “Projects can even outlive participants.”

Inside the 10,000-square-foot circular glass structure, students get space and help connecting with other students in different fields and with experts inside and outside the university. The center also employs summer fellows and school-year fellows, who mentor students, work on projects for companies and organizations, and fiddle with their own inventions. Schull says the center is approaching $200,000 in grants and gifts.

Eliza Hammer, a third-year marketing student who grew up in Watertown, Conn., was the lead fellow this past school year and a summer fellow a year ago.

As a summer fellow, Hammer worked on a website for a clean energy company that allows customers to brag about how they reduced their home’s carbon footprint.

During the school year, the students met at the center as early as 8 a.m. and sometimes stayed until 2 a.m., most days only leaving to attend classes, eat and sleep. They toured local factories, consulted with faculty and students and learned everything they could about the mechanics of lifting. They even surveyed FedEx employees about what would make their jobs easier.

By the fourth quarter, after much research and field testing, they had designed nine prototypes.

“He said, ‘I’ve invented something. Now what do I do?’” Jon Schull, Center for Student Innovation

Hammer says RIT students are fortunate to have facilities such as the Center for Student Innovation and the Rapid Prototyping Lab, which opened on an appointment basis last spring. Students use three-dimensional printers and a laser cutter/engraver in the lab to produce prototypes.

“This is tremendously valuable from an educational standpoint,” says Denis Comier, an associate professor of industrial and systems engineering in the Kate Gleason College of Engineering and chair of the lab’s planning committee. “This facility allows students to turn their ideas into reality.”

Petterson and Hillery used a sewing machine to produce their vest. They got mechanical and strategic advice from the center’s faculty leader, Carl Lundgren, and sewing and design help from other faculty and students in the center working on textiles.

“This kind of synergy is what we’re all about,” Schull says.

During the school year, the students met at the center as early as 8 a.m. and sometimes stayed until 2 a.m., most days only leaving to attend classes, eat and sleep. They toured local factories, consulted with faculty and students and learned everything they could about the mechanics of lifting. They even surveyed FedEx employees about what would make their jobs easier.

By the fourth quarter, after much research and field testing, they had designed nine prototypes.

“We were constantly trying to make it better,” Hillery says.

They reached a milestone in February when they captured second place in the RIT Shark Tank competition, which requires students to make a three-minute elevator pitch to a panel of business professionals similar to the television show. First place winners get $2,000. Petterson and Hillery won $1,000.

“That’s where we gained credibility,” Petterson says.
Finding a market

Shark Tank is one of many events and programs sponsored by the Simone Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Others include a business plan competition, designed to teach students how to get their ideas on paper; an entrepreneurial conference, which attracts hundreds of participants; RIT 48, a weekend event for students to develop a startup company; Entrepreneurs Hall, a program where a cohort of students with different majors lives and takes classes together; and a student business incubator.

Students who participate in Simone Center activities learn by doing, says founding director Richard DeMartino. “My goal is to help them develop a team, understand the market potential and need and explore financial metrics and projections,” he says. “If all of these factors look promising, we build a prototype and begin to start a business.”

During a team meeting with six students developing an alarm clock for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, DeMartino asks for updates on the marketing plan. He questions how the design of the product is coming along, and he talks to the students about the cost to develop it.

Youmee Lee, a professional and technical communication major from Peoria, Ill., says she came up with the idea to develop the alarm clock earlier this year because the models on the market don’t use updated technology. “I thought I could do better,” she says.

She and fellow communication major Rebecca McGregor recruited Kevin Toh, an industrial design major, who recruited industrial design students Eli McDermott and Casey Schneider. The group invited Vincent Stowbunenko, a mechanical engineering student, to help with the technical part of the clock.

“We really want to be able to show that deaf people can succeed with this,” says Schneider.

DeMartino says they have already succeeded by forming a team, finding out whether there’s a market for their product and deciding how to move forward.

Creating value

Success means creating value, DeMartino says. That could mean selling an idea to another company. Or, after exploring the dynamics of the market, students may learn they will be more successful working for another company.

Brian Johnstone ’08 (software engineering) and Colin Doody ’07 (new media information technology) have experienced the different definitions of success. They turned to DeMartino in 2007 when as students they were working on a project to visualize the human body in 3-D and they wanted to protect their intellectual property.

“He gave us a push toward legitimizing things,” Johnstone says about incorporating the company.

Later that year, they moved their company, Darkwind Media, into the student incubator on the bottom floor of Venture Creations.
RIT’s incubator for start-up companies. In June 2009, Darkwind Media moved upstairs and became one of about 25 companies in Venture Creations.

The company has been successful, the men say, because they have worked hard and are flexible.

To pay the bills, Darkwind Media did Web development work for other companies and other odd jobs while working on their 3-D application on the side. Last year, they partnered with a company that produced a similar 3-D engine for making games and applications, instead of competing with them.

“Our number one priority was always staying alive,” Doody says.

They also are developing their game, Blocks, for mobile devices. With six full-time employees—five of whom are RIT graduates—and a fleet of contractors, they are on their way to becoming a full-time game studio.

Venture Creations, they say, continues to play a role in their success.

“Coming here as a student is great because it offers another level of legitimacy,” says Matt Mikuszewski ’07 (new media), who joined Darkwind in 2008.

That legitimacy included giving them office furniture, Internet access, a place to take clients and workspace next to others trying to get businesses off the ground.

**Making a business**

Bill Jones, interim director of Venture Creations, says since the incubator has been open, 21 companies have “graduated.” Cerion Energy, a company that specializes in burning diesel fuel more efficiently, left in 2007. Seven, including Cerion, exist today and have created more than 80 jobs.

Jones expects that number to grow now that Venture Creations is selecting more qualified companies, half of which are in the Clean Energy Incubator funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. And as RIT’s innovation ecosystem continues to develop, more businesses will be candidates.

In June, July and August, for example, 20 undergraduate and two graduate students, including Hillery, Petterson and the

Simone Center Founding Director Richard DeMartino, bottom left, talks with students, from clockwise, Youmee Lee, Casey Schneider, Eli McDermott, Kevin Toh and Vincent Stowbunenko. They are developing an alarm clock for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. “My goal is to help them build a team, do market research and figure out what they need to do to commercialize it,” DeMartino says.
NTID alarm clock team, participated in the E. Philip Saunders Summer Start-Up pilot program at the Saunders College of Business, says Richard Notargiacomo, business development manager at Venture Creations. The students, who received stipends and housing as summer research and innovation fellows, worked on their business plans and attended weekly guest lectures. In the 11th week, they presented their plans to real investors.

“This will fill the gap between ideas and real businesses,” Notargiacomo says.

With downsizing and outsourcing by big corporations, Jones says, start-up businesses are critical because they are creating new jobs. RIT is positioned to develop a higher percentage of these entrepreneurial businesses than other colleges.

Jeremy Haefner, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, says this is particularly true locally, where higher education is now a predominant industry. “RIT is going to have an economic impact, going to have a social impact in the Rochester region,” Haefner says. “We believe the students are a huge component of that.”

The next step, DeMartino says, is getting more students involved in all pieces of the ecosystem.

“We need to go from 20 projects a year to 150 projects a year, he says. “We need it to become more inclusive so people from different fields and different programs get the bug to create value. And that value doesn’t have to be a business. It can be a social venture. It can be a piece of art.”

Hillery and Petterson have already made an impact. In April, the students placed second in the health care category of the New York State Business Plan Competition. The undergraduates bested graduate students from across the state.

By the end of the summer, they hope to have their vest tested and certified by OSHA and the patent written. Their goal is to sell the rights to the product or find a licensing partner to add the product to its inventory.

Then they’ll move on to other business ventures. Hillery is working on a necktie company that will allow young men to express their individuality. Petterson is dabbling in real estate, modular bedroom furniture and military fatigue.

“We are going to keep turning out inventions and products,” says Petterson. “That’s why we came to RIT.”

Mindy Mozer

RIT inducts four into Innovation Hall of Fame

Four people were inducted into the RIT Innovation Hall of Fame on May 6. RIT alumni, students, faculty, staff and others affiliated with the university were eligible. This is the second class of inductees.

The following individuals were inducted:

- **Hans Christensen:** Internationally renowned metalsmith Christensen taught at RIT’s School for American Craftsmen for 29 years, until he died in an automobile accident in 1983. Born in Denmark and educated at the School for Arts and Crafts in Copenhagen and the School for Arts and Crafts in Norway, Christensen came to the United States in 1954 and joined the faculty of the School for American Craftsmen.

- **D. Robert Frisina:** Without Frisina, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf would not exist. More than 40 years ago, he saw NTID—what he called “the grand experiment”—not only as one of RIT’s colleges, but also as a national institution. He worked to get the building up and running and to recruit faculty and students.

