Diversity conference features peace talk

RIT’s Commission for Promoting Pluralism is hosting the 10th annual Campus Week of Dialogue, Oct. 22-26. The annual event offers campus members an opportunity to build relationships, acknowledge and understand the needs of the RIT campus community, and engage in conversation geared towards increasing the comfort level when talking about diversity-related issues. The keynote address, 3-4:30 p.m. Oct. 22 in Ingle Auditorium, Student Alumni Union, will be delivered by Arun Gandhi, the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and co-founder of the MK Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence at the University of Rochester. Gandhi will speak on and invite discussion about the modern nonviolent resistance movement that Mahatma Gandhi launched more than 100 years ago. That initiative has been adopted by many in countries throughout the globe to resist social injustice and oppression and as a way to defuse conflict.

Free dialogue sessions include:
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 23—Civic Responsibility and Engagement, presented by William Johnson Jr., Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Urban Studies, RIT
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 24—Equitable Accessibility
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 25—Mind/ Body Wellness Awareness
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 26—Creating a Place at the Table for Everyone, workshops on conflict resolution and leadership building

All sessions will be held in Fireside Lounge, Student Alumni Union. For more information, contact Thomas Warfield, chairperson for the Commission for Promoting Pluralism, at 475-6252. For a complete list of scheduled talks and activities, visit www.diver- sity.rit.edu.

R.I.T Alert system will speed emergency response

RIT Alert, the university’s new rapid emergency mass notification system, will need accurate contact information from the campus community to be effective. Contact information for RIT Alert is taken directly from information provided by students, staff and faculty in existing systems: It is the responsibility of faculty, staff and students to make sure information is accurate and up to date. Additionally, several new fields have been added to include mobile phones and instant messaging information.

“RIT Alert is a major development for the safety and security of the RIT community,” says President Bill Destler. “Rapid communication is a key ingredient to our comprehensive safety plan. We urge all faculty, staff and students to take advantage of the new system. It is imperative that your contact information is accurate and up to date in order for you to receive emergency notifications.”

In the event of a campus emergency, RIT Alert will send urgent messages via instant message or text message to mobile devices, voice message and e-mail (RIT official mail only). Students should connect to http://infocenter.rit.edu and select the Student Info System link. On the Address Information screen, students can also select the Local Accessibility link and ensure that information is up to date.

Faculty and staff should go to Ora- cle Self Service—Human Resources (myrdso.rit.edu). If you are both a student and staff member, both areas should be reviewed. Visit the Business Continuity Office Web site at http://info.rit.edu/bcosite for specific instructions on how to add/update contact information for RIT Alert. Participation in RIT Alert is voluntary. If a student, faculty or staff member does not wish to participate, they may opt out in the myRIT portal or Oracle Self Service.

Three sessions will be held to familiarize the community with the system.
- Noon-1:30 p.m. Oct. 25—RIT Alert:
  - Emergency Notification System—The Process and Technology, presented by William Johnson Jr., Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Urban Studies, RIT
  - Emergency Notification System—The Process and Technology, presented by Thomas Warfield, chairperson for the Commission for Promoting Pluralism
  - Emergency Notification System—The Process and Technology, presented by Vianna Gandhi, coordinator for the Commission for Promoting Pluralism

For more information, contact the Continuity Office at 475-5723 or visit http://infocenter.rit.edu.

RIT Tiger hockey hits Blue Cross Arena

RIT men’s hockey will take on some big-time competition—in what RIT athletic officials hope is a big-time atmosphere—when the Tigers invade Blue Cross Arena later this month.

The Tigers beat Division I hock- ey power Cornell University at 7:05 p.m. Oct. 27 at the downtown arena, in what is expected to be a matchup between two of the country’s top teams. “This is a great step forward for our program,” says RIT coach Wayne Wilson. “We leave the friendly confines of the Ritter Arena to play in a much bigger place. It’s a great opportunity for our program, and we hope our students and the community support us and fill the Blue Cross Arena.”

