

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

Colleagues,

I am pleased to share that RIT recently joined the [Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities](#) (a2ru), a collaboration of more than 30 institutions working to identify best practices in integrating the arts into research and curricula in higher education. A2ru's focus on identifying best practices in interdisciplinary research and programs, as well as opportunities to enhance teaching and learning, fits well with the priorities of our strategic plan.

I have appointed Susan Lakin, associate professor in the advertising photography program in the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences, to be the point of contact for RIT's initial year as an a2ru partner. Her experience in interactive, interdisciplinary projects involving both the arts and technology make her uniquely suited for this role. In this position, Susan will serve as an intermediary, sharing a2ru news, events, and activities with interested faculty.

If you are interested in receiving communications on this topic, please email Susan at [srlpph@rit.edu](mailto:srlpph@rit.edu). For more information regarding a2ru's mission, other partners, and additional resources, visit the [a2ru website](#).

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/>*