- **Nabil Z. Nasr:** With a background in sustainable production, remanufacturing, clean production, and sustainable product development, Nasr sets a visionary strategy for RIT’s Golisano Institute for Sustainability, where scientists, engineers and industry leaders come together to deliver innovative educational programs in sustainability and to conduct related world-class research.

- **Albert Paley:** Modernist American metal sculptor Paley is the first metal sculptor to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Institute of Architects, the group’s highest award to a non-architect. Paley has been active as an artist for more than 30 years at his studio in Rochester. Paley, who holds an endowed chair at RIT, has completed more than 50 site-specific works, including The Sentinel, the massive figure that greets visitors to the RIT campus.

For more information about the RIT Innovation Hall of Fame, go to www.rit.edu/alumni/ihf.

Nabil Nasr, left, and Albert Paley were inducted into the RIT Innovation Hall of Fame. (Photo by Ken Huth)

Funds for innovation come from variety of sources

Innovation on campus would not be possible without support from both outside and inside the university.

**The Board of Trustees** this spring approved a $3 million innovation fund. The money will support the early stages of company formations based on intellectual property generated by RIT students, staff, faculty and alumni and be coordinated by a Venture Fund manager reporting to a sub-committee of RIT Board of Trustees.

**Performance Technologies Inc.** funds a $5,000 scholarship to cover two summer fellows working on projects at the Center for Student Innovation. The scholarships are a tribute to John Peters ’81 (electrical engineering), the company’s chief technology officer, who died in 2009. In May, RIT dedicated the John J. Peters Student Innovation Lounge in honor of Peters.

**E. Philip Saunders** committed $5 million to the E. Philip Saunders College of Business to expand the school’s facilities, enhance technologies and create three endowed professorships in product innovation, service innovation and financial innovation. He has challenged alumni to raise an additional $15 million.

Other funds that support innovation on campus include ones dedicated to the Center for Student Innovation, the Summer Research and Innovation Fellowship Program, Innovation Hall of Fame and the Student Innovation Project Fund. To learn more or to help, contact Brian Shanahan at 585-475-6711 or besdar@rit.edu.
Steve Shapiro attributes his success to hard work, an entrepreneurial spirit and the Strategic Plan Steering Committee of 2004.
That’s right, the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.
Shapiro ’04 (information technology) was student government president that year, so he was assigned to the committee to represent students. He was so impressed with the process of making that document that he decided to stay at RIT and get his MBA.
That landed him in an entrepreneurial class in the fall of 2005, where he was assigned to write a business plan. Google Talk, a downloadable chat application, had just launched and gave him an idea.

“I thought, ‘If I made an IM client, what would it have?’” Shapiro says.
The result was Digsby, an application that allows users to link their e-mail accounts, social-networking sites and instant messenger clients in a single desktop widget.
Digsby launched to good reviews in March 2008, after two years of development by Shapiro and his team of six RIT graduates at Venture Creations, RIT’s high-tech incubator.
In April, Digsby, which had amassed 3 million users who manage more than 8 million accounts, was acquired by Tagged, a social networking site for meeting new people with more than 100 million users. By May, all seven Digsby employees were working in Tagged’s offices in San Francisco.
Shapiro says Digsby had reached a crossroads. The company needed to raise additional funding to get to the next level or find an external partner. Several companies bid to be that external partner and Tagged was the best fit.
“RIT played a huge role in all of this,” says Shapiro, who also met his wife, Melanie (Ciufolo) Shapiro ’07 (interior design), on campus.
Bill Jones, interim director of Venture Creations, says Digsby shows that students can grow a company and be successful. But he does have one request for Shapiro.
“My hope is that he returns in a couple of years to start his next company here.”

From left, alumni Jeffrey Rogiers, Michael Dougherty, Steve Shapiro, Erick Davidson, Aaron Costello and Christopher Stelma packed up their offices at Venture Creations this spring and moved to San Francisco after Digsby was acquired by Tagged. Kevin Watters is not pictured. (Photo by A. Sue Weisler)
Imagine RIT woos alumni

John Serio ’73 (electrical engineering) decided this year’s Imagine RIT: Innovation and Creativity Festival would be a good time to visit his alma mater. Although he lives in the Rochester area, he hadn’t been on campus in more than 20 years.

“It has grown so much,” says Serio. “It is unbelievable.”

Nearly 32,000 people joined Serio on May 7 for the fourth annual event that showcases RIT’s innovative and creative spirit.

The event featured 350 interactive exhibits, 2,700 exhibitors and more than 600 volunteers. Sixty percent of the exhibits were new this year, including the Alumni Oasis, where graduates could re-connect with fellow alumni and get their picture taken with mascot Ritchie.

Serio remembers attending classes on the campus shortly after it opened. He was impressed with the new buildings, opportunities for students and the exhibits at the festival. He doesn’t plan to wait another 20 years to return.

“I think I’ll be back next year,” he says about the next Imagine RIT, planned for May 5, 2012. “Without any question.”

Photos by Elizabeth Lamark, John Myers, A. Sue Weisler, and Matt Wittmeyer
Improve Your Annual Income with an RIT Charitable Gift Annuity

There are many great reasons to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity at RIT. By transferring low yield bonds, certificates of deposit, stocks, or even cash, you can create a stream of income for you and your loved ones. In addition, CGAs offer these great benefits:

- They provide immediate tax savings to you in the form of a charitable deduction.
- They may reduce the capital gains tax paid on the sale of appreciated securities.
- For a number of years a portion of the income stream is not subject to income tax.
- You can designate your CGA to benefit an area of RIT that matters most to you, supporting your alma mater in a way you may have thought impossible.

Charitable Gift Annuities can be created to provide support for your lifetime, the lifetime of a loved one, or both. And CGAs provide a return income that is often two to three times greater than the asset used to create them. Here are current sample rates* for CGAs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>ONE LIFE</th>
<th>TWO LIVES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>70 &amp; 75</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>75 &amp; 80</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
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<td>85</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>85 &amp; 90</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Rates subject to change.

If you're interested in learning more how a CGA can help improve your current income, or, for a personalized illustration, contact Robert Constantine, Director of Planned Giving at 1-800-477-0376 or plannedgiving@rit.edu for a confidential conversation.
Graduate celebrates decades later

On May 20, David Johnson walked across the stage at commencement and accepted his degree.

Like the hundreds of other graduates, his proud family cheered and celebrated his accomplishment. That achievement, though, was completed more than 20 years ago.

Johnson, 75, finished his master’s degree in imaging science in 1989. But he missed the commencement ceremony so he could watch his son graduate from the State University of New York at Geneseo.

“It means a lot to me that I got to celebrate something I hadn’t celebrated,” Johnson says. “It was something I hadn’t even thought was possible.”

Johnson’s story actually begins in the 1970s, a time when his wife, Jacqueline, says they were living in a “velvet-lined rut.”

Johnson, who loves science, was teaching high school biology in Canandaigua, N.Y. His job was secure and the Johnsons were able to support three children. But he was miserable and no one, not even his wife, knew.

Then he was at a party when a friend mentioned a job opening as a technical representative. His friend just saying that he could do another job started a process.

“I was locked into a perception that it was not feasible for me to change my situation,” Johnson says. “In that exact moment the perception evaporated and I knew I could do it; my attitude was transformed from resignation to determination.”

Jacqueline Johnson says her husband is the kind of person who is so calm on the surface that it was hard to read his emotions.

“When he told me how unhappy he was, I was stunned,” she says. “Then I thought, ’We need to do something about this.’ ”

Johnson looked into the technical representative job as well as a job as a mechanical designer and realized he didn’t have the skills a business would want.

In the summer of 1979, he enrolled in a mechanical design class at Monroe Community College. The following summer, he decided to look at other colleges to see whether there was a degree that would fit his interests. That’s when he found the photographic sciences program at RIT.

Johnson enrolled in a catch-up calculus course at MCC so he would have the prerequisites needed to qualify for the program. “I got an A in the course and that built my confidence,” he says. “The next fall I started at RIT.”

Johnson, who was in his mid-40s, took one night class at a time while continuing to teach science.

Juggling school and a family was tricky, especially since his wife was also working on her master’s degree in education and reading at Nazareth College in Rochester.

In the summer of 1986, Johnson completed an internship and was offered a full-time job doing research in imaging with a subsidiary of Kodak.

He was laid off eight months later. “My job was never secure,” Johnson says.

“But I was happier than when I had a secure job teaching.”

Johnson was always able to find another job. And seven years after starting classes, he got his degree.

“Out of all of my degrees, this is the one I value the most. I worked hard for it and it changed my life.”

Johnson is now retired, having spent the bulk of his career working for Kodak and subsidiaries of Kodak.

His daughter, Kelly, only recently learned that her dad was disappointed he didn’t participate in commencement 22 years ago. She contacted the RIT Office of Alumni Relations.

“He pursued a new degree at a time when people didn’t change careers in their 40s,” Kelly Johnson says.