That support is already being generated.
- The Student Athletic Advisory Committee, in conjunction with RIT’s Student Government and Office of Alumni Relations, is hosting a pep rally the night before the game to ignite excitement.

The pep rally is going to be a celebration of men’s hockey,” says Anna Kolnik, a senior who is one of the pep rally’s organizers. “We wanted to do something big. It’s a huge honor to play at the Blue Cross Arena.”

The pep rally will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Clark Gymnasium. Wilson will address the crowd and the entire team will be present. RIT’s Pep Band will perform and the “Corner Crew,” the Tigers’ boisterous fan group, has received a special invitation to attend the pep rally.

“This is really going to be a great RIT community event,” says Kolnik, who anticipates somewhere between 300 and 500 people to be in attendance. “We feel it’s a great way for the RIT community to connect with the hockey team.”

Kolnik says there will be two buses available to transport students to and from the next day’s game. She hopes a large contingent of the RIT community turns out at Blue Cross Arena.

“We leave the pep rally’s organizers. “We wanted to do something big. It’s a huge honor to play at the Blue Cross Arena.”

Kolnik says there will be two buses available to transport students to and from the next day’s game. She hopes a large contingent of the RIT community turns out at Blue Cross Arena to support the Tigers, joining others from the Rochester community and the Cornell fan base to pack the arena.

Blue Cross Arena can accommodate more than 12,000 spectators. If the previous two contests between the two schools are any indication, the crowd will be treated to a close game. The underdog Tigers played nationally-ranked Cornell during both games in Ithaca, with the Big Red defeating RIT by scores of 5-3 and 3-1.

This year’s game marks the first time the Big Red have played the Tigers in Rochester.

Student Spotlight

Saunders College of Business student makes a ‘fashionable’ first impression

It helps to make a good impression as a first-time entrepreneur when meeting European VIPs, fashion runway designers and the “Mayor of Rome,” says Asmahan Abushagur. “I want to work for the fashion industry in Rome,” says Asmahan Abushagur. “Language won’t be a barrier because I have a lot of experience.”

Asmah Abushagur hopes to make a difference in the fashion world upon graduating from RIT.

RIT men’s hockey will take on some big-time competition—in what RIT athletic officials hope is a big-time atmosphere—when the Tigers invade Blue Cross Arena later this month.

The Tigers beat Division I hockey power Cornell University at 7:05 p.m. Oct. 27 at the downtown arena, in what is expected to be a matchup between two of the country’s top teams. “This is a great step forward for our program,” says RIT coach Wayne Wilson. “We leave the friendly confines of the Ritter Arena to play in a much bigger place. It’s a great opportunity for our program, and we hope our students and the community support us and fill the Blue Cross Arena.”

That support is already being generated.
- The Student Athletic Advisory Committee, in conjunction with RIT’s Student Government and Office of Alumni Relations, is hosting a pep rally the night before the game to ignite excitement.

The pep rally is going to be a celebration of men’s hockey,” says Anna Kolnik, a senior who is one of the pep rally’s organizers. “We wanted to do something big. It’s a huge honor to play at the Blue Cross Arena.”

The pep rally will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Clark Gymnasium. Wilson will address the crowd and the entire team will be present. RIT’s Pep Band will perform and the “Corner Crew,” the Tigers’ boisterous fan group, has received a special invitation to attend the pep rally.

“This is really going to be a great RIT community event,” says Kolnik, who anticipates somewhere between 300 and 500 people to be in attendance. “We feel it’s a great way for the RIT community to connect with the hockey team.”

Kolnik says there will be two buses available to transport students to and from the next day’s game. She hopes a large contingent of the RIT community turns out at Blue Cross Arena.

“We leave the pep rally’s organizers. “We wanted to do something big. It’s a huge honor to play at the Blue Cross Arena.”

Kolnik says there will be two buses available to transport students to and from the next day’s game. She hopes a large contingent of the RIT community turns out at Blue Cross Arena to support the Tigers, joining others from the Rochester community and the Cornell fan base to pack the arena.

