NASA astronaut Col. Pamela Melroy paid a visit to RIT as part of the Women in Leadership Distinguished Speaker Series, sponsored by the Office of Government and Community Relations. During her visit, Melroy addressed a large crowd in High-Auditorium, hosted the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science and spoke with female heroes students and RITC students.

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Three new trustees join RIT board at April meeting

RIT now has 53 active members, 29 honorary members

The myriad of successful companies in the global marketplace all have something in common—creative, energetic and aggressive leaders who are willing to go the extra mile to turn their visionary plans into powerhouse businesses. These entrepreneurs are also willing to partner with academia and share their expertise during the second annual 2005 RIT Entrepreneurs Conference April 28–29. Sponsoring the College of Business, the event includes the Vanguard Entrepreneurial Awards luncheon, 11 interactive concurrent sessions, and keynote addresses for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf, a non-profit organization that manages the telephone relay service for the Deaf.
Construction begins on $12 million biocenter

$8 million provided by New York state, $2 million pledged by Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield announced a multiyear grant totaling $2 million in support of RIT’s Center for Bioscience Education and Technology as an investment in the regional healthcare workforce.

The groundbreaking event was held to recognize the new corporate partnership with Excellus BCBS and to acknowledge the efforts of Sen. Jim Alesi and Assemblymembers Susan John and Joe Morelle who secured state funding. RIT has provided an additional $4 million to build the facility. Construction will begin this spring, with occupancy expected by September 2006.

CBET is a national model for comprehensive academic, community and career-training programs in biotechnology and the emerging life sciences.

Alan Hurwitz, vice president CEO/dean for CBET. “History will be both preserved and celebrated throughout the building. Pictures and documentation of student activities, representation of classes through the years and images of alumni, past visitors and guests of the college will line the halls and rooms.”

Construction will be completed by fall 2006. To contribute to the center, call 677-4866 (CBET).
Now that spring has decided to show its face, it’s time to celebrate. RIT’s annual Spring Festival—April 29 and 30—marks the occasion with music of all kinds, an anniversary parade, an art show and a watermelon toss.

Music
Rapper Ladaris takes the stage as the festival headliner on April 30 in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. Virginia du-Clique will open the 8 p.m. show sponsored by the College Activities Board. Tickets available at the CAB office by the College Activities Board. Will open the festival with an 8 p.m. show sponsored by the College Activities Board. Tickets available at the CAB office by the College Activities Board.

Art show
For some visual arts, visit the third annual Save the Arts Festival from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 30 in the SAU. Created in response to school budget cuts, local and student artists will display and sell their work to raise money for art programs in Rochester schools. Contact the Community Service Center at 475-6506 or scsfun@rit.edu.

Parade
In celebration of RIT’s 175th Student Government revives parade tradition during spring festival. RIT’s Student Government is reviving an RIT tradition—the RIT Parade, to be held annually as a Spring Festival tradition, begins at 4 p.m. on April 30. It will travel along Andrews Memorial Drive, starting by M Lot, traveling by The Sentinel sculpture in the administration circle and ending in H Lot.

Other world events
• Carnivals in D Lot, 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. April 29 and 30
• Outdoor movie showing of The Goonies, 10 p.m. April 29, Greek lawn
• BACC and Residence Hall Association annual barbecue, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 30, Grace Watson Hall lobby
• Spin art frisbees, sand art, dunk tank, celebrity cut-out photos and other novelties, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., April 30, SAU lobby
• Watermelon launching competition sponsored by American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 2:30 to 6 p.m. April 30, club field next to K Lot.

• Inflatable games—jousting, sticky wall, sumo wrestling, bungee run, dual sports equalizer, adventure rush obstacle course, 2 to 6 p.m. April 30, Clark Alumni Center.

Launch party for Signatures
A year of firsts for RIT’s stu- dent-art and literary-magazine event. RIT’s Student Government, in cooperation with American Society of Photographers and the black-awareness Committee, is sponsoring a DJ dance party in the Alfred L. Davis Room in the SAU. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 475-2330.

Women’s magazines explored
It’s been said, “You’ve come a long way, baby!” But how are contemporary women’s magazines keeping pace with the audience they serve? Magazines for Women: The Legacy of Cipe Pineles, a symposium at RIT, will feature magazines that showed student work from all over campus. For more information, log on to www.signaturesmag.com or contact John Roche at jfrgla@rit.edu.

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Photographer to discuss ancient markings
Photographer Chris Rainier, co-founder of the documentary photography firm Rainier Walk, will talk about ancient markings and traditional cultures that illustrate the ritual of marking the human body through tattoos, body markings and scarifications. Chris Rainier, co-founder of the documentary photography firm Rainier Walk, will talk about ancient markings and traditional cultures that illustrate the ritual of marking the human body through tattoos, body markings and scarifications.

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The State Legislature and Governor Pataki recently approved a 2005-2006 state budget that includes a historic new capital facilities program for independent colleges and universities, and fully restores funding for the Tuition Assistance Program and the Higher Education Opportunity Program. The Capital Facilities Program, first proposed last year by Governor Pataki, includes $1.1 billion in allocation, distributed among New York’s 100-plus independent colleges and universities, that can be used to support construction, renovation or equipping of academic facilities or information technology and capital development projects, or facilities that enhance student life. The program’s $1.1 billion will be matched with $3 in private funds for every $1 received from New York state. Although the full $1.1 billion was included in the final legislation, RIT could receive up to $41 million in state funding for RIT’s campus.”