“It took him seven years to finish his master’s and at the time I didn’t realize how much perseverance that took. Now, as an adult, I see the importance in celebrating milestones, even if it’s more than 20 years after the fact.”
Each year, the university celebrates alumni who represent the best of each college. Distinguished Alumni awardees this year were recognized on April 8. For photos and biographies of all alumni who were honored, go to www.rit.edu/alumni/recognition. Alumni are from left to right: Raymond V. Malpocher '70 (KGCOE); Mark Feder SVP ’71, ’75, ’76 (NTID); Katie A. Linendoll ’05 (GCCIS); Kevin J. Surace ’85 (CAST); Dale J. Dangremond ’81 (CLA); A. John Bartholomew ’60 (SCB); Robert Loce ’85, ’93 (COS); and Brooks H. Bower ’74 (CIAS). (Photo by Ken Huth ’88)

CIAS says hello to new dean

On Aug. 1, CIAS welcomed new dean Lor-raine Justice. Justice comes to RIT from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, where she was director of the School of Design.

The end of the 2011 academic year brought the retirement of several well-known and ad- mired professors. The School of Photographic Arts and Sciences announced the retirement of Bill DuBois, program chair for Visual Media; Mark Haven, assistant professor; and Glenn Miller, associate professor. The School of Film and Animation also announced the retirement of lecturer Naomi Orwin.

CIAS is expected to roll out a revamped website this summer with a focus on recruit- ment. The website, http://cias.rit.edu, will include a student gallery, contact informa- tion for faculty and staff, videos and student/ alumni success stories. If you are interested in being included in the new website, send your story to Ron Goldberg at rjgrar@rit.edu.

GCCIS celebrates 10 years

The B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences welcomes Andrew Sears as its new dean. Sears, who started Aug. 1, was the Constellation Professor of Information Technology and Engineering, professor and chair of informa- tion systems, and director of the Interactive Systems Research Center at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Sears succeeds Jorge Diaz-Herrera, who became president of Keuka College in July.

The college launched its 10th anniver- sary festivities this spring with a reception attended by more than 200 students, faculty, staff and alumni. Guests got a sneak preview of some of the college's Imagine RIT student exhibits.

In addition, a special Best 10 of the Past 10 video was debuted starring well-known alumni, faculty and staff. See the video at http://bit.ly/jXh6ch
**Business alumni make time for students**

Brett Whitney MBA ’07, program manager for Notify NYC, New York’s emergency notification system, spent a half-day at E. Philip Saunders College of Business as the 2011 Favatas Alumni Lecturer. Whitney met with the Management Information Systems Student Team, discussing the technical aspects of his work, and then presented “Getting, Keeping and Excelling at the Job” to a cross-section of students.

Jerry McCue MBA ’80, first vice president—investments at Merrill Lynch, guest lectured in Hao Zhang’s intermediate investments course. McCue talked about the tools he uses to manage the investment portfolios of more than 300 households and the career options at Merrill Lynch/Bank of America.

Consider sharing your time and expertise with the Saunders College. Contact alumni@saunders.rit.edu for more information.

**Gift helps fund new NTID building**

RIT/NTID alumni participated in the Ellie Rosenfield Memorial—12th Annual NTID Alumni Golf Tournament and the NTID Alumni Community Picnic on June 10 and 11. Proceeds from both events supported the Sebastian and Lenore Rosica Hall Construction Fund (previously called Imagination Hall) and the Dr. Ellie Rosenfield Endowed Scholarship Fund. The William G. McGowan Charitable Fund is giving a grant of $1.75 million to help construct the new $8 million Sebastian and Lenore Rosica Hall, expected to be completed in 2013.

Lenore Rosica was the sister of William McGowan, CEO of MCI Communications Corp., who died in 1992. She served as chairperson of the McGowan Charitable Fund for many years and died in 2009. Sebastian, who died in 2006, served as a trustee of the foundation. The Rosicas lived in Buffalo, where Sebastian worked as an audiologist for 40 years at St. Mary’s School for the Deaf. Lenore worked as a speech pathologist. The grant includes a $250,000 matching challenge.

**Kate Gleason College of Engineering**

The Kate Gleason College of Engineering hosted a wine and food-pairing event for retired and emeritus faculty and staff. The group learned wine-tasting tips and food-pairing ideas while hearing the latest KGCOE updates from dean Harvey Palmer.

Brandon Comella ’97 wrapped up the 2010-2011 KGCOE Dean’s Alumni Speaker Series with a presentation about the entrepreneurial spirit. Comella talked about key things to consider when going into business for yourself and the importance of weighing the pros and cons.

Congratulations to Jay Yang, who has been appointed to a five-year term as department head of computer engineering. Andreas Savakis, who is finishing his 10th year as department head, will be taking a sabbatical this year.

With more than 70 combined years of dedication to RIT, Roy Czernikowski and Pratapa Reddy will retire from the department of computer engineering.

**CAST houses engineering technology**

CAST has reorganized. Along with the School of International Hospitality and Service Innovation, the college also now houses the School of Engineering Technology. The new school will be comprised of the three established engineering technology departments: electrical, computer and telecommunications engineering technology, chaired by Michael Eastman; civil engineering technology, environmental management and safety, chaired by John Morelli, and manufacturing and mechanical engineering technology/packaging science, chaired by Daniel Johnson.

“The reorganization not only serves to better support the success of our students, alumni, faculty and staff, but will sustain the college’s position as a leader in the academic community,” says Dean H. Fred Walker.

**New alumni staff**

By the time this magazine reaches your mailbox, the Office of Alumni Relations will have appointed three college alumni relations officers. They will create programming for the College of Liberal Arts and the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies, the College of Applied Science and Technology, and the College of Science and the new College of Health Sciences and Technology. To meet your new alumni relations staff member and see what’s planned, go to www.rit.edu/alumni/groups and click on your college.
Regional Alumni Activities

Events are being planned in all cities. Check www.rit.edu/alumniactivities for details.

**Boston**
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed two Red Sox games May 7 and Aug 4.
Coming up: Alumni are invited to enjoy a private tasting at Harpoon Brewery this fall.

**Buffalo**
Recent activities: A sold-out group of 50 alumni and friends attended the Buffalo Bison’s game on July 15 against the Rochester Red Wings. Special thanks to alumni host Tom Stumpf ’89.
Coming up: Registration is open for a Spring Lake Winery Vineyard Express tour on Sept. 25.

**Chicago**
Recent activities: Alumni attended a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio in Oak Park, Ill., on May 14.

**Cincinnati**
Recent activities: Alumni assisted at the Xavier University College Fair on April 10 and then got together for happy hour at J. Alexander Restaurant. Special thanks to host Kenneth Holley ’02.

**Colorado**
Coming up: Alumni hosts Dave Beldon ’04 and Jen Wicus ’04 invite you to join us for a Colorado Rockies game in September.

**Connecticut**
Recent activities: On Feb. 26, alumni gathered at Southport Brewing Company for a night of trivia with RIT. Special thanks to host Steve Staurovsky ’08.
Coming up: Alumni are invited to a Bridgeport Blue Fish baseball game and pregame reception on Aug. 27.

**Dallas**
Recent activities: On June 4, alumni enjoyed a sailing trip on Lake Lewisville aboard the largest catamaran in Texas. On July 30, alumni toured the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium. Special thanks to hosts Scott Saldinger ’91 and Jennifer Neary ’99.

**Dominican Republic**
Recent activities: Alumni in the Dominican Republic enjoyed a reception at the Occidental El Embajador Hotel on Feb. 17. Thanks to hosts Lyndsey McGrath and Diane Ellison and alumni Juan Perez ’04, Carlos Artiles ’09, Judith E. Batista ’00, Edgar Velez ’01 and Judith and Balmeri Martinez ’09.

**Florida**
Coming up: Alumni in Tampa will be getting together for Sunday Brunch at Jackson’s in September. Alumni in Orlando will have dinner at Bob Marley’s in Universal City in September. Alumni in South Florida will be gathering for a community service project on Sept. 10.

**Hong Kong**
Recent activities: Alumni in Hong Kong gathered for dinner on March 8 at Di King Heen restaurant. Special thanks to hosts Jeff Pink ’95 and College of Imaging Arts and Sciences Dean Lorraine Justice.

**Houston**
Coming up: Alumni are planning a dinner at The Melting Pot in August.

Megan Cheever, Candi Boston ’09, Jon Rodibaugh, James Macchiano ’06, ’09 and Dan Christner ’07 are your contacts in the Office of Alumni Relations for regional alumni activities. Contact them toll free at 1-866-RIT-ALUM.
Istanbul, Turkey
Recent activities: Alumni in Istanbul, Turkey, gathered for dinner at the Bosphorus Terrace Restaurant on March 18. Special thanks to hosts Sonja Phongsavanh and Merve Pak.

Los Angeles
Recent activities: On June 4, alumni ate at Grub and then enjoyed an evening of improvisational comedy at the Comedy Sportz Theater.