Blue Cross Arena can accommodate more than 12,000 spectators. If the previous two contests between the two schools are any indication, the crowd will be treated to a close game. The underdog Tigers played nationally-ranked Cornell during both games in Ithaca, with the Big Red defeating RIT by scores of 5-3 and 3-1.

This year’s game marks the first time the Big Red have played the Tigers in Rochester.

Student Spotlight

Saunders College of Business student makes a ‘fashionable’ first impression

It helps to make a good impression as a first-time entrepreneur when meeting European VIPs, fashion runway designers and the “Mayor of Fashion,” Maria Pia Garavaglia, in Rome, Italy.

On all counts, Asmahan Abushagur has already exceeded her 15 minutes of fame. She’s been interviewed at length by international and local media and hasn’t even begun her career yet.

But she knows what she wants to do after graduating with a marketing degree from RIT’s E. Philip Saunders College of Business. “I want to work for the fashion industry in Rome,” says Asmahan Abushagur. “Language won’t be a barrier because I have a lot of experience.”

Asmahan Abushagur hopes to make a difference in the fashion world upon graduating from RIT.

Corporate donation

Million dollar-gift boosts plastic centers, page 3

Scholarship and Research

RIT scientists hope to revolutionize ‘telemedicine’, page 6

Newsmakers

Your colleagues’ latest accomplishments, page 8
Bevier Gallery show celebrates the ‘pop-up’

The creators of pop-up books literally like to play with paper—designing and folding die-cut geometric strips together into working “mechanicals” that sometimes resemble airplane hangars. That’s where the real magic begins, because these jack-in-the-box-like designs between the pages of books highlight everything from three-dimensional dinosaurs, medieval knights, Cinderella, a haunted house and a space shuttle, to more ambiguous themes like nightmares, phobias and celebrity meltdowns.

“Pop-up books captivate and excite the child in all of us,” says Bill Finewood, associate professor at RIT’s School of Art. “I love the fact that the images don’t lie flat, they literally jump off the page. And the process in their design is very much like a miniature-engineering project.”

RIT’s Bevier Gallery presents Pop-Up Books: An Interactive Exhibition, during an opening reception 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19. The show runs through Nov. 14 and features works from top artists in the field including Chuck Fischer (The White House), David A. Carter (Bugs in Space) and Kyle Olmon (Castle). “Pop-ups come to life through movement and don’t lock the viewer into a single moment frozen in time,” Finewood explains. “They increase the readers imagination by tempting them to look at all sides of the mechanical, as they search out all the narrative elements used to tell the story.”

What’s amazing is that each and every book is hand assembled, requiring the skilled labor of hundreds of people to manufacture them. “As we look at a pop-up book, it causes us to wonder, how did they do that?” So this exhibition will focus on the behind-the-scenes skills employed by the artists and paper engineers who spend the better part of a year blending creativity and technical methodologies to inform, captivate and excite the child in all of us.”

For more information about the Pop-Up exhibition, call the Bevier Gallery at 475-2846.

Bevier Gallery’s pop-up book exhibit runs through Nov. 14 and features some of the more interactive examples of the artwork.

New journal published on campus

The Journal of Applied Science & Technology formally launched Oct. 11 during a ceremony at Wallace Library. The journal, led by Editor-in-Chief Chance Glenn, above, is a peer-reviewed publication presenting the latest empirically-derived methodologies, analyses and results in engineering, technology and the applied sciences. It is published by the RIT Press and supported by the College of Applied Science and Technology and Wallace Library.

‘ROAR’ing into action

Members of the campus community are invited to help kick off RIT’s annual fundraising effort.

On Thursday, Oct. 25, the university retires its Raise Our Annual Responses initiative. The second annual RIT Day takes place across campuses to encourage annual gifts—large and small—to RIT.