The restorations of TAP and HEOP will ensure that RIT students will continue to receive student financial aid support through these important programs. Along with other independent colleges throughout the state, members of the RIT campus community participated in a grass-roots effort to urge the Legislature to restore proposed cuts in these programs that were included in the Governor’s proposed budget for this year. These e-mail messages again made a key difference in the end result.

“The final state budget contains great news for RIT and for our students,” says Deborah Stolar, vice president for government and community relations. “Once again, our state senators and assemblymembers held steadfast in their support for these programs, and they deserve the highest praise for their efforts.”

“We applaud the Governor and the Legislature for approving the new Capital Facilities Programs,” Stolar adds, which takes the historic partnership between New York state and its independent sector of higher education to a new level. “With RIT’s capital campaign moving into the final stages, this funding will be tremendously helpful in enabling us to leverage private support for key campus priorities.”

State budget restores TAP, HEOP New capital facilities program approved

The 2005 Mini Baja East competition May 5-7 will host at RIT and Hogback Mountain track in Palmyra, Wayne County. Teams from 65 schools in the United States, Canada and South America will compete in the three-day collegiate driving challenge featuring all-terrain, dune-buggy-like cars. This year’s 71st registered vehicles make the event the largest-ever Mini Baja East competition.

The contest features challenges for best hill climbing, acceleration, top speed, maneuverability, traction, pulling and braking. A grueling four-hour endurance race climax the competition.

“Mini-baja races are intensely competitive and absolutely fun to watch—it’ll be a blast!” promises Robert Rice ‘94, ‘97. RIT's news-baja driver Gabe Marinscak paves area between the ground and himself during the 1997 Mini Baja competition last June in Milwaukee. For the first time since 1982, RIT will host the 2005 Mini Baja East next month.

New York state Assemblymember Susan John has secured an additional $100,000 to continue a Community Interpreter Program through RIT’s National Technical Institute for the Deaf. The new funding brings the total amount that John has obtained for this program to $950,000.

The NY State Department of Education is providing stimulus funding to support new professional development opportunities for interpreters. Among those who will benefit are RIT’s National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

“I am pleased to receive this financial assistance to the needs of this program,” says John. “This program has been instrumental in developing curricula and educational materials for community-based interpreters, as well as supporting mentoring programs, events, professional discussion and support groups, and a variety of other interpreting related activities,” says T. Alan Rice, professor, vice president and dean of NTID.

“The positive response that we received from the New York deaf community for this program reflects the knowledge and support that the deaf community and the deaf interpreting profession have for a program with such important services,” says John.

RIT to host Mini Baja East competition May 5-7

2005 Mini Baja East 8 a.m.-6 p.m. May 5: Static events (design and cost report presentations), Gordon Field House and Activities Center, RIT 9 a.m.-6 p.m. May 6 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 7: Dynamic (“action”) events, Hogback Mountain, near RIT’s new cross-country ski trails, Palmyra, Wayne County 10 a.m.-2 p.m. May 7: Four-hour endurance race 6 p.m. May 7: Awards banquet, Holiday Inn Americus, 111 Jefferson Road. All competitive events are free and open to the public.

first race of the season, the Mini Baja Race. For directions to Hogback Mountain track, visit http://www.rit.edu/~jugwww.

RIT celebrates 30th annual Mini Baja East competition

Society lecture Prominent legal theorist and author Charles Ogletree Jr. will present an Inaugural Lecture from Brown to Tulia at 7:15 p.m. April 27 in Ingle Auditorium, sponsored by the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research, an RIT-led collaboration with the University at Buffalo and Alfred University.

Media contact Karen Black | kebnmr@rit.edu

2004 Mini Baja East

May 6: Final renewals for student team Senior Design Awards banquet

May 7: Static events (design and cost report presentations), Gordon Field House and Activities Center, RIT

5 a.m.-1 p.m. May 6: Free talk will be followed by a question-and-answer session at 1 p.m. in Ingle Auditorium, Thomas Curley, president and dean of the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research will deliver an address on “The broadband imperative.”

8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Louise M. Slaughter Building. For information, visit www.rit.edu/~jugwww.

2005 Stassen-Downs Scholarship

Rice, as BayFirst’s president, expects to gain a competitive advantage because of the rapid growth of the company. Rice says his deafness only becomes a non-issue when he is working with those who welcome diversity and are willing to work with uniquely talented individuals. Rice, 32, never sets his goals in stone. Instead, he keeps them open-ended and always makes sure he maintains a level of fun, like traveling internationally. Recently, he went to Costa Rica and met locals who introduced him to a makeshift school for the deaf in a rainforest where children in the middle of a rainforest.

“Business—and life—only inherently involve risk, but the outcome, regardless of whether it’s a federal contract or an unexpected delight in a foreign country, makes it all worthwhile,” says Rice.

“IT symposium May 4

What are the latest accomplishments in cutting-edge technologies? What breakthroughs are still ahead? The answers will unfold during the first IT Colloquium Research Symposium on May 4 at RIT. The IT Colloquium, sponsored by the New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research, is an RIT-led collaboration with the University at Buffalo and Alfred University. The symposium takes place 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Louise M. Slaughter Building. For information, visit www.rit.edu/ITColll.