New York City
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed a tasting tour of New York's lower east side on May 14.
Coming up: Plans are under way for a wine tour this fall. Also, RIT is once again taking in a day of tennis at the U.S. Open on Sept. 11.

Philadelphia
Coming up: Join fellow alumni for a Phillies game on Aug. 26 at Citizen's Bank Park.

Raleigh-Durham
Recent activities: On June 15, alumni enjoyed a tour of Big Boss Brewery along with a reception and tasting. Thanks to hosts Mike Pail ’98 and Sue Pail ’98.

Rochester
Recent activities: A sold-out group of alumni and friends enjoyed an evening at Rohrbach’s newest tasting room at the Public Market. Thanks to alumni hosts Terry Palis ’77, Alina Palis ’79, Kristy Mooney-Graves ’00 and Stacy Kurtz ’05, ’07.
More than 100 alumni and guests enjoyed a reception at The Strong prior to the RIT Big Shot on May 5. The event featured the video game and classic arcade exhibit Game Revolution developed by alumnus John Villard ’84. Thanks to alumni volunteers Loretta Lamb ’78, Shirley Murphy ’81, Kristy Mooney-Graves ’00 and Stacy Kurtz ’05, ’07.
More than 1,000 alumni and guests joined us at the Alumni Oasis as part of Imagine RIT on May 7. Activities included photos with Ritchie as well as giveaways, raffles and exhibits from the Innovation Hall of Fame.

Alumni and students got together at the end of Imagine RIT for the inaugural AALANA Student-Alumni mixer in the Ritz Sports Zone. Special thanks to alumni host Elizabeth Del Valle ’10 and student host Obinna Ukachukwu ’11 and Marcus Lowe.

More than 150 alumni and their families treated their moms to a brunch at the RIT Inn & Conference Center as part of the RIT Alumni Mother’s Day Brunch on May 8. Special thanks to volunteer Loretta Lamb ’78.

Thank you to all the alumni who helped at our United Way Day of Caring project on May 11 at the Women’s Place and the alumni who stopped by the alumni hospitality table at the Chase Corporate Challenge at RIT on May 24.

Alumni enjoyed discount tickets to Rochester Broadway Theatre League’s production of West Side Story at Auditorium Theatre on June 3.

Alumni tested their culinary skills at Wegmans for their Sushi 101 class on June 23. Thanks to hosts Maggie Reilly ’94, Steve Gesinger ’77 and Draga Haboian ’84.

AALANA Alumni enjoyed a day of golf at Brockport Country Club on July 9. Thanks to Howard Ward for sponsoring the group.

Alumni and guests took in an evening of baseball and fireworks in Frontier Field’s Hardball Cafe on July 8. Thanks to Barry Siegel ’66, ’68, ’75, ’90, Steve Gesinger ’77 and Donna Bell ’83.

Alumni enjoyed a day of kayaking on Irondequoit Creek and Irondequoit Bay. Thanks to host Frank Lucas ’75.

Coming up: Registration is now open for the following events. To register, go to www.rit.edu/alumni/rochester.

Aug. 21—Seneca Lake wine tour Sept. 10—Alumni community service day

Sept. 24—Fall cruise and wine tasting aboard the Canandaigua Lady

Oct. 26—Oktoberfest Beer Pairings at Lovin’ Cup

Nov. 9—Wegmans Party Starters! cooking class

Stacy Kurtz ’05, ’07

Stacy Kurtz ’05, ’07

Sue Pail ’98

Mike Pail ’98

Sue Pail ’98

Frank Lucas ’75

Chase Corporate Challenge at RIT on May 11.

RIT’s second annual cruise on Irondequoit Bay.

Alumni enjoyed a day of wine and tasting at Rock Bottom Brewery.

San Francisco
Recent activities: On July 1, alumni took a special night trip to Alcatraz Island.

Seattle
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed dinner and a tour of Red Hook Brewery on May 21. Alumni also enjoyed a night of soccer at the Seattle Sounders game on July 16. Thanks to hosts Mike and Lisa Woods ’92, ’93 for both events.

San Antonio/Austin
Coming Up: Alumni are planning a dinner at The Melting Pot in August.

San Diego
Recent activities: On June 2, alumni enjoyed an evening at The Melting Pot in La Jolla. Special thanks to chapter leaders Phil Ohme ’99 and Pamela Wick ’94.

San Jose
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed a brewery tour and tasting at Rock Bottom Brewery.

San Francisco
Recent activities: On July 1, alumni enjoyed a special night tour of Alcatraz Island.

Syracuse
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed RIT’s second annual cruise on Skaneateles Lake on June 25, which included a Dinosaur Bar-B-Que lunch.

Taipei, Taiwan
Recent activities: More than 25 alumni in Taipei, Taiwan, gathered for dinner at Jin Garden restaurant on March 4. Special thanks to hosts Chih-Tsung Chang ’94 and Jeff Pink ’95.

Utica/Rome
Recent Activities: Alumni enjoyed an evening of community service as RIT volunteered with the United Way of Syracuse to help at Saranac Thursdays on June 30.

Washington, D.C.
Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed an evening sailing on the Annapolis Harbor on July 30. Thanks to hosts Ken Rachfal ’71 and Victoria Griffith ’93.

Coming up: Alumni are invited to spend a day at Camden Yards as the Baltimore Orioles take on the New York Yankees on Aug. 27. Alumni also have an opportunity to see D.C. by kayak as we tour the Potomac on a sunset tour in September.

Recent activities: Alumni enjoyed a day of wine and tasting at Rock Bot-

m Brewery.

Comming Up: Alumni are invited to
Key to abbreviations
CAST College of Applied Science and Technology
CCE College of Continuing Education (now CAST)
CIAS College of Imaging Arts and Sciences
CLA College of Liberal Arts
SCB E. Philip Saunders College of Business
KGCOE Kate Gleason College of Engineering
COS College of Science
FAA Fine and Applied Arts (now CIAS)
GAP Graphic Arts and Photography (now CIAS)
GCCIS B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences
NTID National Technical Institute for the Deaf
SVP NTID “Summer Vestibule Program”

1950
Leonard Pimental ’50, ’77 (CIAS) credits the education he received at RIT for the many career opportunities he experienced, including being chief medical photographer at Baxter Laboratories in Chicago, working with research scientists at the National Institutes of Health, working within the U.S. Department of Defense and providing specialized photographic engineering expertise to the Army Map Service Corps of Engineers. Later, he became the senior technologist in the U.S. Department of Defense within the U.S. government in 1983. Since then, Pimental has worked as a consultant to businesses, international organizations and U.S. government agencies.

1956
Richard Zakia ’56 (CIAS) writes, "Photographic Composition, A Visual Guide, by Richard D. Zakia and David A. Page ’66 (CIAS) is now available. The cover is by Pete Turner ’56 (CIAS) and there are photographs in the book from 12 additional alumni. It is a basic book showing, by numerous examples, how to improve your photographs by following well-proven guides. The book is dedicated to C.B. Neblette, former director and dean.”

1959
Paul Stevelman ’59 (CIAS) requests anyone from his class to get in touch with him at ivanwho@aol.com.

1962
Brian Shapiro ’62 (CIAS) has been awarded a grant with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts’ Decentralization Program, administered by Arts in Orange. Shapiro taught a free painting and drawing workshop at the Pine Bush Area Public Library. Additionally, Shapiro has been awarded a separate grant, made possible by the Arts Partners Challenge Grant program of Arts Westchester, which will fund the creation of a mural by the students of Pine Bush High School.

1964
Garry Kaulitz ’62, ’64, ’65 (CIAS) is a professor of art and head of the print-making area of the Art Department at the University of Alaska in Anchorage. Kaulitz returned in March from a three-month residency at the Guanlan International Print Base in Guanlan, China. Kaulitz also had a one-person exhibit, Ring of Fire, in February at the Kimura Gallery.

C. Fred Thompson ’64 (CIAS) moved in 2009 to Monroe, Ga., where he continues to operate Book Production Resources (BPR), a company he founded in 1994. BPR provides complete project management services for the production of books and magazines for publishers and corporations. He and his wife, Carolyn Breuer, travel throughout the U.S. to photograph and write travel stories.

1965
Charlotte Reimann Morse ’65 (CIAS) writes, "I was appointed in 1978 as a graphic designer for the State University of New York at Fredonia. At a luncheon hosted in April 2010, I was honored to receive the President’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service. The award recognizes effectiveness in performance, initiative and innovation, continuous personal growth and reflection of the spirit of SUNY Fredonia. I was one of three SUNY Fredonia employees, whose more than 70 years of collective service and noteworthy achievements, were recognized by this distinguished award."
1974

Patricia Moore '74 (CIAS) writes, “Moore Design Associates is being recognized for the creation of a true-life physical medicine and rehabilitation treatment environment at the flagship Veterans Administration. Akron Medical Center in Washington, D.C.” Visit his website at http://smrt.io/ef6jmA.