Upon arriving in July, President Bill Destler and his wife, Rebecca Johnson, were the first donors to the 2007-2008 annual fund, committing a significant contribution. Destler is now making a special appeal to alumni who work on campus to participate in RIT Day activities, thereby increasing faculty/staff and alumni participation rates.

At a level of around 8 percent, giving to RIT among our alumni is very low,” Destler explains. “If every person here on campus with an RIT degree were to make a contribution, we could easily raise that to 9 percent.”

Destler is also pledging to match student gifts dollar-for-dollar up to $10,000.

Volunteers will be available to assist with giving in the Grace Watson Hall lobby from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.; the Student Alumni Union’s Davis Room, Shumway Commons, Student Life Center and Wallace Library from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Crossroads and the B. Thomas Golisano College atrium from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; the Student Alumni Union lobby from 8 to 10 p.m.; and the Corner Store in Nathaniel Rochester Hall from 10 to 11 p.m.

Cash, checks, credit cards, payroll deduction pledges and Tiger Bucks will be accepted at all locations.

Gifts can also be made online at www.rit.edu/makeagift. Contributions from faculty and staff will go to RIT’s General Scholarship Fund, while student gifts will be directed to the club space renovation in the Student Alumni Union’s former Woodward Pool area.

Last year’s RIT Day raised more than $21,000. Of the 740 gifts and pledges that day, nearly half came from students.

Paul Stella | pbscom@rit.edu
Reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in the Great Lakes region due to freight transportation requires a little creativity and a serious look at sustainability—ways of protecting the environment without slowing down the economy.

A team of RIT professors recently won a $60,000 grant from the Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute (GLMRI) to determine whether marine shipping makes more sense from an environmental perspective than alternative modes of moving freight. The study will compare and contrast different modes of transportation in the Great Lakes region—road, rail and shipping—based on cost, energy use, emissions, and time of delivery.

“We will build a computer model that will allow analysts to evaluate emissions from shipping within the Great Lakes and to compare those emissions with alternative transportation routing in the Great Lakes region,” says James Winebrake, chair of science, technology and society public policy at RIT. “The study will help identify ways to enhance ‘sustainable shipping’ on the Great Lakes by identifying environmentally friendly shipping alternatives that would likely include marine components.”

The software will assess the carbon footprint of different modes of transportation and allow analysts to explore the economic and environmental tradeoffs associated with using one form of transportation instead of another. A mapping component will allow the user to see different routes evolve based on different criteria. “Our approach is like a MapQuest for freight, but instead of evaluating shortest distance routes, we can also evaluate routes that minimize carbon emissions, regional pollutants, or costs,” says Scott Hawker, assistant professor of software engineering at RIT.

Policy analysts and shippers will benefit from this software, as will planners weighing decisions that will influence freight flow.

Addressing the problems posed by this project requires a multi-college effort and combines an environmental aspect with energy concerns, computer modeling and a user-friendly interface. The study brings together professors and students from RIT’s College of Liberal Arts, College of Science and B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences, and draws on the expertise of Karl Korfmacher, associate professor of environmental science, and Steve Zöllner, assistant professor of information technology.

“Our approach is like a MapQuest for freight, but instead of evaluating shortest distance routes, we can also evaluate routes that minimize carbon emissions, regional pollutants, or costs.” — Scott Hawker

Raymond James

Student research assistants will build network models using Geographic Information Systems software. Collecting data on the environmental impact of different routes is important and freight flow in the Great Lakes will help them characterize what the freight flow looks like, Winebrake says.

The project marks the first grant received by RIT’s new Laboratory for Environmental Computing and Decision Making. The lab, co-directed by Winebrake and Hawker, focuses on using computers to improve environmental decision-making. The laboratory is housed in the Center for Advancing the Study of Cyberinfrastructure in the B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences. Ongoing research at the lab includes a U.S. Department of Transportation-funded project to evaluate the energy and environmental impacts of intermodal shipping—moving freight on trucks, trains and ships—and a National Science Foundation-funded project aimed at understanding the impact of greenhouse gas policies on auto- mobile and rail transportation and design using computer models.

