This message is sent on behalf of Jeremy Haefner, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

## Colleagues,

Today we're announcing that RIT will take part as a leader in an innovative approach to education – the MicroMasters program of edX, the leading non-profit online learning destination with more than 90 global partners from the world's best universities and institutions.

MicroMasters is a series of graduate-level learning experiences designed to offer timely, in-demand, relevant, continuing education for people seeking to advance their careers. The learning modules are not credit-bearing, but rather can serve as a pathway toward earning an RIT master's degree.

RIT's foray into the MicroMasters program will be in <u>project management</u>, a popular area of study in our School of Individualized Studies. RIT, in consultation with edX, chose project management because the skills and information offered throughout this curriculum are in high demand in the workplace. The Project Management Institute estimates the field is adding 1.5 million new jobs each year.

This online, 32-week sequence is a semester's worth of work and consists of three online learning modules and a final capstone exam. The modules will be taught by faculty Leonie Fernandes and Celine Gullace.

The MicroMasters program was piloted by MIT, co-founder of edX, along with Harvard University. MicroMasters in other subjects are also being offered by MIT, Columbia, University of Michigan, Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore.

RIT signed on to edX last November, and plans to offer our first XSeries later this semester. The Innovative Learning Institute is continuing to explore and design ways in which we can engage edX's 8 million learners and show them how RIT can help advance their education and their careers.

I'm excited about the educational outreach opportunities this program and edX in general can provide, and look forward to sharing more news with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Haefner Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

For more information on this and other topics, please visit http://www.rit.edu/provost/