1975

Stephen Gulack ’75 (SCB) recently accepted a position with Golden Memories Transportation in Rochester as a tour coach operator. He had worked for Star Travel as a tour coach operator.

Joe Aker ’75 (CIAS) recently completed an installation of his work, Spanish Symmetry, at the new James and Nancy Gaertner Performing Arts Center at San Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Aker’s work was chosen for the south interior entryway by Houston firms WHR Architects and Art + Artisans Art Consulting.

1977

Wendy Bond White ’77 (CIAS) will be teaching at the Winterthur Needlework Conference Oct. 21-22 in Wilmington, Del. White was the workshop manager, contributing researcher and embroiderer for the “Plymouth Jacket Project,” a re-creation of a 17th century women’s embroidered jacket that is now on display at Winterthur. The project involved redevelopment of period silk and metal fibers, technique diagnostics, more than 80 volunteer embroiderers and 300 volunteers stitching more than 3,500 hours.

J. Mark Turner ’77 (CAST) received his certified professional photographer designation from the Professional Photographic Certification Commission in April. Turner earned this designation after meeting rigorous requirements measuring his artistic and technical competence.

1978


Christopher Schneider ’78 (CIAS) is an adjunct professor of photography (lighting/illustration) at Lansing Community College, Lansing, Mich. “After 25 years as a commercial shooter, I am actively pursuing Fine Arts Photography. Visit my website at www.christopherschneider.com.”

1980

Thomas Caine ’80 (CAST) writes, “My wife, Rebecca Koebenick Caine ’80, ’82 (SCB), passed away on March 18, 2011, after a long illness. Rebecca and I met at RIT in 1979-80 and have been proud alumni ever since. Rebecca is also survived by her two sons, Brian and Matthew. Matthew is now a third-year student at RIT majoring in game design and development. I would welcome hearing from classmates and can be reached by e-mail at Tom@CaineAssociates.com.”

Wendy Maruyama ’80 (CIAS) recently announced her status of professor emeritus at San Diego State University in San Diego, Calif. “I am now officially retired from San Diego State University as professor emeritus after teaching at SDSU for 21 years. I have taught for a total of 31 years since graduating from RIT.” She is now working on a new project, which can be seen at www.tagproject.posterous.com.

1981

Peter Tuttle ’81 (CAST) was awarded the designation of commercial lines coverage specialist by the National Underwriter Co. Tuttle, a CPA, added insurance to his offerings in 2006. He lives in Nashville, Tenn., with his wife and family.

Robert Stoll ’78, ’81 (KGCOE), ’85 (SCB) received his doctorate in business administration with a concentration in operations and supply chain management. He recently accepted a position at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio, as a professor. Before that, he was employed at Thomas Associates Inc. as a technical director.

Scott Grove ’79, ’81 (CIAS), an award-winning American artist and art studio furniture maker based in Rochester, has won the Veenre Tech Craftsman’s Challenge Award for two of his works. Grove received the overall Grand Prize Award of $5,000 for his Ski Media Cabinet, made from quilted maple, figured sapele, amboyna, wenge, silver and mother-of-pearl. “I am proud to have my work recognized in such an extraordinary way. It is a great honor to receive one prize, let alone two.”

Scott Guerin ’80, ’81 (CIAS) received a master’s degree in psychology at Kean University and a second master’s degree and doctorate degree in psychology at the Fielding Graduate Institute with an emphasis in spiritual and consciousness development. He has been an adjunct professor in psychology for 11 years at Kean. In April, he presented his research on the effects of prayer and meditation on the quality of life at the mid-year research conference for a division of the American Psychological Association at Loyola University in Columbia, Md.

1982

Joy Parker ’82 (SCB) has been awarded the 2011 Robert Ross Muscular Dystrophy Association’s Personal Achievement Award from the Muscular Dystrophy Association’s Greater Rochester Finger Lakes Chapter. Parker received the award in recognition of her commitment to raising awareness about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), of which she was diagnosed in April 2010. Parker also shares her experience living with the disease by chronicling her journey on her blog at www.simplejoysonline.com. Parker continues to maintain a full-time career at WXII Public Broadcasting Council.

Anne-Marie Punzi ’81, ’82, ’95 (CIAS) writes, “Five artists who graduated from RIT in the early 1980s reunited this past April to celebrate their paintings, photography and ongoing friendship with an exhibit of recent work at the Little Theater Café Gallery in Rochester. Since receiving their BFAs, Phyllis Bryce Ely ’81 (CIAS), James Lewis ’82 (CIAS); Patrice Cook; McPeak ’82 (SCB); Punzi; and Mark Watts ’83 (CIAS), ’90 (CAST) have continued to develop as artists, producing paintings, printmaking, fine art books and photography.”

Bruce Meissner ’82 (SCB) accepted a position at Paradise Post Printing in Paradise, Calif., as general manager. He previously worked at The Sacramento Bee as vice president, production.

1983

Daniel Taylor ’81, ’83 (CIAS) was the guest speaker at the Connecticut Directors Art Club Student Conference at Sacred Heart University on March 26. He talked to the students about his career path and provided tips for succeeding in the design business.

1984

Sharlene Nally ’84 (SCB) recently joined the Homes for Heroes Program as a lender affiliate for Rochester and surrounding areas. Homes for Heroes gives discounts on real estate agents, mortgage, attorney and inspection services when the hero is buying or selling a home. “Our heroes include military, policemen, firemen, educators and medical personnel.”


1985

Errol Ahearn ’85, ’83 (CIAS) is the executive creative director of Global Experience Specialists and was recognized Jan., 2, by Exhibit Designers and Producers Association (EDPA) as its 2010 Designer of the Year.

Harry “O” Friedman, SVP, ’77, ’80, ’83 (NTID), ’85 (CAST) of Silver Spring, Md., celebrated his 26th year with the U.S. Navy on May 17 at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division in West Bethesda, Md. He is in the Communications Department, producing television, video and photography.

Kimberly Baribeau Andersen ’85 (NTID) writes, “I have been working for Dartmouth Hitchcock Memorial Hospital in Lebanon, N.H., for 25 years and received the 25th year pin in October 2010.”

1986

Adam Cooper ’85, ’86 (CIAS) writes, “It’s been more than 25 years since graduating from RIT and I have developed (pun intended) into a well-rounded photographer working on a wide variety of subjects in the medical setting. I have
won many awards for my photos over the years, but most recently received Best of Show in the BCA Salon 2008. I was featured in a full-page spread in the August 2009 issue of Popular Photography about medical and scientific photography.

1987

Armen Chakmakjian ’87 (KGCOE) accepted a position at Constant Contact in Waltham, Mass., as manager of product development. Chakmakjian previously was employed at Intuit as manager of product development, following the SaaS wave. “I’ve also self-published a science fiction novel called Urtaru, which is available on Kindle and in print.” www.urtaru.com.

Edward Shamshala ’85, ’87 (COS), ’00 (CAST) is CEO of Ammonoosuc Community Health Services and was recently featured in a Bi-State Primary Care video called 16 Minutes: Open Doors to Health in New Hampshire. The video looks at the positive impact New Hampshire’s Community Health Centers have had on their communities, as well as the challenges they face to continue to provide high quality preventive and primary care. View the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPsL30kFY&hd=1.

Bradford Ashbrook ’87 (CIA) is the new PSA Journal Software review editor. Ashbrook majored in imaging and photographic technology and has been employed in several photography related pursuits. For the past 14 years, he has worked in the audio-visual industry.

Robert Manuse ’87 (SCB) recently accepted a new position with MCR Federal LLC, the nation’s premier integrated program management consulting firm. He is a principal with responsibility for managing and building the firm’s business at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He previously was a senior associate and senior manager at Booz Allen Hamilton in the business analytics practice with a focus on homeland security.

1989

Elisabeth Sabbatini ’89 (CIA) and her husband, Jim, are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Elisabeth Drew Sabbatini. She was born on Jan. 3 in New York City.

1990

Michael Karpovage ’88, ’90 (CIA) has unveiled a new bird’s-eye view 3-D perspective illustration of Savannah’s most famous Cobblestone Street. Presented in a poster, River Street is captured in all of its unique architecture, color and texture. Karpovage is a design professional who lives in Atlanta, Ga. www.KarpovageCreative.com.

James Addin ’90 (KGCOE) and his wife, Cheryl, are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 5, 2010, in Arlington, Mass., where they live.

1991

Paul Bartow ’91 (CIA) and Richard Metzgar ’82, ’84, ’91 (CIA) are sharing their project Stratification: Investigations of a Metamorphic Landscape at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Mass. www.stratification2.wordpress.com.

Michael Rueenmler ’91 (CIA) writes, “I rode my second full century bike ride on April 16 for the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure in Hampton Roads, Va., raising almost $1,700. It was a great experience, knowing my ride raised funds to help the fight against diabetes.”

1992

Michael Kim ’92 (SCB) is a Java developer III at Wolsey in Newport News, Va.