A $1 million gift from Rochester-based American Packaging Corp. will fund the expansion of RIT’s Center for Integrated Plastics. The center will be renamed the American Packaging Center for Plastics & Packaging Innovation.

“The center, which operates as part of RIT’s Department of Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering/ Packaging/Science, is slated to move into the College of Applied Science and Technology building when it opens early next year.” — Scott Hawker

The generous support we have received from American Packaging Corp. will enable us to equip our center with state-of-the-art equipment, top-notch faculty and staff and the ability to provide our students with timely insight into new packaging-related technologies,” says Tom Voss, chair of the packaging science program. American Packaging’s support will also help establish a center director and create opportunities for incoming graduate assistant positions that will focus on unique flexible packaging challenges.

“All of us at RIT are extremely excited about the opportunity to join hands with RIT’s packaging science program. We are impressed by the momentum that the university has within our industry and believe that the combined energy and talent of our two excellent organizations will achieve truly outstanding successes in innovation,” says American Packaging CEO and owner Peter Schellhase.

Currently, two American Packaging Corp. employees sit on RIT’s 20-person Packaging Science Advisory Board. An additional employee will sit on the American Packaging Center for Plastics & Packaging Innovation Advisory Board. American Packaging Corp., which bases its headquarters on Park Drive Avenue in Rochester, is an integrated flexible packaging converter that services a variety of specialty markets. It also has offices in Iowa and Wisconsin.

Million-dollar gift boosts RIT plastics center

RIT helps students learn financial responsibility

The Hon. John C. Ninfy II, pictured at left, western New York’s legacy hedge fund and founder of the Credit Abuse Resistance Education program, joined forces with Robert Schumacher, dean of RIT’s College of Financial Services in RIT’s E. Philip Saunders College of Business on Oct. 26 for a three-course offering for RIT’s Management and Risk Management Services. “This course is designed to help undergraduate students in business learn about financial management and the importance of financial responsibility,” said Schumacher.

RIT’s financial literacy seminar is the first in a series of seminars and workshops being held to help students learn about financial responsibility.

At RIT, students will learn about financial management and the importance of financial responsibility. "This course is designed to help undergraduate students in business learn about financial management and the importance of financial responsibility," said Schumacher.

In the first session, they learned about financial literacy and the importance of managing personal finances. In the second session, students were introduced to the concepts of budgeting, saving and investing. In the third session, they learned about the importance of financial planning and the impact of credit on their financial future.

These sessions are designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

In addition to the seminars, RIT also offers a variety of resources to help students learn about financial responsibility. These resources include workshops, webinars, and online courses. Students can also receive personalized financial advice from a financial counselor or a financial coach.

RIT’s financial literacy program is supported by a grant from the New York State Office of the Attorney General. The program is administered by the RIT Office of Student Life and the RIT Office of Financial Assistance.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

RIT’s financial literacy program is supported by a grant from the New York State Office of the Attorney General. The program is administered by the RIT Office of Student Life and the RIT Office of Financial Assistance.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

RIT’s financial literacy program is supported by a grant from the New York State Office of the Attorney General. The program is administered by the RIT Office of Student Life and the RIT Office of Financial Assistance.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

The program’s primary goal is to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed financial decisions and to achieve financial stability. Students are encouraged to apply the concepts learned in these sessions to their personal lives and to make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.
A These students joined the more than 10,500 visitors who experienced Brick City Homecoming Oct. 4-7.

B The Student Alumni Union lobby transformed into a party-hat factory, where visitors experienced an art explosion and created their own wearable masterpieces. Oct. 6.

C The Foreign Language Fair was sponsored by the Department of Foreign Languages and celebrated the many languages and cultures of the world. Visitors learned to greet in 10 different languages, sampled gourmet food and enjoyed ethnic music and dance performances.

D Comedian Howie Mandel, host of NBC’s Deal or No Deal, entertained more than 3,200 people at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center Oct. 6.