David Wanhalato ’92 (CAST) was elevated to partner at Burr & Forman LLP in the Birmingham, Ala., office. Wanhalato received his J.D. Magna Cum Laude from the University of Alabama.

1993

Angel Dominguez ’93 (CAST) is a general manager at Ikin Margarita Hotel & Spa in Isla de Margarita, Venezuela. Previously, Dominguez was employed at Best Western Mara Inn as general manager.

Joseph Brennan ’93 (CIA) writes, “Here is one of my latest works of art.

Let me know what you think, if you could, at www.josephbrennanartanddesign.net. Proud to still be a part of RIT!”

James Harmon ’93 (CIA) writes, “I was promoted to lecturer, level II, by the Board of Trustees at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, in April. I continue to work there in addition to my full-time career as a high school English teacher in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio.”

1994

Nancy Weigle ’92, ’94 (CIA) and her husband, David, along with son Noah welcomed Erin Marie into the world on March 19. Weigle continues to enjoy being a stay-at-home mom.

Daniel Fenti ’94 (CAST) writes, “I launched a business in the worst economy in four decades. In February 2009, I purchased a transmission repair business. I’ve been using my sales and negotiating skills to land new business and generate additional revenue on the existing accounts we had.”

Robert Smith ’94 (CAST) and Tina Cote were married in July 2010 and are proud to announce the birth of their baby girl, Thayer Cote Smith. Thayer was born in December 2010 in Leesburg, Va. The family lives in Purcellville, Va.

1996

Michael Birenbach ’96 (CAST) writes, “I’ve got a new job at Apple Inc. as verification engineer in Mobile Silicon.”

John Fetzko ’90 (NTID), ’96 (CAST) and Mary Fetzko are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 23, 2006. The wedding took place in Cutchogue on the North Fork of Long Island. They are also proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Amelia Rose Fetzko, born on July 27, 2009. The family has settled into their new home in Mattituck, N.Y.

2000

Stephanie Coolidge ’98, ’00 (CIA) writes, “I recently illustrated The Mystery of the Silver Statue, which was written by Raymond C. Perkins Jr. Read more at www.radianthen.com. I am currently working on illustrations for the sequel.”

1997

Scott Beach ’97 (CIA) was hired in February by Computer Sciences Corporation as a regional representative in the North American Public Sector, Government Health Services Division. He will be providing training for N.Y. Medicaid providers around the Central New York area on claims processing. Beach lives in Syracuse, N.Y.

Peter Kull ’97, ’10 (KGCOE) is the founding investor in Kull Machine Inc., formed in December 2010. Kull recently acquired both P&A Tool and Die and Four Star Grinding, previously owned and operated by Paul and Kathleen Nagy. Based in Rochester, Kull will be running day-to-day operations.

1998

Marc Fingeret Heitner ’98 (CIA) and Eric Heitner are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Logan Haze. He was born on Jan. 1, at Winnie Palmer Hospital in Orlando, Fla.

Laura Enders ’98 (CAST), ’99 (SCB), ’02 (CAST) is a senior health project coordinator for the University of Rochester working with the Infectious Diseases Division of the Department of Medicine. After working at Strong Memorial Hospital at the University of Rochester as a registered nurse, she has taken a new position as the finance manager for the Center for Health and Behavioral Training.

1999

Robert Camp ’99 (KGCOE) received a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Northeastern University on Jan. 23.

Andrew Pratt ’99 (CIA) is an adjunct professor at the School of Visual Arts in the MFA program “Designer as Author.” He is also a creative director at the interactive design firm, Funny Garbage. He lives with his wife, Sarah, and 2-year-old son, Donovan, in New York City. www.andypratt.net.

Otto Vondrak ’99 (CIA) is a designer and an associate editor at Railfan & Railroad Magazine in Newton, N.J. Previously, Vondrak was an art director at Tanen Directed Advertising. “An opportunity came up to follow a lifelong passion with railroads and trains, which prompted the move to electronic media for Carstena Publications Inc.”

Derek Punaro ’99 (CAST) and Amanda Punaro are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Cambree Anne. She was born on Feb. 7, in Buffalo. Her 2-year-old sister, Ariella, is eager to start playing with her as soon as possible.
No soup for you? Nonsense! Alumnus opens soup shop at RIT

After Jake Torcello graduated from the E. Philip Saunders College of Business in 2009, he did what he has done in one capacity or another since the age of 6: He worked for his father.

His father, Rick, owns Nathan's Soup and Salad, a fixture in Rochester's southeast quadrant well known for its homemade soups, breads and sandwiches.

But Torcello wanted to do more with his business background. So he approached Craig Neal, the associate director for new business development with RIT Dining Services, to ask if the university would consider selling Nathan's soups on campus.

“At the same time we were trying to convert the old candy counter (in the Student Alumni Union) to serve candy again,” Neal says. When that plan for candy did not work out, “we started thinking in other directions.”

Neal and Torcello came up with a plan for RIT to renovate the space to house Nathan's and to collect a percentage of sales. This way, Neal says, if business is ever slow, “they would not have a large monthly rent payment. We feel pretty good about the arrangement, and I know they do too. We are able to give the RIT community variety in terms of a successful off-campus vendor that operates as its own business.”

Nathan's opened in November 2010 in the Student Alumni Union. On a good day, more than 300 customers visit the new location.

"Local colleges were our first targets for expansion," Torcello says. "They have a captive audience that cycles through every four years. We could grow our brand name, and our product is perfect for the college season since soup is in high demand from fall to spring."

Not counting Torcello, who is on site every day, Nathan's at RIT employs four regular workers, including two RIT students, plus a few others who fill in as needed. Although he initially worked about 55 hours per week at RIT, handling every aspect of the new location, over time Torcello has relied more on his employees for such duties as closing at night. Torcello has continued to open every morning and he keeps the books for both Nathan's locations.

Torcello first came to RIT after getting an associate in science degree from Monroe Community College in 2007. He used projects in his finance, marketing, operations and other classes at the Saunders College of Business to explore branching out Nathan's to other sites.

To allow for the increase in production that the RIT location requires, the kitchen at Nathan's on Park Avenue was remodeled. In addition, since all soups are cooked and other foods are prepared at Park Avenue, a van was bought to transport all products to RIT every morning.

These products include nearly 40 gallons of soup, 10 gallons of sandwich fillings and 300 breads and croissants.

Although Nathan's has been around since 1980, Rick Torcello didn't own it until 2007, when he bought it from Walter Nathan Harby. Nathan's had been a long-time customer of Rick Torcello's window–cleaning business, Crystal Clear Windows, which he still owns.

"RIT was very accommodating," Jake Torcello says. "We couldn't ask for a better first expansion. We can only hope that any future ones go as well as RIT."
Artists who met at RIT give back

The year was 1952: Joyce was a freshman, Don was a sophomore, and both were seeking degrees in advertising and design at RIT. He thought “she was a cute girl” and asked her to be his date at his fraternity’s Theta Gamma Snowball dance during the university’s annual winter fest.

As both artists agree, the rest is history. The Nagels have been married now for 55 years, live in Hilton Head Island, S.C., and still have a passion for their work—and each other. Or as Joyce says with a laugh, “If we sell a piece of artwork, it goes into the same bank account.”

The Nagels recently gave back to RIT by donating two of their pastels to the Gallery r fundraiser last March. Don’s was a vivid image of docked boats called “One Good Tern” and Joyce recreated an equally serene outdoor Illinois scene of “Waubonsee Winter.”

“Joyce is a painter, I’m a drawer,” says Don, who spent 40 years in the advertising field, first in Pittsburgh, then in Detroit. His specialty was car advertising and he says his learning experience at RIT prepared him for working in many of the foremost advertising agencies in the Motor City.

“At RIT, the printing and art department were together and we had to take courses in each other's fields so we knew how to prepare art for printing, knew how to talk to a photographer to execute the proper illustration for our clients,” Don explains. “What I learned was invaluable and became a real advantage in the design world.”

And Don is also a part of RIT history. He was in the first four-year graduating class from the university in 1955; Joyce was in the second in 1956. “We’ve always been proud of going to RIT and it prepared us for a lifetime of work, because being in Hilton Head since 1986—everyone seems to be retired and playing tennis—but we are still painting, teaching, exhibiting and playing tennis.”

Joyce Nagel ’56

“We’ve always been proud of going to RIT and it prepared us for a lifetime of work, because being in Hilton Head since 1986—everyone seems to be retired and playing tennis—but we are still painting, teaching, exhibiting and playing tennis.”

Marcia Morphy
in 2010 for an Emerging Photographer. In February, he was flown to Los Angeles to speak at the opening exhibition of his work, For God, Race and Country. Capozziello also placed in the Top 50 of Photolucida’s Critical Mass in 2010 for an Emerging Photographer.

Carlos Ramos ’01, ’03, ’04 (CAST) and Felia Aldridge Ramos ’01 (NTID), ’04 (SCB) are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Nissa Felia. She was born on Nov. 4, 2010, in Conyers, Ga. Her 2-year-old sister, Damaris, is excited about the new addition.