E Golden Circle alumni from 1956 and earlier toured the campus on golf carts.

F A caricature artist entertained students, families and alumni.

G Students demonstrated how they have applied curriculum to fun and exciting displays and projects. Here, engineering technology students use human-powered devices they have designed and built to launch pumpkins at a target.

• A, B, and D photographed by A. Sue Weisler
• C, E, and F submitted by RIT’s Educational Technology Center
• G photographed by Ken Huth
The Barbados-born songstress Rihanna burst onto the stage at the Gordon Field House and Activities Center Oct. 5. Her continuous chart-topping hits make her one of the biggest single artists of today.

Cathy Teodosio spends time with son, Nick, a first-year computer engineering technology major, and their dog Elvis.

Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple Computers, was this year’s Horton Distinguished Speaker. Wozniak also led a roundtable discussion with student leaders and conducted a book signing at RIT’s campus bookstore, Campus Connections.

Student groups lined the Quarter Mile Oct. 5 to kick off Brick City Homecoming weekend. Dancers pictured are Lori Rosario, Gwendolyn Parker and Mitchell Sempertegui of Lambda Pi Chi sorority.

President Bill Destler and his wife, Rebecca Johnson, enjoy their first President’s Ball. Highlights of the event included live music, a real-time slideshow of the evening and an alumni awards program.

H, I, J, and K photographed by A. Sue Weisler
M and L photographed by Ken Huth
RIT scientists hope to revolutionize notion of telemedicine

A team of researches led by Fei Hu, assistant professor of computer engineering at RIT, is working to advance the integration of radio frequency identification technology, also known as RFID, into cardiac sensor networks, a new wireless technology for telemedicine delivery. The team will also work to enhance the security of the systems used in the process, thereby reducing the possibility of identity theft and cyber-terrorism. The effort is being supported by a $400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Cyber Trust Program. Hu, the principal investigator, will collaborate with Yang Xiao, professor of computer science at the University of Alabama.

"Telemedicine technology can greatly increase the quality of medical care while also decreasing health care costs," notes Hu. "Through this project, we hope to increase the integration of RFID into existing cardiac sensor networks, ensure the overall security of the system and promote the implementation of the technology in nursing homes and adult care facilities across the country."

"This research will advance an important technology development, while also enhancing RIT’s skills and capabilities in the area of computer engineering and design," adds Andreas Savakis, head of RIT’s Department of Computer Engineering. The United States’ growing nursing shortage is one of the most serious and daunting challenges in public health. The project, we hope to increase the integration of RFID into existing cardiac sensor networks, ensure the overall security of the system and promote the implementation of the technology in nursing homes and adult care facilities across the country."

Software grant helps deaf, hard-of-hearing

NTID’s Department of Liberal Studies Professor Eugene Lyalk has received a $49,200 grant from the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Inc. for his project, Web-based, Interactive Vocabulary Building and Grammar Improvement Software. The grant will support the design and implementation of an interactive software package that meets the need for Web-based materials that deliver developmental English grammar and vocabulary practice for deaf students in middle and high school and in higher education. The software will be accessible to all teachers of the deaf in the United States and abroad, and will be flexible, so that it can be used outside deaf education, even in settings for speakers of other languages.

"New Web-based technologies show promise as a means to provide the direct instruction needed to overcome the challenges some deaf and hard-of-hearing students face in developing reading and writing skills,” says Alan Hurwitz, RIT vice president and CEO for NTID. "We are proud to continue NTID’s leadership in student-centered research and innovation with this project, and commend Dr. Lyalk for his work to better the lives of deaf and hard-of-hearing students.”

Lyalk has more than 30 years experience teaching students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. He has dedicated his research to creating instructional programs designed to assist deaf and hard-of-hearing students with vocabulary acquisition. Lyalk will work with Norman Cruser, director of Disabled Services at Pierce College in Woodland Hills Calif., who has been a teacher of the deaf since 1970.