James Hulka ’04 (COS) is a patent examiner at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in Alexandria, Va. Hulka will also begin a Ph.D. in earth systems and geoinformation sciences at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., this fall.

Matthew Lawrence ’04 (GCCIS) and Calin Lawrence are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Aidan Powers Lawrence. He was born on Jan. 11 at Rochester General Hospital.

Sarah Smith ’04 (KGCOE) and Robert Smith are happy to announce their marriage on April 17, 2010, in Kill Devil Hills, N.C. They live in Washington, D.C. Andrea Hanke White ’04 (KGCOE) and Tyler White ’03 (SCB) attended. The couple enjoyed their honeymoon in San Francisco.

Anne Culver Malitis ’05 (SCB) is proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Arianna Elizabeth Malitis. She was born on Feb. 5 in Rochester. Big brothers Roman, 3, and Ethan, 2, adore their new little sister.

David Du Rocher ’05 (GCCIS) accepted a position in October 2010 at Adobe Systems Inc. in New York City as technical consultant for Omniture Technology. Rocher was previously employed as Web marketing manager for New York University and continues his work as a professor for the CUNY College of Technology.

Zachary Iniguez ’05 (GCCIS) and Emily Springer are happy to announce their marriage on July 23 in Minneapolis, Minn. They live in Eagan, Minn. The wedding was attended by Daniel DiCenzo ’05 (GCCIS), Robert McTague ’02 (GCCIS), Robert Bocchio ’05 (GCCIS), Christopher Guy ’06 (GCCIS) and Andrew Simon ’10 (CAST).

Alex Ludwig ’05 (GCCIS) was recently promoted to IT project manager and security engineer from network security engineer at Nexidia in Atlanta, Ga.

Julie Quagliozzi Mancini ’05 (CIAS) and Gus Mancini ’06 (CAST) are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Chloe Ava. She was born on March 4 in Newton, Mass.

Lindsay Taplin Tiballi ’05 (SCB) and Daniel Tiballi are happy to announce their marriage on April 6, 2010, in Atlanta, Ga. They met at Georgia Institute of Technology, where they are both doctoral candidates.

Nichole Jones ’06 (CIAS) and Chris Jones are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Emma Nichole. She was born on Nov. 28, 2010, in Frederick, Md. Emma was welcomed with love by big brother Christopher.

Minsoo Kim ’06 (COS) and fellow second-year student Jamie Beyer of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Faculty of Health Sciences, Medical School for International Health, in collaboration with Columbia University Medical Center, presented their research at the Pediatric Academic Societies and Asian Societies for Pediatric Research in April.

Seth Burgess ’06 (GCCIS), ’09 (SCB) and Jessica Burgess are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Anderson James. He was born on Feb. 12 in Geneva, N.Y.

Jeffrey Sulik ’06 (SCB) has been kicking it in the desert of Doha, Qatar, since February 2008 working for Texas A&M University at Qatar. As the assistant director for the Department of Student Affairs, he is responsible for providing co-curricular learning opportunities for students from 39 countries. He and his bride, Michelle, celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary in June 2010 and are proud parents of Jackson, 9; Benjamin, 7; and Erin, 5.

Lyle Wilkie ’07 (CAST) recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Wilkie completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

Sara Springer ’07 (CAST) writes, “My husband, Mike Gorman, and I just...”
celebrated our one year anniversary on Feb. 28. We got married at The Grove in North Las Vegas in a gazebo. We had a small wedding of just 50 guests comprised of family and a few friends. I absolutely love the Monte Carlo Resort and Spa; I work on the 32nd floor called Hotel 32.”

Chelsie Armbruster '07 (COS) defended her dissertation on April 12 for a Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from Wake Forest University.

Amir Figueroa '07 (CAST) accepted a position at Columbia University, College of Physicians & Surgeons, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, as the manager of their Flow Cytometry Core Facility.

Leah Vigneau Wiegmann '07, '07 (CIAS) and husband, Elijah, are the owners of Spruce Design Studio, a husband-and-wife design team nestled in the Appalachian Mountains outside of Pittsburgh, Pa. www.sprucedesignstudio.com.

Ashley Lotito Kingdollar '07 (CIAS) is happy to announce her marriage to Army sergeant and Black Hawk mechanic William Kingdollar Jr. on March 27, 2010. Alumni guests included Amy Mikolin '07 (COS); Kurt Kluever '08, '08 (COS); Allison Bernstein '08 (COS); Ryan Kao '09 (GCCIS); Chrissy Szcuzpak '08 (CIAS); Matt Bango '08 (GCCIS); Ben Sweeney '08 (CAST); Jesse Steiner '09, '09 (KGCOE); and Justin Kwong '08 (CIAS). After a beautiful wedding in Skaneateles, N.Y., the couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico. They are stationed with the U.S. Army in Tacoma, Wash.

Matthew De Persis '07 (SCB) recently changed roles in the Content Distribution and Marketing department of MTV Networks in New York City to partner marketing coordinator for TV Land. He was previously employed at MTV Networks as partner marketing coordinator, EPIX & Logo.

2008

Morgan Callahan '08 (CIAS) will be starting medical school at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine at Seton Hill with the Class of 2015.

When cancer attacks Eve Strella-Ribson, Strella-Ribson attacks back.

After she was diagnosed with breast cancer in July 2007, she underwent a lumpectomy, chemotherapy and 33 rounds of radiation. “Then I had 16 wonderful months of me again,” says Strella-Ribson '86 (industrial engineering).

In April 2009, her energy levels were falling, she started having headaches and she was dizzy. She learned the cancer had spread to her brain and her lungs. That summer she had surgery to remove a brain tumor, followed by full brain radiation and more chemotherapy.

And she decided that when she felt better, she was going to tell her story of survival to help others who are fighting the same disease.

But after she met area women at oncology appointments and at treatment centers, she realized that her story alone wasn’t enough to show the prevalence of cancer and the toll it takes on families.

This spring, Moments of Truth, Gifts of Love was published by Productivity Publications of Rochester, N.Y., and includes contributions from 19 local women fighting breast cancer. One of those women died before the book was released.

“I am hoping because you don’t see a lot of breast cancer books out there that individuals will pick up this book, read it and realize that they are not alone,” Strella-Ribson says.

The women write their own stories, starting with the diagnosis and continuing with their journey. Each story includes a short biography. Strella-Ribson coordinated the content and contributed her own story about her fight against breast cancer.

Her husband, Edward Ribson, wrote the foreword and aftersword. Her sister, Karen Johnston-Tucker, included a piece about what it is like for a family member when a relative is diagnosed with cancer. “I feel pretty lucky that I was in a position to give these women a platform,” she says.

Strella-Ribson, who has worked as a dental assistant, industrial engineer and business coach, says she sees the book helping women for many years. Although she continues to fight cancer, she remains optimistic and is taking life day by day.

“The one thing I have learned through this whole cancer experience is slow down a little, enjoy life, soak it in,” she says. “Don’t let it fly by.”

Mindy Mozer

Editor’s note: Eve Strella-Ribson died July 19. The story appears as it was originally written.
Welcomed with academic pomp and circumstance and a theater filled with students, alumni, faculty, staff, community members, family members, local and state officials and even friends from Congress, Gerry Buckley ’78 (social work) was officially installed as president and dean of RIT’s National Technical Institute for the Deaf on May 6. He is the first alumnus in the college’s history to lead NTID.

Although Buckley assumed leadership of NTID on Jan. 1, the formal installation was held when family, friends and dignitaries, including NTID’s National Advisory Group, would be in Rochester and could attend.

“This is indeed a special day and a surprising day for us,” D. Robert Frisina, NTID’s founding director, said in a taped welcome. “To believe in our own lifetime we could see one of our own graduates become president of NTID. I know that the many students and alums of this institution are looking to you for leadership, and I know they’ll get it.” Buckley said he is honored to serve as president of NTID and acknowledged students in the audience. “The spirit of NTID lives in you, your dreams, and your passion. We here are proud to serve you.”

Gerry Buckley ’78 was installed as NTID president in May. (Photo by A. Sue Weisler)
Erin Redl Cardwell ’08 (CAST) and Mitchell Cardwell ’08 (GCCIS) are happy to announce their marriage on Oct. 17, 2010, in West Point, N.Y. They live in Valencia, Calif. Sarah McKinney and Dan Wisniewski ’08 (KGCOE) were in the bridal party. Also in attendance were Matt Blauvelt ’09 (GCCIS); Kerry Gallagher ’09 (CIAS); Sam Haas ’08, ’08 (KGCOE); Shadle Stewart ’08, ’08 (KGCOE); and Dan Wisner.