The Pforzheimer Foundation has one philanthropic focus: the support of secondary education, specifically in the areas of adult education and literacy.

Sue Swall | www.rit.edu
RIT design school among best list in BusinessWeek

In its second annual survey of “Top Design Schools,” BusinessWeek again names RIT among the world’s top programs. The results appear in the magazine’s Oct. 15 issue.

RIT is among 60 colleges and universities in North America, South America, Europe and Asia recognized by BusinessWeek for “the growing role they play in supplying creative managers to corporate and non-profit organizations.” The publication surveyed a cross section of innovation consultants, design academics, and corporate executives to select programs that combined design with disciplines such as business, engineering and marketing.

RIT’s School of Design offers internationally recognized degree programs in graphic design, interior design, industrial design and new media design and imaging. Computer skills, design perspectives, career preparation and exposure to the related areas of publishing, photography, engineering and information technology are integrated into the curriculum.

BusinessWeek cites RIT for interdisciplinary programs that allow students to collaborate on projects for companies like Eastman Kodak and Xerox. Design-related academic partnerships include the Albert J. Simone Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which enhances opportunities across campus by facilitating business creation and product commercialization projects among business, creative and technology-oriented students.

Additional relationships with the School of Design include the multiple-disciplinary senior design program in RIT’s Kate Gleason College of Engineering and the multimedia development program in RIT’s B. Thomas Golisano College of Computing and Information Sciences.

The BusinessWeek report on the world’s top design schools is available online at http://businessweek.com/go/07/designscho. n

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT receives $100K from Parsons Foundation

Funds will be used to renovate NTID’s industrial science technology labs

NTID’s industrial science technology laboratories will receive an upgrade, thanks to a $100,000 grant from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation.

The foundation, which has an 18-year partnership with RIT/NTID totaling more than $690,000 in grants to benefit areas such as “smart” classroom technology and automated speech recognition technology, will now fund the industrial science technologies laboratory. The laboratory will be outfitted with state-of-the-art computer-controlled equipment, 3-D computer display systems, 3-D printer and prototyping plotter and 3-D laser scanner and software.

Hands-on training on state-of-the-art equipment is the key to meeting the nation’s demand for highly skilled professionals in the mechanical, manufacturing and industrial science sectors,” says Alan Harvill, RIT vice president for NTID and CEO and dean of NTID. “Thanks to the continued generosity of the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, deaf and hard-of-hearing students at RIT/NTID will take their place among the country’s highly skilled technicians.”

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation was established in 1981 as a modest gift giving-organization by the late Ralph M. Parsons, founder of the worldwide engineering and construction firm that bears his name. Subsequent to Mr. Parsons’ death in 1974, the foundation received the residue of his estate. Since that time, the foundation has been governed by an independent board of directors and administrative staff and is no longer affiliated with the Parsons Corp.

The foundation’s areas of interest include higher education, particularly in the fields of engineering, science and technology; social impact and health services programs, particularly for disadvantaged youth, women and children, and the elderly; and civic and cultural projects. The foundation’s net assets in 2006 were $431 million and grants totaled $18.8 million.

Susan Murad | slmnmc@rit.edu

The key to The Ghost Map

Dean Ashok Rao offers a signature T-shirt to RIT President Bill Destler during a public presentation later that afternoon in the Gordon Field House and Activities Center. The Ghost Map, which tells the story of the cholera epidemic in 1854 London, is the Institute Common Text read by first-year students.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT coach reaches career milestones

Two coaching milestones were recently achieved by RIT sports.

Head women’s volleyball coach Roger Worsley set the record for career wins (171) at RIT, and men’s soccer head coach Bill Garno won his 100th game as RIT coach.

Garno joins Doug May as the only two coaches in RIT history to reach the 100-victory plateau.

Garno has led the RIT women’s volleyball program the past 14 years and recently took over the boys’ soccer program. May has led the men’s volleyball program the past 18 years.

Garno joins Doug May as the only two coaches in RIT history to reach the 100-victory plateau.