Robert Songer ’08 (GCCIS) has just completed his second year of teaching at Kanazawa Technical College in Kanazawa, Japan, where he has been working to implement new educational programs for enriching his students’ capabilities as global engineers. Songer assisted KTC in applying to join the worldwide CDIO Initiative, which was originally founded by engineering professors at MIT.

Amanda Kristoff Weissman ’09 (COS), ’09 (KGCOE) and Adam Weissman ’10, ’10 (KGCOE) are happy to announce their marriage on Oct. 10, 2010, in Worcester, Mass. They live in Moorestown, N.J.

Jennifer Pepe Pedicone ’09 (CAST) and Anthony Pedicone ’10 (CAST) are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Brian Thomas. He was born on Oct. 14, 2010, in Rochester. They are also happy to announce their marriage on Dec. 12, 2009, in Rochester. They live in Buffalo, N.Y.

Stephanie Collins ’09 (CAST) writes, “NASA brought together 150 Twitter followers to NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida for a two-day Tweetup, April 18-19, during what was supposed to be the final launch of space shuttle Endeavour. I was selected as one of 150 @NASA Twitter followers to attend and tweet the event.” Collins writes the blog, “Poorer Than You.” She is employed at the Internet retailer ThinkGeek.

Sarah Slade ’09 (COS) and Samuel Slade ’09 (CAST) are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 4, 2010, in Buffalo, N.Y. They live in Utica, N.Y.

Lea Khavari Rabinowitz ’09 (CLA) and Josh Rabinowitz ’09 (GCCIS) are happy to announce their marriage on June 5, 2010, at Turf Valley in Ellicott City, Md. They live in Bethesda, Md.

Kurt Settembre ’09 (CAST) completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Settembre completed training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

Lori Baines ’10 (NTID) and Jacob Baines ’09 (GCCIS) are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 4, 2010, at the Salford Schwenkfelder Meetinghouse in Souderton, Pa. Alumni in attendance included Emily Clement ’10 (NTID); Michael Adsit ’01 (COS); Stacey Weiss-Dubolino ’10 (NTID); Cynthia Modes ’10 (NTID) and Gabrielle Nocciolino ’09, ’11 (NTID). The couple lives in Centreville, Va.
**Alumni**

**1936**
- Lois G. Martin ’36 (SCB), March 4, 2011

**1938**
- Marie Haier Steck ’38 (SCB), Nov. 28, 2010

**1941**
- Francis C. Pratt ’41 (CIAS), March 6, 2011

**1944**
- Eleanor Baltakis ’44 (SCB), March 24, 2011
- Loretto Maguire ’44 (SCB), Jan. 28, 2011

**1946**
- Ninfa Vitale Daniel ’46 (COS), March 7, 2011

**1949**
- Frederick W. Hoch Jr. ’49 (CIAS), April 28, 2010

**1950**
- Frederick M. Ahrens ’50 (KGCOE), Feb. 23, 2011

**1951**
- John A. Frost ’51 (CIAS), April 18, 2011
- Jean Gillings ’50 (SCB), March 6, 2011

**1952**
- William J. Reyman ’52 (CIAS), Jan. 14, 2011

**1954**
- Frances H. Dembs ’54 (CIAS), Feb. 28, 2011

**1955**
- Alfred J. Murrer ’55 (CAST), March 26, 2011
- Robert E. Toth ’55 (CIAS), Nov. 29, 2010

**1957**
- Kenneth Dewhirst ’57 (CIAS), Nov. 23, 2010

**1960**
- Richard W. Abramowicz ’60 (KGCOE), March 9, 2011
- Joseph A. Palis ’60 (CAST), March 30, 2011
- Richard J. Schantz ’60 (COS), April 4, 2011

**1961**
- Richard P. Abnet ’61 (CIAS), March 1, 2011

**1963**
- Philip W. Maguire ’63 (CAST), June 22, 2010

**1964**
- Norman C. Gath ’64 (SCB), June 11, 2008
- Francis J. McGuire ’64 (CAST), Jan. 14, 2011

**1966**
- Vincent A. Pusateri ’66 (SCB), March 29, 2011

**1969**
- Russell J. Cutri ’69 (CAST), April 23, 2011
- Marc I. Rudney ’67, ’69 (CIAS), March 28, 2011

**1973**
- Richard M. Bottorf ’73 (SCB), Feb. 9, 2011
- Jack E. Erickson ’73 (CAST), Feb. 9, 2011
- Eugene F. Killian ’73 (KGCOE), Feb. 8, 2011

**1974**
- Richard B. Hamer ’74 (SCB), Feb. 5, 2011
- Richard F. O’Hare ’74 (CAST), Dec. 26, 2010

**1975**
- John A. Asam ’75 (CAST), April 2011
- Jon A. Engdahl ’75 (COS), March 1, 2011
- Mitchell J. Mahar ’73 SVP, ’75 (NTID), March 15, 2011
- Robert D. Stahlman ’75 (NTID) ’75 (CAST), Feb. 7, 2011

**1977**
- Susan Crockett Knaack ’77 (CIAS), March 3, 2011
- Joseph Polowe Jr. ’77 (KGCOE), March 6, 2011

**1978**
- L. Thomas Branigan ’78 (SCB), Feb. 6, 2011
- Thomas S. Smith ’78 (CAST), Feb. 25, 2011

**1979**
- David A. Leber ’79 (CIAS), Nov. 25, 2010
- Norbert J. Mazurowski ’79 (CAST), April 22, 2011

**1981**
- Scott A. Murray ’81 (SCB), Dec. 27, 2010
- Thomas J. Socci ’81 (CAST), April 17, 2011

**1982**
- Rebecca Koebenick Caine ’80, ’82 (SCB), March 18, 2011
- Charlotte Quehl-Mccloskey ’82 (CIAS), March 29, 2011

**1984**
- Cheryl A. Ryan ’84 (SCB), Jan. 15, 2011

**1985**
- Michael W. Wolfe ’85 (CAST), April 19, 2011

**2010**
- Rochelle N. Perry ’10, ’10 (KGCOE), March 10, 2011

**Faculty and Staff**

**Raymond C. Bell,** athletic trainer, March 29, 2011

**Stephanie Kirschene Cole,** faculty member in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences foundations department, May 30, 2011


**Andreas “Andy” Langner,** professor of chemistry in the College of Science, March 31, 2011

**Thomas Locke,** College of Applied Science and Technology faculty member, May 26, 2011

**Alfred Murrer,** RIT Trustee 1973-1985, March 26, 2011

**Joseph Polowe Jr.,** former chair of NTID’s Electromechanical Technologies (EMT) Department, March 6, 2011

**Books**

Books recently published by the RIT Cary Graphic Arts Press. For more information, go to carypress.rit.edu.

**The Art of the Book in the Twentieth Century**

*By Jerry Kelly*

Throughout the 20th century, modern design theories in combination with newer printing technologies offered book designers more options. Through the selection of 11 master designers, Kelly illustrates a wide range of styles, from classically inspired design and historical revival to novel and modern layouts. Kelly is an award-winning designer, calligrapher and printer working independently in New York City.

**The Bentons: How an American Father and Son Changed the Printing Industry**

*By Patricia A. Cost*

Cost began researching the Bentons in the early 1980s. The results were published as a master’s thesis at RIT and generated queries from around the world since, due to the nature of their work and to their own reticence, the Bentons had remained mostly unknown. Her book incorporates further research and contains a comprehensive listing of Morris Benton’s typefaces. Foreword by Matthew Carter, type designer and 2010 MacArthur Fellow.

**Jewel of the Sports World: The Story of the Hickok Belt Award**

*By Scott Pitoniak*

Sports icons Muhammad Ali, Mickey Mantle, Arnold Palmer, Sandy Koufax and Joe Namath were among the athletes who wore this belt made from genuine alligator skin featuring a 5-pound, solid gold buckle, encrusted with diamonds, rubies and sapphires. From 1950 to 1976, the S. Rae Hickok Belt was the most coveted and respected individual award in all of sports. It was given annually to the professional athlete of the year at an awards banquet held in Rochester, which became known as “the Academy Awards of Sports.” Foreword by Muhammad Ali.
RIT’s first NCAA championship win in 1982-1983 in Division II marked a key moment in the ice hockey program. (The Tigers repeated as NCAA champions in 1984-1985, this time at the Division III level.) RIT is celebrating the 50th year of intercollegiate hockey during the 2011-2012 season. To highlight this anniversary, RIT Archives will be creating an exhibit and hosting a special event in the RIT Museum at The Wallace Center during Brick City Homecoming & Family Weekend. Using historical photographs and memorabilia taken from the collection, as well as items borrowed from former team members or anyone who has saved hockey-related materials, the exhibit will look at the growth of this sport at RIT. If you have items to loan or donate, contact Becky Simmons, RIT archivist, at raswml@rit.edu.

Send comments about this photo to The University Magazine, University News Services, Rochester Institute of Technology, 132 Lomb Memorial Drive — Brown Hall, Rochester, NY 14623 or e-mail umagwww@rit.edu.