Garno has led the women’s volleyball program for the past 14 years and recently took over the boys’ soccer program. May has led the men’s volleyball program for the past 18 years.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer


A. Sue Weisler | photographer

Volkswagen displays its ‘clean’ technology

Volkswagen’s Diessentour set up at RIT Oct. 8-9. The traveling exhibit showcased new clean-diesel and alternative-fuel technology with interactive displays and some of their latest cars.

A. Sue Weisler | photographer

RIT Facilities Management Services treated students with flowering plants for their residence hall rooms on Oct. 10. They handed out kalanchoe plants, says Alan Harvill, RIT vice president for NTID and CEO and dean of NTID. “Thanks to the continued generosity of the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, deaf and hard-of-hearing students at RIT/NTID will take their place among the country’s highly skilled technicians.”
I'm learning how to speak Italian, and I also speak Arabic.”

“The idea started when Abushagur visited the Eternal City last summer to attend the International Fashion for Good Roundtable with her business partner, Jaimen Brill ’07 (professional and technical communications). They were invited to talk about their not-for-profit organization called White Cane Label—a simple business concept where Braille tags are attached to clothing apparel of the visually impaired to help them sort out price, brand, color, sizes and designs.

“Jaimen and I took a public relations class with Professor Wilma King, and our assignment was to develop an awareness campaign for a special need.” Abushagur explains. “We designed a Web site where famous designers or wholesalers could donate or sell clothes, and White Cane Label would attach cloth labels with Braille text or symbols and sew them into the garments.

“Everyone likes to look their best and the visually impaired are no exception. It’s very difficult for them to dress every day without help, “ Abushagur, who attributes the success of her trip to multiple RIT scholarships which funded hotel and airplane costs.

Born in Huntsville, Ala., Abushagur’s decision to come to RIT was based on her family’s relocation to Rochester when she was 16. “I went to Brighton High School during my senior year and didn’t know a soul, so I was determined to go to school nearby, and I liked the fact that Saunders was a small school inside of a big university. I could get to know everyone easily.”

While attending RIT, Abushagur completed a marketing research co-op at Empowersites, Tools, earned the 2010 Rotary Youth Leadership Award, and served as vice president for the Muslim Student Association 2005-2006 and the American Marketing Association External Communications Committee in 2006. Through it all, there’s one Saunders College of Business professor who made a deep impact on Abushagur’s education and her winning attitude.

“I paid my dues with Dr. Phil Tyler” she says with a laugh. “But I was determined to get an ‘A’ in my class and I did. He’s tough, but he’s also a student’s best advocate. He would say to me, keep pushing. Even if someone is telling you no, call back and keep pushing.

“That’s why I see myself in the fashion industry. My passion, and I know I can make it happen.”

For added luck, Abushagur threw a coin into Italy’s Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi or “Fountain of the Four Rivers” and made a wish—to return to Rome.

Marcia Murphy | mpmurphy@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu

Innovative idea proposals due Nov. 16

Wanted: Exhibits and activities that will be showcased during RIT’s inaugural Innovation and Creativity Festival.

President Bill Dewstler envisions hundreds of projects, products and inventions from students, faculty and staff featured campus-wide at the free event. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center, the Quarter Mile and other venues will be used to display the best of RIT work.

“We are looking for the call for exhibit and activity ideas,” says Barry Culhane, chair of the festival planning committee. “We want students, faculty and staff to show off their extraordinary work to Rochester and the world. We are looking for hundreds of exhibits to be displayed along with creative activities.

A programming committee will review each of the entries. Submissions to participate in the festival are due Nov. 16. The festival is slated for May 3.

A submission form can be found on President Dewstler’s Web site at www.rit.edu/president. Click on the “Innovation Festival” tab and fill in the form.

Also, look for a submission form for RIT e-mail in the coming week.

For more information, contact Culhane at Barry.Culhane@rit.edu.

Bob Finnerty | rfinnerty@rit.edu